

DRAFT

TOWN BOARD MEETING

April 13, 2026

6:00 P.M.

Public Hearing

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

ABSENT: Superintendent Jeff Offnick

OTHERS PRESENT: Bill & Linda Scott, Mark & Teresa Finch, Jim Lynch, Margaret Bazura, Robert Parker, Rick Weidenbach, Nichole Jozzi, Steven Cutting, Walter Tweedie, Ruth Dumond, Peggy Bolton, William McNamara, Zoey Gilmore, George Jackson, Devin Oralls, Dana Baker, Ronda Williams, Walker Williams, Rusty & Sharon Way, Ted Hayek, Sally Cranston, Jennifer Davis-Mason, Lorraine Takahashi, Peter Takahashi, Wilma Hannan, Autumn Miller, Jeremy Jenkensky, Tim Condon, Gina MacNaught, Jason Bujo, Howard Grizz Johns, Heidee Johns, Darlene Barley, Jennifer Fay, Timothy Fay, Carol & Fred Avila, Jay Tweedie, John Holley, Ron Oles, Many Carlson, Joe Phoenix, Cindy Tennant, Denny DuMond, George Bolton, Brittany Constable, Holley Reynolds, Lisa Davies, Jake Davies, Kevin Reis-Naseimonte, Jim Rice, Tim & Diana Oralls, Chris Wheezer, Jim Haggerty, Corey Phraner, Rob McLachlan, Ed DeRosia, Mary Rzepski, Andre & Tyler Ricaud, Tomasz Poznanski, Amanda Cicarella, Kevin & Beth O'Brien, Danny Hodges, James Noviello, Melissa Condon, Josh Griffin, Tammy Barringer, Corey Northrup, Jeremey Dean, Tracy Dean, Anthony Soto, Debbie Busch, Rob Moody, Andy Moody, Kace & Jeff Hulse, Karissa Hulse

Supervisor Cetta opened up the public hearing for Local Law 2 of 2026- Establishing a One (1) Year Moratorium on "Battery Energy Storage Systems in the Town of Walton

FLOOR TIME:

Amanda Cicarella spoke in favor of the moratorium and thanked the Board for bringing this forward and wanted more of the public to be aware of this topic

Supervisor Cetta closes the public hearing at 6:14pm.

TOWN BOARD MEETING

April 13, 2026

6:14 P.M.

Public Hearing

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

ABSENT: Superintendent Jeff Offnick

OTHERS PRESENT: Bill & Linda Scott, Mark & Teresa Finch, Jim Lynch, Margaret Bazura, Robert Parker, Rick Weidenbach, Nichole Jozzi, Steven Cutting, Walter Tweedie, Ruth Dumond, Peggy Bolton, William McNamara, Zoey Gilmore, George Jackson, Devin Oralls, Dana Baker, Ronda Williams, Walker Williams, Rusty & Sharon Way, Ted Hayek, Sally Cranston, Jennifer Davis-Mason, Lorraine Takahashi, Peter Takahashi, Wilma Hannan, Autumn Miller, Jeremy Jenkensky, Tim Condon, Gina MacNaught, Jason Bujo, Howard Grizz Johns, Heidee Johns, Darlene Barley, Jennifer Fay, Timothy Fay, Carol & Fred Avila, Jay Tweedie, John Holley, Ron Oles, Many Carlson, Joe Phoenix, Cindy Tennant, Denny DuMond, George Bolton, Brittany Constable, Holley Reynolds, Lisa Davies, Jake Davies, Kevin Reis-Naseimonte, Jim Rice, Tim & Diana Oralls, Chris Wheezer, Jim Haggerty, Corey Phraner, Rob McLachlan, Ed DeRosia, Mary Rzepski, Andre & Tyler Ricaud, Tomasz Poznanski, Amanda Cicarella, Kevin & Beth O'Brien, Danny Hodges, James Noviello, Melissa Condon, Josh Griffin, Tammy Barringer, Corey Northrup, Jeremey Dean, Tracy Dean, Anthony Soto, Debbie Busch, Rob Moody, Andy Moody, Kace & Jeff Hulse, Karissa Hulse

Supervisor Cetta opened up the public hearing for Local Law 1 of 2026- Regulating Use of Limited Use Vehicles and All-Terrain Vehicles on Portions of Certain Town Highways

Supervisor Cetta Closes the public hearing at 7:40pm.

