

TOWN OF BELFAST
MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING
4/20/26

Town Officials present: Andrew Chamberlain, Rick Smith, Dixie Middaugh, Steve Bedwell, David Jennings Mike Unfus, Jimmy Ace, Mary Beth Arnold

Community members present: Randa Harrington, Wende Kenyon, Paul Kenyon, Janie Harrington, Robert Mackmer, Amanda Preston, Michelle Calanni, Danielle Prosser, Shari Dewey,

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. and all stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

The March 16, 2026 Regular Meeting minutes were presented and accepted by a motion from Councilman Smith and a second from Councilman Bedwell.

All in favor Carried

Town Residents and visitor's questions and concerns:

Mary Paulsen addressed the Board about the possibility of increase the Town's apportionment for the Summer Recreation Program at school. Supervisor Chamberlain will contact the County about some sort of grant money or assistance of some kind to help out. Ms. Paulsen will be contacted before the program begins in July.

Shari Collins inquired about the minimum age for operation of a ATV on town streets. Mr. Ace responded that the state law reads 16 years of age. Operation by a youth under 16 years of age would be a parental issue handled by child protective services.

Payment of the April Bills was approved by a motion from Councilman Jennings and a second from Councilman Smith.

Rick Smith – aye, Andy Chamberlain -aye, Dixie Middaugh – aye, Steve Bedwell-aye
David Jennings - aye

All in Favor Carried

General – 066-085	\$65,121.95
Water – 027 – 033	\$5,803.63
Street Lighting – 4	\$965.33
Highway – 059– 074	\$9,148.19

The Town Supervisor's Report, dated March 2026 was approved by a motion from Councilman Jennings and a second from Councilman Bedwell.

All in Favor

Carried

The Town Clerk's Report, dated April 12, for the March 2026 accounts, was accepted by a motion from Councilman Smith and a second from Councilman Bedwell

All in favor

Carried

Damien DaHill's Water report contained the following:

- See attached Water Department Monthly Report
- Mr. DaHill is on vacation and was not present at the meeting.

Jim Ace's Highway Report contained the following:

- See attached Highway Department Monthly Report
- The employee accident issue was discussed
- Mr. Ace updated the status of the repairs on the truck with a blown motor. It is being worked on and needs to be done by May 1st.
- Mr. Ace presented paperwork and bids on the purchase of a truck to replace the 2014. It is imperative that it be ordered by May 1st to get delivery before the new EPA requirements take effect on Jan 1, 2027. These new regulations will increase the price of the trucks by \$35k and availability will be extended into 2028.
- Chip Sealing will begin earlier this year
- Grinding will begin on May 18th
- Sealing will begin on June 8th with the last sealing around Sept 1st. Crack sealing will take place after that.
- The Haskins Road where the pipe was replaced will need to be paved in September after settling
- There is currently no movement on reopening Gleason Hill Rd, we have not been notified that the owners have obtained permits to remove the beavers.

Mike Unfus, Code Enforcement Officer was present to discuss items on the monthly MACE report.

- See attached Monthly Activity Report
- Order to Remedy Violation was issued to owner of 7195 County Road 26, work to be completed by May 21, 2026
- A Condemned as Dangerous and Unsafe notice has been posted on 51 Sherman Street. This notice was subsequently removed by someone. The only remaining action is to have any persons found on the property removed by law enforcement officials for violation of an order.

Belfast Public Library Report

- Robert Mackmer reported that the library usage and the rate at which books are being checked out is up
- The library received a \$147,000 check from the state for phase 3 of their capital campaign, 2 more phases remain.
- They have contracted with a company to do a cost estimate for the building project. Perk tests in the yard need to be completed, the architect will be contacting the Town to ask if the Town can help with the holes that are needed to complete the test.
- A trivia night will be held at the school on April 30th as a fund raiser. The doors open at 6:00

Dog Control Report

Dog control officer was not present but emailed that she had not picked up any dogs this month.

