

**Town of Onondaga
Town Board Meeting Minutes
May 4, 2026**

The Town Board of the Town of Onondaga met at a regular meeting at 5:00 p.m. on Monday May 4, 2026 , at the Town of Onondaga Town Hall, 5020 Ball Road, Syracuse, New York.

Present:	Supervisor	John P. Mahar
	Councilor	Kathy Fedrizzi
	Councilor	Lisa Goodwin
	Councilor	Ellen Magnarelli Terrien
Excused:	Councilor	John Wheatley
	Town Attorney	Nadine Bell
	Town Engineer	Bill Perrine
	Town Clerk	Janet Hillery

1. Pledge of Allegiance

2. Certificates of Recognition – Town Volunteer Tax Preparers

Town Supervisor John Mahar recognized three volunteers that have provided numerous hours of their time preparing tax returns for the Town’s senior citizens over the years. **Parks and Recreation Director Charry Lawson** acknowledged the volunteers, stating that they return each year in February for 10 weeks, patiently preparing tax returns for more than 200 seniors annually. She said that between them, they have a combined total of 30 years of volunteer service for this effort. She said that the seniors return year after year, not only for their expertise, but for the kindness and reassurance they bring to every interaction. They have managed to turn what would otherwise be a stressful experience into a comfortable, enjoyable one within the welcoming environment of the Senior Center. Ms. Lawson said the Town of Onondaga is truly grateful for their commitment and the positive impact they have had on numerous lives in the community. Supervisor Mahar read the following proclamations:

**CERTIFICATE
OF RECOGNITION**
THE FOLLOWING AWARD IS GIVEN TO
Dick Lathrop

**In recognition of and gratitude for his dedicated volunteer service to residents
of the Town of Onondaga and the surrounding area.**

From February to April for nearly 15 years, Dick has helped local seniors prepare their tax returns and been available to answer tax questions at the Onondaga Senior Center. As an IRS-certified tax counselor and accounting professional, Dick’s expertise has provided a vital service and peace of mind to well over 1,000 individuals in need of support.

Dick’s generosity has made a positive difference in the quality of life locally and we extend our immense gratitude to him for his tireless commitment to helping others.

John P. Mahar, Town Supervisor

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**CERTIFICATE
OF RECOGNITION**
THE FOLLOWING AWARD IS GIVEN TO
Dennis Lewis

In recognition of and gratitude for his dedicated volunteer service to residents of the Town of Onondaga and the surrounding area.

From February to April for the past 11 years, Dennis has helped local seniors prepare their tax returns and been available to answer tax questions at the Onondaga Senior Center. As an IRS-certified tax counselor and accounting professional, Dennis's expertise has provided a vital service and peace of mind to nearly 1,000 individuals in need of support.

Dennis's generosity has made a positive difference in the quality of life locally and we extend our immense gratitude to him for his tireless commitment to helping others.

John P. Mahar, Town Supervisor

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**CERTIFICATE
OF RECOGNITION**
THE FOLLOWING AWARD IS GIVEN TO
Dave Yemma

In recognition of his dedicated volunteer service to residents of the Town of Onondaga and the surrounding area.

From February to April for seven years, Dave has helped local seniors prepare their tax returns and been available to answer tax questions at the Onondaga Senior Center. As an IRS-certified tax counselor and accounting professional, Dave's expertise has provided a vital service and peace of mind to hundreds of individuals in need of support.

Dave's commitment to the Town has made a positive difference in the quality of life locally and we extend our immense gratitude to him for his tireless commitment to helping others.

John P. Mahar, Town Supervisor

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Dick Lathrop said this would not be possible without the amazing staff at the center, setting appointments, taking phone calls, etc. He also said that they processed 270 returns this year.

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3. Committee Reports

Fire and Safety Committee member, Town Councilor Lisa Goodwin, requested the following resolutions:

TOWN BOARD RESOLUTION

The following resolution was offered by **Councilor Goodwin** and seconded by **Councilor Fedrizzi** to wit:

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town of Onondaga Town Board approve the following new members of the **Nedrow Fire Department**:

NAME	ADDRESS	STATUS
Hunter Oakes	Hemlock Dr., Nedrow	RAM
Ezoza B., Abdurakhmanova	E. Conklin Ave., Nedrow	RAM

The question of the enactment of the foregoing resolution was duly put to a vote and upon roll call, the vote was as follows:

Councilor	Kathy Fedrizzi	Voted	Yes
Councilor	Lisa M. Goodwin	Voted	Yes
Councilor	Ellen Magnarelli Terrien	Voted	Yes
Councilor	John Wheatley	-----	----
Supervisor	John P. Mahar	Voted	Yes

The foregoing resolution was thereupon declared duly adopted.

