

YORK TOWN BOARD MEETING
March 11th, 2025
7:00 p.m.

Present: Supervisor Gerald L. Deming, Councilmembers: Frank Rose Jr., Amos Smith, and Jason Swede

Absent: John Morgan

Others: Dwight Kanyuck (Town Attorney), John Witmer (Attorney, Knauf, Shaw LLP), Emily Conable, Joe McIlroy, Bryan Scott, Carl Peter (Zoning/Code Officer), Scott Hulburt, Lynn Parnell, Davies Nagel, Becky Lewis, George Worden Jr. (Highway Supt), Andrew Walton, David Deuel, Molly Cummings, Dustin Geiger and Kirk Richenberg.

Supervisor Deming opened the Town Board meeting at 7:00 p.m. and invited Councilman Swede to lead in the Pledge of Allegiance.

MINUTES:

RESOLUTION offered by Mr. Smith and seconded by Mr. Swede to approve the minutes of the February 11th, 2025 Town Board meeting. Voted on and approved, Yes-4, No-0.

BILLS:

RESOLUTION offered by Mr. Smith and seconded by Mr. Smith to approve all claims brought before the Board. Voted on and approved, Yes-4, No-0.

• General Fund Claim	# 56-80	\$15,517.58
• Consolidated Water/Sewer	# 51-74	\$35,182.33
• Highway Fund	# 35-53	\$41,894.79

PRIVILEGES OF THE FLOOR:

1) Lynn Parnell:

Mrs. Parnell informed the Board that the Hometown Heroes banner program is now underway once again. The cost to purchase a Veteran's banner will be \$100.00 for each honoree. The deadline to submit the form, picture and payment is Wednesday, April 9th.

Mrs. Parnell stated once the applications have been submitted and pictures scanned to the banner company, it will roughly take 4-6 weeks to print the banners, giving us sufficient time to add them with the others from last year, to hang in time for Memorial Day.

Mrs. Parnell added we will need to order additional brackets for the upcoming banners, which the Town was kind enough to fund previously, but have only a few remaining at this time.

Highway Supt Mr. Worden suggested perhaps placing two banners on the same pole, especially if they are related to one another, which would allow the banners to stay closer in the hamlet. Supervisor Deming agreed we may need to double-up banners if we continue to receive a number of applications as we did last year otherwise it may extend too far down Main Street.

Mrs. Parnell expressed gratitude to the Town, specifically to Mr. Worden and the Highway Department for their willingness to place and remove the banners each year.

2)Davies Nagel-Trail Town Report:

York Trail Town Committee Report to the Board 3/11/25

1. We learned that the Town Board sent in \$3500 to Letchworth Gateway Villages for the 24-25 annual fee and we thank the Board for this. Although, right now, we have no plans to apply for any grants, we will keep the Board updated on how this money is spent.
2. For the record, Becky Lewis and I would like to officially thank the members of the York Trail Town Committee for their efforts as we documented over \$20,000 of donated labor towards the projects. Hopefully, the Town Board members will have a chance to check out the amenities along the Greenway and give us some feedback. We're looking at May 3 as a ribbon cutting date.
3. Data on the economic benefits of agriculture compared with parks, etc. given to the Board.
4. Greigsville Transportation Plan updates?

Economic Impact of NYS Parks Now Rivals Agriculture

OCTOBER 2024

New report finds every \$1m invested in NYS parks results in \$10m in sales

A new economic impact report conducted by Parks & Trails New York (PTNY), The Political Economy Research Institute (PERI), and The Natural Heritage Trust finds that the annual GDP of New York State Parks and Historic Sites amounted to \$3.7 billion in 2021. This economic impact rivals that of the state's agricultural sector, which generated \$3.3 billion during the same year (U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis).

The study, based on data from Jan. 2021 through Dec. 2021, examined the growth of visitation, sales, labor income, and GDP among communities that include state parks and historic sites. This information proves the economic value of New York's State Park System, in addition to the growing popularity of public spaces and need for ongoing investment.

The report entitled New York's State Parks; The Economic engine for the State finds that park visitors generated \$5.8 billion in sales, \$2.5 billion in labor income, and \$3.7 billion in state GDP in 2021.

The report also finds that State Parks funding results in a strong return on investment. Every \$1 million invested in parks results in \$10 million in sales, \$4 million in labor income, and \$7 million in state GDP.

Parks visitation continues to grow thanks to this investment in State Parks. Of the estimated 78 million visits in 2021, 47 million came from tourists not local to the area—solidifying New York State as an premier outdoor destination. These numbers only continue to increase, as state sites saw 84 million visitors in 2023.

This influx of tourism benefits local municipalities, businesses, and communities in proximity to parks, with visitors spending on park entrance fees, gift shops, recreational equipment, food and beverages, gas stations, local transportation, lodging, and other expenses.

"Now in its centennial year, New York's state park system provides millions of New Yorkers and visitors from across the globe with world-class outdoor recreation opportunities. This report confirms what we at REI Co-op have long known to be true: Investing in our outdoor places and the ability for everyone to enjoy them is not just a necessity for our health and wellbeing, it serves as a powerful economic driver for communities of all kinds. We celebrate New York's long legacy of stewarding its natural, historic and cultural resources for the benefit of all," said Alicia Harvie, Head of Community & Government Affairs at REI Co-op.

"The recent surge in park visitation has brought significant benefits to local economies, particularly in communities like Saratoga Springs and Saratoga County. When visitors come to enjoy the natural beauty of our parks, they also explore our main streets, dine at our restaurants, and stay in our hotels. This influx of visitors translates directly into economic growth for our local businesses," said Darryl Leggeri, President, Discover Saratoga.

"We are so fortunate in Saratoga County to have three amazing State Parks, in Moreau, Waterford, and Saratoga Springs. Each of these parks helps us to attract visitors year-round to Saratoga County where they spend money and help our local businesses to succeed, grow, and thrive. These parks also are a tremendous asset for attracting talent as people love living near our state parks where their families can take advantage of all of the amenities from trails to lake access, to playgrounds and pools, golf and hiking, running, cycling, and more," said Todd Shimkus, President, Saratoga County Chamber of Commerce.

"PTNY's report demonstrates why policymakers and elected officials should invest in parks and trails across New York now more than ever. Parks like Walkway Over the Hudson not only generate jobs and business opportunity but also play a critical role in improving quality of life for our communities. It's exciting to see New York State Parks recognized as the growing economic drivers that they are," said Lori Robertson, Executive Director, Walkway Over The Hudson.

Investing in our parks is about more than just improving recreational spaces—it's about fostering vibrant, resilient communities. Daniel Shearer, P.E., Senior Principle, Saratoga Associates.

HIGHWAY REPORT:

Mr. Worden reported the following for the Highway Department:

- We have been working on our equipment

- We have ordered a lot of signage with the intention of replacing each sign as we re-do the roads
- We do have enough salt to get through the winter season
- We continue to patch potholes which is a never-ending challenge
- Retsof Road, Tenth Street and Evans Ave. are a must for road repairs
- The gas containment unit at the shop is quite rusted out, we are looking either to replace or repair the unit.
- RG&E has started their work. In one of the areas, they wanted to move the line back further, which was a non-issue on our part and overall better for us.

Supervisor Deming stated that we are receiving requests for brush pick up and asked Mr. Worden if that can take place this year. Mr. Worden responded now that we have a full crew this year as opposed to last year, we can certainly figure out a date, and commented he will coordinate with Clerk Harris.

NOTE: The scheduled date for our annual one day Spring clean up will be Monday, April 14th. (Additional information is on the Town website: www.yorkny.org)

WATER/SEWER REPORT:

Mr. Worden reported the following for the Water & Sewer Department:

- Water meters have been read for the upcoming April billing cycle
- We had two leaks recently, one in Piffard and one on Mt. Pleasant Rd. both were rectified quickly.
- Next Tuesday (March 18th) we will not be receiving water from Geneseo, but our tanks will be full prior to that. They will be working around the clock to complete their work and we will be on call to assist if needed.

Supervisor Deming inquired with the stoppage from Geneseo, how many days' worth of water will we have on hand before a potential issue. Mr. Worden replied we would have up to two (2) days' worth of water. Mr. Worden added, in the event of an emergency, we could always use the bypass approach as we have utilized before. Mr. Worden stated he will let our large water consumption users know about the "shut off" in hopes they will be able to reduce their usage for a couple of days.

****Water will be shut off from Geneseo on Tuesday, March 18th, 6am**

SEWER UPDATE:

- Maintenance on the pumps have been going well
- We gave a tour recently for interested firms quoting their services for RFP regarding the Town of York Regional Water Supply Expansion Project.

OLD BUSINESS:

1)AKZO RFP:

Attorney Kanyuck gave a brief overview to the Board regarding the need to modify the RFP rather than awarding anything at this time. After the first document was prepared, we received feedback from interested engineering firms relating to the proposed schedule and scope of the work, which was very helpful, leading us to amending the document.

Attorney Kanyuck stated he prepared an amended RFP for the Board to review, and recommended approval this evening.

AMENDED RFP:

RESOLUTION offered by Mr. Smith and seconded by Mr. Rose to issue the amended RFP for the Town of York Regional Water Supply Expansion Project to 6 Engineering firms, which is the same list used previously, with exception of C&S Companies. Voted on and approved, Yes-4, No-0.

FUNDING AGREEMENT:

RESOLUTION offered by Mr. Rose and seconded by Mr. Smith authorizing the Supervisor on behalf of the Town of York to enter into the Settlement Agreement with Livingston County and to further authorize Supervisor Deming to sign such document in order to proceed with the funding agreement. Voted on and approved, Yes-4, No-0.

NEW BUSINESS:

1)Historian Building:

a) Lease Agreement:

Supervisor Deming stated that each member of the Board received a copy of the proposed lease agreement with Emily Conable pertaining to the space we will be renting for the Town of York Historians' office, and asked if anyone had any questions.

RESOLUTION offered by Mr. Rose and seconded by Mr. Swede to approve the lease agreement prepared by Attorney Kanyuck between the Town of York and Emily Conable for a period of 5 years, commencing March 1, 2025 and ending February 28, 2030 at a fee of \$400.00 per month, for lease space for the Town of York Historian. Voted on and approved, Yes-4, No-0.

b) Window decals:

RESOLUTION offered by Mr. Swede and seconded by Mr. Smith to approve the window decals for the Historian's office in the amount of \$580.00. Voted on and approved, Yes-4, No-0.

Front large window- \$330.00
Front small door window- \$100.00
Install and production labor- \$150.00

2)Comprehensive Plan:

a) SEQR:

Attorney Kanyuck discussed and reviewed the 3-Part Full Environmental Assessment Form with the Board based on the recommendations made by the Comp Plan Committee, and asked if the Board wanted any additional studies to take place or if all were comfortable moving forward.

The Town Board agreed they were ready to proceed.

NEGATIVE DECLARATION:

TOWN OF YORK

**STATE ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY REVIEW ACT RESOLUTION FOR
ISSUING A NEGATIVE DECLARATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL SIGNIFICANCE
REGARDING THE ADOPTION OF A COMPREHENSIVE PLAN**

WHEREAS, the York Town Board (the "Board") has determined that the adoption of the Town of York Comprehensive Plan Update (the "Plan") is a Type I Action pursuant to the State Environmental Quality Review Act ("SEQRA"), and the Board is the only involved agency for the SEQRA process; and,

WHEREAS, the York Town Board caused a Full Environmental Assessment Form to be prepared for assessing the potential environmental impacts that may result from the adoption of the Plan; and,

