

Town Board Meeting Minutes
Town of Onondaga
July 21, 2025

The Town Board of the Town of Onondaga met at a regular meeting at 5:00 p.m. on Monday July 21, 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
	Town Clerk	Janet Hillery

1. Pledge of Allegiance

2 OCWA Project # 9004207 – Install New Hydrant Velasko Village Sec. 4

Supervisor Mahar requested the following resolution:

TOWN BOARD RESOLUTION

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

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town of Onondaga Town Board authorize the Supervisor to sign the agreement for OCWA Project # 9004207 to install a new fire hydrant in Velasko Village Sec. 4 as follows: Hydrant #15397 – Jupiter Inlet Way +/- 150 North of Circular Turnaround, located in the Onondaga Hill Fire District;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Developer, Velasko Village, LLC, will pay for the hydrant installation in conjunction with the 8” water main extension, and the Town of Onondaga will pay for the annual maintenance fee of \$92.96 per hydrant per annum.

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

3. Committee Reports

3a) Town Councilor Mary Ryan – DEC Grant Status; Historical Society

Town Councilor Mary Ryan provided an update on the DEC Planning Grant for the **South Onondaga** flooding issue. She stated that she has been working with Town Engineer Bill Perrine, Aaron McKeon of the CNY Regional Planning and Development Board, and Town Councilors John Wheatley and Lisa Goodwin. She will be having a Zoom meeting this Thursday to discuss finalizing the grant application. Town Engineer Perrine stated that he supplied Aaron McKeon with several site photos, reports, project descriptions, graphics and site plans. Councilor Ryan stated that she walked the area with Mr. Perrine and Mr. McKeon after the torrential rain a couple of weeks ago and was quite surprised about how bad it was.

Town Councilor Ryan also reported that the **Onondaga Historical Society** will be having a presentation about the Erie Canal on August 20th at 7:00 p.m. She also stated that she attended the presentation a few weeks ago about Jordan and the Erie Canal and found it to be very interesting.

Councilor Ryan also reported that, as a member of the CNY Land Trust, she gave them several copies of the “Our Town”, and they really enjoyed the article on the Pleasant Valley Preserve. The CNY Land Trust Director acknowledged the photography of Frank Valls of the Howlett Hill Fire Department, and would like to use more of his photography in the articles.

3b) Town Councilor Lisa Goodwin – Onondaga Free Library; LOSAP Disability Approval

Town Councilor Lisa Goodwin reported that the Onondaga Free Library will be having a *Mets Night* on Saturday July 26th, with a 6:35 p.m. game start time, and will include fireworks after the game. Tickets can be purchased through the Onondaga Free Library’s website, which will result in \$5 of each ticket sold being donated to the library.

Councilor Goodwin also requested the following resolution approving a permanent disability benefit for a South Onondaga Fire Department member:

**Town of Onondaga
Resolution of the Town Board**

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

WHEREAS the Town of Onondaga is the sponsor of a Length of Service Award Program (a “LOSAP”) on behalf of the South Onondaga Fire Department in accordance with Article 11-A of the New York State General Municipal Law (GML);

WHEREAS participant Charles David has submitted an application to be paid a total and permanent disability benefit from the LOSAP;

WHEREAS the application has been reviewed by the District’s third-party administrator, Firefly Admin Inc., and in a letter from Firefly Admin Inc. dated July 14, 2025, they have advised the Board that Mr. David meets the eligibility requirements to be paid a total and permanent disability benefit;

WHEREAS the Town Board have reviewed Mr. David’s application and the letter from Firefly Admin Inc., and agree with the assessment of Firefly Admin Inc. that Mr. David meets the requirements to be paid a total and permanent disability; NOW, THEREFORE BE IT

RESOLVED that the Town Board approves a total and permanent disability benefit to be paid to Charles David.

RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution shall be provided to Firefly so they may process the benefit payable in accordance with the Plan Document as soon as administratively possible.

