

The Regular Meeting of the Mendon Town Board was held at 7:00 PM, Monday, June 9, 2025, at the Mendon Town Hall, 16 West Main Street, Honeoye Falls, NY.

PRESENT: John D. Moffitt, *Supervisor*
Cynthia M. Carroll
James Merzke
Kimberly Roberts
Brent Rosiek

*Town Board
Members*

TOWN CLERK: Michelle Booth

OTHERS PRESENT: Tom Voorhees, *Highway Superintendent*, Tom Fromberger, *Town Engineer*, Danny Bassette, Pete Doyle, Danielle Liberatore, and Gary Loope.

Supervisor Moffitt called the meeting to order and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Agenda

(Resolution 25-199)

A motion was made by Mrs. Carroll, seconded by Mr. Rosiek to adopt the agenda as presented.

Adopted: Mrs. Carroll - Aye; Mr. Merzke - Aye; Mr. Rosiek - Aye; Mrs. Roberts - Aye; Mr. Moffitt - Aye

Public Comment

Gary Loope raised a question about the residency restrictions for the Deputy Highway Superintendent. He expressed concern that changes to this position might require a permissive referendum, especially if someone were to step into that role. He also inquired about the purchase of a new truck, noting it would be the third new truck going into service this year. Loope wondered how this might affect the rotation of trucks and whether it would disrupt the budget in 10 years' time when potentially three new trucks would need to be purchased again. He questioned which trucks were being replaced and whether the fleet was being enlarged.

Communications

Town Clerk

Town Clerk Michelle Booth reported that she:

- Attended both Memorial Day parades and the associated ceremonies.
- Volunteered at the Mendon Carnival and also participated in the parade.
- Completed and submitted the final 2025 town and county tax report; a collection rate of approximately 97% of the total amount due.

- Received information on a proposed solar farm project in Victor and ensured that this information was distributed to relevant parties, specifically highlighting the deadline for comments by the next day as set by Corey, the Code Enforcement Officer.
- Approved a fireworks display for a private party on Pond Road on June 13th, ensuring that all necessary insurance and certificates had been received and are on file.
- Noted that the Town of Pittsford had filed their yearly Inter-Municipal Sewer Agreement charges on May 15th.
- Received the final financial statement from the fire department concerning the carnival.

Highway Superintendent

Highway Superintendent Tom Voorhees reported that:

- Bush pickups had been completed.
- Roadside mowing was about 50% done for the first pass.
- A new pipe was installed at the splash park, successfully addressing any previous drainage issues there, and the system was reportedly working fine.
- Plains and Scofield Road have undergone milling and paving. The millings from this process were distributed to local residents and the remainder was stockpiled for future operational needs.
- Bird netting was installed on the salt barn, a preventative measure aimed at minimizing maintenance needs by keeping out birds.
- Two 10-wheel dump trucks were allocated for the Memorial Day Parade and Fireman's Carnival for traffic control.
- Highway employee Ryan Tillich received his New York State DEC erosion control certification, an important credential that will empower the department to conduct roadside ditching legally.
- Stone and oil work is planned for Mendon Center and Parrish Road for the week of June 23rd.

Town Board

Board Member Brent Rosiek reported:

- He attended the General Lafayette ceremony on June 7th in the hamlet.
- He participated in both Memorial Day parades and ceremonies, volunteered at the Mendon Carnival, and took part in the Mendon Carnival parade.
- He discussed the activities of the Planning Board. On June 2nd, a meeting was held which included two public hearings. One of them concerned a subdivision without a site plan on Chateau Place. Though initially, neighbors expressed concerns due to the absence of a site plan, they were reassured upon learning that a site plan would be required prior to building any houses.

The application was subsequently approved with conditions. The second public hearing was for an amendment to an existing special use permit for a riding academy on Cheese Factory Road. Concerns about the potential impact on neighboring properties were raised, causing the planning board to request further information before making a decision.

