Town of Oneonta
TOWN BOARD
Town Board Meeting
August 12, 2026
07:00 PM

Call to Order, Roll Call was taken, a quorum was established, and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited. The meeting of the Oneonta Town Board was held on August 12, 2026, with the following members present:

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

Town Board meeting Audio/Video available through www.townofoneonta.org

Others present: Ryan F. Pereira, Town Clerk; Chris McIlven, Attorney for the Town; Nicole Rahn; Dale Webster; Rich Harlem; Caroline Williams, SUNY Oneonta; Lachlan Squair, SUNY Oneonta; Gary Flaherty, Veterans Outreach; Hunter Grace; Joyce Bayer; Cheryl & Douglas Zamelis; William Baker; Dave Rowley; Laura Gell; Ramona Luether; Barb Brown; Julie Ward; Nancy Miller; Sheila LeMaster; Thomas Patterson; Lori Erario; William Erario; Kerri Lincoln; Theresa & David Cyzeski; William Denny; David Koehn; Bob Harlem.

Privilege of the floor

Caroline Williams & Lachlan Squair, SUNY Oneonta, giving an update on the solar project being installed by the university on West Street. New York State approval has been secured for the campus solar project. The construction on West Street will involve noise and traffic management. The university has sent a letter as a courtesy to residents (193-251 West St.) living near the site location. Contact information provided for addressing public construction concerns; Lachlan Squair, Associate Vice President for Facilities & Planning, (607) 436-3224, (lachlan.squair@oneonta.edu).

Theresa Cyzeski, Destination Oneonta; making a request for fee waivers for a children-friendly summer festival being held at Fortin Park. Event features free activities for children including face painting and bounce houses. Occurring August 15, 2026.

Several residents of the Woodland Water District were present to report persistent water quality issues and brown water. The board informed those present that a task force had been formed to diagnose pipe infrastructure and water chemistry. As well, emergency measures and long-term pipe replacement plans are underway. Recent actions include securing $4.2M in funding, receiving a quote for a temporary flushing fix planned for late August, drafting a Request for Proposals (RFP) for a comprehensive engineering diagnosis, and planning targeted resident outreach/surveys.

Residents expressed concerns about the Cooperstown All Star Village Expansion: regarding traffic impacts, zoning changes, document transparency, and lead agency status for environmental reviews. The board noted that an expert escrow law is being utilized so applicants cover third-party engineering and planning review costs.

Presentations

Oneonta Veterans Outreach Center:

Gary Flaherty, Chief Administrator, announced plans to acquire the Oneonta Armory (now known as the Asa C. Allison Jr. Municipal Building) a historic 1905 National Guard building at 4 Academy Street in Oneonta, NY, that serves as a municipal recreation and community facility. The goal is to create 24 housing units for veterans and families, alongside transitional and supportive housing programs.

Along with this news, Mr. Faherty requested board support for legislation for a property tax exemption targeting 100% total and permanently disabled veterans.

Otsego County Planning & Solid Waste (Bus Shelter):

Nicole Rahn presented a proposal to construct an ADA-accessible bus shelter near Town Hall funded via Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Section 5311 funds. Board members suggested alternative placement away from State Route 23 to improve safety, sightlines, and snowplow clearance.

Committee Reports & Town Business

Grant Submissions: The town submitted nearly $1.6M in New York State Consolidated Funding Applications (CFA) for comprehensive planning updates, solar canopy installations, feasibility studies for an indoor rec facility, and $900K for Greater Plains Park improvements.

Sales Tax Revenue Sharing: Town leadership sent a formal request to the Otsego County Board of Representatives advocating for an updated, equitable sales tax distribution formula.

Highway, Water & Sewer Report
Personnel: Approved the hiring of Tanner Cole for the Highway Department.

East Street Culvert: A galvanized aluminum replacement option was located to expedite repairs.

The Town is looking into speed bumps on Richards Avenue to address safety concerns.

