

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER AT 6:02 pm

THE SUPERVISOR OPENED THE MEETING WITH A MOMENT OF SILENCE IN MEMORY OF MICHAEL ADAMSKI, ROBERT FISHER, MARY PILGER AND TIMOTHY HARE FOLLOWED BY THE PLEDGE OF ALLIEGIANCE

PRESENT

Councilman Dennis Robinson – arrived 6:11pm
Councilman Jesse Hrycik
Councilwoman Patricia Zurbrick
Councilman Gerald Pietraszek
Supervisor James DePasquale

ALSO PRESENT

Highway Superintendent Lee Wohlhueter
CEO John Kotlarsz
CEO Tom Dziulko
Planning Board Chairman Walter Kammer
DCO Michelle Zak
ESCOs Miller and Malican
Town Clerk Deborah Jusiak
Springville Journal Editor Max Borsuk
NYS Assemblyman DiPietro's Representative Jeff Souder
Approximately 1 resident

SAFETY

Deputy Miller reported the following ECSO (Erie County Sheriff's Office) responses in Colden for December and 2025 totals:

ECSO – December Responses

- 72 Calls for service
- 30 Premise checks
- 23 Community Policing contacts
- 3 Traffic stops
- 11 Accidents
- 12 Calls handled by Deputy Miller
- 1 Arrest- Burglary above the Pizza Glen

ECSO – 2025 Responses

- 471 Premise checks
- 245 Community Policing Contacts
- 114 First Aids
- 21 Arrest- 6 warrants, 3 DWI, 2 Narcotics
- 12 Fire Calls
- 46 Accidents
- 5 Larcenies
- 1 Burglary

Miller introduced Deputy Malican as an additional community contact. Malican said his primary areas of concentration are Elma, Marilia, and Wales but will also be available to help Colden residents. Miller thanked the Highway Department for their help during the storms.

Adoption of 2026 Procurement Policy

Supervisor DePasquale asked the Board members for any questions or concerns regarding the updated 2026 Procurement Policy. There were no questions or comments.

MOTION made by Councilman Pietraszek, seconded by Councilman Hrycik and unanimously approved the 2026 Procurement Policy. Councilman Robinson was absent.

Supervisor DePasquale read the following resolution to adopt the policy:

RESOLUTION #2026-01
Adoption of Town of Colden Procurement Policy

WHEREAS, the Town of Colden, during the conduct of municipal functions and duties, must procure and utilize materials, supplies, services, and professional expertise for the routine execution of municipal responsibilities; and

WHEREAS, the Town Board of the Town of Colden, acknowledges the requirements contained in NYS General Municipal Law (GML) Section 104-b which requires every town to adopt internal policies and procedures governing all procurements of goods and services which are not subject to the bidding requirements of GML Section 103 or any other law; and

WHEREAS, the Town Board of the Town of Colden, desires to establish the Town's Procurement Policy defining these guidelines; and

WHEREAS, on January 8th, 2026, the Town of Colden adopts this resolution to establish such a Procurement Policy for the 2026 Calendar year and continuing until such time as the policy is amended; and

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board authorizes and hereby adopts the Town of Colden Procurement Policy, as filed with the Town Clerk, and attached to this resolution.

MOTION to accept the resolution made by Councilwoman Zurbrick, seconded by Councilman Hrycik and adopted by the following vote:

On the vote:

Councilman Hrycik	yes
Councilman Robinson	excused
Councilwoman Zurbrick	yes
Councilman Pietraszek	yes
Supervisor DePasquale	yes

1-8-2026 ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING

The elected Town Officials are salaried for the year 2026 as per budget as follows:

