Mm09082026

Village of Lyons Falls

Special Board Meeting

September 09, 2026

Village Office, 4059 Cherry Street

Lyons Falls NY 13368

The meeting was called to order at 6:00pm by Mayor, Donna Dolhof.

Mayor Dolhof started the meeting with the pledge of allegiance followed by a moment of silence.

Attending: Mayor – Donna Dolhof

Trustees – Jeff Hoskins, Amanda Denslow and Ashley Schaefer

Clerk – Barbara Denslow

DPW Superintendent – Shawn Smith

Absent: Trustee- Gary Jock

Treasurer: Candy Akin

Sign–in Sheet, attached.

Public comments: Jon and Lynn Hardy complained about the Wheelers and dirt bikes on Laura Street. It is an ongoing problem in the Village. The Board advised them to make a report to law enforcement. The Mayor will contact the Sheriff's office. Per Village law the only Street with permission for ATV use is Belmont Street from the old railroad bed to the trail across Cherry Street.

Brian Belmont asked if the Village intended to extend the snowmobile trail to Gorham Street. The Village does not intend to open any more Streets to snowmobiles currently.

Old Business: The purpose of this special meeting is to address concerns about the new vehicle and traffic law and amendments to the water law.

Clarification about the boulders on Fulton Street was found in accordance with the New York conference of Mayors guidelines. (attachment).

Notice to remove the boulders by November 1st will be given to Brian Belmont.

Regarding Parking on Fulton Street: The Board will continue to enforce no parking restrictions South of The Bridge on Fulton Street. The Board has determined that the road is too narrow and is a problem for emergency vehicles, DPW vehicles and Utility vehicles.

Regarding amendments to the Water law: On Motion by Trustee Amanda Denslow, Second by Trustee Jef Hoskins and unanimous approval of Board members in attendance Resolution #14-2026 Section B, paragraph two will be amended. to read: Whereas the Village Board has determined that 75% of the cost will be paid by the property owner and 25% will be paid by the Village for installation of the water line from the main to the curb stop.

This will serve as clarification that regardless of where the property is located, the property owner is responsible for 75% of the cost of installing the waterline from the main to the curb stop.

On Motion by Trustee Ashley Schaefer, Second by Trustee Jeff Hoskins and unanimous approval of attending Board members permission was given to hire a new Village electrician.

On motion by Jeff Hoskins, Second by Trustee Ashley Schaefer and unanimous approval of attending Board members the meeting adjourned at 7:18pm.

Respectfully submitted:

_____

Barbara Denslow, Village Clerk

Village of Lyons Falls

Special Meeting 9/8/2026

Village Office, 4059 Cherry Street

Lyons Falls NY

NAME:	ADDRESS:
Jon & Lynn Hardy	6923 Laura St. Lyons Falls NY
	Gardiner

mayors can a village allow residence to put large rocks for landscaping within the village right next to a road

+10

No, a village cannot legally allow residents to place large landscaping rocks within the public right-of-way (ROW) next to a road. According to legal frameworks upheld by the New York Conference of Mayors (NYCOM) and New York State Department of Transportation (NYSDOT) roadside safety guidelines, large rocks and boulders are classified as fixed-object hazards. Allowing them creates severe liability risks for the municipality.

The primary reasons a village must prohibit or remove these installations include:

8:57 97
Per New York conference of mayo — Private

1. Municipal Liability and Public Safety

- **Fixed-Object Hazards**: Large rocks do not deflect or break away if struck by a vehicle. If a motorist leaves the roadway and hits a rock placed in the ROW, it can cause severe injury or death. Reddit +2
- **Negligence Claims**: Under New York municipal law, a village has a non-delegable duty to maintain its public highways and adjacent rights-of-way in a reasonably safe condition. Permitting a known hazard to remain in the ROW exposes the village to costly personal injury lawsuits.