RESOLUTION 2026-0122 (08:47) Motion by PRK, seconded by BDH;

Whereas the Town Board votes to approve new hire of Tanner Cole, MEO; and
Whereas will work in the Highway Department;
Now, therefore be it resolved;
Whereupon the resolution was put to a vote and recorded as follows:

		AYE	NAY
Patricia Riddell Kent	Board Member	__X__	_____
Teresa DeSantis	Board Member	__X__	_____
Joseph M. Camarata	Board Member	__X__	_____
Brett D. Holleran	Board Member	__X__	_____
William Rivera Jr.	Supervisor	__X__	_____

VOTE AYES (5) MOTION CARRIED

RESOLUTION 2026-0123 (09:20) Motion by PRK, seconded by JMC;

Whereas the Town Board votes to introduce an amendment to Town Code Ch. 65-1 regarding professional escrow fees (requiring SWPPP automatic escrows);
Now, therefore be it resolved;
Whereupon the resolution was put to a vote and recorded as follows:

		AYE	NAY
Patricia Riddell Kent	Board Member	__X__	_____
Teresa DeSantis	Board Member	__X__	_____
Joseph M. Camarata	Board Member	__X__	_____
Brett D. Holleran	Board Member	__X__	_____
William Rivera Jr.	Supervisor	__X__	_____

VOTE AYES (5) MOTION CARRIED

RESOLUTION 2026-0124 (09:21) Motion by PRK, seconded by TD;

Whereas the Town Board votes to set public hearing for Sept 19, 2026, at or about 7:05 PM; and
Whereas an amendment to Town Code Ch. 65-1 regarding professional fees (requiring SWPPP automatic escrows);
Now, therefore be it resolved;
Whereupon the resolution was put to a vote and recorded as follows:

		AYE	NAY
Patricia Riddell Kent	Board Member	__X__	_____
Teresa DeSantis	Board Member	__X__	_____
Joseph M. Camarata	Board Member	__X__	_____
Brett D. Holleran	Board Member	__X__	_____
William Rivera Jr.	Supervisor	__X__	_____

VOTE AYES (5) MOTION CARRIED

RESOLUTION 2026-0125 (09:30) Motion by WRJ, seconded by BDH;

Whereas the Town Board votes to refer for comment and recommendation; and
Whereas the Oneonta Town Planning Board will review the Zoning Map Amendment application for the Cooperstown All-Star Village;
Now, therefore be it resolved;
Whereupon the resolution was put to a vote and recorded as follows:

		AYE	NAY
Patricia Riddell Kent	Board Member	__X__	_____
Teresa DeSantis	Board Member	__X__	_____
Joseph M. Camarata	Board Member	__X__	_____
Brett D. Holleran	Board Member	__X__	_____
William Rivera Jr.	Supervisor	__X__	_____

VOTE AYES (5) MOTION CARRIED

RESOLUTION 2026-0126 (09:36) Motion by BDH, seconded by JMC;

Whereas the Town Board votes to approve waiving of Park Fees for Destination Oneonta; and
Whereas the Destination Oneonta organization will hold a "Family Summer Festival", August 14th & 15th;
Now, therefore be it resolved;
Whereupon the resolution was put to a vote and recorded as follows:

		AYE	NAY
Patricia Riddell Kent	Board Member	__X__	_____
Teresa DeSantis	Board Member	__X__	_____

Joseph M. Camarata	Board Member	__X__	_____
Brett D. Holleran	Board Member	__X__	_____
William Rivera Jr.	Supervisor	__X__	_____
VOTE AYES (5)			MOTION CARRIED

RESOLUTION 2026-0128 (09:49) Motion by TD, seconded by JMC;

Whereas the Town Board votes to set a special meeting; and
Whereas the meeting shall be to approve a Woodland Water District RFP; and
Whereas meeting shall occur at 04:50 PM, Monday, August 17th, 2026, at Town Hall; and
Whereas proper public notice will be forthwith;
Now, therefore be it resolved;
Whereupon the resolution was put to a vote and recorded as follows:

