

**Business of the Village Board
Village of Saranac Lake**

BILL #: 67-2026

SUBJECT: Cannabis Sales Taxation Grant Program Application

FOR AGENDA: 3/23/2026

DEPT OF ORIGIN: Village Manager

DATE SUBMITTED: 3/16/2026

Resolution authorizing the acceptance of the Cannabis Sales Taxation Funds Grant Application
by Saranac Lake Civic Center

MOVED BY: Ryan SECONDED BY: White

VOTE ON ROLL CALL: to amend

MAYOR WILLIAMS yes

TRUSTEE BRUNETTE yes

TRUSTEE RYAN yes

TRUSTEE SCOLLIN yes

TRUSTEE WHITE yes

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE ACCEPTANCE OF CANNABIS SALES
TAXATION FUNDS GRANT APPLICATION FOR SARANAC LAKE CIVIC
CENTER**

WHEREAS, the Village of Saranac Lake has established a Cannabis Sales Taxation Funds Grant Program to allocate cannabis sales tax revenues toward projects that benefit Village residents and enhance community well-being, and

WHEREAS, the program identifies priority areas including Youth Programs, Support for Seniors, and Recreational Opportunities, and

WHEREAS, the Saranac Lake Civic Center, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, has submitted an application requesting funding in the amount of \$9,000.00 for its “Civic Center Public Skating Fund,” and

WHEREAS, the proposed program provides affordable ice skating and roller skating opportunities serving residents of all ages and promoting youth engagement, physical activity, and community connection. The proposed program is expected to provide significant community benefit, including approximately 90 sessions annually and an estimated 9,000 participant visits, and

WHEREAS, the Village Clerk has reviewed the application and determined that it meets program eligibility requirements and aligns with the program’s Recreational Opportunities and Youth Program priorities, and

WHEREAS, the total project cost is \$27,000, with the applicant providing matching funds equal to the amount requested, thereby qualifying the proposal for consideration above the standard \$5,000 funding cap pursuant to program guidelines, and

WHEREAS, the Village Board has considered the requested amount in the context of available program funds and the program’s goal of supporting multiple community initiatives.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Village Board of Trustees hereby approves the award of a Cannabis Sales Taxation Funds Grant to the Saranac Lake Civic Center in an amount not exceeding \$9,000.00.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that such award is granted pursuant to the program’s matching-funds provision and is contingent upon the applicant providing the proposed matching contributions.



Village of Saranac Lake

39 Main Street, Suite 9 Saranac Lake, NY 12983-2294

Phone: (518) 891 - 4150

Fax: (518) 891 - 1324

Web Site: www.saranaclakeny.gov

Cannabis Sales Taxation Funds Grant Program

Village Clerk Application Summary

Applicant: Saranac Lake Civic Center (SLCC)

Organization Type: 501(c)(3) Nonprofit

Project Title: Civic Center Public Skating Fund

Amount Requested: \$13,500

Matching Funds: \$13,500

Total Project Cost: \$27,000

Project Description

The Saranac Lake Civic Center has applied for funding to support its **Public Skating Fund**, which provides affordable ice skating and roller skating sessions for residents of the Village and surrounding community. These programs serve as inclusive recreational opportunities for individuals and families of all ages, bringing together residents from diverse backgrounds in a shared community space.

Alignment With Village Priorities

The application demonstrates alignment with commonly identified Village priorities for cannabis sales tax funding:

1. Support for recreation opportunities
2. Youth Programs and Community Engagement by providing structured physical activity opportunities and social interaction for children, teens, families, and the general public.

Program Outcomes and Experience

The Civic Center anticipates offering approximately 90 ice and roller skating sessions annually, with an estimated average attendance of 100 participants per session, generating roughly 9,000 participant visits each year. These sessions provide accessible, low-cost recreation in a community where affordable recreational programming can otherwise be limited.

Financial Considerations

The total program cost is estimated to be \$27,000. The Civic Center and remaining sponsors would be responsible for a combined 50% match. Village funding would help offset the costs associated with staffing and supervision, facility operations, and contracted roller skating services.

Summary

Overall, the proposal demonstrates significant community benefit by supporting affordable recreation, encouraging youth engagement and physical activity, and fostering community connection through a long-standing local facility. The application meets the program's eligibility criteria and aligns with the Recreational Opportunities priority area.

While the request exceeds the program's standard \$5,000 grant cap, the applicant has identified matching funds equal to the requested amount, which qualifies the proposal for consideration under the program's provision allowing larger awards when supported by substantial matching contributions. The Village Board may wish to consider the requested amount in the context of available program funds and the program's goal of supporting multiple community projects.