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

3c) Town Councilor Kathy Fedrizzi – Personnel Report

Town Councilor Kathy Fedrizzi requested the following resolutions:

**TOWN OF ONONDAGA
TOWN BOARD RESOLUTION**

The following resolution was offered by Councilor Fedrizzi who moved its adoption, seconded by Supervisor Mahar to wit:

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town of Onondaga Town Board approve the change for Tucker Geiss from part-time to full-time Codes Inspector, at an annual salary of \$43,000.

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**

The following resolution was offered by Councilor Fedrizzi who moved its adoption, seconded by Supervisor Mahar to wit:

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town of Onondaga Town Board approve the position change for Michelle Biggs from *Administrative Assistant to the Supervisor*, to *Administrative Officer* at an annual salary of \$55,000.

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 who moved its adoption, seconded by Councilor Goodwin to wit:

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town of Onondaga Town Board approve the salary increase for Victoria Rogers, Codes Clerk II, to an annual salary of \$55,000.

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 who moved its adoption, seconded by Councilor Wheatley to wit:

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town of Onondaga Town Board approve a change in title and salary for Highway Department Secretary Linda Crowley, to Administrative Assistant at an annual salary of \$55,000.

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 – OCS Homecoming Road Closure

Councilor John Wheatley requested the following resolution on behalf of **Highway Superintendent John Smith**, who was unable to attend the meeting:

TOWN BOARD RESOLUTION

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

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town of Onondaga Town Board authorize the road closure on South Onondaga Road from its intersection with Makyes Road to the intersection of Tanner Road, from 12:00 p.m. until 12:30 p.m., on **Saturday, 9/20/25**, for **Onondaga Central School District’s Annual Homecoming Parade**.

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. Codes Officer’s Report – Codes Personnel; Bi-weekly Report; Municipality Update;

Codes Director Jeffrey Herrick was present and thanked the Town Board for the investment they made in the Codes Department and facilitating training in the department. By the end of September, Tucker Geiss and Victoria Rogers will be Building Safety Officers, and by the end of November they will be fully certified Codes Officers. He said he can’t say enough about both of them and also mentioned what an asset John Raflowski has been with his Codes knowledge and attention to detail.

Codes Director Herrick also reported that over the last two weeks, the department has had 16 calls for service (inspections at pre-existing buildings), 12 neighborhood disputes, and 5 municipal fire inspections.

Mr. Herrick also reported that he is working with Municipality on the software program and said that he has a meeting scheduled for tomorrow 7/22, about how it will tie in with all of the departments. Mr. Herrick stated that there will be four new documents created that will be a part of the Municipality program, which would include: *Commercial inspection*, *Residential Inspection* and *Compliance* checklists, and *Certificate of Occupancy*. He stated that these four will be required to be a part of Municipality as they

move forward. Supervisor Mahar stated that the actual building permit application was modified by a previous Codes Officer which was problematic for the Assessor’s Office. It was agreed to review the application to make sure the Assessor’s Office has what they need from the application. Mr. Herrick also discussed with the Town Board the large volume of FOIL requests that have come in, mostly from real estate companies regarding investment opportunities

Codes Director Herrick also reported that he has been monitoring the inspections for the Electric Charging Stations. So far, they are put together and have been wired from the pole to the panel.

6. Parks and Recreation Director’s Report – Personnel Additions; Municipal Park Boundaries Reaffirmation; Park Concerts

Parks and Recreation Director Charry Lawson requested the following resolution:

TOWN BOARD RESOLUTION

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

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town of Onondaga Town Board approve the following new Parks and Recreation payroll additions:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Salary</u>	<u>Start Date</u>
Kristiana Brujan	TP. 103	\$17.50/hr.	07/14/25
Ian Prebish	Rec. Aide	\$16.10/hr.	07/09/25

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.

Parks Director Lawson also reported that the *Thirteen Curves* concert at Kelley Park on 7/16 was a success. She stated that attendance was light but those in attendance enjoyed the evening.

