

TOWN BOARD MINUTES-DRAFT

On January 12, 2026, the regular meeting of the Springfield Town Board was held at the community center on County Highway 29A in Springfield Center.

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

Guests: Keith McCarty, Jack Raitt, Henry Miller, Martin Harding, Jerome Oakes, Dr. William Richtsmeier

Criqui called the meeting to order at 7 PM and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Town Clerk Armstrong gave the Oath of Office to the newly elected town officials, Criqui, Brown, and Oakes, who were present at the meeting.

Criqui asked for public comment. Dr. Richtsmeier said a multiple page draft of the 9E Plan was received, that was very satisfactory and added that some other plans are to control the phosphorus and maintain the present lake water level. He said the supervisors of towns around the lake would like to meet with highway employees regarding salt usage and how much salt gets deposited near the lake, which is more of a state issue.

Jerome Oakes asked permission to buy cemetery flags and flags for the town.

Jack Raitt gave an update of plans for the Springfield Library. The library has been notified that its Construction Grant Application for upgrades has been approved by the New York State Department of Libraries. The project budget is \$60,917.00. New York State will pay 90% of the grant, or \$60,225.00 and Springfield Library will pay 10% or \$6,692.00. The work will consist of the following: cooling and heating with mini-split units; ceiling and lighting replacement; security camera system and new exterior lighting; a new door with automatic opener, ramp, sidewalk, handrail etc., at the library entrance, which will meet ADA requirements, as well as a new book drop

and directional sign for the entryway. This project does not include replacing the windows, flooring or insulation of the roof. Work can start anytime but updated quotes from contractors and suppliers are needed. The town board will be kept informed as work progresses in accordance with the board's resolution made August 12, 2024.

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

A MOTION WAS MADE BY OAKES AND SECONDED BY OAKLEY TO APPOINT ALEXIS PENCAR TO REPLACE JOE BURDITT ON THE BOARD OF ASSESSMENT REVIEW. Voted, carried, all votes aye.

Regina Oakes reported that April Aramini is returning to her post at the public landing again this year and she discussed the three lifeguards-one girl and two boys and their status and certifications. She mentioned the purchase of a whiteboard, discussed the prices of park and dock passes, issues with the campground, the Russian Pageant, the next luncheon at the community center and said the 4H Dairy Bowl was ready for the competition.

Henry Miller reported that he attended classes on SEQRA, ZBA and Planning. He said Barbara Fischer was also taking a ZBA class. The new DEC maps are out now. It will now take longer to build anything, and it will be more expensive.

There was no dog activity for the control officer to report this month.

Mc Carty reported on county business and said he was on the same committees as last year. The \$5000 for the Youth Assistance has been received. The DMV is changing around their office and will be closed from February 13-18th.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY OAKLEY AND SECONDED BY OAKES TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE DECEMBER 2025 MEETING. Voted, carried, all votes aye.

The clerk collected a total of \$9.00 for the month of December. \$8.00 was paid to the town and \$1.00 was sent to the Department of Agriculture and Markets.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY OAKLEY AND SECONDED BY OAKES TO APPROVE THE TOWN CLERK'S REPORT FOR DECEMBER AND THE ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR 2025. Voted, carried, all votes aye.

Criqui presented the Supervisor's financial report, read it aloud and discussed it. He provided the General and Highway Fund revenue totals and discussed the NYClass Investment Fund which is yielding 3.65% now. He also provided a profit and loss statement. He discussed the exchange of financing between the highway and general funds and the present status of the loans and said the Chips check had arrived. He is looking at all options for financing or leasing equipment for the future. A MOTION WAS MADE BY SCHULTZ AND SECONDED BY OAKES TO APPROVE THE SUPERVISOR'S FINANCIAL REPORT FOR JANUARY 2026. Voted, carried, all votes aye.

Criqui has switched the healthcare for the town to Excellus.

Criqui read the organizational meeting list aloud, appointing people to committees. Many changes were made and he said he would forward a revised copy to board members later. A MOTION WAS MADE BY OAKES AND SECONDED BY OAKLEY TO APPROVE THE ORGANIZATIONAL SHEETS SUBJECT TO THE CHANGES THAT WILL BE MADE. Voted, carried, all votes aye.

Jeff Mc Cord, who is entitled to health coverage as an employee, does not want health insurance coverage from the town. Instead, he has opted for a buy-out at \$10,000. A MOTION WAS MADE BY SCHULTZ AND SECONDED BY OAKES TO APPROVE THE BUY-OUT FOR MC CORD. Voted, carried, all votes aye.

There was discussion about a change of policy regarding the use of the public landing by the Deer Run Campground. It was decided to have a

discussion with the management about charging a fixed fee for the use of the landing.

Marchev is still working on the issues with the water at the community center.

The town signed the SPCA contract for \$2500.

It was agreed to charge the Russian Dancers rental for the gym at the community center \$50 for one day and \$100 for two days.

Dr. Richtsmeier said the Village of Cooperstown sent a letter about inspections of septic systems every three years for a cost of \$150. The people who pump out the septic systems are the inspectors and people are already paying. Otsego Lake is the water supply for Cooperstown.

Criqui said he completed the AFR for 2025 already. We are still awaiting news on the salt shed grant.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY SCHULTZ AND SECONDED BY OAKES TO SIGN THE 2026 AMBULANCE CONTRACT. Voted, carried, all votes aye.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY SCHULTZ AND SECONDED BY OAKES TO PAY CLAIMS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$45,619.58 FOR THE 2026 GENERAL FUND. Voted, carried, all votes aye. (ABOUT \$32,000 OF THAT AMOUNT WAS FOR THE RETIREMENT FUND).

A MOTION WAS MADE BY OAKES AND SECONDED BY OAKLEY TO APPROVE PAYMENT OF CLAIMS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$33,180.80 FOR THE 2026 HIGHWAY FUND. Voted, carried, all votes aye.

MOTION WAS MADE BY OAKLEY AND SECONDED BY SCHULTZ TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 8:19 PM. Voted, carried, all votes aye.

Jeannette Armstrong, Town Clerk and Recording Secretary

