

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER AT 7:03 pm

SUPERVISOR DePASQUALE OPENED THE MEETING WITH A MOMENT OF SILENCE IN MEMORY OF DAVID TRASK, ARTHUR NISBIT, MARY BARKEY, LOUISE MONTGOMERY, DENNIS LELL AND DOROTHY HORSCHER FOLLOWED BY THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE.

PRESENT

Councilman Dennis Robinson
Councilman Jesse Hrycik
Councilwoman Patricia Zurbrick - excused
Councilman Gerald Pietraszek
Supervisor James DePasquale

ALSO PRESENT

CEO Tom Dziulko
Recreation Director Kip Palmateer
Planning Board Chairman Walter Kammer
ECSO Deputy Miller
Town Clerk Deborah Jusiak

REGULAR TOWN BOARD MEETING

MINUTES:

There were no questions or comments on the minutes from the November 13, 2025, Town Board Meeting.

MOTION made by Councilman Pietraszek, seconded by Councilman Hrycik, and unanimously approved the minutes from the November 13, 2025, Town Board Meeting.

SAFETY

Erie County Sheriff's Deputy Miller reported the Department's responses for the Month of November:

103 Service Calls	32 Directed Patrols
5 Accidents	1 Arrest

Miller reported that the EC Sheriff's Department is performing neighborhood watches as needed. One tip led to the recovery of four firearms, and the arrest of an individual involved in a shootout and selling narcotics in the area.

REQUEST TO BE ON THE AGENDA

No report

PUBLIC HEARING

No report

OLD BUSINESS

No Report

NEW BUSINESS

No Report

COMMITTEE REPORTS

BUILDING REPORT

Councilman Robinson read the following report:

- A new door was installed in the Senior Center.
- The Town Hall information kiosk needs to be replaced.
- The front gutter and fascia on the Town Hall were repaired and heat trace installed in the gutter on the front of the Town Hall.
- Installed an exhaust fan in the Town Hall bathrooms.
- All the HVAC units outside have been covered for the winter.
- The furnace filters at the Town Hall are cleaned. The furnace filters at the Senior Center will be replaced when they arrive.
- The Town Park building/bathrooms have been closed and winterized for the season.

DePasquale requested the Senior Center furnaces be serviced by Belknap.

CODE ENFORCEMENT REPORT

Report for the month of November 2025 – CEO Dziulko read the following report:

8 Building Permits Issued

1 Stop Work Order

5 Certificates of Compliance

1 Fire Inspection

CEO Dziulko stated that building activity has slowed down for the winter and he is closing out permits with outstanding electrical inspections.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Supervisor DePasquale reported the following events:

- The Colden Christmas tree lighting event was a success.
- Santa and Mrs. Claus will be at the Colden Fire Company on Saturday, December 13th at 6:00 p.m., with a kids' craft event from 5:00 to 6:00 p.m.
- There is a New Year's Eve celebration at the Colden Fire Hall with music, fireworks and ball drops at 9 pm and midnight. The Town and Colden Fire Department will split the cost of the fireworks.

DOG CONTROL OFFICER REPORT

Councilman Robinson stated that the DCO had no activity in November. The Board and Kammer discussed proposed changes to the fees for late license renewals, purebred dog licenses and failure to license a dog.

ENVIRONMENTAL BOARD REPORT

No Report

HIGHWAY AND PARKS REPORT

Superintendent Robinson read the following report:

December Highway Report

- We have submitted for the first half of reimbursement of the season for plowing county roads
- Erie County submitted a response to a speed study request for Crump Rd between State Rd and Center St. The limit should be 35mph. The Board set a public hearing to amend Local Law – Chapter 98 Vehicles and Traffic for January's Town Board Meeting.
- All signage on Heath Road regarding no heavy truck traffic unless local delivery has been installed per County approval.
- A slide has developed on the shoulder of Crump Road. Highway Superintendent Wohlhueter and Erie County Soil & Water are planning repairs in the spring.

Parks Report

- The snowflake lights have been hung.
- Snow removal on the sidewalks continues daily.
- Proposed new signage for rules in the town park have been submitted by Scott for review.

The Town Board and Planning Chairman Kammer discussed placing a deposit on new Parks playground equipment before the end of the year with installation scheduled for the spring by Town volunteers and employees. The EPF Kummer Park grant project signs are finished and can be picked up at the Erie County sign shop.

INSURANCE REPORT

No Report

LIBRARY REPORT

Councilman Hrycik gave the following report:

West Falls Colden Library: They will be mailing their spring flyer soon.

The Boston Library: upcoming activities include a graham cracker house craft on December 13, chess club, and ukulele club. They will be mailing their January - February flyer shortly.

DePasquale said Boston Free Library is looking for donations to build a fence around their new pavilion; Hrycik may have a contact. Hrycik said that the West Falls Library is asking the Town to consider increasing their yearly donation.

PERSONNEL REPORT

No Report

PLANNING REPORT

Councilman Hrycik reported on the Planning Board's continued work on draft codes for Battery Energy Storage Systems and a poultry ordinance.

WATER DISTRICT REPORT

Councilman Pietraszek read the following report:

- **Usage update:** At present time consumption billed by ECWA 2,123,000 gal. cost \$ 8,576.92 + \$401.73 = \$ 8,978.65 expenditure.
 - ECWA water cost \$4.2 / K
- Water usage for Sept– 47.6 G/M/31D
- Continue to replace meters and registers if broken with new NexT10,
- Turned off hydrant #8 (last in BC Rd lay), Bryan Elford from Kennedy Hydrants to stop and look at fixing it without removing whole hydrant. Reassessment shows hydrant will need to be removed for repair.
- Will also look at hydrant on 240 south of Gutekunst north, which was hit by a car in late Nov. Working on billing his car insurance.
- Have more than 10 meters not reading, Jesse working on list and emergency issues.
- Contractor to push plastic under Route 240 at 8911 State Rd to resolve leak.

