

**TOWN OF COVERT
PUBLIC HEARING,
ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING,
MONTHLY BOARD MEETING
7:00 PM ----- JANUARY 13, 2025**

The Public Hearing, organizational and regular meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Covert was held Monday, January 13, 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, Town Attorney Patrick Morrell, Deputy Clerk Brian Quan and other interested citizens.

Call to order: Supervisor Reynolds called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m. All rose for the pledge of allegiance.

Approval of Minutes: Nottke moved, seconded by Wyckoff, to approve the minutes from December 9th and December 30th, 2024 Year-end Meeting. Aye-Foster, Aye-Wyckoff, Aye-Nottke and Aye-Bishop.

ORGANIZATONAL

- 1) Nottke moved, seconded by Wyckoff that for the year 2025 the Town Board sets 70 cents per mile reimbursement as mileage allowance for personal vehicles used by Town Officers while performing official duties other than attendance at Town Board Meetings or Town Court Proceedings.
- 2) Nottke moved, seconded by Foster, to authorize that Community Bank, N.A., Ovid Branch, be designated the official bank of the Town of Covert and the Supervisor be authorized to invest town monies consistent with the requirements of New York State and with appropriate consideration given to elements of safety, liquidity and yield.
- 3) Nottke moved, seconded by Foster, to authorize that Five Star Bank, Ovid Branch, be designated the official bank of Town Justice Schmidt.
- 4) Nottke moved, seconded by Foster, to authorize Highway Superintendent MacCheyne to spend up to \$1000.00 per purchase to acquire equipment, tools, and implements and \$1,500.00 for repairs during 2025 without prior approval of the Town Board.
- 5) Nottke moved, seconded by Wyckoff, to designate the Interlaken Review as the official newspaper of the Town of Covert for the year 2025.
- 6) Nottke moved, seconded by Wyckoff, to appoint April Moore as Dog Control Officer at the budgeted Salary and 70 cents per mile to Beverly Animal Shelter for the year 2025. A \$25.00 per day fee for each dog will be charged to the owner upon redemption of impounded dog from Beverly Animal Shelter.
- 7) Nottke moved, seconded by Foster, to appoint Roger Ward as Code Enforcement Officer at the budgeted Salary and 70 cents per mile for the year 2025.
- 8) Nottke moved, seconded by Foster, to appoint John Hunt as cleaner to the Town of Covert Municipal Building, at the wage of \$19.10 per hour for the year 2025.
- 9) Nottke moved, seconded by Wyckoff, to allow Supervisor Reynolds to file his 2024 annual report with the Town Clerk by the same date and in the same matter as Annual Report is required to be filed with the State Comptroller. Such authorization is allowed by Town Law Section 29 (10a).
- 10) Nottke moved, seconded by Wyckoff, that the salaries of all elected and appointed officers shall be the

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amount indicated by the currently effective resolution or the amount budgeted in the 2025 budget. The Highway Superintendent shall set wages of hourly highway employees with concurrence by the Town Board, within the limits of the Highway Budget. Payment of salaries and wages shall be at times and dates that are legally permissible and mutually acceptable to the Supervisor and the recipients.

- 11) The Personnel Policy and Procedures Handbook with the addition of FOIL Policy were reviewed.

APPOINTMENTS BY ELECTED OFFICIALS

Highway Superintendent MacCheyne appoints Glenn Boyes as Deputy Highway Superintendent for 2025.

Town Clerk appoints Brian Quan as Deputy Town Clerk, Registrar of Vital Statistics, and Tax Collector. Wage shall be \$22.89 per hour.

Town Justice Eileen Schmidt appoints Lucille Smith as Clerk to the Town Justice. Wage shall be \$22.89 per hour.

Supervisor Reynolds makes the following appointments for 2025:

Bookkeeper and Secretary to the Supervisor – Nancy Swartwood

Budget Officer -- Michael Reynolds

Deputy Supervisor -- Deborah Nottke

Town Assessment Committee – Michael Reynolds and Brayton Foster

Historian for the Town – Chelsea Hastings

Highway Committee -- Bill Bishop, Chairman and Brayton Foster

Courts, Ordinances & Law Enforcement –Brayton Foster, Chairman and Bill Bishop

Utilities & Insurance – Bill Bishop, Chairman and Deborah Nottke

Personnel – Deborah Nottke, Chairwoman and Todd Wyckoff

Buildings and Grounds--Bill Bishop, Chairman and Todd Wyckoff

Fire and Ambulance –Deborah Nottke, Chairwoman, Todd Wyckoff and Michael G. Reynolds

Planning and Land Management Ordinance- Brayton Foster, Chairman and Todd Wyckoff

Any appointments which may have been overlooked shall continue to be filled by the incumbent subject to review by the appropriate appointing authority.

Nottke moved, seconded by Foster. Aye-Bishop, Aye-Foster, Aye-Nottke, Aye-Wyckoff.

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RETURN TO THE REGULAR TOWN BOARD MEETING

Public Hearing: Foster moved, seconded by Nottke, to open the Public Hearing at 7:12 PM for a Variance Request under the Town of Covert's Land Management Ordinance (LMO) for John Myer, 8451 Bergen Beach Rd, Interlaken, Tax Map #06-2-59.1, to construct/replace with a new residential building where set back from side boundary is deficient and where there is a limit of one dwelling structure per parcel as required under the Town of Covert LMO. Reynolds said that Myers is tearing down one cottage over the property line and building a new one 5' from the property line. The Planning Board thought it was an improvement over the present situation and recommended approval. Morrell recommended the Public Hearing continue to next month, as there were no representatives in attendance. Nottke moved, seconded by Foster, to close the public hearing at 7:14 PM.

Katherine Sender was introduced as one interested in serving on the Three Falls LDC member board. Sender is currently a member of the Planning Board. Sender said she would love to be part of the decision making that goes into what happens with the park and has been involved and aware of the process since the property went on the market. Sender feels very committed to keeping Lake access to the public and stewarding the flora and fauna. Sender is aware of the concern for taxes going up and she would help in the raising of funds, representing the Town of Covert residents for the relief of tax burdens.

Highway: MacCheyne reported on the activities for the month of December. They plowed, sanded, mowed with Seneca County's boom mower, and removed beaver dams on Stout and Halls Corners Road. Part of the exhaust on 2019 Western Star 10-wheeler was replaced, rear of flail mower was cleaned and painted, miniature spreader on pickup had electrical issues, cutting edges on #1 and #3 plows and wings were replaced, airbags were installed on pickup to carry new sander, sander was picked up, and regular maintenance on all equipment was done.

MacCheyne mentioned that it would cost up to \$4K/month to rent a boom mower.

A permit from DEC was applied for but the beavers didn't show up. Another permit is needed for the other side of the road.

The WQIP grant was awarded to the Town for a new salt barn but it is unclear how much money is allocated for the project.

Regarding the Frontenac Bridge, Vector and Seneca County plan to have consistent meetings, possibly starting next month.

The new FOIL Policy was discussed. Morrell recommended that the Access Officer be the Town Clerk and delegated from the Town Clerk's office for simplicity's sake and appeals directed to the Town Board.

Committees:

Nottke thanked Bill Shaw for all his effort as member representative on the Three Falls LDC.

When asked about the success of the Christmas trees sale for the Fire Dept, Ralph Bailey said they broke even.

Reynolds said that ENPM would like to do another Revaluation Info Meeting on Wednesday, February 26th at 6 PM. He will double check with the assessors to confirm.

Reynolds said the Town could get 2/4 million additional liability insurance for \$715/year. He will get more information

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on what it covers. He thinks the money can be found in the budget.

Reynolds said that Seneca Meadows can give \$1000 toward the Town's membership in the Three Falls LDC. About \$3800 is still needed for 2024 dues.

Reynolds reminded all that the Town Board will audit the Town Books on January 20 beginning at 8 AM.

Petitioners: John Hubbard, Lake View Cemetery, shared an update on the cemetery's needs since Yvonne Williams, president, is retired as of March 1 and he is stepping down from the board. He said that Yvonne had done 75% of the mowing. Nobody is volunteering at this point. They have \$60K of discretionary funds. He said it would disappear very quickly. Depending on what the Town decides to do, it looks like they will have to bid out the mowing/weed-eating/property maintenance this year. Additional expenses will be coming along. The annual meeting is at the beginning of March.

He said that last year NYS came up with a grant for replacing foundations. Last year they received a grant for replacing 36 monuments with new foundations at no expense to them. This year they applied for another \$52K. They hope to hear in March. They plan another spaghetti fundraiser in April, split with the Masons. He asked for the Town Board's thoughts and invited board members to be part of the cemetery board.

Reynolds said that with a trailer, the Town could help open/close graves with its mini-excavator. The cost for this process is around \$500.

Foster asked if the cemetery committee would make it through this year if the Town cannot help. Hubbard said yes, but they would want to have money in reserve. They are also looking for 3 new members.

