

May 19, 2026
6:30 p.m.
2354 State Route 434
Apalachin, New York

REGULAR MEETING OF THE OWEGO TOWN BOARD

A. Call to order, roll call, and the Pledge of Allegiance

Supervisor Hellmers called the meeting to order, the Clerk called the roll, and Supervisor Hellmers led all in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Council:

Present: Supervisor: Gary Hellmers
Council: Dean Morgan, Craig Jochum, Jonathan Marks, and Emily McClintock

Absent: None

Department Heads:

Present: Pam Brown, Town Clerk & Tax Receiver
Rick Pedro, Sole Assessor
Irene Graven, Town Attorney

Absent: Bill Carrigg, Planning & Zoning Administrator
Tyson Stiles, Director of Utilities
Peter Gordon, Town Historian
Mark Clark, Highway Superintendent
Phil Baker, Park Maintenance Supervisor

B. Minutes of the previous meeting

The minutes of the May 05, 2026 meeting will stand as presented

C. Consideration of bids – none

D. Public Hearings - none

E. Reports of Department Heads-

Rick Pedro, Sole Assessor- Grievance Day is Tuesday, May 26, 2026.

Mark Clark, Highway Superintendent- Report on file in the Clerk's office.

Pam Brown, Town Clerk & Tax Receiver- Tax reports have been turned over to the County and I hope to be settling with the County soon. Business as usual.

Irene Graven, Town Attorney- No report

Supervisor Hellmers- Requests Attorney/Client

F. Privilege of the floor- Rose Howard, Tioga Terrace- Rose met with Mark Clark, Highway Superintendent, for his open-door Wednesday. Five other people attended as well. Many issues were discussed.

G. Presentation of Petitions, Communications, Notices, and Transfers-

1. Office Specialist II, Highway Department-

A long time Highway employee will be retiring, and a new position is being created to fill her previous position. **At this time a motion was made by Councilmember Jochum to approve a new position, Office Specialist II, to fill the upcoming vacant position. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Morgan and unanimously carried.**

H. Abstracts

Councilman Morgan made a motion to approve the abstracts as presented. The motion was seconded by Councilman Marks, and after a short discussion, unanimously carried on a Roll Call Vote.

AO-General Fund	32,797.98
BO-General Fund-Town Outside	34,167.40
DB-Highway-Town Outside	177,877.52
FO-Water Districts	43,859.15
FA-Route 38 Water	0.55
GO-Sewer Districts	16,397.14
GA-Route 38 Sewer	331.31
L1-Lighting District 1	35.66
L2-Lighting District 2	190.65
L3-Lighting District 3	70.69
L4-Lighting District 4B	52.10
L5-Lighting District 5	46.11
L6-Lighting District 6	219.46
L7-Lighting District 7	51.60
L8-Lighting District 8	38.52
L9-Lighting District 9	14.65
LA-Lighting District 4A	17.61
LX-Lighting District 10	<u>21.83</u>
Grand Totals	\$306,189.93

I. Unfinished Business-None

J. Reports of Standing Committees-

Jonathan Marks-no report

Emily McClintock-no report

Dean Morgan-There is a parade and a ceremony for Memorial Day in Owego on Memorial Day, Monday, May 25, 2026.

Craig Jochum- Hickories Park looks beautiful. Campville Commons needs to be addressed.

K. Presentation of Resolutions, Motions and New Business:

1. Fireworks Contracts (07-01-2026 Hickories Park) permission to sign-

A motion was made by Councilmember Marks to give Supervisor Hellmers permission to sign the fireworks contracts for the fireworks at Hickories Park on 07-01-2026. The motion was seconded by Councilmember McClintock and unanimously carried.

2. Utilities Department Summer Hours-

A motion was made by Councilmember Jochum to approve the following resolution allowing the Utilities Department to change normal working hours for the Summertime. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Marks and unanimously carried.

WHEREAS, pursuant to the Collective Bargaining Agreement (January 1, 2026 – December 31, 2028) between the Town of Owego and the Town of Owego Employees Association, the Town Board will establish the beginning and ending times of normal operations for each department, during a regular work week; and

WHEREAS, Director of Utilities Tyson Stiles has requested the Town Board's review and approval to change the Utilities Department's normal working hours for the summertime, starting June 1, 2026 through September 14, 2026 to 6:00 AM to 3:30 PM Monday through Thursday and 6:00 AM to 10:00 AM on Fridays, to meet the needs and requirements of the department;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED, that the Town Board approves the change of the Utilities Department's normal working hours for the summertime, starting June 1, 2026 through September 14, 2026, to 6:00 AM to 3:30 PM Monday through Thursday and 6:00 AM to 10:00 AM on Fridays for year ending December 31, 2026, to meet the needs and requirements of the department; and be it further

RESOLVED, that commencing September 15, 2026, the employees of the Utilities Department will resume normal working hours, 7:00 AM to 3:30 PM, Monday through Friday.

3. Town of Owego sign replacement-

A motion was made by Councilmember Marks to approve the replacement of the sign that is in front of Town Hall. The sign was previously damaged by fire. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Jochum and unanimously carried.

4. Highway Department promotion-Tyler Boland-

A motion was made by Councilmember Jochum to approve the following resolution promoting Tyler Boland, currently in a HEO III position, to the position of Working Supervisor. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Marks and unanimously carried.

WHEREAS, the approved 2026 budget for the Town of Owego Highway Department has budgeted for and includes Working Supervisor position which is currently vacant; and

WHEREAS, Tyler Boland, currently in a HEO III position, is available and willing to be promoted to the Working Supervisor position retroactive to May 18, 2026;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED, that Tyler Boland is appointed to the position of Working Supervisor, retroactive to May 18, 2026, at an hourly wage of \$27.50 per hour and a promotional probationary period of 26 weeks.

After a brief discussion **a motion was made by Councilmember Morgan to amend the previous resolution to read as “a promotional probationary period of 26 working weeks.” The motion was seconded by Councilmember McClintock and unanimously carried.**

5. Basic Operations of Wastewater Treatment Plants-SUNY Buffalo-Shawn Weaver-

A motion was made by Councilmember Marks to send Shawn Weaver to an event at SUNY Buffalo titled “ Basic Operations of Wastewater Treatment Plants”, with all reasonable expenses paid. The event will be held on July 20, 2026. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Jochum and unanimously carried.

6. Basic Operations of Wastewater Treatment Plants-SUNY Buffalo- Austin Judson-

A motion was made by Councilmember McClintock to send Austin Judson to an event at SUNY Buffalo titled “Basic Operations of Wastewater Treatment Plants”, with all reasonable expenses paid. The event will be held on July 20, 2026. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Jochum and unanimously carried.

7. Teamsters Contract-

A motion was made by Councilmember Morgan to table the Teamsters Contract at this time. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Marks and unanimously carried.

L. Second Privilege of the floor-No one wished to speak at this time.

M. Executive Session- none

N. Adjournment

Motion made by Councilmember Morgan to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 6:58.

Respectfully submitted,

Pam Brown, Town Clerk