FLOOR TIME:

Councilman Armstrong read the purpose of Local Law 1 of 2026 for clarity to those who aren't familiar with the facts of what the Law is stating.

Those speaking against Local Law 1 of 2026, Use of Limited Use Vehicles and All-Terrain Vehicles on Portions of Certain Town Highways were: residents on Upper East Brook Road.

Persons speaking in favor of the law: Wilma Hannon, Jennifer and Timothy Fay, Jacob Davies, Jennifer Davis, James Noviello

TOWN BOARD MEETING

REGULAR MEETING

April 13, 2026

6:00 P.M.

PRESENT:

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

OTHERS PRESENT:

RESOLUTION #61 Town of Walton Introductory Local Law No. 1 of the Year 2026. A local law Regulating Use of Limited Use Vehicles and All-Terrain Vehicles on Portions of Certain Town Highways.

A motion was made by Councilman Armstrong, seconded by Councilwoman Wood to approved Local Law 1 of 2026, A local law regulating Use of Limited Use Vehicles and All-Terrain Vehicles on Portions of Certain Town Highways.

**Town of Walton
Introductory Local Law No. 1 of the Year 2026.**

**A local law Regulating Use of Limited Use Vehicles and All-Terrain Vehicles on
Portions of Certain Town Highways.**

Be it enacted by the Town Board of the Town of Walton as follows:

Section 1. Title and Authority. This local law shall be known as “The Town of Walton ATV Law.” It is adopted pursuant to sections 10 and 20 of the Municipal Home Rule Law and Section 2405 of the New York State Vehicle and Traffic Law.

Section 2. Legislative Findings and Intent. This Board hereby finds that the opening of certain town roads and portions thereof to ATV use and travel is necessary in order for ATVs to gain access to areas and/or trails adjacent thereto which would otherwise be impossible to access without the use of such town highways. Upon examination of Town highway usage and safety issues, and with the intent to provide lawful operators of all-terrain vehicles with suitable locations for their use, to encourage tourism but to discourage unlawful trespass upon public lands managed by the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation, private lands and unsafe operation of all-terrain vehicles, the Town Board enacts this law regulating all-terrain vehicles on town roads. This Town Board further finds that promoting opportunities for recreational use of all-terrain vehicles and the regulation of same is in the public benefit, will stimulate the local economy and will offer enjoyment to the citizens of the town and to others traveling to this area including tourists.

Section 3. Definitions.

- a. "ATV" or "All Terrain Vehicle" mean any self-propelled vehicle of four wheels or more manufactured for sale for operation primarily on off-highway trails or off-highway competitions, and only incidentally operated on public highways as defined by Article 48-c of the Vehicle and Traffic Law. This definition expressly excludes "Snowmobiles" or other self-propelled vehicles manufactured for off-highway use exclusively designed for travel on snow or ice, steered by skis or runners and supported in whole or in part by one or more skis, belts or cleats which utilize an endless belt tread
- b. Designated Road: A town road or a portion thereof designated by this Local Law for use and for travel by ATVs.
- c. Operator: "Operator" as defined by Section 2401(4) of the Vehicle and Traffic Law
- d. Owner: "Owner" as defined by Section 2401(3) of the Vehicle and Traffic Law.
- e. Shoulder: the area alongside the highway or road that is not part of the actual travel lanes.
- f. Town: The Town of Walton, New York
- g. Town Highways or Town Road: all roads, including bridge and culvert crossings, located within the Town of Walton and under the jurisdiction and control of the Town of Walton.
- h. "UTV" or "Utility Terrain Vehicles" or "Side-by-side": any self-propelled vehicle which is manufactured for sale for operation primarily on off-highway trails capable of seating passengers side-by-side, designed for no more than one driver and five passengers.
- i. Vehicle and Traffic Law: The Vehicle and Traffic Law of the State of New York.

Section 4. Designation of Town Highways for Travel by ATVs. The Town roads or indicated portions thereof as outlined on Appendix 1 are hereby designated as open to travel by all-terrain vehicles as it is otherwise impossible for all-terrain vehicles to gain access to areas or trails adjacent to said designated roads other than by the use of such designated roads. Appendix 1 may be revised from time to time upon notice to the public and approved by the Town Board after a public hearing.

