

A Special Meeting of the Mendon Town Board was held at 6:00 PM, Tuesday, February 9, 2026, at the Mendon Town Hall, 16 West Main Street, Honeoye Falls, NY.

PRESENT: Joseph Alati, *Supervisor*
Tanner Cheek
Rebecca Kreuzer *Town Board*
Kimberly Roberts *Members*
Thomas Voorhees

TOWN CLERK: Michelle Booth

ATTORNEY FOR THE TOWN: Megan Dorittie, Harter, Secrest & Emery LLP

OTHERS PRESENT: Morris Bickweat, *Deputy Town Supervisor*

The Supervisor called the special meeting to order at 6:04 PM.

Executive Session - Personnel Matter
(Resolution 26-096)

A motion was made by Mr. Alati, seconded by Mr. Cheek, to authorize the following:

WHEREAS, the Town Board is authorized to enter into executive session pursuant to Section 105(1)(f) of the New York State Open Meetings Law to discuss matters relating to the employment history, discipline, performance, or dismissal of a particular person or persons; and

WHEREAS, the Town Board has determined that it is necessary to discuss such a matter in executive session;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board hereby enters into executive session for the purpose of discussing a personnel matter concerning a particular person or persons.

Adopted: Mr. Cheek, Aye; Ms. Kreuzer, Aye; Ms. Roberts, Aye; Mr. Voorhees, Aye; and Mr. Alati, Aye.

(Resolution 26-097)

A motion was made by Mr. Alati, seconded by Ms. Roberts, to leave the executive session at 6:45 PM.

Adopted: Mr. Cheek, Aye; Ms. Kreuzer, Aye; Ms. Roberts, Aye; Mr. Voorhees, Aye; and Mr. Alati, Aye.

Town Assessor - Salary
(Resolution 26-098)

A motion was made by Mr. Alati, seconded by Ms. Kreuzer, to increase the salary of James LeGrett, Town Assessor, in the amount of \$4,000.00, effective March 1, 2026. Said increase shall be paid from budget line A1355.1.

Adopted: Mr. Cheek, Aye; Ms. Kreuzer, Aye; Ms. Roberts, Aye; Mr. Voorhees, Aye; and Mr. Alati, Aye.

Public Comment

There were no public comments.

ADJOURNMENT
(Resolution 26-099)

A motion was made by Mr. Alati, seconded by Mr. Voorhees, to adjourn the special meeting at 6:47 PM.

Adopted: Mr. Cheek, Aye; Ms. Kreuzer, Aye; Ms. Roberts, Aye; Mr. Voorhees, Aye; and Mr. Alati, Aye

A Regular Meeting of the Mendon Town Board was held at 7:00 PM, Tuesday, February 9, 2026, at the Mendon Town Hall, 16 West Main Street, Honeoye Falls, NY.

PRESENT:	Joseph Alati, <i>Supervisor</i>	
	Tanner Cheek	
	Rebecca Kreuzer	<i>Town Board</i>
	Kimberly Roberts	<i>Members</i>
	Thomas Voorhees	

TOWN CLERK: Michelle Booth

ATTORNEY FOR THE TOWN: Megan Dorittie, Harter, Secrest & Emery LLP

OTHERS PRESENT: Morris Bickweat, *Deputy Town Supervisor*, Tom Fromberger, *Town Engineer*, Peter Doyle, *Highway Superintendent*, and several others.

The Supervisor called the meeting to order at and recited the Pledge of Allegiance 7:00 PM.

AGENDA

(Resolution 26-100)

A motion was made by Mr. Alati, seconded by Ms. Kreuzer, to adopt the agenda as amended, adding an engineers report from Mr. Fromberger.

Adopted: Mr. Cheek, Aye; Ms. Kreuzer, Aye; Ms. Roberts, Aye; Mr. Voorhees, Aye; and Mr. Alati, Aye.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Lauren Smith, 235 Boughton Hill Rd, addressed the board regarding two matters. First, she inquired about the status of sidewalks in the hamlet and what decision the board had reached. Second, she expressed concerns about potential sign ordinance restrictions, noting that political opinions are protected by the First Amendment. She stated that she had reviewed the current sign ordinance and felt it was already quite restrictive, suggesting it did not need further limitations.

