

Town Board Meeting Minutes – 2/13/2025

The meeting was called to order by Supervisor John Mowers at 6:30 pm.
Board members present: Renee Coonradt, Nora Cool-Guinup and Colleen Walrath.

The Pledge of Allegiance was then recited by all present.

GENERAL DISCUSSION

Motion to accept the Reorganization minutes of 1/9/2025 was made by Renee Coonradt – seconded by Nora Cool-Guinup – ayes all

MOTION to accept the town board meeting minutes of 1/9/2025 was made by Colleen Walrath - seconded by Renee Coonradt - ayes all

MOTION to accept the planning/zoning board minutes was made by Renee Coonradt - seconded by Nora Cool-Guinup - ayes all

Present at the meeting was Herkimer County Legislator Kelly Wares, she introduced herself and gave a brief description of what she had planned for the town, including changes to the Route 29 bridge over Spruce Creek. She discussed briefly the main street project in Dolgeville and then offered to answer any questions the board may have had for her. Being there were none she told us that she would be running again in November 2025 and excused herself to go on to another town board meeting.

Also present at the meeting was Colby Moore, he had questions about building a home in Salisbury. He has land on Dairy Hill Road and Mexico Road. The road was abandoned by the town and he wanted to know if he built on the road, could he improve it himself. Supervisor Mowers told him that yes he could improve it but he would also have to maintain the road for himself and once his structure was built he could get a seasonal permit. Colby was directed to the Planning/Zoning board meeting 2/24/2005 at 7 pm to have any further questions he may have answered by them.

Donna, a resident owning land that she purchased from Arnold Moore off Route 29, Gold Mine District, was also present at the meeting. Donna had questions about zoning codes, deed restrictions, commercial/or residential zoning, any Air BNB laws as of yet? It seems one of her neighbors wants to build a tiny house community for Air BNB purposes. Currently the neighbor is allowing visitors to camp on his land with no water or plumbing facilities. Supervisor Mowers answered the majority of her questions/concerns but also directed her to the Planning/Zoning board meeting 2/24/20025 at 7 pm.

Discussion was then directed toward the tiny houses and a change in our towns building codes to now charge a fee for the tiny houses as many people are bringing them in as “storage units” but then using them as seasonal camps. It was agreed to make the addition to our building permit for tiny houses at 10 cents a square foot or \$35 minimum. Motion was made by Renee Coonradt, seconded by Nora Cool-Guinup, ayes all. It was also suggested by Supervisor Mowers, that the town start looking into regulations and laws regarding Air BNBs. This will be mentioned to the Planning/Zoning board for follow up.

A motion was made to re-appoint JoAnn Boyer as the town assessor, this is a 6 year term, motion was made by Colleen Walrath, seconded by Renee Coonradt, ayes all.

The 2024 Herkimer Soil and Water Conservation pamphlet was presented and discussed. This was passed around to be reviewed by all.

Discussion was made on whether or not to hire from the youth bureau, after some talk the decision was made not to.

Teresa Robothum from Herkimer County Elections inquired about whose positions are up this year and who knew if they were going to run again.

Positions up for election:

Town Supervisor

Highway Supervisor

Town Justice

Town Clerk

Council member

Council member

The two council members, Colleen Walrath and Nora Cool-Guinup both expressed interest in running again, this will be relayed to Teresa. Packets can be picked up in Herkimer at the end of February.

HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT – Lyle Jenkins, was not present at the meeting.

Salt shed report was presented by Supervisor Mowers:

Keller had 3 change orders on Willow:

1 Bongiovanni Additional cost 50,225

2 Concrete overages 21,157

3 Welding of cages 86,835

Total overage due to change orders \$158,217

Supervisor Mowers feels we are not liable for the contractor changes since we did not ask the original contractors to leave. However, he has met with Keller and has gotten them down to \$60,000, and could possibly get this amount a little lower. He is planning on meeting with John Rizzo to possibly negotiate a deal with him. If the board approves, he will further negotiate and try to make a better deal. He feels if we went to court over the deal, we would have any / or all the monies eaten away by court fees and interest. The board agreed unanimously to allow Mr. Mowers to try and negotiate for the town and perhaps make an even better deal. It was stated that we have 1 month before our final payment is due.

MOTION to accept the Supervisors report was made by Nora Cool-Guinup – seconded by Renee Coonradt - ayes all.

MOTION to accept the Town Clerks report was made by Renee Coonradt - seconded by Nora Cool-Guinup - ayes all.

MOTION to pay the audit of bills as follows:

HIGHWAY	Vouchers 16-43	\$61,709.77
GENERAL	Vouchers 9-26	\$62,020.44
LIGHT DISTRICTS	Voucher 1	\$1013.56
PAYROLL AS PRESENTED		

MOTION to accept Renee Coonradt - seconded by Colleen Walrath - ayes all.

MOTION to adjourn at 7:20 pm was made by Nora Cool-Guinup – seconded by Colleen Walrath - ayes all.

Jeanne Cool
Town Clerk
2/13/2025