This Town Board has further determined that ATV areas for trails that are otherwise "impossible" to access has been understood and construed by it to be a condition precedent to the Town Board's authority to designate such roads and areas as open to ATV travel. This Board has specifically identified the aforesaid ATV areas and trails as being those which cannot be accessed without designating the aforesaid town roads of the Town of Walton, New York, and those portions thereof hereinbefore delineated, pursuant to Vehicle and Traffic Law Section 2405(1).

Section 5. Rules and Regulations. In addition to any other general or special law, rule or regulation that may now or hereafter apply to the use and operation of ATVs, and in order to protect the order, conduct, health, safety and general welfare of the public, the Town hereby adopts the following rules, conditions and regulations pertaining to the operation of ATVs on Town Road:

- a. No person shall operate an ATV on the Town roads except in conformance with this Local Law and the Vehicle and Traffic Law of the State of New York. No person shall operate an ATV unless it is properly licensed, registered and insured as required by the Vehicle and Traffic Law of the State of New York. Any ATV owner on town roads must provide proof of ownership, insurance, licensing and registration, if required by state law, upon request of any law enforcement officer or to any person who has suffered or claims to have suffered either personal injury or property damage as a result of the operation of use of such vehicle by any such owner or operator. The failure to produce such proof shall be presumptive evidence of operating the vehicle without insurance against public liability.
- b. The utilization of designated roads by ATVs shall only and solely be for the purpose of traveling directly from one ATV trail or area to another

- c. Operators must strictly observe all vehicular traffic signs and signals and all other rules and regulations applicable to vehicular traffic and all the orders and directions of any state or local law enforcement officer authorized to direct or regulate traffic.
- d. Operate ATVs on Town Highways at a rate of speed no greater than is reasonable and prudent under the conditions and having regard to the actual and potential hazards then existing. However, in no event shall ATVs be operated on Town Highways at a speed greater than thirty (30) miles per hour.
- e. Operators must yield to all vehicles that are primarily designed for travel on Town Highways (e.g., cars, trucks, motorcycles) and yield to all pedestrians by reducing rate of speed to a reasonable and prudent speed but no faster than twenty (20) miles per hour.
- f. No person shall operate an ATV more than one abreast but shall be in a single lane on a designated road, as far right as practicable, except as necessary to gain access to or egress from such areas.
- g. No person shall operate an ATV for recreational purposes between the hours of 10 p.m. and 7 a.m.
- h. All ATVs must have at least one rearview mirror. On any ATV with handlebars the mirror must be mounted on the left side handlebar. ATV headlights must be on at all times.
- i. No person without a valid state driver's license may operate an ATV on designated Town roads. Anyone under the age of 17 must possess a valid driver's permit and be accompanied by a parent or legal guardian. Anyone with a suspended driver's license may not operate an A TV on the designated roads.
- j. No person shall operate an ATV on a designated road in such a manner as to create loud, unnecessary, or unusual noise so as not to unreasonably disturb or interfere with the peace and quiet of Town residents. An ATV must not make unusual or excessive noise such that a reasonable person would find it offensive or which exceeds 90 decibels measured using the SAE J1287 test. Aftermarket exhaust systems or components are prohibited unless they are designed to reduce emissions and dampen noise.
- k. No person shall operate or ride as a passenger in an ATV unless they are wearing a seat belt. If the ATV does not have seat belts, then the operator and all passengers must wear a Department of Transportation approved helmet. No passenger shall ride on an ATV unless they are riding on a factory installed seat.
- l. No person shall operate an ATV in a careless, reckless or negligent manner so as to unreasonably endanger the person or property of another or cause injury or damage thereof.

Section 6. Signage.

- a. The Superintendent of Highways of the Town of Walton shall post signs and/or markers identifying the designated roads in accordance with the requirements of 2405 of the Vehicle and Traffic Law.
- b. At the request of the Department of Environmental Conservation, the Town may post signs at certain roads adjacent to state forest lands affirmatively prohibiting ATV use.

Section 8. Violation and Penalties.