Resolutions:

Bishop moved, seconded by Foster, to authorize the Town of Covert Highway Department to do any work needed at the Lakeview Cemetery at the discretion of the Highway Superintendent. Aye-Nottke, Aye-Wyckoff, Aye-Bishop and Aye-Foster.

Resolution # 1-2025

Resolution Designating Authorized Representative for Three Falls Local Development Corporation

WHEREAS, the Towns of Covert and Ulysses and the Village of Trumansburg, having collectively engaged in discussions with the State of New York and the Boy Scouts concerning an opportunity to manage certain real property known as Camp Barton (the "**Park Premises**") for public recreation and other purposes, determined to jointly form a local development corporation to take possession of and manage the Park Premises; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees of the Town of Covert, having considered the proposed certificate of incorporation and bylaws of the Three Falls Local Development Corporation (the "**Park Corporation**"), approved the execution and filing of the certificate of incorporation and the adoption of said bylaws (the "**By-laws**") on February 13, 2023, which certificate of incorporation was filed with the Department of State on March 17, 2023 and By-laws are in full force and effect; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Covert, together with the Town of Ulysses and the Village of Trumansburg, is a Voting Member of the Park Corporation, as such term is defined in the By-laws; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 3.07 of the Corporate By-Laws, the Voting Members, must approve, *inter alia*, any transaction involving the purchase, lease, license, exchange or other acquisition by the Park Corporation of any assets; and

WHEREAS, the Park Corporation is currently negotiating a certain municipal park management agreement by and between the Three Falls Local Development Corporation and the New York Office of Parks, Recreation and Historical Preservation (the "**Park Management Agreement**"), which Park Management Agreement is the contractual vehicle by which the Park Corporation will acquire possession of the Park Premises, and which must be approved by the Voting Members in accordance with Section 3.07 of the Corporate By-laws of the Park Corporation.

NOW BE IT

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RESOLVED, that Deborah Nottke and Katherine Sender (the "**Authorized Representatives**") are hereby authorized and empowered to vote in the name of and on behalf of the Town of Covert as a Voting Member of the Park Corporation for purposes of approving the Park Management Agreement without additional approval of the Town Board of the Town of Covert. Nottke moved, seconded by Foster. Aye-Nottke, Aye-Wyckoff, Aye-Bishop and Aye-Foster.

Nottke moved, seconded by Bishop, to approve the 2025 Beverly Animal Shelter Agreement. Aye-Nottke, Aye-Wyckoff, Aye-Bishop and Aye-Foster.

Nottke moved, seconded by Wyckoff, revision to the Personnel Policy and Procedures Handbook with the addition of Town of Covert F.O.I.L. Policy as follows:

Town of Covert Freedom of Information Law Policy

REGULATIONS ESTABLISHING THE RULES AND PROCEDURES GOVERNING PUBLIC ACCESS TO RECORDS OF THE TOWN OF COVERT AND ITS AUTHORIZED AGENCIES

Pursuant to the provisions of Section 88 and Section 87 Subsection 6 of the Public Officers Law, the following regulations are hereby adopted establishing the rules and procedures governing the public access to records of the Town of Covert and its authorized agencies:

CONTENTS BY SECTION

1. Purpose
2. Definitions
3. Procedure for obtaining records
4. List of records
5. Fees
6. Prevention of invasions of privacy
7. Grant or denial of access to records
8. Appeals
9. Effective date

SECTION 1 - Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to set forth the methods and procedures governing the availability, location and nature of those records of the Town of Covert and its authorized departments subject to the provisions of Article 6 of the Public Officers Law, known as the Freedom of Information Law.

SECTION 2 - Definitions

For the purpose of this policy:

Record: any information kept, filed, held, produced, or reproduced by, with or for the Town of Covert or its authorized departments, in any physical form whatever including, but not limited to, reports, statements, examinations, memoranda, opinions, folders, files books, manuals, pamphlets, forms, papers, designs, drawings, maps, photos, letters, microfilm, recordings, rules, regulations or codes;

Payroll record: an itemized record setting forth the name, business address, title and salary of every officer and employee of the Town of Covert or its authorized departments;

Chief Fiscal Officer: Town Supervisor or his/her authorized representatives.

SECTION 3 - Procedure for Obtaining Records

The Town officers listed below, or their authorized representatives, are hereby designated as Records Access Officers for their respective departments and shall be the custodian of such records, excepting payroll records.

DEPARTMENT: RECORDS ACCESS OFFICER

Town Supervisor: Town Clerk

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Chief Fiscal Officer: Town Clerk
Buildings & Grounds: Town Clerk
Code Enforcement: Town Clerk
Vital Statistics: Town Clerk
Administration: Town Clerk
Town Attorney: Town Clerk
Town Clerk: Town Clerk
Ambulance Services: Town Clerk
Interlaken Fire Department: PO Box 274, Interlaken, NY 14847; Fire Chief
Trumansburg Fire Department: 74 W Main, Trumansburg, NY 14886; Fire Chief
Historian: Town Clerk
Dog Licensing: Town Clerk
Information Technology: Town Clerk
Parks: Town Clerk
Personnel/Civil Service: Town Clerk
Planning: Town Clerk
Town Court: Court Clerk
Highway Department: Town Clerk
Assessment Department: Town Clerk
Tax Collector: Town Clerk

ADDRESS

PO Box 265, 8469 S Main St Interlaken, NY 14847

Any person who wishes to inspect or obtain a copy of any such record may request access to the record by making application to the Records Access Officer. Such application shall be in writing and shall reasonably describe the record or records sought. The Records Access Officer is required to provide written notice to an employee in the event a request is made for employee disciplinary records. Whenever possible a person requesting records shall supply information that may help to describe the records sought. Application forms may be obtained from the Records Access Officer at the office of the Town Clerk, or by email.

Requests for access to records may be submitted to the Town Clerk s office in person Tuesday - Friday between the hours of 10:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., by email, or by mail, addressed to such office or to such other officer as the Records Access Officer may specify. Within five (5) working days of receipt of a request, the Records Access Officer shall cause a search to be made for the requested record and will take one of the following courses of action:

1. Make the record available (and, if so requested and upon payment of the appropriate fee, shall make and certify a copy of the record);
2. Deny the request as provided in Section 7 of this regulation providing the reason, sending a copy of such denial to the office of the Town Attorney;
3. State that the record is not in the custody of the agency if appropriate;
4. State that the record cannot be located after diligent search if that is the case; or
5. Furnish an acknowledgment of receipt of the request and provide an approximate date for reply. If documents which are responsive to the request cannot be provided within twenty (20) days, another reply must be sent stating:

* The reason why the documents were not provided within the twenty-day period, and

* A specific date as to when the request will be answered. Such time period must be reasonable in light of the size of the request, time to search, etc.

The Records Access Officer, in his/her discretion, may waive compliance with any formality prescribed by this subdivision, including the use of application forms.

The Chief Fiscal Officer shall be the Town Supervisor. Any persons wishing to inspect and/or obtain a copy of any payroll record may make application to the Chief Fiscal Officer in writing pursuant to the provisions of Section 3, subparagraph (B) of this regulation to the Chief Fiscal Officer, PO Box 265, Interlaken, New York 14847. Upon receipt of such an application, the Chief Fiscal Officer shall cause the Bookkeeper to the Supervisor to search for and produce for inspection the payroll record. If the applicant requests a copy of such payroll record, the Chief Fiscal Officer shall provide him with one after payment of the appropriate fee.

SECTION 4 - Subject Matter List

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On behalf of the Town of Covert, the Records Access Officer of each department shall maintain and make available for inspection a current list, reasonably detailed by subject matter, of all records in the possession of the department, whether or not available under Article 6 of the Public Officers Law. Such list shall be in conformity with such regulations as may be promulgated by the Committee on Public Access to Records. Any person desiring a copy of such list may request a copy thereof personally, by email or by mail and he shall be supplied with one copy .

Each Records Access Officer shall maintain:

1. A record of the final vote of each member in every department proceeding in which the member votes;
2. A record setting forth the name, public office address, title and salary of every officer or employee of the department, and;
3. A reasonably detailed current list by subject matter, of all records in the possession of the department whether or not available under this article.

SECTION 5 - Fees

The fees for copies of records shall not exceed twenty-five cents (\$.25) per photocopy not in excess of 8.5 inches by 14 inches, or the actual cost of reproducing any other record except when a different fee is otherwise prescribed by law or pursuant to such general rules and regulations as may be promulgated by the committee on public access to records in conformity with the provisions of Article 6 of the Public Officers Law. Payment of fees must be made before copies are made or materials are provided.

SECTION 6 Requests for Employee Disciplinary Records

Requests for access to employee disciplinary records shall be made known to the employee by written notification provided to the employee at his/her last known physical or email address by the departmental Records Access Officer. The written notification to the employee shall include the name of the person or entity making the request.

