

The Regular Town Board Meeting was held June 11, 2025 @ 7:00 PM 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,
Bobbi Wolfe – Town Clerk.

Supervisor Prendergast opened the meeting at 7:00 PM with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of Minutes:

Motion was made by Glenn Quackenbush, seconded by Richard Harper to approve the minutes from the Special WD # 7 meeting 5/14/25 as presented. Motion was carried

Motion was made by Richard Harper, seconded by Alan Tomion to approve the minutes from the Regular Meeting 5/14/25 as presented. Motion was carried.

Old Business:

Village of Penn Yan – Annexation: A public hearing has been scheduled for June 25 @ 6:00 PM at the village offices.

New Business:

Assessor, Amber Bryan is now a state certified assessor, congratulations Amber. In board discussion of the “Memorandum of Understanding”, # 4 of the town’s Responsibilities. Consider adoption of the “Uniform Assessment Standards”. We will be checking with Gary Drake of NYS Real Property Services to get a better understanding of this request. Also discussion, Amber was appointed as “Acting Assessor”, now that she is certified, do we need to reappoint her. Another question for Mr. Drake.

Toshiba: We received a proposal to replace the leased copier, current lease price is \$213.21, proposed new lease is \$218.94, same machine set up. Motion was made by Thomas Davie, seconded by Richard Harper to approve the new leased copier. Clerk Wolfe will contact Toshiba to have the contract sent to us. Motion was carried.

Mortgage Tax check has been received in the amount of \$10,178.96.

Clean Up Day – Went very well. We just received out invoice form E-Waste owing \$0 ! we will be waiting for the Cardinal invoice, check from B&B and tire invoice.

Water District # 7:

Attorney Graff presented the procedure for signing the petition, also received from CPL the MPR. After discussion, Supervisor Prendergast will carry the petition for signatures.

An email was received from Geo Thompson, Town of Torrey offering left over pipe from their project at a 25% discount. Jeremy Delyser of CPL was given the email, he stated we will have to wait until the project is closer to construction before we consider purchasing this pipe or if will even fit this project.

Highway/Water:

WD # 2 – Proposal for the full tank rehab for the July meeting.

- 1) Bellona Bridge – Jayson stated that the bridge is planned for fall reconstruction. His concern is excess travel of over weight vehicles on town roads. These roads include, North Flat Street, Thistle Street and Loree Road. He has contacted attorney Graff on temporary road restrictions for truck travel. Motion was made by Richard Harper, seconded by Glenn Quackenbush to approve Attorney Graff to proceed with the Local Law for weight restriction on North Flat Street, Thistle Street and Loree Road during the resurfacing of the Bellona bridge – Pre-Emption Road. Motion was carried.
- 2) Jayson also contacted Loris Mithen – Association of Towns attorney, She stated that the town does not need approval from the state for this temporary local law restriction.
- 3) Jayson informed the town board that he had purchased a road widener for shoulders, which attaches to the loader. They are working on the hydraulics.
- 4) Trees: George Fisher took down some trees behind the town hall – cotton wood.
- 5) Storm Drainage: Toomey Road, if anyone is asking this included three properties. Fritz, Hoover and the town properties. 6” tile to access field catch basin, 100’ of 6” tile – 18 ton of stone. Any questions, he will show you what they did.
- 6) Dan Condella -mayor of the village of Penn Yan requested to meet with Jayson regarding zoning/code enforcement. Jayson stated he did meet with him, and explained to him that us billing the village isn’t to make money, it’s hopefully to make their own zoning officer answer calls in the village instead of our zoning officer always being called out. An inter municipal agreement would only save the village, as they never get called to fill in for Benton. No interest in signing this agreement.
- 7) Jayson also reported that the “CHIPS” money will increase next year, increased up \$17,532.00.

A letter has been sent to the village regarding the expenses of the annexation, stating that any expenses are to be paid by the village or the community center that the town incurs. ie; attorney etc. (attached to the minutes)

In addition, another letter has been sent to the village stating cost for our zoning officer to be called outs for any village zoning issues. (Attached to the minutes).

Zoning:

Benton/Village annexation: Apparently homeowners on North Main street were told that this annexation was going to include three other properties, no clue how this rumor got started. This only includes one parcel.

- 1) Solar – there is a safety meeting at the two new solar projects, Horning – Route 14A and Martin- North Flat/Bellona Station Roads Thursday 6/12/25 @ 10:00 AM this includes town board members and the fire department.
- 2) Ingram Solar Project is off line – need to reach out to them why the disconnect.
- 3) Short Term Rental: Still doing inspections, 3 or 4 residents have not responded. Tom is currently looking into sending a letter stating that they are not in compliance with town Local Law regarding the Short Term Rental. He will also contact the county on regulations on sending a letter.
- 4) Chicken Farms: The question, are these considered a commercial business or an agriculture business. It was stated that we are an agriculture area.
- 5) Septic issue on Havens Corners Road: Ralph McPherson property. There is a leak from someone's septic leaking into his yard. They don't know where it is coming from. Tom stated that he had put dye packs in the Covell septic that was just pumped and waiting to see where it shows up. The Hicks property also had their septic pumped, but no dye packs yet. This is a NYS Health Dept issue and up to the McPherson's to figure this out.

Resolutions:

#14-2025: Rescind Previous Resolutions accepting participation in the Laserfish documentation. Email was sent to Elli stating it would have been great to have Birth, Death and Marriage documented as that information is used all the time. (**Tabled**). Richard Harper suggested that I contact Elli to see if this request is possible.

#15-2025: Motion was made by Richard Harper, seconded by Glenn Quackenbush to support the Assessor to proceed with the 2026 Reassessment. Motion was carried.

Monthly Reports and Abstract of Vouchers:

Motion was made by Alan Tomion, seconded by Thomas Davie to approve the following: General (A) Claims 123-153 Totaling \$14,923.39, General (B) Claims 220-223 Totaling \$473.98, Highway (DA) Claims 48-56 Totaling \$4225.00, Highway (DB) Claims 213-217 Totaling \$38,048.30, SW1 Claims 72-74 Totaling \$920.97, SW2 Claims 44-55 Totaling 16,568.60, SW3 Claims 84-86 Totalin \$316.14. Town Clerk, Highway/Water, Supervisor and Zoning Reports. Motion was carried.

Adjournment:

Motion was made by Alan Tomion, seconded by Richard Harper to adjourn the meeting as of 8:20 P.M. Motion was carried

Dated: June 12, 2025

Bobbi Wolfe

Benton Town Clerk, RMC

DRAFT