Supervisor	James Depasquale	<u>\$33,748.00</u> \$33,748.00
Budget Officer	Tammy Nuttle	\$3,055.00
Council Members (4)	Gerald Pietraszek	\$7,749.00
	Patricia Zurbrick	\$7,749.00
	Jesse Hrycik	\$7,749.00
	Dennis Robinson	<u>\$7,749.00</u>
		\$30,996.00
Town Clerk	Deborah Jusiak	\$52,583.00
	HWY Clerk Typist	\$3,621.00
	Vital Stats	<u>\$715.00</u>
		\$56,919.00
Highway Supt.	Lee Wohlhueter	\$82,338.00
Town Justice (2)	Michael Schneider	\$15,591.00
	Martin McMahon	<u>\$15,591.00</u>
		\$31,182.00

Highway employee's salaries for 2026 as per contract are as follows:

MEO	\$33.90 hr.	Motor Equipment Operators
MEO	\$50.84 hr.	Overtime
Laborer	\$19.51 hr.	Part Time Seasonal

Deputy Highway Superintendent of highways will assume his duties during the absence or inability of the Town Superintendent of highways and be vested with all the powers and duties of the town superintendent as provided by law.

All town equipment such as keys, truck, phone & pertinent information containing to the duties of the job (access to computer, etc.) will be turned over to deputy in the Superintendents absence.

The compensation for this position will be as follows: Regular pay \$33.90 plus \$5 extra per hour for a rate of \$38.90 per hour & overtime rate of \$50.84 plus \$7.50 extra per hour for an overtime rate of \$58.34 per hour. A minimum of 1 hour will be compensated for all call outs, checking roads & etc.

RESOLVED THAT **Ronald Bennett ESQ. and Joel Kurtzhaltz Esq.** be appointed contractually as Attorney for the Town in accordance with Section 20 (2) (b) to serve as needed throughout the year of **2026** at a flat fee of **\$12,000.00** for general municipal legal services and \$195.00 per hour for court municipal litigation. One (1) year term ending December 31, 2026.

RESOLVED THAT **Brian Attea** be appointed as Town Prosecutor at a rate of **\$120.00** per hour. **Ryan F. McCann Esq.** be appointed to Deputy Town Prosecutor at **\$120.00 per hour.**

RESOLVED THAT **Steven Lehman** be appointed as Constable with the rank of Sergeant and **Paul Sobkowiak** be appointed as Constable to the Justices for the year **2026**. All constables to serve with compensation of **\$24.57** an hour to be paid bi-weekly.

RESOLVED THAT **Mark Adamchick** be the Certified Public Accountant for the Town of Colden for the year **2026** a flat fee of **\$7,850.00** for AUD and Budget preparations and **\$85.00** per hour for auditing books quarterly.

RESOLVED THAT **Nussbaumer & Clark Engineers and Surveyors** be the Engineers for the year of **2026**.

RESOLVED THAT Town Clerk **Deborah Jusiak** be appointed as Highway Account Clerk Typist.

RESOLVED THAT **Dawn Martin** be retained as the town assessor at the rate of **\$21,500.00** per year.

RESOLVED THAT Town Clerk **Deborah Jusiak** appoints **Crystal Barrett** as Deputy Town Clerk at a salary of **\$38,517.00**.

RESOLVED THAT **Supervisor DePasquale** appoints **Tammy Nuttle** as Secretary/bookkeeper to the Supervisor at a salary of **\$38,517.00**.

RESOLVED THAT **Michelle Zak** be appointed as Dog Control/Dog Census Officer with a salary of **\$12,538.00** yearly to be paid bi-weekly. The DCO shall assume responsibility for preparing a monthly report to the Town Board on duties performed with full details according to town code. DCO shall submit and maintained an accurate town wide dog census through the year **2026**.

RESOLVED THAT the **DCO** be authorized to accept and obtain all information and certificates pertaining to the licensing of a canine to release a seized canine to the owner outside of regular business hours. All information and certificates collected will be turned over to the Town Clerk on the next regular business day for processing.

RESOLVED THAT **John Kotlarsz** be appointed as Code Enforcement Officer in charge of Zoning & Enforcement with a salary of **\$17,112.00** yearly to be paid bi-weekly.

RESOLVED THAT **Thomas Dziulko** be appointed as Code Enforcement Officer / Fire Inspector regarding zoning, enforcement with the salary of **\$17,112.00** yearly to be paid bi-weekly.