TOWN BOARD RESOLUTION

The following resolution was offered by **Councilor Goodwin** and seconded by **Supervisor Mahar** to wit:

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town of Onondaga Town Board approve the following new members of the **Onondaga Hill Fire Department**:

NAME	ADDRESS	STATUS
Michael Alexander	Mottville Rd., Skaneateles	Full/Active
Baraka Enock	Turtle St., Syracuse	Full/Active

The question of the enactment of the foregoing resolution was duly put to a vote and upon roll call, the vote was as follows:

Councilor	Kathy Fedrizzi	Voted	Yes
Councilor	Lisa M. Goodwin	Voted	Yes
Councilor	Ellen Magnarelli Terrien	Voted	Yes
Councilor	John Wheatley	-----	----
Supervisor	John P. Mahar	Voted	Yes

The foregoing resolution was thereupon declared duly adopted.

4. Highway Superintendent's Report

Highway Superintendent John Smith reported that his staff has finished street sweeping and they are continuing with brush pickup. They are beginning patchwork, chip sealing and fixing potholes. He also said he is looking to purchase a new trailer, as the current 1999 one is falling apart. He obtained the following three quotes:

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- *Tracey Road Equip, for \$12,000 - provides more features than is needed;
- *The Trailer Store for \$5,276 – not sure how long it will take to get here and not sure about the ramps;
- *Tri Tank Corp. for \$5,605 – available immediately and has the galvanized ramps.

The following resolution resulted:

TOWN BOARD RESOLUTION

The following resolution was offered by **Supervisor Mahar** and seconded by **Councilor Magnarelli Terrien** to wit:

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town of Onondaga Town Board approve the purchase of a new 16-foot utility trailer from Tri Tank Corp in the amount of \$5,605.

The question of the enactment of the foregoing resolution was duly put to a vote and upon roll call, the vote was as follows:

Councilor	Kathy Fedrizzi	Voted	Yes
Councilor	Lisa M. Goodwin	Voted	Yes
Councilor	Ellen Magnarelli Terrien	Voted	Yes
Councilor	John Wheatley	-----	----
Supervisor	John P. Mahar	Voted	Yes

The foregoing resolution was thereupon declared duly adopted.

5. Building and Codes Department Report

Codes Director Jeffrey Herrick reported that 24 new permits were issued for decks, pools, etc., and 4 inspections were completed. Mr. Herrick said that the fountains will be turned on this week, and that mowing has begun for the Town’s drainage basins and certain cemeteries. They will also be addressing the numerous tall grass complaints, of which four were received today alone. Mr. Herrick also reported that he went over to the Van Duyn daycare facility project site, and after inspection he informed them that they will need to install a handicapped ramp. He also said that the facility will be providing daycare for about 50 children.

6. Parks and Recreation Director’s Report

Parks and Recreation Director Charry Lawson requested the following resolution:

TOWN BOARD RESOLUTION

The following resolution was offered by **Councilor Goodwin** and seconded by **Councilor Fedrizzi** to wit:

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town of Onondaga Town Board approve new employee Chris Pelligra of Jamesville for the position of Park Attendant at Santaro Park at an hourly rate of \$18.00, effective 5/1/26.

The question of the enactment of the foregoing resolution was duly put to a vote and upon roll call, the vote was as follows:

Councilor	Kathy Fedrizzi	Voted	Yes
Councilor	Lisa M. Goodwin	Voted	Yes
Councilor	Ellen Magnarelli Terrien	Voted	Yes
Councilor	John Wheatley	-----	----
Supervisor	John P. Mahar	Voted	Yes

The foregoing resolution was thereupon declared duly adopted.

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Parks Director Lawson reported that she has been working with our IT contact on the cameras at the parks. There was trouble over the winter with the cameras at Howlett Hill Park and attempts to repair them were unsuccessful. Parks Director Lawson said that they have been wanting to upgrade to 5G, so they tested it out at Howlett Hill Park. She said they saw great improvements in speed and clarity and were able to view the site on their phones instantaneously. The plan is to switch to 5G for the remaining parks. In addition, they are making the switch to T-Mobile, who offered a flat fee of \$30 for 25 GB, which is a cost savings from the \$30-\$60/month they were paying. She also reported that a third camera was installed at Howlett Hill Park, covering the fields and parking lot. Councilor Magnarelli Terrien asked if this was a contract or can we renew or cancel as desired, and Ms. Lawson said that it is not a contract and we can cancel if we want to.