Parks Director Lawson also requested the Supervisor’s signature reaffirming the Town’s municipal park boundaries for the Land and Water Conservation Fund grants. She said that this was originally given in the 1970’s, and they come around every 10 years to ensure the boundaries have not changed. The following resolution resulted:

TOWN BOARD RESOLUTION

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

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town of Onondaga Town Board authorize the Supervisor to sign the *Reaffirmation of Municipal Park Boundaries*, affirming that the boundaries of Kelley Memorial Park, King Memorial Park and Howlett Hill Park have not changed since the receipt of the **Land and Water Conservation Fund grant**; and further acknowledging the NY State Parkland Alienation Law and Section 6(f) requirements of the Land and Water Conservation Fund Act.

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.

Parks Director Lawson also reminded everyone of the next concert in the park to take place on August 13th at **Santaro Park**. **Letizia and the Z Band** will play from 6-8 p.m., and the **Food Rescue** food truck will be there as well as the Southwood Fire Department.

7. Attorney’s Report – Woodland Hills Alternate Highway Agreement

Town Attorney Nadine Bell reported that the **Woodland Hills Subdivision** received preliminary plat approval and are proceeding under the Alternate Procedure. Attorney Bell is asking for the Town Supervisor to sign and execute the **Alternate Highway Sewer and Drainage Construction and Maintenance Agreement** as well as the **Maintenance Covenant and Easement Agreement** relating to the stormwater facilities in addition to development restrictions and protected covenants. The following resolution resulted:

TOWN BOARD RESOLUTION

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

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town of Onondaga Town Board authorize the Supervisor to sign and execute the **Alternate Highway Sewer and Drainage Construction and Maintenance Agreement** and the **Maintenance Covenant and Easement Agreement** for the **Woodland Hills Subdivision**.

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.

Attorney Bell stated that there will be a petition for the extension of the consolidated drainage district, and possibly a lighting district, that the developer will be dropping off and that process will begin shortly.

8. Engineer’s Report – EV Charging Stations; LWRP Grant;

Town Engineer Bill Perrine reported on the EV charging stations project, and said that they have submitted the first round for reimbursement for the Town for the grant that was secured a few years ago. He also reported that the **Local Waterfront Revitalization Program (LWRP)** grant application is due July 31st and he will be submitting that on behalf of the Town. The grant would be used to redevelop Nedrow and Kelly Park area. Town Supervisor Mahar asked what the dollar amount for the grant is, and Mr. Perrine replied that this was only for the Planning Grant with a value of \$125,000, to be used to develop strategy and plans for that, and part of the process would determine construction costs.

9. Minutes Approval – 7/7/25

TOWN BOARD RESOLUTION

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

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town of Onondaga Town Board approve the 7/7/25 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	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. Nedrow Fire Department Auxiliary Banner Program Presentation – 5:30 p.m.

Nedrow Fire Department Auxiliary president, Pam DeGouff , presented a plan to initiate a program to display banners along the South Salina Street corridor in Nedrow, similar to the banners displayed in the Town of Camillus. She stated that the banners would include Veterans as well as area businesses that would like to participate. Auxiliary Treasurer Marlene Mistrovich was also present, along with Nedrow Community group members Mary Beth Featherstone and her daughter Sophia, and graphics designer for the program, Mia Martin. Ms. DeGouff stated that the goal is to revive the Rte. 11 corridor, make it more aesthetically appealing and instill a sense of pride and community feel. She received a contract from National Grid that needs to be approved in order for National Grid to allow the banners to be hung on their poles. National Grid requires that the pole numbers and locations be provided to them before permission can be granted. Mary Beth Featherstone walked the route along South Salina Street and Rockwell Avenue and noted the pole numbers and locations. This information was used to create a spreadsheet that they will provide to National Grid. Ms. DeGouff said that the Auxiliary will have to pay \$800 to National Grid to review and give permission to use the poles. The Auxiliary will front the money for this, but once the banners are sold, the money received will help to offset that cost.

