

## GLOVERSVILLE BOARD OF WATER COMMISSIONERS

### MEETING MINUTES – AUGUST 19, 2025

The Regular meeting of the Board of Water Commissioners was held and brought to order at their office, 67-73 South Main Street Gloversville, NY, on August 19, 2025, at 6:00 PM with President White presiding.

#### **Roll Call:**

##### **Commissioner:**

White	Present
Hartman	Absent (arrived at 6:02 p.m.)
Antonucci	Present
Capano	Present
Holly	Present

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**Others in Attendance:** Water Superintendent, Eric Lentini; and Cindy Albertine, Clerk of the Board and Andrew White, Chief Water Plant Operator and James Mitchell

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Superintendent Lentini opened the meeting to anyone wishing to address the Board:

#### **Public Session:**

There being no public comments, Public Session was closed at 6:01 p.m.

Commissioner Hartman performed an audit of bills as follows:

General Fund – July 12, 2025 - August 15, 2025	\$195,720.00
Capital Projects – July 16, 2025 – August 15, 2025	\$ 2,261.25

A motion was made by Commissioner White, seconded by Commissioner Capano to approve said audits. A copy of the Audits are attached to these minutes.

Commissioner	Yes	No	Absent	Abstain
White	X			
Hartman	X			
Antonucci	X			
Capano	X			
Holly	X			

#### **Minutes:**

Minutes for the July 15, 2025 meeting were emailed prior to the meeting for review. There being no questions or changes, the Clerk asked for a motion to approve the meeting minutes.

Motion was made by Commissioner Antonucci, seconded by Commissioner Holly and carried.

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<u>Commissioner</u>	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>Absent</u>	<u>Abstain</u>
White	X			
Hartman	X			
Antonucci	X			
Capano	X			
Holly	X			

**Resolutions:**

Clerk of the Water Board informed the Board that Resolution 2025-08 updating the shut-off fee charged by the Water Department to \$100 and approved by the Board at the April 15, 2025 meeting, was sent to the City's attorney, Amanda Rose, to update the City's Charter. We received correspondence back from Attorney Rose, who said the rate to be imposed should be stated in the Resolution since it is currently stated in the City Charter. The following Resolution was presented to reflect that charge.

Water Board President Tim White presented the following resolution and moved for its adoption:

**RESOLUTION NO. 2025-13**

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GLOVERSVILLE TO AMEND THE CODE OF THE CITY OF GLOVERSVILLE SECTION §294-16 (C.) – FAILURE TO PAY**

WHEREAS, having the duty to Collect Water Rents as in § C-45 of the City of Gloversville Code, the Gloversville Board of Water Commissioners presents the following resolution.

NOW THEREFORE, be it hereby

RESOLVED, that the Code of the City of Gloversville be amended with the following change to Section §294-16 (C.) to read:

Should the water be turned off for nonpayment, a reconnect/turn-on fee of \$100 is assessed against the property owner and due when paying the delinquent water bill as set by the Board of Water Commissioners.

A motion was made by Commissioner Capano, seconded by Commissioner White, that the above Resolution be adopted.

**Votes Taken:**

	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>
Commissioner White	X	
Commissioner Hartman	X	
Commissioner Antonucci	X	
Commissioner Capano	X	
Commissioner Holly	X	

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Adopted: August 19, 2025

\*Amends Resolution #25-08 (April 15, 2025)

**Clerk of the Water Board:**

**Billing Adjustments:**

The following requests for billing adjustments were presented to the Board for consideration.

**15 West Street – Jamal Maali/Nova Realty Trading – 11000120-01**

Owner states the most recent bill was higher than usual and he was unable to find any leaks. The Board was provided with a Consumption Analysis report from Neptune 360 showing the historical usage from July 2024 to current. After reviewing the information, the Board determined that the excess usage was not caused due to major piping failure.

Motion was made by Commissioner White, seconded by Commissioner Holly to deny the request.

<u>Commissioner</u>	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>Absent</u>	<u>Abstain</u>
White	X			
Hartman	X			
Antonucci	X			
Capano	X			
Holly	X			

**118 Sprint Street – Diamond Rentals of Fulton County – 10700620-01**

Property owner's complaint/dispute states a copy of the Consumption Analysis report provided by the Water Department for this property shows continuous usage for the months of January and February. Owner claims he checked all apartment units and the basement and was unable to locate a leak. After reviewing a copy of the Consumption Analysis report clearly showing a dramatic increase in usage during those months and a quick decline in March, the Board determined the water entered the home through the meter.

A motion was made by Commissioner Antonucci, seconded by Commissioner Holly to deny the request.

<u>Commissioner</u>	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>Absent</u>	<u>Abstain</u>
White	X			
Hartman	X			
Antonucci	X			
Capano	X			
Holly	X			

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19 Fifth Street – Saratoa Development Group LLC – 36300160-01

Owner submitted a request for sewer relief to Gloversville-Johnstown Joint Wastewater Treatment due to a cracked water meter. The Sewer Department approved a credit to the outstanding balance due as follows:

Credit Sewer - \$632.58

A motion was made by Commissioner Holly, seconded by Commissioner Antonucci, authorizing the Clerk to credit the Sewer portion of the bill for account #36300160 in accordance with the Gloversville-Johnstown Joint Wastewater Treatment's approval.

Commissioner	Yes	No	Absent	Abstain
White	X			
Hartman	X			
Antonucci	X			
Capano	X			
Holly	X			

**Superintendent's Report:**

**Blue Triton:**

Eric informed the Board that he spoke to Mike Napolitan on August 14, 2025. Blue Triton plans to start surveying our pipeline at Dixon Reservoir. They have asked if we would assist with the excavation of a few spots so their surveyors could trace the line. The work performed by the Water Department would consist of digging down to locate the pipe. They would then follow our lines to run their pipeline. He advised Blue Triton that he would bring the request to the Board for discussion. If approved, they stated they would like to start work in mid-late September. The Board agreed to assist with locating our water lines.

Eric also informed the Board that he received a call from Mike Napolitan informing him that the contract has been signed by the Vice President and Board. He will be sending us an executed copy for execution by the Board.

**American Tower:**

The amendment to the existing cell tower lease agreement with American Tower to include the right of refusal language as approved by the Board at the June 10, 2025 meeting has been signed and returned to the lease manager, Kymberlie Kutzler. Ms. Kutzler advised that the closing would be held in approximately 30-60 days and the one-time payment of \$10,000 would be received by the Water Department at that time.

**County Highway 349 Waterline Project:**

Manfred has completed the construction and installation of the new 8-inch water main at that location. Our department will start work on the taps and running the services to the homeowners next week once the results of the sanitary samples have been received back. Seven of the nine residents along that line were already connected to the line and we will re-connect

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them to the new line. For the two remaining properties, we will be installing curb-box shutoff at the terrace. The owners of those properties will be responsible for hiring a plumber to make the connection to their home.

At the July 15, 2025 meeting Eric provided the Board with a list of vehicles he suggested the Water Department sell to assist with the purchase of a new dump truck and salter for the watershed. the Board requested quotes for the vehicles. Eric presented the Board with a breakdown of the quotes he received from Wally's as follows:

2022 Dodge Ram – (Approx 18,000 mi)	\$21,000 as a trade or \$19,104 if we sold it to them.
2017 Ford F350 – (52,000 mi)	\$ 2,500
2015 Chevrolet 2500 pickup with a V-plow (95,000 mi)	- \$ 3,500.

Eric researched the value of the Ram and felt the quote was fair. However, it was his recommendation that we hold an “as is” auction for the 2015 Chevrolet 2500 pickup truck, the 2017 Ford F350 dump truck, and possibly the 1997 Ford boom truck.

After discussion, the Board asked Eric to explore what we would need to do to hold an auction for the vehicles setting a reserve to be no less than what was quoted.

The Board was reminded that the office will be closing at 11 a.m. on September 12<sup>th</sup> for staff development and team building. With an all-new office staff being hired during the last year, we will be taking a tour of the filtration plant, as well as visiting Jackson and Cameron Reservoirs. A staff appreciation picnic will follow at the watershed. The Board was invited to attend.

At this time, Superintendent Lentini requested to enter an Executive Session to discuss formation of a contract with a third party.

Motion was made by Commissioner White, seconded by Commissioner Capano to enter Executive Session at 6:18 p.m.

<u>Commissioner</u>	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>Absent</u>	<u>Abstain</u>
White	X			
Hartman	X			
Antonucci	X			
Capano	X			
Holly	X			

A motion was made by Commissioner Capano, seconded by Commissioner Holly to come out of Executive Session at 6:54 p.m.

