

Town Board Meeting Minutes

Town of Onondaga

December 1, 2025

The Town Board of the Town of Onondaga met at a regular meeting at 5:00 p.m. on Monday, December 1, 2025, at the Town of Onondaga Town Hall, 5020 Ball Road, Syracuse, New York.

Present:	Supervisor	John P. Mahar
	Councilor	Kathy Fedrizzi
	Councilor	Lisa M. Goodwin
	Councilor	Mary K. Ryan
	Councilor	John Wheatley
	Town Attorney	Nadine Bell
	Town Engineer	Bill Perrine
	Deputy Town Clerk	Theresa Allen

1. Pledge of Allegiance

2. OCRRA Report – Blair Page

OCRRA Administrative Committee Chair Blair Page was in attendance and reported that OCRRA is changing its battery recycling guidelines. He said that about 90% of the batteries they take in are alkaline, which used to be considered hazardous waste but no longer are, as the mercury and cadmium have been removed. They are now encouraging them to be put into the regular trash. He said that there have been serious fires with the rechargeable batteries, including within our own county. He cited a case in Florida in which a waste energy plant was demolished from a rechargeable battery. He also said that the single use batteries will continue to be able to be disposed of at collection locations such as Wegmans, but the containers will be changed around to try and discourage the use of alkaline, single use batteries but will still be recycled as they come in. Mr. Page said that the County has spent over \$100,000/year to recycle batteries and said you can get a little metal out of them, but it's mostly salt. Mr. Page said the closest plant is out of state which adds to the expense. He also said we want to keep lithium rechargeable batteries out of the trash. He said that we are the only area in the State that continues to recycle alkaline batteries because the financial viability is not there.

Mr. Page also reported that there have been maintenance issues at the Waste Energy Facility and wondered if the Town has had any issues dropping loads off. Supervisor Mahar said that we have not had any issues. Mr. Page said that there are regular outages that can cause backups, but they are working to improve that. He said that they are hoping to get the Ley Creek site development funding figured out, and they hope to have a community drop off site in 3-4 years. He said there is still engineering work that needs to be done.

Mr. Page also reported that Onondaga County, Camillus and OCRRA are collectively looking at potentially developing waste bed 12, by the State Fairgrounds, into a landfill site. He said disposal capacity has been an ongoing issue and is looking ahead to when Micron is built.

Supervisor Mahar asked if OCRRA could provide information about electronic recycling, and Mr. Page replied that the best way is to go the OCRRA webpage and click on the link, which provides information on all sorts of recycling. It was decided that we publish the link on the Town of Onondaga website.

3. Committee Reports

3a) Town Councilor Lisa Goodwin - NYSERDA Grant/LED Lighting Project Update

Town Councilor Lisa Goodwin reported that we have finally received our invoice from National Grid which will allow us to get the NYSERDA Grant money reimbursement for the LED Lighting Project, once the bill is paid.

3b) Town Councilor John Wheatley - Insurance Claim Manor Hill Discussion

Town Councilor John Wheatley asked **Highway Superintendent John Smith** where we stood with the insurance claim for damage done to the road on Manor Hill Drive, due to a company dropping a dumpster onto the road. Superintendent Smith said that he has pictures and videos from a ring camera and has been in communication with the company's insurance company, as well as our own. Town Attorney Nadine Bell asked for an estimate of the damage, and Highway Superintendent

Smith said he would get that to her. Superintendent Smith said the company owner did not have insurance at the time and was ticketed by the State Police. Our insurance company said that this wouldn't typically be covered anyway under our insurance, and the only way to get money back for this would be to sue the company's owner. Town Attorney Nadine Bell said that there is typically the vehicle's insurance as well as the company's liability insurance, and that one of those should cover this. Supervisor Mahar explained that the company's driver was driving the truck with the dumpster on it, the dumpster fell off and dragged it about 150 feet over brand new blacktop. It was agreed that Superintendent Smith would provide Town Attorney Bell with all the information and documents he has.