2. Obstruction of Essential Services

Ask anything

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Per New York conference of mayo — Private

3. Encroachment and Property Rights

- **Public Ownership**: While a homeowner is usually responsible for maintaining the lawn or sidewalk up to the road, the ROW itself is dedicated for public transportation and utility purposes. Facebook · ... +2
- **Prohibited Structures**: Village zoning laws routinely prohibit residents from constructing or placing any unapproved fixtures—including fences, planters, walls, or large landscape stones—within this zone. Town of East... +1

If a village identifies large rocks in the ROW, it will typically issue a formal code violation notice requiring the homeowner to remove them within a

Ask anything

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Per New York conference of r

People also ask

How close to the road can I place boulders?

AI Overview +6

You should generally keep boulders at least 3 to 5 feet back from the edge of the pavement, and completely outside of the public right-of-way and utility easements. Placing them too close can create severe legal liability if a vehicle strikes them, or result in the city or county removing them. Reddit +5

Property Lines and Right-of-Ways

- **Check the Right-of-Way:** The paved road is rarely the edge of your property. Cities and counties usually own a "right-

Show more

Can you put rocks on or

You cannot place boulders within the **public right-of-way (ROW)**, which typically extends anywhere from **5 to 20 feet beyond the edge of the pavement**. Because exact boundaries vary by local municipality, boulders must generally be placed completely behind your actual property line, outside of any municipal easements.

Understanding the Public Right-of-Way (ROW)

The public right-of-way is a dedicated strip of land reserved for the road, sidewalks, utilities, and public transit. Even though this area might look like part of your front lawn, **you do not own it**; the local government or state owns it or holds a permanent easement over it. Reddit · r/Alb... +2

Why Boulders are Strictly Restricted

Placing boulders near the road—often done by homeowners to stop drivers from parking on the grass or cutting across corners—creates severe legal and physical issues: Reddit · r/ho... +1

- **Massive Financial Liability:** Boulders are considered non-frangible (immovable) hazards. If a motorist or bicyclist swerves, hits your boulder, and suffers an injury or death, you can be held personally liable for millions of dollars in damages. Reddit · r/jac... +3
- **City Removal and Fines:** Code enforcement will typically issue a notice giving you a few days to remove the boulders. If you don't comply, the city will remove them

9:56 84

per new york conference of n

per new york conference of mayors can anyone use a municipals row even if it's someone else's driveway to turn around

+5

No, drivers cannot legally enter or use someone else's private driveway to turn around without permission, even if part of the driveway crosses a municipal right-of-way (ROW) or easement. Quora +1

Property Lines vs. Right-of-Way

- **Public Right-of-Way:** Municipalities

Ask anything

municipality adopt a no parking zone for a dead wnd street jist pertaiming to the ***black top*** portion only

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AI Overview

Yes, under New York Vehicle and Traffic Law (VTL) Article 39 and the general home-rule powers detailed via the New York Conference of Mayors (NYCOM), a municipality (city, village, or town) has broad statutory authority to regulate or prohibit parking on public streets, including limiting restrictions strictly to the paved or "blacktop" portion of a dead-end street.

Statutory Authority

- **VTL § 1640** (for cities and villages) and **VTL § 1660** (for towns) grant local legislative bodies the explicit power to adopt ordinances, local laws, or resolutions prohibiting or restricting parking on public

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- **VTL § 1640** (for cities and villages) and **VTL § 1660** (for towns) grant local legislative bodies the explicit power to adopt ordinances, local laws, or resolutions prohibiting or restricting parking on public highways and specific roadways under their jurisdiction.
- Municipalities can target specific blocks, intersections, or portions of a right-of-way (such as restricting parking only on the paved/blacktop surface while leaving unpaved shoulders or specific segments open or vice versa) as long as it is done via an official local enactment and properly signed with official traffic-control devices.

Key Requirements for Implementation

- **Official Enactment:** The restriction must be formally adopted by the

Key Requirements for Implementation

- **Official Enactment:** The restriction must be formally adopted by the local legislative body as a rule, order, regulation, or local law. Office of the...
- **Signage and Markings:** Under VTL § 1110 and standard traffic engineering principles, any parking prohibition is only legally enforceable if proper official signs (such as "No Parking") are erected to give adequate notice to motorists.
- **Traffic Flow and Access:** Dead-end bulb or turnaround areas on blacktops often require clear access for emergency and sanitation vehicles, giving municipalities a rational basis to restrict parking exclusively on the paved portion.

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