SECTION 7 - Prevention of Invasions of Privacy

In accordance with the provisions of subdivision 3 of section 88 of the Public Officers Law and in conformity with such guidelines as may be promulgated by the Committee on Public Access to Records regarding the prevention of unwarranted invasions of personal privacy, the Records Access Officer may delete from any record identifying details the disclosure of which would result in an unwarranted invasion of personal privacy prior to making such record available for inspection and/or copying. In the event that one or more deletion is so made from any document, the Records Access Officer shall provide written notice of that fact to the person given access to the record. If the record is such that the personal matters cannot be fully deleted without substantially affecting the record of the identifying details cannot be effectively deleted, the Records Access Officer shall deny access to such record as provided in section 7 of this regulation.

SECTION 8 - Grant or Denial of Access to Records

Each Records Access Officer shall, in accordance with these regulations, make available for public inspection and copying all records, except that such department may deny access to records or portions thereof that:

1. are specifically exempted from disclosure by state or federal statute;
2. if disclosed would constitute an unwarranted invasion of personal privacy under the provisions of subdivision two of section 89 of Article 6 of the Public Officers Law of New York State;
3. if disclosed would impair present or imminent contract awards or collective bargaining negotiations;
4. are trade secrets or are maintained for the regulation of commercial enterprise which if disclosed would cause substantial injury to the competitive position of the subject enterprises;
5. are compiled for law enforcement purposes and which, if disclosed, would:
 - a. interfere with law enforcement investigations or judicial proceedings
 - b. deprive a person of a right to a fair trial or impartial adjudication;
 - c. identify a confidential source or disclose confidential information relating to a criminal investigation; or
 - d. reveal criminal investigative techniques or procedures, except routine techniques and procedures
6. if disclosed would endanger the life or safety of any person;
7. are inter-departmental or intra-departmental materials; which are not:
 - a. statistical or factual tabulations or data; or
 - b. instructions to staff that affect the public, or
 - c. final agency policy or determinations.

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8. are examination questions or answers which are requested prior to the final administration of such questions.

SECTION 9 - Appeal

Any person whose application to inspect and/or copy records has been denied pursuant to section 7 of this regulation may appeal such denial to the Town Board of the Town of Covert.

Such appeal shall be in writing and must set forth: the name and address of the applicant; the specific record(s) requested; the date of denial; and the reasons given for such denial. The Appeals Officer shall, upon receipt of a written appeal, immediately review the matter and affirm, modify or reverse the denial. If the Appeals Officer affirms or modifies the denial, he shall, within 7 days of receipt of the appeal: (1) communicate his reason for such affirmation or modification to the person making the appeal; and (2) inform such person of his right to appeal such affirmation or modification under Article 78 of the Civil Practice Law and Rules.

SECTION 10 - Effective Date

This policy shall become effective upon passage by the Town of Covert Town Board.

Aye-Nottke, Aye-Wyckoff, Aye-Bishop and Aye-Foster.

Nottke moved, seconded by Foster, to approve the 2024 budget modifications as presented. Aye Nottke, Aye-Wyckoff, Aye-Foster and Aye-Bishop.

| | | | |
|----------|---------|-----------------|--|
| CREDIT | | | |
| A1110.4 | 193.12 | Justice Cont | |
| A1355.4 | 62.5 | Assess Cont | |
| A1410.11 | 742.15 | Duty Clerk | |
| A1410.4 | 47.79 | Tclerk Cont | |
| A1620.41 | 271.02 | Bldg utility | |
| A1620.43 | 92.39 | bldg fuel | |
| A1650.4 | 619.93 | cent comm | |
| A4540.4 | 104 | ambo cont | |
| A5010.4 | 31.25 | Hwy sup cont | |
| A5132.41 | 151.83 | Hwy gar utility | |
| A9060.8 | 2858.79 | Med ins | |
| | 5174.77 | | |
| OFFSET | | | |
| DEBIT | | | |
| A1110.11 | 1662.61 | | |
| A1220.1 | 0.04 | | |
| A1320.1 | 0.12 | | |
| A1330.4 | 150.47 | | |
| A1410.1 | 0.18 | | |
| A1420.1 | 0.01 | | |
| A1650.41 | 750.36 | | |
| A1989.4 | 1858.94 | | |
| A5010.1 | 145.88 | | |
| A9030.8 | 606.13 | | |
| | 5174.74 | | |

| | | | |
|------------------------|----------|--------------|-----------------|
| DEBIT | | | |
| Record Unexpected Cash | | | |
| A2680 | 8551.96 | Ins recovery | |
| A2770 | 3740 | Misc revenue | |
| A1255 | 584.28 | Clerk fees | Used some of |
| A3089 | 597.69 | Timber | these excess \$ |
| OFFSET | | | |
| CREDIT | | | |
| A1989.4 | 13473.93 | | |

Nottke moved, seconded by Foster, to approve the Highway Superintendent's report for the month of December 2024. Aye-Wyckoff, Aye-Nottke, Aye-Bishop and Aye-Foster.

Nottke moved, seconded by Bishop, to approve the Town Clerk/Tax Collector report for the month of December 2024. Town Clerk received total of \$338.00 and \$100.83 was remitted to the Supervisor for the month of December 2024. Tax Collector had remitted \$400,000 to date. Aye-Bishop, Aye-Wyckoff, Aye-Nottke and Aye-Foster.

Nottke moved, seconded by Wyckoff, that Highway Fund Vouchers #1-14 in the amount of \$30,197.88 and General Fund Vouchers # 1-28 in the amount \$194,633.73 be approved for payment. Aye-Foster, Aye-Nottke, Aye-Bishop.

Nottke moved, seconded by Wyckoff, to adjourn the meeting at 8:24 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Leslie Adams-Compton, Town Clerk

TOWN OF COVERT, SENECA COUNTY
PUBLIC HEARING &
REGULAR TOWN BOARD MEETING

February 10th, 2025

The Public Hearing and regular meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Covert was held Monday, February 10, 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 | Absent |
| | Councilman Bill Bishop | Present |
| | Councilman Brayton Foster | Present |
| | Councilman Todd Wyckoff | Absent |

Others Present: Town Clerk Leslie Adams-Compton, Town Attorney Patrick Morrell, Code Enforcement Officer Roger Ward, Dog Control Officer April Moore, Deputy Clerk Brian Quan, 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: Bishop moved, seconded by Foster, to approve the January 13th Organizational and Regular Town Board meeting minutes. Aye – Bishop, Aye - Reynolds and Aye - Foster.

Public Hearing: Foster moved, seconded by Bishop, to open the Public Hearing at 7:02 PM to hear comments on a Variance Request under the Town of Covert’s Land Management Ordinance (LMO) for John Myer, 8451 Bergen Beach Rd, Interlaken, Tax Map #06-2-59.1, to construct/replace with a new residential building where set back from side boundary is deficient and where there is a limit of one dwelling structure per parcel as required under the Town of Covert LMO. Reynolds said that Myers is tearing down one cottage over the property line and building a new one 5’ from the property line. The builder, Eric Nobles, explained that the existing building is slightly over the line and that, although the new building will be within the 20’ set back, it would be safer fire-safety wise than the existing building. Also offering his approval, neighbor Steve Long, 8439 Bergen Beach Rd, was in attendance. The Planning Board had recommended approval. Bishop moved, seconded by Foster, to close the public hearing at 7:04 PM.

Presenter: Dog Control Officer April Moore spoke concerning a possibility that the Beverly Animal Shelter (BAS) may be closed by the end of the year, and of their unwillingness to accept dogs other than strays. Moore would like for the four southern towns (Romulus, Ovid, Lodi and Covert) to collaboratively open a shelter. She said that BAS will not accept abuse cases or surrenders and she is not legally allowed to hold a dog more than 24 hours. She said that Cornell Veterinary Medicine is willing to help get grants needed for starting a shelter. Moore would like to open a shelter for just dogs. She said people have offered to volunteer, but there are no guarantees with that. She said it would not have to have 24 hour supervision. She would need about 10 kennels. She said there will be new requirements, like size, cleanliness, and isolation room, by the end of the year.

Moore said that Dr. Surman’s business is for sale, but neighbors may not appreciate the noise, etc., if the shelter were to be there. Ideally, she would find donated property.

Reynolds said that Seneca County gives \$50,000 to BAS annually.

Foster said a legal-sized lot would be better (more than ½ acre Surman property). He suggested the proposal be made public and that a shelter should be run as a 501(c)(3) separate from the Towns. Foster

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suggested that Moore should go to the other Town Board meetings for their input, and said he would help with advertising.

Morrell suggested executing caution, as there is nothing official yet, and if all the towns left BAS, it would be a self-fulfilling prophecy.

Bishop suggested that the options be explored, because we do have a dog problem.

Moore was asked to return to the March meeting.

