

A Regular Meeting of the Mendon Town Board was held at 7:00 PM, Tuesday, March 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: 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 26-116)

A motion was made by Mr. Cheek, seconded by Ms. Kreuzer, to adopt the agenda with two amendments. The first amendment added the Supervisor's monthly report. The second amendment was a motion to approve a change in pay and hours for the bookkeeper position.

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

PUBLIC COMMENT

Gary Loope, 21 Semmel Rd, addressed the board with several concerns. He questioned the propriety of a resolution passed at the previous board meeting raising the assessor's salary, arguing it wasn't properly advertised to the public or included on the agenda as required by open meetings law. He suggested the proper procedure would have been to amend the agenda at the second meeting rather than adding the resolution to the first meeting. Gary also raised concerns about frequent agenda amendments without proper public notification. Regarding item 12 on the agenda for surplus declaration, Gary requested more explanation about what equipment was being surplus, whether it was being replaced, sold, or scrapped, and its value. He noted that despite the emphasis on sign ordinance enforcement last fall, signs have appeared in the roundabout that may not comply with regulations, questioning the status of sign

ordinance enforcement. Mr. Loope concluded by emphasizing the importance of following proper agenda procedures and open meeting requirements.

Teresa Winship, 1370 W Bloomfield Rd, asked if there were agendas available for the audience.

COMMUNICATIONS

Town Clerk Michelle Booth reported tax collections are proceeding well with 92% collected as of the meeting date, with collections continuing through May. The clerk processed February payroll and is working through the March payrolls. She has been collaborating with building dept staff on implementing a new system throughout the town, expected to be operational later in the month. She thanked Corey Gates and Brooke Buckland for all of their hard work on this project. The clerk participated in meetings with potential payroll companies, insurance brokers, and bookkeeper interviews. She has been preparing financial information for the upcoming audit scheduled for Wednesday.

Town Attorney, mentioned the sign ordinance revisions are being worked on by Mr. Voorhees and the code enforcement officer. Once ready for legal review, the attorney will provide feedback.

Tom Voorhees attended the Zoning Board meeting Thursday night. Met with the highway superintendent, deputy highway superintendent, foreman, and head mechanic on February 25th in a productive meeting discussing the various town projects. He reported that proposed changes to the sign ordinance are nearly ready for attorney review.

Kim Roberts reported attending the historic preservation committee meeting, on February 11th, where they reviewed the status of schoolhouse 13 on Miles Square Road, which is eligible for state historic registry listing. A citizen has been inquiring about the property and wrote to the owner. The committee discussed updating the EPOD 5 map for town board approval. She met with the deputy supervisor and supervisor on February 23rd to review town policies and employee handbook for updates. Ms. Roberts attended the Climate Smart Task Force meeting on March 3rd where interested residents submitted letters of intent for interviews. The task force established missions and goals. She participated in online municipal training on comprehensive plan development and implementation.

Rebecca Kreuzer reported she also attended the Environmental Conservation Board meeting on February 10th, discussing potential EPOD updates and grant opportunities with no active applications to review. She attended the library meeting on March 2nd,

noting their anniversary celebration grant, sustainable libraries initiative, approved sustainable purchasing policy, and summer reading program preparation. The library needs the town's annual financial report to complete their own annual report. Ms. Kreuzer attended the New York Association of Towns annual conference in New York City with board members, focusing on budget analysis, financial conditions, and environmental grant opportunities.

Tanner Cheek attended the Association of Towns conference, particularly valuable for EMS-related sessions where many municipalities face similar fiscal and coverage challenges. These sessions discussed contract comparisons and reimbursement mechanisms for Medicare and Medicaid EMS services with state representatives. Mr. Cheek participated in financial training sessions with the comptroller's office and courses on GAAP versus GASB accounting. He received FY 25 financial information to prepare for the Annual Financial Report. No planning board meetings occurred since the last session, but one is scheduled for next week.

Town Engineer, Tom Fromberger, reported having a productive meeting with the supervisor and a homeowner on 251, regarding the existing retaining wall requiring significant repair or restoration. Preliminary pricing totaled approximately \$62,000. Through discussions, they developed a potential solution to remove the wall and provide additional fill to create a safer location without the expensive wall construction. A plan will be developed for review by all parties. He reported on the Stoney Lonesome Road closure discussions and stated they have a meeting scheduled with New York State DOT to discuss the idea of making Stoney Lonesome Road one-way in both directions (east-west). They are also working on various grant opportunities.

