Town of Oneonta
TOWN BOARD
Regular Meeting
May 14, 2025
07:00PM

The regular meeting of the Oneonta Town Board was held on May 14, 2025, with the following members present:

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

Others present: Ryan F. Pereira, Town Clerk; E. Hyde Clarke, Esq.; Ronald & Janice Bettiol; Hunter Grace, Mgr. CASV; Michael Ianelli; Todd Scanlon; Prashanth and Tirusha; Eileen Lishansky; Jamie & John Parks; Russell & Elise Fetterman; Bonnie & Gino Molinari; Angela Jacobs; Will Rivera; Dale Webster; David Koehn; Theresa Cyzeski; Alberto Cardelle, SUNY Oneonta President; Caroline Williams, SUNY Oneonta Director of Community and Government Relations; James A. Hurtubise.

"Privilege of the floor"

- Eileen Lishansky, West Oneonta resident, raised concerns about unlicensed dogs in her neighborhood, an unresponsive dog control officer, and excessive dog barking. The board agreed to look into the matter.

- Caroline Willims, SUNY Oneonta, highlighted Local Government training available through the NYS Dept. of State.

- Arley Lau, asked if the board had any new information concerning short term rental (STR) legislation which the board had considered in the past. Member Holleran spoke of the work towards new forms for STRs; as well as, having attended meetings with other municipalities regarding the topic, and finding that our town was still ahead of many other municipalities regarding regulation of STRs.

  Fierke stated the board will be forming a committee composed of town residents, town and planning board members focused on the code and how it affects the community at large. Fierke made clear that all aspects are to be considered; from those seeking use of STRs as income properties, those wanting to preserve the integrity of their neighborhoods, and concerns about the existence of long-term family housing stock in the town.

  Hollern cited that New York State, as of Dec. 2024; had implemented a mandate for the collection of sales tax from STRs, and thus the creation of a registry at the county level, potentially changing STRs classification and how they operate and handled within the town code. Little real guidance has been given by the state as how to implement some of the required changes, Holleran states, as talks are underway with the county and research is ongoing.

- Eugene Molinari, Woodland Water District resident; remarked on the prolonged periods of discolored water requiring continuous flushing, and if the board had considered an adjustment to the water bills. Board members agreed to look into the financials of the district and see if some relief is possible, as districts must remain financially sound as to avoid potential increases in the future. Holleran expressed that the board is very sympathetic to the plight of the residents in the water district and are doing everything within their power to solve the issue, as 4.2 million in grant funding has been secured to start the process of replacement of the aged infrastructure.

Alberto J.F. Cardelle, SUNY President presented the board with the SUNY Oneonta Annual Update
- Discussed enrollment trends and diversification efforts made by the University.
- Workforce development programs and initiatives to increase graduate enrollment were highlighted.
- SUNY Oneonta expressed a commitment to collaboration with municipalities to benefit the community.
- Discussed SUNY Oneonta's Extended and Community Learning Center (ExCL Center) located in downtown Oneonta on Dietz Street.

The board had two new zoning amendment applicants each making presentations before the board:

1. 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.
2. Jamie & John Parks with Hillside Rentals, LLC;

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Seeking a zone change for parcel#301.07-2-61.00, 157 County Highway 47, from RA40 to PDD.

In both cases the board has asked for more documentation to be presented before a decision to set a public hearing is made.

RESOLUTION 2025-0065 (08:35) Motion by JCM, seconded by KF;

Whereas the Town Board votes to open 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
Joseph M. Camarata	Board Member	__X__	____
Patricia Riddell Kent	Board Member	__X__	____
Kim Fierke	Board Member	__X__	____
Brett D. Holleran	Interim Supervisor	__X__	____

The foregoing resolution was thereupon declared duly adopted.
VOTE AYES (4) AIF MOTION CARRIED

The public hearing will remain open for public comment until the next June 11th meeting, pending a vote the board has also requested a sketch plan be presented for review.