RESOLVED THAT **Crystal Barrett** be appointed as Code Enforcement Clerk with the salary **\$3,055.00** yearly to be paid bi-weekly.

RESOLVED THAT **Jesse Burgwardt** be appointed Water Operator at a rate of **\$26.59** per hour as needed with no benefits. Employee to be paid at the first payroll following service rendered.

RESOLVED THAT **Ron Smith** be appointed as Water District Clerk at an hourly rate of **\$21.16** per hour to be paid bi-weekly.

RESOLVED THAT **Ron Smith** be appointed as Assistant Water Worker at an hourly rate of **\$21.16** per hour to be paid bi-weekly.

RESOLVED THAT **Scott Kirby** be appointed to Town Grounds/Maintenance Worker at a rate of **\$23.64** per hour with benefits. Employee to be paid at the first payroll following service rendered. Hours exceeding 40 hours will be compensated using Comp time at 1 ½ times the hours worked. (ie: 4 hrs worked, Employee will receive 6 hrs comp time.)

RESOLVED THAT **Jaime Hacker** be appointed as court clerk with a wage of **\$21.16** per hour paid bi-weekly.

RESOLVED THAT **Marie Falzone** be appointed as Court Clerk Assistant/Trainer with a wage of **\$21.16** per hour paid bi-weekly as needed.

RESOLVED THAT the **Court Stenographer** with a wage of **\$110.00** for two hours worked and **\$65.00** for each additional hour to be paid contractually.

RESOLVED THAT **Kip Palmateer** be appointed as Recreation Supervisor at a yearly salary of **\$14,865.00** to be paid bi-weekly with no benefits.

RESOLVED THAT **Carrie DePasquale** be appointed as Recreation Assistant Supervisor at a yearly salary of **\$10,609.00** to be paid bi-weekly with no benefits.

RESOLVED THAT **Amy Brautlacht** be hired as part-time cleaner for the Senior Center and the Town Hall at a rate of **\$18.36** per hour.

RESOLVED THAT **Brian Sudyn** be appointed as Disaster Coordinator and **Lee Wohlhueter** be appointed as Assistant Disaster Coordinator.

WAGES & SALARIES

RESOLVED THAT HOURLY EMPLOYEES be paid the following salaries, commencing January 1, **2026**, to be paid bi-weekly unless otherwise noted:

Parks Summer Help:	\$18.94 per hour
Recreation Workers:	\$16.50 per hour
Tennis Instructor:	\$19.94 per hour
Umpires & Referees:	\$16.50 per hour for Soccer and Baseball. \$16.50 Hockey for Floor Hockey
Board of Assessment Review	\$16.50 per hr. or \$50.00 a day for school/review (whichever greater)

RESOLVED THAT **USI Insurance Service** be the insurance agent for the Town of Colden for the year **2026**.

RESOLVED THAT this Board approve as the form and amount the Employee’s Blanket Bond—which includes the offices of Supervisor & his Secretary, Highway Superintendent, Town Justices, Court Clerk, Town Clerk—Tax Collector, and her Deputy, Peace Officer, Councilmen, Councilwoman, Youth Supervisors, Code Enforcement Officers, Dog Control Officer & Emergency Manager and Water Clerk.

RESOLVED THAT the regular monthly meeting of the Colden Town Board for the year of “**2026**” shall be held on the second Thursday of each month at **7:00 PM** for the regular time and date of the Town Board meeting unless otherwise resolved to change and that the October Board Meeting be held on October 1st and the November meeting be held on November 5th.

RESOLVED THAT any business to be brought to the attention of the Colden Town Board by any elected or appointed official or by the public be submitted for the agenda **72 hours** prior to a meeting.

RESOLVED THAT **the Springville Journal** be the official newspaper of the Town of Colden for the year 2026.

RESOLVED THAT **ALL BOARDS** receive a copy of the unapproved **Board Minutes (from all Town Boards)** for public review within **ten business days** of the date of such meetings. (Open Meeting Law 106) All Boards to receive a copy of the **agenda 48 hours** prior to the meeting.