3c) Town Councilor Mary Ryan – New Members Taunton FD

Town Councilor Mary Ryan requested a resolution to accept new members into the Taunton Fire Department as follows:

TOWN BOARD RESOLUTION

The following resolution was offered by Councilor Ryan who moved its adoption, seconded by Councilor Wheatley to wit:

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town of Onondaga Town Board approve the following new members who were accepted into membership by the **Taunton Fire Department**:

Name	Address	Status
Brendan Gilhooley	Kingsford Terr., Syracuse	Full
Ty Williams	Bramley Dr., Camillus	Full
Stephen Fitzgerald	Burnet Park Dr., Syracuse	Full
Adam McCarthy	Pembridge Circle, Camillus	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	Mary K. Ryan	Voted	Yes
Councilor	John Wheatley	Voted	Yes
Supervisor	John P. Mahar	Voted	Yes

The foregoing resolution was thereupon declared duly adopted.

Councilor Ryan also said that **Parks and Recreation employee Patricia Conrad's** artwork was up on display at the Onondaga Free Library last week and that she is very talented. **Councilor Goodwin** also added that all of the Onondaga Free Library December programs are now available for registration online, and that their Christmas tree sale is going on right now until mid-December.

3d) Town Councilor Kathy Fedrizzi - Personnel

Town Councilor Kathy Fedrizzi congratulated Victoria Rogers and Tucker Geis for completing their training and passing the test to become certified NYS Codes Enforcement Officers. Councilor Fedrizzi requested the following resolution:

TOWN BOARD RESOLUTION

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

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Onondaga Town Board approve the salary increase for Tucker Geis to \$48, 750 per year, in response to his recent NYS Codes Officer certification, effective 12/1/25.

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	Mary K. Ryan	Voted	Yes
Councilor	John Wheatley	Voted	Yes
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 they have finished picking up brush for the year and are getting equipment and supplies ready for winter. He also said that the Toad Hollow Trail Blazer’s Club Vice President stopped in to see him and said that since National Grid put the new gas line in on the corner of Harris Rd. and Seneca Turnpike, National Grid is requiring the Town’s permission for the club to continue using the trail as a snowmobile trail. It’s not Town land, and National Grid said they are okay with it, but want to make sure the Town is okay with it before they grant the license to the club. Mr. Smith said It’s been a snowmobile trail for over 50 years, and the club has its own insurance. **Attorney Bell** said that she is making sure the Town does not convey any interest in the land, in the way of easements, etc., which would be subject to a permissive referendum, but that does not appear to be the case here.

TOWN BOARD RESOLUTION

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

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Onondaga Town Board authorize the Supervisor to sign the letter of acknowledgement required by National Grid, relative to a request by the Toad Hollow Trail Blazer’s Club to use lands under National Grid’s control, which are part of the snow mobile trail along Harris Road, Toad Hollow/South Onondaga area, upon review and approval by the Town’s legal counsel of the proposed letter of acknowledgement.

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	Mary K. Ryan	Voted	Yes
Councilor	John Wheatley	Voted	Yes
Supervisor	John P. Mahar	Voted	Yes

The foregoing resolution was thereupon declared duly adopted.

5. Building and Codes Director’s Report

Building and Codes Director Jeffrey Herrick reported that there have been six new permits, and seven fire inspections since his last report. He also said that newly certified Codes Officers, Victoria Rogers and Tucker Geis, will be recognized at the January 5th meeting where they will be officially sworn in. Mr. Herrick also reported that the Jon Diaz Community Center code review has been consuming much of his time. He said he is about ¾ of the way through and expects it to be completed in the next five days. Mr. Herrick also said that so far he has not seen any red flags, and it seems to be going along fine. Mr. Herrick also reported that the bollards for the EV Charging Stations are in, but that the gentleman installing them broke his auger in half during the installation due to the amount of rock. He is hoping to get them installed this week. Other than that, they are ready to go with the flip of a switch. Discussion took place about them being visible with a safety yellow or brighter cover, as they are now black.

Codes Director Herrick also reported that he has a site plan for the Taunton Fire Department and National Grid. He said that on Onondaga Boulevard there is a triangle of property that National Grid is purchasing from the Taunton Fire Department. Outside counsel for National Grid, Nolan Kikkoris, was present and spoke about the project. He said that the proposed project is next to the Taunton Fire Station and that there is an existing gas regulator station at that site at 4310 Onondaga Boulevard. What is being proposed is an upgrade and expansion of that existing gas regulator station. It will be expanding the existing site a little over 1/10 of an acre, increasing the size of the existing parcel to 4/10