		AYE	NAY
Patricia Riddell Kent	Board Member	__X__	_____
Teresa DeSantis	Board Member	__X__	_____
Joseph M. Camarata	Board Member	__X__	_____
Brett D. Holleran	Board Member	__X__	_____
William Rivera Jr.	Supervisor	__X__	_____
VOTE AYES (5)			MOTION CARRIED

RESOLUTION 2026-0129 (09:50) Motion by PRK; seconded by JMC;

Whereas the Town Board votes to accept the minutes of the July 8th meeting;
Now, therefore be it resolved;
Whereupon the resolution was put to a vote and recorded as follows:

		AYE	NAY
Patricia Riddell Kent	Board Member	__X__	_____
Teresa DeSantis	Board Member	__X__	_____
Joseph M. Camarata	Board Member	__X__	_____
Brett D. Holleran	Board Member	__X__	_____
William Rivera Jr.	Supervisor	__X__	_____
VOTE AYES (5)			MOTION CARRIED

RESOLUTION 2026-0130 (09:52) Motion by PRK; seconded by TD;

WHEREAS the Town Board seeks to provide an orderly, transparent and publicly accessible process for the preparation and review of the Town's 2027 annual budget; and

WHEREAS, the proposed 2027 Public Budget Schedule provides for public workshops, presentation and review of the tentative budget, a public hearing on the preliminary budget, and consideration of final adoption before the statutory deadline;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board hereby adopts the Town of Oneonta 2027 Public Budget Schedule attached to this resolution; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the schedule is intended to support the responsibilities assigned by law to the Budget Officer, Town Clerk, Supervisor, Town Board and Town officials and shall not alter their respective statutory authority or duties; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Town Clerk is directed to post the adopted schedule on the Town website and provide all separate meeting and public-hearing notices required by law.
Whereupon the resolution was put to a vote and recorded as follows:

		AYE	NAY
Patricia Riddell Kent	Board Member	__X__	_____
Teresa DeSantis	Board Member	__X__	_____
Joseph M. Camarata	Board Member	__X__	_____
Brett D. Holleran	Board Member	__X__	_____
William Rivera Jr.	Supervisor	__X__	_____

VOTE AYES (5) MOTION CARRIED

TOWN OF ONEONTA
2027 PUBLIC BUDGET SCHEDULE
August 12, 2026
The Town Board will announce the start of the 2027 budget process and adopt the public budget calendar.
September 16, 2026
The Town Board will hold its first public budget workshop to review the Town's financial condition, current-year projections, service needs, preliminary revenue assumptions, reserves, capital needs and major budget priorities.
September 30, 2026
The Budget Officer will file the tentative budget with the Town Clerk in accordance with Town Law.
October 5, 2026
The tentative budget will be formally presented to the Town Board at a special meeting and made available to the public.
October 8, 2026
The Town Board will hold a second public budget workshop for detailed review of the tentative budget.
October 14, 2026
The Town Board will complete its review of proposed changes and establish the preliminary budget for public hearing.
October 29, 2026
The Town Board will hold the official public hearing on the preliminary budget. Members of the public may comment on the proposed budget or any item contained within it.
November 12, 2026
At a special Town Board meeting, the Board will consider final revisions and adoption of the 2027 Town budget.
The 2027 Town budget must be adopted no later than November 20, 2026.
Budget documents, meeting notices, agendas and information on submitting written comments will be posted on the Town website as they become available.

RESOLUTION 2026-0131 (09:53) Motion by WRJ; seconded by BDH;

Whereas the Town Board votes to approve annual training request for Town Tax Assessor;
Now, therefore be it resolved;
Whereupon the resolution was put to a vote and recorded as follows:

		AYE	NAY
Patricia Riddell Kent	Board Member	__X__	_____
Teresa DeSantis	Board Member	__X__	_____
Joseph M. Camarata	Board Member	__X__	_____
Brett D. Holleran	Board Member	__X__	_____
William Rivera Jr.	Supervisor	__X__	_____

VOTE AYES (5) MOTION CARRIED

RESOLUTION 2026-0132 (09:53) Motion by WRJ; seconded by BDH;

Whereas the Town Board votes to approve payment of the bills and budget modifications, for total of $1,057,022.36; and

