

NEW LISBON TOWN BOARD---2026 MONTHLY MEETING

May 12, 2026---TOWN HALL, GARRATTSVILLE

Present: Supervisor Brian Ryther, Deputy Supervisor/councilwoman Nancy Martin-Mathewson, Councilwoman Amy Dill, Councilman Robert Schenfeld, Councilman Scott Fickbohm, Hwy. Supt. Donald Smith, Town clerk Melaina Woodbeck, County Rep Meg Kennedy Also: Lenny Melillo, Laurie Melillo

Supervisor Brian Ryther opened the May 12, 2026 Monthly meeting at 7:30PM.

Motion made by Amy Dill seconded by Robert Schenfeld to accept the minutes of April 14, 2026 regular monthly New Lisbon Town Board meeting as previously submitted to board members. Motion was carried 5 Ayes / 0 Nays.

Highway Report:

Truck 25 had warranty work preformed (exhaust and seal leak)

Hwy Supt is looking at new 2027 Pick up trucks to replace on of the current trucks

Myers Mills/Stoney Brook Bridge was completed in 2 weeks

Paving is on hold until the NYS budget is released

Gill Hill Town hwy will working on drainage to help with ditch wash out

North Welcome Road will have a traffic meter installed over the summer to see if it needs to be changed from minimum maintenance to regular use road. Seems to have a lot of traffic.

Highway Garage, nothing to report. Everything working properly.

Personnel, fully staffed at this time.

Shared Service with Otsego County is still in progress.

Resident complaints and accolades, there has been some complaints about truck 25 being driven to fast. This issue has been addressed with employee. Residents of Myers Mills Road have reported they are very happy with the town road crew and how fast the bridge work was completed!!

Nancy gave a brief report on cost of truck operations compared to previous years. Cost of repairs and fuel have gone down.

Open Floor to Public:

Nothing to report

Assessor Update:

Tax rolls are open for public to look at. Town values have changed, increasing by 2.5 million before the grievance days are completed.

Planning Board:

The planning board met on May 4, 2026 to review a site plan request to change the use of property. Jennifer and Donald Smith submitted an application to change for residential vacant land to Vacation Cabin Rentals. Planning board approved application and request Town Board approve as well. Motion was made by Nancy Martin-Mathewson seconded by Scott Fickbohm to accept the Smith application for change of use at the 340 Cty Hwy 16 / 114 North Welcome Road. Motion was carried by 5 Ayes / 0 Nays.

Site Plan Review Board:

Brian Ryther stated that the Town Board needs to look in changing to a Zoning Board and updating our local laws. The Town is trying to be compliant with Civil Service Law and this would require some changes. This will be addressed again next month with updates.

County Rep Meg Kennedy:

Meg stated that Otsego County finances are on hold due to no NYS budget approval yet. She also reported several grants which all the info is available on the Otsego County website.

Committee Updates:

Facilities committee: Robert Schenfeld reports, Generator has been installed, LP tank is hooked up. Waiting on final inspection and warranty paperwork and then final payment will be requested. Scott Fickbohm reports, playground inspection is in progress. He is also researching grants for playground updating. He will pick up paint to paint benches and equipment. He needs Red and Brown paint.

Broadband workshop: Amy Dill reports, she has attended several workshops. There is grant money available to internet/cell providers to help “dead zone” areas. Workshops have suggested the Towns put a flow chart on their website to help providers.

Climate Smart committee: Nancy reported, Income tax was sent and received by the IRS. We have also started to store up solar energy to help with rainy day and snow covered panels. June 10 there is a climate smart meeting.

Dog Control Officer:

DCO Keegan Holt reported 1 abandon dog was taken to Silver Streak Kennel. Silver Streak Kennel reports they found a home for the dog.

Supervisor updates:

Brian Ryther reports he has re upped our insurance policies. Cost has gone up \$1000.00 which puts us at 37000.00 for the year. We have our annual USDA payment due of \$100,000.00 due for the Town Highway Garage. The Town Hall Building had an increase on property value of 22,000.00 due to the installation of Solar panels. The town received an email re: Knarich Family Farm from Brian DeNovio. He is the person purchasing the cannabis microbusiness operation. He received a correspondence from OCM requesting clarification regarding local law and zoning compliance for the proposed cannabis microbusiness operation. The letter originally sent to George Knarich was forwarded to Mr. DeNovio stating that we have heard nothing from Mr. Knarich.

Approve Bills for Payment:

A motion was made by Nancy Martin-Mathewson seconded by Amy Dill for Brian Ryther to pay Highway Fund bills #64 - #76 totaling \$55,826.28 and General Fund bills #64 - #73 totaling \$5397.83. Motion was carried 5 Ayes / 0 Nays.

Brian Ryther had previously paid Highway fund bill # 77 for a total of \$1538.989 and General Fund bills #74 - #79 for a total of \$2673.40 with prior board approval.

Open Floor to Public:

Nothing to report.

Adjournment:

A motion was made by Nancy Martin-Mathewson seconded by Amy Dill to adjourn the meeting at 8:35 pm. Motion was carried by 5 Ayes and 0 Nays.

Melaina J. Woodbeck, New Lisbon Town Clerk