RESOLVED THAT the Town Board will hold a work session on the first **Thursday** of each month at **6 PM** at the Town Hall. If a work session is not necessary and the Town Board does not meet it will be posted on the front door of the Town Hall.

RESOLVED THAT Deborah Jusiak be appointed as the Record Access Officer to accept and receive all **FOIL** requests.

RESOLVED THAT the Town of Colden **Tax Assessor** be authorized to re-levy any unpaid water bills to be submitted prior to November 20th of each year.

RESOLVED THAT warrants and abstract checks to be paid within terms of invoice or seven days of authorization.

RESOLVED THAT Bank of Holland be designated as the official depository for all Town of Colden funds.

RESOLVED THAT **Supervisor DePasquale** is authorized to endorse checks, withdraw, or transfer funds with the Bank of Holland and **Patricia Zurbrick** is authorized to endorse checks in the event the Supervisor is absent. All checks over \$2,500.00 require two signatures.

RESOLVED THAT **Patricia Zurbrick** be appointed as Deputy Town Supervisor and is authorized to endorse checks and act on behalf of the Supervisor in the event the Supervisor is absent.

RESOLVED THAT **Tammy Nuttle** is hereby authorized by the Supervisor to obtain information and direct telephone transfers for all Town of Colden Checking and Savings accounts.

RESOLVED THAT the Investment Policy for the Town of Colden be adopted.

RESOLVED THAT the 2026 Procurement Policy for the Town of Colden be adopted.

RESOLVED THAT the **Supervisor** be authorized to invest any surplus monies and tax monies as prescribed by law, wherever most advantageous rates are available.

RESOLVED THAT pursuant to Section 118 of NY Town Law the Town Board authorizes payment of claims presented to the Town Board and such voucher shall be accompanied by a statement by the officer who originates the claim that he approves the claim, and the services were rendered or supplied, and the equipment delivered in lieu of the verification of the creditor.

RESOLVED THAT pursuant to Section 118 of NY Town Law the Town Board may permit the Supervisor to pay claims for public utilities, insurance, debt service, postage, freight, and express charges, before they are audited or reviewed by the Town Board.

RESOLVED THAT the Highway Superintendent be requested to present with all vouchers, signed invoices showing who received what material and on what date.

RESOLVED THAT all officers be permitted to attend meetings of a legal nature and be reimbursed for the costs. Conferences should be told to the Town Board prior to attendance. Dues for national, state and county associations shall be paid by the Town of Colden from General Funds.

RESOLVED THAT all employee reimbursement requests are submitted within 60 days of said expenditures to be eligible for payment within the budgetary year. After 60 days reimbursement will be denied.

RESOLVED THAT any official using his automobile on Town Business shall be reimbursed based on **\$.725** per mile, upon submission of a duly executed voucher, stating the date, reasons for travel and the number of miles. That food allowance for employees who attend business meetings or seminars for the Town of Colden be allowed to **\$70.00** per day. Food Allowance for NY City will be **\$125.00** a day. Receipts will be required for reimbursement.

RESOLVED THAT Feed More of WNY volunteers for the Town of Colden be reimbursed based on **\$.725** per mile, upon submission of a duly executed voucher, stating the date(s) and number of miles. After 60 days reimbursement will be denied.

RESOLVED THAT the Tax Collector & Town Clerk retain a petty cash fund of **\$100.00** each during **2026**, Supervisor Office retain a petty cash fund of **\$200.00** during **2026**.

RESOLVED THAT the Town Clerk retain a petty cash fund of **\$100.00** during **2026** for collection of Water District Payments.

RESOLVED THAT the Town Court Clerk retain a petty cash fund of **\$100.00** during **2026** for collection of Court fine Payments.

RESOLVED THAT the Supervisor be authorized to pay the bills for all funds including payroll and the Town Board shall audit the bills every month prior to the Town Board meeting.

