

FEBRUARY 9, 2025

PRESENT – Peter E. Wrona Supervisor, David Shinnors Councilman, Timothy Zimbardi Councilman, Terry Rosell Superintendent, Megan Morgenstern Town Clerk, Jeff Holler CEO

ABSENT: Holly Urbanski Councilwoman, Phillip Gross Councilman

GUESTS – None

MOTION #29 – MINUTES

On motion by Councilman Shinnors, seconded by Councilman Zimbardi that the minutes of February 9, 2026, be approved as submitted

Ayes 3 Wrona, Shinnors, Zimbardi

Nays 0 Carried.

CEO REPORT

CEO Holler reported that he had 11 Phone calls, 4 Inspections and 1 building permit.

MOTION # 30 – CEO Report

On motion by Councilman Shinnors, seconded by Councilman Zimbardi, that the February 2026 CEO report be approved as submitted

Ayes 3 Wrona, Shinnors, Zimbardi

Nays 0 Carried.

ASSESSOR REPORT

It's a very busy time in the assessor's office.

Taxable status date is March 1. This is the deadline for all exemptions and "the date that we value what is there as of" I have been looking at the building permits/field work and am working on valuing them.

I will not have office hours the week of the 10th as I have continuing education on for Code Enforcement in Rochester Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday of that week. The office should have been led down by then, however I haven't had too many in-person taxpayers.

RPTL 458-a(11) – Exempt on for veterans with 100% Service-Connected Disability has been amended. It is no longer a local option and is now mandatory for all municipalities and it delays implementation on to the 2027 roll (not this year)

It is important to clarify the parameters that must be met for the exemption on as it ultimately omits MOST if not ALL Veterans with 100% disability rating.

They are as follows:

(A)(I) WAS DISCHARGED OR RELEASED THEREFROM UNDER HONORABLE CONDITIONS;

(II) HAS A QUALIFYING CONDITION, AS DEFINED IN SECTION ONE OF THE VETERANS' SERVICES LAW, AND HAS RECEIVED A DISCHARGE OTHER THAN BAD CONDUCT OR DISHONORABLE FROM SUCH SERVICE; OR

(III) IS A DISCHARGED LGBT VETERAN, AS DEFINED IN SECTION ONE OF THE VETERANS' SERVICES LAW, AND HAS RECEIVED A DISCHARGE OTHER THAN BAD CONDUCT OR DISHONORABLE FROM SUCH SERVICE; AND

(B) (I) IS CONSIDERED TO BE PERMANENTLY AND TOTALLY DISABLED AS A RESULT OF MILITARY SERVICE;

(II) IS RATED ONE HUNDRED PERCENT DISABLED BY THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS;

(III) HAS BEEN RATED BY THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS AS INDIVIDUALLY UNEMPLOYABLE; AND (IV) WHO IS ELIGIBLE FOR PECUNIARY ASSISTANCE FROM THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT, OR HAS RECEIVED PECUNIARY ASSISTANCE FROM THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT AND HAS APPLIED SUCH ASSISTANCE TOWARD THE ACQUISITION OR MODIFICATION OF A SUITABLE HOUSING UNIT WITH SPECIAL FEATURES OR MOVABLE FACILITIES MADE NECESSARY BY THE NATURE OF THE VETERANS' DISABILITY

Basically, the last part requiring their home to be modified by the VA in order to stay in it eliminates most veterans.

MOTION # 31 – Assessor Report

On motion by Councilman Shinnors, seconded by Councilman Zimbardi, that the March 2026 Assessor report be approved as submitted

Ayes 3 Wrona, Shinnors, Zimbardi

Nays 0 Carried.

MOTION # 32 - JUSTICE REPORT

On motion by Councilman Zimbardi, seconded by Councilman Shinnars the February 2026 Justice report in the amount of \$375.00 is approved as submitted

Ayes 3 Wrona, Shinnars, Zimbardi
Nays 0 Carried.

SUPERINTENDENT REPORT

ROADS – We’ve just been plowing and moving snowbanks.

EQUIPMENT – We went to ValleyFab and looked over the new truck, everything seems to be as we’ve ordered. We do not have a timeline for ValleyFab to put the equipment on yet, as they are still waiting for the equipment to arrive. The grader and excavator are all serviced. We’re also working on getting the ’07 ready to put back up for auction.

Discussion took place on the ’07 truck. Superintendent Rosell stated that they are setting it up with a full outfit in hopes of getting more at auction. Superintendent Rosell will be contacting Auctions International to list the ’07 truck and the other items that were not sold last year.

MOTION # 33 – SUPERINTENDENT REPORT

On motion by Councilman Zimbardi, seconded by Councilman Shinnars that the Superintendent’s March 9, 2026 report be approved as submitted

Ayes 3 Wrona, Shinnars, Zimbardi
Nays 0 Carried.

MOTION # 34 – CLERK REPORT

On motion by Councilman Shinnars, seconded by Councilman Zimbardi, that the Town Clerk Report for February 2026 in the amount of \$200,567.00 be approved as submitted.

