

TOWN BOARD MINUTES-DRAFT

On August 10, 2026, the regular meeting of the Springfield Town Board was held at the community center on County Highway 29A.

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

Guests: Henry Miller, Keith Mc Carty, Barbara and Stephen Purcell, Calley Schultz, Amanda Stocking, Rob Benson, Jeff Mc Cord, Gabriella Augustine, Steve More, Jean Krause, Lluís Torrent, Craig Hysack, Marie Armstrong, Susan Goettel, Mike from Cooperstown-FD, Maria Barr

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

Marie Armstrong reported that everyone had a great time at the summer program this year and they took many field trips, participated in Mappy Oakley's puppet making and Henry Miller's leathercrafting, and she was grateful for the special help from Jody Mravlia. She thanked the board for the opportunity to serve the town and said she really enjoyed the experience.

Jeff Brown read the Highway Report aloud and discussed it. (Enclosed)

Under correspondence, Criqui said he received two letters containing comments about the Manochurian subdivision from people in Cooperstown. They were against the project and expressed concern about water supply and traffic, roads, etc.

Committee Report: Martha Oakley said everyone had a great time during the summer program and some of them continue to work on their puppets. She especially admired one little girl's creative ability. Martha would also like to explore further possibilities for a health and exercise program that would benefit the whole community. She said grants were available to foster this idea.

Miller reported on some planning board activities. The negative declaration on the solar farm special use permit was finished on June 25, 2026. Nothing new was presented to the board regarding the Manochurian subdivision. Requests sent out to the various agencies to be lead agency received approval except for the Town of Otsego, but they didn't ask to be lead agency. He said Charlie Gottlieb would explain the situation. So far there have been three applications for solar panels in town, two on roofs and one on the ground. His office is no longer going to be involved with the Watershed Committee and Miller has changed his hours of service and will be available now from 1-3 PM instead of 9-11 AM

Calley Schultz said the situation with the dog on Swamp Road is ongoing and the man has one last extension until 8/14 to act. On 7/17 a dog nipped a cyclist on County Route 30. He is doing a ten-day quarantine and was told to get a vaccine and a license. The dog is now up to date on the vaccine, but he still needs to have a license. Calley is still working toward a solution on the barking dog in the center. An SPCA rabies clinic has been set for this Wednesday from 9-11 AM in the gym at the community center. Fliers and posters have been placed all over town and the information was put on Facebook. Calley will be present to hand out the applications and collect the fees for the licenses.

Keith Mc Carty, County Representative, read from the treasurer's report that sales tax collected is 2.71% higher than last year, which is slightly higher than the budget. Money has been paid out to the towns and villages and the city of Oneonta in keeping with the sales tax sharing agreement. Currently, Otsego County has no long-term debt but that will change soon when the new construction begins at the Southern Transfer Site. He spoke about the County's CD's that earn interest annually, as well as the Savings account, Chase Bank and NYClass accounts. Some Occupancy Tax has been collected for the General and Highway Funds, and most of that tax will be collected by the end of the summer. Currently, for the 2025 collection, 482 parcels (1.19%) are in arrears for \$1,431,312.67. For 2026, 2,152 parcels (5.32%) are in arrears for \$6,338,004.78. This includes

bankruptcy, that will be taken out before auction. The county has made other municipalities whole, and they are still trying to collect this money. Auction update: the last day to pay 2024 in REM taxes was June 30, 2026. Auction date is August 12, if courts sign off and they are looking at an alternate date of September 30. Hazardous Waste Days in Unadilla are August 14th from 8-11AM and in Cooperstown from 8 AM to 1 PM.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY OAKLEY AND SECONDED BY SCHULTZ TO APPROVE THE MINUTES FROM THE JULY MEETING. Voted, carried, all votes' ayes.

The clerk collected a total of \$164 for July. \$53.08 was paid to the town and \$110.92 was paid to the state. A MOTION WAS MADE BY SCHULTZ AND SECONDED BY OAKLEY TO APPROVE THE TOWN CLERK'S MONTHLY REPORT FOR JULY 2026. Voted, carried, all votes' aye.

