The Town Board of the Town of Trenton held a Town Board Meeting at the Trenton Municipal Center, 8520 Old Poland Road, Barneveld, New York. Supervisor Godfrey called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm. Present were: Councilmen Michael Bennison, James Farr, Eric Taylor and Deputy Town Clerk, Donna Mills. Councilman Chris Crumb was absent. Also attending, Jason Stiehl, Kate Festine, John Healt, Ken Cutler, Dave Constable, Theresa Inserra, Mark Inserra, Kathy Kellogg, David Marcouiller, James H. Mills, Dave Buck.

I. Meeting called to order by Supervisor Godfrey at 7:05 pm

II. Pledge to the Flag

III. Privilege of the Floor:

Dave Buck gave the county report. Grants are still available for septic tank replacement. Information available on Oneida County Website.
Moving forward with the Chobani Project – need to find relocation of the sandpiper.
EDGE put forward opportunities for rural help with farms.
County Executive released his budget – 2.89% tax raise
Medicaid costs up 50/50 from 75/25. Cost is over $57 million just for Medicaid.
County is working on the budget now. There are workshops scheduled to see where the budget can get trimmed. Twelve years with no increase. It's inevitable going from federal to state and then down to municipalities.

One resident complaint about the ongoing traffic issue on Hinman Rd. There is a new interim Director of Emergency Services and DWI who oversees the speed enforcement trailers. He is making headway to get one sent out there.

Dave Marcouiller - regarding the Transition Agreement between Prospect Cemetery and Town of Trenton. Cindy typed up an agreement. Steve provided a copy to all Board members. Kate and Steve will work with the Department of Health to get information and proceed to transition by the end of the year. There are concerns about being able to get a 5 member board. Records will move to the town soon, hopefully before bad weather.

IV. Officer Reports:

A. **Highway Superintendent :**

Highway Garage Roof Repair Proposal: There is one proposal – the only one who can get it done this year. The leak is over the electrical panels and generator which is the urgency. Stiehl is concerned that there may be more than just the roof leak. Kate advised that we have to make sure the workers are getting paid prevailing wages. Kate was asked if there was a list of certified contractors for Oneida County. She will check on that. Kate would like to see other quotes and wants to see the specs that Rich is giving to contractors.

Cutler said he would like to see the Codes Officer involved. Steve asked Ken and Dave to go over and look at it. Ken wants Jason to call an electrician.

Taylor made motion that they get another quote or two, making sure they understand the requirements stating no deposit, pay prevailing wage, seconded by Bennison, 4 ayes.

Abstracts # 276 to 305 in the amount of $27,875.59. Bennison made motion to pay vouchers #276 through 305 in the amount of $27,875.59, seconded by Jim Farr, 4 ayes.

B. Assessor: Everything going fine.

C. **Zoning & Codes:**

Zoning Report: Boulerice is on vacation this week. Board members have copy of the report. Theresa Inserra was there to answer any questions.

Codes Report: Cutler said it's been very busy. Miner property down. Cutler concerned that because the building was there now there is slope causing lots of water run off which will affect building. Steve will talk to Stiehl.

Constable said fire inspections are under way.

D. **NOCCOG**:

John Healt gave the NOCCOG Report. Annual dinner 10/23/25 at Woods Valley.
State – Round 9 of the Downtown Revitalization Initiative $200 million in funding and Round 4 of the New York Forward. Links on the website.
Tughill recently updated their planning for solar energy project issue paper. Also check the website.
NYS Canal Corporation has announced some infrastructure grants. They have 2 types of grants; one for tourism and one for event support. Easy to apply for and worth checking out.
31st State conference on local bridges is October 22 and 23 in Saratoga Springs.
Short term rental webinar October 23rd.
Association of Towns Planning and Zoning School - Binghamton October 27
MVCC broke ground at Utica Campus for new Applied Technology Center for STEM fields.

E. **Attorney:**

Kate discussed with Leo the sawmill operating unlawfully. They were denied a use variance. They were given 90 days to wind down operations which hit September 30th and they have not complied. There is additional burning even though there is a burn ban. The Board has a decision to make as to whether we have Leo write another letter giving them another 30 days to wind down or whether we should pursue action in Supreme Court seeking injunction in operating the sawmill. Tabled for now.
Kate advised Ken should send out cease and desist order now. If other sawmills are operating without a permit Ken should also proceed. Leo has sent letters to other sawmills.
Dave states there are a list of businesses that need to go in front of the Planning Board. Theresa will start tomorrow.

