

TOWN OF WAYNE
MONTHLY BOARD MEETING
September 9, 2025

The September 9th PUBLIC HEARING opened at 6:00 pm for **LOCAL LAW NO. 2: VOLUNTEER FIREMAN & AMBULANCE WORKERS REAL PROPERTY TAX EXEMPTION.**

Supervisor Mahr stated that this Public Hearing was to assist the volunteer fireman and ambulance workers for the Town of Wayne to meet NYS requirements. No comments were made.

After closing the Public Hearing the Board Meeting opened at 6:05 pm with Pledge of Allegiance and Roll Call:

Present:	Councilmember Haar	Councilmember Bauer
	Councilmember Freeman	Councilmember Kenyon
	Supervisor Mahr	Deputy Clerk Gabel

In attendance: Samantha Swarthout, Jesse Jayne, Larry Albee, Les Reimsnyder II, Jon Serdula, Marty and Maureen Castellana, Wayne Hand and John Northrup.

A motion to approve the August 12, 2025, Board Minutes was made by Councilmember Haar, seconded by Councilmember Kenyon with all in favor, subject to the changes in the Clerk Report section.

SUPERVISOR REPORT

Supervisor Mahr stated that the negative numbers showing in the water supplies in 4025.48R were moved to A4025.48.

A motion to approve **RESOLUTION 16** for Budget Modifications was made by Councilperson Kenyon, seconded by Councilperson Freeman with voting as follows:

Councilmember Freeman, yes	Councilmember Haar, yes
Councilmember Bauer, yes	Councilmember Kenyon, yes
	Supervisor Mahr, yes

A motion to approve the Supervisor Report was made by Councilperson Freeman, seconded by Councilperson Kenyon with all in favor.

CLERK REPORT: The Clerk Report was reviewed with no comments.

A motion to approve Clerk Report was made by Councilperson Haar, seconded by Councilperson Kenyon [with all in favor](#)

A motion to approve the Vouchers for Abstract 9 was made by Councilperson Freeman, seconded by Councilperson Haar with all in favor.

JUSTICE: The monthly report was reviewed with no comments.

ASSESSOR: A motion to approve **RESOLUTION 17**, for Volunteer Firefighters, and Volunteer Ambulance Workers, Real Property tax Exemption, of the Town of Wayne, was made by Councilperson Bauer, seconded by Councilperson Kenyon with voting as follows:

Councilmember Freeman, yes	Councilmember Haar, yes
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Councilmember Bauer, yes

Councilmember Kenyon, yes

Supervisor Mahr, yes

HIGHWAY SUPERINTENDENT: The Highway Superintendent's monthly journal report was reviewed with no comments.

Councilperson Haar stated that the Keuka Hill Road project appears to be completed.

Supervisor Mahr stated that there was a quote for the road signs from Eastern Metal showing size and shape, but not for what roads. Since Highway Superintendent was unable to attend this meeting, Supervisor Mahr tabled this discussion until he could get more clarification.

CODE OFFICER – PLANNING – ZONING

Mr. Jesse Jayne stated that Fire Inspections need to be conducted for Town businesses as this is a NYS requirement. Mr. Jayne also stated that the push for "Under the Road" Permit should be a \$50 permit fee and coordinated with the Highway Superintendent. Mr. Jayne also stated that he would like to incorporate, into the Building Permit, the process of setbacks along with building details.

Supervisor Mahr stated that Jesse Jayne will become the lead Code Enforcement Officer and will divide responsibilities up with Jon Serdula. New job descriptions will be developed for each role.

Supervisor Mahr stated that there was no Zoning meeting in August and the Planning Board minutes would be approved at the September 15th meeting.

WATERSHED: The monthly report was reviewed with no comments.

ETHICS: No Report

DOG CONTROL OFFICER (DCO)

There was a dog bite incident report on August 18, 2025, on East Lake Road.

DCO received the initial report on August 19th at approximately 10:20 a.m. from a resident on East Lake Rd regarding a dog bite incident that occurred the previous evening. This resident stated that her dog, Marty, had been attacked by a neighbor's dog while she and her husband, were out for a walk.

A statement from this resident stated that both husband and wife were outside on their patio. The husband spoke with Councilperson Kenyon and DCO providing the following statement: He was outside grilling with both of his dogs, who were tied to chairs using leashes. As the neighbors walked by, the dogs began pulling, and the dogs were able to break free, running into the road. The dog's leash became entangled around the neighbors' legs, causing him to fall. This gentleman stated he did not see the dog bite the other dog and the situation unfolded very quickly. When he reached the scene, both neighbors were on the ground. He assumed the wife had gone down while trying to assist her husband.