of an acre. The project will involve a disturbance of just shy of one acre of land. The proposal involves the expansion of the existing gas regulator station. There will be another gas valve put in on the site, and some reconfiguration of some of the existing structures. Town Councilor John Wheatly asked if the disturbance would extend beyond the one-acre area they are referring to. Attorney Kokkoris replied that it is his understanding that there will be some work in the right-of-way, but believes that it involves the NYS DOT, and National Grid is going through the permitting process with them. He also said the lines will be run underneath the road. Attorney Kokkoris said it was a separate parcel, and what is being proposed to the Planning Board is a lot line adjustment. **Attorney Bell** said that procedurally, subdivision approval will be needed first. Maps were distributed and discussion took place about the location. It was determined that this would be referred to the Planning Board for site plan review and recommendations.

TOWN BOARD RESOLUTION

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

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Onondaga Town Board authorize refer National Grid’s proposed site plan expansion on land purchased from the Taunton Fire Department to the Town of Onondaga Planning Board for subdivision and site plan review.

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	Mary K. Ryan	Voted	Yes
Councilor	John Wheatley	Voted	Yes
Supervisor	John P. Mahar	Voted	Yes

The foregoing resolution was thereupon declared duly adopted.

TOWN BOARD RESOLUTION

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

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Onondaga Town Board consents to the Town of Onondaga Planning Board to perform as lead agency for purposes of SEQR, pertaining to the National Grid’s site plan expansion of land purchased from the Taunton Fire Department.

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	Mary K. Ryan	Voted	Yes
Councilor	John Wheatley	Voted	Yes
Supervisor	John P. Mahar	Voted	Yes

The foregoing resolution was thereupon declared duly adopted.

6. Parks and Recreation Director’s Report

Parks and Recreation Director Charry Lawson reported that Rich Lamphier is out on medical leave currently and anticipates being back when he is healthy. She also said that he plans on retiring early next year, and she will be advertising this week for Rich’s position of Park Labor Crew Leader. She said it is a civil service, untested position with the only requirements being two-years’ experience in park maintenance or similar. The plan is to have a time overlap so Rich can train the new person. Ms. Lawson stated that two part-timers are doing all of the plowing and other duties that Rich would normally do. She also reported that their custodian is leaving and she will be advertising for that position as well.

7. Attorney’s Report

Other than comments made during the Highway Superintendent and Codes Director reports, Town Attorney Nadine Bell had nothing new to report.

8. Engineer’s Report

Town Engineer Bill Perrine reported that he is seeking a resolution authorizing the Supervisor to sign the Sanitary Sewer Extension approval form (BSP-5) and the title sheet for Velasko Village Sec. 4. The contract drawings and highway agreement were originally approved in 2021 and were revisited for re-approval in April of this year. This form is used by the applicant for submission to Onondaga County Department of Water Environment Protection and the Onondaga County Health Department for approval of the extension of the public sewers.

TOWN BOARD RESOLUTION

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

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Onondaga Town Board authorizes the Town Supervisor to sign the Sanitary Sewer Extension approval, BSP-5 form, and title sheet for Velasko Village Section 4.

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	Mary K. Ryan	Voted	Yes
Councilor	John Wheatley	Voted	Yes
Supervisor	John P. Mahar	Voted	Yes

The foregoing resolution was thereupon declared duly adopted.

Town Engineer Perrine also reported that there was a sewer backup reported on Nov. 26th at 217 Ruhamah Ave in Nedrow. WEP was dispatched and they tried to snake out what they thought were rocks in the line, but the snake got stuck. Mr. Perrine ordered a CCTV inspection, which is a camera inspection. WEP was able to remove the snake and found the public lateral to be clean with no physical issues. The house is vacant and the homeowner has a broken vent pipe which is where the dirt and rocks are entering. It was determined that this is a homeowner problem and they have been advised to hire a plumber.

9. Minutes Approval – 11/6/25 Special Town Board Meeting, 11/17 Town Board Meeting

TOWN BOARD RESOLUTION

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

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Onondaga Town Board approve the meeting minutes of the 11/6/25 Special Town Board meeting, 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	Abstained	----
Councilor	Lisa M. Goodwin	Voted	Yes
Councilor	Mary K. Ryan	Voted	Yes
Councilor	John Wheatley	Voted	Yes
Supervisor	John P. Mahar	Voted	Yes

The foregoing resolution was thereupon declared duly adopted.