- a. Any person convicted of a violation of any of the provisions of this local law shall be guilty of an offense and shall be punished by a fine of not more than Two Hundred Dollars (\$200.00) or by imprisonment for not more than fifteen days, or by both such fine and imprisonment; and for a second or subsequent conviction within eighteen (18) months

thereafter, such person shall be punished by a fine of not more than Seven Hundred Fifty Dollars (\$750.00) or by imprisonment for not more than fifteen days, or by both such fine and imprisonment. Each violation of any provision of this Section shall be deemed a separate and distinct offense. A person may be charged with more than one offense and shall be subject to imposition of a fine for each such offense. A person who is convicted as a result of being cited for violating this local law three (3) times within a five (5) year period shall have their privilege to utilize town highways and roads for ATV use purposes revoked.

- b. It shall be an aggravated offense if the use of an ATV in violation of this local law results in injury to any person, damage to crops or nursery stock or otherwise involves damage to agricultural business stock. The person found to have committed an aggravated offense shall be subject to doubling of the fines set forth in this Section.
- c. A law enforcement officer may impound any ATV if:
 - 1. The identity of the operator or owner of the ATV is unknown to the officer, and the ATV operator has no evidence of permission to operate the vehicle, or
 - 2. The operator travelling in excess of fifteen (15) miles per hour of the speed limit, or in violation of any other of enumerated rules and regulations in Section 5 above, or
 - 3. The ATV is involved in an accident that causes serious injury or death, or
 - 4. The ATV operator causes significant damage to private or public property.
- d. The period of impoundment for the ATV shall be for such time period as necessary for law enforcement purposes, which shall include use of the vehicle for identification in any court action. Any person wishing to have an ATV released from impoundment must make a motion before a court of competent jurisdiction, and said ATV shall be released upon court order. Upon receipt of said court order, the ATV shall be released by the authority of the Town Attorney or Town Supervisor upon payment of all impoundment fees that may apply and upon direct payment of all towing and storage charges imposed by private towing concerns which the Town may use for the purpose of impoundment.

Section 9. State Lands. This local law will have no effect upon the Department of Environmental Conservation policies regarding ATV use on State land.

Section 10. Severability. Should any section or provision of this Local Law be declared invalid for any reason or shall be deleted or subsequently repealed, such decision shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions hereof. The determination by any court of competent jurisdiction that any provisions of this Local Law are unenforceable, invalid, void, unconstitutional or in conflict with federal or state law shall not in any way affect the enforceability or validity of any other provision contained herein.

Section 11. Effective Date. This Local Law shall become effective upon filing with the NYS Department of State and NYS DMV Commissioner and Secretary of State of the State of New York as provided by the Municipal Home Rule Law.

APPENDIX -1

The following roads are hereby designated for the operation of all-terrain vehicles as authorized by § 2405 of the Vehicle Traffic Law, Article 48-C:

Names of Street	Location	Distance
Lower Third Brook Road	Commencing at the Village line to the intersection with Seely Wood Road	1.2 miles
Seely Wood Road	Commencing at the intersection of Lower Third Brook Road to trail head	1.5 miles
Upper East Brook Road	Commencing at the Village line to the trail head	1.0 miles
Nichols Road	Commencing at the intersection of East Brook Road and Nichols Rd to trail head	0.6 miles

Supervisor Joseph Cetta	Aye
Councilman Kevin Armstrong	Aye
Councilman Leonard Govern	Aye
Councilwoman Patricia Wood	Aye
Councilman Luis Rodriguez-Betancourt	Aye

RESOLUTION#62 LOCAL LAW NO. 2 OF 2026 A LOCAL LAW ESTABLISHING A ONE (1) YEAR MORATORIUM ON “BATTERY ENERGY STORAGE SYSTEMS” IN THE TOWN OF WALTON TOWN OF WALTON

A motion was made by Councilman Armstrong, seconded by Rodriguez-Betancourt to approve Local Law #2 of 2026, A LOCAL LAW ESTABLISHING A ONE (1) YEAR MORATORIUM ON “BATTERY ENERGY STORAGE SYSTEMS” IN THE TOWN OF WALTON.