Whereas in accordance with the abstract affixed to the end of this document;
Now, therefore be it resolved;
Whereupon the resolution was put to a vote and recorded as follows:

		AYE	NAY
Patricia Riddell Kent	Board Member	__X__	_____
Teresa DeSantis	Board Member	__X__	_____
Joseph M. Camarata	Board Member	__X__	_____
Brett D. Holleran	Board Member	__X__	_____
William Rivera Jr.	Supervisor	__X__	_____

VOTE AYES (5) MOTION CARRIED

RESOLUTION 2026-0133 (09:59) Motion by BDH; seconded by JMC;

Whereas the Town Board votes to enter Executive Session to discuss personnel matters;
Now, therefore be it resolved;
Whereupon the resolution was put to a vote and recorded as follows:

		AYE	NAY
Patricia Riddell Kent	Board Member	__X__	_____
Teresa DeSantis	Board Member	__X__	_____
Joseph M. Camarata	Board Member	__X__	_____
Brett D. Holleran	Board Member	__X__	_____
William Rivera Jr.	Supervisor	__X__	_____

VOTE AYES (5) MOTION CARRIED

RESOLUTION 2026-0134 (10:26) Motion by BDH; seconded by PRK;

Whereas the Town Board votes to exit Executive Session to discuss personnel matters;
Now, therefore be it resolved;
Whereupon the resolution was put to a vote and recorded as follows:

		AYE	NAY
Patricia Riddell Kent	Board Member	__X__	_____
Teresa DeSantis	Board Member	__X__	_____
Joseph M. Camarata	Board Member	__X__	_____
Brett D. Holleran	Board Member	__X__	_____
William Rivera Jr.	Supervisor	__X__	_____

VOTE AYES (5) MOTION CARRIED

RESOLUTION 2026-0135 (10:33) Motion by TD; seconded by PRK;

Whereas the Town Board votes to adjourn;
Now, therefore be it resolved;
Whereupon the resolution was put to a vote and recorded as follows:

		AYE	NAY
Patricia Riddell Kent	Board Member	__X__	_____
Teresa DeSantis	Board Member	__X__	_____
Joseph M. Camarata	Board Member	__X__	_____
Brett D. Holleran	Board Member	__X__	_____
William Rivera Jr.	Supervisor	__X__	_____

VOTE AYES (5) MOTION CARRIED

Respectfully submitted,

Ryan F. Pereira

Town Clerk

Abstract #	8	Dates 7/10/26-8/12/26									
		Friday - Wednesday									
General Checking								Cash Needed			
Fund		**PrePaid**	**To Be Paid**	**Total PrePaid/To Be Paid**		**Payroll**	**Unpaid/Bills Payroll**		**Current Balance**	**Transfer Amount**	
General	**1**	$ -	$ 43,190.14	$ 43,190.14			$ 43,190.14	1		$ 43,190.14	
Highway	**3**	$ -	$ 147,067.70	$ 147,067.70			$ 147,067.70	3		$ 147,067.70	
St Lights #1	**7**	$ -	$ 2,394.60	$ 2,394.60			$ 2,394.60	7		$ 2,394.60	
St Lights #2	**14**	$ -	$ 257.83	$ 257.83			$ 257.83	14		$ 257.83	
St Lights #3	**15**	$ -	$ 883.84	$ 883.84			$ 883.84	15		$ 883.84	
St Lights #4	**16**	$ -	$ 52.25	$ 52.25			$ 52.25	16		$ 52.25	
St Lights #5	**17**	$ -	$ 251.91	$ 251.91			$ 251.91	17		$ 251.91	
Butler Creek-Blanchard Capital	**28**	$ -	$ -	$ -			$ -	28		$ -	
Butler Creek-Winney Hill Capital	**29**	$ -	$ 10,772.49	$ 10,772.49			$ 10,772.49	29		$ 10,772.49	
Fire Protection	**25**	$ -	$ 493,666.67	$ 493,666.67			$ 493,666.67	25		$ 493,666.67	
Subtotal		$ -	$ 698,537.43	$ 698,537.43							
District Checking							Cash Needed				
WESD	**8**	$ -	$ 120,000.89	$ 120,000.89			$ 120,000.89	8		$ 120,000.89	
WSSD	**9**	$ -	$ 4,215.50	$ 4,215.50			$ 4,215.50	9		$ 4,215.50	
SSD	**10**	$ -	$ 141,327.96	$ 141,327.96			$ 141,327.96	10		$ 141,327.96	
WWD	**11**	$ -	$ 21,533.05	$ 21,533.05			$ 21,533.05	11		$ 21,533.05	
PWD	**12**	$ -	$ 20,314.75	$ 20,314.75			$ 20,314.75	12		$ 20,314.75	
SSWD	**21**	$ -	$ 50,926.51	$ 50,926.51			$ 50,926.51	21		$ 50,926.51	
District Subtotal		$ -	$ 358,318.66	$ 358,318.66							
Trust and Agency Checking							**Cash Needed**				
T & A	**99**	$ 67.24	$ 166.27	$ 233.51			$ 166.27	99		$ 166.27	
		$ 67.24	$ 166.27	$ 233.51							
CDBG											
CDBG Grants	**26**	$ -	$ -	$ -							
		$ -	$ -	$ -							
Totals		$ 67.24	$ 1,057,022.36	$ 1,057,089.60							