RESOLVED THAT the Supervisor shall submit to the Town Clerk within 60 days after the close of the fiscal year a copy of the report sent to the State Comptroller as required by Section 30 of the General Municipal Law; and thereafter a summary of such report to be published pursuant to law. Upon written request from the chief fiscal officer, the comptroller may extend the period for filing such report for an additional sixty days.

NEXT ITEMS ARE APPOINTMENTS & COMMITTEES

I appoint **To Be Appointed** as Town Historian at the yearly salary of **\$931.00** at a later date.

I appoint **Dennis Robinson** as Affirmative Action Officer

Town Law Section 6 authorizes the Supervisor to appoint solely in his or her discretion, committees consisting of the members of the Town Board. Since the Supervisor has the discretion regarding the creation of these committees as well as appointments of the Town Board members, the Supervisor also has the discretion of which matters are referred to the committee.

The following committees for the year 2026 appointed by the Supervisor:

Buildings	Councilman Robinson
Code Enforcement	John Kotlarsz/ Tom Dziulko
Community Development	Councilwoman Zurbrick
Dogs	Councilman Robinson
Environment	Councilman Pietraszek
Highway & Parks	Superintendent Wohlhueter/Robinson
Insurance	Councilman Robinson
Library	Councilman Hrycik
Personnel & Training Coordinator	Councilwoman Zurbrick
Planning	Councilman Hrycik
Water District	Councilman Pietraszek
Youth/Adult Recreation	Councilwoman Zurbrick

RESOLVED THAT attendance at board sessions is an essential responsibility of board members. Failure to attend 70% of sessions is grounds for revocation of appointment.

RESOLVED THAT **Crystal Barrett** be appointed as Secretary of the Board of Assessment Review, Planning, Environmental & Zoning with a wage of **\$21.16** per hour paid bi-weekly.

DePasquale stated that Paul Idzik was appointed to the Planning Board and will remain as an Environmental Board member. The Board discussed increasing the Environmental Board members' terms from 2 to 5 years.

Increase Environmental Board terms from 2 to 5 years.

MOTION made by Councilman Robinson, seconded by Councilwoman Zurbrick and approved by the following vote to increase the Environmental Board members' terms from 2 to 5 years.

On the vote:

Councilman Hrycik	yes
Councilman Robinson	yes
Councilwoman Zurbrick	yes
Councilman Pietraszek	yes
Supervisor DePasquale	yes

Planning Boards (7 – 7 Year Appointments)

Meets the 3rd Tuesday of each month @ 7 PM

Larry Krzeminski	December 31, 2031
Walter Kammer	December 31, 2032
Andrew Gow	December 31, 2027
Cheryl Schenne	December 31, 2028
Paul Idzik	December 31, 2029
George Reinhardt	December 31, 2030
John Riley	December 31, 2026

Environmental Board (5 – 5 Year Appointments)

Meets the 1st Tuesday of each month @ 7 PM

Craig Bouquin	December 31, 2029
Deborah Pasco	December 31, 2027
Linda Antkowiak	December 31, 2028
Ellen Eigenbrod	December 31, 2030
Paul Idzik	December 31, 2026

Zoning Board (5 – 5-Year Appointments).

Meets the 3rd Thursday of each month @ 7 PM

Andrew Geist	December 31, 2027
Bernie Horschel	December 31, 2026
Alexander Keogan	December 31, 2030
Linda Kotlarsz	December 31, 2028
Mark Bus	December 31, 2029

Board of Assessment Review (5 – 5 Year Appointments) 4th Tuesday of May

Jill Masset	September 30, 2028
Robert Walker	September 30, 2026
Tammy Nuttle	September 30, 2030
Leah Nuttle	September 30, 2029
Craig Bouquin	September 30, 2027
Megan Jurecki	September 30, 2026 (Alternate)

RESOLVED THAT all Department Heads and Volunteer Board Chairmen are to submit reports and/or requests to the Town Clerk within 72 hours prior to the monthly Town Board meeting. A representative from each department or board is encouraged to attend the monthly Town Board Meeting.