F. Clerk's Report:
Local shares remitted are $ 1762.00

V. Resolutions:

A. **Public Hearing Local Law 2025-1:**

Kate advised this is a local law providing volunteer fire fighters and volunteer ambulance workers a real property tax reduction. She used the model legislation from the Association of Towns. You are allowed to grant up to 10% of the assessed value of the property and are residents of the town and have worked for one of the covered entities for 2 years. There is one in place now but expires on September 30, 2025. Taylor made a motion to introduce Local Law 2025-1 for 10% real property tax reduction for volunteer fire fighters and ambulance workers and have a public hearing on it on October 22, 2025 at 6:00 pm, seconded by Godfrey, 4 ayes.
Farr made motion to have a Public Hearing on October 22, 2025 at 6:00 pm., seconded by Bennison, 4 ayes.

B. **Public Hearing 2026 Budget:** Farr made motion to have a Public Hearing regarding the Budget on October 22, 2025 at 6:30, seconded by Bennison, 4 ayes.

C. **Resolutions – Re-levy – Property Maintenance and Water Rent Taxes:**

Miner Properties- Parcel 194.011-1-20 – grand total of $72,806.70 on demolition. This is for the two buildings, the one that collapsed and the one that just came down, 112 and 114 Mappa Ave. The 114 Mappa Ave, the only thing we are missing is the tipping charge. The cut off date is November 7th. Will do this at the meeting on October 22 after we receive the tipping charge.

Pachura Properties- $921.60 to clean up over 100 bags of garage on the property. This is for the dumpster and bobcat operation. Farr made motion to re-levy the amount of $921.60 onto Pachura's tax bill, seconded by Bennison.

Roll Call: Steve Godfrey – Aye
Michael Bennison – Aye
Eric Taylor – Aye
Jim Farr – Aye

Water Rent - Resolution to re-levy Barneveld water overdue accounts to county – 7 properties totaling $3,069.83 Taylor made motion to re-levy Barneveld water overdue accounts to county in the amount of $3,069.83, seconded by Farr.

Roll Call: Steve Godfrey – Aye
Michael Bennison – Aye
Eric Taylor – Aye
Jim Farr – Aye

Resolution to re-levy Prospect overdue accounts to county – 6 properties totaling $2,537.93. Taylor made motion to re-levy Prospect water overdue accounts to the county in the amount of $2,537.93, seconded by Farr.

Roll Call: Steve Godfrey – Aye
Michael Bennison – Aye
Eric Taylor – Aye
Jim Farr - Aye

D. Approve September 24, 2025 Minutes: Bennison made motion to approve September 24, 2025, seconded by Taylor, 4 ayes.

E. **Abstracts:**

Hinckley- Abstracts # 20 and 21 in the amount of $87.03. Bennison made motion to pay abstracts numbered 20 and 21 in the amount of $87.03, seconded by Taylor, 4 ayes.

General: Abstracts # 795 to 897 in the amount of $247,644.90. Farr made motion to pay vouchers # 795 through 897 in the amount of $247,644.90, seconded by Bennison, 4 ayes.

VI. Priority Issues:

A. Prospect Cemetery: Previously discussed.

B. Recycling and Summer Building and Grounds Labor Rates: Per a request from the Recycling Center we are working to make payroll more equitable for them and Building and Grounds. Eric Taylor has provided information based off of what he did for the Highway Dept. If we have people that have been with us longer, they do deserve more money. Minimum wage is going to $16.00 an hour in January. Obviously our guys are just making that. Taylor made a chart showing date started and what their yearly increase would be and then what a 3 year increase would be. Keith brought up about being a heavy equipment operator – do you get more money. Taylor was not given that information but said it can certainly be looked at. This is just a starting point. Keith will take a look at the chart and it will be discussed again at the October 22, meeting.

C. Recycling and Highway Building Updates: Steve sent over the plans to Kate. Wants to go out to bid on both of them. Kate will put together a packet for the October 22nd meeting. She would like written specs from Don Ehre.

As far as the Highway Building, they are trying to put together a meeting with Don Ehre from Boulder Consultants. He has a couple of items he wants to include. Ken wants to review all the plans before it goes out to bid.

D. Godfrey will have the budget over to the Board next week. He has a couple of other things to check with Joe Smith.

VII. Committees:

A. Planning Board: Planning Board voted to do a fast check and have Ken, Leo and John Panzone review plans for the Recycling and Highway Buildings. Also reviewed plan for Kevin Topi. He wants to build a garage on Veterans Way. He is going to have his engineer send in plans tomorrow. SEQR will not be met yet.

B. ZBA: Nothing. Will be meeting Monday night. They have a new member, Patti Casey. This will be her first meeting.

C. Greenbelt: Nothing

D. Infrastructure: Discussion re Master Plan. Last one – 10 years ago.

VIII. Communications: Next Meeting October 22, 2025 at 7:00 pm.

IX. Adjournment - Taylor made motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:37 pm, seconded by Farr, 4 ayes.

Respectfully submitted,

Donna R. Mills

Donna R. Mills
Deputy Town Clerk