Highway Superintendent, Peter Doyle, reported the highway has completed 83 snow and ice trips to date with salt inventory rebuilding well due to timely deliveries and loosened supply constraints. They put a new Freightliner 10-wheeler truck in service. He is planning to send the current chipper to surplus auction with a replacement purchase recommendation in the packet for board approval. Mr. Doyle reported that Finger Lakes Construction began work on the cold storage building ceiling project. He will begin seeking quotes for insulation work, considering both regular insulation and spray foam options, with foam being more expensive but offering significantly better R-factor. He organized a healthcare discussion meeting with the supervisor, town clerk, and an insurance brokerage about consortium options, which went very well.

Joe Alati reported attending the Association of Towns training, focusing on finance, budget development, financial condition monitoring, cash solvency, budgetary solvency, long-term solvency, and service level solvency. He plans to attend Town Finance School in April and would like board members to participate. Mr. Alati noted that many small

towns are struggling financially, depleting reserves to balance budgets, though Mendon is in very good financial condition. Learned about fiscal stress monitoring systems and various grant programs. He welcomed a new bookkeeper, Janet Way. Mr. Alati met with Monroe County Executive Adam Bello discussing the housing shortage crisis. He reported on a meeting with the Monroe County Water Authority about hamlet issues, finding them responsive though with seasonal limitations. He raised concerns about multi-year incomplete repairs and requested evaluation of whether the main water line near the four corners of the Hamlet needs replacement. He met with library trustees and researched and interviewed new payroll companies, leading to significant cost savings and improved technology. Mr. Alati plans to meet with Sheriff Baxter about patrols, speed limits, safety, and accident data for Stoney Lonesome Road and continues working on the road closure project with state and county officials, planning a public meeting for residents to share information and data. He has been working on health insurance improvements, seeking better coverage at lower prices through consortiums. He will be addressing defunct EV charging equipment at the library, exploring replacement options ranging from \$7,000-\$14,000, weighing immediate town funding versus waiting for fall grant opportunities. Mr. Alati said he resolved a sign regulation situation by enforcing existing law without violating free speech rights. He continues meeting with the village mayor, noting the mayor's consideration of town interests in village decisions. He reportedly resolved a two-year-old issue with a hamlet resident in the flood zone, potentially saving tens of thousands of dollars through agreement with the homeowner. Mr. Alati is reviewing buildings and grounds projects, including hamlet improvements, library workspace ergonomics, flower orders, and summer help hiring. He warned about increasing scam emails targeting municipalities, emphasizing the need for vigilance as other towns have lost thousands of dollars to such scams.

Supervisor's Monthly Report - January 2026

(Resolution 26-117)

A motion was made by Ms. Roberts, seconded by Mr. Voorhees, to approve the January 2026 Town Supervisor's monthly report.

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

Town Clerks Report - February 2026

(Resolution 26-118)

A motion was made by Mr. Voorhees, seconded by Mr. Cheek, to approve the February 2026 town clerks report, in the amount of \$9,271.33.

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

MINUTES

(Resolution 26-119)

A motion was made by Ms. Kreuzer, seconded by Ms. Roberts, to approve the minutes of the Town Board Meeting held on February 9, 2026, as submitted.

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

VOUCHERS

General Abstract A

(Resolution 26-120)

A motion was made by Ms. Roberts, seconded by Mr. Voorhees, to approve all claims on vouchers numbered 26-106 to 26-122, on General Abstract 26-3A, in the amount of \$679,552.64.

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

General Abstract B

(Resolution 26-121)

A motion was made by Ms. Roberts, seconded by Mr. Voorhees, to approve all claims on vouchers numbered 26-123 to 26-160, on General Abstract 26-3B, in the amount of \$26,641.92.

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

Highway Abstract

(Resolution 26-122)

A motion was made by Ms. Roberts, seconded by Mr. Voorhees, to approve all claims on vouchers numbered 26-042 to 26-073, on Highway Abstract 26-3, in the amount of \$105,755.62.

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

Library Abstract A

Library vouchers numbered 26-018 to 26-025, on Library Abstract 26-03A, in the amount of \$3,187.78, were presented to the Town Board for payment.

Library Abstract B

Library vouchers numbered 26-026 to 26-033, on Library Abstract 26-03B, in the amount of \$4,790.18, were presented to the Town Board for payment.

BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS – PRESSURE WASHER – APPROVE PURCHASE

(Resolution 26-123)

A motion was made by Mr. Voorhees, seconded by Ms. Kreuzer, to authorize the purchase of a portable cold-water pressure washer for the Buildings and Grounds

Department from Kepner Equipment, 2365 Firehall Rd, Canandaigua, NY, in the amount of \$3,900.00, to be paid from account A1620.2. As per the Procurement Policy, 3 written quotes have been provided in the supporting documentation. The board members thanked Peter for following procurement policy with the three quotes and confirmed the expense was budgeted for.