Parks Director Lawson also reported that she has been working with the Community Relations Office of the Sheriff’s Dept. on a new traffic pattern design to be painted on the “Santaro Town” blacktop kids bike path in the old tennis court area at Santaro Park. It needs resurfacing first to move forward with the new design. Ms. Lawson has been working with Danielle of the Sheriff’s Department, on developing a plan which will include bike safety courses, among other things. Danielle is working on getting sponsorships, which will help with spreading the tarvia , striping, painting, and bike safety courses. She said this should be completed in June. Ms. Lawson also said this is the first one the Sheriff’s Department is doing and if it’s successful, Danielle has ideas for doing similar projects at other locations throughout the County.

7. Town Engineer’s Report

Town Engineer Bill Perrine reported that the Town replaced a public sewer lateral at 4909 McGregor Lane on 4/27. Mr. Perrine also reported that the Town received a Local Water Revitalization Program (LWRP) grant from the Department of State for \$106,250. Mr. Perrine pointed out that this is to be used for planning and project initiatives and is not to be used for construction. He said he will need to work with the Town on issuing an RFP, and they are waiting on a project manager from the Department of State. He said this will be used for the Nedrow area including the Route 11 corridor and Kelley Park.

Town Engineer Perrine also reported that the Bussey/Norton Water Project bid opening is this Friday, May 8th at 2:00 p.m. at Town Hall.

8. Budget Modification

Town Supervisor John Mahar requested the following budget modification to accommodate payment of the new rooftop unit at the Highway Garage, approved on 3/25/26:

TOWN BOARD RESOLUTION

The following resolution was offered by **Councilor Goodwin** and seconded by **Councilor Fedrizzi** to wit:

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town of Onondaga Town Board authorize the following budget transfer to facilitate the payment of the new rooftop unit at the Highway Garage;

FROM	TO	AMOUNT
A599 Appropriated Fund Balance	A5132.403 Repair & Maintenance	\$ 20,656

The question of the enactment of the foregoing resolution was duly put to a vote and upon roll call, the vote was as follows:

Councilor	Kathy Fedrizzi	Voted	Yes
Councilor	Lisa M. Goodwin	Voted	Yes
Councilor	Ellen Magnarelli Terrien	Voted	Yes
Councilor	John Wheatley	-----	----
Supervisor	John P. Mahar	Voted	Yes

The foregoing resolution was thereupon declared duly adopted.

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9. Minutes Approval – 4/20/26

TOWN BOARD RESOLUTION

The following resolution was offered by **Councilor Fedrizzi** and seconded by **Councilor Magnarelli Terrien** to wit:

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town of Onondaga Town Board approve the 4/20/26 Town Board meeting minutes as prepared by the Town Clerk.

The question of the enactment of the foregoing resolution was duly put to a vote and upon roll call, the vote was as follows:

Councilor	Kathy Fedrizzi	Voted	Yes
Councilor	Lisa M. Goodwin	Voted	Yes
Councilor	Ellen Magnarelli Terrien	Voted	Yes
Councilor	John Wheatley	-----	----
Supervisor	John P. Mahar	Voted	Yes

The foregoing resolution was thereupon declared duly adopted.

10. Abstract Approval - 5/4/26

The following Abstracts were audited and approved for payment on 5/4/26:

- All General Fund Account on Abstract No 8, numbers 353 through 389 inclusive, totaling \$75,723.23.
- All Highway Fund Accounts on Abstract No. 8, numbers 167 through 183 inclusive, totaling \$11,057.15.
- All Parks Fund Accounts on Abstract No. 8 numbers 36 through 41 inclusive, totaling \$2,963.64.
- All Sewer Accounts on Abstract No. 6, number 15 totaling \$370.00.

TOWN BOARD RESOLUTION

The following resolution was offered by **Councilor Fedrizzi** and seconded by **Councilor Goodwin** to wit:

BE IT RESOLVED, that there being no further business to come before the regular meeting of the Town Board, the Town Board move to Executive Session for advice from Counsel pertaining to contract negotiations, with no action expected.

The question of the enactment of the foregoing resolution was duly put to a vote and upon roll call, the vote was as follows:

Councilor	Kathy Fedrizzi	Voted	Yes
Councilor	Lisa M. Goodwin	Voted	Yes
Councilor	Ellen Magnarelli Terrien	Voted	Yes
Councilor	John Wheatley	-----	----
Supervisor	John P. Mahar	Voted	Yes

The foregoing resolution was thereupon declared duly adopted.

The Town Board moved to Executive Session at 5:21 p.m. The Town Board returned from Executive Session at 5:45 p.m. with no action taken. The regular meeting and Executive Session adjourned at 5:45 p.m.

Janet J. Hillery
Town Clerk