

TOWN BOARD MEETING

June 9, 2025

6:00 P.M.

PRESENT: Councilpersons: Kevin Armstrong, Leonard Govern, Luis Rodriguez-Betancourt, Highway Superintendent Jeff Offnick, Supervisor Joseph Cetta, Attorney Carly Walas, and Town Clerk Tamara MacDonald

ABSENT: Councilwoman Patty Wood

OTHERS PRESENT: Martin Way, Sharon Way, Katherine Bridges, Mayor Eilertsen, Gladys Jaques, Jacob Cohen, Lilian Brown- The Reporter,

FLOOR TIME: Supervisor Cetta took the opportunity to recognize Ralph Merwin with 34 years of service to the Town Highway Department.

RESOLUTION #73 ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Councilman Rodriguez-Betancourt, seconded by Armstrong approving the minutes of May 12, 2025 as presented. All in favor, motion carried.

ASSESSOR REPORT:

June 2025
Assessor Report to Town Board

Things are still busy in the office, wrapping up grievance day changes, and getting property records ready to submit to the County for final roll July 1st.

Out of 3716 Walton properties, and after KLW informal meetings, we had 70 grievances filed, around 1.9%.

Some that came to an informal meeting with KLW also came to grievance day.

Several filed complaints were settled by me, as well as assessment corrections, and exemption corrections

The Board of Review met three times to hear all the complaints that were filed. Out of the 70 complaints filed around 25 people appeared in person, total between all three days.

The wireless connection in the Board room worked well to print the needed documents.

KLW's Robert Koszarek attended the grievance hearings and assisted with value adjustments, which was a great help and much appreciated.

I thank the Town Board, the Board of Assessment Review, KLW Appraisal Group, the assessment professional's community and the people of Walton who facilitated this project in support of equity in property tax.

Thank you.
Respectfully submitted June 9, 2025
Penny Haddad, Walton Assessor

CODE ENFORCEMENT:

Town of Walton
Code Enforcement Office
Garrett Newbauer

Monthly Summary Report
Month of May 2025

| | |
|--------------------------------|---|
| Building Permits Issued | 6 |
| Building Inspections Completed | 2 |
| Fire Inspections Completed | 3 |
| Notices of Violation Issued | 0 |
| Tickets Issued | 0 |
| Certificates Issued | 2 |
| Complaints Received | 0 |
| Floodplain Development | |
| Permits Issued | 0 |
| CO Searches | 0 |

DOG CONTROL REPORT:

Martin J. Way, Jr.
Dog Control Officer, Town of Walton
129 North Street Walton,
New York 13856
May 2025
Dog Control Activity Summary

| | |
|-----------------------|------------|
| Complaints | 9 |
| Dogs Seized | 0 |
| Returned to Owner | 0 |
| Humane Society | 0 |
| Dangerous Dogs | 0 |
| Tickets Issued | 5 |
| Total Redemption Fees | 0 For \$10 |
| Assistance, Police | 0 |
| Mileage | 17 Miles |

SUPERINTENDENT OF HWY. REPORT:

TOWN OF WALTON HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT
25091 STATE HIGHWAY 10
WALTON, NY 13856
607-865-5120

TO: WALTON TOWN BOARD
FROM: JEFF OFFNICK, HIGHWAY SUPERINTENDENT
DATE: 6/9/2025
RE: REPORT

- ✓ The crew has been preparing the roads for the scheduled chip seal.
- ✓ Looking into the possibility of renting a road side mower.

Highway Superintendent Offnick spoke about how they could use another road side mower; they have two right now, one that just does the space between the road and ditch and the other one that can reach over the guard rails. He is asking if the Highway Department could rent another mower that reaches over the guard rails to help keep up with the mowing this summer.

RESOLUTION # 74

RENTING ROAD SIDE MOWER

A motion was made by Councilman Rodriguez-Betancourt, seconded by Armstrong to approve renting a road side mower from Yakano for \$6,000/month up to 2 months. All in favor, motion carried.

RESOLUTION #75

HIGHWAY SEASONAL LABORER

A motion was made by Councilman Govern, seconded by Armstrong to approve the hire of Ralph Merwin as Highway Seasonal Laborer effective July 1, 2025- December 31, 2025 at an hourly rate of \$25.87. All in favor, motion carried.

TOWN CLERK'S REPORT:

Financial statements have been provided.

I reported that Tammy Tompkins and Sharon Harrington have started and are picking up on the daily tasks well.