**“LOCAL LAW NO. 2 OF 2026
A LOCAL LAW ESTABLISHING A ONE (1) YEAR MORATORIUM
ON “BATTERY ENERGY STORAGE SYSTEMS”
IN THE TOWN OF WALTON
TOWN OF WALTON**

**A LOCAL LAW ESTABLISHING A ONE (1) YEAR MORATORIUM ON “SOLAR
ENERGY SYSTEMS”
IN THE TOWN OF WALTON
LOCAL LAW NO. 2-2026**

Be it enacted by the Town Board of the Town of Walton, Delaware County, State of New York as follows:

Section 1. Authority.

This local law is authorized by the New York State Constitution, the provisions of the New York Municipal Home Rule Law, the relevant provisions of the Town Law of the State of New York, the laws of the Town of Walton and the general police power vested with the Town of New Walton to promote the health, safety and welfare of all residents and property owners in the Town of Walton.

Section 2: Purpose, Intent and Findings.

The purpose of this local law is to declare a temporary moratorium on the issuance of building permits, special permits, certificates of occupancy and site plans by the Town of Walton for the approval, construction, establishment and/or operation of any additional or new Solar Energy Systems and Solar Energy Facilities within the limits of the Town of Walton.

The solar industry has grown in recent years due to increased demand to obtain economic and environmental advantages of renewable energy, the federal and state tax benefits and solar industry innovation. Regulations currently exist on solar energy systems in the Town of Walton. The Town Board is concerned about the possible increase in demand and potential impacts of solar energy facilities and solar energy systems and believes it is necessary to establish a Local Law to enact a temporary one (1) year moratorium in order to protect public health, safety and welfare of its community. The Town Board hereby declares said moratorium on the establishment, constructions, enlargement or erection of solar energy facilities or solar energy systems. Recognizing this need, the Town believes that a moratorium is necessary to allow the Town Board to study our code and update our solar energy system and facilities regulations.

Section 3. Moratorium.

Pursuant to the statutory authority vested in the Town to regulate and control land use and to protect the health, safety and welfare of its residents, the Town Board of the Town of Walton hereby declares a one (1) year moratorium on the review and approval of new as of yet unfiled and any and all pending applications for any and all land use approvals, including site plan approvals, subdivision plats, building permits, special use permits and variances (hereinafter “Land Use Approvals”) for all Solar Energy Systems and Solar Energy Facilities within the Town.

For a period of one (1) year following the effective date of this Local Law, no application may be processed, and no permits, certificates of occupancy, approvals, variances, denials, determinations or interpretations may be issued or granted for any land uses relating to solar energy, including but not limited to, solar farms.

The term “lands use” relating to solar shall be broadly construed to include any facility designed to generate or store electric power to be marked, sold or used for other than the power demands of the improvements on the property on which such facility is located. Not included within the scope of this moratorium are solar facilities designed to generate electric power solely for the use of the improvements located on the same property. The term “solar farm” shall not include

photovoltaic panels that are mounted on or affixed to residential dwellings for personal use, or photovoltaic panels that are mounted on municipal or commercial or industrial buildings.

Section 4: Term.

The moratorium imposed by this Local Law shall be effective for one (1) year from the effective date of this Local Law. This Moratorium may be extended for an additional period by resolution of the Town Board.

Section 5. Effect on Other Laws.

To the extent that any law, ordinance rules or regulation, or parts thereof are in conflict with the provisions of this Local Law, including all provisions of Article 16 of the New York State Town Law concerning special use permit, site plan, building permit, and certificate of occupancy procedure and requirements, this Local Law shall control and supersede such law ordinance, rule, or regulation.

Section 6. No Variances.

No application for variance from the terms of this moratorium may be submitted, or considered or granted by the Town. Any pending application for a variance from the moratorium shall be null and void upon the effective date of this law.

Section 7: Authority.

This moratorium is adopted pursuant to Article IX of the New York State Constitution, §2(c)(6) and (10), New York Statute of Local Governments, § 10, Subdivisions 1 and 7, § 261 through 263 of the Town Law, and § 10 of the Municipal Home Rule Law of the State of New York. In particular, this chapter shall supersede those any provisions of the Town Code and New York State Law which require the Town Board, Planning Board, and/or Zoning Board of Appeals to accept, process, and/or approve applications or issue permits for the development of Solar Energy Facilities and Solar Energy Systems within specified statutory time periods.

Section 8: Severability.

