



**VILLAGE OF BOSTON HEIGHTS  
SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES  
FRIDAY, APRIL 17, 2026, 9:00 AM**

---

The special scheduled meeting of the Village of Boston Heights Council was called to order at 9:00 am on Friday, April 17, 2026, by Mayor Ron Antal.

---

Discussion on Safety Service Center Topic:

**Safety Service Center**

**ROLL CALL:**

Council Members Present:

Dave Maccarone  
Rich Lyon  
Chris Fenn  
Bob Bartko  
Judy Lewis  
Sasha Chetyrkina-Miller

Other Officials Present:

Scott Varney, Fiscal Officer

Financial options discussed: a voted authority (requires voter approval) and an unvoted/self-financing route (does not require a ballot).

If the voted path is chosen, the council must approve financing by July 28<sup>th</sup> to put it on the ballot for Nov; if approved, bids would be released and a contractor selected afterward.

If voters reject a voted measure, the group must identify alternate funding approaches. Several strategies were noted to lower financed amount or change feasibility; grant applications (pending), approaching local benefactors/naming rights, and internal contributions from the general fund.

Council recognized the longest path is the voted route; self-finance offers a shorter timeline but more financial risk.

Dave Maccarone suggested a design review of the parking layout to provide 6 parking spaces immediately in front of the building, and handicapped parking will be located in the back for easier access. Consensus: keep the current parking configuration unless specific event/overflow needs require changes.

S. Chetyrkina-Miller brought up the discussion of LEED requirements. Architect stated LEED certification is an evolving standard and is best addressed at project start because they carry cost premiums and design implications.

The team will pause active bidding and suspend regular work meetings until a clear financial path is chosen.

Discussion on financing the Safety Center to cover a \$300,000 annual subsidy from the general fund. Also discussed were two property tax levies that expire this year. A 5-year 2.75 mill road levy and a 3-year .75 mill Fire and EMS levy. Council weighed self-financing vs. voter-approved levies vs. bonds, noting trade-offs; interest cost for borrowing vs. voter acceptance and timing. A practical proposal emerged: pursue a .25% income tax increase, which would pay off the debt in 5 to 7 years.

Council reviewed two main paths: self-finance (control, avoid bond interest) or ask voters (levy/authority) to raise revenue and/or finance via bonds. Self-financing would reduce finance charges but requires available cash: borrowing spreads cost but incurs interest.

Conclusion: Pursuing voter approval is likely.

Council discussed Valley Fire and Hudson as regional partners; options included renewing the Valley Fire contract, negotiating cost-sharing, or eventually consolidating stations to save equipment/staff costs.

Discussion on Valley Fire contract reviewed options for fire/EMS service and leaned toward a contracted solution. Becoming a member of the fire district was considered, but for now, contracting would avoid additional property tax millage obligations and operational headaches. Contracting also preserved service quality, shares cost across a wider tax base, and reduces direct Village operational responsibility.

S. Chetyrkina-Miller requested a five-year spending projection, historical police/fire/safety costs, and an income-tax revenue breakdown (employers vs. individuals).

Council agreed to inform residents via a short, one-page mailer and to advertise public meetings For the ballot, HOA personal invitations, website updates, and targeted door-to-door outreach for likely voters. Finalize the one-page mailer content and distribution plan in time for the June/July reading schedule.

Motion to adjourn made by R. Lyon and seconded by J. Lewis

**ADJOURN: 10:30 am**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
(Attested by Scott Varney, Fiscal Officer) 5/12/2026  
Date

FULL RECORDING IS AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST AT VILLAGE HALL