

Regular Meeting of the Verona Town Board

Oneida County, New York

6:00 pm on Monday, August 4, 2025

Verona Town Office Building, 6600 Germany Road, Durhamville, New York

Board Members in attendance:

Scott Musacchio, Supervisor
 Fred Scherz Jr., Councilman
 Kenneth Brewer, Councilman
 Dan Breckenridge, Councilman
 Jeff Kahler, Councilman

Others in attendance:

Amy Kotwica, Town Clerk
 Debby Smart, Planning Board Secretary
 Lauren Harris, Assessor
 Dan Maciag, Codes Enforcement Officer
 Billy Lohr, Highway Superintendent
 Tim Dodge, Water Operator in Responsible Charge
 Henry Gerwig, Zoning Board Chairman

Citizens: 14

Call to Order at 6pm with the Pledge of Allegiance

A. Supervisors' Report

Foundations have been placed for the pipe bridge – this will be a self-supported new bridge
 Pump Station is under construction currently

B. Approval of minutes from July 7, 2025, Regular Town Board Meeting.

Councilman Brewer made a motion to approve.
 Councilman Scherz seconded the motion.
 All those in favor: 4
 Any opposed: 0
 Motion carries.

C. County Legislator Reports

Cynthia Rogers-Witt, announced a survey was sent out from the County to gather Health related information
 Answered a question from Carmen, at last months meeting about what the County is doing to protect the residents in relation to all of the AI, Mr. Picente addressed this topic in his recent State of the County address. He proposed the creation of an AI Task Force.
 Keith Seibel, updated board on the state of the county meeting held in July.
 Including:
 OK'ed a 2% increase in budget at MVCC
 Sherriff's Office accepted a grant for use in increased community engagement activities

D. Public Concerns

RC: Water coming over the canal, it will not be attached to the existing bridge. It will have its own foundation.
 It will go across behind Satch's and over to Circle Drive area

E. Reports:**1. Water Operator in Responsible Charge – Tim Dodge**

- Installed new 6' meter at the Villages at Turning Stone
- DSNY requests
- Repaired water main break on Canal Street
- Lawn restoration, topsoil and seed
- Trimmed around Fire Hydrants and valves
- Installed new fire hydrant in Verona

2. Dog Control Officer – Sue Gardinier

- 1 complaint, taken care of

- 2 dogs at shelter
 - 1 will be adopted out on 9/13
 - 1 has a skin issue and is being treated

3. Assessor – Lauren Harris

- Completed Course 2 of Valuing the week of July 14th (received 100 on test)
- Received new roll on July 30th, uploaded to RPS, can start making changes that have been on hold
- Cleaning out files and updating paper files
- Working on office procedures

4. Codes Enforcement Officer –Dan Maciag

- Building Permits 15
- Inspections 16
- Footings 2
- Foundations 3
- Plumbing, Heating, Framing 5
- Insulation 2
- Misc. Inspections 4
- Stop Work Orders 1
- Property Maintenance 3
- Violation notices 1
- Certificate of Compliance 6
- Certificate of Occupancy 5

5. Planning Board –Debby Smart

- Two public hearings
 - 1 a 2 lot subdivision
 - 1 a 4 lot subdivision
- Vento Resolution passed

6. Highway Superintendent – submitted by Billy Lohr

- Installed 1 driveway culvert
- Hauled Green Waste
- Picking up brush around town from storm damage
- Out patching
- Paving Germany Road
- Mowed all facilities
- Mowed roadsides
- Out ditching

7. Town Clerk – Amy Kotwica

- Certified Copies 12
- Public Hearings (Zoning) 1
- Dog Licenses 86
- Emergency Preparedness Training on Wednesday August 20 at 6pm, you can still register
- Community Day – Weather was HOT and then it poured! Made \$374 on raffle items for the Verona Food Pantry
- Peddlers Permit 1
- Building Permit 14

8. Zoning Board – Henry Gerwig

- Public hearing coming up on a 15' side variance and one on the subdivision

9. SWOCO – Ken Brewer

- Held annual hot dog cook out at the landfill
- Landfill is doing very well, hoping fees will be reduced, working with the state

F. New Business:

1. Approve Payment of the MVP bill in the amount of \$31,664.36
 Councilman Scherz made a motion to approve.
 Councilman Brewer seconded the motion.
 All those in favor: 4
 Any opposed: 0
 Motion carries.

2. Discussion & Approval to appoint Brian Kelley as court attendant effective 8/26/25.
Steve Chimelewski is retiring as of 8/19/25
Councilman Scherz made a motion to approve.
Councilman Brewer seconded the motion.
All those in favor: 4
Any opposed: 0
Motion carries.

3. Discussion & Approval to allow Amy Kotwica to attend the NYS Town Clerks Training on September 22, 2025, for a cost of \$40.00 (registration fee) + mileage.
Councilman Brewer made a motion to approve.
Councilman Scherz seconded the motion.
All those in favor: 4
Any opposed: 0
Motion carries.

4. Discussion and Approval of the CO. Falter Company pay application #1 for \$69,920.00 regarding the New London Pump Station construction.
Councilman Brewer made a motion to approve.
Councilman Breckenridge seconded the motion.
All those in favor: 4
Any opposed: 0
Motion carries.

