



**Town of Oneonta
TOWN BOARD
Regular Meeting
June 11, 2025
07:00PM**

The regular meeting of the Oneonta Town Board was held on June 11, 2025, with the following members present:

Interim Supervisor:	Brett Holleran	(BH)
Town Board Member:	Patricia Riddell Kent	(PRK)
Town Board Member:	Kim Fierke	(KF)
Town Board Member:	Joseph M. Camarata	(JMC)

Others present: Ryan F. Pereira, Town Clerk; E. Hyde Clarke, Esq.; Kevin James; Walter Schmitt; Tirusha Dave; Marie Lusins; Maryann Hurtubise; George B.; J. Caroline Williams; Teresa Desantis; Randolph Keator; Will Rivera; Erica La Buz; Anrea Lister; David Koehn; Hunter Grace, Mgr. CASV; Prashanth Goranta; James A. Hurtubise; Brenda Andreasen.

“Privilege of the floor”

Marie Lusins addressed the board and issued the following statement:

I have been associated with Job Corps (JC) for over 30 years. Initially, I was appointed as liaison while serving as a Councilman on the Oneonta Town Board. Then as President and District Governor of the Oneonta Rotary club. I worked with Directors of JC on a number of grant projects.

We depended on JC to provide the ground work and paving plus installation for Accessible Playgrounds for Oneonta Elementary Schools before the state and federal guidelines for disabled children. JC has provided crossing guards for children after school on state streets and in our parks where needed.

Habitat for Humanity has depended on their skilled work for foundations for the various homes that have been built.

Rotary commenced on a book project collecting used children’s books for Head Start. We asked JC to build 80 plus bookcases. Each Head Start child’s family received a bookcase filled with books suitable for children 5-9 years old. Our JC received national recognition.

I have visited JC and have seen their outstanding programs, such as the Line and Electrical program. The Drone program is unique and its graduates are highly sought after. The Nursing program students working with Bassett fulfill our community’s need for caregivers.

It’s difficult for me to think that these students will lose their chance for a better future. I realize the cost factor to the taxpayers and federal government, however, (to be corny) I think of the story of the starfish washed up from the sea. I believe we have a chance to continue to make a difference in these young peoples lives. Let me state once again, Oneonta is a unique place to live... it is a Kind place.

Thank you

marie

Andrea Lister, resident of West End in the town of Oneonta; raised concerns about the increasing number of seasonal rentals and their impact on neighborhoods. Further stating the loss of homes to seasonal rentals is affecting the local community and driving up housing prices. A suggestion was made to establish a task force to explore density regulations for seasonal rentals.

Member Fierke reminded all that a Community Ad Hoc Committee is in the formative stages and will be addressing these issues.

The committee will include planning board members and community representatives. Discussions will also include accessory dwelling units and short-term rental regulations.

Kevin James requested permission of the board to conduct an event at Fortin Park focused on and around HAM Radio Field Days, a global event for HAM radio operators, to be held over the weekend of June 27, 2025. The event would involve radio operations and public demonstrations. The club sought a waiver for overnight use of the park and requested access to electricity, which was duly granted by the board.

Tirusha Dave & Prashanth Gorantala with EcoYotta, Inc.; seeking a zone change for parcel#298.00-2-15.02, 357 County Highway 9, from RA40 to IDD, to develop the property as a research center. PRK wanted to reiterate that she voted no to refer this to the Planning Board because she was not interested in rezoning Residential Agricultural land for any type of potential Industrial activity. The rezoned designation would forever be attached to the parcel. PRK said there are other locations in the Town with appropriate zoning and infrastructure where this proposed project would likely be welcomed.

Neighbors voiced concerns about potential noise pollution, water usage, and the impact on the neighborhood's character.