Clerk: Approved Expenses / Voucher # 2026-416 to 2026 485

General	$	43,190.14
Highway	$	147,067.70
St Lighting	$	3,840.43
Blanchard Ave-Butler Crk	$	-
Butler Creek-Winney Hill Capital	$	10,772.49
Fire Protection	$	493,666.67
WESD	$	120,000.89
WSSD	$	4,215.50
SSD	$	141,327.96
WWD	$	21,533.05
PWD	$	20,314.75
SSWD	$	50,926.51
T&A	$	233.51
CDBG	$	-
	$	1,057,089.60
	$	1,057,089.60
	$	-

I have reviewed/audited the PrePaid Invoices.

I have reviewed/audited and approve for payment the invoices to be paid

Town Supervisor — Date

Town Board Member — Date

Town Board Member — Date

Abstract # 8

General (1)		Highway (3)		St Lights #1 (7)		St Lights #2(14)		St Lights #3(15)		St Lights #4(16)		St Lights #5(17)		Butler Creek-Blanchard (28)		Butler Creek-Winney Hill (29)		WESD (8)		WSSD (9)		SSD (10)		WWD (11)		PWD (12)		SSWD (21)		Fire Protection(25)		Trust and Agency (99)		CDBG(26)	
Voucher	Amount	Voucher	Amount	Voucher	Amount	Voucher	Amount	Voucher	Amount	Voucher	Amount	Voucher	Amount	Voucher	Amount	Voucher	Amount	Voucher	Amount	Voucher	Amount	Voucher	Amount	Voucher	Amount	Voucher	Amount	Voucher	Amount	Voucher	Amount	Voucher	Amount
417	$ 2,569.89	428	$ 39.94	417	$ 2,394.60	417	$ 257.83	417	$ 883.84	417	$ 52.25	417	$ 251.91			465.00	$ 10,772.49	418	$ 479.35	418	$ 478.71	418	$ 982.61	418	$ 575.94	421	$ 15.15	418	$ 859.91	471	$ 493,666.67				
419	$ 23.61	429	$ 10,044.12															424	$ 95.92	430	$ 167.40	430	$ 1,513.15	421	$ 15.15	430	$ 167.40	421	$ 272.70						
420	$ 25.11	431	$ 40,034.01															430	$ 1,339.21	440	$ 6.66	437	$ 16,288.80	426	$ 86.70	440	$ 6.66	426	$ 346.80						
422	$ 4,650.00	432	$ 529.99															440	$ 53.30	467	$ 0.71	438	$ 645.27	427	$ 663.00	467	$ 0.71	430	$ 167.40			483	$ 166.27		
423	$ 371.71	433	$ 150.00															467	$ 5.67	468	$ 15.69	439	$ 448.06	430	$ 167.40	468	$ 15.69	437	$ 16,288.80						
425	$ 796.08	434	$ 269.49															468	$ 125.54	469	$ 175.30	440	$ 53.30	437	$ 8,144.40	469	$ 175.30	438	$ 645.27						
429	$ 8,261.40	435	$ 3,762.27															469	$ 1,402.40	473	$ 3,326.95	467	$ 6.84	438	$ 322.64	470	$ 16,562.81	439	$ 448.06						
436	$ 478.99	442	$ 11.37															473	$ 116,443.27	485	$ 44.08	468	$ 125.54	439	$ 224.02	473	$ 3,326.95	440	$ 6.67						
441	$ 930.00	443	$ 285.25															485	$ 56.23			469	$ 1,402.40	440	$ 6.66	485	$ 44.08	445	$ 8,183.20						