Highway: Superintendent MacCheyne was not in attendance due to an injury from slipping on the ice Friday morning. MacCheyne's report included lots of plowing and sanding all Town and Village streets, more mowing with county's boom mower, hauling 1b's for salt mix and mixing salt with 1b's. They modified chute on #7 salt spreader, flipped plow and wing blades on #1 and #3 10-wheelers, worked on forks for new CAT loader, worked on salamander heater and did maintenance on all equipment. Also, they went to Syracuse Milton CAT to pick up parts for the loader.

Supervisor: Reynolds reminded all that we would be hosting ENPM for a Public Revaluation Information Meeting at 6 PM on February 26th. New assessments go out at the end of the month.

Reynolds suggested the Town increase its liability from one to two million for an additional cost of \$715/yr.

Reynolds said that the Judge is requesting a phone allowance for the use of her personal phone rather than a town-supplied phone.

Reynolds mentioned that he and Nottke would be meeting (tomorrow) with MRB Group regarding possible services to do with the salt barn grant. He and MacCheyne will meet with the salt barn company next week.

Attorney: Morrell explained that Kitchen 96 has requested for the Town Board to waive the 30-day notification time period that is required when filing with the NYS Liquor Authority. They are changing from on-premises catering to on-premises restaurant. Foster saw no reason not to allow it.

Morrell led the Town Board through the SEQR process findings and determinations for the Variance Request for John Myer, 8451 Bergen Beach Rd, Interlaken, Tax Map #06-2-59.1, to construct/replace with a new residential building where set back from side boundary is deficient and where there is a limit of one dwelling structure per parcel as required under the Town of Covert LMO.

Briefly*, comments as follows: Foster thinks it would improve it. There would be a need for a variance on either side of the property. Because they are looking for a 15' variance, it is substantial. There is no adverse physical or environmental effects. The benefit outweighs the detriment to the community. *Full determination on file with the Town Clerk.

Petitioners: Barry Ford mentioned there may be a possibility of using his property to host a shelter.

Resolutions:

Whereas, the Town Board of the Town of Covert has reviewed the variance application of John Myer to build a single-family residence at 8451 Bergen Beach Rd., Tax Map 06-2-59.1; and

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February 10th, 2025

Whereas, the SEQR regulations under 6 NYCRR 617 designates "the construction or expansion of a single-family, a two-family or a three-family residence on an approved lot including provision of necessary utility connections as provided in paragraph (13) of this subdivision and the installation, maintenance or upgrade of a drinking water well or a septic system, or both, and conveyances of land in connection therewith" as a Type II action not being subject to SEQR review; and

Whereas, the Town Board finds that this application fits within this exemption.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Town of Covert Town Board finds the variance application of John Myer to build a single-family residence at 8451 Bergen Beach Rd., Tax Map 06-2-59.1 to be a Type II action under 6 NYCRR 617.5(c)(I I).

Foster moved, seconded by Bishop, that the benefit to the applicant outweighs the detriment to the community with no significant adverse effects and hereby grant the Variance Request for John Myer, 8451 Bergen Beach Rd, Interlaken, Tax Map #06-2-59.1, to construct/replace with a new residential building where set back from side boundary is deficient and where there is a limit of one dwelling structure per parcel as required under the Town of Covert Land Management Ordinance. Aye - Foster, Aye - Bishop and Aye - Reynolds.

Bishop moved, seconded by Foster, to refer Variance Request for Walter Edwards to the Planning Board, meeting on February 27th at 7 PM, and schedule a Public Hearing on March 10th at 7 PM for the Variance Request for Walter Edwards, 9007 Covert Cottages Rd, Interlaken, Tax Map #14-1-27, to construct a residential addition where set back from side boundary is deficient as required under the Town of Covert LMO. Aye-Foster, Aye-Reynolds and Aye-Bishop.

Foster moved, seconded by Bishop, to waive NYS Liquor Authority 30-day advance notification requirement for the 2/3/2025 Class Change application for Kitchen 96, 9632 Rte 96, Trumansburg. Aye-Foster, Aye-Reynolds and Aye-Bishop.

Foster moved, seconded by Bishop, to approve additional one million dollars liability insurance through Eastern Shore for an additional \$715.00 for the year 2025. Aye-Foster, Aye-Reynolds and Aye-Bishop.

Bishop moved, seconded by Foster, to approve additional \$30.00/month phone allowance for Justice Schmidt. Aye-Foster, Aye-Reynolds and Aye-Bishop.

Bishop moved, seconded by Foster, that the Covert Town Clerk/Tax Collector's records were examined on January 20th, 2025, and found to be in good order. Aye-Foster, Aye-Reynolds and Aye-Bishop.

Bishop moved, seconded by Foster, that the Covert Town Supervisor records were examined on January 20th, 2025, and found to be in good order. Aye-Foster, Aye-Reynolds and Aye-Bishop.

Bishop moved, seconded by Foster, that the Covert Town Justice's Court records and dockets were examined on January 20th, 2025, and found to be in good order. Aye-Foster, Aye-Reynolds and Aye-Bishop.

Foster moved, seconded by Bishop, to approve the Supervisor's Income and Expenditure report for the month of January 2025. Aye-Bishop, Aye-Reynolds and Aye-Foster.

Foster moved, seconded by Bishop, to approve the Highway Superintendent's report for the month of January 2025. Aye-Bishop, Aye-Reynolds and Aye-Foster.

Bishop moved, seconded by Foster, to approve Town Clerk/Tax Collector report for the month of January 2025. Town Clerk received a total of \$921.00; \$663.50 was remitted to the Supervisor; Tax Collector received a total of \$2,295,393.50 through January 31,2025. Aye- Bishop, Aye-Reynolds and Aye-Foster.

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February 10th, 2025

Bishop moved, seconded by Foster, to approve the Dog Control Officer's report for the month of January 2025. Aye-Bishop, Aye-Foster and Aye-Reynolds.

Foster moved, seconded by Bishop, that Highway Fund Vouchers #15-29 in the amount of \$11,511.59 and General Fund Vouchers #29-47 in the amount of \$414,428.68 be approved for payment. Aye-Bishop, Aye Reynolds and Aye-Foster.

Foster moved, seconded by Bishop, to adjourn the meeting at 8:00 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Leslie Adams-Compton, Town Clerk

TOWN OF COVERT, SENECA COUNTY
PUBLIC HEARING &
REGULAR TOWN BOARD MEETING
March 10th, 2025

The Public Hearing and regular meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Covert was held Monday, March 10, 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, Town Attorney Patrick Morrell, Code Enforcement Officer Roger Ward, Dog Control Officer April Moore, Contractor Dervin Zeiset, Covert Cottages neighbors Kristen + Loren Gardner, property owner Bill Overbaugh, 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: Foster moved, seconded by Wyckoff, to approve the February 10th Public Hearing and Regular Town Board meeting minutes. Aye – Bishop, Aye – Nottke, Aye - Wyckoff and Aye - Foster.

Public Hearing: Nottke moved, seconded by Bishop, to open the Public Hearing at 7:01 PM to hear comments on a Variance Request under the Town of Covert’s Land Management Ordinance (LMO) for Walter Edwards, 9007 Covert Cottages Rd, Interlaken, Tax Map #14-1-27, to construct a residential addition where set back from side boundary is deficient as required under the Town of Covert LMO. Reynolds said that Edwards would like to add on to his cottage but the set back would be short at 7 1/2’ from the property line.

Neighbors to the south, Loren and Kristen Gardner, spoke saying that their family has owned their property since the 1950’s, that the addition would tower above them by 6 to 8 feet, and it would have been very close to the hill, cause possible drainage issues, and would potentially reduce the value of properties. No survey plat was available. They said it would change the feel of Covert Cottages.

Foster said that the Planning Board gave conditional approval with input from both neighbors. He said that ‘we’ have given a lot of weight to neighbors’ input and would like to hear from the applicant.

Dervin Zeiset, builder, representing the applicant answered questions posed by Foster. Foster said that 2-3 feet short is not too serious, but a shortage of 2/3 the allowable set back is. Can they squeeze the addition sideways or go up, to be less intrusive? Zeiset said they could go up. The building is currently a 1-story building, peaked in a ‘T’, slopes toward the water, there is no basement, just concrete and wall space. There is space to the west, but the applicant would prefer not to go there. The town’s allowable building height is 35 feet. Zeiset said Edwards is a new owner as of August; the homeowner is flexible and does not wish to upset the neighbors.

Morrell said that there should be no issue with a 2-story building with the same footprint. An application would probably be approved with no variance needed.

Nottke moved, seconded by Wyckoff, to close the public hearing at 7:19 PM.