WHEREAS, the York Town Board has reviewed and considered Part 1 of the Full Environmental Assessment Form, public comments and environmental record concerning the Plan, as well as completed the applicable Parts 2 and 3 of the Full Environmental Assessment Form and identified no significant adverse impacts;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that no potential significant adverse environmental impacts were identified with the proposed adoption of the York Comprehensive Plan Update using the criteria for determining significance identified in 6 NYCRR § 617.7(c)(1) and in accordance with 6 NYCRR § 617.7(c)(2) and (3), and the York Town Board hereby finds and concludes that the Proposed Action will not present a potential significant adverse environmental impact and hereby issues a Negative Declaration; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Supervisor is directed to sign the Determination of Significance to indicate the issuance of a Negative Declaration; and,


BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that copies of this Resolution and notice of the Negative Declaration as adopted by the Town Board be filed, published and circulated to the extent required by any applicable ordinance, statute or regulation, including publication in NYSDEC's Environmental Notice Bulletin as well as provided to the Town Engineer, and the Town Clerk.

The above Resolution was made by Councilman Amos Smith and seconded by Councilman Jason Swede at a Town Board Meeting held on March 11, 2025, and after discussion was approved by a roll call vote of the Town Board recorded as follows:

Voted on and approved, Yes-4, No-0.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Councilman Jason Swede	Aye
Councilman Amos Smith	Aye
Councilman Frank Rose Jr.	Aye
Supervisor Gerald L. Deming	Aye

I, Christine M. Harris, Town Clerk, Town of York, Livingston County, do hereby certify that the foregoing resolution to be a true and exact copy of said original resolution as adopted by the York Town Board and contained in the official minutes of said Board.



Christine M. Harris,
York Town Clerk

Dated: March 12, 2025

Attorney Kanyuck commented after the work session (February 19th at 6pm) with members of the Comp Plan Committee and Town Board, information was added and the Plan was updated accordingly.

ADOPTION OF COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

TOWN OF YORK

TOWN BOARD RESOLUTION TO ADOPT THE COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

WHEREAS, the York Town Board makes the following findings:

1. The York Town Board established a special committee to prepare a Comprehensive Plan Update, and said committee worked with CC Environment and LaBella Associates to develop an updated draft Comprehensive Plan; and
2. The special board held a public workshop on the draft Comprehensive Plan Update on October 16, 2024; and
3. The York Town Board received the draft Comprehensive Plan on October 31, 2024, and has, after careful study, considered the proposed document entitled Town of York Comprehensive Plan; and
4. The York Town Board has considered comments made at the Public Hearing held on December 3, 2024; and
5. The York Town Board referred the draft Comprehensive Plan to the Livingston County Planning Department, which approved the referral at its meeting of November 14, 2024 and provided comments in response to the referral on November 26, 2024, which were considered by the York Town Board; and
6. On February 19, 2025, the York Town Board and the special committee met in a workshop to further discuss the comprehensive plan; and
7. Following the February 19, 2025 workshop, the following updates were made to the draft Comprehensive Plan:
 - a. Updated the solar map and the future land use map with the most current design of the proposed solar projects (as of June 2024) and adjusted the acreage accordingly in the narrative.
 - b. Under Goal #1 (Capacity) removed specific actions associated with budgeting and host community benefit funding.
 - c. Added a specific action under Goal #3/Action #4 to further address the Town's interest and need to support businesses worded as follows: "modify zoning and extend infrastructure as needed to support additional business in appropriate areas where they would not conflict with other Town priorities."
 - d. Removed job location map in the community profile.
8. Pursuant to the State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQRA) regulations, the York Town Board, as the only involved agency, has completed the Environmental Review Record on the proposed adoption and maintenance of said document and issued a Negative Declaration of environmental significance on March 11, 2025; and