454	$ 1,787.88	444	$ 728.36																			473	$ 119,770.20	445	$ 2,045.80			455	$ 230.82						
456	$ 288.53	446	$ 1,380.00																			485	$ 91.79	447	$ 382.50			463	$ 15.98						
457	$ 163.69	449	$ 34.51																					448	$ 316.20			467	$ 0.71						
458	$ 399.11	450	$ 3,174.79																					455	$ 57.71			468	$ 15.69						
459	$ 245.62	452	$ 16.50																					463	$ 4.00			469	$ 175.30						
460	$ 242.31	453	$ 2,332.38																					467	$ 0.71			473	$ 3,326.95						
461	$ 170.71	462	$ 239.38																					468	$ 15.69			477	$ 50.00						
462	$ 425.30	466	$ 27.75																					469	$ 175.30			478	$ 19,124.66						
464	$ 1,964.55	472	$ 83,173.73																					473	$ 3,326.95			482	$ 692.00						
466	$ 59.20	484	$ 131.94																					478	$ 4,781.16			485	$ 75.59						
474	$ 710.00	451	$ 701.92																					482	$ 173.00										
475	$ 200.00																							485	$ 48.12										
476	$ 5.00																																		
479	$ 769.41																																		
481	$ 1,246.13																																		
484	$ 3,439.91																																		
480	$ 12,966.00																																		
	$ 43,190.14		$ 147,067.70		$ 2,394.60		$ 257.83		$ 883.84		$ 52.25		$ 251.91		$ -		$ 10,772.49		$ 120,000.89		$ 4,215.50		$ 141,327.96		$ 21,533.05		$ 20,314.75		$ 50,926.51		$ 493,666.67		$ 166.27		$ -

St Light 1(4)	$ 2,394.60
St Light 2(14)	$ 257.83
St Light 3(15)	$ 883.84
St Light 4(16)	$ 52.25
St Light 5(17)	$ 251.91
	$ 3,840.43

Abstract # 8

General (1)		Highway (3)		St Lights #1 (7)		St Lights #2(14)		St Lights #3(15)		St Lights #4(16)		St Lights #5(17)		Butler Creek-Blanchard (28)		Butler Creek-Winney Hill (29)		WESD (8)		WSSD (9)		SSD (10)		WWD (11)		PWD (12)		SSWD (21)		Fire Protection (25)		Trust and Agency (99)		CDBG (26)	
Voucher	Amount	Voucher	Amount	Voucher	Amount	Voucher	Amount	Voucher	Amount	Voucher	Amount	Voucher	Amount	Voucher	Amount	Voucher	Amount	Voucher	Amount	Voucher	Amount	Voucher	Amount	Voucher	Amount	Voucher	Amount	Voucher	Amount	Voucher	Amount	Voucher	Amount
																														415	$ 7.24		
																														416	$ 60.00		
	$ -		$ -		$ -		$ -		$ -		$ -		$ -		$ -		$ -		$ -		$ -		$ -		$ -		$ -		$ -		$ 67.24		$ -

St Light 1(7)	$ -
St Light 2(14)	$ -
St Light 3(15)	$ -
St Light 4(16)	$ -
St Light 5(17)	$ -
	$ -