MOTION made by Councilwoman Zurbrick and seconded by Councilman Hrycik and approved to accept the 2026 Organizational appointments as read:

On the Vote

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

2026 Budget Modification to Water Rate

Supervisor DePasquale stated that a Public Hearing for a 2026 Budget Amendment to the annual water rate was held on January 6, 2026. The hearing's purpose was to lower the 2026 annual unit water rate from \$682.35 to \$527.32 per parcel. The initial rate of \$682.35 was calculated using higher water figures but significant repairs made to the Town's water system resulted in

reduced water use and lower costs from Erie County Water Authority. Maintaining the higher rate would have resulted in too large of a surplus.

MOTION made by Councilman Hrycik, seconded by Councilman Robinson and unanimously approved to lower the 2026 Budget water rate from \$682.35 to \$527.32 per parcel.

Supervisor James DePasquale adjourned the Organizational meeting at 6:41pm for 15 minutes for review of the Town's 2025 fiscal books. Supervisor DePasquale noted that the Town's financial books are available for public review at any time by request.

REGULAR TOWN BOARD MEETING CALLED TO ORDER AT 7:00 pm
PRESENT

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

ALSO PRESENT

Highway Superintendent Wohlhueter
CEO Kotlarsz
CEO Dziulko
Planning Board Chairman Walt Kammer
DCO Michelle Zak
Springville Journal Editor Max Borsuk
Town Clerk Jusiak
Jeff Soulder, Rep from Assemblyman DiPietro
Approximately 2 residents

MOTION made by Councilman Hrycik, seconded by Councilman Robison, and approved the minutes from the Town Board Meeting held on December 18, 2025. Councilwoman Zurbrick abstained from the vote.

PUBLIC HEARING

Adoption of revised Local Law - Chapter 98 Vehicles and Traffic

At 7:01 pm Supervisor DePasquale opened a Public Hearing to address two changes to Town of Colden Code Chapter 98 Vehicles and Traffic. The first change was to set a speed limit of 35 mph to the section of Crump Rd spanning between Rt 240 to Center St., as determined by an Erie County speed study. The second modification added restrictions on overnight parking in lots owned or maintained by the Town; no overnight parking from November 15 - April 16 and no parking for longer than 48 hours from April 16 - November 15. There were no questions or comments. The Public Hearing was closed at 7:03 pm.

MOTION made to accept the modifications to Chapter 98 Vehicles and Traffic made by Councilman Hrycik, seconded by Councilman Robinson and approved by the following vote:

On the Vote:

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

Supervisor DePasquale noted that the changes will go into effect as soon as the EC Dept of Planning responds to the law, but the signs can be ordered.

OLD BUSINESS

Increases in Fees and Fines

Supervisor DePasquale asked if there were any questions regarding proposed updates to the Town of Colden Fees and Fines. One notable change adds a fee of \$5/month after a 30-day grace period to late dog registrations. There were no comments or questions.

MOTION to accept the updated Fees and Fines made by Councilman Pietraszek, seconded by Councilwoman Zurbrick and unanimously approved.

NEW BUSINESS

No Report

COMMITTEE REPORTS

BUILDING REPORT

No report.

CODE ENFORCEMENT REPORT

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

3 Building Permits Issued	1 Court Appearance
1 New Dwelling Permit Issued	3 Fire Inspections
12 Certificates of Compliance	

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

No Report

DOG CONTROL OFFICER REPORT

Councilman Robinson stated that DCO Zak had no December dog activity but has been attending NYS Ag and Markets meetings on the new kennel regulations. Zak said the new rules are presenting a hardship to towns of all sizes as well as rescue operations.

ENVIRONMENTAL BOARD REPORT

No report

HIGHWAY AND PARKS REPORT

Superintendent Wohlhueter read the following Highway report:

January Highway Report

- We have had a busy last 6 weeks moving snow. Equipment and the crew is holding up well, with only minor breakdowns on the equipment.
- We have used roughly 25% of our 2025-26 salt quota
- I'm working with Mark Gaston from soil and water to help get funding for and a remediation plan for the slide on Crump Road.