5. Discussion & Approval to transfer \$167.88 from 1410.4 to 1410.2 to cover purchase of 2 new desk top computers for the Town Clerks Office.
Councilman Brewer made a motion to approve.
Councilman Breckenridge seconded the motion.
All those in favor: 4
Any opposed: 0
Motion carries.

6. Discussion and Approval to transfer \$28.94 from 86644.1 to 86642.1 for a desk top computer for the Codes Department.
Councilman Brewer made a motion to approve.
Councilman Scherz seconded the motion.
All those in favor: 4
Any opposed: 0
Motion carries.

7. Discussion and approval to transfer \$35,000.00 from 51201.3 to 51302.3 for the Highway Department Mac truck purchase.
This is not a new truck, it was already part of the budget
Councilman Brewer made a motion to approve.
Councilman Scherz seconded the motion.
All those in favor: 4
Any opposed: 0
Motion carries.

8. Acceptance of the Susan Strain retirement letter submitted letter effective 8/28/25.
And Accept Lauran Harris as the new ZBA Secretary.
Councilman Kahler made a motion to approve.
Councilman Scherz seconded the motion.
All those in favor: 4
Any opposed: 0
Motion carries.

9. Discussion & Approval of Resolution authorizing scheduling of Public Hearing for September 3, 2025, to consider increase in maximum amount to be expended for proposed improvements to town of Durhamville Sewer District from \$11,200,000 to \$13,300,000.

Reviewed Map Plan and Report submitted has been revised 3 times to update the plan of finance. This aids with grant applications, to most accurately project the total cost of the project. There have been grants actively submitted.

TB: Wants to be sure we are not putting the town into an uncomfortable place financially.

B&L: It typically takes up to 3 years to get grant funding and additional financial assistance in place, before the project starts. It can happen fast, but you want to be covered in the case it takes the 3 years. Design is the same as from Verona proper with grinder pumps and piping.

TB: Does this 13 million still fall within the debit service limit for our residents?

B&L: Grants are awarded on percentage of project cost, along with the 0% 30 year loan and addition of additional loans, this will fall within the limits required.

In response to RC: There will be roughly 200 grinder pumps and it does go across Rt. 46 toward the Durhamville Elementary School.

Resolution 25-008 Resolution authorizing scheduling for public hearing to consider increase in maximum amount to be expended for proposed improvements to Durhamville sewer District

Public hearing set for 9/3 at 6:15pm

Resolution approved by unanimous roll call vote

10. Discussion and approval of Barton & Loguidice letter proposal for providing technical assistance, utility system mapping and capacity assessments for the proposed organics recycling facility being contemplated on alternative sites owned by the Oneida Indian Nation, fee not-to-exceed \$3,000 to be paid by developer escrow to be deposited with the Town.

TB: Not a transfer station, but they recycle food and green waste from all over the area – they turn it into compost and re-sell. This could bring in additional revenue to the town. The location will be near the Grow facility on Hill Road, the Town is not putting any funds into the project, but assisting in the setup of utilities. They will be a water customer on their own, via the master meter on OIN property.

OIN is working with us on this project, they are not required to include us on any of the project, but agreed to allow B&L to facilitate on behalf of the town.

Councilman Brewer made a motion to approve.

Councilman Kahler seconded the motion.

All those in favor: 4

Any opposed: 0

Motion carries.

11. Discussion and approval of Barton & Loguidice Amendment No. 2 letter proposal for providing continued Project Development and Funding Assistance for the Durhamville Sewer District, fee not-to-exceed \$20,000.

Councilman Kahler made a motion to approve.

Councilman Brewer seconded the motion.

All those in favor: 4

Any opposed: 0

Motion carries.

12. Discussion and approval of Barton & Loguidice Amendment No. 2 for providing final technical review and construction phase services for the proposed Veneto Residential Development, fee not-to-exceed \$15,000 to be paid by developer escrow to be deposited with the Town.

This is Phase I only of building. B&L review any portions that will be handed over to the town.

Councilman Scherz made a motion to approve.

Councilman Kahler seconded the motion.

All those in favor: 4

Any opposed: 0

Motion carries.

G. Vouchers:

1. Prepaids \$730,305.19

Councilman Brewer made a motion to approve.

Councilman Scherz seconded the motion.

All those in favor: 4

Any opposed: 0

Motion carries.

2. General \$ 70,032.23

Councilman Brewer made a motion to approve.

Councilman Kahler seconded the motion.

All those in favor: 4

Any opposed: 0

Motion carries.

3. Highway \$ 51,284.24

Councilman Brewer made a motion to approve.

Councilman Scherz seconded the motion.

All those in favor: 4

Any opposed: 0

Motion carries.

H. Adjournment

Councilman Scherz made a motion to adjourn the Board meeting at 7:01pm.

Councilman Kahler seconded the motion.

All those in favor: 4

Any opposed: 0

Motion carries.

RC: Why do we use Megrell tree service?

TB: He always put it out to bid.

RC: Last time I FOILED the documents Billy's "bids" folder was lost.

TB: That was during the Digital Towpath, where we lost a few folders across the board.

RC: He never asked Helmers'.

TB: He does get bids.

Scott Musacchio, Supervisor:

Jeff Kahler, Councilman:

Ken Brewer, Councilman

Fred Scherz Jr., Councilman:

Dan Breckenridge, Councilman:

Amy Kotwica, Town Clerk: