

Regular Verona Town Board Meeting

Oneida County, New York

6:00 pm on Monday, April 6, 2026

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

Board Members in attendance:

Scott Musacchio, Supervisor
 Jeff Kahler, Councilman/Deputy Supervisor
 Kenneth Brewer, Councilman
 Dan Breckenridge, Councilman

Absent:

Fred Scherz Jr., Councilman

Others in attendance:

Amy Kotwica, Town Clerk
 Tim Dodge, Operator in Responsible Charge
 Lauren Harris, Assessor
 Dan Maciag, Code Enforcement Officer

Citizens: 21

Call to Order at 6:00pm with the Pledge of Allegiance

A. Supervisors' Report:

1. Started prep work for the pipe bridge installation and setting infrastructure
2. Moving forward with the pump station upgrades
3. Received a 2million hardship grant for Durhamville Sewer

B. Approval of minutes from March 2, 2026, Regular Town Board Meeting.

Councilman Kahler made a motion to approve as presented.

Councilman Brewer seconded the motion.

All those in favor: 3

Any opposed: 0

Motion passes.

C. Public informational Meeting: Oneida County Route 50-Greenway Bridge replacement presentation.

1. Only informational – once final plans made available the Town will be notified
2. County will be requesting easements from a few of the surrounding properties for any future work needed
3. Raising the profile of the bridge slightly
4. Structure will be 65' long
5. Looking at work to be performed Summer of 2027 opening November – all weather dependent

D. County Legislator Reports

Keith Schiebel:

1. Recruiting 911 dispatchers
2. Promoting international curling event in Utica
3. Boosting compensation for corrections officers
4. Additional topics can be found in the Board Packets on file in the Town Clerks office

E. Public Concerns:

RC: W. Main Street drainage issue, ditches need to be cleaned

TB: Will pass along to Highway Superintendent, Billy Lohr.

F. Reports:

1. Water Operator in Responsible Charge: Tim Dodge
 - Cleaned out water tower to prepare for painting
 - Repaired grass areas from snowplow damage
 - Plowed and shoveled snow at all water/sewer facilities
 - DSNY Requests
 - Preparing for MCI/Slate Hill to re-mobilize for the water project

2. Dog Control Officer: Brenda Burleigh (absent)
 - Called all late dog license renewals
 - 2 calls both dogs have been reunited with owners
 - 1 call about large white dog wondering around Rock Rd. – owner has been located

3. Assessor: Lauren Harris
 - Completed the 3rd Party Address removal, requested by the county.
 - Legal Notices were sent out on March 4th for Inventory Review to inform the public that they could come into our office and review their inventory for their parcels.
 - March 18th, Notice of Exemption Removals were generated for Senior Citizens, Agriculture, and Limited Income disability. With a total of 16 exemptions removed. Of which, there were 12 Senior Citizen Exemptions, 3 Agriculture Exemptions, and 1 Limited Income Disability. We sent out 1 mailing in October, a second notice in the beginning of February, and spent the last two weeks of February calling the residents that had not made it in. All notices were mailed out to the residents on March 23rd.
 - Water and Sewer Units were received and updated in RPS on March 25th, this is required for the Tentative Roll.
 - Inventory Review was held on March 30th and March 31st, no one attended.
 - We received 9 Sales, and Starla sent out 3 welcome packets.
 - We have 43 active building permits. Starla and I were able to get about 59 closed out that were either aging, deleted, or completed.

4. Codes Enforcement: Dan Maciag

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Building Permits 11 • Inspections 14 • Footings 1 • Plumbing, Heating, Framing 5 • Demo's 1 • Insulations 1 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Misc inspections 3 • Property Maintenance 3 • Violation notices 1 • Certificate of Compliance 6 • Certificate of Occupancy 3
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5. Planning Board: Peter Kaido, submitted by Debby Smart
 - Approved Farm Stand on Tilden Hill Road
 - Approve subdivision

6. Highway Superintendent: submitted by Billy Lohr
 - Apologies for last month when I said winter was over
 - Went out plowing/sanding 7 times
 - Washed trucks and cleaned shop floor
 - Painted plows/wings
 - Inspected Fire extinguishers
 - Inspected fuel tanks
 - Started picking trash side of the road 31 bas from 2 plow routes
 - Started cleaning roadsides from winter plowing
 - Pulled & cleaned culvert grates
 - Unharnessed 2 trucks
 - Road plate and cones on Spring Road between Tilden Hill Rd. and Smith Road due to culvert issue that will need to be addressed

7. Town Clerk: Amy Kotwica

- Certified copies 9
- Notary nonresident 1
- Historical Building Usage 1
- Public Hearing for Zoning 1
- Sewer Permit 1
- Dog Licenses 87
- Collected 88.95% of total warrant for taxes 2.60% via E-check/credit card
- Working through WMBE requirements for the State Dog Grant
- Set up Social Media posts
- Hometown Hero Banners closed, looks like 10 banners were ordered
- Sent out 2 PILOT Billings
- Working on list of active Town Policies, to create a Board review schedule
- Confirmed with Central Security contact information and alarm locations
- Attended NYSTCA Oneida County quarterly meeting
- Attended AOT Oneida County quarterly meeting
- Building Permits 11
- Sewer Installers License 1
- Xerox Copies 2
- Genealogy Search 4

8. Zoning Board: Henry Gerwig: absent

- One public hearing
- Andrew C. to return to discuss LED sign on Rt. 31 installation

9. SWOCO: Ken Brewer

- Met with Town of Augusta assessors, they completed a reevaluation of Town, Dump went very high, they will review

G. New Business:

1. Discussion & Approval to pay the MVP Invoice in the amount of \$32,941.92 and the Excellus Invoice of \$525.82.

Councilman Kahler made a motion to approve as presented.

Councilman Brewer seconded the motion.

All those in favor: 3

Any opposed: 0

Motion passes.

2. Discussion & Acknowledgement of the Town of Verona Highway 284 Agreement indicating the roads that will be upgraded presented by Billy Lohr, Verona Highway Superintendent.

Councilman Brewer made a motion to accept as presented.

Councilman Kahler seconded the motion.

All those in favor: 3

Any opposed: 0

Motion passes.

3. Discussion & Approval to increase 11104.1 - \$219.90, this is due to JCAP revenue received under 3021.1

Councilman Kahler made a motion to approve as presented.

Councilman Brewer seconded the motion.

All those in favor: 3

Any opposed: 0

Motion passes.

4. Discussion & Approval to allow Jenny Armstrong, Stephanie Doane, Amy Kotwica, Town Board and Scott Musacchio to attend the 2026 Town Finance and Personnel School in Canandaigua (4/27-4/28) or Albany (5/6-5/7) not to exceed \$825 each.

Councilman Brewer made a motion to approve as presented.

Councilman Kahler seconded the motion.

All those in favor: 3

Any opposed: 0

Motion passes.

5. Discussion & Approval to allow w Billy Lohr, Highway Superintendent sell used equipment including: 2 each 2018 Ferris Mowers, 1 each 2016 Mack 10 Wheel Dump Truck with Plow, Wing and Sander, 1 each 2011 Sander, 2004 Everest One Way Plow, and 1987 Viking One Way Plow.
 To be sold on Auctions International
 Councilman Brewer made a motion to approve.
 Councilman Kahler seconded the motion.
 All those in favor: 3
 Any opposed: 0
 Motion passes.

6. Discussion & Approval to create purchasing accounts with Harbor Freight and Runnings for the Highway Department.
 Councilman Brewer made a motion to approve.
 Councilman Kahler seconded the motion.
 All those in favor: 3
 Any opposed: 0
 Motion passes.

7. Discussion & Approval to allow Billy Lohr and Stephanie Doane to attend the Highway School in Ithaca 5/1/26-5/3/26 not to exceed \$900 each.
 Councilman Brewer made a motion to approve.
 Councilman Kahler seconded the motion.
 All those in favor: 3
 Any opposed: 0
 Motion passes.

8. Discussion & Approval to pay Barton & Loguidice Invoice #34 \$6,001.31 for the Willow Place Tap project.
 Out of TAP Grant monies
 Councilman Brewer made a motion to approve.
 Councilman Kahler seconded the motion.
 All those in favor: 3
 Any opposed: 0
 Motion passes.

9. Discussion & Approval to Transfer \$100.00 from Revenue account 2555.1 to Codes 86644.1 for the refund of a building permit issued that was not in the Town of Verona. The refund will be issued to City Plumbers the company that obtained the permit for 7134 Cove St.
 Councilman Kahler made a motion to approve.
 Councilman Breckenridge seconded the motion.
 All those in favor: 3
 Any opposed: 0
 Motion passes.

10. Discussion & Approval to re-appoint Tim Dodge to the Planning Board for a new 7-year term effective Jan 1, 2026, to Dec 31, 2032.
 Councilman Kahler made a motion to approve.
 Councilman Brewer seconded the motion.
 All those in favor: 3
 Any opposed: 0
 Motion passes.

11. Discussion & Approval to accept the Bonadio Group Consulting firm to assist with our final 2025 AFR submission to the NYS Comptroller's Office and upcoming internal auditing process.

A requirement due to the value of the Capital Projects we have on file
Budgeted \$100,000, should not be that high

Councilman Brewer made a motion to approve.

Councilman Breckenridge seconded the motion.

All those in favor: 3

Any opposed: 0

Motion passes.

12. Discussion & Approval for the Town of Verona to join New York Planning Federation at the annual cost of \$295.00.

Zoning budget will cover the cost in 2026, Planning in 2027, then going forward each Board will need to budget for ½ the cost

Councilman Brewer made a motion to approve.

Councilman Kahler seconded the motion.

All those in favor: 3

Any opposed: 0

Motion passes.

13. Discussion & Approval to retain Barton & Loguidice, DPC to assist the Town with technical review services for the proposed Empire Green Recycling Facility on Hill Road in the amount of ~~\$10,000~~ \$15,000, to be paid for by Developer escrow funds to be deposited with the Town.

Hill Road on OIN Property

Town is NOT paying for anything

Town will receive revenue off the recycling plant

No smell – completely enclosed

There will be a sewer district extension

Creates a by-product of fuel / compost type facility

Now just going to review water/sewer/power infrastructure if it could handle the facility

Councilman Brewer made a motion to approve.

Councilman Kahler seconded the motion.

All those in favor: 3

Any opposed: 0

Motion passes.

14. Discussion & Approval to accept the bids received by the Town of Verona for the Verona Water District Extension No. 3, Contract No. 1 Beacon Light Road Tank Rehabilitation, and to award the contract to the lowest responsible bidder, Amstar of Western New York, Inc., in the Base Bid plus Alternate Bid amount of \$1,840,000.00 as recommended in the Barton & Loguidice Recommendation of Award letter, dated March 18, 2026.

Tank Rehab

Low bidder is very reputable

Acting on \$44 million and part of the EFC agreement

Tank has not been re-coated ever, typically should be 20 years.

Am-Star out of Buffalo, is recommended

Councilman Brewer made a motion to approve.

Councilman Kahler seconded the motion.

All those in favor: 3

Any opposed: 0

Motion passes.

Durhamville Sewer District

Started in 2021 MPR: \$8million range – now at \$13.3 million

Received an Enhanced WIA grant 6.1 million

Awarded STAG grant \$1.92 million

Currently at an annual cost \$1100 per year (debt service) – above NYS comptroller's threshold

Additional funding opportunities:

SWIFT Grant – via EFC

0% finance via EFC

2 million incentive grant to move project forward (timeline short)

Additional option is a CDBG Grant: up to 2 million

B&L suggest application be submitted this Summer

Also, a coordinated call with EFC to discuss finances and bring to residents

If we receive either of the 2million grants, we'd be down to \$987 annual per user which is under the NYS Comptrollers threshold.

Reviewed suggested schedule

Willow Place TAP project

\$1 million GRANT

\$400,000 Oneida county grant

To be discussed further – 45 days to award

Route 365 pump station

Pump stations constructed almost 30 years ago

Documents going to DEC for comment

Then ready to go to bid

OIN to be responsible for majority of upgrades due to usage

Over capacity at one pump station – close on the other

H. Vouchers:

1. Prepays \$1,993,304.22
 Councilman Kahler made a motion to approve.
 Councilman Brewer seconded the motion.
 All those in favor: 3
 Any opposed: 0
 Motion passes.
2. General \$ 141,408.66
 Councilman Brewer made a motion to approve.
 Councilman Kahler seconded the motion.
 All those in favor: 3
 Any opposed: 0
 Motion passes.
3. Highway \$ 28,388.87
 Councilman Brewer made a motion to approve.
 Councilman Kahler seconded the motion.
 All those in favor: 3
 Any opposed: 0
 Motion passes.

H. Adjournment

Councilman Brewer made a motion to adjourn at 7:06pm.

Councilman Kahler seconded the motion.

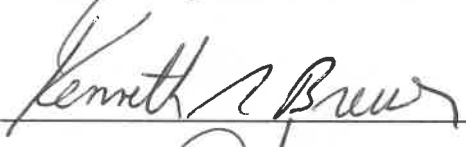
All those in favor: 3

Any opposed: 0

Motion passes.

Scott Musacchio, Supervisor: 

Jeff Kahler, Councilman: 

Ken Brewer, Councilman 

Fred Scherz Jr., Councilman: 

Dan Breckenridge, Councilman: 

Amy Kotwica, Town Clerk: 