Ayes 3 Wrona, Shinnars, Zimbardi
Nays 0 Carried.

MOTION # 35 – SUPERVISOR’S REPORT

On motion by Councilman Shinnars, seconded by Councilman Zimbardi the Supervisor’s February 2026 financial report with the following account balances:

General Fund \$ 497,822.10
Highway Fund \$ 791,713.05 is approved as submitted
Ayes 3 Wrona, Shinnars, Zimbardi
Nays 0 Carried.

OLD BUSINESS:

Clerk Morgenstern reached out to Bank of Green County for an updated interest rate for the bonding of the equipment for the new truck. The rate is currently 4.25% through March 25, 2026. Clerk Morgenstern also reached out to the Town attorney, and they will write the bond. As soon as we get a better timeline of the equipment, we will start the process which will include setting up a public hearing for the bond.

Wendel emailed that NYS still has not opened the portal so that we can apply for the Farmland Protection grant. They will keep up updated.

NEW BUSINESS:

The Annual Financial Report for 2025 has been filed with the state.

Breezeline annual franchise has been received in the amount of \$1712. We had \$1800 budgeted. We will decrease that revenue at budget time.

RESOLUTION #8/2026- AUDITS OF TOWN JUSTICE AND TOWN CLERK BOOKS

MOTION #36 AUDITS OF TOWN JUSTICE AND TOWN CLERK BOOKS

On motion by Councilman Zimbardi, seconded by Councilman Shinnars that the Annual Clerk Audit, and Justice Annual Audit dated 2/19/26 be approved as submitted. Also forward the Justice Annual Audit dated 2/19/2026 to New York State Unified Court System, 25 Beaver St., New York, NY 10004

Ayes 3 Wrona, Shinnars, Zimbardi
Nays 0 Carried.

RESOLVED THAT Audits of the Town Justice and Town Clerk Annual Audit dated February 19, 2026 have been completed pursuant to Section 2019-a of the Uniform Justice Court Act and Town Law §123 be approved as submitted:

Pursuant to Section 2019-a of the Uniform Justice Court Act requires that Town Justices annually provide their court records and dockets to their respective town auditing boards, and that such record then be examined or audited and that fact be entered into the minutes of the board's proceedings. The criminal and civil dockets of the **Town Justice for 2025** having been duly examined and the fines and fees have been turned over to the proper officials.

Pursuant to Town Law §123 requires that the Town Clerk annually provide their records and shall produce all supporting books, records, receipts, vouchers and cancelled checks or check images as authorized by section 99-b of the General Municipal Law, and that such records then be examined or audited and the fact be entered into the minutes of the board's proceedings.

RESOLUTION 9-2026 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.

MOTION #37 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 Zimbardi seconded by Councilman Shinnars the following resolution was ADOPTED

Ayes 3 Wrona, Shinnars, Zimbardi

Nays 0 Carried.

WHEREAS, residents, seniors, and small businesses in the Town of Little Valley 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 Little Valley 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 Little Valley 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 IT 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

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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.

RESOLUTION #10/2026 – CATTARAUGUS COUNTY FARMER-NEIGHBOR DINNER

On motion by Councilman Zimbardi, seconded by Councilman the following resolution was adopted

Ayes 3 Wrona, Shinnars, Zimbardi

Nays 0 Carried.

WHEREAS, the Town of Little Valley does advocate and encourage training and professional development for its officers, and

WHEREAS, the municipality and its residents are well compensated by the skills learned, now therefore, be it

RESOLVED that the Town Board of Little Valley does authorize and encourage the Town Employees to attend dinner on April 15, 2026 at West Valley Fire Hall and pay all associated expenses.

MOTION # 38 – MACHINERY EQUIPMENT BUDGET ADJUSTMENT

On motion by Councilman Zimbardi, seconded by Councilman Shinnars the following be approved as submitted for '26 WesternStar payment.

Ayes 3 Wrona, Shinnars, Zimbardi

Nays 0 Carried.

DECREASE DB599 (UNRESERVED FUND BALANCE) \$179,392.00

INCREASE DB5130.2 (MACHINERY EQUIPMENT) \$179,392.00

MOTION # 39 – PAYMENT OF CLAIMS – ABSTRACT 003

On motion by Councilman Gross, seconded by Councilman Shinnars the following be approved as submitted.

Ayes 3 Wrona, Shinnars, Zimbardi

Nays 0 Carried.

General Fund Vouchers #36 to # 53 \$ 24,135.66

Highway Fund Vouchers #20 to # 34 \$ 201,710.86

MOTION #40 – ADJOURNED

On motion by Councilman Shinnars, seconded by Councilman Zimbardi that the meeting be adjourned at 5:10 pm

Ayes 3 Wrona, Shinnars, Zimbardi

Nays 0 Carried.

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Respectfully submitted,

Megan L. Morgenstern
Town Clerk RMC