Planning Board Report

- Working on BESS Law, final draft will be ready by the next meeting. Brent from the planning board has met with the attorney and will be present at the meeting to answer questions.
- The State Finance Dept has looked over the packet for the Banking district. They are willing to assist any financial institutions that are showing interest in operating in the old bank building. This building is still listed for sale. Three institutions have shown interest in the location
- A discussion was held on a Data Center Law/Moratorium. Mr. Bedwell contacted the entity that had been reported as showing interest in a Data Center but he reported that at this time they have no interest in doing so. New York State maybe installing a three-year moratorium on Data Centers but nothing concrete has happened at the state level so far. The Planning Board expressed concern that even though this may be an eventuality, we still need to protect our town.
- Waste Water Storage Law is ready for a vote.
- They have started looking into a Café Law.
- Procedures for new topics for planning board consideration will be presented and explained to the board as the process continues.
- The attorney is of the opinion that as long as the town just has a town page, and no other social media presents, a Social Media Law is not necessary.

Historical Society Report/Town Historian Report

See attached reports

Old Business

- Status of Properties on County Rd 26 and Sherman St were discussed under MACE heading
- Banking Development District status was discussed under Planning Board heading.
 - Councilman Smith made a motion which was seconded by Councilman Jennings to vote on the implementation of an Town ATV law as written by the planning board.
Rick Smith – Nay, Dixie Middaugh – Nay, Steve Bedwell – Nay, Dave Jennings – Nay, Andy Chamberlain – Nay
All opposed Declined

New Business

- Councilman Smith made a motion which was seconded by Councilman Bedwell to vote on Resolution 011-26 which approves the audit of the Town Justice Books as conducted by Councilmen Bedwell and Middaugh.
Rick Smith – aye, Andy Chamberlain -aye, Dixie Middaugh – aye,
Steve Bedwell-aye, David Jennings - aye
All in Favor Carried
- Councilman Jennings made a motion which was seconded by Councilman Smith to vote on Resolution 012-26 which urges the New York State Public Service Commission to review electric delivery charges, demand improved cost control and transparency, and authorize formal complaints regarding the alarming escalation of the cost of electricity
Rick Smith – aye, Andy Chamberlain -aye, Dixie Middaugh – aye,
Steve Bedwell-aye, David Jennings - aye
All in Favor Carried
- Councilman Jennings made a motion which was seconded by Councilman Smith to vote on Local Law 01-26, the Waste Water Storage Law, a law regulating industrial wastewater impoundments and prohibiting the storage or disposal of off-site industrial wastewater
Rick Smith – aye, Andy Chamberlain -aye, Dixie Middaugh – aye,
Steve Bedwell-aye, David Jennings - aye
All in Favor Carried
- Southern Tier West has informed the town that they will no longer be taking care of the day-to-day postings on the Town Webpage but will continue to administer

the Webpage. Any volunteers to help with posting on the Webpage will be appreciated.

- The attorney has notified the Town that we need to redo some of the steps in the sale of the South Street property. The buyer has been contacted and the corrections will be made.
- The Highway Dept will bring the mini excavator down and finish cleaning up the Mix trailer lot. The septic has to be pumped and the tank removed. The highway Dept does not have extra gravel on hand at this time so the town will have to source that elsewhere.
- It was decided to purchase the paint so that the county can repaint the parking lines around the park.
- The Town was notified that the proposed parking area on Hughes St near the Canal House has to be decided on by the Army Corp of Engineers so that project is on hold at the present time.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:40 pm by a motion from Councilman Bedwell and a second from Councilman Middaugh

All in favor

Carried

Next Regular Meeting Date will be May 18, 2026 at 7pm

Respectfully Submitted,

Mary Beth Arnold
Town Clerk

Belfast Water Dept. Monthly Report

April , 2026

- Monthly Sample good.
- 4 UDIG notices.
- Installed new radio for water meter at the distillery
- Still Listening to hydrants for leaks with the new sensors.
- Working on water quality report.
- New email set up
- Found small service line leak at 6680 rt 305.
- Serviced both mowers and got them ready for the season.
- Working on the GIS mapping for water system. Trying to find all valves and service shut offs to add to map.
- Pumped out a few meter pits to check meter radios. Have to order more.
- Found survey markers for town property that sold.
- Removed blue poles on hydrants.
- Called turner for update on automatic valve, still waiting on parts.
- Put out planters on main street.
- Removed salter and plow on tractor.
- Shutting off sections of water line to find leak.