RESOLUTION 2025-0066 (08:45) Motion by PRK, seconded by JMC;
Whereas the Town Board votes to approve bid for pool house electrical work;
Whereas the winning bid goes to Dennis Muthig with $25,900;
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:

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		AYE	NAY
Joseph M. Camarata	Board Member	__X__	____
Patricia Riddell Kent	Board Member	__X__	____
Kim Fierke	Board Member	__X__	____
Brett D. Holleran	Interim Supervisor	__X__	____

The foregoing resolution was thereupon declared duly adopted.
VOTE AYES (4) AIF MOTION CARRIED

RESOLUTION 2025-0067 (08:46) Motion by PRK, seconded by BH;

Whereas the Town Board votes to approve bid for pool house roof work;
Whereas the winning bid goes to Twin Mountain Top with $15,000;
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
Joseph M. Camarata	Board Member	__X__	____
Patricia Riddell Kent	Board Member	__X__	____
Kim Fierke	Board Member	__X__	____
Brett D. Holleran	Interim Supervisor	__X__	____

The foregoing resolution was thereupon declared duly adopted.
VOTE AYES (4) AIF MOTION CARRIED

RESOLUTION 2025-0068 (08:52) Motion by PRK, seconded by JCM;

Whereas the Town Board votes to set a public hearing for June 11th at or about 7:15pm;
Whereas pertaining to the proposed formation of the Town of Oneonta West End Water District;

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
Joseph M. Camarata	Board Member	__X__	____
Patricia Riddell Kent	Board Member	__X__	____
Kim Fierke	Board Member	__X__	____
Brett D. Holleran	Interim Supervisor	__X__	____

The foregoing resolution was thereupon declared duly adopted.
VOTE AYES (4) AIF MOTION CARRIED

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.

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NOW, THEREFORE, on motion made by Council Member Patricia Riddell Kent, and seconded by Council Member Jospeh 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.

*Complete Legal Boundary Description available at the Town Clerk's office.

RESOLUTION 2025-0069 (09:07) Motion by PRK, seconded by KF;

Whereas the Town Board votes to appoint Pamela Dyn-Ghode to the position of Tax Assessor;
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
Joseph M. Camarata	Board Member	__X__	____
Patricia Riddell Kent	Board Member	__X__	____
Kim Fierke	Board Member	__X__	____
Brett D. Holleran	Interim Supervisor	__X__	____

The foregoing resolution was thereupon declared duly adopted.
VOTE AYES (4) AIF MOTION CARRIED

RESOLUTION 2025-0070 (09:09) Motion by PRK, seconded by BH;

Whereas the Town Board votes to approve the hire of Timothy Tally, Machine 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
Joseph M. Camarata	Board Member	__X__	____
Patricia Riddell Kent	Board Member	__X__	____
Kim Fierke	Board Member	__X__	____
Brett D. Holleran	Interim Supervisor	__X__	____

The foregoing resolution was thereupon declared duly adopted.
VOTE AYES (4) AIF MOTION CARRIED

RESOLUTION 2025-0071 (09:10) Motion by JCM, seconded by BH;

Whereas the Town Board votes to approve the Town Vehicle Policy update;
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
Joseph M. Camarata	Board Member	__X__	____
Patricia Riddell Kent	Board Member	__X__	____
Kim Fierke	Board Member	__X__	____
Brett D. Holleran	Interim Supervisor	__X__	____

The foregoing resolution was thereupon declared duly adopted.
VOTE AYES (4) AIF MOTION CARRIED

RESOLUTION 2025-0072 (09:29) Motion by JCM, seconded by KF;

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Whereas the Town Board votes to approve the purchase of a truck for Water & Sewer Department use;
Whereas the purchase was made from Country Club Motors for the amount of $59,900, deemed 'best value';
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
Joseph M. Camarata	Board Member	__X__	____
Patricia Riddell Kent	Board Member	__X__	____
Kim Fierke	Board Member	__X__	____
Brett D. Holleran	Interim Supervisor	__X__	____

The foregoing resolution was thereupon declared duly adopted.
VOTE AYES (4) AIF MOTION CARRIED

RESOLUTION 2025-0073 (09:31) Motion by KF, seconded by JMC;

Whereas the Town Board votes to accept 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
Joseph M. Camarata	Board Member	__X__	____
Patricia Riddell Kent	Board Member	__X__	____
Kim Fierke	Board Member	__X__	____
Brett D. Holleran	Interim Supervisor	__X__	____