Village of Saranac Lake Cannabis Sales Taxation Funds Grant Program Application

Please complete the following form to apply for a grant. Refer to the Program Policy Document for guidance on eligibility and required information. All sections must be filled out. Submit the completed application to the Village Clerk's Office. Applications are accepted on a rolling basis throughout the year.

Applicant Information

- **Organization Name:** Saranac Lake Civic Center (SLCC)
- **Mailing Address:** PO Box 1040, Saranac Lake, NY 12983
- **Primary Contact Person:** Marnie Crane, Development
- **Contact Information:** 804-516-5296 or info@saranaclakeciviccenter.org
- **Organization Type/Status:** 501(c)(3)(ID# 14-1695912)

Project Details

Project Title: Civic Center Public Skating Fund

Funding Priority Area: Recreational (primary), Community Engagement, Youth Programs

Project Summary (brief description)

There is a place in our community that brings people together from every walk of life, if only for an hour at a time. During that hour, differences fade and something simple and joyful takes their place—movement, laughter, and the shared rhythm of skates on ice. Grandparents glide beside toddlers; teenagers circle with young families. Professionals skate alongside tradespeople. Newcomers share the rink with lifelong residents. Every race, background, and income level finds space on the same sheet of ice. It doesn't matter who you are, where you come from, or how much—or how little—you have.

What makes this possible is access. When a space remains open, welcoming, and affordable, it becomes more than a building—it becomes common ground. **That place is the Civic Center, and the activity that unites us is skating.**



Village of Saranac Lake Cannabis Sales Taxation Funds Grant Program Application

The Saranac Lake Civic Center has long offered ice skating and, newly in 2026, roller skating sessions as affordable, inclusive recreational opportunities for local families. These programs are a mainstay of our seasonal offerings and provide safe, healthy activities in a community with limited access to low-cost recreation. For many participants, these sessions are their only opportunity to engage in organized skating programs.

Historically, SLCC has relied on local sponsorships to underwrite ice and roller skating sessions. However, many of our long-standing sponsors are currently facing financial constraints and have been forced to reduce or eliminate their contributions. Based on early indicators, we anticipate a **50% reduction in sponsorship support** for upcoming sessions due to broader budget pressures affecting local businesses and municipalities.

While SLCC has secured enough funding to complete the **2025–2026 ice skating season through March 31**, these funds will be exhausted at that time. Looking ahead to **summer roller skating and the 2026–2027 ice skating season**, we anticipate continued financial strain in the community and increasing difficulty in securing new sponsors.

Without supplemental funding, SLCC may be forced to significantly reduce or eliminate these programs, limiting access for residents in an already underserved area.

Project Objectives: (key goals of the project; specific issues will it address or improvements)

SLCC anticipates offering approximately 90 combined ice and roller skating sessions annually, representing a total program value of \$27,000 at an average cost of \$300 per session. These costs support essential program needs, including staffing and supervision, third-party roller skating services, facility lighting, and rink or ice time.

Due to anticipated funding losses, SLCC expects to lose approximately \$13,500 in sponsorship support for the upcoming program year. While we remain optimistic that self-funding efforts and remaining sponsors will cover a portion of this shortfall, a critical funding gap remains that threatens the continuation of these sessions.

Grant funding will directly offset the per-session cost of operating these programs, helping to cover staffing, roller skating services, and facility operations. Support from the Village of Saranac Lake Cannabis Sales Taxation Funds Grant is essential to bridge this gap and prevent reductions or cancellations in programming.

By supporting this project, the grant will help ensure continued access to affordable recreation, promote physical activity and community engagement, and sustain vital programming for residents who might otherwise lose these opportunities due to economic hardship.

Target Audience/Population (who will benefit? Describe the population served – e.g. children, teens, seniors, general public – and approximately how many people will be impacted):

The primary beneficiaries of this project are **children, teens, families, and members of the general public**, with a strong concentration of participants from **low- to moderate-income households** within the



Village of Saranac Lake Cannabis Sales Taxation Funds Grant Program Application

local community. These programs offer affordable, inclusive recreational opportunities in an area with limited access to structured physical activity.

SLCC typically offers **approximately 90 ice and roller skating sessions annually**, with each session **drawing an average of 100 participants**. As a result, these programs generate an estimated **9,000 participant visits per year**. Some attendees are repeat participants, particularly youth and families who rely on these sessions as a consistent recreational outlet.

Without continued funding, financial barriers could significantly reduce access to these programs, disproportionately impacting community members who lack alternative recreational options.