If any part or provision of this Local Law or the application thereof to any person or circumstance be adjudged invalid by any court of competent jurisdiction, such judgment shall be confined in its operation to the part or provision or application directly involved in the controversy in which judgment shall have been rendered and shall not affect or impair the validity of the remainder of this Local Law or the application thereof to other persons or circumstances, and the Town Board of the Town of Walton hereby declares that it would have passed this Local Law or the remainder thereof had such invalid application or invalid provision been apparent.

Section 9: Effective date.

This Local Law shall take effect immediately upon filing in the office of the Secretary of State in accordance with Section 27 of the Municipal Home Rule Law.

Supervisor Joseph Cetta	Aye
Councilman Kevin Armstrong	Aye
Councilman Leonard Govern	Aye
Councilwoman Patricia Wood	Aye
Councilman Luis Rodriguez-Betancourt	Aye

FLOOR TIME: No floor time was requested.

RESOLUTION #63

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Councilman Armstrong, seconded by Govern approving the minutes of March 9, 2026 as presented. All in favor, motion carried.

ASSESSOR REPORT:

Assessor’s Office Monthly Report – April 2026

To: The Walton Town Board

From: Office of the Town Assessor

I. Data Collection and Field Operations Progress Report: The Assessor’s Office is pleased to report that we are making significant progress with our current data collection initiatives. Field reviews and property inventory updates are proceeding according to schedule. Inter-departmental Cooperation: We would like to extend our professional thanks to Garrett Newbauer for his assistance in providing building permits. This cooperation has greatly streamlined our administrative processes and enhanced our ability to navigate our field duties effectively.

II. Exemptions and Public Assistance Public Outreach: Our office remains dedicated to taxpayer assistance. We have been actively distributing STAR program information and guidance to all residents who have visited the office with inquiries. Exemption Processing: We are currently in the final stages of reviewing and processing the following:

- Agricultural and Forest exemptions.
- Senior Citizen property tax applications.

III. Legal Requirements

Public Notification: Please be advised that official legal notices will be published shortly. These notices will formally outline the specific dates and deadlines regarding the upcoming changes to the assessment roll.

Respectfully Submitted,
Penny S. Haddad
Assessor, Town of Walton
Gina L. Smith
Clerk to the Assessor

CODE ENFORCEMENT:

Town of Walton
Code Enforcement Office
Garrett Newbauer
Monthly Summary Report
Month of March 2026

Building Permits Issued	8
Building Inspections Completed	4
Fire Inspections Completed	0
Notices of Violation Issued	0
Tickets Issued	0
Certificates Issued	2
Complaints Received	0
Floodplain Development	
Permits Issued	0
CO Searches	3

DOG CONTROL REPORT:

Christopher Bodo

Dog Control Officer, Town of Walton
129 North Street Walton,
New York 13856

March 2026

Dog Control Activity Summary

Complaints Received	5
Dogs Seized	0
Returned to Owner	1
Humane Society	0
Dangerous Dog Cases	1
Tickets Issued	1

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: 4/13/2026
RE: REPORT

Superintendent Offnick mentioned that there have been a few job applications submitted and hoping for more.

Offnick also spoke about the new project in regards to the slope failure on South River Road, it should be starting on April 27th and should take about a week to finish.

Offnick brought to the board an agreement with CNY Forestry, to seek approval to render and prepare the timber on the Town of Walton's property at 273.-1-21.4 which contains about 28.60 acres of land.

RESOLUTION # 64

APPROVAL TO ENTER AGREEMENT WITH CNY FORESTRY

A motion was made by Councilman Armstrong, seconded by Govern to sign the agreement with CNY Forestry allowing them to render and prepare timber on the Town of Walton's property at 273.-1-21.4 with 15% of the final timber sale to be collected. All in favor, motion carried.

Superintendent Offnick asked the Board to rent the road side mower again this year as we did last year, stating there isn't any available at the moment, but not necessary until July or August. Offnick will bring it back up when it's needed.

RESOLUTION #65

APPROVAL TO RENT ROAD SIDE MOWER

A motion was made by Councilman Armstrong, seconded by Councilwoman Wood, approving to rent a roadside mower. All in favor, motion carried.

TOWN CLERK'S REPORT:

Financial Reports are provided.

