

Regular Meeting, Town Of Otto

A regular meeting of the town board of the Town of Otto, Cattaraugus County and the State of New York was held at the Otto Town Hall, 8842 Otto- East Otto Road, Cattaraugus, NY on the 21st day of April 2026.

Present:

Randy Beenau	.. Town Supervisor
Marlene Gregory	.. Councilmember
Brenda Mallaber	.. Councilmember
Paul Stang	.. Councilmember
Kevin Walker	.. Councilmember
Trisha Priest	.. Town Clerk
Robert Barber	.. Highway Superintendent
Jeff Holler	.. Code Enforcement Officer

Others Present:

David Jackson, Town of Otto resident.

Randy Beenau called the regular board meeting to order at 7:00pm with a quorum present.

RESOLUTION 2026-18

Approval of minutes

On a motion made by Councilmember Mallaber and seconded by Councilmember Walker, the following resolution was

ADOPTED Ayes 5 Beenau, Gregory, Mallaber, Stang, Walker
 Nays 0

Resolved that the minutes of the March 2026 Regular Meeting of the Town Board is approved. And that the Minutes of the Public Hearing is approved.

Privilege of the Floor

Dave Jackson asked the board where they were at with a solution to his water problem. Robert Barber and Art Baker from Willey Well Drilling of Sardinia met with Mr. Jackson at his home to do a preliminary well site review. Mr. Baker recommended that Mr. Jackson have a scope done on the well to determine where the salt inclusions were entering the well, and determine the depth and age of the well and to assess the overall condition of the well casing. Mr. Jackson did not feel he should cover the cost of the inspection.

The Town Board spoke with Art Baker via phone conference to hear his findings.

Highway Superintendent Robert Barber reported on the activities of the Highway crew.

1. We finished brooming all the roads except downtown parking areas. Mr. Barber is waiting for the new broom wafers to come in that he ordered over a month ago from Anderson Equipment.
2. We got all the chip sealing stone hauled in. We have a tentative date of May 26th for the seal job. We will be doing all of Marek Road, Salisbury, Youngs, Cemetery, and from Cemetery down Dake Hill to County Route 12.
3. We spent nearly a week opening pipes up from the recent heavy rains and fixing ditches and shoulders. Leaves coming down the ditches where the biggest culprit.
4. We have been ditching Christ Miller Road trying to get it ready for this year's CHIPS project of doing a 2inch hot mix asphalt overlay.
5. Meeting with Soil and Water along with Hailey Thomas with Hybrid Solutions for Salt barn sizing and design on May 19th.
6. The 2 ten wheeler trucks are in summer mode now and we still have one truck suited up for snow if we get any.
7. Flagger training tomorrow for all of us guys at Delevan Training Center.

Old Business

Mr. Stang spoke about the escrow money for the Solar Farm. He had spoken with the Accountant at Doeren Mayhew regarding the payments to the Lawyer and Wendel being charged to a capital Project account. He mentioned that the Road use permit had run out and another one will be sent out today. It has not yet been received in the Clerk's Office. Last update from Drew was that he sent a message to Shawn McCarthy . On September 3rd the Planning Board met and voted in favor; however Karen still needs to send those minutes to the County Planning Board.

Code Enforcement Officer Jeff Holler presented his monthly report from 03/17/2026 thru 04/21/2026

1. He took eighteen calls.
2. Completed five inspections.
3. No Permits were issued
4. Three violation notices were mailed.

Town Clerk The monthly review of the town clerk activities for the prior month.

\$1900.00 was collected during the month of March 2026. The following disbursements were made:

Town Supervisor	\$1867.20
Department of ag & markets	\$14.00
Catt Co. DPW	\$18.80
DEC	\$0.00
NYS-DOH	\$0.00

The Town Clerk's Monthly report was distributed to the Board.

Tax Collector After reconciling the tax collection to the County and having paid the Town the interest and penalties, A tax payers check bounced causing the collectors account to have insufficient funds to cover the check written to the County. I immediately contacted the County Treasurer's office. The tax payment was rescinded in the system and a new reconciliation completed. This reduced the amount of interest and penalty money given to the Town. A check for the difference was issued and paid to the County. This unfortunate situation has been rectified.

Assessors Report via Email

The March report is as follows:

- The 2026 exemption deadline was March 1st. Property owners who did not submit a renewal application were reminded either by phone or mail.
- Pursuant to §506 of NYS Real Property Tax Law the Notice of Completion of Tentative Assessment Roll must be displayed on the bulletin board at the Town Hall and published in the town's official paper. I have provided a copy of this notice for you to post on your bulletin board. This notice must be published in your official paper once in mid-April, I will take care of sending to the paper.
- The Assessing Office has corresponded with several property owners about their assessments, tax bills, and exemptions.
- There were six property transfers in February. You can find more information about these sales here: <https://www.cattco.gov/real-property-and-gis/sales>

Waste Water Operators Report via email

Tom Patterson emailed the Town Clerk. That email reads as follows:

Picking up from last month it is my understanding that the quote for Delmar Electric to supply a spare motor was not reviewed but is to be discussed this evening. I recently spoke with Joe at Delmar and asked his opinion if the quote would still be a representative price given that a month has gone by in addition to the time elapsed between receiving that quote and the March meeting. He felt that the quoted price should still be accurate and stated that in his experience price changes from their supplier(s) tends to be on an annual basis rather than fluctuating week by week or even month by month. Joe did state that he would make a phone call to check and report back to me. I have not heard back from him, however.