9. The York Town Board acknowledges that the adoption of said Comprehensive Plan is a plan for guiding conservation and development in the Town of York and, as such, will require periodic maintenance to keep the document viable; and
10. The York Town Board has carefully considered the impacts associated with the Plan adoption, as well as comments on the draft Comprehensive Plan submitted by the Town Planning Board and the public, and finds that said Plan constitutes a suitable, logical and timely strategy for the future development and conservation in the Town of York; and
11. The York Town Board acknowledges and hereby gives public notice that official copies of the Comprehensive Plan and all modifications thereof shall be on file in the Office of the York Town Clerk;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the document consisting of text, maps and charts entitled Town of York Comprehensive Plan, to be dated March 11, 2025, is hereby adopted as the Comprehensive Plan for the Town of York, Livingston County, New York in accordance with Section 272-a of the New York State Town Law.

Motion was made by Councilman Jason Swede to adopt the above Resolution and seconded by Councilman Amos Smith at a Town Board meeting held on March 11, 2025, and after discussion was approved by the following roll call vote:

Voted on and approved, Yes-4, No-0.

ROLL CALL VOTE:	Councilman Jason Swede	Aye
	Councilman Amos Smith	Aye
	Councilman Frank Rose Jr.	Aye
	Supervisor Gerald L. Deming	Aye

I, Christine M. Harris, Town Clerk, Town of York, Livingston County, do hereby certify that the foregoing resolution to be a true and exact copy of said original resolution as adopted by the York Town Board and contained in the official minutes of said Board.


Christine M. Harris,
York Town Clerk

Dated: March 12, 2025

3)Greigsville Corridor Project:

Supervisor Deming gave a brief overview of the summary of the consultant selection process and Committee recommendation for the hamlet of Greigsville Corridor Improvements Project.

The Committee consists of Supervisor Deming and Deputy Supervisor Frank Rose, Planning Board Chairman Joe McIlroy, Blaine VanRy (Community member) and David Furletti (YCS Supt. of School).

Supervisor stated that a Request for Proposals (RFP) was issued to all 15 firms listed on the NYS Department of Transportations' Local Design Services Agreement (LDSA) on January 13, 2025, with a deadline of February 7th. The Town received a total of 7 proposals.

*The LDSA is a list of architectural & engineering consultants approved for federal aid transportation projects.

The Committee met on February 13th to discuss and evaluate the proposals and determined that 2 firms would be interviewed on February 28th. Those firms were:

- 1.- TYLin
- 2.- C&S Companies

Supervisor Deming stated based on the evaluation and interview process, the Committee would like to recommend that the Town proceed in contract negotiations with TYLin, as the most qualified firm for the hamlet of Greigsville Safety Improvements Project.

RESOLUTION offered by Mr. Smith & seconded by Mr. Swede authorizing the Supervisor to proceed with contract negotiation with TYLin for the Greigsville Corridor Project. Voted on and approved, Yes-4, No-0.

4)Court Audit:

RESOLUTION offered by Councilman Swede and seconded by Councilman Smith acknowledging that the York Town Board examined Justice Thomas Porter and Justice Daniel Koch's court records for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2024. The Board found the records to be procedurally adequate for control of monies, per Section 2019-a of the Uniform Justice Court Act. Voted on and approved, Yes-4, No-0.

OTHER:

1)Introduction:

Attorney Kanyuck introduced to the Town Board, Attorney Jonathan Witmer from his office at Knauf Shaw. Mr. Kanyuck stated in the event he is unable to attend a Town Board meeting or other Town related meetings, Attorney Witmer will be able to do so. Mr. Witmer recently attended the Planning Board meeting on February 26th and will continue to attend those meetings as needed.

ADJOURNMENT

RESOLUTION offered by Mr. Swede and seconded by Mr. Rose to adjourn the Town Board meeting until April 8th, 2025. Voted on and approved, Yes- 4, No- 0.

Town Board meeting closed at 7:31 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Christine M. Harris
Christine M. Harris, Clerk