

VILLAGE OF HEUVELTON
Regular Board Meeting
February 11, 2026

At 6:00 pm, Mayor Lashua called the meeting to order, she opened the meeting with the pledge of allegiance. Trustees in attendance were Trustee A. Guardino, Trustee E. Wood, Trustee C. Basford, and Trustee A. Sheppard. Also, in attendance were A. Spaman, DPW Supervisor; D. Rohe, DANC; T. Wood, HVFD Chief; J. Patterson, Fire Commissioner; K. Weston, Fire District Treasurer; and B. Dashnaw.

Public Forum Mr. Dashnaw addressed the Board with how the Fire District is coming along. There was discussion on Fire District finances and there will be a meeting to discuss more.

WATER/SEWER Mr. Rohe gave a water/sewer update. There was discussion on a water leak on Wilson Street and the need for Losurdo to reline their sewer lateral. He left at 6:34. Mayor Lashua gave an update on the Sewer Consolidation Project. There was a discussion on water services at the fire station. Options were looked at and much discussion was held.

MAYOR'S REPORT Mayor Lashua gave an update on the Boat Launch project. Mayor Lashua discussed a request for use of the pavilion from the NNY Poultry Association.

RESOLUTION 26-010 **RESOLUTION URGING FEDERAL AND STATE ACTION FOR THE ERADICATION OF THE INVASIVE WATER CHESTNUT (TRAPA NATANS) IN THE OSWEGATCHIE AND ST LAWRENCE RIVERS AND TRIBUTARIES**

Offered by Tr. Basford, seconded by Tr. Wood. All in favor.

WHEREAS, The Board of Trustees for the Village of Heuvelton located on the Oswegatchie river has determined the need for immediate measures;

WHEREAS, the Water Chestnut (*Trapa natans*), an invasive aquatic plant, is rapidly spreading in the waterways of the St. Lawrence Valley creating thick floating mats that hinder navigation, harm native plants, decrease oxygen levels, and damage fish and wildlife habitats; and

WHEREAS, these large infestations make boating, fishing, swimming, and emergency response difficult, and the plant's sharp, spiny nuts can injure people and animals; and

WHEREAS, the infestation negatively affects the local economy by limiting tourism access, reducing fishing, impacting marinas, and harming waterfront businesses; and

WHEREAS, the water chestnut spreads quickly, and its seeds can survive in the waterbed for up to 12 years, meaning that controlling it requires a comprehensive, long-term approach; and

WHEREAS, although local volunteers and manual removal efforts have been made, they are not enough to manage the widespread infestation, making it impossible for local municipalities to manage.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that Village of Heuvelton requests comprehensive, funded eradication efforts from relevant federal and state agencies that will last multiple years, along with technical help and equipment, to begin a thorough program to remove the water chestnuts. This program should include detailed mapping, extensive mechanical removal, and potentially looking into biological or chemical control methods; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Village of Heuvelton requests that the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration(NOAA), U.S Department of Agriculture (USDA), Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), and New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) prioritize the severe infestation in our area as a critical environmental issue; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that copies of this resolution be sent to federal and state officials, including Senator Charles E. Schumer, Senator Kirsten Gillibrand, Representative Elise Stefanik, Governor Kathy Hochul, Senator Mark Walczyk, Assemblyman Scott Gray and Amanda Lefton Commissioner of the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation, urging action.

DPW Mr. Spaman gave a DPW report. And an update of the I & I study.

RESOLUTION 26-011

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Offered by Tr. Guardino, seconded by Tr. Sheppard. All in favor.
Resolution to accept the minutes of the 1/14/26 Meeting.

RESOLUTION 26-012

VOUCHER APPROVALS

Offered by Tr. Wood, seconded by Tr. Sheppard. All in favor.
Approval of Vouchers 0226-1 0226-18

General	\$7,866.92
Sewer	\$42,507.77
Water	\$ 2,950.82
Sewer Consolide	\$36,863.06
Total	\$90,188.57

Other Disbursements \$ 306,588.73

RESOLUTION 26-013

BUDGET MODIFICATIONS

Offered by Tr. Basford, seconded by Tr. Guardino. All in favor.
Resolution to accept the following budget modifications.

Increase	Decrease
13254.1 Clerk CE \$124.55	13252.1 Clerk EQ \$124.55
34104.1 Fire CE \$462.62	97107.1 Debt Interest \$462.62

More discussion was held on services for the Fire District.

At 8pm, with no further business before the Board, the meeting was adjourned by Tr. Wood. All agreed.

Respectfully submitted,

Rebecca Donnelly
Village Clerk