- A collaborative meeting was held with the planning board secretary, code enforcement officer, and a developer, focusing on the application procedures for a conceptual subdivision of over 15 lots along Mendon Ionia Road. This meeting was deemed productive, aligning developer concerns with town perspectives and code requirements.
- His involvement in the MCBA included participating in the beautification of the Hamlet on May 17th, with the support of the HFL robotics team and guidance from the Mendon Foundation's head gardener. He noted an inquiry from the MCBA about utilizing town resources, such as a plow truck and equipment, for the Hamlet Festival scheduled for September 7th. This has been a past practice for the enjoyment of children, allowing them to interact with the equipment.
- He conducted meetings with MRB to review a list of active projects and engaged in discussions with residents about potential easements for a sidewalk project along Victor Mendon Road and wetland delineations concerning the Stoney Lonesome project.
- He detailed his attendance at ongoing meetings at the highway department, involving various departmental personnel. One key topic was the request for CPR classes.
- A collaboration with the highway department focused on redirecting stormwater from the splash pad at Dreisbach, enhancing the fill operations there and improving future operations without affecting wetlands. This collaboration was further supported by highway personnel receiving stormwater training, increasing the town's ability to conduct SWIP inspections independently and enhancing its talent pool.
- An introduction to governmental accounting school was attended virtually on May 21st and 22nd, which he acknowledged as beneficial to the town. He extended an offer to share his training workbooks and notes with board members, also mentioning attendance at a subsequent accounting principles and procedures class on June 11th and 12th.

Board Member Kim Roberts reported:

- There has not been a Zoning Board of Appeals meeting since the last town board meeting, which means there is no new information or developments to report in this area at this time.
- An upcoming meeting for community field use is scheduled for Monday, June 23rd. Kim noted that there are seven key stakeholders who plan on attending, and the outcomes of this meeting will be reported on in the July meeting.

- Positive feedback has been received for the lights and flowers in the Hamlet. Kim extended appreciation to everyone involved in working on these initiatives.

Board Member Cynthia Carroll reported on the library board meeting, including:

- The library has organized book displays in honor of Immigrant Heritage Month and Pride Month.
- The Friends Flower Sale was reported as successful.
- Updates on New York State library funding revealed that the 2026 budget was finalized, including an appropriation of \$106,325,000 for operating aid throughout the state. Cynthia highlighted that this represented a \$2,473,000 increase over 2025 and marked the first time since 2009 that funding has reached or surpassed statutory requirements.
- Lyla Grills has been appointed as the small libraries liaison to the Monroe County Library System (MCLS) System Services and Operations Committee. This committee meets once a month via Zoom.
- Plans for a collaborative book discussion event with Bleak House are underway, aiming to enhance community interactions and discussion through literature. The event is scheduled to take place in November.
- Proposals for using the remaining teen grant funds are in development, including a project where teen volunteers will reestablish the rain garden beside the sidewalk leading to Monroe Street, pending Town of Mendon approval. Additionally, the library intends to purchase a few Adirondack chairs with funds from the Friends of the Library to place on the grassy area at the front of the library, pending arrangements for winter storage.
- Summer reading program registration will open on July 11th, with a kickoff event planned for June 25th.
- Library staff discussed the Sustainable Library Initiative, Summer Reading, and policy revision during the half day training session.

Board Member James Merzke reported on the activities and discussions of both the Environmental Conservation Board and the Historic Preservation Commission.

He reported that the Environmental Conservation Board met twice since the last town meeting. During a special meeting on May 20th, they focused on the Monroe County Climate Action Plan, which was also a topic at their regular meeting on June 3rd. The Board aimed to prepare a resolution to present to the town board on the July 14th meeting. James provided guidance on forming special committees and resolving procedural questions.

At the Historic Preservation Commission meeting on June 4th, the Commission evaluated an application related to the Chateau Place subdivision, which involved no changes from its previous submission. James noted that the Commission, along with him and Brent Rosiek, were satisfied with the progress in discussions about EPOD

#5. The Commission valued being part of the conversation regarding future code clarifications related to historic preservation and appreciated the continued efforts to include them in these important discussions.

Furthermore, he mentioned that the town historian, Diane Ham, continued her project on the letters from Zebulon Norton's grandson and was currently in the process of sourcing paint for the restoration of a boxcar at Rochester Junction.