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

HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT – TOW-BEHIND WOOD/BRUSH CHIPPER – APPROVE PURCHASE

(Resolution 26-124)

A motion was made by Mr. Voorhees, seconded by Ms. Kreuzer, to authorize the purchase of a tow-behind wood/brush chipper for the Highway Department from Tracey Road Equipment, 300 Middle Rd, Henrietta, NY, in the amount of \$62,005.13, to be paid from account DB5110.2. As per the Procurement Policy, 3 written quotes have been provided in the supporting documentation.

The highway superintendent explained that the tow-behind design was selected due to better weight capacity, superior design, and improved operator safety and friendliness. The town attorney noted for the record that this purchase was made on state contract, so GML procurement requirements did not apply.

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

HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT – TILT-DECK EQUIPMENT TRAILER – APPROVE PURCHASE

(Resolution 26-125)

A motion was made by Ms. Roberts, seconded by Mr. Voorhees, to authorize the purchase of a Tilt-deck equipment trailer for the Highway Department from Davis Trailer World, 1640 Main Street, York, NY, in the amount of \$14,195.00, to be paid from account DB5110.2. As per the Procurement Policy, 3 written quotes have been provided in the supporting documentation.

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

DECLARATION OF SURPLUS - TOWN HALL

(Resolution 26-126)

A motion was made by Mr. Alati, seconded by Ms. Kreuzer, to declare the following surplus, and authorize the disposition of approximately 50 worn out office chairs from the 3rd floor storage area at the Town Hall.

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

NY PLANNING FEDERATION ANNUAL CONFERENCE REGISTRATION - AMENDMENT TO RESOLUTION 25-361

(Resolution 26-127)

A motion was made by Mr. Cheek, seconded by Ms. Roberts, to amend the original resolution approving Corey Gates and Brooke Buckland to attend the NY Planning Federation Conference in Cooperstown, NY, April 19th-21st. This will authorize the registration fee of \$300.00 per person and the reimbursements for conference related expenses including lodging, meals, transportation for both attendees not to exceed \$1500.00.

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

COMPLETE PAYROLL - CONTRACT AUTHORIZATION**(Resolution 26-128)**

A motion was made by Mr. Cheek, seconded by Mr. Voorhees, to authorize Supervisor Alati to enter into a contract with Complete Payroll to handle the town's payroll starting April 1, 2026. The annual fee will be \$8,293.82, to be paid out of account A1310.4 - Finance.

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

PLANNING BOARD - DEPUTY CHAIR APPOINTMENT**(Resolution 26-129)**

A motion was made by Mr. Alati, seconded by Ms. Kreuzer, to appoint Earl DeRue as Deputy Chair of the Planning Board, term to expire 12/31/2026.

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

BOOKKEEPER - APPOINTMENT**(Resolution 26-130)**

A motion was made by Mr. Alati, seconded by Ms. Kreuzer, to appoint Janet Way to the bookkeeper position, consisting of 20 hours per week at a rate of \$23.00/hr, paid from A1220.1.

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

Board Study Session: Hiring Policy and Procurement Policy

The board discussed the need to review and update various town policies and procedures. Ms. Kreuzer noted spending considerable time reviewing the ethics board policy and code of ethics, expressing interest in addressing those items in future sessions.

The Supervisor proposed holding a workshop-style meeting to discuss policies, noting the team had reviewed several policies but needed dedicated time for thorough discussion. Board members agreed on a workshop format rather than an open public

forum, though they discussed potentially allowing public comment at the end or publishing proposed revisions for public comment before adoption.

The board reviewed the procurement policy, noting it was recently updated in 2024 and is relatively current. Minor improvements were suggested including enhanced conflict of interest protections and clearer evaluation criteria language. The town attorney recommended reviewing the threshold amounts for different levels of quotes given increased costs over recent years.

The board agreed to schedule a dedicated workshop meeting for policy review rather than attempting to address complex policy matters during regular meetings.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Gary Loope, 21 Semmel Rd, questioned the month-to-month payroll contract terms, expressing concern about potential rate increases or service termination. He suggested examining other towns' policies rather than recreating procedures, not wanting the Town to spend money on policy development but fail to maintain future updates. He asked about open meeting law requirements for workshops.

The town attorney clarified that workshops are subject to open meeting law but public comment is not required by law, though it may be offered as a courtesy.

ADJOURNMENT

(Resolution 26-131)

A motion was made by Mr. Alati, seconded by Mr. Cheek, to adjourn the meeting at 8:25 PM.

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