Wohlhueter presented his agreement to spend in 2026. There were no questions or comments.

Approval of Highway Agreement to Spend

MOTION made by Councilwoman Zurbrick, seconded by Councilman Hrycik and unanimously approved the 2026 agreement to spend.

Councilman Robinson and the Board thanked Superintendent Wohlhueter for the work done by the Highway Department so far this winter.

Parks Report

DePasquale read over a list of proposed Park rules and asked the Board to review them for the February meeting.

INSURANCE REPORT

Councilman Robinson reported on the updated insurance payments to USI insurance.

LIBRARY REPORT

Councilman Hrycik reported the following:

- West Falls Colden Library is holding a sourdough bread class, preschool story time and writing club
- Boston Free Library is holding a winter preschool story hour, chess club, Lego club and is hosting a snowman craft.

PERSONNEL REPORT

Councilwoman Zurbrick read a resignation letter from Paul Sobkowiak who resigned as Town constable on 12/5/2025 for NYS retirement purposes; a formal break in service was required. He was reinstated as constable in the 2026 January Reorg minutes.

PLANNING REPORT

Councilman Hrycik said there was no December Planning Board meeting. Chairman Kammer reported that the Planning Board attended an informational session presented by Kissing Bridge

ski area regarding their proposed activities as an all-season venue. The Board’s January activities will include working on the regulation of battery energy storage systems code and animal husbandry codes in non-ag zoned areas.

WATER DISTRICT REPORT

Councilman Pietraszek read the following report:

- **Usage update:** At present time consumption billed by ECWA 1,547,000 gal. cost \$ 6,249.88 + **\$401.73**= \$ 6,651.61 expenditure for December water usage.
 - ECWA water cost \$4.2 / K
- Water usage for December– 35.8 G/M/30D
- ECWA price increase
- From \$4.04/K to \$4.37/K (\$0.33/K)
- Infrastructure \$401.73 / mth to \$434.87/mth (\$31.14)
- Continue to replace meters and registers if broken with new NexT10,
- Turned off hydrant #8 (last in BC Rd lay), waiting on parts
- Parts to fix hydrant on Rt 240 near Gutekunst arrived this week
- Have more than 10 meters not reading, Jesse working on list and emergency issues.
- Contractor pushed plastic under Rt 240 at 8911 State Rd to resolve leak, Lower water usage to 36G/M/D
- December water test at Town Hall tested positive for Coliform. The water was retested times, and all were all found to be negative. Councilman Pietraszek stated that during the initial sampling, the water spicket was not cleaned prior to testing so the sample was compromised.
- Filled DOH-5197 and testing rpts for December.

Water Billing:

- Open Accounts as of 11/01/2025 billing:

Water Charge (223 units)	\$27,574.46 (3,130,533 gal)
Infras + Capital Surchg	\$ 4,178.70
Arrears	\$ <u>-195.62</u>
Total Billed Sent	\$31,557.54
Current Receipts to date	\$26,057.72
Arrears to date	\$ 4,956.91

Approval to Raise Water Rates

Councilman Pietraszek stated that the Erie County Water Authority raised its infrastructure and cost of water rates and the suppliers are increasing their equipment costs so an increase in the Colden water rates is necessary. The Water Department determined that the quarterly base rate should be increased by \$4.40/quarter to absorb the increases. The quarterly base rate would be raised from its current rate of \$68.05 to \$72.45 beginning with the February billing.

MOTION to increase the base water rate from \$68.05 to \$72.45 made by Councilman Hrycik, seconded by Councilwoman Zurbrick and approved by the following vote:

Councilman Hrycik	yes
Councilman Robinson	no
Councilwoman Zurbrick	yes
Councilman Pietraszek	yes
Supervisor DePasquale	yes

Intermunicipal Water Agreement

Councilman Pietraszek read the following resolution to add Nathan Kalwicki of 8815 Falls Rd to the Town of Aurora's Water District.

