

**TOWN OF AUGUSTA
TOWN BOARD
FEBRUARY 18, 2026**

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 18th day of February 2026.

PRESENT:	Suzanne Collins	Supervisor
	Charles Peck	Councilman
	Mark Russell	Councilman
	Jona Snyder	Councilman
	Travis Wright	Councilman
	Sonya Furness	Clerk

ALSO PRESENT: Phil Eaton, Highway Superintendent

PUBLIC PRESENT: Jim Dowd

Supervisor Collins called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM.

MINUTES:

The submitted Town Board Minutes of January 21, 2026 were ADOPTED with no changes.

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

ADOPTED Ayes 5 Collins, Peck, Russell, Snyder, Wright
Nays 0
Absent
Motion Carried 5:0

PRIVLEDGE OF THE FLOOR/PUBLIC CONCERNS:

Jim Dowd submitted an estimate from M. Bonsie Heating and Air Conditioning for a install of 5 80K BTU infrared tube heaters with reflectors in the Town Highway garage.

Jim stated that he recommends the radiant infrared heaters.

Highway Superintendent Eaton needs to get 1 or more estimates in order for a decision to be made.

AUDIT OF CLAIMS:

RESOLUTION 6- 2026

A motion of Councilman Wright, seconded by Councilman Snyder, the following resolution was

ADOPTED Ayes 5 Collins, Peck, Russell, Snyder, Wright
Nays 0
Absent
Motion Carried 5:0

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Resolved that the bills contained on Abstract #2 have been reviewed by the Town Board and are authorized for payment in the following amounts.

General Fund Full Town	voucher #'s 11- 17	\$ 1,475.18
General Fund Part Town	voucher # s 4- 5	815.92
Highway Fund Full Town	voucher #'s 5- 8	1,378.86
Highway Fund Part Town	voucher # 6	549.50

REPORT OF TOWN OFFICIALS:

SUPERVISOR:

Supervisor Collins submitted the monthly report of the Towns finances for the month of January 2026.

Assets	Total
Special Districts 1537	\$ 16,006.61
Truck MMM 3249	105,461.10
Full Town Highway Checking 2126	26,766.10
Full Town Highway Savings 9241	38,599.16
Full Town General Savings 9058	71,242.22
Full Town General Checking 1780	18,747.20
Part Town General Checking 2134	1,333.83
Part Town General Savings 9228	23,967.17
Part Town Highway Checking 2460	5,244.78
Part Town Highway Savings 9137	472,060.76
Trust and Agency 2867	0.00
Indian Land Claim Savings 0115	76,271.54
Building Fund CD 9015	7,724.41
Reval MMM 3281	40,080.94
Loader 3346	35,111.24
Town Hall 6289	133,375.51
NYSLRS 3453	16,008.12
CDBG	33.37
 Total Assets	 \$1,088,034.06
Net Income	(32,426.34)
Unresolved Equity	1,120,460.40
Total Liabilities and Equity	\$1,088,034.06

RESOLUTION 7- 2026

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

ADOPTED Ayes 5 Collins, Peck, Russell, Snyder, Wright
 Nays 0
 Absent
 Motion Carried 5:0

Resolved that the Monthly Supervisors report for January 2026 be accepted as submitted.

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CODES: No Report Submitted

ASSESSOR: NO Report Submitted

DCO: NO Report Submitted

JUDICIAL: Annual Audit for 2025 Court funds was conducted by the Town Board.

HIGHWAY SUPERINTENDENT:

Highway Superintendent gave a breakdown of the amounts of materials used so far this winter season in February .

January 2026 (1/22/26 – 2/09/26)

2376 Tons Sand and Salt

2259 Gallons Fuel

Overtime yet to be determined

A quote was submitted from Clinton Tractor for a New Holland TS6.110 Tractor and Alamo Machete 22' Boom Mower in the amount of \$85,090.84

This matter was tabled until the March meeting so that more answers on financing and cost of a leasing option may be obtained.

TOWN CLERK:

Clerk asked to add to minutes a Resolution that was left out of January's minutes.

Thoma CDBG Grant # 61HR329-24 Drawdown #1

RESOLUTION 8– 2026

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

ADOPTED Ayes 5 Collins, Peck, Russell, Snyder, Wright

Nays 0

Absent

Motion Carried 5:0

Resolved that Drawdown #1 in the amount of \$47,299.00 be approved and submitted to OCR for payment.

Asked the Board if, due to a conflict of Interest occurring between a Authorized signer and a Village resident that has applied to possibly receive the grant that we could possibly change our Fair Housing Officer and 1 Authorized Signer. Under a new circumstance that came out, Clerk will contact Town Attorney and THOMA Development for guidance.

Town Board signed a monthly reconciliation sheet for the Town Clerk Checking Account, verifying that the December 2025 and January 2026 bank statements and checkbook were in order.

