



**Town of Oneonta
TOWN BOARD
Regular Town Board Meeting
January 14, 2026
07:05PM**

CALL TO ORDER ~ ROLL CALL ~ PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The regular meeting of the Oneonta Town Board was held on January 14, 2026, with the following members present:

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

Others present: Ryan F. Pereira, Town Clerk; Steve Kent; Rich Harlem; Greg Harlem; Ryan Harlem; Patricia Jacob, Eamon Hinchey.

Supervisors Report:

Compliments to Highway Dept., town staff and fellow board members for help in this transition period.

An opportunity to welcome Congressman Josh Riley to the town; where he announced federal funding that is available for our community, which provides rollover, safe bars for farm equipment at either free or very low discounted rates.

Our capital project for Blanchard, over Butler, which is our bridge repair project through New York State.

Dept. of Highways currently has \$925,283.54 remaining. Winnie Hill over Butler, New York State DOT bridge project that has \$1,340,000.79; and pool project currently has a balance of \$264,835.80.

Presentation: Oneonta Outreach Veteran's Resource Center – Cmdr. Seargent Major Gary and Kerrie

1. Rehousing Veteran's
2. Possible tax provision for Wholly Exempt for Veteran's (100% Disabled)

Privilege of the floor:

Mike Mitchell from Otego, voiced concerns about the Eco-Yotta project.

Chloe Diamond Leto, faculty at SUNY Oneonta, voiced concerns about Eco-Yotta project, has not heard anything about MOU, internships or partnerships.

Patricia Jacob, voiced concerns about Eco-Yotta project; listing initial application for IDD, website, lack of information.

Committee Reports:

HWS

- Member Riddell Kent makes request to MOVE MAIL BOX POLICY TO FEBRUARY MEETING

RESOLUTION 2026-0025 (07:43)

Motion by PRK, seconded by BH;

Whereas the Town Board votes to accept bid for tree cutting; and
Whereas the job will be awarded to La Fever at a cost of \$5400.
Whereupon the resolution was put to a vote and recorded as follows:

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

MOTION CARRIED

RESOLUTION 2026-0026 (07:46)

Motion by JMC, seconded by BH;

Whereas the Town Board votes to approve expenditure of up to \$3000; and
Whereas the replacement of the Highway Garage Geo Thermal Pump; and
Whereas the Town Board votes to approve expenditure of up to \$1150; and
Whereas the replacement of a street light fixture on Schoolhouse Lane; and
Whereupon the resolution was put to a vote and recorded as follows:

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

MOTION CARRIED

RESOLUTION 2026-0027 (07:57)

Motion by PRK, seconded by TD;

Whereas the Town Board votes to authorize the Supervisor William Rivera Jr.; and
Whereas to enter into and sign the ESD grant agreements with New York State;
Whereupon the resolution was put to a vote and recorded as follows:

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

MOTION CARRIED

RESOLUTION 2026-0028 (08:20)

Motion by PRK, seconded by TD;

Whereas the Town Board votes to approve the formation of a Task Force;
Whereupon the resolution was put to a vote and recorded as follows:

		AYE	NAY
Joseph M. Camarata	Board Member	<u> </u>	<u> X </u>
Brett D. Holleran	Board Member	<u> </u>	<u> X </u>
Patricia Riddell Kent	Board Member	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>
Teresa DeSantis	Board Member	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>
William Rivera Jr.	Supervisor	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>
VOTE	AYES (3) NAYS (2) (JMC, BDH)		

MOTION CARRIED



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From the Supervisor:

The Advisory Task Force would serve in an advisory capacity only, at the pleasure of the Town Board, and would be charged with completing the following work:

- Review existing Town Code related to short-term rentals and assess the Town's regulatory authority
- Consult with Town departments responsible for enforcement and administration, including Code Enforcement, the Assessor, and the Town Attorney, as appropriate
- Engage relevant external agencies, including County Planning and the New York State Department of State
- Review how short-term rentals are regulated in other New York municipalities
- Provide multiple, accessible opportunities for public input beyond a single survey
- Identify gaps, challenges, and enforcement considerations
- Develop and deliver written recommendations that are practical, enforceable, and responsive to community input

The Task Force would deliver its recommendations to the Town Board within nine months of its first meeting.

RESOLUTION 2026-0029 (08:24)

Motion by PRK, seconded by TD;

Whereas the Town Board votes to approve appointment of members for Short-Term Rental Advisory Task Force;
Whereas Member Patricia Riddell Kent to Chair; Member Teresa DeSantis; Reggie McGuiness, Planning Board Chair;
Jenny Koehn; Planning Board Member;
Whereupon the resolution was put to a vote and recorded as follows:

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

VOTE AYES (3) NAYS (2) (JMC, BDH)

MOTION CARRIED

From the Supervisor:

Membership

The Task Force would consist of nine members, all of whom shall serve at the pleasure of the Town Board and be appointed by the Town Supervisor:

- Two Town Board members
- Two Planning Board members
- Five Town residents without a direct financial or professional conflict of interest related to short-term rentals

- *Up to two additional residents and/or relevant experts who own, manage, or have professional experience in the short-term rental industry*

All resident and expert members shall:

- *Represent a range of lived experiences and perspectives within the community*
- *Complete a conflict-of-interest disclosure prior to appointment*
- *Disclose any potential conflicts that arise during their service*

Preference will be given to residents who have not previously served in a Town-appointed capacity

TIMELINE

- *The Task Force would be time-limited to one year*
- *Meetings would be public, with minutes recorded*
- *The Town Supervisor would appoint the Chair and all members*

RESOLUTION 2026-0030 (08:25)

Motion by PRK, seconded by TD;

Whereas the Town Board votes approve all board members to attend training;

Whereas conference will be held in Cooperstown, NY;

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

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

VOTE AYES (5)

MOTION CARRIED

RESOLUTION 2026-0031 (08:57)

Motion by PRK; seconded by TD;

Whereas the Town Board votes to designate Coughlin & Gerhart, LLP;

Whereas Attorney for the Town shall provide services to the town encompassing but not limited to codes, planning, zoning;

Whereas scope of practice will serve all boards save in areas of litigation;

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

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

VOTE AYES (5)

MOTION CARRIED



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RESOLUTION 2026-0032 (09:14)

Motion by PRK; seconded by BH;

Whereas the Town Board votes accept the minutes of the November, December;
Whereupon the resolution was put to a vote and recorded as follows:

		AYE	NAY
Joseph M. Camarata	Board Member	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>
Brett D. Holleran	Board Member	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>
Patricia Riddell Kent	Board Member	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>
Teresa DeSantis	Board Member	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
William Rivera Jr.	Supervisor	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
VOTE	AYES (3) ABST (2) (TD, WRJ)		

MOTION CARRIED

RESOLUTION 2026-0033 (09:16)

Motion by TD; seconded by JMC;

Whereas the Town Board votes to authorize the payment of bills;
VOUCHER AMOUNTS ABSTRACT #1 (attached)
Whereupon the resolution was put to a vote and recorded as follows:

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

MOTION CARRIED

RESOLUTION 2026-0034 (09:17)

Motion by JMC; seconded by BH;

Whereas the Town Board votes to adjourn;
Whereupon the resolution was put to a vote and recorded as follows:

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

Abstract #	1	Dates 12/19/25-1/14/26				
		Friday - Wednesday				
General Checking						
			2025	2026		
Fund		PrePaid	To Be Paid	To Be Paid	Total PrePaid/To Be Paid	
General	1	\$ -	\$ 74,759.38	\$ 92,486.79	\$ 167,246.17	
Highway	3	\$ -	\$ 21,035.46	\$ 90,935.66	\$ 111,971.12	
St Lights #1	7	\$ -	\$ 2,708.76	\$ -	\$ 2,708.76	
St Lights #2	14	\$ -	\$ 282.51	\$ -	\$ 282.51	
St Lights #3	15	\$ -	\$ 943.03	\$ -	\$ 943.03	
St Lights #4	16	\$ -	\$ 56.59	\$ -	\$ 56.59	
St Lights #5	17	\$ -	\$ 266.83	\$ -	\$ 266.83	
Butler Creek-Blanchard Capital	28	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
Butler Creek-Winney Hill Capital	29	\$ -	\$ 18,762.39	\$ -	\$ 18,762.39	
Fire Protection	25	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
Subtotal		\$ -	\$ 118,814.95	\$ 183,422.45	\$ 302,237.40	
District Checking						
WESD	8	\$ -	\$ 1,328.15	\$ 7,672.13	\$ 9,000.28	
WSSD	9	\$ -	\$ 533.60	\$ 2,595.39	\$ 3,128.99	
SSD	10	\$ -	\$ 2,172.25	\$ 9,643.54	\$ 11,815.79	
WWD	11	\$ -	\$ 1,035.93	\$ 5,064.02	\$ 6,099.95	
PWD	12	\$ -	\$ 20,429.13	\$ 1,576.64	\$ 22,005.77	
SSWD	21	\$ -	\$ 19,282.94	\$ 8,317.57	\$ 27,600.51	
District Subtotal		\$ -	\$ 44,782.00	\$ 34,869.29	\$ 79,651.29	
Trust and Agency Checking						
T & A	99	\$ -	\$ 127.90		\$ 127.90	
		\$ -	\$ 127.90	\$ -	\$ 127.90	
CDBG						
CDBG Grants	26	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
		\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
Totals		\$ -	\$ 163,724.85	\$ 218,291.74	\$ 382,016.59	
Clerk:			Approved Expenses / Voucher #	2025-741 to 2025-791/2026-6 to 2026-38		
		General	\$ 167,246.17			
		Highway	\$ 111,971.12			
		St Lighting	\$ 4,257.72			
		Butler Creek-Blanchard Capital	\$ -			
		Butler Creek-Winney Hill Capital	\$ 18,762.39			
		Fire Protection	\$ -			
		WESD	\$ 9,000.28			
		WSSD	\$ 3,128.99			
		SSD	\$ 11,815.79			
		WWD	\$ 6,099.95			
		PWD	\$ 22,005.77			
		SSWD	\$ 27,600.51			
		T&A	\$ 127.90			
		CDBG	\$ -			
			\$ 382,016.59			
			\$ 382,016.59			
			\$ -			
		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	