COMMUNICATIONS

Town Clerk Michelle Booth reported that all 2026 town tax money had been paid in full to the Town. She submitted fourth quarter gross payroll numbers to Perma and processed payroll number 3 that was paid on January 30th. Ms. Booth and Ms. Stevenson assisted with vouchers and prepared both abstracts for the month. The office is working on implementing the new SDL program, likely to go live by mid-March. She prepared information for longevity payments and met with Corey, Brooke, Joe, Rebecca, Tom Fromberger and his associate Laurie regarding open projects throughout the town.

Tom Voorhees reported that there were no ZBA meetings this month. Highway meetings have been scheduled for the fourth Wednesday of every month. He mentioned that he and the code enforcement officer have been working on a sign ordinance over the past month, which they will forward to the town attorney for review once completed to ensure it is enforceable and would stand up in court.

Kim Roberts reported she attended the Climate Smart Task Force meeting on February 3rd. The committee discussed adding missing members, including an additional town resident, town employee, and student representative. They reviewed the certification action checklist, divided up sections, and planned to work in groups to identify focus areas for next month's meeting. She inquired about town employee annual required

training courses and requested updates on the Mendon Youth Center attendance. She also asked if the board would revisit the tabled resolution regarding the attorney conflict of interest with Southco.

Rebecca Kreuzer reported she also attended the Climate Smart Communities task force meeting. She noted they would create an action plan to get more organized. She mentioned that they had posted an advertisement for the town resident position they're still looking to fill. She met with Lyla Grills, the library director, to learn about the library's governance, initiatives, and interests, and attended their monthly meeting. She noted that the library is participating in the sustainable libraries initiative, similar to the climate smart communities task force, and is planning building improvements and long-range planning. The library also has a grant with CauseWave. She described positive indications that the library is looking to collaborate more meaningfully with the town going forward.

Tanner Cheek reported a busy month, noting that he and Rebecca had met with highway employees to observe their equipment and operations. The Planning Board meeting was canceled last week. He completed training on conflict of interest and social media. He had researched other volunteer EMS contracts across municipalities to examine their funding mechanisms compared to Mendon's, and plans to seek advice from the New York Association of Towns about potential adjustments to their funding mechanism for EMS service between Mendon, Honeoye Falls, and West Bloomfield.

Joe Alati reported he had attended several meetings including with the library, Climate Smart Task Force, and the New York State Secretary of State, which included discussions about funding opportunities for town projects. He also met with a Monroe County group focused on educating towns about environmental issues. He addressed community center rental questions, explaining that renters need to contact their insurance company for a rider naming the town of Mendon for the rental dates, at no cost to them. He's investigating options for restoring the defunct EV charging station at the library at minimal cost to the town. He noted that 4-5 staff members have completed the required cybersecurity training certifications, which must be completed by all staff by year-end.

Engineer's Report

Town Engineer Tom Fromberger reported that he and the supervisor had reviewed various grant opportunities and potential funding sources. He updated the board on several projects:

- 13 Victor Mendon Road retaining wall: planning to meet with the property owner again

- Miles Square sidewalks: received 50% grant funding of about \$115,000; working with the town attorney on finalizing easements; received acknowledgment from Monroe County to proceed
- Stoney Lonesome Road closure: received DOT and DEC approvals; having additional discussions with DOT about different layouts
- Dreisbach soccer fields: discussing additional grading work to extend the fields
- Planning board applications and procedures: sent draft for review
- Assembly Drive: still under discussion and review
- Mendon sidewalk projects: needs to coordinate with DOT and town

Supervisor Alati added that they would be focusing on three priority projects: the sidewalk from 251 down to the Lehigh Valley Trail, the Stoney Lonesome Road closure, and the retaining wall.

Highway Superintendent Pete Doyle reported the department has been busy with snow removal, reaching 65 runs since January 20th (more than one per day). Some equipment had minor breakdowns due to the cold weather. Salt deliveries have been slow, but they've been proactive in ordering and have maintained adequate supplies, which has helped keep Mendon's roads in good condition. The department received a new Cat loader last week and all staff have been trained on it. When not plowing, crews have been fixing potholes and mailboxes.

Doyle raised concerns about healthcare benefits hindering recruitment, noting he recently lost a potential employee because the town does not have a family health plan, which would have cost the candidate over \$10,000 compared to staying at his current job in Henrietta. While the town's hourly wages are competitive, Doyle stressed that healthcare is becoming a significant issue for recruitment and retention of employees.

Supervisor's Monthly Report - December 2025

(Resolution 26-101)

A motion was made by Mr. Alati, seconded by Ms. Kreuzer, to approve the December 2025 Town Supervisor's monthly report. The January report was not yet prepared and will be approved at a future meeting.

