

TOWN OF COVERT, SENECA COUNTY
REGULAR TOWN BOARD MEETING

June 9th, 2025

The regular meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Covert was held Monday, June 9, 2025 at 7:00 P.M. at the Town of Covert Municipal Building, 8469 South Main Street, Interlaken, New York.

Roll Call:	Supervisor Michael Reynolds	Present
	Councilwoman Deborah Nottke	Present
	Councilman Bill Bishop	Present
	Councilman Brayton Foster	Present
	Councilman Todd Wyckoff	Present

Others Present: Town Clerk Leslie Adams-Compton, Highway Superintendent Jeffrey MacCheyne, and other interested citizens.

Call to order: Supervisor Reynolds called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M. All rose for the pledge of allegiance.

Approval of Minutes: Nottke moved, seconded by Bishop, to approve the May 12th Regular Town Board meeting minutes. Aye – Nottke, Aye – Bishop, Aye - Wyckoff and Aye – Foster.

Highway: The Highway Department reinstalled driveway pipes after flooding on E Bates Rd, broomed roads after flooding, cleaned up large tree at Lakeview cemetery and added stone to driveways, cleaned ditches and pipes on flooded roads, cutting off some crushed ends caused by flooding, scraped potholes and pulled shoulders on dirt roads, hauled crusher run to the shop and Covert, and cold-patched all town roads. They picked up and returned to NYSDOT the jersey barriers from the Frontenac Bridge. They worked on electrical issues with the 2022 Western Star, now in Syracuse for possible module issue. Both mowers were installed on roadside mower and they did regular maintenance on all equipment. They also helped Seneca County with paving project and will work with Trumansburg to blow out pipes.

Bishop asked if the truck problem is under warranty. It is not.

MacCheyne went to NYAOT Highway School. He learned the new criteria used for CHIPS reimbursements and learned the OSHA updates. About \$15,000 more CHIPS money is available this year.

Committees: Foster said he read in the Association of Towns magazine that a solar farm in Mt. Morris has received \$1.6 million in payments for the 1st year.

Reynolds said that the Persoons don't know if the solar construction will happen on their farm as they are waiting for NYSEG in order to move forward.

Nottke said the State Parks has issued a press release regarding the new park at former Camp Barton. She said that there were 6 responses to an RFP for park manager. They have narrowed it down but has yet to be decided.

Nottke said that on July 1 at 6 PM there will be a Public Forum at the Trumansburg Firehouse for answering questions, hearing concerns and offering updates on the new park on Frontenac Rd. A notice will be posted on the Town's website.

Nottke said that although the park is open, it is only passively open. There is restrictive signage around and the buildings, trails and bathrooms are closed.

Nottke said there are no more grants available for Covert's portion of the membership fee, so the Town will continue to participate, but without voting privileges.

Supervisor: Reynolds said the Frontenac bridge is open now. No bill has been received for the Town's portion, but when it is, the Town should consider bonding.

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Reynolds said that North Seneca Ambulance does not want to merge with South Seneca and that Seneca County does not want to take over ambulance services. No decisions have been made.

Reynolds said that we need a resolution for approval of the salt barn contract. Once approved, they will order the barn. It will take 2-3 months to build. 50% payment will be due upon commencement, 25% on receipt of building, 25% upon completion. He plans to get the money with a bank promissory note.

The salt barn pad will be blacktop which will be sealed. The dome will help to keep the salt from rinsing away. Covert uses a mix. The DEC wants salt to be cut back; The DOT wants more salt, as there is not a good replacement for it.

Petitioners: Barry Ford expressed concern for open land and farm land, flooding and chemicals.

Ben Guthrie thanked MacCheyne for cleaning out the ditch on W Covert Rd.

Guthrie also asked if the highway department might have towing cable in order to fix the belfry on the Covert Baptist Church.

Ford asked if any Towns do not have ambulance service, is it mandated by the State? He said it is not sustainable as it is and probably should be re-thought.

Dick Westbrook asked about assessments. Reynolds responded that the new assessments will be out July 1st. After the revaluation, the Town's total value was at \$425 million from \$265 previously. After grievances the value will drop some.

Resolutions:

Nottke moved, seconded by Wyckoff, to approve the Interlaken Historical Society's use of the Highway Barn lot for public parking on Saturday, July 19th from 9 – 11:30 AM. Aye – Wyckoff, Aye - Foster, Aye - Nottke and Aye - Bishop.

Nottke moved, seconded by Wyckoff, to approve the Hybrid Building Solutions Contract for installation of a 62' x 50' Calhoun Super Structures building (on file with Town Clerk) for \$228,993.00. Aye – Wyckoff, Aye - Foster, Aye - Nottke and Aye - Bishop.

Nottke moved, seconded by Foster, to approve the Supervisor's Income and Expenditure Report for the month of May 2025. Aye – Wyckoff, Aye - Foster, Aye - Nottke and Aye - Bishop.

Foster moved, seconded by Nottke, to approve the Highway Superintendent's report for the month of May 2025. Aye – Wyckoff, Aye – Nottke, Aye - Foster, and Aye - Bishop.

Nottke moved, seconded by Bishop, to approve Town Clerk report for the month of May 2025. Town Clerk received a total of \$996.25; \$418.80 was remitted to the Supervisor. Aye - Bishop, Aye – Wyckoff, Aye - Nottke and Aye-Foster.

Nottke moved, seconded by Foster, to approve the Dog Control Officer Report for the months of April and May 2025. Aye - Bishop, Aye – Nottke, Aye - Wyckoff and Aye-Foster.

Nottke moved, seconded by Wyckoff, that Highway Fund Vouchers #69 – 81 in the amount of \$9,468.22 and General Fund Vouchers #115 – 129 in the amount of \$8,749.81 be approved for payment. Aye- Bishop, Aye – Nottke, Aye - Wyckoff and Aye-Foster.

Nottke moved, seconded by Wyckoff, to adjourn the meeting at 7:49 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Leslie Adams-Compton, Town Clerk