Foster moved, seconded by Nottke, that

Whereas, the Town Board of the Town of Covert has reviewed the variance application of Walter Edwards to build an addition to a single-family residence at 9007 Covert Cottage Rd., Tax Map 14-1-27; and

Whereas, the SEQR regulations under 6 NYCRR 617 designates "the construction or expansion of a single-family, a two-family or a three-family residence on an approved lot including provision of necessary utility connections as provided in paragraph (13) of this subdivision and the installation, maintenance or upgrade of a drinking water well

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March 10th, 2025

or a septic system, or both, and conveyances of land in connection therewith" as a Type II action not being subject to SEQR review; and

Whereas, the Town Board finds that this application fits within this exemption.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Town of Covert Town Board finds the variance application of Walter Edwards to build an addition to a single-family residence at 9007 Covert Cottage Rd., Tax Map 14-1-27 to be a Type II action under 6 NYCRR 617.5(c)(1 I).

Aye – Bishop, Aye – Nottke, Aye - Wyckoff and Aye - Foster.

Morrell led the Town Board through the SEQR process findings and determinations for the Variance Request for Walter Edwards, 9007 Covert Cottages Rd, Interlaken, Tax Map #14-1-27, to construct a residential addition where set back from side boundary is deficient as required under the Town of Covert LMO.

Briefly*: In making a determination to grant the area variance, the following factors, whether the benefit to the applicant outweighs the detriment to the health, safety and welfare of the neighborhood, were considered: 1. undesirable change would result in houses too close together. 2. benefit to applicant can be achieved with an alternative. 3. The requested variance is substantial, 2/3 encroachment into allowable setback. 4. It would create an adverse impact on environment with potential drainage issues. 5. The difficulty is self-created. Therefore, the benefit to the applicant does not outweigh the detriment to the neighborhood. *Full determination on file with the Town Clerk.

Presenter: Dog Control Officer April Moore spoke with the other 3 towns regarding a collaborative dog shelter for the southern towns. She said that Lodi, Ovid and Romulus are all for it. She said she spoke with NYS Animal Protection Federation and they can help with all stages of starting a shelter. They have a grant writer as well. She said there are a lot of resources. She would like a representative from each town for a committee to organize, create a budget, etc. She could represent Covert.

Moore spoke with Dr. Surman who was not supportive. She said that Mike at Beverly Animal Shelter seemed positive about their shelter's continuance.

Bishop asked who is legally required to take care of a dog if there is no shelter available. Morrell indicated the Town is responsible to find boarding for caught dogs. Code Enforcement officer agreed the cost would be at least \$100,000 plus maintenance and utilities. Bishop and Foster suggested that Reynolds meet with the other supervisors regarding the prospect of a local shelter.

Presenter: Bill Overbaugh, owner of Lakeview St property, said he is the owner of the garage that is over the Town's property line (for 60+ years). He is interested in purchasing the 3 feet it's over plus 10 ft. The first step would be to have a current survey done. Overbaugh said he would be willing to cover survey and closing costs. Morrell said this would be a subdivision, if the Town Board is okay with selling the property to rectify this situation. The Town has ≈170' road frontage, driveway on the other side, and would not want to give up any of the property behind the garage.

Highway: Superintendent MacCheyne was not in attendance. MacCheyne's report included lots of plowing and sanding all Town and Village streets, and hauling sand for winter mix and crusher run for summer roadwork. They removed links in #1 cable chain, changed plow lights and removed cable chain links on small 550 truck, replaced plow harness on #7 pickup, changed plow and wing blades on #3 10-wheeler, and did maintenance on all equipment.

TOWN OF COVERT, SENECA COUNTY
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Committees: Nottke reported on the progress of the Frontenac Bridge. She said they meet every 2 weeks. She said that the pile installation was done and the schedule for the new bridge is: April 24, set bridge steel; May 19, deck; June 16, bridge open. We are still waiting for the official letter from the DOT regarding Frontenac Roads speed limit.

A letter was received from Rordan Hart telling the Town of Covert that we've lost our right to vote in the Three Falls LDC due to late membership dues. Unpaid 2024 dues totaled \$3805 after tonight's payment of \$1000 donated by Seneca Meadows. Contract states dues required 120 days after Town's fiscal year-end, so letter was premature.

Supervisor: Reynolds mentioned that \$20,000 bill for the Town's portion of Frontenac Bridge was received from the County. He can use Highway money available now but will need to think about bonding if FEMA money does not come soon. There is about \$200,000 expected for FEMA-funded flood mitigation projects still. Reynolds said he will talk to representative Palmesano for assistance in retrieving the money. Morrell said bonding is not a quick process.

Reynolds said he met with Interlaken Mayor Richardson about a potential housing development on 14 acres off of West Ave. The developer would like to put 50-60 little houses on the property and have it annexed into the Village. An application has not been filed yet.

Wyckoff asked if the Town's law on cannabis dispensaries is superseded by Village jurisdiction within the village. Yes.

Resolutions:

Foster moved, seconded by Nottke, that the benefit to the applicant does not outweighs the detriment to the community and hereby denies the Variance Request for Walter Edwards, 9007 Covert Cottages Rd, Interlaken, Tax Map #14-1-27, to construct a residential addition where set back from side boundary is deficient as required under the Town of Covert Land Management Ordinance. Aye – Nottke, Aye – Wyckoff, Aye - Foster, and Aye - Bishop.

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

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

Nottke moved, seconded by Wyckoff, to approve Town Clerk/Tax Collector report for the month of Feb. 2025. Town Clerk received a total of \$1277.50; \$286.36 was remitted to the Supervisor; Tax Collector received a total of \$83,884.84 in Feb. 2025. Aye - Bishop, Aye – Nottke, Aye - Wyckoff and Aye-Foster.

Foster moved, seconded by Bishop, that Highway Fund Vouchers #30-43 in the amount of \$43,189.86 and General Fund Vouchers #49-71 in the amount of \$26,761.01 be approved for payment. Aye-Bishop, Aye – Nottke, Aye - Wyckoff and Aye-Foster.

Foster moved, seconded by Bishop, to adjourn the meeting at 8:14 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Leslie Adams-Compton, Town Clerk

**TOWN OF COVERT, SENECA COUNTY
REGULAR TOWN BOARD MEETING**

April 14th, 2025

The regular meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Covert was held Monday, April 14, 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 | Absent |
| | Councilman Bill Bishop | Present |
| | Councilman Brayton Foster | Present |
| | Councilman Todd Wyckoff | Present |

Others Present: Town Clerk Leslie Adams-Compton, Highway Superintendent Jeffrey MacCheyne, Town Attorney Patrick Morrell, Code Enforcement Officer Roger Ward, and other interested citizens.

Call to order: Supervisor Reynolds called the meeting to order at 7:02 P.M. All rose for the pledge of allegiance.

Approval of Minutes: Wyckoff moved, seconded by Bishop, to approve the March 10th Public Hearing and Regular Town Board meeting minutes with edits. Aye – Bishop, Aye - Wyckoff and Aye - Foster.

Highway: MacCheyne said they did more than usual plowing and sanding on all Town and Village streets. A trapping permit was acquired for beavers on Halls Corners Rd, Stout and Six Corners. One was trapped, one shot; there are more and they will keep trying. They cleaned up trees from wind damage and damage from snowplows. They pushed off a pile of dirt and hauled a load of crusher run for the cemetery, filling wheel ruts. Ditches on Seneca Rd were cleaned and a new pipe installed. Ditching and cleaning up brush was done on Arden Rd. They hauled and piled crusher run in Covert, started sweeping intersections from winter sanding, cold patched all Town roads, replaced a section of exhaust on 2010 International and did regular maintenance on all equipment. MacCheyne reported that the final pour for the Frontenac bridge was done and they are planning to open by May 1st.

Committees: Wyckoff said the Interlaken and Trumansburg Fire Chiefs want to change fire district lines. They would like to simplify by drawing a straight line all the way down into Hatch Rd. It would also be simpler for 911 dispatch. This would change tax distribution. Trumansburg may not like this.

Morrell said re-drawing fire district lines would require a joint Public Hearing by all fire districts involved.

Supervisor: Reynolds said that the County is talking about a county-wide Ambulance. He said that South Seneca and North Seneca Ambulances are lacking in funding, with South Seneca on the edge of folding. Reynolds said they had a meeting last week and would have another next week. Cayuga Medical has interest in buying(?). Reynolds said that the service that Covert has is good.

Foster mentioned that he knew of one district where the County owned the fire trucks.

Reynolds also said that the assessors think that the senior qualifying income levels for tax exemption should be raised as some have lost their exemptions recently. Foster asked for the assessors to estimate the shift of the tax burden if it were changed to the proposed Tompkins County levels.

Reynolds mentioned that he and Adams-Compton listened to a pitch from TextMyGov, a service that provides texting services to keep the public informed. The Village of Interlaken just began using them.

Attorney: Morrell explained that the Intermunicipal Shared Service Agreement with Ulysses for shared highway services means that the Towns would be liable for their own negligent operators.

Petitioners: Ralph Bailey asked if the County has a new assessor, does it mean a new Reval? Reynolds said 'no', the Town's assessor will not change. Ricky Woodard asked why the Town went with a

TOWN OF COVERT, SENECA COUNTY
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April 14th, 2025

reassessment group from Tonawanda. Reynolds said we had the choice between ENPM and GAR, the company used previously; ENPM said they would come and look at the properties.