Water Billing:

- Open Accounts as of 5/01/2025 billing:

Water Charge (221 units)	\$25,774.46 (3,130,533 gal)
Infras + Capital Surchg	\$ 4,178.70
Arrears	\$ -195.62
Total Billed Sent	\$ 29,757.54
Current Receipts to date	\$ 11,941.81
Arrears to date	\$ not available

Councilman Pietraszek reported on repairs made to three leaks detected in the water district from October through December which combined, totaled a daily water loss of about 57,700 gal/day. The most recent leak was repaired by RJ McCormick. They pushed a new plastic line under State

Rd to resolve a leak, with a total bill of \$3,600 Councilman Pietraszek asked for a motion to pay the emergency repair bill immediately.

MOTION made by Supervisor DePasquale, seconded by Councilman Robinson and unanimously approved to pay the \$3,600 emergency repair bill immediately.

The Board also discussed the replacement of hydrant #8 on Boston Colden Road. It was turned off and may require a full replacement costing around \$5,000. A hydrant on State Rd was broken in a car accident, which will cost up to \$2,650 to repair, with reimbursement sought from the driver's insurance.

RECREATION REPORT

Recreation Director Palmateer reported the following:

- Holiday Crafts at the Fire Hall on Saturday December 13th at 5:00
- Vibrational Sound Bath on Saturday January 17th at 10:00 am at the Senior Center
- Miss Sarah Music Class will be at the Senior Center on Saturdays at 9:30 am from January 24th through March 7th
- Yoga for Kids will be on Saturday January 24th at 11:00 at the Senior Center

Trails for cross-country skiing are being maintained in the Park.

RESOLUTIONS

None

BUDGET TRANSFER

Supervisor DePasquale introduced a modification to the 2026 Adopted Budget to correct an error in the assessed valuation used to calculate the Highway tax. The valuation used was \$136,335,950, about \$6,000,000 over actual value of 130,485,053. After meeting with Superintendent Wohlhueter, the Highway fund line DA5110.1 was lowered from \$160,000.00 to \$142,500.00 and DA5130.4 from \$78,500.00 to \$55,000.00. These changes reduced the Highway tax rate per thousand of assessed valuations from 5.726 to 5.669.

MOTION to accept the modification to the 2026 Adopted Budget made by Councilman Hrycik, seconded by Councilman Robinson and approved by the following vote:

Councilman Dennis Robinson - yes
Councilman Jesse Hrycik - yes
Councilwoman Patricia Zurbrick - excused
Councilman Gerald Pietraszek - yes
Supervisor James DePasquale - yes

Supervisor DePasquale read the following resolution regarding the modification made to the 2026 Adopted Town Budget:

Upon review of the 2026 adopted Highway budget, it was found that the computation of the assessed valuation was lower than what was applied in the adopted budget due to exemptions that were not deducted from the Highway fund. This amendment lowers the assessed valuation from \$136,335,951 to \$130,485,053. This amendment was achieved by lowering Highway fund line DA5110.1 from \$160,000.00 to \$142,500.00 and DA5130.4 from \$78,500.00 to \$55,000.00. This amendment reduces the Tax rate per thousand of assessed valuations from 5.726 to 5.669.

MOTION to accept the resolution regarding the modification to the 2026 Adopted Budget made by Councilman Hrycik, seconded by Councilman Robinson and unanimously approved.

TOWN CLERK REPORT

Jusiak stated that the WM bulk/extra bag stickers should be in the office soon and there were no applicants for the open BAR position. The Board discussed advertising for the Town's Reorganization meeting to be held on Thursday, January 8, 2026.

MOTION made by Supervisor DePasquale, seconded Councilman Hrycik and unanimously approved to advertise the Town's Reorganizational Meeting on Thursday, January 8, 2026, at 6:00 pm followed by a regular Town Board Meeting.

SUPERVISOR'S REPORT

Supervisor DePasquale stated that he met with the Town attorney over some FOILs and will be looking into the Mill St Bridge. He reviewed a complaint made by a Mill St resident about the decreased weight capacity of the timber bridge. She's having a hard time getting goods and services delivered over the bridge. DePasquale said the Town may have to act even though ownership of the bridge is unclear.

Planning Chairman Kammer said he's recommending the Town not pursue a grant for new sidewalks; the grant requirements are too costly requiring a full-time engineer. DePasquale said the Town will develop a program to fix the sidewalks as needed.

DePasquale wished everyone a Merry Christmas and invited all to the New Year's Eve celebration at the Colden Fire Hall.

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR

None

PAY BILLS

MOTION made by Councilman Robinson and seconded by Councilman Hrycik and unanimously approved to pay the following bills:

TB Meeting, Monday, December 17, 2025
REGULAR TOWN MEETING
Colden Town Hall – 7:00pm

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General Fund	2025 Voucher #488 -527	\$24,935.93
Highway Fund	2025 Voucher #165 -178	\$15,997.86
Water District	2025 Voucher #53 – 56	\$9,086.92
Lighting District	2025 Voucher #15	\$1,863.90
Refuse District	2025 Voucher # 11	\$31,924.96
Cares Act	2025 Voucher # 13-14	\$8,665.90

ADJOURN

MOTION made by Councilman Hrycik and seconded by Councilman Pietraszek to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried and

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 8:13PM

Respectfully submitted,

Deborah Jusiak
Town Clerk