

Minutes of the Geneseo Town Board Meeting
April 9, 2025

Members Present:

William Wadsworth, Town Supervisor
Ronald Maxwell, Town Councilmember
Gary Mix, Town Councilmember
Ellen M Zapf RMC, Town Clerk

Also Present:

Larry Levey, Highway Superintendent

Excused:

Matthew Griffo, Deputy Supervisor, and Robert Deming, Town Councilmember

Visitors:

John Morley, Clare Maloney, Drew Rogerson, Annika Shiffer, Meg Reitz, and Nathan Walz

Meeting Opening:

Supervisor Wadsworth called the meeting to order at 4:35 p.m. Councilmember Maxwell led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance. Supervisor Wadsworth requested a moment of silence in honor of the men and women serving worldwide.

Approval of Minutes:

Councilmember Maxwell moved, and Councilmember Mix seconded the motion to approve the March 12, 2025, meeting minutes as presented. The motion was approved with votes as follows: Wadsworth - aye, Maxwell - aye, Mix - aye, while Deming and Griffo were absent. There were no opposing votes.

Approval of Minutes:

Councilmember Mix moved, and Councilmember Maxwell seconded the motion to approve the March 28, 2025, meeting minutes as presented. The motion was approved with votes as follows: Wadsworth - aye, Maxwell - aye, Mix - aye, while Deming and Griffo were absent. There were no opposing votes.

Approval of Abstract #4 of 2025:

Councilmember Mix moved, and Councilmember Maxwell seconded the motion to approve Abstract #4 of 2025 and vouchers 116 through 176 as they stand.

FUND	AMOUNT
GENERAL A VOUCHERS	\$77,353.24
GENERAL B VOUCHERS	\$2,506.56
HIGHWAY DA VOUCHERS	\$33,722.70
HIGHWAY DB VOUCHERS	\$4,899.83
SW6 CAPITAL FUNDS	\$0.00
CAPITAL PROJECT FUND (H1)	\$13,500
SPECIAL LIGHTING DISTRICT VOUCHER (SL)	\$235.69
SEWER DISTRICT #1 (SS1)	\$493.93
WATER OPERATING & MAINTENANCE VOUCHERS (SW0)	\$3,648.12
SPECIAL ITEMS (H2) (SW5)	\$7,873.84
FIRE CONTRACTS (SF)	\$168,320.00
ENGINEERING (SW1)	\$0.00
TOTAL	\$312,543.91

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Supervisor Wadsworth stated that he will hold voucher #171 to pay the Village of Geneseo for the building permit for the new town hall. He wants to discuss the amount charged to another municipality. The voucher is \$12,800.00.

The motion was approved with votes as follows: Wadsworth - aye, Maxwell - aye, Mix - aye, while Deming and Griffo were absent. There were no opposing votes.

Accept the Town Clerk's Monthly Report – March 2025:

Councilmember Maxwell moved, and Councilmember Mix seconded the motion to accept the Town Clerk's Monthly Report for March 2025.

Supervisor for General Fund \$ 3,572.00

Supervisor for Part Town Fund \$ 3,867.00

Livingston County Treasurer for Dog Licenses \$ 42.00

NYS Ag. & Markets for spay/neuter program \$ 16.00

New York State Department of Health \$ 90.00

TOTAL \$ 7,587.00

The motion was approved with votes as follows: Wadsworth - aye, Maxwell - aye, Mix - aye, while Deming and Griffo were absent. There were no opposing votes.

Open Public Hearing for Local Law #1 of 2025:

Supervisor Wadsworth opened the public hearing for Local Law No.1 of 2025 entitled "Allow for Construction and Repair of Sidewalks Located in the Town of Geneseo." He welcomed any comments from the public at that time.

Visitor Meghan Reitz urged the town board to consider, in addition to the local law, the zoning and parking laws currently in place to densify construction in sidewalk districts, which would generate more tax dollars to maintain the sidewalks.

Councilmember Mix suggested adding wording to the local law regarding the time frame to obtain a permit and when the town would take over due to noncompliance.

Supervisor Wadsworth welcomed Clare Maloney, a resident of Pole Bridge Road, and gave her the privilege of the floor.

Ms. Maloney requested the board to begin reviewing the extension of Water District #6 to Pole Bridge Road between Triphammer Road and Lima Road. This would provide a water source, enhance the value of homes and properties, and increase the potential for residential growth.

Supervisor Wadsworth stated that the Village of Avon is planning to rebuild the water infrastructure, and the Town of Geneseo would then create a new water district on Triphammer Road. Once the work is completed, there will be a stub about two hundred feet on Pole Bridge Road. From that, we could connect Lima Road and Pole Bridge Road, saving residents on Pole Bridge Road some money.

Supervisor Wadsworth mentioned that the Assessor would like the board to pass a resolution to request state assistance in funding the town-wide assessment reevaluation scheduled for this year. The board took the following action:

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Requesting State Assistance for a Reassessment Project for the Town of Geneseo:

Councilmember Maxwell moved, and Councilmember Mix seconded the motion to approve the following:

WHEREAS, the Town of Geneseo has undergone the revaluation of real properties within the Town, the Town feels that it is necessary to conduct a reassessment project of all properties for the 2026 assessment roll to maintain a uniform standard of assessment for the Town; and

NOW, THEREFORE, it is hereby

RESOLVED, by the Town Board of the Town of Geneseo, New York, that the Town of Geneseo hereby requests State assistance, specifically from the NYS Office of Real Property Services, to do a reassessment project to maintain a uniform standard of assessment under Section 305 of the Real Property Tax Law; and it is further

RESOLVED, that the Supervisor is hereby authorized and directed to expend the necessary funds for the preparation of said plan and the establishment and maintenance of the Real Property Improvement Program. The motion carried with Wadsworth - aye, Deming - absent, Maxwell - aye, Mix - aye, and Griffo - absent. Nays: None.

Supervisor Wadsworth announced that the Geneseo Garden Club wishes to utilize the meeting building at Long Point Park from May 1 to October 31, 2025, for crafting and storage purposes. The crafts produced will be sold at the Long Point Craft Sale in July to generate funds for the club. The board made the following decision:

Approval of Geneseo Garden Club's Use of Meeting Building at Long Point Park:

Councilmember Mix proposed, and Councilmember Maxwell seconded, the motion to permit the Geneseo Garden Club to use the meeting building at Long Point Park from May 1 to October 31, 2025, for crafting and storage. The motion was approved with votes as follows: Wadsworth - aye, Maxwell - aye, Mix - aye, while Deming and Griffo were absent. There were no opposing votes.

Supervisor Wadsworth further stated that the Geneseo Garden Club intends to hold its annual plant sale at Gateway Park on Saturday, May 17, 2025. This event aims to raise funds for various projects. The board made the following decision:

Approval of Geneseo Garden Club's Annual Plant Sale at Gateway Park:

Councilmember Maxwell moved, and Councilmember Mix seconded, the motion to allow the Geneseo Garden Club to conduct its annual plant sale at Gateway Park on Saturday, May 17, 2025. The motion was approved with votes as follows: Wadsworth - aye, Maxwell - aye, Mix - aye, while Deming and Griffo were absent. There were no opposing votes.

The Conesus Lake Association plans to hold its annual craft sale at Long Point Park in July and has requested that the town board waive the park fees. The board made the following decision:

Waiver of Long Point Park Fees for Conesus Lake Association's Annual Craft Sale:

Councilmember Mix moved, and Councilmember Maxwell seconded, the motion to waive the Long Point Park fees for the Conesus Lake Association's annual craft sale on July 19 and 20, 2025. The motion was approved with votes as follows: Wadsworth - aye, Maxwell - aye, Mix - aye, while Deming and Griffo were absent. There were no opposing votes.

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Councilmember Mix inquired about how the town distinguishes between organizations and individuals wishing to use the pavilion at Long Point Park. What are the criteria for fee waiver eligibility?

Supervisor Wadsworth clarified that fees are waived for non-profit organizations, while individuals are required to pay to reserve the space. The policy will be reviewed at the next meeting.

Supervisor Wadsworth noted that a thank-you note was received from the Village of Geneseo’s DPW for assistance by the highway crew with a significant water project.

New Building Update:

A permit from the village has been received, contingent upon obtaining an easement with the county for the property adjacent to the building. We expect to receive communication from the county’s attorney within the next week, which will allow the town to commence with the project.

Triphammer Road Water Project Update:

A new survey for the petition, which needs to be signed by residents interested in forming a new water district, has been received. MRB Group will attend the next town board meeting to explain the necessary steps to establish the new water district.

Marijuana Dispensary Update:

The board has been approached regarding the possibility of establishing a marijuana dispensary on Route 63 in the Town of Geneseo. They have actively sought feedback from various municipalities and local officials concerning this proposal. Since only three board members are present, Supervisor Wadsworth prefers to wait for all members to be in attendance before deciding.

Councilmember Mix spoke with officials from the city of Oneonta, which has a dispensary. He consulted with the city clerk and the chief of police.

- They have an excellent camera system.
- Buyers must be logged in.
- The experience has been incredibly positive for the city.
- In 2023, the city generated \$33,000 in revenue.
- In 2024, the revenue increased to \$115,000.
- Measuring the impact of illegal sales is challenging.
- Overall, the city clerk and the chief of police are comfortable with the dispensary.

Councilmember Deming provided the town board with the following information via email:

Local Entity		Representative	General Support	Comments/Concerns
SUNY Geneseo		Dr. Battles	Yes	Unopposed from a legal/state standpoint but concerned about the safety of the location and foot traffic.
Village of Geneseo		Mayor Ivers	TBD	Planned to discuss at the Village board meeting.
Village of Geneseo		Chief Osganian	No	Concerned about increased crime and cited

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Police Department			instances at past/present smoke shops.
Village of Geneseo Fire Department	Chief Chanler	No	Concerned about the safety of the location, increased usage, and legality of usage (state vs. federal).
Livingston County Sheriff	Sheriff Dougherty	No	No additional comments.
Livingston County DA	DA Williams	n/a	Unable to comment.

After discussions with these individuals, the consensus is that community leaders are not in favor of allowing a dispensary in the town of Geneseo. While they acknowledge the potential tax benefits, most remain firmly opposed. Although it is difficult to overlook the possible tax revenue for our future budget, my current impression is that the community does not support the dispensary. One additional step we could consider is placing a survey on the town website to gather feedback from all residents, which may indicate more support. I would only recommend this if there is sufficient backing among our board to continue the discussion.

Pedestrian and Traffic Safety Board Update:

Councilmember Mix provided an update to the board regarding the committee's ongoing projects, which included the following:

- Committee Members will meet with Assemblywoman Andrea Bailey and Senator Pam Hemling’s Chief of Staff on April 16th to revisit two requests: the speed limit on Route 39 and the beacons at the crossroads of Route 20A.
- We are currently reconfiguring the reaction plan for this year.
- There is a proposal for the town to install a sidewalk on the west side of Route 39, which would enhance pedestrian and biking traffic and align with our objectives.
- The DOT is reviewing its process for establishing speed limits for schools.

A request for funding for the projects was suggested.

On behalf of the Greenwood Sustainable Infrastructure, Annika Shiffer and Drew Rogerson presented agrivoltaics and the potential changes to the town's current zoning laws. Information packets were distributed, and they are seeking feedback and information from the board.

Supervisor Wadsworth expressed a desire to meet with Annika, Drew, and the Code Officer to discuss this type of project.

Public Hearing on Local Law No. 1:

Supervisor Wadsworth inquired if there were any further comments on Local Law No. 1. With none presented, he stated that the public hearing would remain open until the next board meeting on May 14, 2025.

Councilmember Maxwell proposed sending a congratulatory card to Attorney Erica Elliott on the birth of her child. The board concurred with this suggestion.

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Resolution to Surplus Property Subject to Permissive Referendum:

Councilmember Mix moved, and Councilmember Maxwell seconded the motion:

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that at a regular meeting held on the 9th day of April 2025, the Town Board of the Town of Geneseo, New York (the “Town”) duly adopted a resolution, an abstract of which follows, which resolution is subject to a permissive referendum pursuant to Town Law Article 7 of the State of New York.

RESOLUTION ADOPTED BY THE TOWN BOARD
OF THE TOWN OF GENESEO, NEW YORK
AT A MEETING HELD ON April 9, 2025,

BE IT RESOLVED, by the affirmative vote of a majority of the total voting strength of the Town Board of the Town of Geneseo, County of Livingston, State of New York, as follows:

Section 1. The Surplus Property identified in the Resolution and depicted as ‘Area To Be Conveyed’ (the “Surplus Property”) on the Preliminary Parcel Line Adjustment Map Showing Lands of Town of Geneseo & Aprile Associates, LP, Drawing No. RLS #0192.2 prepared by Ransom Land Surveying dated December 18, 2024 attached to the Resolution as **Schedule B** is hereby found to be surplus real property of the Town and is not needed for any Town purpose or any public purpose and so may be divested and/or disposed of as determined by the Town Supervisor, in accordance with law.

Section 2. The Town Supervisor is authorized to execute all necessary documents to subdivide, convey, sell, and/or transfer the Surplus Property to Aprile Associates LP in furtherance of the Project, subject to a permissive referendum on petition in accordance with Town Law Section 90. The Town Supervisor is further authorized to subdivide, sell, convey, and/or transfer the Surplus Property to Aprile Associates LP for and on behalf of the Town upon compliance with all lawful procedure.

Section 3. The Town Supervisor is authorized to accept conveyance and/or dedication of the Easement from Aprile Associates LP to the Town.

Section 4. The Town Clerk is directed to post and publish a notice (the “Notice”), which shall set forth the date of the adoption of this resolution and contain an abstract of this resolution concisely stating the purpose and effect thereof. Such Notice must be posted and published within 10 days after the adoption of this resolution in the same manner as provided for notice of a special election. The notice shall specify that said resolution was adopted subject to a permissive referendum.

This resolution is subject to a permissive referendum pursuant to Town Law § 64.

The motion was approved with votes as follows: Wadsworth - aye, Maxwell - aye, Mix - aye, while Deming and Griffo were absent. There were no opposing votes.

Adjournment:

Councilmember Mix moved to adjourn the meeting at 5:40 PM, with Councilmember Maxwell seconding the motion. The motion was approved with votes as follows: Wadsworth - aye, Maxwell - aye, Mix - aye, while Deming and Griffo were absent. There were no opposing votes.

Ellen M Zapf, RMC
Town Clerk