RESOLUTION 2025-0077 (08:20) Motion by JMC, seconded by BH;
Whereas the Town Board votes to accept the proposed formation of the Town of Oneonta West End Water District#2;
Whereas the district formalizing an agreement between the City of Oneonta for water services:
Whereas the receiver of the water services shall be Abner Doubleday, LLC dba Cooperstown All-Star Village;
Now therefore be it resolved;
The question of the adoption of the foregoing resolution was duly put to a vote, and upon roll call, the vote was as follows:

		AYE	NAY
Patricia Riddell Kent	Board Member	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>
Kim Fierke	Board Member	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>
Joseph M. Camarata	Board Member	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>
Brett D. Holleran	Interim Supervisor	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>
The foregoing resolution was thereupon declared duly adopted.			
VOTE	AYES (4) AIF		MOTION CARRIED

RESOLUTION 2025-0078 (08:37) Motion by KF, seconded by PRK;

Whereas the Town Board votes to close the public hearing;
Whereas the applicant, Cooperstown All-Star Village is seeking a zone amendment;
Whereas parcel 287.00-1-54.00 from B2 to PDD, 4158 State Highway 23;
Now therefore be it resolved;
The question of the adoption of the foregoing resolution was duly put to a vote, and upon roll call, the vote was as follows:

		AYE	NAY
Patricia Riddell Kent	Board Member	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>
Kim Fierke	Board Member	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>
Joseph M. Camarata	Board Member	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>
Brett D. Holleran	Interim Supervisor	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>
The foregoing resolution was thereupon declared duly adopted.			
VOTE	AYES (4) AIF		MOTION CARRIED

The public hearing had remained open for public comment until the June 11th meeting, pending a vote the board had also requested a sketch plan be presented for review. Public notice published on 05/20/2025 in the Daily Star.

RESOLUTION 2025-0079 (08:38) Motion by BH, seconded by JMC;

Whereas the Town Board votes to approve the zone amendment;
Whereas the applicant, Cooperstown All-Star Village is seeking a zone amendment for expanded parking;
Whereas parcel 287.00-1-54.00 from B2 to PDD, 4158 State Highway 23;
Now therefore be it resolved;
The question of the adoption of the foregoing resolution was duly put to a vote, and upon roll call, the vote was as follows:

		AYE	NAY
Patricia Riddell Kent	Board Member	<u> </u>	<u> X </u>

Kim Fierke	Board Member	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>
Joseph M. Camarata	Board Member	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>
Brett D. Holleran	Interim Supervisor	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>

The foregoing resolution was thereupon declared duly adopted.

VOTE AYES (3) NAYS (1)

MOTION CARRIED

PRK said that several years ago, she voted yes to use this location for housing. She is uncomfortable with the new request to add more parking on this opposite side of the State Highway because of her concern with Pedestrian Safety. She said she would like to help and ask the DOT to consider a safer way, in her opinion, to cross the State Highway such as an underpass or overpass. Incidents of near-misses, reckless driving and accidents have been reported.

RESOLUTION 2025-0080 (08:42) Motion by BH, seconded by JMC;
Whereas the Town Board votes to open a public hearing;
Whereas the proposed formation of the Town of Oneonta West End Water District #1;
Now therefore be it resolved;
The question of the adoption of the foregoing resolution was duly put to a vote, and upon roll call, the vote was as follows:

		AYE	NAY
Patricia Riddell Kent	Board Member	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>
Kim Fierke	Board Member	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>
Joseph M. Camarata	Board Member	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>
Brett D. Holleran	Interim Supervisor	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>

The foregoing resolution was thereupon declared duly adopted.

VOTE AYES (4) AIF

MOTION CARRIED

The public hearing will remain open for public input until the next Town Board meeting July 9th, 2025.

RESOLUTION 2025-0068 SCHEDULING PUBLIC HEARING PERTAINING TO THE PROPOSED FORMATION OF THE TOWN OF ONENONTA WEST END WATER DISTRICT PURSUANT TO ARTICLE 12-A, SECTION 209-d OF THE TOWN LAW OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK

WHEREAS, the Town Board for the Town of Oneonta, is considering the formation of a water district in the Town of Oneonta to be known as the West End Water District; and

WHEREAS, the Town Board believes it in the best interest of the citizens of the Town to form a water district, said proposed water distribution system to include the areas described in Schedule A attached hereto and made a part hereof; and

WHEREAS, to further consider a proposed water district to be known as the West End Water District, and pursuant to Article 12-A of the Town Law of the State of New York, the Town Board, directed C&S Engineers Inc. of 499 Col. Eileen Collins Blvd, Syracuse, New York 13212, to prepare a Map, Plan and Report of the proposed water district; and

WHEREAS, said Map, Plan and Report was filed with the Town Clerk for the Town of Oneonta the May 12th, 2025, entitled West End Water District, Map, Plan and Report, October 2024; and

WHEREAS, this Board has reviewed the Map, Plan and Report, and wishes to schedule a public hearing regarding the possible formation of a water improvement district to be known as the West End Water District pursuant to Article 12-A Section 209-d of the Town Law of the State of New York.

