

September 16, 2025
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

Council:

Present Supervisor Donald Castellucci, Dean Morgan, Craig Jochum,
Jonathan Marks, and Gary Hellmers

Absent: None

Department Heads:

Present: Irene Graven, Town Attorney
Pam Brown, Town Clerk
Peter Gordon, Town Historian

Absent: Bill Carrigg, Planning & Zoning Administrator
Mike Roberts, Highway Superintendent
Rick Pedro, Sole Assessor
Tyson Stiles, Director of Utilities
Phil Baker, Parks Maintenance Supervisor

The supervisor called the meeting to order, the clerk called the roll, and Craig Jochum led the Pledge of Allegiance.

B. Minutes of the previous meeting

The minutes of the September 02, 2025 meeting will stand as presented.

C. Consideration of bids-None

D. Public Hearings- None

E. Reports of Department Heads

Peter Gordon, Town Historian-Pomeroy Foundation has accepted the application from Waits Church Group for a National Preservation plaque to be placed on the building.

Rick Pedro, Sole Assessor-via Councilmember Hellmers-Hired a second part-time employee and everything is going well. Also, will be scheduling a Public Hearing next month for Water & Sewer District Extensions.

Bill Carrigg, Planning & Zoning Administrator-via Councilmember Morgan-There was a Community Assist visit with DEC regarding Flood Plain Management and Enforcement. The meeting went very well and the DEC was pleased with everything compared to previous years.

Tyson Stiles, Director of Utilities-via Councilmember Marks- no report

Irene Graven, Town attorney, no report

Pam Brown, Town Clerk, no report

Don Castellucci Jr., Town Supervisor-Budgets are all in. Would like to schedule workshops for October 14,15, and 16 to work on budget. Supervisor Castellucci would like to know what time board members are available to meet on those days.

F. Privilege of the floor

Cody Ann, Ridgefield Rd.-There is a huge problem with the roads in Crestview. The road has 6-7 inches of pea stone on it. The pea stone is piling up on the side of the road. The manhole covers are covered in stone. People that drive motorcycles know it is like trying to drive on marbles. There is so much stone on the road, if it rains, it will all be washed down to 17C and could be a traffic hazard. There is a pool of mud in front of my mailbox with a forest growing out of it. I put a big rock there and now the mailman has to drive over that.

Meredith, Tioga Terrace-When will the work on Cherry Ct. be rectified?

Richard, Ridgefield Rd.-The road work is terrible. The road was in better shape before they started grinding it. Manhole covers are covered up. The job should have been done right the first time.

William, Crestview-Is there a date set for when the work will be completed?

Beth, Apalachin-Who will notify people when the work is done?

Tom,Brainard St.-Looking for an update on the situation where dogs are not on leashes at the park next to his house. Also, he is able to see people on his posted property by looking at his camera's, but is not able to confront them at the time they are on the property. How would he track them down. Also, wanted to know if camping is allowed at the park. There was a dog show at the park on the weekend and there was a camper and tents there as well. Could a sign be put at the entrances to the park listing the park rules?

G. Presentation of Petitions, Communications, Notices and Transfers-None

H. Abstracts-

Councilmember Morgan made a motion to approve the following abstracts as presented. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Hellmers and unanimously carried on a Roll Call Vote.

AO-General Fund	17,784.77
BO-General Fund-Town Outside	17,310.35
DB-Highway-Town Outside	303,378.81
FO-Water Districts	18,782.84
FA-Route 38 Water	1,346.93
GO-Sewer Districts	11771.03
GA-Route 38 Sewer	173.48

L1 - Lighting District 1	29.22
L2 – Lighting District 2	163.69
L3 – Lighting District 3	58.06
L4 – Lighting District 4B	44.99
L5 – Lighting District 5	37.83
L6 – Lighting District 6	187.64
L7 – Lighting District 7	44.73
L8 – Lighting District 8	32.90
L9 – Lighting District #9	12.79
LA – Lighting District 4A	15.45
LX – Lighting District 10	<u>18.93</u>
	\$371,194.00

I. Unfinished Business-none

J. Reports of Standing Committees-

Councilmember Morgan-None
Councilmember Jochum- None
Councilmember Marks- None
Councilmember Hellmers- None

K. Presentation of Resolutions, Motions and New Business-

1. Approval of Decommissioning Plan for Valley Solar NY LLC-

After a lengthy discussion **a motion was made by Councilmember Jochum to table the Approval of Decommissioning Plan for Valley Solar NY LLC. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Hellmers and unanimously carried.**

2. Schedule Special Meeting for Tentative Budget-

A motion was made by Councilmember Morgan to have a Special Meeting on October 01, 2025 at 8:00 am for the Town Clerk to present the tentative budget to the Town Board. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Hellmers and carried on a 4-yes to 1-no (Supervisor Castellucci) 0-abstain vote.

L. Second Privilege of the floor-

Rich, Chestnut Ridge Rd.-What is the life expectancy of a solar panel and how are they disposed of?

Cody, Ridgefield- At some point the panels are going to leak into the soil, what steps are going to be taken to prevent this from happening?

Meredith, Tioga Terrace- Stated that she is a proponent for solar. There is a lot more pollution from growing corn in this area than having solar panels. If you really cared about pollution, you really need to do something about the corn growth in this area because it

really is causing a lot of problems. Solar is not as big of a problem as people think.

Barb, Valley Rd.- What are the chemicals that could possibly be released from the panels?

Tom-What is the next step now that the Decommissioning Plan has been tabled?

M. Executive Session if needed-none

N. Adjournment-**Motion to adjourn by Councilmember Morgan at 7:26 pm.**

Respectfully submitted,

Pam Brown, Town Clerk