Adopted: Mr. Cheek, Aye; Ms. Kreuzer, Aye; Ms. Roberts, Aye; Mr. Voorhees, Aye; and Mr. Alati, Aye

Conflict of Interest - Town Attorney Regarding Southco

This agenda item was added during the meeting at the request of Board Member Kim Roberts. The Town Attorney provided background information about a potential conflict of interest regarding Southco, which currently has a tax challenge pending. Her law firm represents Southco in labor and employment matters, creating a technical conflict of interest. However, she explained that she personally does not work with the lawyers who represent Southco and their systems segregate the cases. Ms. Roberts mentioned she had spoken with the assessor who had no concerns about the arrangement. Mr. Cheek expressed comfort with proceeding if the assessor was comfortable, and noted that a colleague who is an attorney had advised him that such situations occur frequently with minimal risk.

(Resolution 26-102)

A motion was made by Mr. Alati, seconded by Mr. Cheek, to authorize the waiver of the potential conflict of interest for the town attorney regarding the Southco matter.

Adopted: Mr. Cheek, Aye; Ms. Kreuzer, Aye; Ms. Roberts, Aye; Mr. Voorhees, Aye; and Mr. Alati, Aye

Advertisement Results - Climate Smart Communities Task Force & Community Engagement Advisory Committee - Discussion

The board discussed the status of advertisements for community positions. The Community Engagement Advisory Committee advertisement has not yet been posted pending amendments to the original resolution. For the Climate Smart Communities position, two letters of interest have been received, with the application period open until February 13th. The advertisement has been posted on the town website, in the Sentinel, and on Facebook.

Historic Preservation Commission - Discussion

Supervisor Alati reported they are seeking an architect for the Historic Preservation Commission. Ms. Roberts had recommended several candidates who were not interested. The secretary compiled a list of five different architects, and the supervisor will be reaching out to them this week.

Update from Highway - LED lights

Mr. Doyle reported they had received a third bid that morning for the LED lights project, which was more than twice the price of the other two vendors. He recommended proceeding with the lower bid. Larry Kaplan, the town's electrician, charges \$45 per hour. He estimates the total project cost will be over \$5,000 but less than \$6,000.

Town Clerks Report - January 2026

(Resolution 26-103)

A motion was made by Mr. Alati, seconded by Ms. Roberts, to approve the January 2026 town clerks report, in the amount of \$16,860.53.

Adopted: Mr. Cheek, Aye; Ms. Kreuzer, Aye; Ms. Roberts, Aye; Mr. Voorhees, Aye; and Mr. Alati, Aye

MINUTES

(Resolution 26-104)

A motion was made by Ms. Kreuzer, seconded by Mr. Voorhees, to approve the minutes of the Town Board Meeting held on January 20, 2026, as submitted.

Adopted: Mr. Cheek, Aye; Ms. Kreuzer, Aye; Ms. Roberts, Aye; Mr. Voorhees, Aye; and Mr. Alati, Aye

2025 AOT Annual Training - Attendance approval

(Resolution 26-105)

A motion was made by Ms. Kreuzer, seconded by Mr. Cheek, to approve Tanner Cheek, Joseph Alati, and Rebecca Kreuzer's attendance at the AOT Annual training in New York City, from February 14 - 17 2026, and reimbursements not to exceed \$6750.00 for all three board members, to be paid from A1010.4.

Adopted: Mr. Cheek, Aye; Ms. Kreuzer, Aye; Ms. Roberts, Aye; Mr. Voorhees, Aye; and Mr. Alati, Aye

Planning Board Training - Attendance approval

(Resolution 26-106)

A motion was made by Ms. Roberts, seconded by Mr. Voorhees, to request the Town Board's approval to allow the Planning Board members to receive one (1) hour of annual training credit for a proposed remote training session to be held on February 18th at 7:00 p.m. The training will be held by the PB attorney, Don Young.

Adopted: Mr. Cheek, Aye; Ms. Kreuzer, Aye; Ms. Roberts, Aye; Mr. Voorhees, Aye; and Mr. Alati, Aye

Building Officials - FLBOA Training

(Resolution 26-107)

A motion was made by Mr. Cheek, seconded by Ms. Kreuzer, to allow Corey Gates and Tim Fess to attend the Finger Lakes Building Officials annual education conference, to be held March 9-11, 2026, at the RIT Inn and Conference Center. The fee is \$440.00 per person, to be paid out of B3620.4.