NOW, THEREFORE, on motion made by Council Member Patricia Riddell Kent, and seconded by Council Member Joseph M. Camarata;

BE IT RESOLVED as follows:

1. That this Board will hold a Public Hearing pursuant to Section 209-d of the Town Law of the State of New York on the 11th day of June, 2025 at 7 p.m. at the Town Hall, 3966 State Highway 23, West Oneonta, NY 13861 to consider the formation of a water district to be known as the West End Water District, and directs that notice of same be given pursuant to law.

2. That pertaining to the proposed water district, the Town Board does hereby find as follows:

a. A description of the boundaries of the proposed water district is more particularly set forth in Schedule A attached hereto and made a part hereof.

b. The improvements proposed would be as follows:

The City of Oneonta has an established water system serving the proposed West End Water District. The West End Water District will continue to utilize the existing facilities in the Town of Oneonta. The existing facilities are as follows:

- Seven (7) interconnections with the City water system;
- Ninety-Seven (97) fire hydrants;
- Two hundred and Twenty-Six (226) main line valves;
- 37,580 linear feet of existing 6" (CIP and DIP) water main;
- 21,042 linear feet of existing 8" (CIP and DIP) water main;
- 1,214 linear feet of existing 10" (CIP and DIP) water main;
- 11,120 linear feet of existing 12" (CIP and DIP) water main;
- Six Hundred and Fifty-Six (656) water services; and
- One (1) 500,000-gallon water tank.

d. Financing for the proposed project is not necessary as the district will utilize existing facilities. There are no new facilities planned to be constructed at this time. As a result, there is no new capital cost associated with the proposed West End District.

The resulting initial annual unit charge is estimated to be \$556.23 per equivalent dwelling unit (EDU). This charge represents the total annual cost to a typical single-family household, inclusive of water purchase.

e. The Map, Plan and Report describing such improvements as prepared C&S Engineers Inc., and filed in the Town Clerk's Office of the Town of Oneonta, is available for public inspection.

3. That the Town Clerk of the Town of Oneonta is hereby authorized and directed to publish a copy of this Resolution/Order in the Daily Star, the official newspaper for the Town of Oneonta, and to post a copy of same on the official bulletin board for the Town of Oneonta in the time and manner required by law.

West End Water District Formation

- A proposal was made to form the West End Water District Number 1 to facilitate water bill collection.
- The city would handle billing and maintenance of the water infrastructure.
- The formation of the district would not result in additional costs for town homeowners.
- Complete Legal Boundary Description available at the Town Clerk's office.

RESOLUTION 2025-0081 (08:55) Motion by PRK, seconded by BH;

Whereas the Town Board votes to approve the updated water and sewer rates;

Now therefore be it resolved;

The question of the adoption of the foregoing resolution was duly put to a vote, and upon roll call, the vote was as follows:

		AYE	NAY
Patricia Riddell Kent	Board Member	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>
Kim Fierke	Board Member	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>
Joseph M. Camarata	Board Member	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>
Brett D. Holleran	Interim Supervisor	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>

The foregoing resolution was thereupon declared duly adopted.

VOTE AYES (4) AIF

MOTION CARRIED

Community Ad Hoc Committee

- Formation of a community ad hoc committee to address housing and short-term rental issues was announced.
- The committee will include planning board members and community representatives.
- Discussions will focus on accessory dwelling units and short-term rental regulations.

RESOLUTION 2025-0082 (09:08) Motion by JMC, seconded by BH;

Whereas the Town Board votes to approve the application from the Waterhouse party;

Whereas the responsible consumption of beer and wine will be permitted during the event at Fortin Park;

Now therefore be it resolved;

The question of the adoption of the foregoing resolution was duly put to a vote, and upon roll call, the vote was as follows:

		AYE	NAY
Patricia Riddell Kent	Board Member	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>
Kim Fierke	Board Member	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>
Joseph M. Camarata	Board Member	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>
Brett D. Holleran	Interim Supervisor	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>

The foregoing resolution was thereupon declared duly adopted.