The foregoing resolution was thereupon declared duly adopted.
VOTE AYES (4) AIF MOTION CARRIED

RESOLUTION 2025-0074 (09:41) Motion by JMC, seconded by BH;

Whereas the Town Board votes to enter into executive session to discuss personnel matters;
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
Joseph M. Camarata	Board Member	__X__	____
Patricia Riddell Kent	Board Member	__X__	____
Kim Fierke	Board Member	__X__	____
Brett D. Holleran	Interim Supervisor	__X__	____

The foregoing resolution was thereupon declared duly adopted.
VOTE AYES (4) AIF MOTION CARRIED

RESOLUTION 2025-0075 (10:15) Motion by BH, seconded by KF;

Whereas the Town Board votes to exit executive session;
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
Joseph M. Camarata	Board Member	__X__	____
Patricia Riddell Kent	Board Member	__X__	____
Kim Fierke	Board Member	__X__	____
Brett D. Holleran	Interim Supervisor	__X__	____

The foregoing resolution was thereupon declared duly adopted.
VOTE AYES (4) AIF MOTION CARRIED

RESOLUTION 2025-0076 (10:16) Motion by JCM, seconded by KF;

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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
Joseph M. Camarata	Board Member	__X__	____
Patricia Riddell Kent	Board Member	__X__	____
Kim Fierke	Board Member	__X__	____
Brett D. Holleran	Interim Supervisor	__X__	____

The foregoing resolution was thereupon declared duly adopted.
VOTE AYES (4) AIF MOTION CARRIED

Respectfully submitted,

Ryan F. Pereira
Oneonta Town Clerk

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Abstract #	**5**	Dates 4/11/25-5/14/25		
		Friday - Wednesday		
General Checking				
Fund		**PrePaid**	**To Be Paid**	**Total PrePaid/To Be Paid**
General	**1**	$ 7,838.54	$ 62,315.74	$ 70,154.28
Highway	**3**	$ 56.95	$ 41,361.55	$ 41,418.50
St Lights #1	**7**	$ -	$ 2,742.99	$ 2,742.99
St Lights #2	**14**	$ -	$ 273.41	$ 273.41
St Lights #3	**15**	$ -	$ 887.05	$ 887.05
St Lights #4	**16**	$ -	$ 53.76	$ 53.76
St Lights #5	**17**	$ -	$ 243.73	$ 243.73
Butler Creek-Blanchard Capital	**28**	$ -	$ 8,259.08	$ 8,259.08
Fire Protection	**25**	$ -	$ 477,000.00	$ 477,000.00
Subtotal		$ 7,895.49	$ 593,137.31	$ 601,032.80
District Checking				
WESD	**8**	$ 113.00	$ 3,062.34	$ 3,175.34
WSSD	**9**	$ 113.01	$ 1,062.20	$ 1,175.21
SSD	**10**	$ 113.01	$ 3,048.03	$ 3,161.04
WWD	**11**	$ 104.87	$ 44,342.02	$ 44,446.89
PWD	**12**	$ 59.85	$ 23,349.67	$ 23,409.52
SSWD	**23**	$ 45.02	$ 5,767.49	$ 5,812.51
District Subtotal		$ 548.76	$ 80,631.75	$ 81,180.51
Trust and Agency Checking				
T & A	**99**	$ 1,057.24	$ 400.54	$ 1,457.78
		$ 1,057.24	$ 400.54	$ 1,457.78
CDBG				
CDBG Grants	**26**	$ -	$ -	$ -
		$ -	$ -	$ -
Totals		$ 9,501.49	$ 674,169.60	$ 683,671.09
Clerk:		Approved Expenses / Voucher #		2025-189 to 2025-270
		General	$ 70,154.28	
		Highway	$ 41,418.50	
		St Lighting	$ 4,200.94	
		Blanchard Ave-Butler Crk	$ 8,259.08	
		Fire Protection	$ 477,000.00	
		WESD	$ 3,175.34	
		WSSD	$ 1,175.21	
		SSD	$ 3,161.04	
		WWD	$ 44,446.89	
		PWD	$ 23,409.52	
		SSWD	$ 5,812.51	
		T&A	$ 1,457.78	
		CDBG	$ -	
			$ 683,671.09	

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