**INTERMUNICIPAL
AGREEMENT**

AGREEMENT made this 8th day of January 2026, between

TOWN OF AURORA
575 Oakwood Avenue
East Aurora, New York 14052

and

TOWN OF COLDEN
8812 State Road
P.O. Box 335
Colden, New York 14033

WHEREAS, Nathan Kalwicki of 8815 Falls Rd, and is "part of" the original parcel 8699 Falls Rd, Town of Colden, New York has applied to the Town of Aurora to be a Aurora Water District #18 customer and,

WHEREAS, the Town of Aurora would be willing to grant an out-of-district permit for water, if the Town of Colden agrees to add any overdue water bills to the owner's annual County/Town tax bill and assessed against the property,

NOW, THEREFORE, for good and valuable consideration, the parties do hereby agree as follows:

1. The Town of Aurora shall grant an out-of-district water permit for the premises located at 8815 Falls Rd in the Town of Colden, NY.
2. The Town of Colden agrees that any overdue water bills will be added by the Town of Colden against the owner's annual County/Town tax bill and assessed against the property which said tax bill shall constitute a lien against the property.

3. The Town of Colden further agrees to remit to the Town of Aurora the overdue water bills when collected by the Town of Colden

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties have caused these presents to be signed and their respective seals to be hereunto affixed by their duly authorized officer the day and year first written above.

MOTION to accept the Intermunicipal Water Agreement to add Nathan Kalwicki of 8815 Falls Rd to the Aurora Water District made by Councilman Robinson, seconded by Councilwoman Zurbrick and unanimously approved.

RECREATION REPORT

Councilwoman Zurbrick reported:

- Miss Sarah Music Class will be at the Senior Center on Saturdays at 9:30 am from January 24th through March 7th
- Yoga Class beginning January 8th at the Senior Center

RESOLUTIONS

None

BUDGET TRANSFER

Supervisor DePasquale proposed the following budget transfers for salaries:

From: A1220.1 Supervisor Staff	\$12.00
To: A1220.11 Supervisor Personnel Services	\$6.00
To: A1410.11 Deputy Town Clerk Personnel Services	\$6.00

And

From: A77110.2 Park Summer Help	\$891.82
To: A7110.1 Parks Personnel Service	\$891.82

MOTION made by Councilman Pietraszek, seconded by Councilman Hrycik and unanimously approved the budget transfers.

TOWN CLERK REPORT

Town Clerk Jusiak reported that Waste Management bulk stickers are on sale at the Town Clerk's Office for \$5.00/ sticker. They can be attached to extra refuse bags on refuse collection day or on bulk items during the monthly bulk pickup.

SUPERVISOR’S REPORT

Supervisor DePasquale stated that there are 3 disc golf tournaments scheduled for this summer, last year’s tournament brought in over \$1,000. He is working on updating the website, possibly using Erie County’s domain so the Town will have a .gov site. He will have more information at the February meeting. DePasquale stated that he will be out of the office for a couple of weeks. He introduced Jeff Souder, a representative from Assemblyman David DiPietro’s office as a contact for New York State concerns.

PAY BILLS

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

General Fund	2025 Voucher #528 - 564	\$9,375.67
Highway Fund	2025 Voucher #179 - 198	\$26,678.23
Water District	2025 Voucher #57 - 61	\$10,455.61
Lighting District	2025 Voucher #16	\$1,846.34
Refuse District	2025 Voucher #12	\$31,830.19
Cares Act	2025 Voucher #15 - 20	\$113,937.72
General Fund	2026 Voucher # 1 - 17	\$72,281.42
Highway Fund	2026 Voucher # 1 – 2	\$3,665.90
Water District	2026 Voucher # 1	\$3,325.00

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR

The residents discussed the possible regulation of chickens, roosters and peacocks versus creating a noise ordinance. Supervisor DePasquale suggested interested residents attend the Planning Board meeting to hear what is being considered and Hrycik noted that while Planning Board meetings are open to all, public comment is reserved for Town Board meetings.

ADJOURN

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

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 8:00 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Deborah Jusiak
Town Clerk