

NEW LISBON TOWN BOARD---2026 MONTHLY MEETING

August 11, 2026---TOWN HALL, GARRATTSVILLE,NY

Present: Supervisor Brian Ryther, Deputy Supervisor/councilwoman Nancy Martin-Mathewson, Councilwoman Amy Dill, Councilman Robert Schenfeld, Hwy. Supt. Donald Smith, Town clerk Melaina Woodbeck. Absent Councilman Scott Fickbohm. Also Present: Glenn Chase and County Rep Meg Kennedy, and Assessor / LUO Pamela Dyn-Gohde

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

1. Minute Approval: A motion was made by Nancy Martin-Mathewson and seconded by Amy Dill to accept the July 14, 2026 Regular monthly minutes as previously submitted. Motion carried 4 Ayes, 0 Noes, 1 absent
2. Highway business: Don Smith stated all trucks are working properly with the exception of his pick up which is having a horn issue at this time. He is still looking for a new 2027 Pickup with plans to pay for truck out of Fund Balance and DA 5130.2 accounts. The updated 284 agreement has been signed. The Highway Dept. has been cleaning ditches on Mitteldorf Road and dumping the cleaning material into the large hole on the Page property which is on Mitteldorf Road. That will help fill in the large hole left from previous barn fire. Don Smith is planning on attended a webinar on 9/3/2026 about the nys plan for bridge repair. This is a program defining SCOUR Critical Bridges. The guard rail for Jones Road has been ordered. Highway garage is all in working order, no issues to report, fully staffed at this time. Nancy reports that costs for repairs and fuel are down this year compared to 2025 and only slightly higher than 2024.
3. Open Floor to Public: Glen Chase reported that he found, while working on the honor roll project, notes that states in December 1976 a time capsule was buried on the corner lot where the tavern burned and it is to be dug up in 2026. Don Turnbull has offered to use his metal detector to try to locate. When and if this is found the capsule will be opened at a group town event to be determined at a later date.
4. County Rep. Meg Kennedy update: Meg reports that there are grants available for energy efficiency, check the county website. Otsego Co. has purchased 387 acres from the Huntington Farm located across the road from the Otsego Co. Jail. They are looking into building a Fire training center. The County has a few other ideas for use of land and buildings which they will explore. More info to follow.
5. Committee Updates: Climate Smart members, Nancy, Amy and Ed Lentz committee members. Nancy had a webinar with MVEDD they will to help us get recertified as a Bronze Climate Smart Community. The process has been started. Facilities Committee, Robert Schenfeld asked if he could install a frost proof outside water hook up that could be used for outside water access for the general public in the event of an extended power outage. Robert will go to AC Hoyt Hardware to purchase the supplies on Town account to complete the job. He has also received 3 quotes to replace the existing fuel oil furnace forced hot air in the upper firehouse. His quotes are for a 175,000 BTU hanging propane unit which would blow air from unit to heat firehouse, no ductwork needed. Quotes are as follows, Standard Heating and Cooling \$10018.00, Reinhardt \$4800.00 or Center State \$6000.00 plus \$1249.60 for install of (1) 500 gallons LP tank owned by Center State, Regulators, gas piping to provided stub out, labor and Propane delivery of 400 gallons @ 1.999 per gallon. This information is for budgeting purposes for 2027.
6. DCO Report: No report provided

7. Land use office & assessor: NYS has a 100% disabled veteran bill that could exempt disabled veterans from property tax. Otsego County has opted to hold on adopting the law for now. The Town has until March 1, 2027 to decide if they would want to adopt the law. The Town tabled their decision at this point.
8. Supervisor Updates: Brian stated the town needs to amend the pay rate for the cleaner/lawn mowing position for the town hall. The pay rate was set at \$16.00 for cleaning and \$18.00 for mowing as he is providing the equipment and fuel. Civil Service states that there can only be one pay rate. A motion was made by Nancy Martin-Mathewson seconded by Amy Dill to amend the Organizational Meeting Minutes to change the pay rate to \$17.00 per hour. As to update the Job Description. Motion carried 4 Aye 0 Noes and 1 Absent. Brian also been working on the Site Plan Review. He has proposed that the Town Board no longer make the decision to accept or deny the Planning Board recommendations. The Planning Board members have had the training and should have the authority to follow through with their own recommendations. With this change the Town will also have to have a Zoning Board of Appeals for any dispute regarding Planning Board decisions. He is going to speak with Town Attorney to have the paperwork drawn up to change our existing Town Law. When it is completed the Town Board will vote to accept it and then it will go to a public hearing. Also, the Town Board will need to change the Land Use Officer to Zoning Enforcement Officer as Civil Service doesn't recognize Land Use Officer as a title.
9. Approve Paying Bills: The Town Board needs to move money to cover the USDA loan payment. A motion was made by Amy Dill seconded by Robert Schenfeld to move \$314.59 from DA 5110.4 to DA 9785.7 to cover cost. Amy Dill made a motion, seconded by Robert Schenfeld to pay the Highway Fund Vouchers # 102-#108 Totaling \$21,414.69 and the General Fund Vouchers #112-#116 Totaling \$1724.98. Motion was carried with 4 Ayes, 0 Noes and 1 Absent. General Fund Vouchers # 117-#125 Totaling \$971.49 were prepaid prior to the meeting with Prior Board Approval.
10. Open Floor to the Public: Nothing at this time.
11. Adjourn: Nancy Martin-Mathewson made a motion, seconded by Amy Dill to adjourn the meeting at 8:18pm. Motion was carried 4 Ayes, 0 Noes, 1 Absent.

Melaina J. Woodbeck, New Lisbon Town Clerk