

The Regular Town Board Meeting was held July 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
		Thomas Davie
		Glenn Quackenbush

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

Public Present: Attached Attendance Sheet

Supervisor Prendergast opened the meeting at 6:00 P.M. with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of Minutes:

Motion was made by Glenn Quackenbush, seconded by Richard Harper to approve the June 11th, 2025 minutes as presented. Motion was carried.

Thank You to Richard Harper for the flowers at the town hall!

Town of Torrey: Grant Downs thanked Richard Harper for attending the Torrey board meeting 7/8/25, he was very helpful with water district questions. He stated there are 10 pits not installed, 3 have refused to hook up. The substantial Completion date was 9/1/24 after 9/1/25 there will be a hook up fee.

Old Business:

Village of Penn Yan – Annexation: Public Hearing was held June 25 @ 6:00 P.M. at the Village offices. Three Benton board members attended and were in favor of the annexation. There wasn't any public comment. Benton Town Board now has 90 days to make their decision. Town Board Comments: Richard Harper stated that it is tax exempt no taxes lost to Benton residents. Finger Lakes Health – Driveway could not be permitted thru Benton unless it is annexed. Glenn: Stated that the driveway is private, electric to be switched from NYSEG to municipal which in a previous meeting was stated NYSEG would not allow the switch. Big expense to bring a new water line and sewer up to the community center, cost now at \$900K for that improvement. Glenn also stated that there should be no cost to the Benton residents YCRR or the Village of Penn Yan to pay any legal fees associated with the annexation. Tom Davie:

Has no problem with the annexation as long as Benton is reimbursed for expenses. Alan Tomion: No problem. John Prendergast: Benefits the community, no reason to linger and get this approved. Brian Cunningham stated they will have to get donations to cover these expenses, Supervisor Prendergast stated we need to look out for the tax payers of the town. Motion was made by Richard Harper, seconded by Glenn Quackenbush to approve the annexation to the Village of Penn Yan with one stipulation, either the YCRR or the Village of Penn Yan to pay all legal fees associated during this process. Motion was carried.

Assessor: (Previous Minutes)

Per Meghan Kincaid, no resolutions for the Uniform Assessment Standards. Also, the town can wait to appoint Amber at the September meeting, term beginning 9/30/2025.

Laserfish:

Birth, Death and Marriage can be copied thru the county grant. A scanner will be installed at the town 7/15/25.

Solar:

Generate NY Community Solar (Ingram), \$4240.48 was received for decommissioning as their annual payment. *(This solar project has been off line since May 29, 2025)*

New Business:

Hometowne 2025-2026 Propane pricing: 3800 Gallons @ \$2.09/Gal. Supervisor Prendergast suggested we go out for a couple more quotes .

Board of Elections:

Update on terms: As of this election: a two year term will be a one year, a four year term will be a three year term. This is so all terms will end up on an even year.

FEMA:

The town has received a new and revised flood insurance rate map. This info is in the zoning officers office.

2025 Finger Lakes Railway "PILOT" received in the amount of \$505.46.

USPS:

Stamp price increase as of July 13th, 1st Class up to \$.78 from \$.73, Post Cards (Water Billin) \$.62 up from \$.56.

Water District # 7:

Petition Update: Nine petitions have been signed so far, we need five more signatures. Kim Day is working on them.

Highway/Water:

Jayson Hoover stated that the 550 and the mowing tractor needs to be replaced, we need to look at 2026 budget time.

He talked to Colby Peterson at the county about a grant to replace the salt shed, he will be looking into grants. Jayson asked the board if they want to proceed getting quotes without a grant. Ours needs a lot of work. Board asked how soon it needs to be replaced, Jayson stated sooner rather than later. At this time the cost could be \$200-\$225K range. Jayson will check out other towns salt sheds. He will also check out different mowing tractors.

Water: Everything is quiet. He will have a couple more quotes for the August meeting on the tank.

Zoning:

Tom Fulkrod reported there have been 136 permits so far this year. He attended a solar meeting to discuss with the fire department any hazards.

There are possibly two more solar projects, but no paper work has been turned in at this time.

Short Term Rentals – We have 41 right now and the number will grow.

The two newest solar projects thru Aspen Power have been sold, Greenwood is still in control of these projects.

Supervisor Prendergast reported we now have two accounts with Lyons National Bank. Solar Decommissioning and Highway Equipment Reserve.

Resolutions:

#16-2025: Motion was made by Glenn Quackenbush, seconded by Thomas Davie to approve setting a Public Hearing for Local Law # 4 at the August 13th, 2025 board meeting “Temporarily Weight Limits On Certain Town Roads”. Motion was carried.

#17-2025: Motion was made by Richard Harper, seconded by Glenn Quackenbush to approve Adoption of the Resolution which shall include findings with respect to compliance of the petitions with provisions of Article 17 of the NYS General Municipal Law. Motion was carried.

#18-2025: Motion was made by Richard Harper, seconded by Alan Tomion to approve Adoption of the “Order” Pursuant to General Municipal Law 711 2.b is hereby approved and adopted. Motion was carried.

Monthly Reports & Abstract of Vouchers:

Motion was made by Alan Tomion, seconded by Glenn Quackenbush to approve the following Abstract of Vouchers: General (A) Claims 154-171 Totaling \$11,292.82, General (B) Claims 224-226 Totaling \$461.20, Highway (DA) Claims 57-65 Totaling \$2819.68, Highway (DB) 218-220 Totaling \$47,770.57, SW1 Claims 75-77 Totaling \$3273.87, SW2- Claims 56-64 Totaling \$1477.48, SW3- Claims 87-90 Totaling \$5674.99, SW4- Claim 34 Totaling \$36.18.

Adjournment:

Motion was made by Alan Tomion, seconded by Glenn Quackenbush to adjourn the meeting as of 7:55 P.M. Motion was carried.

Richard Harper wanted to inform everyone that the parking lot at the county building will be paving in three weeks.

Dated: July 10, 2025

Bobbi Wolfe

Benton Town Clerk, RMC

ADOPTED: August 13th, 2025