VOTE AYES (4) AIF

MOTION CARRIED

RESOLUTION 2025-0083 (09:28)

Motion by BH, seconded by JMC;

Whereas the Town Board votes to approve of Jared Hotaling to the position of Water/Wastewater Technician;

Whereas the Town Board votes to approve of John Maidens to the position of Motor Equipment Operator;

Now therefore be it resolved;

The question of the adoption of the foregoing resolution was duly put to a vote, and upon roll call, the vote was as follows:

		AYE	NAY
Patricia Riddell Kent	Board Member	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>
Kim Fierke	Board Member	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>
Joseph M. Camarata	Board Member	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>
Brett D. Holleran	Interim Supervisor	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>

The foregoing resolution was thereupon declared duly adopted.

VOTE AYES (4) AIF

MOTION CARRIED

RESOLUTION 2025-0084 (09:32)

Motion by PRK, seconded by JMC;

Whereas the Town Board votes to approve the proposed Gary Enck water extension line;

Whereas the design done will be in cooperation and with Lamont Engineering;

Whereas the water line will be built to town specifications and at Enck's expense;

Whereas as discussed, no cost will pass to the town;

Now therefore be it resolved;

The question of the adoption of the foregoing resolution was duly put to a vote, and upon roll call, the vote was as follows:

		AYE	NAY
Patricia Riddell Kent	Board Member	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>
Kim Fierke	Board Member	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>
Joseph M. Camarata	Board Member	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>
Brett D. Holleran	Interim Supervisor	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>

The foregoing resolution was thereupon declared duly adopted.

VOTE AYES (4) AIF

MOTION CARRIED

Discussion on proposed zoning amendment for Emmons Farms, including subdivision and referral to Planning Board for report, and awaiting applications. There was mention of designs for development of a Stewart's filling station at the Farmhouse location. PRK stated that her concern with a proposed gas station (Stewart's) at this Farmhouse Restaurant location along Gifford Creek; is that the creek runs out to the Susquehanna River at the headwaters of the Chesapeake Bay Watershed. She said she wished the gas station would consider another location nearby. People also unintentionally spill auto fluids in gas station parking lots.

RESOLUTION 2025-0085 (09:51)

Motion by KF, seconded by BH;

Whereas the Town Board votes to approve the resolution of support for Oneonta Job Corps Academy;

WHEREAS, for the past 45 years, the Oneonta Job Corps Academy has been a valued neighbor and a partner in the betterment of our city and town; and

WHEREAS, the Oneonta Job Corps Academy, has made countless community projects possible through its regular donation of student production and its instructors' expertise and oversight; and

WHEREAS, in 2024 (per its own budget) the Academy had an economic impact on the community of \$22,937,132; and

WHEREAS, as an employment and training program, the Oneonta Job Corps Academy has had significant, documented, and life changing success, with a graduation rate that exceeds many community colleges, and a career placement rate which ranks 32nd among all the centers in the country; and

WHEREAS, the loss of the Oneonta Job Corps Academy would have a deleterious effect on our economy, our infrastructure, the capacity of our community services, and the quality of life in the Town; and

WHEREAS, the closure of the Oneonta Job Corps Academy would be the retraction of a helping hand, and of the opportunity for hundreds of young men and women to pull themselves from poverty and place themselves on the very ladder of success that is the American Dream, in many cases providing precedent and role modeling to family, friends, and neighborhoods.

Therefore, IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED that the Town of Oneonta stands in vigorous opposition to the potential closure of the Oneonta Job Corps Academy, advises all decision-making members of government to take note, and implores their support of this institution and its long-term future.

The question of the adoption of the foregoing resolution was duly put to a vote, and upon roll call, the vote was as follows:

		AYE	NAY
Patricia Riddell Kent	Board Member	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>
Kim Fierke	Board Member	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>
Joseph M. Camarata	Board Member	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>
Brett D. Holleran	Interim Supervisor	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>

The foregoing resolution was thereupon declared duly adopted.

