

TOWN OF CARROLLTON
Tuesday, March 17th, 2026
Monthly Meeting 6:00PM
641 Main Street Limestone, NY 14753

Present: Supervisor Jay Little, Councilwoman Deputy Supervisor Diane Benjamin, Councilman Jeff Case, Councilman Lynn Case, Councilman Adam Dowd, Town Clerk Julie Carlson, Bookkeeper Diane Frick, CWO/Sewer/Maint. Rick Dixon, Hwy Supt. Mike Fox, Planning Board Chair Wendy Johnston, CEO/Bldg. Ben McDonnell (7:00). **Residents:** Don Jacoby, Ian Clark. **Not Present:** DCO John Balcarczyk, Assessor Chris Holewinski.

Monthly Meeting:

Supv. Jay Little called the meeting to order following the Pledge of Allegiance.

Correspondence: 1) DEC-new regulations for the wastewater cybersecurity and related regulation for New York wastewater facilities-Required Cybersecurity Training for Wastewater Operators-required hours are determined by the Grade of Operator. Beginning 3/26/2026 All SPDES permittees must report all cybersecurity incidents to DEC within 24-hours of becoming aware of the incident.

Resolution 33-2026 Monthly Written Reports

On motion of Councilman Lynn Case, 2nd by Councilwoman Diane Benjamin the following resolution was

ADOPTED: All Voting: D. Benjamin-aye, J. Case-aye, L. Case-aye, A. Dowd-aye, Supv. Little-aye.

Resolved that the Board approves the written reports submitted for review by Town Justices, Hwy Superintendent, Town Clerk, Grant Masters, and the Bookkeeper Financial Reports. Noted DCO John Balcarczyk had no calls to report.

Resolution 34-2026 Approval of Concurrent Items

On motion of Councilman Jeff Case, 2nd by Councilman Adam Dowd the following resolution was

ADOPTED: All Voting: D. Benjamin-aye, J. Case-aye, L. Case-aye, A. Dowd-aye, Supv. Little-aye.

Resolved that the Board approves the February 17, 2026 Monthly Meeting Minutes as written, The following Checks Received were recorded 02/18-3/1/7/2026:

\$ 1,140.75 Town Clerk's Acct-February Sales
 8,046.00 Justice Michael Soper-Fines Collected for February
 7,715.00 Justice Joseph Crowley-Fines Collected for February
 3,950.00 Complex Rentals
 179.75 Town of Carrollton Joint Fire District-Fuel-December 2025
 91.08 Town of Carrollton Joint Fire District-Fuel-January 2026
11,174.02 NY Municipal Insurance for claim#TCARR-2026-001-001
 500.00 NYS Municipal WC Alliance-2025 Loyalty Award
 557.15 Metalico-2/18/2026 scrap Highway Dept.
 2,335.00 Metalico-2/18/2026 scrap Highway Dept.

Total \$35,689.25

And the Town authorizes payment of March Audit of Claims for Abstract #3 be paid as follows:

2026 Bills Presented

• General	\$	48,058.58	v#41-66
• Highway	\$	19,835.37	v#17-34
• Sewer 1	\$	546.03	v#4-5
• Sewer 2	\$	3,866.62	v#15-26
• Water	\$	2,501.36	v#14-22
• Capital	\$	-0-	
Total		\$74,807.96	

Resolution 35-2026

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.

On motion of Councilman Lynn Case, seconded by Councilman Adam Dowd the following resolution was ADOPTED:
All Voting: D. Benjamin-aye, J. Case-aye, L. Case-aye, A. Dowd-aye, Supv. Little-aye.

WHEREAS, residents, seniors, and small businesses in the Town of Carrollton 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 NATIONAL GRID; 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 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 Carrollton 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, the Town Board of the Town of Carrollton 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 NATIONAL GRID customers; and

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

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

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

Town Clerk Julie Carlson: 1) Water/Sewer 2 – New billing will go out April 1st. 2) Sewer 1- Received a few more payments in full for the year, and few more quarterly payments than we have received in the past. 3) 640 Main Rentals –

Room 106 has moved out, requested to use security deposit as the last month of payment (February). The Limestone Winter Soccer program ended on 3/14/26 for the year.

Bookkeeper Diane Frick: 1) Bank Acct. Fund Balances were provided to date.

Highway Supt. Mike Fox: reviewed the Monthly report for February. 1)Plowed/Sanded 15 times. Patched as needed, thawed out sluice pipes and repaired wash out on berm. 2)Metalico placed dumpsters at shop, cleaned up scrap. 3)Carrollton Culvert #32 (Leonard Run Bridge) is in the design phase. 2027 is the proposed construction year as of now. 4)Streetlight in front of 641 on the electric pole across the street-He is still waiting on National Grid to reply to the request with quote.

Councilman Jeff Case asked Hwy Supt. Mike Fox to put up No Parking signs at the corner of North Street to Main Street on the Right side and in front of the Community Center. He stated it would make it easier to pull out from North Street to Main Street. The Board discussed the request and agreed for safety reasons it would be in the best interest of the Town to post the signs. Hwy Supt. Mike Fox stated he would do as requested.