We also asked if there had been any previous incidents involving their dog and openly stated that there had been one approximately a year prior, involving the same neighbors as well. They explained that the issue had been resolved privately between the two households, and as a corrective measure, the dog had been enrolled in dog obedience classes following that incident.

Councilperson Kenyon requested to meet the dog to assess his behavior. The wife brought the dog out on a leash. The dog approached both Councilperson Kenyon and DCO in a calm and friendly manner, wagging his tail, and displaying no signs of aggression. They acknowledged their dog was at fault for running into the street and offered to take full responsibility, including covering all medical and veterinary expenses incurred by the neighbors.

At this point, DCO issued a ticket for "Dog Running at Large." The neighbors were informed of the upcoming court date on September 10th at 6pm at the Wayne Town Hall and were advised they could submit their plea and payment by mail due to residency outside the Town.

HISTORY GROUP

Scanning of items in the Hallett collection continues. An exhibit of some of the Hallett items are in display cases in the History Hallway for visitor viewing. Accepted invitation from the Hammondsport Library to participate in their event: Hammondsport Heritage Day on September 20th. This event will celebrate local history. Priscilla Tallman joined the group as a new volunteer. The History Group will post on Facebook at least once a week.

Supervisor Mahr stated that Mrs. Witkowski has concerns about getting insurance on the displays so the Town is protected to cover the items that are "on loan." Supervisor Mahr stated he will contact Attorney Richard Buck to see what else should be adopted from a legal standpoint.

WEB STATISTICS: The monthly report was reviewed. Supervisor Mahr stated that DSD Webworks implemented some updated cyber security for the Town Website.

OLD BUSINESS

Short-Term Rental Update: Councilperson Freeman stated that new STR permits have to be issued when a house is sold to a new owner. Councilperson Freeman also stated that septic information should be added to the STR Application. The number of permits is up to 97. Supervisor Mahr suggested that a higher fee should be considered for the Application, possibly renewing every year rather than two years. Any updates to the STR Town Law should be done by 12/31/2025.

Playground Update: Supervisor Mahr thanked Darlene Swarthout for a great job she did with the Chicken Bar-B-Q Playground Fundraiser that was very well received and made about \$1,400.00. Supervisor Mahr stated that there was some confusion in that Darlene took out her expenses before turning the balance over to the Town versus being paid out of the General Fund. She will stop in on Thursday, September 11th with the cash and get a check for her expenses. A motion was made to pre-pay Darlene Swarthout in Abstract 10 by Councilperson Kenyon, seconded by Councilperson Freeman with all in favor.

Councilperson Kenyon asked about the volleyball nets and where they were going to be installed. Supervisor Mahr stated they would be placed toward the Cabin.

Mr. Hand reviewed the meeting with Double M Fence about the Pickleball Courts' net posts being replaced. The action should be finished in April 2026. Supervisor Mahr also stated that Mr. Blessing will be repainting the court area around the posts once they are replaced. Supervisor Mahr stated that the landscaping around the Pavillions and Courts are being quoted from Tremaine Co. based on a statement of work being prepared by Superintendent Starkweather.

Superintendent Starkweather will contact National Guard Engineers to see if the parking lot project is something they could/would do with the Town providing materials.

ELR Speed Limit Update: Mr. Hand asked if there was any update on the speed limit for East Lake Road and a speed hump that slows people down. Councilperson Haar stated that if there is not a posted speed sign, the driver can go 55 mph. Supervisor Mahr stated that he will follow-up with Superintendent Starkweather.

Boat Launch Update: Mr. Marty Castellana asked if there was an update. Supervisor Mahr stated that the Town is still working on it. Supervisor Mahr stated that Attorney Richard Buck will work with the Town to put in a Law with restrictions on usage. Supervisor Mahr also stated strong consideration should be given to any commercial business, show insurance, and pay for a permit. Superintendent Starkweather will order new signage.

NEW BUSINESS

November 11 Board Meeting Schedule: Supervisor Mahr stated that since November 11th is Veterans Day and the Town Hall is closed, does the Board want to still meet at 6:00 pm or move to another date. After some discussion Councilperson Haar stated that she did not see why it couldn't be held on November 11th at 6:00 pm. Everyone agreed.

Town Barn Window Replacement: Supervisor Mahr stated that since there was a \$10,000 energy-efficient grant to upgrade lighting in the Town Hall and perhaps the Town Barn windows could be replaced because they are not energy efficient. Supervisor Mahr stated that he will ask Mr. Blessing to get quotes for these projects and have them for the October Board Meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: No comments were made.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- Budget Workshops: Tuesday, September 23 & 30 @ 5:30 PM
- Next Town Board Meeting: Tuesday, October 14 @ 6:00 PM

The meeting was adjourned at 7:15 pm with a motion by Councilperson Haar, seconded by Councilperson Kenyon with all in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy H. Gabel
Deputy Clerk