

Town Board Meeting
May 12, 2025

The Regular meeting of Town of Cambridge Town Board was duly called, Monday May 12, 2025 at Cambridge Town Hall, at 7:30 PM the following were present:

Supervisor Catherine Fedler

Councilman Larry Carrino

Councilman Bruce Bailey

Councilman Robert McIntosh

Absent: Councilwoman Gretchen Wilmot

Others present: Heather Greenawalt Town Clerk, Jim Buckley Jr. Highway Superintendent, Matt Konsul, Arek Gordon Town Assessor, David Hamilton, Alan Davis, Jimmy Morris Eagle Reporter

Town Supervisor Catherine Fedler called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM and led in the Pledge to the Flag.

Auditing of the Bills

General	#82 – 96	\$ 1,713.79
Highway	#47 – 59	\$229,241.83

Approving of minutes

Resolution #23

Councilman McIntosh motioned, seconded by Councilman Carrino to approve the minutes from the April 17, 2025 Town Board Meeting as mailed.

Vote: Ayes – 4 Noes – 0

Assessor Report

Arek Gordon the Assessor was present at the meeting to speak on the Appraisal reassessment trend of 8% across the board to keep the equalization rate at 100%. Everything was 8% increase except new builds. Our rate of change is the same as other towns, the change is based on sales of this Town. Grievance Day is on Wednesday, May 28th 4-8 pm. He said that if there were any questions to contact his office. He said that both the Assessor and the State run the numbers and then they compare on the overall ratio in our area so make sure towns are comparable.

Arek mentioned that now have a .gov address for the Town of Cambridge, which is a requirement by the State. The new web address is townofcambridge.gov. Currently working to get Town of Cambridge in compliance with state for the beginning of September. Should also have separate email addresses for employees, not personal emails.

Matt Konsul was present at the meeting and he had a question of how the playing field is leveled between the Towns. The Supervisor said that the Clerk to the County Supervisor is

<https://townofcambridgeny.gov>

responsible for figuring the percentages that are paid throughout the Towns. The numbers are based off the sales, Assessor and State. Arek did say that he has no control over the equalization rate but he does have control over Assessments.

BAR Resignation and Appointment

Bob Wright member of the BAR has resigned due to he is moving to Saratoga and will no longer be a resident of the Town of Cambridge. The Supervisor mentioned that the Appointment Policy would have to be waived because such short notice and we must appoint someone for Grievance day the end of the month.

Resolution #24

Councilman McIntosh motioned, seconded by Councilman Bailey to accept Bob Wrights letter of resignation from the Town of Cambridge BAR. The Town Board recognized Bob Wright for his many years of service to the Town of Cambridge on the BAR.

Vote: Ayes – 4 Noes - 0

Resolution #25

Councilman Carrino motioned, seconded by Councilman Bailey to waive the appointment policy so that someone could be appointed to the BAR for grievance day the end of the month. Due to the short notice of Bob Wright's resignation from the BAR there is no time to advertise for vacancy.

Vote: Ayes – 4 Noes – 0

Resolution #26

Councilman McIntosh motioned, seconded by Councilman Carrino to appoint Amy Clark a resident of the Town of Cambridge to the BAR to fill the vacant BAR seat term ending September 30, 2025.

Vote: Ayes – 4 Noes – 0

Annual Report

Supervisor Fedler reported that she had found some training for Wendy Ford the Clerk to Supervisor to train for the Annual Report. She said that Wendy would be working on that.

Court Audit

Councilman Carrino reported that he had been in touch with the Town Justice 2 or 3 times and he has been tied up in court and they are hoping sometime this week to do the Court Audit.

Planning Board Report

Planning Board meeting was May 8, 2025 with 3 members present Scott Clark, Valerie Morigerato, Dorothy Yurschak, Secretary Heather Greenawalt and 4 residents

Chad Gulley and his mother Carol Gulley presented sketch plan for 117 Petteys Rd. tax map #246.-1-39.1 – 34.7 acres and will be subdividing out approximately 3 acres. His mother will be building a house on the lot. Planning Board gave permission to move forward with the survey.

Colleen and Anthony McDonald presented a sketch Plan for proposed subdivision at 85 Darwin Rd. – 262.-1-21 13.4 acres. They are proposing subdividing out 4-to-5-acre lot on the hill behind the vineyard, this is the Ken Denburg house and vineyard. The concerns were the Road frontage was only 65 ft, there is already a road that is used to get to land that is used by local farmer for Agricultural purposes. They did say that the old barn that is near the road way thru could be included in the subdivision. There were also concerns about the distance from the winery building and the property line. They said that need to think about this for the future. Planning Board mentioned that on the survey map if could include the septic and well for the current residence and the new residence. Even if it is possible the neighboring properties wells and septsics would be helpful because of problems with past subdivisions. Permission was given to move forward with survey.

The next meeting is Wednesday, June 4, 2025

Town Clerk Report

- Sold some fishing licenses.
- Still working on learning the computer system for payroll and the accounting software.

Highway Report

- Jim Buckley Jr. Highway Superintendent reported: Highway crew paved the week of April 21st – 24th and are finished and it went well.
- They have worked on grading, culverts, ditching
- Washouts fixed on dirt roads
- Working on the ends of driveways and under mailboxes and drop offs from paving.
- MESHA training on Tuesday, May 13th
- Highway Superintendent Jim Buckley Jr. has Highway School the first week in June in Ithaca

County Report

- The Budget was a massive discussion at the County
- Some at the County want a complete hiring freeze
- Some have concerns and how the State mandates are killing them: an example is State has approve Childcare assistance this year and this is costing the county lots of money (assistance is when 3 times the poverty level get childcare).

Close out of 2024 books

Supervisor Fedler has requested a resolution to close the books this year a mass resolution of itemized things to close out books.

Resolution #27

Councilman Bailey motioned, seconded by Councilman Carrino to per Supervisor's request close out the 2024 books with this resolution. The Supervisor will submit an itemized list later.

Vote: Ayes – 4 Noes – 0

The Town Clerk Reported that notification was received that the Spectrum Agreement was approved. Which is a relief it has taken months to get this approved.

Town of Jackson Picnic

Town Clerk for the Town of Jackson has reached out to the Town of Cambridge and White Creek inviting to them to join in with the Jackson picnic. There will be a meeting on Wednesday, May 14th at the Town of Jackson Town Hall at 6:00 pm. The tentative date for the picnic is July 25th at the Legion under the pole barns behind the Legion. The Town of Cambridge accepted the invitation.

Town Clerk Heather Greenawalt reported that she had been notified that Sandra Davis will no longer be able to be the Town Historian for the Town of Cambridge. We will need to find someone to fill in. It was suggested maybe to contact Ken Gottrey. Question was asked if the person needed to live in the Town of Cambridge.

Privilege of the Floor

Alan Davis was present at the meeting and he was wondering on the update on the new truck. Jim Highway Superintendent reported that the new truck was at Zwack getting the body on it. He also asked about which truck was going to be sold, which would be truck #2. There was a question about truck #7 and how much it has been used. Highway superintendent mentioned

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lots because White Creek used it all winter. Mr. Davis asked if still looking for someone to hire. Highway Superintendent mentioned yes and that they had interviewed someone on Saturday. It is hard to get someone between having to have CDL, no one wants to work (doing physical Labor) and Health Insurance cost to the employee is sometimes an issue.

There being no further business before the Town Board the meeting was adjourned at 8:55 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Heather Greenawalt
Town Clerk/Town of Cambridge