We received information from Whenever Watersports, a Self-Serve Rental Kiosk. The owner would like to set up a meeting to discuss further.

Also brought to the board, a request from Department of Agriculture and Markets to bring Plant-pest trapping site in the Veteran's Plaza. This trap will be monitored every two weeks until late summer, early fall.

RESOLUTION #76

PLACING A BOX TREE MOTH IN VETERAN'S PLAZA

A motion was made by Councilman Rodriguez-Betancourt, seconded by Armstrong to have the Department of Agriculture and Markets to place a Box Tree Moth in Veteran's Plaza. All in favor, motion carried.

SUPERVISOR'S REPORT:

Supervisor Cetta spoke about the Freedom Festival that will be July 5th at the Veteran's Plaza. There will be plenty of food trucks, bounce houses for the kids, a car show from the bus Garage to the Fair Grounds and the Fire Department is going to put on a Firework show after from Moore Park. Since the Village is putting so much time and money in this event Supervisor Cetta suggested we provide the funding for the transportation for the porta-johns.

RESOLUTION #77

FUNDING FOR TRANSPORTATION FOR PORTA-JOHN'S FOR THE FREEDOM FESTIVAL

A motion was made by Supervisor Cetta, seconded by Govern for providing funding for the transportation of the Porta-Johns in the amount of \$300 for Freedom Festival. All in favor, motion carried.

Supervisor Cetta brought up the upcoming Republican Primary Election on June 24, 2025 and announced he is endorsing Ronda Williams for Delaware County Treasurer and Kevin Armstrong and Luis Rodriguez-Betancourt for the Town Council.

COMITTEE REPORT:

Councilman Rodriguez-Betancourt spoke about the Emergency Plan update and advised the Board know that the Town/Village Emergency Board Committee have put shelters on both sides of the river for meals, places to sleep and transportation for if an emergency situation may occur. Rodriguez-Betancourt is looking into a radio station transmitted for emergencies only with an investment of about \$1,000. The base would be at the Town Hall; the Supervisor would be first in command and the Mayor second if the Supervisor isn't available. There will be a mass mail out of a brochure map, for emergency situations, once a plan is set for what to have and who to seek during these situations.

Supervisor Cetta commented that each resident should have a 3-day emergency stock for when the lights go out.

APPROVAL OF BILLS:

RESOLUTION# 79

APPROVAL OF BILLS

A motion was made by Councilman Armstrong, seconded by Rodriguez-Betancourt approving the vouchers as presented for payment. All in favor, motion carried.

| | | |
|----------------|---------|--------------|
| General Fund A | #85-103 | \$15,775.73 |
| General OV B | #9-12 | \$998.57 |
| General HWY DA | #55-60 | \$152,996.92 |
| OV HWY DB | #18-23 | \$56,152.38 |

RESOLUTION # 80

EXECUTIVE SESSION

A motion was made by Councilman Armstrong, seconded by Rodriguez-Betancourt to enter into executive session for a matter relating to a particular employee. All in favor, motion carried,

Entered 6:50 p.m.

Upon a motion from Councilman Rodriguez-Betancourt, seconded by Armstrong to close executive session at 7:26 p.m.

RESOLUTION # 78

AWARDING THE CONTRACT FOR COURTROOM IMPROVEMENTS

A motion was made by Councilman Rodriguez-Betancourt, seconded by Govern to move the adopted contract for the Courtroom Improvements.

WHEREAS, the Town of Walton has been awarded grant funding by the Justice Court Assistance Program (“JCAP”) for the purpose of Courtroom improvements within the Town Hall, including a new door, Judge’s bench and chair, in the amount of \$11,694.98.

WHEREAS, the Town of Walton is not required to match any of the grant funds;

WHEREAS, the Town of Walton publicly advertised for and opened on June 5, 2025 competitive bids from contractors for the work, labor, services and materials for the Courtroom improvements;

WHEREAS, the Town of Walton received no bids;

WHEREAS, the JCAP application included two quotes from local contractors for work, labor, services and materials for the Courtroom improvements that are binding on said contractors for up to six (6) months;

WHEREAS, the JCAP grant funds must be spent within 180 days of receipt;

RESOLVED, that upon the advice of Town Counsel, the Town Supervisor is authorized to award the contract to Beck Construction, Walker Woodwork and Quill.

Respectfully submitted,

Tamara MacDonald
Town Clerk