



HEARING REPORT | VILLAGE OF MONTGOMERY KRATOM LAW

Board of Trustees public hearing and discussion | Tuesday, October 6, 2026 | Unofficial summary of the Village's meeting video

AT A GLANCE

- **Not adopted yet.** After the hearing, the Board voted to put the local law at the top of the agenda for its next meeting, once counsel circulates an amended draft.
- **Next meeting.** Tuesday, October 20, 2026, at 6:30 p.m. The Board meets the first and third Tuesday of each month at Village Hall, according to the Village website.
- **What it would do.** Add Chapter 50, "Drugs and Drug Products," to the Village Code, making it unlawful to sell, offer for sale, distribute or otherwise provide kratom products in the Village.
- **Penalties read into the record.** Up to \$1,000 for a first offense, \$2,500 for a second, and \$5,000 or revocation of any applicable permit or license after that. Each day counts as a separate offense. It was described as a code violation handled by summons, not a crime.
- **Changes the Board asked for.** Remove possession, and expand the definition of kratom to add "7-OH or any other natural or synthetic ingredient or derivative of the kratom plant." The draft already covers kratom products generally, including natural leaf.

PUBLIC COMMENT | 0:03 TO 0:25

Eight members of the public spoke. None opposed restricting sales.

- Four speakers, three speaking about family members and one about a close friend, asked the Board to ban kratom. Two of them asked specifically that natural leaf be included.
- One speaker supported the ban as proposed.
- One speaker supported banning sales but objected to banning possession, and raised state preemption, how "kratom" could be defined in an enforceable way, and the cost of lab testing.
- One speaker asked the Board to consider distinguishing natural from synthetic products, to explain enforcement and penalties, and to coordinate with Orange County.
- One speaker supported the law and urged a countywide or inter-municipal approach.
- A Village police representative said the department fully supports the law.

BOARD DISCUSSION | 0:25 TO 0:52

- **Two drafts.** Members found they had different versions of the law, one with possession and one without. Whether the posted version included possession was not settled at the meeting. [0:26:11, 0:48:54]
- **Possession removed.** Members asked counsel to strike possession wherever it appears, which would remove section 50-2(B). [0:35:34]
- **Definition.** It was noted that the draft uses the definition of kratom from legislation pending in New York State. Members asked to add 7-OH and "any other natural or synthetic ingredient or derivative of the kratom plant," and it was suggested the definition also cover products marketed as kratom. [0:28:49, 0:35:47, 0:46:32]

- **State law.** A member said that if the State bans only 7-OH, the Village law would be stricter and would still apply, and this was confirmed. [0:40:22]
- **Enforcement and testing.** Police said that without possession, enforcement would work more like a building-code matter aimed at stopping sales. A Village officer warned that lab testing, which would look for mitragynine, could cost more than the fines collected. [0:37:12, 0:42:57]
- **Process.** Asked whether changes made after the hearing require a new hearing, it was said they do not. Counsel will amend the draft and circulate it to the Board. [0:48:58, 0:49:45]
- **Other municipalities.** A member said the Board has discussed the law with its Orange County legislator and the Town, that they are “open and supportive,” and that similar laws could follow “in rapid succession.” [0:30:53]
- **Model text.** A member asked speakers which municipality has the most thorough definition. A speaker offered to send Oneida County’s law, which bans all kratom. [0:50:17]
- **Vote.** The Board voted to put the local law at the top of the next meeting’s agenda. [0:51:32]

WHAT HAPPENS NEXT

- Counsel is expected to circulate an amended draft before the next meeting. The key question is the final definition of kratom.
- The next regular meeting is Tuesday, October 20, 2026, at 6:30 p.m.
- If you live in the Village of Montgomery, consider writing to the Board in your own words before then. Residents’ views carry the most weight. Contact details are on the Village website, villageofmontgomeryny.gov.
- Watch the full meeting: youtube.com/watch?v=Ol46mOeNnfo

About this summary. Prepared by Hudson Valley Botanicals LLC from a machine transcript of the Village’s YouTube video. The audio was poor in places, so wording is approximate, and speakers are identified by role rather than by name. Times are shown as hours:minutes:seconds into the video. Check the video at those times before quoting anyone. Hudson Valley Botanicals sells kratom leaf products and has a financial interest in this law.