My reason for reaching out to Joe was related to the storm which occurred overnight from last Wednesday night and Thursday morning. When I arrived to the plant Thursday morning there was an alarm active in the control panel for the RBC hut and neither the clarifier nor RBC were running. I observed based on the chart recordings that the condition must have started around 3am which was confirmed later by Skeeter stating that the power had gone out at that time and offering to meet up at the plant. I explained that initial observations and reset of breakers and relays did not provide a "quick fix" to the issue.

I left to retrieve my multi-meter and check the power supply to the plant. While on my way I did reach out to Joe to let him know there was a potential I would have an emergency call. As it turned out that was not necessary. After confirming that power supply was not the issue I did discover that the series of electrical contactors in that cabinet are equipped with resets. I was not previously familiar with other contactors with that feature. Resetting each of them did solve the issue. Issues like this are within the "growing pains" of taking over operations and seeing a problem for the first time. I believe that the number of these unknowns are decreasing each month.

The UV disinfection season begins on May 15th and I will need to have the UV system up and running at that time. I did dismantle the system back in November so I do not foresee any issue with that. I have reviewed last season's lab reports and based on the results I believe the bulbs currently in the lamps will be sufficient going into this season. There is no monitoring system on the lamps to measure UV intensity or output so the only metric for lamp life is the sample results. This means that I will not have a clear indication on their effectiveness until results are received from the June sampling.

March reports were submitted to the DEC on 4/8 and accepted the same day.
Bi-monthly samples were also collected and sent to the lab on 4/8.
The next round of sampling will take place on 6/3.

RESOLUTION 2026-19

Declaration of Surplus property

WHEREAS, the Town of Otto (the "Town") is the owner of a parcel of real property located at 8197 South Hill Road, Cattaraugus, NY 14719, SBL# 046800-36.009-2-22, colloquially known as the Masonic Lodge (the "Property"); and

WHEREAS, the Town Board of the Town of Otto has determined that the Property is no longer needed for Town purposes in that the premises is currently not being used by the Town and there are no future planned uses of the Property that serve the best interests of the Town of Otto or its residents; and

WHEREAS, the Town Board has determined that it is in the best interest of the Town to have the property appraised to establish its value.

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved by the Town of Otto as follows:

- 1.) The Town Board does hereby declare the Property to be surplus property.
- 2.) The Town Board does hereby authorize and direct the Town Supervisor to have the Property appraised.
- 3.) This resolution shall take effect immediately.

On a motion made by Councilmember Gregory and seconded by Councilmember walker, the following resolution was

ADOPTED	Ayes	5	Beenau, Gregory, Mallaber, Stang, Walker
	Nays	0	

RESOLUTION 2026-20

Purchase of spare wastewater plant motor

On a motion made by Councilmember Walker and seconded by Councilmember Mallaber, the following resolution was

ADOPTED	Ayes	5	Beenau, Gregory, Mallaber, Stang, Walker
	Nays	0	

Resolved that Mr. Patterson may purchase a spare motor from Delmar Electric to have on hand in the event of an emergency.

RESOLUTION 2026-21

Audit of Claims

On a motion made by Councilmember Gregory and seconded by Councilmember Walker, the following resolution was

ADOPTED	Ayes	5	Beenau, Gregory, Mallaber, Stang, Walker
	Nays	0	

Resolved that the bills contained on Abstract #004 in the amount of \$ 78,143.03 have been reviewed by Town Board and are authorized for payment in the following amounts:

General Fund	No.	38	through	58	\$29,724.74
Highway Fund	No.	38	through	53	\$38,724.19
Water District	No.	12	through	16	\$2,475.9
Light District	No.	4			\$705.05
Sewer District	No.	9	through	11	\$6,513.12

RESOLUTION 2026-22

2026 European Cherry Fruit Fly Survey

On a motion made by Councilmember Stang and seconded by Councilmember Mallaber, the following resolution was

ADOPTED	Ayes	5	Beenau, Gregory, Mallaber, Stang, Walker
	Nays	0	

Whereas; the USDA is seeking permission to conduct a European Cherry Fly Survey in Otto, New York.

Resolved to grant the USDA permission to place ECFF traps on roadside properties within the Town of Otto with the understanding that the traps will be serviced at least every three weeks. Authorize Supervisor Beenau to complete the property access request form granting such permission.

RESOLUTION 2026-23

Clerk's & Collectors Monthly Report-March

On a motion made by Councilmember Stang and seconded by Councilmember Mallaber, the following resolution was

ADOPTED	Ayes	5	Beenau, Gregory, Mallaber, Stang, Walker
	Nays	0	

Resolved that the Clerk's March 2026 reports be accepted as submitted.

With no further discussion, on a motion of Supervisor Beenau and seconded by Councilmember Gregory, the meeting was adjourned at 8:45pm. Carried unanimously.

The next monthly board meeting will be held on May 19, 2026 at 7PM at the Otto Town Hall.

Respectfully Submitted,
Trisha Priest, Otto Town Clerk