Criqui read the supervisor's report loud. The total General and Highway Fund revenue was \$40,228.60. The NYClass investment is now yielding 3.533%. All the budget money has been received by the tax collector and Criqui has invested some of it in the NYClass fund to earn interest for use later and that amount is \$352,105 in budget money. He withdrew 150K from the NYClass fund for a downpayment on the salt shed. 50 K was withdrawn three times to pay highway bills from the NYClass fund and as part of its allotment and there is still 150 K left of highway budget money in the NYClass Fund. The General Fund lent Highway Fund 12K for a short-term loan and another 10K to pay bills. They are awaiting the snow and ice check.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY OAKES AND SECONDED BY OAKLEY TO APPROVE THE SUPERVISOR'S MONTHLY FINANCIAL REPORT FOR JULY 2026. Voted, carried, all votes' ayes.

Members of the Fire Department discussed the ambulance service in Springfield. The fire district wants to keep the coverage by the Village of Cooperstown instead of going with the county coverage. Since the Town Board is responsible for the ambulance coverage, they need time to draw

up a resolution for approval. The fire department will obtain a certificate of need (CON). The entire town needs to be covered. The Fire Department crew wants village coverage with the county for back-up.

There was discussion about the wake board boats and the initiative to ban the boats altogether. It was decided to extend the wake zone and only allow these boats to use the lake's deep water. Cooperstown wanted us to use their law, but Criqui introduced Local Law II of 2026 and read it aloud. The purpose of the local law is to protect the shoreline and wetlands of Otsego Lake with a no-wake zone within the Town of Springfield, Otsego County, State of New York. A MOTION WAS MADE BY SCHULTZ AND SECONDED BY OAKES TO ADOPT LOCAL LAW II OF 2026. Voted, carried, all votes' ayes. Details of the law are posted on the town website.

Criqui read a resolution modifying the salt shed bond anticipation note language to read from a fixed \$250,000 to "up to" \$250,000. A MOTION WAS MADE BY OAKLEY AND SECONDED BY OAKES TO APPROVE THE CHANGE IN THE LANGUAGE OF THE NOTE. Voted, carried, all votes' ayes.

Criqui read another resolution aloud regarding the pilot agreement (\$1050/megawatt AC in year one with a 3% annual reduction for 15 years) and the Host Community Benefit Agreement (\$140,000 across three milestones with Quantum SPI Group and Springfield Center Solar LLC. A MOTION WAS MADE BY SCHULTZ AND SECONDED BY OAKES TO APPROVE THE PAYMENTS. Voted, carried, all votes' ayes.

There was no update at the public landing. The issue of a barking dog in the center was discussed briefly as well as problems with Beaver dams in town causing backup of water. Nuisance permits are available to homeowners, but it takes daily maintenance to control the situation. There was also a discussion about the plumbing problems at the community center on the Fourth of July and the realization that something must eventually be done about the situation, but it's an expensive proposition that happens on one day of the year.

Ian Cunningham complained about drones flying too close to sunbathers and he would like to see a drone zone established. He was told they can't fly lower than 30-35 feet or below a roof. They must be captured, not destroyed, as well.

The food trucks have been a huge success and there is another one coming Friday and then three more times after that.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY SCHULTZ AND SECONDED BY OAKLEY TO PAY CLAIMS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$6,867.33 FOR THE AUGUST 2026 GENERAL FUND. Voted, carried, all votes' ayes. Voucher # 249 was not paid and is void.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY OAKLEY AND SECONDED BY OAKES TO APPROVE CLAIMS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$45,880.39 FOR THE AUGUST 2026 HIGHWAY FUND. Voted, carried, all votes' ayes.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY OAKLEY AND SECONDED BY SCHULTZ TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 8:40 PM. Voted, carried, all votes' ayes.

Jeannette Armstrong, Town Clerk and Recording Secretary.