

The Regular Town Board Meeting was held April 9th, 2025 in the Benton Town Hall Conference Room, 1000 Route 14A, Penn Yan, NY 14527.

Board Present:	Supervisor	John E. Prendergast
	Councilmen	Richard Harper, Deputy
		Alan Tomion
		Glenn Quackenbush
		Thomas Davie

Also Present: Jayson Hoover – Highway/Water, Thomas Fulkrod – Zoning Officer, Bobbi Wolfe – Town Clerk.

No Public Present:

Approval of Minutes:

Motion was made by Glenn Quackenbush, seconded by Richard Harper to approve the minutes from the March 12th, 2025 meeting as presented with minor corrections. Motion was carried.

Open the Public Hearing at 7:00 Local Law # 3 of 2025 FEMA-Flood Insurance.

Comprehensive Plan:

Crystal Tomion reported that the committee has met three times. At this time the survey needs to be proof read. Discussion was held on how long to allow the return of the survey, no decision was made. The town board agreed that the survey looked good.

Town of Torrey:

Grant Downs, Torrey Town Board Member reported to the town board . He wanted to thank Jayson and Casey for their help with installing meters/transponders and other maintenance. Grant stated that at the Torrey town board meeting Tuesday night 4/8 they approve the invoice for salaries/water and O&M. We have 27 hooked up right now and hope to have 40 by the end of summer. Dresden fire dept has some concerns with water pressure at the hydrants. CPL – Jeremy Delyser are looking into options for a PRV to increase pressure. This process is in the preliminary stage. Mr. Downs also reported that water billing/deposits are going well and thanked Bobbi. Residents are very happy to have water.

Old Business:

Justice Audit is scheduled for April 22nd, which will be reported back to the town board at the May meeting.

Village of Penn Yan – Annexation. (Nothing has been received from the Village Attorney).

Shared Revenue check was received in the amount of \$40,158.43.

New Business:

FEMA – Benton received a letter commending the town for implementing the floodplain management.

Yates County Highway: Open house has been planned for May 17th, no time have been given.

Bed Tax Revenue: Jamie Sisson, Jerusalem Supervisor sent a letter suggesting raising the bed tax to 5% instead of the 4%, returned 1% to towns and villages. (Letter attached to the minutes) Motion was made by John, seconded by Glenn Quackenbush to approve the 1% out of the 4%, not increasing the bed tax to 5%. Motion was duly put to a vote: AYES: Prendergast, Tomion, Davie and Quackenbush. Abstained: Harper. Motion was carried.

Yates County EMS: Is requesting a letter of support, municipal CON to a permanent CON (Certificate of Need). Approval of the conversion is based on demonstrating public need as defined by NYS Public Health Law Article 30.

Bellona Fire Protection District:

Town board discussion on reimbursing the residents in the Protection District: There are approximately 180 parcels to be reimbursed, multiple parcels will receive a check for each parcel with the tax map number placed on the check memo. Individuals that did not pay their taxes will receive a check which will zero out what is owed.

Water District # 7:

Update from CPL, Jeremy DeLyster will be explained at an upcoming town board meeting May 14th @ 6:00 PM. Letters will be sent to all residents informing them of the public meeting.

Town of Geneva:

Benton received a letter from T/Geneva about a water rate increase from \$2.37 to \$2.49.

Village of Penn Yan:

A Wholesale Water Customers meeting will be held Monday, May 10th @ 10:00 AM.

Highway/Water:

Water District # 2- proposal for a full tank rehab was received and a meeting was held with the town board. Jayson will be getting a couple more quotes for the May meeting.

Supervisor Prendergast stated that there is \$133K in the highway reserve and Jayson will update on what equipment he will need in the future. Prendergast also stated the town will be receiving \$17.5K annually from each of the new solar farm which are due to go online very soon. The town board will decide which accounts that money will be placed in. No decision was made.

Jayson reported that water is going great and Casey is doing an excellent job.

Water Treatment plant will be upgraded with a \$500K grant which will be matched by the Village of Penn Yan.

Zoning:

Tom Fulkrod reported there were 29 permits in March, 22 so far in April. 18 Short Term Rental applications have been received and half so far have been inspected. There is a ton of building going on, four new houses and barns.

Lawrence property located at 38 Pre Emption Road: Tom had a meeting with Meghan Kincaid, she stated that a bill does not need to be sent to the family for cost of the demolition. The town has to generate a bill and send it to the estate at 38 Pre Emption. This will be placed on the taxes for the 2026 tax year.

Tom also reported he has had three cases of co2 issues.

Jayson Hoover: Stated that he thinks we should start billing the Village of Penn Yan each time Tom Fulkrod gets called out for code issues in the village. Their own code officer doesn't answer the phone and so they call Town of Benton, Tom and he always answers the call. He has already been called to Taco Bell, Birkett Mills, O'Learys. After town board discussion the Motion was made by Thomas Davie, seconded by Alan Tomion to charge \$200.00/Hour with a minimum of 4 hours plus mileage of \$.70/Mile. A letter will be sent to the village. Motion was carried.

Close the Public Hearing: Motion was made by Glenn Quackenbush, seconded by Richard Harper to close the Public Hearing Local Law # 3 – FEMA at 8:35 PM. Motion was carried.

Resolutions:

#11-2025: Determination of Significance – SEQR LL #3 (Tabled)

#12-2025: Approve Local Law # 3 - FEMA (Tabled)

#13-2025: Motion was made by Glenn Quackenbush, seconded by Alan Tomion to approve adopting the 2025 Yates County Hazard Mitigation plan on April 9th, 2025. Motion was carried

Supervisor, John E. Prendergast

Monthly Abstract of Vouchers and Reports:

Motion was made by Alan Tomion, seconded by Richard Harper to approve the following Abstract of Vouchers: General (A) Claims 66-91 Totaling \$25,348.57, General (B) Claims 210-213 Totaling \$727.77, Highway (DA) Claims 30-40 Totaling \$9782.53, Highway (DB) Claims 205-208 Totaling \$14,890.79, SW1 Claims 65-68 Totaling \$3593.86, SW2 Claims 25-35 Totaling \$1552.97, SW3 Claims 75-80 Totaling \$6701.00, SW4 Claims 26-30 Totaling \$1372.62. Town Clerk, Highway/Water, Supervisor and Zoning Reports. Motion was carried.

Adjournment:

Motion was made by Alan Tomion, seconded by Glenn Quackenbush to adjourn the meeting at 8:40 P.M. Motion was carried.

Dated: April 14, 2025

Bobbi Wolfe

Benton Town Clerk, RMC