MONTHLY STATEMENT OF SUPERVISOR

To the TOWN BOARD of the

TOWN OF BELFAST

Pursuant to Section 125.2 of the TOWN LAW, I hereby render the following detailed statement of all moneys received and disbursed by me, as Supervisor, during the month of March 2026

RECEIPTS	
SOURCE	AMOUNT RECEIVED
<u>GENERAL FUND:</u>	
Franchise Fees	0.00
Clerk Fees	27.50
Interest - Checking	1.87
Interest - NYCLASS	3,042.91
Rental of Hall	1,800.00
Rental of Fire Hall	200.00
Bingo License	19.38
Dog Licenses	432.00
Justice Fines & Forfeited Bail	3,190.00
Total	<u>8,713.66</u>
<u>HIGHWAY FUND:</u>	
Trans. Services - Caneadea	647.50
Interest - Checking	2.38
Interest - Savings MM	1.06
Interest - NYCLASS	2,492.24
Fuel Sales	75.59
Total	<u>3,218.77</u>
<u>WATER DISTRICT</u>	
Metered Sales	4,615.49
Interest	1.21
NYCLASS - Interest	301.00
Minor Sales - Chlorine	55.85
Sale of Equipment	48,000.00
Total	<u>52,973.55</u>
<u>SPECIAL DISTRICTS:</u>	
	<u>0.00</u>
<u>FUEL ACCOUNT:</u>	
Interest & Earnings	0.45
Total	<u>0.45</u>
Total	64,906.43
DISBURSEMENTS	
Fund or Account	Amount Expended
GENERAL FUND	30,239.04
HIGHWAY FUND	113,239.38
WATER DISTRICT	34,346.19
LIGHT DISTRICT	970.09
Total	178,794.70

Dated: April 13, 2026

Andrew Chamberlain, Supervisor
TOWN OF BELFAST

HIGHWAY DEPT.

1. CLEANED UP DOWNED TREES FROM 2 HIGHWIND STORMS
2. PLOWED ROADS
3. PICKED UP THE BRUSH IN FIRE PIT AT THE PARK
4. SWEEPING ROADS
5. VACUUMED, SWEPT STREETS
6. CHANGE CROSSOVER PIPE #4 ON HASKINS RD. PIPE SPLIT, AND HAD A SINKHOLE IN THE MIDDLE OF THE RD.
7. GRADING ROADS
8. HAD THE GUYS OUT ON OVERTIME FOR FLOODING
9. TODD HURT HIS KNEE ON MARCH 30th HE IS ON WC
10. TOOK CENTERVILLES TRUCK BACK
11. PAINTING PLOWS, AND WINGS
12. #3 IS FIXED 1-TON RAM
13. WORKED ON EQUIPMENT

April 20, 2026

Meetings attended: March 16 History Preservation Roundtable of Allegany County

March 26 Belfast Town Board Meeting

Projects and Research: Working with Belfast Historical Society on plans for America's 250 Celebration

1. Window Displays in Storefronts on Main Street Businesses
2. Sorting and cataloguing information consisting of mostly newspaper and other print media of William Muldoon and John Sullivan. Collection was donated by Dave Edwards of Houghton, NY a long time, serious Collector of Muldoon/Sullivan artifacts.
3. Have been asked for copies of photos relating to the old Grastorf and Guilford Farm Implement store at 42 Main Street. The new owners of the building, Belcliff Distillery, are wanting to decorate walls with Historic photos of their business and Belfast.
4. Otto Mix, local artist, Biography for display of some of his paintings
5. researching info of Hamilton/Burr dueling pistols and their connection to our area for an article in local newspapers for America's 250th Anniversary.
6. Conversation with County Historian, Amy Chiu, about info in her files about Belfast's G.A.R. Hall.
In particular, the 2-story outhouse attached to the back of the building.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Wendy Kenyon". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large, stylized "K" and "Y".

Town Historian

April 2026 report from Belfast Historical Society

letter
Received from I.R.S. society has been granted 501c3 status . information transmitted to legal aid so process for absolute Charter can move forward.

Society has two new members Jayne Swanson and Scott Burt

Society has donated \$100 to D.A.R. toward funding the monument for Revolutionary War Solders Buried in Alle.Co *in Angelick - PARK*

Society approved funding a Heros Banner with the Rev.war.vets buried in Belfast.

Working with High School on Earth Day project in May.

Paul Kenyon treasure bhs

old
news papers - donated - 70s/80s?