Supervisor John Moffitt reported on several key activities and updates:

- A Certificate of Deposit at Canandaigua National Bank was renewed at an interest rate of 4.2% for a 90-day term.
- Mr. Moffitt attended regular biweekly meetings at the highway department, finding these meetings to be very productive in addressing highway operations and planning.
- Letters were sent to residents of Pittsford who border Mendon Green, informing them about the ownership and maintenance of a 101-foot buffer zone.
- A defensive driving course has been scheduled for town employees on September 10th. This also extends the opportunity to employees' family members at a cost.
- John highlighted a vehicle damage incident that occurred in July of 2024 while Mendon was conducting work on a county road. Despite reporting the damage in a timely manner, a delay in passing the claim to the town's insurance company exceeded the 90-day filing period. Supervisor Moffitt expressed his intent to seek a mutual agreement with the residents involved due to the erroneous handling of the claim by the former Highway Superintendent.
- Frequent power outages in the town's southeast corner prompted contact with National Grid. A representative from National Grid outlined plans to address and fix the ongoing issues, which will be communicated to residents once finalized.
- Birdhouses were installed at Semmel Road, thanks to the efforts of local residents. Additionally, Brooke Buckland led flower bed enhancements at the community center, receiving praise for her contribution to the town's beautification.
- A refund of \$130 from an overcharge at a cleaning service was secured, thanks to the town's participation at the Association of Towns conference.
- Arrangements are underway for upcoming presentations to the town board from Strong Hospital's mobile stroke unit team to discuss their operations. Additionally, Monroe County Aging Alliance will present insights on the needs of the aging population. Both presentations aim to inform the board and residents of available community services.

Supervisor's Monthly Report (Resolution 25-200)

A motion was made by Ms. Roberts, seconded by Mr. Merzke, to acknowledge the receipt of the supervisor's monthly report for April 2025.

Adopted: Mrs. Carroll - Aye; Mr. Merzke - Aye; Mr. Rosiek - Aye; Mrs. Roberts - Aye;
Mr. Moffitt - Aye

Town Clerk's Monthly Report
(Resolution 25-201)

Mr. Merzke motioned to acknowledge receipt of the town clerk's monthly report for May 2025, showing receipts and disbursements in the amount of \$11,460.28, seconded by Mr. Rosiek.

Adopted: Mrs. Carroll - Aye; Mr. Merzke - Aye; Mr. Rosiek - Aye; Mrs. Roberts - Aye;
Mr. Moffitt - Aye

Minutes
(Resolution 25-202)

A motion to approve the minutes of the regular meeting held on May 12 as presented was made by Brent Rosiek, seconded by Kimberly Roberts.

Adopted: Mrs. Carroll - Aye; Mr. Merzke - Aye; Mr. Rosiek - Aye; Mrs. Roberts - Aye;
Mr. Moffitt - Aye

Budget Adjustments
(Resolution 25-203)

A motion was made by Mrs. Carroll, seconded by Mr. Merzke, to approve the following budget adjustments:

From: A1990.470	Contingent	\$4,200.00
To: A1620.4	Building and Grounds	\$3,000.00
To: A3510.430	Dog Control-Vet Services	\$ 200.00
To: A3310.2	Traffic Control Equipment	\$1,000.00
From: A9060.8	Medical Ins.	\$30,000.00
To: A5010.1	Superintendent of HW	\$30,000.00
From: B1990.4	Contingent	\$5,000.00
To: B8020.4	Planning-Contractual	\$5,000.00
From: DB2306	School Salt	\$2,500.00
From: DB2302	County Parks	\$6,500.00
To: DB5148.4	Service To other Gov't	\$9,000.00
From: L2401	Interest and Earnings	\$10.00
To: L9010.8	NYS Retirement	\$10.00

Adopted: Mrs. Carroll - Aye; Mr. Merzke - Aye; Mr. Rosiek - Aye; Mrs. Roberts - Aye;
Mr. Moffitt - Aye

Vouchers

General Abstract A

(Resolution 25-204)

A motion to approve all claims on vouchers numbered 25-243 to 25-254 on general abstract 25-06A in the amount of \$28,488.52 made by James Merzke, seconded by Kimberly Roberts.

Adopted: Mrs. Carroll - Aye; Mr. Merzke - Aye; Mr. Rosiek - Aye; Mrs. Roberts - Aye; Mr. Moffitt - Aye

General Abstract B

(Resolution 25-205)

A motion to approve all claims on vouchers number 25-255 to 25-306 on general abstract 25-06B in the amount of \$55,072.03 made by James Merzke, seconded by Kimberly Roberts.

Adopted: Mrs. Carroll - Aye; Mr. Merzke - Aye; Mr. Rosiek - Aye; Mrs. Roberts - Aye; Mr. Moffitt - Aye

Highway Abstract

(Resolution 25-206)

A motion to approve all claims on vouchers number 25-200 to 25-219 on Highway abstract 25-06 in the amount of \$20,458.92 made by James Merzke, seconded by Kimberly Roberts.

Adopted: Mrs. Carroll - Aye; Mr. Merzke - Aye; Mr. Rosiek - Aye; Mrs. Roberts - Aye; Mr. Moffitt - Aye

Library Abstract A

Library vouchers numbered 25-080 to 25-086, on Library Abstract 25-06A, in the amount of \$1,914.99, were presented to the Town Board for payment.

Library Abstract B

Library vouchers numbered 25-087 to 25-095, on Library Abstract 25-06B, in the amount of \$2,557.78, were presented to the Town Board for payment.

Proposed Local Law – Temporary Signs – Establish Public Hearing

(Resolution 25-207)

Brent Rosiek moved to establish a public hearing to consider a proposed local law 'Amending Town Code Chapter 260, Zoning, Article X, Sign Regulations, to Regulate Temporary Signage' at 7:00 PM or as soon thereafter as can be convened, Monday,

July 14, 2025, Mendon Town Hall, 16 West Main Street, Honeoye Falls, NY. Cynthia Carroll seconded the motion.

James Merzke mentioned he had submitted comments similar to those discussed in the previous meeting. Brian Marianetti noted that the square footage had been changed to 6 square feet regardless of side or double side based on previous discussions.

Supervisor Moffitt expressed frustration with the complexity of regulating temporary signs, noting the difficulty in creating a one-size-fits-all approach. He mentioned recent efforts to remove illegal signs before the carnival and emphasized the need to balance free speech rights with town aesthetics.

Board members discussed concerns about enforcement of current and proposed legislation, the need for public input, and specific issues with certain types of signs. The board agreed on the importance of hearing from the public during the upcoming hearing.

Adopted: Mrs. Carroll - Aye; Mr. Merzke - Aye; Mr. Rosiek - Aye; Mrs. Roberts - Aye; Mr. Moffitt - Aye

Proposed Local Law – Residency Restrictions for Deputy Highway Superintendent – Establish Public Hearing

(Resolution 25-208)

Brent Rosiek moved to establish a public hearing to consider a proposed local law 'Amending Town Code Chapter 58, Officers and Employees, to Alter the Residency Restrictions for Deputy Town Superintendent of Highways' at 7:00 PM or as soon thereafter as can be convened, Monday, July 14, 2025, Mendon Town Hall, 16 West Main Street, Honeoye Falls, NY. Kim Roberts seconded the motion.

James Merzke raised a question about the eligibility of an out-of-town deputy highway superintendent to serve in that role. Brian Marianetti confirmed that the comptroller's office had issued opinions stating that it was acceptable for this specific position.

Adopted: Mrs. Carroll - Aye; Mr. Merzke - Aye; Mr. Rosiek - Aye; Mrs. Roberts - Aye; Mr. Moffitt - Aye

Proposed Local Law – Amend Chapter 138 – EPODs – Discussion

Brent Rosiek led a discussion on proposed changes to Chapter 138 regarding Environmental Protection Overlay Districts (EPODs). He explained that the changes aimed to rectify discrepancies between Chapters 138 and 159, clarifying the roles of the Historic Preservation Commission (HPC) and the Planning Board in reviewing impacts on historic properties. The proposed amendments included:

- Establishing Chapters 138 and 159 as standalone chapters with distinct purposes

- Clarifying the HPC's authority to review impacts on state and federal register properties
- Adding a section on standards of review, specifying what the HPC would comment on
- Outlining factors for the Planning Board to consider based on HPC recommendations

No formal action was taken on this item, as it was presented for discussion only.

Highway Department – Purchase of Truck

(Resolution 25-209)

Brent Rosiek moved to approve the purchase of a 2025 Freightliner 114SD PLUS 10-wheeler chassis equipped with: Henderson 14' Mark E stainless steel body, Henderson 11' stainless steel reversible snow plow, and Henderson 11' stainless steel wing configuration from Tracey Road Equipment, not to exceed \$336,021.00 (per Onondaga County Contract #0010914). Purchase subject to a referendum once a delivery date is established. Mrs. Carroll seconded the motion.

Brent Rosiek explained that this would be the third truck purchase this year, but noted that delivery could potentially be next year. He discussed the recommendation to move from a 10-year to a 7-year replacement cycle for vehicles, citing potential cost savings in maintenance and higher trade-in values.

