CLIFTON PARK WATER AUTHORITY

BOARD MEETING MINUTES

October 20, 2026

Those present were: Mr. Gerstenberger, Chairman; Mr. John Ryan, Vice Chairman; Mr. William Butler, Treasurer; Mr. Peter Taubkin, Board Secretary; Mr. Kenneth Bowman Board Member; Mr. Chris Wheland, Administrator; and Mr. James Trainor, Attorney.

Mr. Gerstenberger called the meeting to order at 7:05pm.

Pledge of Allegiance

Approve Minutes of September 22, 2026 Meeting

Mr. Gerstenberger made a **motion** to approve September 22, 2026, board meeting minutes; seconded by Mr. Ryan. The **motion** carried 5-0.

Privilege of the Floor

None

Old Business

Peacock Glen Property

The town has agreed to accept the Peacock Glen property and is going through the necessary paperwork process.

Vertical Bridge

The Vertical Bridge proposal was discussed, with Mr. Wheland explaining their offer of a one-time $10,000 fee for adding new companies to existing towers, which the board deemed insufficient compared to potential revenue increases.

Website

The website update is ready but pending implementation due to ongoing office transitions, and Mr. Wheland mentioned he needs updates on board biographies.

New Business

2027 Budget

The 2027 budget discussion focused on wage and benefit planning, including vacant positions to cover upcoming retirements, with Mr. Wheland explaining his approach to budgeting for potential staff departures while acknowledging some uncertainty around specific retirement timing.

Mr. Wheland presented budget details focusing on operation and maintenance expenses, including wage increases due to two vacancies and benefit adjustments. He discussed significant increases in purchased water costs, explaining that while production volumes have flattened, the system now averages 2.5 million gallons per day with peak summer usage reaching 9 million gallons per day. Mr. Ryan questioned whether purchasing water directly might be more cost-effective than maintaining existing infrastructure, particularly given aging facilities and water quality challenges, Mr. Wheland noted this would require further discussion in the capital plan.

Mr. Wheland discussed the total cost of ownership analysis, including staff, chemicals, and electricity, and noted that organically sourced materials are significantly less expensive.

Mr. Wheland discussed a warehouse property with pull-through vehicle storage capabilities, noting that while the asking price of $15 per square foot seemed reasonable as the rates are typically in the $12-15 range, the property had not been designed for pull-through storage and needs some modification to accommodate our larger vehicles and trailers. He emphasized the importance of securing first refusal rights if the property were to be sold in the future.

Mr. Wheland discussed plans to replace aging SCADA and PLC equipment at the water plant, estimated at $170,000. The work is being planned during the February shutdown. The current equipment is original to the water plant a due to corrosion issues it is past due for replacement. The team also reviewed a $150,000 proposal to directionally drill a new 3-inch water line on Carlton Road to serve 4 residents. An alternative option is to use the existing 12-inch waterline (that will be abandoned in place) as a conduit for the new line and potentially cheaper. Mr. Trainor raised concerns about liability from abandoned water lines, and Mr. Wheland explained that filling the abandoned 10-inch pipe with low-strength concrete would cost about $5,000 additional but would minimize collapse risks.

Mr. Wheland proposed allocating $100,000 for a 20-year water supply outlook study, which would examine storage requirements, potential new sources, and development capacity in the northern areas. The group discussed working with Delaware Engineering to develop specific requirements for the study rather than accepting a general report.

The board passed Resolution #24 to approve the budget as presented.

Clifton Park Water Authority
Resolution # 24, 2026
Adopting CPWA 2027 Operating and Capital Budgets

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT

RESOLVED, that the Clifton Park Water Authority Board of Directors hereby adopts the 2027 Operating Budget and Capital Budget as attached, effective January 1, 2027.

Motion to Accept: Mr. Gerstenberger

Seconded: Mr. Butler

Roll Call Vote:

	Ayes	Noes
Mr. Gerstenberger	X	
Mr. Ryan	X	
Mr. Taubkin	X	
Mr. Butler	X	
Mr. Bowman	X	

Other Business

Global Foundries

A discussion occurred around a newspaper article introducing a phase 3 of Global Foundries and the requirement of water they use from the County. They also addressed concerns about Global Foundries' increasing water demands and the need to explore alternative water sources beyond the county's current capacity.

Everbridge

Everbridge is an emergency notification system and CPWA is in the process of updating names, addresses, phone numbers and email addresses to populate the software to allow for water related notifications to be issued to customers.

Eastside Drive

The Town of Clifton Park received a $2.5 million grant to install a water line along Eastside Drive. More details to follow as the project gets updated.

Privilege of the Floor

None

Executive Session

The Board entered into executive session at 8:20pm at the motion of Mr. Gerstenberger and seconded by Mr. Ryan (motion carried 5-0) for purposes of discussing personnel and contract requirements with Vertical Bridge. A motion to exit executive session occurred at 8:46 pm motioned by Mr. Gerstenberger and seconded by Mr. Taubkin (motion carried 5-0).

Motion to Adjourn

Mr. Gerstenberger made a **motion** to adjourn at 8:47pm; seconded by Mr. Taubkin. The **motion** carried 5-0.