Hwy Supt. Mike Fox asked Supv. Jay Little if he wanted the dumpster returned to the Municipal building. Supv. Jay Little stated yes. Board discussed as to why it was moved from Municipal Building to the Highway Dept. stating it was moved due to complaints by neighbors. The Board stated that it is our property and if it is put where it is our property then there should not be any issues. Hwy Supt. Mike Fox stated he would call the dumpster company to move it back to the Municipal building.

CWO/Sewer/Maintenance Rick Dixon: 1) Sewer 1-The grinder pump that was replaced on Main Street was taken out for repair to have as a spare. 2)Water-He had a call out to turn the water back on, he had to come back in to work for. 3)640 Main St-He has been checking in on the boilers, helping Jerry with trash pickup. 4)Cemetery-few stones turned over, he stated it appears to be vandalism. 5) Maintenance Jerry Peterson-relaying that he is done at the end of this month. He will stay on to do every other weekend to do Water & Sewer Dept readings until someone is trained.

Planning Board: PB Chair Wendy Johnston- 1) March Monthly Meeting was cancelled due to not having enough for a quorum. 2)Grant Writer-questioned if anyone has heard from the grant writer, she wants to meet up with him to try to build up what is needed to apply for the Smart Growth Grant when it opens in May. 3)Planning Board Vacancy-Clerk Carlson stated she would advertise the opening. She is still waiting for the formal written resignation from Jessica Baker. 4)Houghton Training-June 4th plans to attend. 5) Animal Ordinance-she will send to the Board members to review.

CEO Ben McDonnell: 1) Reported that there are not any permits issued at this time, he has had a few phone calls asking questions to prepare to apply for a permit. 2)Strategy for the Town-requested Executive session with the Board.

Old Business:

640 Main Street - Supv. Jay Little provided update from the Realtor that the buyer has stated the funds should be available by this coming Friday.

New Business:

Project List 2026- In addition to the remodeling completion at 641 Main:

1) Fix heating system for the front of the building, 2) Small generator, 3) Additional outdoor lighting, 4) Clerks service window, 5) Window treatments for court room and meeting room to obstruct views especially at night, 6) Paving around the building for additional parking. 7) The Playground maintenance and upgrades across the street.

Town Attorney-position tabled.

Councilman Adam Dowd provided the feedback he received when looking into Town Attorney options. No changes occurred, position still vacant for 2026. Attorney Finkel will remain our attorney during the sale of the property at 640 Main Street.

CWO Rick Dixon questioned the Board about charging the customer for call outs. He stated it was discussed at the previous meeting. He stated there is a water policy in place from the previous Village Policy that is \$50.00 per hour.

Councilman Adam Dowd stated he had put thought into it and thinks there should not be a charge. Supv. Jay Little stated that if we don't charge for a call out when not within working hours then we will have to raise the rates for each resident, to cover costs for wages, etc. The Board discussed the policy; no changes were made.

Open Forum: N/A

Executive Session:

Motion: On motion of Councilman Lynn Case, 2nd by Councilwoman Diane Benjamin to enter Executive Session with CEO Ben McDonnell for Code Enforcement, and Diane Frick for Personnel Information. All Voting: D. Benjamin-aye, J. Case-aye, L. Case-aye, A. Dowd-aye, Supv. Little-aye. Motion carried.

Motion: On motion of Councilwoman Diane Benjamin, 2nd by Councilman Adam Dowd to exit Executive Session and reconvene to regular session. All Voting: D. Benjamin-aye, J. Case-aye, L. Case-aye, A. Dowd-aye, Supv. Little-aye. Motion carried.

Resolution 36-2026 Cemetery Seasonal Maintenance Bids

On motion of Councilwoman Diane Benjamin, 2nd by Councilman Adam Dowd the following resolution was

ADOPTED: All Voting: D. Benjamin-aye, J. Case-aye, L. Case-aye, A. Dowd-aye, Supv. Little-aye.

Resolved, The Board authorizes Clerk Carlson to put the Limestone Cemetery Lawn mowing, weed eating, and maintenance out to bid for the 2026 season.

Resolution 37-2026 Cleaning Position at 641 Main Street

On motion of Councilman Jeff Case, 2nd by Councilman Lynn Case the following resolution was

ADOPTED: All Voting: D. Benjamin-aye, J. Case-aye, L. Case-aye, A. Dowd-aye, Supv. Little-aye

Resolved, The Board authorizes Clerk Carlson to advertise a cleaning position for 641 Main Street, 20 hours per month at minimum wage.

Motion: On motion of Councilwoman Diane Benjamin 2nd by Councilman Lynn Case to adjourn the Monthly Meeting. All Voting: D. Benjamin-aye, J. Case-aye, L. Case-aye, A. Dowd-aye, Supv. Little-aye. Motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted,

Julie Carlson-Town Clerk