

TOWN BOARD MEETING, TOWN OF AUGUSTA
April 16, 2025

A meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Augusta, County of Oneida and the State of New York was held at Town Hall, 2470 North Road, Oriskany Falls, NY on Wednesday, the 16th day of April 2025.

PRESENT	Suzanne Collins	Supervisor
	James Dowd	Councilman
	Charles Peck	Councilman
	Mark Russell	Councilman
	Travis Wright	Councilman
	Sonya Furness	Clerk

PUBLIC PRESENT: Phil Eaton, Steve Roys

The Town Board meeting was called to order at 6:00 PM by Supervisor Collins.

ADOPTION OF MINUTES:

RESOLUTION 20 - 2025

On a motion of Councilman Wright, seconded by Councilman Dowd, the following resolution was

ADOPTED Ayes 5 Collins, Dowd, Peck, Russell ,Wright
Nays 0

Resolved that the Town Board Minutes of March19, 2025 be adopted.

PRIVLEDGE OF THE FLOOR/PUBLIC CONCERNS:

Steve Roys reported that his office is ready for the upcoming Reval and that he will do whatever he can to help in the process.

AUDIT OF CLAIMS:

RESOLUTION 21 – 2025

Questions were asked in regards to JD Contracting and Hot Water Tank.

On a motion of Councilman Russell, seconded by Councilman Wright, the following resolution was

ADOPTED Ayes 5 Collins, Dowd, Peck, Russell ,Wright
Nays 0

Resolved that the bills contained on Abstract #4 have been reviewed by the Town Board and are authorized for payment in the following amounts.

General Fund Full Town	voucher #'s 22– 32	\$ 1,619.05
General Fund Part Town	voucher # 4	149.99
Highway Fund Full Town	voucher #'s 15 - 22	11,594.16
Highway Fund Part Town	voucher #'s 16 - 22	2,749.55

**REPORT OF TOWN OFFICIALS:
SUPERVISOR:**

Assets	Total
Special Districts 1537	\$ 12,201.91
Truck MMM 3249	169,606.72
Full Town Highway Checking 2126	3,771.54
Full Town Highway Savings 9241	176,923.30
Full Town General Savings 9058	198,783.11
Full Town General Checking 1780	51,787.71
Part Town General Checking 2134	1,390.87
Part Town General Savings 9228	79,382.99
Part Town Highway Checking 2460	14,828.10
Part Town Highway Savings 9137	362,563.00
Trust and Agency 2867	0.00
Indian Land Claim Savings 0115	71,254.33
Building Fund CD 9015	56,580.36
Reval MMM 3281	136,253.49
Loader 3346	66,599.58
Town Hall 6289	89,132.95
NYSLRS 3453	58,739.77
CDBG	14,805.74
 Total Assets	 \$1,564,605.47
Net Income	358,565.60
Unresolved Equity	1,206,039.87
Total Liabilities and Equity	\$1,564,605.47

RESOLUTION 22- 2025

On a motion of Councilman Russell, seconded by Councilman Peck, the following resolution was

ADOPTED Ayes 5 Collins, Dowd, Peck, Russell ,Wright
Nays 0

Resolved that the Supervisors SORES reports be accepted as submitted

CODES: No Report Submitted

ASSESSOR: No Report Submitted

DCO: February and March Reports Submitted

JUDICIAL: No Concerns

HIGHWAY SUPERINTENDENT:

Highway Superintendent requested permission to add surplus equipment to International Auction:

RESOLUTION 23- 2025

On a motion of Councilman Wright, seconded by Councilman Peck, the following resolution was

ADOPTED Ayes 5 Collins, Dowd, Peck, Russell ,Wright
Nays 0

Resolved that the items described below be listed on the auction site.

65 Caterpillar Grader

03 Freightliner Plow and Wing

Welder

Replacement of 2 pickup trucks

Highway Superintendent submitted 2 quotes from Friendly Ford:

Total cost of \$65,434.20 Trade in of \$ 42,000 on the 2022 pickup Balance \$23,434.20

Total cost of \$ 49,109.80 Trade in of \$ 23,000 on the 2020 pickup Balance \$ 26,109.80

RESOLUTION 24- 2025

On a motion of Councilman Wright, seconded by Councilman Peck, the following resolution was

ADOPTED Ayes 5 Collins, Dowd, Peck, Russell ,Wright
Nays 0

Resolved that the 2 new vehicles may be ordered before price increases, but Highway Superintendent should still be attempting to get a better trade in value to reduce cost if able.

County Roads

Highway Superintendent said that his crew did a great job being the first year with the County roads and the very harsh winter.

Chips money should come in more than anticipated.

Highway Superintendent is working with County Legislator/Mayor Idzi, in an attempt to obtain extra money for plowing and work to be done on Cooper Street in Oriskany Falls.

Tentatively, paving for the 2025 year is to be done on Hewitt and Durling roads.

TOWN CLERK:

Town Board signed the monthly reconciliation sheets for the Town Clerk Checking Account, verifying that the months of February 2025 and March 2025 bank statements and checkbook were in order

Notified that as of January 2026, all Town and General Elections will be held at Augusta Municipal Hall.

Requested permission to request a .gov domain on behalf of the Town to comply with mandates that are to be in effect by December 21, 2025.

RESOLUTION 25- 2025

On a motion of Councilman Wright, seconded by Councilman Peck, the following resolution was

ADOPTED Ayes 5 Collins, Dowd, Peck, Russell, Wright
Nays 0

Resolved that Town Clerk request a .gov domain on behalf of the Town of Augusta.