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The Town Clerk 2025 annual audit was conducted. Town Board audited the clerk's records and finances of the Clerk's office

SUPERVISOR:

Asked the board if they wanted to engage in any activities for the 250 year celebration. Board felt that since Oriskany Falls is collaborating Fireworks over the Falls into it and we make a donation to them that is acceptable.

NYSEG Delivery

RESOLUTION 9-2026

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

ADOPTED Ayes 5 Collins, Peck, Russell, Snyder, Wright
Nays 0
Absent
Motion Carried 5:0

Resolved that Attached resolution be signed and submitted to the New York State Public Service Commission, NYSEG, the Governor of the State of New York, members of the New York State Legislature, and neighboring municipalities served by NYSEG.

TOWN OF AUGUSTA RESOLUTION NO. 9 OF 2026

A RESOLUTION STRONGLY URGING IMMEDIATE REVIEW OF ELECTRIC DELIVERY CHARGES, DEMANDING IMPROVED COST CONTROLS AND TRANSPARENCY, AND AUTHORIZING FORMAL COMPLAINTS TO THE NEW YORK STATE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION REGARDING THE ESCALATING COST OF ELECTRICITY

WHEREAS, residents, seniors, and small businesses in the Town of Augusta are experiencing unsustainable, repeated, and compounding increases in electric bills that are placing a growing financial strain on households and the local economy; and

WHEREAS, a substantial portion of these increases is attributable not to increased energy consumption, but to escalating delivery charges, fees, and approved rate adjustments imposed by NYSEG; and

WHEREAS, electric delivery charges and rate structures are regulated and approved by the New York State Public Service Commission, which is statutorily charged with ensuring that utility rates are just reasonable, and affordable for ratepayers; and

WHEREAS, the Town Board has received numerous complaints from residents who are struggling to afford basic electric service and who have expressed serious concern

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regarding the frequency, magnitude, and lack of transparency surrounding recent and ongoing rate increases; and

WHEREAS, rural and low-density communities such as the Town of Augusta are disproportionately impacted by delivery charge increases and cost-recovery mechanisms that fail to adequately account for affordability, equity, and the cumulative burden placed on ratepayers; and

WHEREAS, the Town Board finds that continued approval of rate increases without stronger cost controls, greater transparency, and meaningful affordability protections is unacceptable and contrary to the public interest;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Augusta formally and strongly urges the New York State Public Service Commission to conduct a thorough and immediate review of electric delivery charges, rate increases, and cost-recovery practices applicable to NY SEG customers; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Town Board calls upon the Public Service Commission to prioritize ratepayer affordability, demand greater transparency from NYSEG, and require demonstrable cost-containment and operational efficiency measures before approving any future rate increases; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Town Board expressly opposes continued or automatic rate increases that shift rising operational, infrastructure, and administrative costs onto ratepayers without clear justification or adequate protection for rural communities; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Town Supervisor is hereby authorized and directed to submit formal complaints, written comments, and supporting documentation to the New York State Public Service Commission on behalf of the Town and its residents, objecting to excessive electric costs and requesting regulatory intervention; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Town Clerk is directed to transmit copies of this resolution to the New York State Public Service Commission, NYSEG, the Governor of the State of New York, members of the New York State Legislature, and neighboring municipalities served by NYSEG, and to encourage coordinated action among affected towns; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this resolution shall take effect immediately upon adoption.

Adopted this 18th day of February 2026, by the Town Board of the Town of Augusta.

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The Village of Oriskany Falls asked for a donation for repairs and updates to the Field in village which will cost approx.. \$6500.
After discussion, it was determined that the town is opting not to donate to that cause.

Credit Card Policy and Travel and Expense Policy

RESOLUTION 10-2026

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

ADOPTED Ayes 5 Collins, Peck, Russell, Snyder, Wright
Nays 0
Absent
Motion Carried 5:0

Resolved that the Travel and Expense Policy be adopted in the updated version and the new Credit Card Policy be adopted as written.

Board Members Mark Russell and Jona Snyder were chosen to Union Representatives.

Supervisor Collins made a motion at 6:40 PM, seconded by Councilman Peck to enter into Executive Session to discuss the Medical, Financial, Credit or Employment history of a particular person or persons or matters leading to the appointment, promotion, demotion, discipline, suspension, dismissal or removal of a particular person or persons.

At 7:15 PM, the board came out of Executive Session.

The Supervisor will follow up with Scott Davis, Town Attorney, Association of Towns and the 5th Judicial District.

Supervisor will discuss with Town Clerk locating some stronger actions that the Board had authorized for Codes Officer, Adam Shaver, that the present Codes Officer might not be aware of.

Vehicle form will be provided to mechanic and Highway Superintendent, the Board will be copied in.

With no further business, on a motion of Councilman Snyder seconded by Councilman Wright the meeting was adjourned at 7:20 PM. Carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Sonya Furness