

Town of Blenheim Town Board Meeting Minutes

The following are the town board meeting minutes for the Town Board meeting, which was held on October 1, 2025, at Blenheim Town Hall. Meeting commenced at 6:30 pm with the Pledge of Allegiance.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Supervisor Don Airey

Council Member Renee Grabowski

Council Member Chester Keyser /Absent

Council Member Carolee Russell

Highway Superintendent Andy Graves

Council Member Anne Mattice-Strauch

Motion was made to approve September Meeting Minutes by Council Member Carolee Russell; 2nd by Council Member Renee Grabowski; so moved.

SUPERVISOR'S REPORT: Don Airey

- Public Hearing on the Town 2026 Budget now open. **Motion** made by Council Member Renee Grabowski; 2nd by Council Member Carolee Russell; so moved.
- **Motion** made for **Resolution #28** appointment of Town Assessor made by Supervisor Don Airey; 2nd by Council Member Carolee Russell; so moved.
- Public Hearing Meetings for Public Service Commission have been scheduled throughout the state. This is regarding electricity rate increases of 35% for delivery and infrastructure surcharges to support Renewable Energy Projects.
- Received a \$15,721.45 check for sales tax 2nd quarter from the county.
- Cole Hollow Streambank Stabilization project request was granted a 30-day Emergency Permit from DEC today. Thanks to Pete Nichlos for his assistance in this process. Looking forward to completing this project in October.
- **Motion** was made by Council Member Carolee Russell; 2nd by Council Member Renee Grabowski; so moved, to accept the MEVAC contract of \$8,000 for the 2026 year.
- Thank you, by Supervisor Airey, Council Member Renee Grabowski and Town Clerk Diane Ericson, for attending County IT Department training regarding the new county website on Sept 16th and 30th.
- Painting of the BBC and the ramp to the schoolhouse has been completed. The shrubs have also been removed at the schoolhouse. Received many good responses on how great it looks. Thank You to Lenny's Painting, Middleburgh, who did an outstanding job.
- Board of Supervisor has taken on Senior Council Transportation issues. DOT permit has been awarded for out-of-county transportation. County is now looking to put out bids for a contract for the Seniors' transportation needs. County may decide to keep work in-house.
- Supervisor Airey and Council Member Grabowski attended Public Hearing from CRC regarding Oorah Tax Inducement request. Oorah would like to have a \$12,000,000 tax-free loan. Community support is needed to enable them to receive this tax- free loan.
- Supervisor Airey would like to pare down the Board Meetings by providing less County details unless attendees feel otherwise.
- County broadband is going forward; October 6 construction to start.
- Public Hearing on the Town 2026 Budget is now closed. **Motion** made by Council Member Carolee Russell; 2nd by Council Member Renee Grabowski; so moved.

- **Motion** to adopt Town of Blenheim 2026 Budget made by Council Member Carolee Russell; 2nd by Council Member Anne Mattice-Strauch; so moved.
- **Motion** made by Council Member Anne Mattice-Strauch; 2nd by Council Member Carolee Russell to go into executive session regarding potential legal issues / litigation.; so moved.
- **Motion** made by Council Member Carolee Russell; 2nd by Council Member Anne Mattice-Strauch to come out of executive session; so moved.
- **Motion** made by Supervisor Don Airey 2nd by Council Member Anne Mattice-Strauch to engage counsel for the purpose of continued unauthorized use of town property.

Privilege of the Floor

Gail Shaffer reported she met with Sam from the Breakabeen Presbyterian Church and was advised that they have someone interested in purchasing the Parsonage building.

HIGHWAY SUPERINTENDENT REPORT: Andy Graves

Tying up loose ends. Moving 1000 tons of stone from Eastside Road up to location next to Highway Building. Breakdown of 09 truck during transport of stone on Rt 30. Needed a tow back to the highway garage. Will be ordering parts for repairs. Cole Hollow work is next to be done. Miller Road is complete, and Ethel Wood Road is almost finished.

Comment from the Board that Andy is doing a great job for our Town.

ASSESSOR REPORT: Deborah Thurber

Report read

BUILDING INSPRCTOR-CODE OFFICER REPORT; Brian Caron

Report read

DOG CONTROL OFFICER REPORT: Joseph Durma

No Report

CORRESPONDENCE

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| SCCA Newsletter | Town of Westerlo |
| Schoharie Co Farmer's Market | Schoharie Co Clerk |
| NYS Dep of Public Service | CDPHP |
| Ag & Markets | Catskill Castings |

Motion made by Council Member Anne Mattice-Strauch; 2nd by Council Member Carolee Russell; so moved to pay the bills General; \$ 12,775.70 Highway; \$ 8777.90

Motion to adjourn the meeting made by Council Member Anne Mattice-Strauch; 2nd by Council Member Carolee Russell; so, moved. The meeting ended at 7:30PM.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Diane Ericson, Town Clerk