Reported that I am 86% collected. Of the taxes collected, 256 payments have been made online. Second notices have been mailed out. Residents only have until April 30, 2026 to pay at the town level before unpaid taxes are returned to the County, where an additional 5% will be added.

SUPERVISOR'S REPORT:

The following law was proposed, a Public Hearing on Local Law 3 of 2026 will be held on May 11, 2026 for persons to speak in favor or against.

TOWN OF WALTON

A LOCAL LAW ESTABLISHING A ONE (1) YEAR MORATORIUM ON "SOLAR ENERGY SYSTEMS"

IN THE TOWN OF WALTON

LOCAL LAW NO. 3-2026

Be it enacted by the Town Board of the Town of Walton, Delaware County, State of New York as follows:

Section 1. Authority.

This local law is authorized by the New York State Constitution, the provisions of the New York Municipal Home Rule Law, the relevant provisions of the Town Law of the State of New York, the laws of the Town of Walton and the general police power vested with the Town of New Walton to promote the health, safety and welfare of all residents and property owners in the Town of Walton.

Section 2: Purpose, Intent and Findings.

The purpose of this local law is to declare a temporary moratorium on the issuance of building permits, special permits, certificates of occupancy and site plans by the Town of Walton for the approval, construction, establishment and/or operation of any additional or new Solar Energy Systems and Solar Energy Facilities within the limits of the Town of Walton.

The solar industry has grown in recent years due to increased demand to obtain economic and environmental advantages of renewable energy, the federal and state tax benefits and solar industry innovation. Regulations currently exist on solar energy systems in the Town of Walton. The Town Board is concerned about the possible increase in demand and potential impacts of solar energy facilities and solar energy systems and believes it is necessary to establish a Local Law to enact a temporary one (1) year moratorium in order to protect public health, safety and welfare of its community. The Town Board hereby declares said moratorium on the establishment, constructions, enlargement or erection of solar energy facilities or solar energy systems. Recognizing this need, the Town believes that a moratorium is necessary to allow the Town Board to study our code and update our solar energy system and facilities regulations.

Section 3. Moratorium.

Pursuant to the statutory authority vested in the Town to regulate and control land use and to protect the health, safety and welfare of its residents, the Town Board of the Town of Walton hereby declares a one (1) year moratorium on the review and approval of new as of yet unfiled and any and all pending applications for any and all land use approvals, including site plan approvals, subdivision plats, building permits, special use permits and variances (hereinafter “Land Use Approvals”) for all Solar Energy Systems and Solar Energy Facilities within the Town.

For a period of one (1) year following the effective date of this Local Law, no application may be processed, and no permits, certificates of occupancy, approvals, variances, denials, determinations or interpretations may be issued or granted for any land uses relating to solar energy, including but not limited to, solar farms.

The term “lands use” relating to solar shall be broadly construed to include any facility designed to generate or store electric power to be marked, sold or used for other than the power demands of the improvements on the property on which such facility is located. Not included within the scope of this moratorium are solar facilities designed to generate electric power solely for the use of the improvements located on the same property. The term “solar farm” shall not include photovoltaic panels that are mounted on or affixed to residential dwellings for personal use, or photovoltaic panels that are mounted on municipal or commercial or industrial buildings.

Section 4: Term.

The moratorium imposed by this Local Law shall be effective for one (1) year from the effective date of this Local Law. This Moratorium may be extended for an additional period by resolution of the Town Board.

Section 5. Effect on Other Laws.

To the extent that any law, ordinance rules or regulation, or parts thereof are in conflict with the provisions of this Local Law, including all provisions of Article 16 of the New York State Town Law concerning special use permit, site plan, building permit, and certificate of occupancy procedure and requirements, this Local Law shall control and supersede such law ordinance, rule, or regulation.

Section 6. No Variances.

No application for variance from the terms of this moratorium may be submitted, or considered or granted by the Town. Any pending application for a variance from the moratorium shall be null and void upon the effective date of this law.

Section 7: Authority.

This moratorium is adopted pursuant to Article IX of the New York State Constitution, §2(c)(6) and (10), New York Statute of Local Governments, § 10, Subdivisions 1 and 7, § 261 through 263 of the Town Law, and § 10 of the Municipal Home Rule Law of the State of New York. In particular, this chapter shall supersede those any provisions of the Town Code and New York State Law which require the Town Board, Planning Board, and/or Zoning Board of Appeals to accept, process, and/or approve applications or issue permits for the development of Solar Energy Facilities and Solar Energy Systems within specified statutory time periods.