Adopted: Mr. Cheek, Aye; Ms. Kreuzer, Aye; Ms. Roberts, Aye; Mr. Voorhees, Aye; and Mr. Alati, Aye

Addendum to Resolution No. 26-014 (Adopted January 5, 2026) Establishing the Community Engagement Advisory Committee

The board discussed amendments to the previously adopted resolution establishing the Community Engagement Advisory Committee. Ms. Roberts suggested removing the fourth bullet point in the scope section regarding coordination and sharing information with existing town committees and community organizations, expressing concern about the committee potentially overstepping its advisory role. Mr. Voorhees suggested changing "should" to "shall" regarding the residency requirement for members.

(Resolution 26-108)

A motion was made by Ms. Kreuzer, seconded by Mr. Cheek, to approve the following resolution with the board approved amendments:

WHEREAS, on January 5, 2026, the Town Board adopted a resolution establishing a Community Engagement Advisory Committee; and

WHEREAS the purpose of the committee is to serve as an advisory body to the Mendon Town Board. Its purpose is to support effective communication, broaden resident participation, and strengthen trust between the Town and the community, including by coordinating, where appropriate, with existing Town committees and community organizations that already play a role in civic engagement and outreach.

WHEREAS, the original resolution provided minimal information regarding the committee's mission and membership structure but pointed to a draft charter for these details,

WHEREAS, the Town Board now wishes to formally define the membership and mission of the Community Engagement Advisory Committee through resolution to ensure clarity, transparency, and effective operation;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Community Engagement Advisory Committee shall consist of the following membership:

- Up to 5 - 7 community members appointed by the Town Board by majority vote to serve staggered two-year terms;
- One member shall be appointed by the town board as committee chair
- One Town Board liaison (non-voting)
- Additional members as deemed necessary by future Board action
- Members shall be residents of Mendon, and represent a range of perspectives, ages, political affiliations, and lived experiences, and be willing to work collaboratively in a non-partisan, advisory role to the Town Board.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the scope of the Community Engagement Advisory Committee shall include:

- Recommend methods to improve how the Town shares information and receives public input.
- Support or advise on public forums, listening sessions, surveys, and educational efforts.
- Identify barriers to participation and suggest ways to improve accessibility and inclusion.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Community Engagement Advisory Committee shall not:

- Set policy or make binding decisions
- Direct Town staff
- Duplicate the formal responsibilities of other Town boards or committees

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that:

- The Town Board will appoint a committee chair on an annual basis.
- The Committee shall organize itself and establish meeting procedures consistent with Town Policy and New York State Open Meetings Law.
- Meetings will be held monthly, or as needed.
- Meeting minutes should be posted to the Town website.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Committee is established as a standing advisory committee and may be modified or dissolved by Town Board resolution.

Adopted: Mr. Cheek, Aye; Ms. Kreuzer, Aye; Ms. Roberts, Aye; Mr. Voorhees, Aye; and Mr. Alati, Aye

ESTABLISHING A DEDICATED WEBPAGE ON THE TOWN WEBSITE FOR THE COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE

(Resolution 26-109)

A motion was made Mr. Alati, seconded by Ms. Kreuzer, to adopt the following:

WHEREAS, the Town Board of the Town of Mendon established the Community Engagement Advisory Committee (CEAC) to support transparent, inclusive, and meaningful engagement between the Town and its residents; and

WHEREAS, clear, accessible public information is essential to effective community engagement and to ensuring residents understand the committee's purpose, scope, and opportunities for participation; and

WHEREAS, a dedicated webpage hosted on the Town's official website will serve as a centralized, publicly accessible location for information related to the Community Engagement Advisory Committee; and

WHEREAS, such a webpage may include, but is not limited to, the committee's charter, mission, membership information, meeting schedules, agendas, minutes, reports, and activities.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Mendon hereby directs Town staff, in coordination with the Town Supervisor and appropriate designees, to establish and maintain a dedicated webpage for the Community Engagement Advisory Committee on the Town's official website; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the webpage shall be designed to promote transparency, accessibility, and public awareness, and shall be updated as necessary to reflect current and accurate information.

Adopted: Mr. Cheek, Aye; Ms. Kreuzer, Aye; Ms. Roberts, Aye; Mr. Voorhees, Aye; and Mr. Alati, Aye

SIGN REGULATION - TABLED

(Resolution 26-110)

A motion was made by Mr. Voorhees, seconded by Ms. Kreuzer, to table the sign regulation agenda item until Corey Gates and Mr. Voorhees complete their draft and the town attorney reviews it. During discussion, Mr. Voorhees noted that working on this in-house would save taxpayer money, and they already have existing sign regulations to work from rather than starting from scratch.