TOWN BOARD RESOLUTION

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

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Onondaga Town Board approve the meeting minutes of the 11/17/25 Town Board meeting, 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	Abstained	----
Councilor	Mary K. Ryan	Voted	Yes
Councilor	John Wheatley	Voted	Yes
Supervisor	John P. Mahar	Voted	Yes

The foregoing resolution was thereupon declared duly adopted.

10. Public Hearing – Assessment Rolls – 2026 Special Improvement District Budgets

TOWN BOARD RESOLUTION

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

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Onondaga Town Board open the Public Hearing pertaining to the Assessment Rolls for the 2026 Special Improvement District Budgets.

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	Mary K. Ryan	Voted	Yes
Councilor	John Wheatley	Voted	Yes
Supervisor	John P. Mahar	Voted	Yes

The foregoing resolution was thereupon declared duly adopted.

No one was in attendance to speak pertaining to the Assessment Rolls for the 2026 Special Improvement District Budgets.

TOWN BOARD RESOLUTION

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

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Onondaga Town Board close the Public Hearing pertaining to the Assessment Rolls for the 2026 Special Improvement District Budgets.

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	Mary K. Ryan	Voted	Yes
Councilor	John Wheatley	Voted	Yes
Supervisor	John P. Mahar	Voted	Yes

The foregoing resolution was thereupon declared duly adopted.

TOWN OF ONONDAGA
TOWN BOARD RESOLUTION
December 1, 2025

Upon motion of Councilor Wheatley, seconded by Councilor Goodwin, the following resolution was made:

WHEREAS, the 2026 Assessment Rolls have been prepared by the Town of Onondaga Town Board for and in connection with the Special Improvement Districts in the Town of Onondaga as noted on Schedule “A” attached; and

WHEREAS, said rolls were completed and filed in the office of the Town Clerk of the Town of Onondaga; and

WHEREAS, the Town Clerk gave due notice of the completion of the Assessment Rolls and of where and when this Board would meet to hear any objections, to review, correct and amend the rolls, if necessary; and

WHEREAS, said notice was duly published in the Post Standard newspaper in the manner required by law; and

WHEREAS, the Town Board met on this 1st day of December, 2025, at 5:30 p.m. and a hearing was held upon the assessment rolls, and no one having appeared and no objections to the said rolls having been made.

NOW, THEREFORE, it is hereby

RESOLVED, that the said Assessment Rolls are approved and affirmed and adopted by this Town Board, as originally proposed and filed.

The question 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	Mary K. Ryan	Voted	Yes
Councilor	John Wheatley	Voted	Yes
Supervisor	John P. Mahar	Voted	Yes

The foregoing resolution was thereupon declared duly adopted.

11. Abstract Approval

The following Abstracts were audited and approved for payment on 12/01/2025:

- All General Fund Account on Abstract No 23, numbers 1101 through 1135 inclusive, totaling \$29,537.67.
- All Highway Fund Accounts on Abstract No. 23 numbers 472 through 483 inclusive, totaling \$41,149.39.
- All Parks Fund Accounts on Abstract No. 23 numbers 184 through 187 inclusive, totaling \$17,207.27
- All Sewer Accounts on Abstract No 19, number 32, totaling 1,294.10.
- All Consolidated Drainage Accounts on Abstract No. 17, numbers 35 through 36 inclusive, totaling \$2,285.30.
- All Trust & Agency Fund Accounts on Abstract No. 13, numbers 21 through 22 inclusive, totaling 18,762.50.

TOWN BOARD RESOLUTION

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

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BE IT RESOLVED, that there being no further business to come before the regular meeting of the Town of Onondaga Town Board, the Town Board move into Executive Session to obtain advice from counsel, 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	Mary K. Ryan	Voted	Yes
Councilor	John Wheatley	Voted	Yes
Supervisor	John P. Mahar	Voted	Yes

The foregoing resolution was thereupon declared duly adopted.

The Town Board moved into Executive Session at 5:38 p.m. The Town Board returned from Executive Session at 6:10 p.m. with no action taken. The Regular Meeting and Executive Session of the Town of Onondaga Town Board adjourned at 6:10 p.m.

Recorded by Deputy Town Clerk, Theresa Allen
Minutes prepared by Janet J. Hillery, Town Clerk