



**Town of Oneonta
TOWN BOARD
Special Town Board Meeting
June 22, 2026
04:30 PM**

Call to Order, Roll Call was taken, a quorum was established, and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited. The special meeting of the Oneonta Town Board was held on June 22, 2026, with the following members present:

Town Supervisor	William Rivera Jr.	(WRJ)
Town Board Member	Patricia Riddell Kent	(PRK)
Town Board Member	Teresa DeSantis	(TD)
Town Board Member	Joseph M. Camarata	(JMC)
Town Board Member	Brett D. Holleran	(BDH)

Others present: Ryan F. Pereira, Town Clerk; Dale Webster.

RESOLUTION 2026-0100 (04:42) Motion by PRK, seconded by BH;

Whereas the Town Board votes to consider approval of New York State Empire State Development Incentive Proposal; and

Whereas payment of a \$250 application fee for the West End study;

Now, therefore be it resolved;

Whereupon the resolution was put to a vote and recorded as follows:

		AYE	NAY	
Patricia Riddell Kent	Board Member	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	
Teresa DeSantis	Board Member	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	
Joseph M. Camarata	Board Member	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	(DELAYED)
Brett D. Holleran	Board Member	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	
William Rivera Jr.	Supervisor	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	
VOTE	AYES (4)			MOTION CARRIED

RESOLUTION 2026-0101 (04:57) Motion by PRK, seconded by TD;

Whereas the Town Board votes to consider approval of entering a service agreement with Highland Planning LLC; and

Whereas for expert evaluations and grant consulting; and

Whereas for escrow-related work triggered by referrals from Planning Board and Codes Office; and

Whereas separate work orders for services, with Town Board approval required for escrow work;

Now, therefore be it resolved;

Whereupon the resolution was put to a vote and recorded as follows:

		AYE	NAY	
Patricia Riddell Kent	Board Member	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	
Teresa DeSantis	Board Member	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	
Joseph M. Camarata	Board Member	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	
Brett D. Holleran	Board Member	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	
William Rivera Jr.	Supervisor	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	
VOTE	AYES (5)			MOTION CARRIED

Supervisor Rivera explained this agreement would function similarly to the town's agreement with the Engineer to the Town, allowing the firm to perform expert evaluations, project management, and grant consulting on a work-order basis. Mr. Rivera emphasized that the agreement itself does not commit the

town to any spending; all work would be pre-approved through separate work orders funded by developer escrow accounts.

RESOLUTION 2026-0102 (04:59)

Motion by PRK, seconded by TD;

Whereas the Town Board votes to approve proposal to Develop a Funding Application to Update the Town of Oneonta's Comprehensive Plan; and

Whereas Highland Planning to complete the CFA application to update the Town's Comprehensive Plan; and

Whereas deadline for the application is July 31st;

Now, therefore be it resolved;

Whereupon the resolution was put to a vote and recorded as follows:

		AYE	NAY
Patricia Riddell Kent	Board Member	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>
Teresa DeSantis	Board Member	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>
Joseph M. Camarata	Board Member	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>
Brett D. Holleran	Board Member	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>
William Rivera Jr.	Supervisor	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>

VOTE AYES (5)

MOTION CARRIED

The board considered a proposal for Highland Planning to develop a funding application (CFA) to update the town's comprehensive plan. This is separate from the service agreement. The cost for this service is \$5,000, which exceeds a threshold requiring other estimates. Concerns were raised about the tight timeline, as the application deadline is July 31st, and the need for expert help due to the application's complexity. Supervisor confirmed that funds for this service are available in the budget.

RESOLUTION 2026-0103 (05:53)

Motion by PRK, seconded by TD;

Whereas the Town Board votes to approve resolution on receipt of application, referring application, and establishing professional review escrow for east street solar project (Zuvan Renewables LLC);

Now, therefore be it resolved;

Whereupon the resolution was put to a vote and recorded as follows:

		AYE	NAY
Patricia Riddell Kent	Board Member	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>
Teresa DeSantis	Board Member	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>
Joseph M. Camarata	Board Member	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>
Brett D. Holleran	Board Member	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>
William Rivera Jr.	Supervisor	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>

VOTE AYES (5)

MOTION CARRIED

Discussion centered around environmental impact concerns about the project's size (30 acres on a 110-acre parcel) and being located within a residential area. Debate continued over whether the project violates current town solar law, which limits ground-mounted systems to 1000 square feet. Proponents of the escrow argued it serves as a "safeguard" to ensure the town is not left paying for legal or expert fees should the project move forward. The escrow would also be needed for a "heightened" review due to the project's proximity to the watershed and the presence of bald eagles. Supervisor Rivera reminded members that while the discussion about the code and current laws, while good; is beyond the scope of the motion before the board at hand, as the request was received by from the Planning Board and Codes Office.

RESOLUTION 2026-0104 (05:45)

Motion by PRK, seconded by TD;

Whereas the Town Board votes to approve resolution for receipt of application, referring application, and establishing professional review escrow for comprehensive expansion of Cooperstown All-Star village project (Abner Doubleday LLC);

Now, therefore be it resolved;

Whereupon the resolution was put to a vote and recorded as follows:

		AYE	NAY	
Patricia Riddell Kent	Board Member	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	
Teresa DeSantis	Board Member	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	
Joseph M. Camarata	Board Member	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	
Brett D. Holleran	Board Member	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	
William Rivera Jr.	Supervisor	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	
VOTE	AYES (5)			MOTION CARRIED

The Town Board acknowledges that the project is a significant investment and requires thorough review.

RESOLUTION 2026-0105 (05:54) Motion by TD, seconded by PRK;

Whereas the Town Board votes to approve awarding of strategic planning consultant services for a Strategic Vision for the West End Corridor, CFA #150394; and

Whereas awarding of strategic planning consulting services for the West End corridor to Highland Planning; and

Whereas Highland Planning ranked higher due to MWBE and Veteran-Owned certifications.

Now, therefore be it resolved;

Whereupon the resolution was put to a vote and recorded as follows:

		AYE	NAY	
Patricia Riddell Kent	Board Member	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	
Teresa DeSantis	Board Member	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	
Joseph M. Camarata	Board Member	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	
Brett D. Holleran	Board Member	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	
William Rivera Jr.	Supervisor	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	
VOTE	AYES (5)			MOTION CARRIED

RESOLUTION 2026-0106 (10:04) Motion by PRK; seconded by BH;

Whereas the Town Board votes to adjourn;

Whereupon the resolution was put to a vote and recorded as follows:

		AYE	NAY	
Patricia Riddell Kent	Board Member	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	
Teresa DeSantis	Board Member	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	
Joseph M. Camarata	Board Member	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	
Brett D. Holleran	Board Member	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	
William Rivera Jr.	Supervisor	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	
VOTE	AYES (5)			MOTION CARRIED

Respectfully submitted,

Ryan F. Pereira

Town Clerk