Expected Outcomes (results expected; how will the community be better off? For example, increased number of youth served, safer public spaces, enhanced facilities, etc):

With support from the Village of Saranac Lake Cannabis Sales Taxation Funds, SLCC expects to achieve the following outcomes:

- **Sustained access to affordable recreation:** Ice and roller skating sessions will continue without reduction, ensuring approximately **9,000 participant visits annually** remain available, namely to community members who may otherwise lack access to safe, low-cost recreational activities.
- **Increased opportunities for youth engagement:** Children and teens will benefit from consistent, structured activities that promote physical activity, social interaction, and positive use of free time, particularly during summer months and winter seasons when alternative options are limited.
- **Positive impact on the local economy:** In addition to serving residents, skating sessions attract **visitors and tourists** to the area. These attendees contribute to the local economy by dining at nearby restaurants, shopping at local businesses, and utilizing other community services, generating additional economic activity and supporting small businesses.
- **Program stability during economic uncertainty:** support will help offset sponsorship losses and enable SLCC to maintain a core community program despite continued financial constraints affecting local budgets.

Together, these outcomes will enhance quality of life, strengthen community engagement, and support both the social and economic vitality of the community.

Project Timeline:

- Roller Skating season: May - August 2026
- Ice Skating season begins in October 2026

Project Location: Saranac Lake Civic Center

Budget and Funding

- **Total Project Cost:** \$27,000 (entire cost of the project)
- **Amount Requested from Village:** \$13,500
- **Matching Funds (if applicable):** \$13,500



Village of Saranac Lake Cannabis Sales Taxation Funds Grant Program Application

Budget Breakdown:

- **Total Annual Program Cost: \$27,000**
(Approximately 90 ice and roller skating sessions at \$300 per session)
- **Expenses**
 - **Staffing & Supervision:** Covers on-site staff required to supervise sessions, manage participants, marketing and ensure safe operations.
 - **Third-Party Roller Skating Services:** Includes contracted roller skating services, equipment support, and professional oversight during roller skating sessions.
 - **Facility Operations & Lighting:** Supports lighting, utilities, and operational costs necessary to safely host skating sessions.
- **Funding Sources**
 - **Self-Funding / Remaining Sponsors:** \$13,500 (~50% of total program cost)
 - **Grant Request:** \$13,500

Sustainability: If the project will continue beyond the grant period or require ongoing funding, briefly describe how it will be sustained in the future. For instance, will your organization absorb any ongoing costs or seek other grants/donations?

SLCC is committed to sustaining its ice and roller skating programs beyond the grant period through a combination of self-funding, sponsorship development, and diversified revenue sources. The organization will continue to absorb a portion of program costs through operating funds and participant fees, while actively pursuing new local and regional sponsors as economic conditions improve.

SLCC will also seek additional grant opportunities and community partnerships to supplement private sponsorships and reduce reliance on any single funding source. Support from the Village of Saranac Lake Cannabis Sales Taxation Funds will provide critical stability during a period of financial uncertainty, allowing time to rebuild sponsorship relationships and explore new funding strategies while maintaining uninterrupted programming.

By combining internal resources with external funding and ongoing fundraising efforts, SLCC aims to preserve these programs as a long-term community asset.

Additional Information

Previous Village Funding (has your organization previously received funding from the Village of Saranac Lake or collaborated with Village programs? If yes, please briefly describe past funding or partnerships): Yes, the Civic Center has received past funding from the Village of Saranac Lake in the way of municipal contribution and bed tax.

Other Support (list other grants or donations for this project aside from the Village's funds, if applicable): The Civic Center is seeking grants from other funding sources to secure remaining funds needed for the project.

Permits or Approvals:

The project does not require any governmental approvals, permits, or partnerships.



Village of Saranac Lake Cannabis Sales Taxation Funds Grant Program Application

Proof of Insurance (provide a certificate of insurance proving active insurance coverage for the duration of the project or event; the certificate must list the Village as additionally insured): **If awarded the Grant, a certificate of insurance coverage listing the Village as additionally insured will be provided.**

Additional Attachments: (additional pages or documentation if needed, such as project plans, letters of support, photos, or diagrams.) **Compilation of public skating attendees on page 1**

Applicant Certification and Signature

By signing below, the applicant certifies that the information provided in this application is true and complete to the best of their knowledge. The applicant also acknowledges that all grant funds, if awarded, will be used only for the purposes outlined in this application and in compliance with the program's requirements and all applicable laws. The applicant agrees that any unused funds or funds not used in accordance with the approved project must be returned to the Village. The applicant furthermore agrees to submit required progress and final reports detailing the use of funds and project outcomes.

Authorized Representative Name: Marnie Crane

Title: Development

Signature: *Marnie Crane*

Date: 3/7/26

For Village Use – Date Received by Village Clerk:

