

## Schuylerville/Victory BOWM and Joint Village Meeting

August 25, 2025

### Present

Mayor Carpenter-Village of Schuylerville  
Mayor Helwig-Village of Victory  
SVBOWM Chairman Bryan Drew  
SVBOWM Commissioner Ryan Campbell  
SVBOWM Commissioner and Village of Victory Trustee Leslie Dennison  
SVBOWM Commissioner Timothy Healy  
Village of Schuylerville Trustee Michelle Campbell  
Village of Schuylerville Trustee Dan Baker  
Village of Victory Trustee Tammy Mitchell

### Absent

Village of Schuylerville Trustee Tim Leron  
Village of Schuylerville Trustee Whitney Colvin

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## 2. Water Grant Updates

- USDA underwriter requested a copy of the **2009 joint bond resolution**.
- A **2004 draft bond resolution** was located but is unsigned and may not reflect the final agreement.
- Concern expressed over repeated documentation requests from USDA, which continue to delay project progress.

### Decisions:

- The Board will not circulate the 2004 draft until confirmation of its validity.
- The project cost will be **capped at \$1.2 million** net cost, even if scope reductions are required.

### Open Questions:

- Can the 2009 resolution be located in municipal records or bond counsel archives?
- Will USDA accept the 2004 version if the 2009 cannot be found?

### Next Steps:

- Continue searching municipal files for the signed 2009 resolution.

- Explore contacting bond attorneys for archived records.
  - Await USDA response once documentation is provided.
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### 3. Project Funding & Scope

- Current project total: **\$1.25 million**, up from \$855k.
- Increase is offset by **surplus funds** from prior billing miscalculations; no impact on rates anticipated.
- Concern raised about future **mandated replacement of galvanized/lead service lines**.

#### Decisions:

- Surplus funds will be applied to cover current project costs without raising water rates.
- No borrowing beyond **\$1.2 million net** will be pursued.

#### Open Questions:

- How will future mandates on lead/galvanized line replacement be funded?
- What penalties or legal requirements apply if homeowners refuse replacement?

#### Next Steps:

- Seek legal guidance regarding homeowner compliance with future mandates.
  - Monitor federal and state funding opportunities for mandated replacements.
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### 4. Inter-Municipal Agreement (IMA) Review

- Discussion held on whether to reopen the IMA or address issues incrementally.
- Key issues identified:
  - **Board composition:** Current 4-member structure can cause deadlocks.
  - **Outdated provisions:** Certain clauses reference obsolete roles/properties.
  - **Maintenance responsibilities:** Clarification needed on DPW vs. Water Board duties.

#### Decisions:

- Villages and Water Board members will exchange lists of proposed amendments by **October 1<sup>st</sup>**.
- A **joint review meeting** will be scheduled for **October 27<sup>th</sup>** to align and discuss changes.

- Preference expressed for **incremental amendments** rather than reopening the entire IMA.

**Open Questions:**

- Should a 5th voting member be added to prevent deadlocks?
- How should responsibilities be redistributed between DPWs and Water Board?

**Next Steps:**

- Form a **working committee** with representatives from both Villages to review amendment proposals.
  - Legal review will be required before any amendments are finalized.
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**5. Lack of Manpower**

- Both Villages' DPWs are strained by water-related duties in addition to local responsibilities.
- Loss of full-time water department staff has shifted workload onto municipal crews.
- Safety concerns raised when limited staff are assigned to water repairs.

**Decisions:**

- Acknowledge that manpower shortages are a continuing challenge needing structured solutions.

**Open Questions:**

- Should outside contractors be formally engaged for preventative maintenance?
- Is a shared staffing model between Villages feasible?

**Next Steps:**

- Explore scheduled preventative maintenance contracts.
  - Evaluate long-term staffing models, including restoration of full-time water staff.
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**6. Adjournment**

Meeting adjourned with agreement to reconvene in late October for IMA review.