

**REGULAR TOWN BOARD MEETING OF
THE TOWN OF WHITEHALL
57 SKENESBOROUGH DRIVE
WHITEHALL, NY 12887
7:00PM**

November 19, 2025

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

John Rozell, Town Supervisor
David Hollister, Councilperson
Christopher Dudley, Councilperson
Stephanie Safka, Councilperson
Francis Wilbur, Councilperson

OTHERS PRESENT: Louis D Pratt II, Superintendent of Highways; Jamie Barnhill, Town Clerk; Patrick Ward, Sentinel- Times; David Rathbun; Nathan; Joe & Hillary Rozell; Randy Lambert; Scott & Barb Tracy; Lucas Longtin; Brock Fox; Brian Brooks

Supervisor Rozell called November 19, 2025, regular Town Board meeting to order at 7:02 pm with the Pledge of Allegiance.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Several residents spoke about the ongoing reassessment inconsistencies, and wanted to know if the Town Board is considering a town re-assessment by a third-party next year? Another question is since Bobbi did the re- assessment with no extra pay; did we really get an accurate assessment done? Town Board is looking into when we can have another reassessment according to State policy and a quote for the 2,500 parcels through the third-party vendor GAR from Albany.

One resident asked about getting the Town Board monthly meeting on Live Stream so more of the community can be involved. Supervisor Rozell says it has to do with cost of the equipment, etc., and after a new phone and computer system last year the funds are just not there.

Another resident would like to be a candidate for the Board of Assessment Review position that is open. Supervisor Rozell explained we need to go through the proper process of advertising, interviewing etc. and has his letter of interest on his desk.

MOTION to approve the monthly minutes from October 15, 2025 Town Board regular meeting motion made by Councilperson Hollister and Seconded by Councilperson Safka

<u>ADOPTED</u>	AYES	5	Rozell, Hollister, Dudley, Safka, Wilbur
	NAYS	0	

MONTHLY REPORTS

Town Recreation Report by Timothy Martindale- Written

Town Dog Control Report by Kathy Hall- No Report, but Supervisor Rozell mentioned she has been extremely busy with one residence in Whitehall.

Town Compliance Report by Jessie Neddo – Written

Town Clerk Report by Jamie Barnhill – Written

Town Assessor Report by Roberta Stone – No Report

Town Supervisor's Report by John Rozell- Supervisor Rozell spoke on the County budget that is to be voted on Friday the 21st. Discussed the 40% to 17% decrease and what that would mean to the

taxpayers, some departments and that includes 8 layoffs. Stated he will vote for or against the budget by what the taxpayers want him to vote. He also explained how the county got into the bad financial situation it is currently in.

Town Budget Officer's Report by Joel Carpenter – Written Resolution #41 Budget Transfer

MOTION to approve Resolution #41 Budget Transfer made by Supervisor Rozell and Seconded by Councilperson Dudley

<u>ADOPTED</u>	AYES	5	Rozell, Hollister, Dudley, Safka, Wilbur
	NAYS	0	

Town Planning Board Report by Gregg Chappell – Written

Town Highway Report by Louis D Pratt – Stated the Highway Dept is going well and handed out his Annual Equipment Replacement Budget.

MOTION to approve the Monthly Reports made by Councilperson Safka and Seconded by Councilperson Hollister

<u>ADOPTED</u>	AYES	5	Rozell, Hollister, Dudley, Safka, Wilbur
	NAYS	0	

BUSINESS TO DISCUSS:

- Supervisor Rozell asked the Town Board their thoughts about the Mountain St. property to be used by the Whitehall Vol. Fire Co... Councilperson Safka stated it may be a D.E.C. issue due to ground containments regardless of how we want the building to be used. Tabled until next month to research -Donations at Park/Dock for the year were \$288.00 Supervisor Rozell believes that is the lowest donation ever received in a year, and probably due to the homeless people and the daily vandalism occurring.
- Supervisor Rozell spoke about the Town Park Bicycle Regulations that Mr. Brooks brought to the Town Boards attention. Since it is owned by Canal Corp. there are rules in place we just need to get signs up.

INCOMING CORRESPONDENCES:

- Letter received stating the EPA will be doing cleanup at 215 Broadway, the former CP Rail Maintenance Yard.
- Letter from Whitehall Vol. Fire Co. about the Length of Service Award program and Mr. Brooks spoke about the incentive to try to get new members to join.
- Letter received from Office of the Aging requesting the use of the Rec. Center in Spring of 2026 for Tai Chi for Arthritis and Fall Prevention Class, Town Board approves use need to look at other organizations using facility

<u>ABSTRACT #11 OF 2025</u>	General Fund V/ 1-23A	\$ 4,993.66
	Highway Fund V/ 1- 12	\$ 16,387.72
	Youth Budget V/ 1- 5	\$ 446.72

MOTION to approve the Monthly Abstract #11 of 2025 made by Councilperson Safka and Seconded by Councilperson Hollister

<u>ADOPTED</u>	AYES	5	Rozell, Hollister, Dudley, Safka, Wilbur
	NAYS	0	

Executive Session:

MOTION to go into Executive Session at 8:30 pm for Hiring/Firing made by Supervisor Rozell and Seconded by Councilperson Dudley

<u>ADOPTED</u>	AYES	5	Rozell, Hollister, Dudley, Safka, Wilbur
	NAYS	0	

MOTION to come out of Executive Session at 9:00 pm made by Supervisor Rozell and Seconded by Councilperson Hollister

<u>ADOPTED</u>	AYES	5	Rozell, Hollister, Dudley, Safka, Wilbur
	NAYS	0	

MOTION to adjourn the Regular Town Board meeting at 9:02 pm made by Councilperson Hollister and Seconded by Councilperson Safka

<u>ADOPTED</u>	AYES	5	Rozell, Hollister, Dudley, Safka, Wilbur
	NAYS	0	

ADJOURNED
Respectfully Submitted



Jamie Barnhill
Town Clerk