Section 8: Severability.

If any part or provision of this Local Law or the application thereof to any person or circumstance be adjudged invalid by any court of competent jurisdiction, such judgment shall be confined in its operation to the part or provision or application directly involved in the controversy in which judgment shall have been rendered and shall not affect or impair the validity of the remainder of this Local Law or the application thereof to other persons or circumstances, and the Town Board of the Town of Walton hereby declares that it would have passed this Local Law or the remainder thereof had such invalid application or invalid provision been apparent.

Section 9: Effective date.

This Local Law shall take effect immediately upon filing in the office of the Secretary of State in accordance with Section 27 of the Municipal Home Rule Law.

**“LOCAL LAW NO. 3 OF 2026
A LOCAL LAW ESTABLISHING A ONE (1) YEAR MORATORIUM
ON “SOLAR ENERGY SYSTEMS”
IN THE TOWN OF WALTON**

is hereby introduced before the Town Board of the Town of Walton, Delaware County, New York pursuant to authority under the New York State Constitution, the provisions of § 10 of the New York State Municipal Home Rule Law, § 10 of the New York State Statute of Local Governments, and the New York State Town Law;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of the aforesaid proposed local law be laid upon the desk of each member of the Board;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board hold a public hearing on said proposed local law at 129 North Street, Walton, NY 13856 at 6 pm on May 11, 2026;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk publish or cause to be published a public notice in the official newspaper of the Town of Walton of said public hearing at least five (5) days prior thereto;

and BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Town Supervisor or his designee is authorized to take any other action required under law in furtherance of this resolution and passage of the proposed local law.

On a motion by Councilperson Wood, seconded by Rodriguez-Betancourt, the resolution was adopted on a roll call vote, the results which follow:

Supervisor Joseph Cetta	Aye
Councilman Kevin Armstrong	Aye
Councilman Leonard Govern	Aye
Councilwoman Patricia Wood	Aye
Councilman Luis Rodriguez-Betancourt	Aye

Adopted this 13th day of April, 2026.

Supervisor Cetta spoke about being in the process of doing work in the Town Clerk's office, part of the project was to put in a split unit and Cetta gathered a couple quotes from Kennedy. Councilman Armstrong suggested we look into fixing the zoning in the Town Hall and getting quotes to see if that is something that could be cheaper or another option. This topic is tabled for next meeting with more information.

Supervisor Cetta also brought up the Time Capsule, it is finished and now available at the Town Clerk's office and still asking the public for input to be buried on July 4, 2026. Please bring your ideas to the Town Clerk's office for consideration. So far there are a few ideas, along with proclamations but really want to hear more ideas from the Community!

COMMITTEE REPORT:

Councilwoman Wood wanted to inform the Board and public that there will be a Bike Safety check day April 26, 2026 from 11am-1pm at the Veteran's Plaza, bring a bike and helmet! Wood also mentioned that there is a volunteer groups meeting that is putting all the fundraisers together in the Village to have one individual take over them all. Wood would also like to request the Town Board donate \$100 to the Chamber for Flags on Delaware Street.

RESOLUTION# 66

PURCHASING FLAGS FOR MAIN STREET

A motion was made by Councilwoman Wood, seconded by Councilman Armstrong, approving the purchase to provide the Chamber of Commerce with \$100 for the American Flags on Delaware Street. All in favor, motion carried.

Supervisor Cetta's last comment was that from last Summer to this Spring the number of kids in the community riding bicycles. It's refreshing to see the youth and community riding bikes again as it seems it wasn't as popular before last year.

Cetta also wanted to thank Mayor Eilertsen for the use of the Theatre and Dan for all the help for tonight's public hearing and board meeting.

APPROVAL OF BILLS:

RESOLUTION#67

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	#47-65	\$16,739.49
General OV B	#5-6	\$480.84
General HWY DA	#19-28	\$45,317.89
OV HWY DB	#4-5	\$10,163.22

With no other business brought to the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 8:39 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Tamara MacDonald
Town Clerk