<u>Commissioner</u>	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>Absent</u>	<u>Abstain</u>
White	X			
Hartman	X			
Antonucci	X			
Capano	X			
Holly	X			

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Eric let the Board know that there will be a public hearing in Perth regarding the new Niagara bottling plant on August 20, 2025. He will be attending on behalf of the Water Department to answer any questions regarding our role in the project.

Commissioner Antonucci asked if there has been any additional correspondence with the City of Gloversville regarding reimbursement for materials purchased in connection with the damage caused by the contractor they hired to work on the Harrison Street bridge. Eric stated that there has been no recent updates and the last email correspondence with Mayor DeSantis was that the City of Gloversville tried to submit a claim with their insurance and they did not want to take on that responsibility. The Mayor suggested that the Water Department may be able to pursue a claim with the contractor or with our insurance. As he was not the Superintendent at that time, he has looked at all the correspondence to familiarize himself with the situation. He discussed the conversations that were had regarding the mark-outs and what was performed. He told the Board he would support what action they would like to take next.

As for the City of Gloversville, Eric further stated that he has not received any further communication from them regarding the house that was sold at 7 Grandoe Lane as discussed at the June 10, 2025 meeting.

At this time, the Board opened discussions regarding fluoridation of the City's water. As mentioned during last month's meeting, Commissioner Holly received several requests from residents who were concerned about fluoride in the City's water. Currently, Gloversville is the only municipality in Fulton County adding the supplement to our drinking water.

Commissioner Holly recently researched the laws regarding this topic. He found the law dated 2015 which states it was the decision of the Water Department whether to add fluoride to the drinking water or not. The law also stated that since we currently add the supplement to our water, we must put it out to public discussion and professional comment before it can be removed.

Andrew mentioned that he reached out to Sarah Nowalk, our Department of Public Health Representative, last year regarding the matter and she provided him with a copy of the same 2015 law at that time. The Board expressed their interest in sending the matter back to the residents for public discussion.

Eric informed the Board that Fonda's grant request to explore long-term shared water services was approved. Since our water is fluoridated, the City of Johnstown, who does not supplement their water with fluoride, will not allow the Water Department to supply Fonda water through their lines. If we were to eliminate the supplement from our water, we would be able to provide water to Fonda.

Another point to consider is the pending agreement with Niagara Water Bottling. They will be processing the water through reverse osmosis. If this agreement between Niagara and the Water Department is approved, they will be the Department's largest water user. The effect this will have on the Water Department will be a significant increase in cost only to be removed during the bottling process.

The Water Department will spend approximately \$13,000 in 2025 to add fluoride to the water at a cost of \$107 a bag, an increase of \$40.00 per bag over 2024, and is expected to increase again in the coming year.

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The Board requested that Andrew draft a letter to be submitted to the Department of Health for consideration of removing fluoride from the City's drinking water.

A motion was made by Commissioner Capano, seconded by Commissioner Hartman to open a public discussion on the preliminary determination to discontinue supplementing of the City's drinking water with fluoride.

<u>Commissioner</u>	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>Absent</u>	<u>Abstain</u>
White	X			
Hartman	X			
Antonucci	X			
Capano	X			
Holly	X			

Commissioner Holly inquired about the delay in the SCADA project and if there were any updates. Eric reported that according to the last correspondence he received from Jake Gordon of C.T. Male, this type of delay is typical and there was little we can do to move the process along any quicker. Jake indicated the projected timeline to start Phase 1 of the plant project is this Winter.

Regarding the Plant Project, Andrew let the Board know that he spoke with Mike Martin of CFI, the contractor for a wastewater plant in Rensselaer. Mr. Martin indicated the current timeline to order and receive valves is approximately 16-24 weeks. If we expect to start the project starting this Winter and wait until that time to order the valves, they will not be received until Spring. Andrew suggested we contact Jake Gordon to see if there is a way we would be able to order the parts now, so they are available when the project starts. If we were to do so, we would have to cover the cost of the purchase to be reimbursed once the project starts. The Board requested that we contact Jake to see if he would be able to provide us with an approximate cost before a decision would be made. Andrew agreed to reach out to Jake and report back at the next meeting.

There being no further business, a motion was made by Commissioner Capano, seconded by Commissioner White to adjourn the meeting.

Meeting was adjourned at 6:43 p.m.

The next Regular meeting is scheduled to be held on October 15, 2025 at 6:00 p.m.