Advised that there are several mandated changes coming in regard to the new version of minutes to comply with Open Meetings Law section 103.

Advised the Board that a determination regarding the reducing of the speed limit on Knoxboro Rd. between State Route 26 and North Rd. was received and it was determined not appropriate at this time.

1 sealed RFP was received from THOMA Development Consultants for the CDBG Grant.

RESOLUTION 26 - 2025

On a motion of Councilman Wright, seconded by Councilman Russell, the following resolution was

ADOPTED Ayes 5 Collins, Dowd, Peck, Russell, Wright
Nays 0

Resolved that the Town of Augusta hire THOMA as consultants, contingent on approval from the Office of Community Renewal, at a cost of \$ 99,130.

SUPERVISOR:

Investment Policy

RESOLUTION 27 - 2025

On a motion of Councilman Wright, seconded by Councilman Dowd, the following resolution was

ADOPTED Ayes 5 Collins, Dowd, Peck, Russell, Wright
Nays 0

Resolved that the Investment Policy be readopted as written.

Town Credit Card

A poll was taken to see if there is an interest of the board to acquire a town credit card.

Yes - Wright, Peck

No - Collins, Russell, Dowd

2024 Indian Gaming money was received. Of that money, \$25,000 will be put into the Town Hall Account and \$25,000 will be put into the Reval Account.

Supervisor reported that she has joined NY Forward Program which will allow Civil Service approval of Will Anderson being hired as Codes Officer while he acquires his training.

Supervisor advised that Town Attorney Parker is still reviewing the GAR Reval contract to assure that there are no legal loop holes. Update will be given when she receives details.

Supervisor reported to the board that reducing a salary cannot be done mid-year as it was previously stated in Februarys minutes.

Amos Parker Cemetery Marker

New cemetery marker that was provided by the William G. Pomeroy Foundation has been received and the Highway Dept. will install.

Harriett Tubman Scenic Byway

RESOLUTION 28 - 2025

On a motion of Councilman Wright, seconded by Councilman Dowd, the following resolution was

ADOPTED Ayes 3 Collins, Peck, Wright
 Nays 2 Dowd, Russell

Resolved that the below described resolution be adopted and submitted

Resolution for Harriet Tubman Underground Railroad New York Scenic Byway Nomination and Corridor Management Plan Adoption

WHEREAS, the historic qualities of the Harriet Tubman Underground Railroad New York Scenic Byway, as described in the corridor management plan, and the surrounding areas have been appreciated and celebrated for over a century by the residents of New York State, as well as tourists, historians, artists, authors, and other visitors to the region; and it is this unique combination of the journeys of Harriet Tubman and those Freedom Seekers who traveled on the Underground Railroad that create the special sense of place that is vital in telling the New York story of the human desire for freedom and the historic sites they utilized during their journey to emancipation; and

WHEREAS, the Steering Committee of the Harriet Tubman Underground Railroad New York Scenic Byway, composed of representatives of 22 municipalities along the proposed scenic byway route, committed to working cooperatively to protect and promote the historic, scenic, recreational, and economic well-being of the 544-mile Corridor throughout the state and agreed to pursue the nomination of the Harriet Tubman Underground Railroad New York Scenic Byway; and

WHEREAS, under the leadership of the Harriet Tubman Underground Railroad New York Scenic Byway Steering Committee, each of the 22 counties contributed to the development of this corridor management plan by encouraging public participation, confirming the vision and goals, and leading individual meetings of the Collaborative; and

WHEREAS, the Steering Committee of the Harriet Tubman Underground Railroad New York Scenic Byway, consisting of relatives of Harriet Tubman, descendants of Freedom Seekers, Harriet Tubman and/or Underground Railroad historians, representatives from state and federal agencies, has strengthened the historic integrity, representation, and the principles of the corridor management plan; and

WHEREAS, in the process of developing this corridor management plan, the Harriet Tubman Underground Railroad New York Scenic Byway Steering Committee has strengthened the bonds of inter-municipal cooperation, and the involved entities envision further benefit through scenic byway designation including sustained collaborative progress, increased funding opportunities for recommendations identified in the plan, enhanced partnerships with agencies responsible for the stewardship of resources along and adjacent to the byway route, and an improved visitor experience that interprets and promotes the corridor's intrinsic qualities and resources; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town of Augusta supports the designation of the Harriet Tubman Underground Railroad New York Scenic Byway which includes programs for stewardship and enhancement of the historic scenic byway and guidance to manage future activities along its corridor; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Town of Augusta confirms that they will not approve any requests for new off-premise outdoor advertising signs along the designated Harriet Tubman Underground Railroad New York Scenic Byway route; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Town of Vernon will work in partnership with the other municipalities along the Harriet Tubman Underground Railroad New York Scenic Byway and local and regional stakeholders in order to support future Byway programs, economic development, marketing, and collaborate with these interested entities to explore opportunities for cooperation to realize the Scenic Byway goals.

TOWN BOARD :

Questions were asked regarding the status of the Auction Barn.

Councilman Russell said that the Zoning Board has asked questions regarding their meetings and pay.

Councilman Dowd asked status of pending insurance claim for damages.

With no further business, on a motion of Councilman Russell seconded by Councilman Wright the meeting was adjourned at 7:15 PM. Carried unanimously.

Respectively Submitted,
Sonya Furness