

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 19th day of May 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:

Otto Planning Board – Karen McAndrew, Terri Steinbar, Marsha Salisbury, and Bethany Tojdowski

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

RESOLUTION 2026-24

Approval of minutes

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

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

Resolved that the minutes of the April 2026 Regular Meeting of the Town Board is approved.

Privilege of the Floor

Terri Steinbar spoke for the Planning Board. They have twenty five flags being ordered and will have them put up before Memorial Day. She mentioned some issues and concerns the Freedom Fest Committee wanted to speak to the Town Board about. There is a concern about the Town owned property downtown formerly known as the 26 slice building and the store and more. Jon Vanderbosch has been planting trees and bushes on the property. They noticed that he has had a load of fire wood dropped on the property. That property will be utilized during the Freedom Fest and the Committee doesn't want there to be any conflicts. They are asking the Board to draft a cease and desist letter to notify Mr. Vanderbosch that he is not to be using the property as if it's his own. The Planning Board also asked if the Town has found a way to get the other properties cleaned up down town. Jeff Holler spoke up that with some new State laws being enacted the Town could pass stronger local laws to help get these properties cleaned up if the Town pays a contractor to do the work. The Planning Board recently took a tour of the Medora Ball Museum building. Terri asked if the Town had acquired the deed. Supervisor Beenau stated that the Lawyer is in the process of filing the deed with the County. Terri informed the Board that Todd Wolf from the Lutheran church has offered the use of two class rooms to the Town to store the historical items to prevent damage because of the condition of the roof. The Planning Board also wants the East Hill Cemetery Cleaned up. There are large logs that have gone punky that are just an eye soar and taking up a nice level space that could have a few picnic tables placed there. Supervisor Beenau assured them that as soon as the Town has the Deed the problems with the Museum with start to get fixed.

Karen McAndrew discussed the grant to get a welcome to Otto sign put in. They have a quote for a sign of \$3100.00. The grant is a 50/50 match. They are asking the Town to agree to cover 50% of the cost. They have also asked if the Town can purchase the posts and do the footing work to secure the posts. They spoke with Marlene Gregory about placing the sign on her property.

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

- 1) We will chip sealing roads this Thursday. Be doing, Youngs Road, Salisbury, Cemetery Hill, bottom of Dake Hill, Marek and Forty Road. Approximately 5.16 Miles total.
- 2) We changes driveway culverts on Forty Road, Colvin, and Christmiller Roads. We installed new driveway culvert on West Hill and ditched up to Mansfield line. Did a lot more ditching on Christmiller Road.
- 3) Pulled shoulders in various spots around Town and added gravel where necessary.
- 4) Had Good Neighbor Tree Service take down some large trees that were outside our capabilities.
- 5) Started skid paving on Gibson Hill.
- 6) Washed streets downtown.
- 7) Hauled in gravel for our CHIP's project. Used that for fill work.
- 8) Met with Soil and Water today on a salt shed design and placement so we can get grant application going. The building would be 70 by 100 feet about the size of the sand pile. The deadline for the grant application is July 21, 2026 for a 2028 build. 75/25 grant, the 25% for the Towns share, we can do the ground work, footers, and trenching to cover our part of the grant funds.

Mailed correspondence

The Town received a letter from the Town of East Otto inviting the Town Officials to join them for the East Otto Memorial Parade, Sunday May 24, 2026 at 11:30pm

Old Business

Mr. Stang gave an update on the building permit for the Solar Farm. Radial Power believes the building permit is too high. Mr. Stang believes the estimated total of the project to completion is grossly under estimated in comparison to the Dunkleman Hill solar project of 2020. Mr. Stang spoke further about offering a conditional building permit for just the road and storm water control and asked the Town Board to consider that proposal. He also discussed amending the building permit schedule to include a change in the permit renewal fee to 50% of the original permit fee.

Supervisor Beenau informed the Town Board that he had referred the Jackson well complaint to the insurance company. He received a letter back from them stating there is an exclusion on the policy for pollution damage. The insurance will not cover this type of claim.

Code Enforcement Officer Jeff Holler presented his monthly report from 04/21/2026 thru 05/19/2026

- a) He took thirteen calls.
- b) Completed seven inspections.
- c) Four Permits were issued
 - 8311 Foster Hill – Pole Garage
 - 8250 Youngs Road – Remodel
 - 8351 North Otto Road – Porch replacement
 - 9567 North Otto Road – Single family residence
- d) Two violation notices were mailed.

\$220.60 was turned into the Town Clerk. He attended the land bank meeting and learned about the new State laws that may help the Towns with property violation clean up. He will forward on copies of the Law other Towns have enacted.

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

\$565.00 was collected during the month of April 2026. The following disbursements were made:

Town Supervisor	\$506.04
Department of ag & markets	\$7.00
Catt Co. DPW	\$0.00
DEC	\$51.96

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

Assessors Report via Email

The April report is as follows:

- The 2026 exemption deadline was April 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-May, 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 April 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 June 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.

April 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 2026-25

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 2026-26

Clerk's & Monthly Report-April

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 April 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 June 19, 2026 at 7PM at the Otto Town Hall.

Respectfully Submitted,
Trisha Priest, Otto Town Clerk