Woodard said they didn't come look at his property. Reynolds said there is still Grievance Day, and they can talk to the Assessor on Thursday mornings, 8 AM to Noon. Owners should take pictures and find comparatives that sold.

Joan Hendricks said that her two acre property went from \$95K to \$240K. She took pictures and saw the revaluation group.

Foster mentioned that with the previous revaluation, ¾ of the petitioners received a reduction after seeing the Board of Assessment Review on Grievance Day. They can file a grievance every year, not just the year of a revaluation.

Grievance Day will be May 27th.

Interlaken Historical Society will hold a Spring Program, "Remembering the 1960s: Voices from Our Community" on April 28th at the Covert Municipal Building.

Resolutions:

Wyckoff moved, seconded by Foster, to approve the Intermunicipal Shared Services Agreement with the Town of Ulysses for Highway Services. Aye – Wyckoff, Aye - Foster, and Aye - Bishop.

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

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

Foster moved, seconded by Wyckoff, to approve Town Clerk/Tax Collector report for the month of March 2025. Town Clerk received a total of \$536.00; \$257.76 was remitted to the Supervisor; Tax Collector received a total of \$105,667.38 in March 2025; a grand total of \$2,488,367.33 for 2025. Aye - Bishop, Aye - Wyckoff and Aye-Foster.

Wyckoff moved, seconded by Foster, to approve the Code Enforcement Officer 1st Quarter 2025 Report. Aye - Bishop, Aye - Wyckoff and Aye-Foster.

Foster moved, seconded by Bishop, to approve the Dog Control Officer's report for the months of February and March 2025. Aye - Bishop, Aye - Wyckoff and Aye-Foster.

Foster moved, seconded by Bishop, that Highway Fund Vouchers #44 – 57 in the amount of \$17,729.41 and General Fund Vouchers #72 – 93 in the amount of \$19,312.45 be approved for payment. Aye-Bishop, Aye - Wyckoff and Aye-Foster.

Wyckoff moved, seconded by Foster, to adjourn the meeting at 7:40 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Leslie Adams-Compton, Town Clerk

TOWN OF COVERT, SENECA COUNTY
REGULAR TOWN BOARD MEETING
May 12th, 2025

The regular meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Covert was held Monday, May 12, 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, Town Attorney Patrick Morrell, Code Enforcement Officer Roger Ward, 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: Foster moved, seconded by Wyckoff, to approve the April 14th Regular Town Board meeting minutes. Aye – Bishop, Aye - Wyckoff and Aye – Foster; Abstained - Nottke.

Highway: The Highway Department cleaned up shoulders from winter wing damage, hauled stone for summer road work, broomed all intersections, ditched on Hall’s Corners Road, cleaned ditch behind elementary school so they didn’t run over the fields and parking lot, cut tree on phone line on South Frontenac, replaced Booth Road sign, installed new driveway pipe on Congress St, and cold-patched all town roads. They removed beavers/dams on Stout and Halls Corners. They worked on electrical issues with the 2023 Wester Star 10-wheeler. Someone will come to look at it. They removed winter tires on the 2022 F-550, installing summer tires, and did maintenance on all equipment.

MacCheyne and Reynolds met with the salt barn builders who have a new proposal for a 62’x50’ structure which is shorter and wider than the original proposal. MacCheyne said the barn could either go next to the shop or on Lakeview St. property. Foster said that the State, granting agency, will probably want to do a geo-technical study.

The Frontenac bridge is all paved, ready for guide rails and a walkway. There will be a Frontenac bridge zoom meeting tomorrow.

Town Clerk: Town Clerk’s office will be opening on May 20th at 12:00 noon, for clerks to attend Seneca County Town Clerk Association meeting in the morning.

Committees: Foster mentioned that he had received the Trumansburg School budget brochure that showed the projected tax rates by municipality: Enfield/Trumansburg/Ulysses estimated at \$13.94 per \$1000, Hector at \$17.55 and Covert at \$19.64. Reynolds said that is why Covert needed a Reval.

Nottke said that Three Falls LDC met with the NY Parks Commission on April 25th. There is an RFP out to find a planner for the park layout. There have been signs up to prevent people from entering certain areas at Barton. The Boy scouts have already been to the camp once this spring. Upcoming meetings are May 30th at 11 AM and June 5th at 9 AM. Nottke mentioned that the Town of Covert still does not have the right to vote. The name for the park has to be approved by a NY Parks committee.

Wyckoff asked if anyone had heard anything from the fire chiefs regarding the changing of the fire boundary lines drawing a straight line down into Hatch Rd. A change in fire district lines would require joint meetings with all towns involved/contracted. Assessment would also be involved. Morrell said a new map would have to be provided. After July 1st, Assessments will be set.

TOWN OF COVERT, SENECA COUNTY
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May 12th, 2025

Supervisor: Reynolds said the 2024 AUD was sent in to the state comptroller a few weeks ago; they made a couple of corrections, and hopefully it will be accepted.

Reynolds mentioned again the possible need for bonding to pay for the Frontenac Bridge. He said the salt barn will have to be paid for up front and then wait for the grant money. He thought he could get the money with a bank promissory note. The Town's portion is 25%(?) The Town will do some of the work.

Reynolds said that Ryan Frykholm/Municipal Disaster Consultants thinks that there is still \$100K to 200K due for FEMA work. Frykholm will talk with Kowalewski/DHSES.

Reynolds said that the County is still talking about a county-wide Ambulance. He said that South Seneca and North Seneca Ambulances may combine. New news is that Cayuga Medical is taking over Schuyler County's ambulance. Reynolds would like Seneca County help with the cost of ambulance services for Covert.

Petitioners: Ben Guthrie asked if the Ironwood contractors are gone. There is a locust tree in the ditch by Grunder's on W Covert Rd that's causing flooding and needs to be cleaned up. MacCheyne said he would ask.

Grievance Day is May 27th: Appointments from 2:00-5:00 PM, First Come-First Serve from 5:00-8:00 PM.

Resolutions:

Nottke moved, seconded by Bishop, to approve the 2025 Interlaken Historical Society Agreement, annual cost \$1400. Aye – Wyckoff, Aye - Foster, Aye - Nottke and Aye - Bishop.

Nottke moved, seconded by Wyckoff, to approve the 2025 Interlaken Library Agreement, annual cost \$2500. 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 April 2025. Aye – Wyckoff, Aye – Nottke, Aye - Foster, and Aye - Bishop.

Nottke moved, seconded by Bishop, to approve Town Clerk report for the month of April 2025. Town Clerk received a total of \$677.00; \$329.15 was remitted to the Supervisor. Aye - Bishop, Aye – Wyckoff, Aye - Nottke and Aye-Foster.

Wyckoff moved, seconded by Foster, to approve the Code Enforcement Officer Report for the month of April. Aye - Bishop, Aye – Nottke, Aye - Wyckoff and Aye-Foster.

Nottke moved, seconded by Foster, that Highway Fund Vouchers #58 – 68 in the amount of \$24,254.18 and General Fund Vouchers #94 – 114 in the amount of \$19,024.43 be approved for payment. Aye-Bishop, Aye – Nottke, Aye - Wyckoff and Aye-Foster.

Nottke moved, seconded by Foster, to adjourn the meeting at 7:35 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Leslie Adams-Compton, Town Clerk

**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.

TOWN OF COVERT, SENECA COUNTY
REGULAR TOWN BOARD MEETING

June 9th, 2025

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

Town of Covert, Seneca County
Regular Town Board Meeting
14 July 2025

The regular meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Covert was held Monday, July 14th at 7 p.m. at the Town of Covert Municipal Building, 8469 South Main Street, Interlaken, New York.

Members Present: Supervisor Reynolds, Councilwoman Nottke, Councilman Bishop, Councilman Foster, Councilman Wyckoff.

Others Present: Town Clerk Adams-Compton, Town Attorney Morrell, Deputy Town Clerk Quan, John Hubbard, 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 motioned, Bishop seconded, to approve the minutes from the 09 June 2025 regular board meeting; Reynolds: aye, Nottke: aye, Bishop: aye, Foster: aye, Wyckoff: aye.

Presenter:

John Hubbard advised the current board of the Lake View Cemetery consists of President Diane Bassette Nelson, Vice President John Hubbard, Secretary Gary Hunt, and Treasurer Marcia Taylor.

He thanked the Town Board for their help, noting Highway Superintendent MacCheyne and the Highway Department have been fantastic.

The Cemetery Association await a response from NY Department of State Vandalism, Abandonment & Monument Repair Fund on a \$70k grant funding request for repair of hazardous monuments.

Hubbard spoke about the financial outlook of the association: there are only sufficient funds for one year of operation and maintenance expenses. Though two community dinners provide about \$2k annually, this amount and the work performed by four volunteers are insufficient to cover expenses.

Highway

Reynolds reported the Highway Department addressed damage related to storms in addition to performing general maintenance of roads and equipment.

Committees:

Nottke reported on a public informational meeting concerning the park; some residents on South Frontenac Road have concerns about the changes.

The Three Falls Local Development Corporation is waiting for a commission and ribbon cutting. The regularly scheduled meeting was postponed a week because of the holiday but it remains at the same time in the Village Hall Meeting Room.

Supervisor:

The Town awaits a proposal from the Village of Interlaken regarding annexation of property. The Village will then lead a joint public hearing between the two municipalities because the annexation is in the interest of the Village.

Attorney:

Morrell will review the Town policy on Charity Care.

Morrell investigated property deeds along South Frontenac Road. The research has not been completed, but nothing has been found showing the roadway is private property.

Resolutions:

Nottke motioned, Foster seconded, to approve the resolution to adopt the 2025 Seneca County Hazard Mitigation Plan; Reynolds: aye, Nottke: aye, Bishop: aye, Foster: aye, Wyckoff: aye.

Nottke motioned, Wyckoff seconded, to approve the Supervisor's Income and Expenditure Report for the month of June 2025; Reynolds: aye, Nottke: aye, Bishop: aye, Foster: aye, Wyckoff: aye.

Nottke motioned, Wyckoff seconded, to approve the Highway Superintendent's Report for the month of June 2025; Reynolds: aye, Nottke: aye, Bishop: aye, Foster: aye, Wyckoff: aye.

Nottke motioned, Bishop seconded, to approve the Town Clerk's Report for the month of June 2025. The Town Clerk received a total of \$1231.75; \$584.30 was remitted to the Supervisor; Reynolds: aye, Nottke: aye, Bishop: aye, Foster: aye, Wyckoff: aye.

Wyckoff motioned, Nottke seconded, to approve the Code Enforcement Officer's Report for the month of June 2025; Reynolds: aye, Nottke: aye, Bishop: aye, Foster: aye, Wyckoff: aye.

Nottke motioned, Foster seconded, to approve the Dog Control Officer's Report for the month of June 2025; Reynolds: aye, Nottke: aye, Bishop: aye, Foster: aye, Wyckoff: aye.

Nottke motioned, Bishop seconded, that Highway Fund Vouchers #82-92, amounting to \$19,589.01, and General Fund Vouchers #130-148, amounting to \$12,481.77, be approved for payment; Reynolds: aye, Nottke: aye, Bishop: aye, Foster: aye, Wyckoff: aye.

Petitioners to the Board:

Barry Ford spoke about the recent reporting of Harmful Algal Blooms (HABs) observed at various locations in Cayuga Lake, expressing concern about how it will affect property values when it becomes more prevalent.

Nottke motioned, Bishop seconded, to adjourn the meeting at 7:51 p.m.; Reynolds: aye, Nottke: aye, Bishop: aye, Foster: aye, Wyckoff: aye.

Respectfully submitted,

Brian Quan
Town of Covert Deputy Town Clerk

TOWN OF COVERT, New York

RESOLUTION NO. 2-2025

A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN OF COVERT ADOPTING
THE 2025 SENECA COUNTY HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN

WHEREAS the TOWN BOARD recognizes the threat that hazards pose to people and property within TOWN OF COVERT; and

WHEREAS Seneca County has prepared a multi-hazard mitigation plan, hereby known as 2025 Seneca County Hazard Mitigation Plan in accordance with the Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000; and

WHEREAS 2025 Seneca County Hazard Mitigation Plan identifies mitigation goals and actions to reduce or eliminate long-term risk to people and property in the TOWN OF COVERT from the impacts of future hazards and disasters; and

WHEREAS adoption by the TOWN BOARD demonstrates their commitment to hazard mitigation and achieving the goals outlined in the 2025 Seneca County Hazard Mitigation Plan.


NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE TOWN OF COVERT, New York, THAT:

Section 1. the TOWN BOARD of the TOWN OF COVERT adopts the 2025 Seneca County Hazard Mitigation Plan. This plan, approved by the community, may be edited or amended after submission for review, but will not require the community to re-adopt any further iterations. This only applies to this specific plan and does not absolve the community from updating the plan in 5 years.


ADOPTED by a vote of 5 in favor and against, and abstaining, this 14th day of July, 2025.

By: 

Michael Reynolds, Town Supervisor

ATTEST: By: 

Brian Quan, Deputy Town Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM: By: 

Leslie Adams-Compton, Town Clerk

TOWN OF COVERT, SENECA COUNTY
REGULAR TOWN BOARD MEETING
August 11th, 2025

The regular meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Covert was held Monday, August 11, 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, Town Attorney Patrick Morrell, 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 Wyckoff, to approve the July 14th, 2025 Regular Town Board meeting minutes. Aye – Nottke, Aye – Bishop, Aye - Wyckoff and Aye – Foster.

Highway: The Highway Department did ditching and replaced driveway pipes on Burdick Rd, installed metal ends on W Covert Rd driveway, paved on Burdick and Halls Corners Rds and warranty paved on Town Line and Halls Corners, and cold patched all Town roads. They paved for Seneca County and Lodi highway departments. They removed bushes at Lakeview Cemetery, picked up 2023 Western Star from Tracy’s, hauled crusher run to Covert and put new strobes on the roadside mower, as well as regular maintenance on all equipment.

Reynolds said that the highway department needs a new pick up and to declare one surplus. He said that plow cable for the old wings need to be declared surplus as well as the steel ‘I’ beams purchased many years ago for the Frontenac bridge. The cable could be used by the old Covert Baptist church for the steeple.

Reynolds said that MacCheyne will be submitting bills for CHIPS reimbursement soon.

Committees: Nottke gave an update on the new New York State Park. She said, without Covert’s vote, Three Falls LDC has hired an associate from Ithaca to help with the designing of the park. They’ve scheduled a walk-through with the group at 9:30 AM Wednesday.

Nottke said she had attended a luncheon with MRB Group, who had recommended that a “Friends of the Park” group be formed for fundraising Covert’s membership fee, etc.

Bishop asked if the park was making any money yet. Nottke said that the Boy Scouts have rented the park this summer, with 3 weekends this month, but the facility is passive access right now: carry in, carry out. The only amenities are the porta potties.

She said that Ulysses is mowing the grass and NYS Parks is helping with maintenance.

TOWN OF COVERT, SENECA COUNTY
REGULAR TOWN BOARD MEETING
August 11th, 2025

Wyckoff asked where we stand on changing the fire lines. Morrell said they will need the specifics of where the lines will be re-drawn. Morrell will look into the procedure.

Supervisor: Reynolds reported on Seneca County's proposals for a County-wide ambulance service. As of a couple weeks ago, the proposal would be for South Seneca Ambulance to cover the south end of the county and North Seneca Ambulance would cover the north end of County. Two other services overlap at the east and west ends. The proposal through the County says the cost would be \$57 per parcel. Currently the Trumansburg coverage is \$112 per parcel. Reynolds said it would be presented at the County meeting Tuesday night. The Town Board would like details on the expenses and services.

Morrell said that there should be discussion of the changes of service vs. the current service for the Seneca County towns. Currently, Seneca Falls does not contract with an ambulance service. Morrell said that if the majority vote for a countywide ambulance service, then it will service all the towns including Covert, regardless of our vote.

There was some discussion regarding the Charity Care case application. Morrell said he had reviewed the policy & paperwork that had been submitted and it seems to qualify. The Town of Covert Charity Care Policy states that patients will be provided full charity care to low income or uninsured patients earning less than 200% of the Federal Poverty level. There was discussion about the policy & changing it.

Nottke will call MedEx as to the status of the liability and other unpaid bills.

Attorney: Morrell reported on the West Ave, Village annexation petition. He said that the Village Attorney's letter to the applicant outlines what needs to be done and that nothing can happen yet. A Public Hearing would be controlled by Village of Interlaken.

He said we should look at the impacts a housing development and annexation would have on the Town (i.e. Tax base, infrastructure). He said that more information would be forthcoming. There was speculation about the impacts of having tiny housing development in the Town vs. the Village.

Morrell said he would speak to MacCheyne about an abandoned camper on Burdick Rd. It would become Town property. Local authorities are authorized to take custody of any abandoned vehicle in their jurisdiction, whether abandoned on public or private property.

Morrell said that in regard to the cable to be declared surplus, a municipality can donate items to non-profits but not to private entities. He said the Town is obligated to find the best value for surplus items.

Morrell said he had received court documents and heard from the victim regarding a dog bite case in the Town. Bills are expected before the court date in order to seek restitution. When a dog bites a resident, it is a civil suit against the dog in the Town's court.

TOWN OF COVERT, SENECA COUNTY
REGULAR TOWN BOARD MEETING
August 11th, 2025

Resolutions:

Nottke moved, seconded by Wyckoff, to declare old plow cable as surplus. Aye – Wyckoff, Aye - Foster, Aye - Nottke and Aye - Bishop.