Ms. DeGouff stated that her proposal is to sell the banners for \$250, which would cover the cost to hang the banners on the poles and the cost of the banner. She stated that Camillus is charging \$350, but their banners are much larger. Ms. DeGouff said the group would like to sell these to area businesses as well as those who wish to purchase them for Veterans. She provided a sample of a Veteran’s banner and stated that Nedrow based business, **Signage Systems** , will be designing and creating the banners. She said that these will last year-round, and that the Town of Camillus takes theirs down for the winter. Ms. DeGouff said that the Nedrow Fire Department has agreed to put the banners on the poles and said they are limited by how far up the pole they can go with the truck, which helped to determine the size, as a larger banner wouldn’t be able to hang on the poles. Ms. DeGouff stated that they plan to use a Google form that can be filled out and payment can be made on-line. The price of the banner will allow for the banner to be hung for one year, and once taken down, it will go to the person who purchased it. If no one wants to put a banner in its place, it will remain up. She stated that the Auxiliary will not be responsible for damage due to weather. Ms. DeGouff said that they will try and accommodate specific requests about which pole a person wants, however it is not guaranteed.

Pam DeGouff stated that they counted 80 poles between South Salina Street and Rockwell Avenue, and estimates that 50 of those will be usable. They would begin at Dorwin Ave. and go down to the Onondaga Nation line. She stated that American flags hang on the poles along this route as well. Ms. DeGouff also stated that this is not meant to replace the American flags that hang there, but that these would be in addition to those. The American flags would be taken down before winter, as they do not hold well up during the winter, which is costly to facilitate. She is hoping that this program can help supplement that with the revenue generated and hopefully purchase sturdier poles and more durable flags. A sample of a Veteran’s flag was circulated, and discussion took place about how much text should be included given the size. Ms. DeGouff said that this program would be **open to all Town of Onondaga residents and businesses** who want to display a banner along that corridor. She said the Auxiliary would be handling the program administratively and financially but wanted to make sure that the program has the support of the Nedrow Fire Dept., the Nedrow Community Crew, and the Town of Onondaga Town Board. The Auxiliary plans to have a community meeting at the Nedrow Fire Dept. on Thursday July 31st, at 6:00 p.m. to let the community know about the program and get feedback. If all goes well, she hopes they can start selling banners in August. Discussion took place about getting permission from the State, as Salina Street is a state road. Ms. DeGouff said that the Town of Camillus told her that the only people they reached out to for permission was National Grid, and that they already have regulations prohibiting impediment of the roadway, sight distance, etc.

Ms. DeGouff also stated that another project they are working on is the hill next to the fire department. They have reached out to Pam Hunter’s office and they are in the process of getting a grant to revamp the parking lot, fix the guardrail, and create a retaining wall where the outline of “Nedrow” in bricks will be built into it. The retaining wall will help with the erosion and parking lot issues, as well as improve the aesthetics.

11. Abstract Approval

The following Abstracts were audited and approved for payment on 7/21/25:

- All General Fund Accounts, Abstract No 14, numbers 664 through 699 inclusive, totaling \$9,595.68.
- All Highway Fund Accounts, Abstract No. 14, numbers 273 through 297 inclusive, totaling \$63,269.05.
- All Parks Fund Accounts on Abstract No. 14, numbers 101 through 112 inclusive, totaling \$2,686.91.
- All Consolidated Drainage Accounts on Abstract No. 8, number 9 through 14 inclusive,, totaling \$5,415.36.
- All Trust & Agency Accounts on Abstract No. 8, number 13, totaling \$977.80.

TOWN BOARD RESOLUTION

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

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 meeting be closed.

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 Regular Meeting of the Town of Onondaga Town Board adjourned at 6:05 p.m.

Janet J. Hillery
Town Clerk