VOTE AYES (4) AIF

MOTION CARRIED

RESOLUTION 2025-0086 (09:52)

Motion by PRK, seconded by KF;

Whereas the Town Board votes to accept the minutes of the April and May meetings;

Now therefore be it resolved;

The question of the adoption of the foregoing resolution was duly put to a vote, and upon roll call, the vote was as follows:

		AYE	NAY
Patricia Riddell Kent	Board Member	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>
Kim Fierke	Board Member	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>
Joseph M. Camarata	Board Member	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>
Brett D. Holleran	Interim Supervisor	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>

The foregoing resolution was thereupon declared duly adopted.

VOTE AYES (4) AIF

MOTION CARRIED

RESOLUTION 2025-0087 (09:53)

Motion by KF, seconded by PRK;

Whereas the Town Board votes to approve payment of the bills;

Now therefore be it resolved;

The question of the adoption of the foregoing resolution was duly put to a vote, and upon roll call, the vote was as follows:

		AYE	NAY
Patricia Riddell Kent	Board Member	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>
Kim Fierke	Board Member	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>
Joseph M. Camarata	Board Member	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>
Brett D. Holleran	Interim Supervisor	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>

The foregoing resolution was thereupon declared duly adopted.

VOTE AYES (4) AIF

MOTION CARRIED

RESOLUTION 2025-0088 (09:58)

Motion by JCM, seconded by KF;

Whereas the Town Board votes to adjourn;

Whereas the Town Board having no further business;

Now therefore be it resolved;

The question of the adoption of the foregoing resolution was duly put to a vote, and upon roll call, the vote was as follows:

		AYE	NAY
Patricia Riddell Kent	Board Member	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>

Kim Fierke	Board Member	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>
Joseph M. Camarata	Board Member	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>
Brett D. Holleran	Interim Supervisor	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>

The foregoing resolution was thereupon declared duly adopted.

VOTE AYES (4) AIF

MOTION CARRIED

Respectfully submitted,

Ryan F. Pereira
Oneonta Town Clerk

Abstract #	6	Dates 5/16/25-6/11/25		
		Friday - Wednesday		
General Checking				
Fund		PrePaid	To Be Paid	Total PrePaid/To Be Paid
General	1	\$ -	\$ 154,610.84	\$ 154,610.84
Highway	3	\$ 105,394.13	\$ 45,759.03	\$ 151,153.16
St Lights #1	7	\$ -	\$ 2,753.77	\$ 2,753.77
St Lights #2	14	\$ -	\$ 286.77	\$ 286.77
St Lights #3	15	\$ -	\$ 951.71	\$ 951.71
St Lights #4	16	\$ -	\$ 57.23	\$ 57.23
St Lights #5	17	\$ -	\$ 268.71	\$ 268.71
Butler Creek-Blanchard Capital	28	\$ -	\$ 4,358.30	\$ 4,358.30
Fire Protection	25	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Subtotal		\$ 105,394.13	\$ 209,046.36	\$ 314,440.49
District Checking				
WESD	8	\$ -	\$ 1,344.79	\$ 1,344.79
WSSD	9	\$ -	\$ 660.04	\$ 660.04
SSD	10	\$ -	\$ 3,460.59	\$ 3,460.59
WWD	11	\$ -	\$ 7,872.08	\$ 7,872.08
PWD	12	\$ -	\$ 222.15	\$ 222.15
SSWD	23	\$ -	\$ 14,084.34	\$ 14,084.34
District Subtotal		\$ -	\$ 27,643.99	\$ 27,643.99
Trust and Agency Checking				
T & A	99	\$ 1,057.24	\$ 200.27	\$ 1,257.51
		\$ 1,057.24	\$ 200.27	\$ 1,257.51
CDBG				
CDBG Grants	26	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
		\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Totals		\$ 106,451.37	\$ 236,890.62	\$ 343,341.99
Clerk:	Approved Expenses / Voucher #			2025-272 to 2025-339
		General	\$ 154,610.84	
		Highway	\$ 151,153.16	
		St Lighting	\$ 4,318.19	
Blanchard Ave-Butler Crk			\$ 4,358.30	
		Fire Protection	\$ -	
		WESD	\$ 1,344.79	
		WSSD	\$ 660.04	
		SSD	\$ 3,460.59	
		WWD	\$ 7,872.08	
		PWD	\$ 222.15	
		SSWD	\$ 14,084.34	
		T&A	\$ 1,257.51	
		CDBG	\$ -	
			\$ 343,341.99	