

TOWN BOARD MINUTES-DRAFT

On April 13, 2026, the regular meeting of the Springfield Town Board was held at the community center on County Highway 29A. Springfield Center, NY.

Present: Galen Criqui, Dale Schultz, Martha Oakley, Regina Oakes, Adam Halay, Jeff Brown, Jeannette Armstrong

Guests: Keith Mc Carty, Henry Miller, Gabriella Augustine, Lucy Townsend, Susan Weikel, Jerome Oakes, Calley Schultz, Miranda Stocking, Diane Wells, Susan Goettel, Lance and Kelly Wright, Randy Stocking

Criqui called the meeting to order at 7 PM and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited. He called for public comment.

Susan Weikel responded by speaking about possible liabilities for the town. The expense of the Christmas lights that are still on, the defective sidewalk in the front of the community center, the community meals and the questionable water quality in the building, and the noise and loud music and use of alcohol at the community center pavilion when parties are held there in the summer and pet waste disposal. Criqui said that the water samples that have been taken every month have passed the tests.

Jeff Brown read the April highway report aloud and discussed it.
(Enclosed)

Criqui discussed the EMS ambulance contract with the Village of Cooperstown. The price for half the town's service went from \$4400 to \$14,800. There was such a significant increase in the cost that Springfield is considering using the county's ambulance service instead, but no decision has been made yet. A letter was received regarding elderly residents who need assistance in town. On April 30, a list will be posted in the library of names of people who are available to help them.

Marie Armstrong will be the new summer program coordinator with other helpers. Dale Schultz reported that the alarm system at the community

center passed inspection and an upgrade is being considered for the future.

Oakes reported that park passes for trailers and vehicles are now available. There were approximately 90 people present at the March luncheon at the community center. Bottled drinks are the only liquids consumed there. The last luncheon this season will be on May 16th and they will resume in the fall.

Miller reported on the planning board meeting for April. The Springfield Planning Board has filed to be the lead agency on the solar farm. A special use permit was granted for a new Amish school on Hinds Road. He discussed the lake protection law and the extension of the no-wake zone, and surfing the shallow water at the north end of the lake which is almost a wetland now. He also talked about permitted uses; special use permits and cluster development and reviewed parts of the subdivision law.

Calley Schultz said the annual inspection by agriculture and markets went well. She will take a DCO training class on May 6-7 at a cost of \$160 for early registration. Two dogs were taken from the state park to the SPCA by a good Samaritan on 4/11/26. She had to sign paperwork for them but to date they have not been retrieved.

Mc Carty said he had nothing new to report on county business.

The clerk collected a total of \$824.00. \$817 was paid to the town and \$7.00 was paid to the state. A MOTION WAS MADE BY OAKLEY AND SECONDED BY HALAY TO APPROVE THE TOWN CLERK'S MONTHLY REPORT FOR MARCH 2026. Voted, carried, all votes aye.

Criqui presented the Supervisor's Financial Report, read it aloud and discussed it. He provided the figures for the Highway and General Fund revenues. He said all the 2026 budget money has been received by the tax collector. He gave the total of the NY Class Investment Fund and said he put budget money into the NY Class account to earn interest until it is needed later. A MOTION WAS MADE BY OAKES AND SECONDED BY OAKLEY TO APPROVE THE SUPERVISOR'S MONTHLY FINANCIAL REPORT FOR MARCH 2026. Voted, carried, all votes aye.

Criqui read aloud the resolution for Local Law #1 of 2026 which permits the Town of Springfield to override the tax levy limit. A MOTION WAS MADE BY SCHULTZ AND SECONDED BY HALAY TO ADOPT LOCAL LAW #1 OF 2026. Voted, carried, all votes aye. Mc Carty remarked that the town should consider a re-valuation since it hasn't been done in many years to make things more equitable.

The new salt shed was discussed. Criqui read the resolution aloud for Eagle Associates of Cazenovia L.L.C, a dealer for Brightspan Building system Inc., a Sourcewell bid contract with specifications at a cost of \$523,860.47 for a 120'x 72' with 10'poured concrete walls, fabric covered roof system salt shed without a floor to be built on a town prepared site north of the current highway garage on town property. This lowest responsible offer was presented in accordance with the procurement policies of the Town of Springfield, the Otsego County SWC and the State of New York. A MOTION WAS MADE BY SCHULTZ AND SECONDED BY OAKES TO ACCEPT THIS BID. Voted, carried, all votes aye.

The WSC/9E meeting on the wake zone law and wake-board boat ban law was discussed. Wake boarding destroys the eco system since shallow water areas are vulnerable. A MOTION WAS MADE BY OAKLEY AND SECONDED BY OAKES TO SCHEDULE A PUBLIC HEARING ON MAY 11, AT 7:15 PM TO DISCUSS THE OTSEGO LAKE PROTECTION LAW. Voted, carried, all votes aye.

Criqui read aloud a resolution for the Town of Springfield's new salt storage shed titled as follows: A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF A BOND ANTICIPATION NOTE OF SAID TOWN IN THE AMOUNT OF \$250,000 IN ANTICIPATION OF THE SALE OF BONDS TO PAY DOWN THE BALANCE OWED FOR THE COST OF CONSTRUCTION OF A NEW SALT SHED. The interest rate will be 3.60%. A MOTION WAS MADE BY HALAY AND SECONDED BY OAKLEY TO APPROVE THE RESOLUTION FOR THE BOND ANTICIPATION NOTE. Voted, carried, all votes aye.

There is a price update for the Springfield landing boat spaces this year as follows: slip numbers 1-24 will be \$500.00, slips 25-30 will be \$350, and slip 31 will be \$250. Post deposits will increase from \$50 to \$100. The

regulations for the Springfield Landing were presented. (Enclosed) A MOTION WAS MADE BY SCHULTZ AND SECONDED BY OAKLEY TO ADOPT THE NEW PRICING AND REGULATIONS. Voted, carried, all vote ayes.

With much regret, it has been decided by the town board not to provide swimming lessons at the Springfield Landing this year. It has become increasingly expensive and difficult to hire a qualified WSI Instructor and there isn't enough interest with few children participating to make it worthwhile and there is also the liability to consider. The summer program will continue and will be enhanced at the community center.

Regarding the Belmonte situation, it has been agreed that by May 15th, if the watershed committee approves a septic inspection on their property on Route 80, (previously the Starr residence,) that they will be able to continue to have a boat slip.

Criqui's Annual Financial Report was approved by the NY State Comptroller.

The Opera wants to rent the gym at the community center from April 20 - May 8 and from May 26-June 30 for \$6,000. A MOTION WAS MADE BY HALAY AND SECONDED BY OAKES TO APPROVE THE RENTAL. Voted, carried, all votes aye.

It has been determined by the Springfield Town Board that launching a boat without a launch sticker is causing overcrowding and unsafe use of the Springfield Landing. A MOTION WAS MADE BY SCHULTZ AND SECONDED BY OAKES TO FIX A PENALTY OF \$200 FOR ANYONE WHO LAUNCHES A BOAT WITHOUT A STICKER. Voted, carried, all votes aye. (If there is a dispute, the landing manager will determine if the town's enforcement officer should take action to collect the fine. Payment must be made from 9 AM to 12PM weekdays at the Land Use Office at the community center.)

Miranda Stocking discussed food trucks and the possibility of using them in the summer at the community center. The idea was received with some optimism.

Dale Scultz and Adam Halay performed an audit on the Justice Books, and everything was compliant and satisfactory.

A thank you note was received from the 4H group that used the community center gym.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY SCHULTZ AND SECONDED BY HALAY TO PAY CLAIMS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$11,876.17 FOR THE 2026 APRIL GENERAL FUND. Voted, carried, all votes aye.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY OAKES AND SECONDED BY OAKLEY TO APPROVE PAYMENT OF CLAIMS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$30,101.43 FOR THE APRIL 2026 HIGHWAY FUND. Voted, carried, all votes aye.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY OAKLEY AND SECONDED BY HALAY TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 9PM. Voted, carried, all votes aye.

Jeannette Armstrong, Town Clerk and Recording Secretary