Adopted: Mr. Cheek, Aye; Ms. Kreuzer, Aye; Ms. Roberts, Aye; Mr. Voorhees, Aye; and Mr. Alati, Aye

VOUCHERS

General Abstract A

(Resolution 26-111)

A motion was made by Mr. Cheek, seconded by Mrs. Kreuzer, to approve all claims on vouchers numbered 26-046 to 26-058, on General Abstract 26-2A, in the amount of \$31,805.07.

Adopted: Mr. Cheek, Aye; Ms. Kreuzer, Aye; Ms. Roberts, Aye; Mr. Voorhees, Aye; and Mr. Alati, Aye

General Abstract B
(Resolution 26-112)

A motion was made by Mr. Cheek, seconded by Ms. Kreuzer, to approve all claims on vouchers numbered 26-059 to 26-105, on General Abstract 26-2B, in the amount of \$505,641.86.

Adopted: Mr. Cheek, Aye; Ms. Kreuzer, Aye; Ms. Roberts, Aye; Mr. Voorhees, Aye; and Mr. Alati, Aye

Highway Abstract
(Resolution 26-113)

A motion was made by Mr. Cheek, seconded by Ms. Kreuzer, to approve all claims on vouchers numbered 26-016 to 26-041, on General Abstract 26-2, in the amount of \$229,733.32

Adopted: Mr. Cheek, Aye; Ms. Kreuzer, Aye; Ms. Roberts, Aye; Mr. Voorhees, Aye; and Mr. Alati, Aye

Library Abstract - February 2026

Library vouchers numbered 26-004 to 26-011, on Library Abstract 26-2A, in the amount of \$2,035.73, and 26-012 to 26-017, on Library Abstract 26-2B, in the amount of \$3,565.97 were presented to the Town Board for payment.

HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT - FUEL SYSTEM UPGRADE
(Resolution 26-114)

A motion was made by Ms. Roberts, seconded by Mr. Voorhees, to approve the fuel system software upgrade, to Gasboy EKOS cloud based software. There will be a one-time setup fee of \$3000.00 and a monthly maintenance fee of \$199.00, to be paid from DB5110.4. Empire Petroleum Services will install the EKOS managed router for a one time fee of \$1367.00, to be paid from DB5110.4. During discussion, it was confirmed this was a budgeted expense that will improve fuel tracking by department and vehicle, including for the fire district. Ms. Kreuzer asked about previous fuel audits, and Mr. Doyle explained that the new system would streamline reporting and eliminate guesswork.

Adopted: Mr. Cheek, Aye; Ms. Kreuzer, Aye; Ms. Roberts, Aye; Mr. Voorhees, Aye; and Mr. Alati, Aye

Board Study Session: Code of Ethics

The board began discussion of the town's Code of Ethics but identified confusion about which document they were reviewing. Ms. Roberts mentioned there might be a separate policy and procedure document, and Mr. Bickweat indicated there was a different operational document provided to the ethics committee. Supervisor Alati suggested meeting with Kim and Moe to get all relevant documents and develop a more comprehensive approach for reviewing the employee handbook and policies over several months.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Gary Loope, 21 Semmel Rd, asked about compensation for essential employees who had to work during a recent snow day when town hall was closed, suggesting they should receive additional compensation. He also commented that town taxes are high, and the town needs to decide whether to be a bedroom community or attract more business to help with tax revenue. He also felt the meeting was chaotic with motions made on the fly, and mentioned that town residents should be provided with motions in advance. He also found it difficult to follow some discussions, particularly regarding the LED lights project.

Ms. Roberts requested that a final agenda, rather than a draft agenda, be made available to the public at meetings to make it easier to follow the proceedings.

Matt Fritz, who identified himself as living in the "Trump house," asked about the status of the sign ordinance, as he's considering investing money in new signage. Supervisor Alati offered to discuss it with him privately the following day.

ADJOURNMENT

(Resolution 26-115)

A motion was made by Mr. Alati, seconded by Ms. Kreuzer, to adjourn the meeting at 8:02 PM.

Adopted: Mr. Cheek, Aye; Ms. Kreuzer, Aye; Ms. Roberts, Aye; Mr. Voorhees, Aye; and Mr. Alati, Aye