Supervisor Moffitt added that COVID-19 had disrupted the normal replacement cycle, and that the capital improvement plan was being reviewed to align with current needs. He also explained that the purchase was not subject to a permissive referendum due to uncertainty about the delivery date and to avoid complications with fund balance if the truck wasn't received by year-end.

Adopted: Mrs. Carroll - Aye; Mr. Merzke - Aye; Mr. Rosiek - Aye; Mrs. Roberts - Aye; Mr. Moffitt - Aye

Highway Department – Purchase of Loader

(Resolution 25-210)

Cynthia Carroll moved to purchase a 2025 Caterpillar Next Gen 938 Wheel Loader from Milton CAT, not to exceed \$155,244.00 (per NYS/OGS/NJPA Heavy Equipment Contract #PC69406), after the less gross trade allowance of \$110,000.00 for the 2019 Volvo L90H loader that Mendon currently owns. To be paid from account DB5110.2 and subject to a permissive referendum. James Merzke seconded the motion.

Supervisor Moffitt explained that the current loader, about 6 years old, had experienced numerous problems and costly repairs. The new loader comes with a 7-year bumper-to-bumper warranty, includes annual rust-proofing, and features a scale inside the bucket. The Highway Superintendent confirmed that the manufacturer would perform all maintenance on the loader.

Adopted: Mrs. Carroll - Aye; Mr. Merzke - Aye; Mr. Rosiek - Aye; Mrs. Roberts - Aye; Mr. Moffitt - Aye

National Fuel – Temporary Construction Easement

(Resolution 25-211)

Kim Roberts moved to grant to National Fuel Gas Distribution Corporation the right to the temporary use of Town owned property at 15 Monroe Street for workspace for construction equipment, vehicles and other miscellaneous pipeline related equipment, associated with the installation of a pipeline by National Fuel, and authorizes the Supervisor to execute any necessary documents. James Merzke seconded the motion.

Supervisor Moffitt explained that National Fuel had contacted the town about the temporary easement. He noted that any lawn damage would be repaired by National Fuel. The supervisor planned to notify the Girl Scouts and the library about the work due to their proximity to the site. Brent Rosiek suggested taking pre-construction photos of the area to document its condition.

Adopted: Mrs. Carroll - Aye; Mr. Merzke - Aye; Mr. Rosiek - Aye; Mrs. Roberts - Aye; Mr. Moffitt - Aye

COMMEMORATION OF GENERAL LAFAYETTE'S VISIT TO MENDON

(Resolution 25-212)

A motion was made by Mr. Merzke, seconded by Mrs. Carroll, to adopt the following:

WHEREAS, on June 7, 1825, General Marie-Joseph Paul Yves Roch Gilbert du Motier de La Fayette, Marquis de La Fayette, the esteemed "Nation's Guest" and hero of two revolutions, passed through the young Genesee country during his momentous farewell tour of the United States, and

WHEREAS, General Lafayette's journey from Rochester to Canandaigua brought him, albeit briefly, through the very heart of the Town of Mendon, and

WHEREAS, this short passage connected our pioneering community directly to a living symbol of liberty, patriotism, and the enduring spirit of the American Revolution, and

WHEREAS, the foresight and ideals embodied by Lafayette's sacrifices for freedom are a foundational part of our American heritage, inspiring generations then and now, and

WHEREAS, it is fitting and proper that the Town of Mendon formally acknowledge and perpetually remember this historic visitation, which, though fleeting, left an indelible mark on our local consciousness and linked us to a national narrative of gratitude and admiration.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Town Board of the Town of Mendon, New York, that June 7th be recognized as a day of historical significance for our community, honoring the esteemed visit of General Lafayette. The Board encourages all citizens to reflect upon the ideals of liberty and self-governance for which he stood, and to cherish the historical connections that bind the town to the broader story of American independence.

Adopted: Mrs. Carroll - Aye; Mr. Merzke - Aye; Mr. Rosiek - Aye; Mrs. Roberts - Aye; Mr. Moffitt - Aye

Public Comment

Gary Loope suggested including the full text of lengthy statements in the meeting minutes for easier reference.

Adjournment

(Resolution 25-213)

Ms. Roberts made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:52PM. Mr. Merzke seconded the motion.

Adopted: Mrs. Carroll - Aye; Mr. Merzke - Aye; Mr. Rosiek - Aye; Mrs. Roberts - Aye; Mr. Moffitt - Aye