Nottke moved, seconded by Wyckoff, to declare 6 - 18' x 30' steel I beams (originally purchased for reparation of Frontenac bridge) as surplus. Aye – Wyckoff, Aye - Foster, Aye - Nottke and Aye - Bishop.

Nottke moved, seconded by Wyckoff, to declare 2023 F250 pickup truck as surplus. Aye – Wyckoff, Aye - Foster, Aye - Nottke and Aye - Bishop

Nottke moved, seconded by Wyckoff, to approve Special Events Liquor License for six Encore Players Community Theatre events at 9706 Congress St Ext, Trumansburg from July 24 – August 3, 2025. Aye – Wyckoff, Aye - Foster, Aye - Nottke and Aye - Bishop.

Nottke moved, seconded by Foster, to reappoint Sandra Hagin as Town Assessor for the 10/1/2025-9/30/2031 term. Aye – Wyckoff, Aye - Foster, Aye - Nottke and Aye - Bishop.

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

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

Foster moved, seconded by Nottke, to approve Town Clerk report for the month of July 2025. Town Clerk received a total of \$1654.00; \$895.70 was remitted to the Supervisor. Aye - Bishop, Aye – Wyckoff, Aye - Nottke and Aye-Foster.

Nottke moved, seconded by Foster, to approve the Code Enforcement Officer Report for July. Aye - Bishop, Aye – Nottke, Aye - Wyckoff and Aye-Foster.

Nottke moved, seconded by Foster, to approve the Dog Control Officer Report for the months of July 2025 with notation to change Town of “Interlaken” to “Covert” 2nd to last paragraph. Aye - Bishop, Aye – Nottke, Aye - Wyckoff and Aye-Foster.

Foster moved, seconded by Nottke, that Highway Fund Vouchers #93-104 in the amount of \$99,520.20 and General Fund Vouchers #149 – 169 in the amount of \$14,642.89 be approved for payment. Aye-Bishop, Aye – Nottke, Aye - Wyckoff and Aye-Foster.

Foster moved, seconded by Nottke, to adjourn the meeting at 8:25 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Leslie Adams-Compton, Town Clerk

**TOWN OF COVERT, SENECA COUNTY
REGULAR TOWN BOARD MEETING
& PUBLIC HEARINGS**

September 8th, 2025

The regular meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Covert was held Monday, September 8th, 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, Code Enforcement Officer Roger Ward, Town Attorney Patrick Morrell, Jen Meyers, Stevan Knapp, Daryl + Jamie Dibble, Todd Searles, George Daddis + Tammy Albone, Mayor Rich Richardson 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 Wyckoff, to approve the August 11TH, 2025 Regular Town Board meeting minutes. Aye – Nottke, Aye – Bishop, Aye - Wyckoff and Aye – Foster.

Public Hearing: Nottke moved, seconded by Foster to open the Public Hearing at 7:01 PM to hear comments on the Variance Request for Daryl Dibble for two dwellings on one parcel. Dibble’s garage space had been converted to living quarters while intending to build a new home. Nottke moved, seconded by Foster to close the Public Hearing at 7:02 PM.

Public Hearing: Nottke moved, seconded by Foster to open the Public Hearing at 7:03 PM to hear comments on the Variance Request for Jennifer Meyers to install a solar array for 31.6 kW.

Jennifer Meyers said that their usage is more than 25 kW. They have an old house which has a heat pump. They have a family of 6. She said she has 14 letters of neighbors’ support. The array would be in a three-acre field behind 3 large barns half way between Savercool & State Rte 89. Meyers’ insulator/contractor said he’s done 6 projects recently that all needed over 25 kW.

Morrell said that the project is ≈380’ from Rt 89. He said it should be referred to County Planning Board. The project will need an Environmental Review.

Nottke moved, seconded by Wyckoff to close the Public Hearing at 7:10 PM.

Public Hearing: Nottke moved, seconded by Foster to open the Public Hearing at 7:11 PM to hear comments on the Variance Request for Sarah and Todd Searles who would like to build a new home on a “land-locked” parcel. Searles’ parents with driveway are in parcel behind theirs. A right of way is written into the deed.

Nottke moved, seconded by Wyckoff to close the Public Hearing at 7:16 PM.

Public Hearing: Nottke moved, seconded by Foster to open the Public Hearing at 7:17 PM to hear comments on the Variance Request for George Daddis who also would like to build a new home on a “land-locked” parcel. Daddis had bought the parcel behind another parcel he owns on State Rte 89. The parcel has no buildings on it and a right of way is in process with an attorney. Morrell explained that there must be a legal agreement before a permit is granted.

Nottke moved, seconded by Wyckoff to close the Public Hearing at 7:20 PM

TOWN OF COVERT, SENECA COUNTY
REGULAR TOWN BOARD MEETING
& PUBLIC HEARINGS
September 8th, 2025

Highway: The Highway Department did paving with Lodi, Ovid, and Romulus, put up speed limit signs and other warning signs around S Frontenac Rd, installed new driveway pipes on Halls Corners Road and Burdick Road, installed two new crossover pipes on Congress Street, did ditching on Six Corners Road, put shoulders on Burdick and Halls Corners Roads, paved some spots on Bergen Beach Road, did some repair work on Townline Rd, cold patched on all Town roads and mowed the majority of roadsides. They built new steps at the Town Hall, dug test holes and installed new pipe for salt barn, took 2023 10-wheeler to Syracuse for repairs, replaced front brakes on 2022 F-550, and did regular maintenance on all equipment.

MacCheyne contacted Cutthroat Tree Service for a tree that's down on S Frontenac Rd, 5' di, 3' from the road. He said it is too tall for NY Parks to take care of. Ben Guthrie suggested he try Heavenly Tree Service.

The new truck from state bid is expected to be delivered in 1½ months. There is 16,000 miles left on the warranty on the 'old' truck.

Committees: Nottke reported that she and Reynolds attended a meeting with the Chamber of Commerce brainstorming how to get more tourists in our area.

She also said that the Three Falls LDC with Fisher Associates would be at the Trumansburg Farmers Market on 9/17 from 4-7 PM, and also on 9/27 from 11 – 2, with tacos, nachos + ice cream and fun activities. They are looking for input with their 'future park' survey, available at the Farmers Market events.

There will be a Three Falls LDC meeting with NYS Parks on September 19 at 11 AM.

Thursday night will be a Trumansburg EMS/Fire Budget discussion.

Supervisor: Reynolds has been working on the Town budget and is just looking for the BlueCross/Blue Shield insurance figure, expected to be up 15-20%.

Attorney: Morrell said there had been no change with the annexation of West Ave property into the Village. Mayor Richardson said that they are waiting for Johnson to submit paperwork.

Morrell said that the three applications for variance for single family house constructions would be considered type 2 actions. The solar array for Meyers should be referred to the Seneca County Planning Board. SEQR forms were given to the applicant, Intelligent Green Solutions, to complete.

Petitioners: Ralph Bailey asked about the changing of territory/fire lines for the fire departments. Reynolds said he will schedule a meeting between lawyers.

Ben Guthrie said thank you to the town for the use of surplus cable used to stabilize belfry of the Covert Baptist Church. He said that Phil Stannard does all the maintenance work on the building.

**TOWN OF COVERT, SENECA COUNTY
REGULAR TOWN BOARD MEETING
& PUBLIC HEARINGS**

September 8th, 2025

Mayor Rich Richardson submitted a request to the Town to increase the budget for the police from \$2000 to \$6000 which would add 160 hours of police coverage. He said that since 2023 they have more than tripled the revenue generated, writing more than 90% of the tickets in the Town of Covert.

Ford asked regarding the Village's water conservation order. Richardson said the Village is using a sole well and they have been working with the state to get a line from the lake over the past three years.

Resolutions:

Foster moved, seconded by Nottke, that

Whereas, the Town Board of the Town of Covert has reviewed the variance application of Daryl Dibble to build an addition to a single-family residence at 3295 County Rd. 143, Tax Map 15-1-16.1; and

Whereas, the SEQR regulations under 6 NYCRR 617.5(c)(1) designates "the construction or expansion of a single-family, a two-family or a three-family residence on an approved lot including provision of necessary utility connections as provided in paragraph (13) of this subdivision and the installation, maintenance or upgrade of a drinking water well or a septic system, or both, and conveyances of land in connection therewith" as a Type II action not being subject to SEQR review; and

Whereas, the Town Board finds that this application fits within this exemption.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Town of Covert Town Board finds the variance application of Daryl Dibble to build an addition to a single-family residence at 3295 County Rd. 143, Tax Map 15-1-16.1 to be a Type II action under 6 NYCRR 617.5(c)(1).

Aye – Wyckoff, Aye - Foster, Aye - Nottke and Aye - Bishop.

Foster moved, seconded by Nottke, to approve the Request for Variance from the Land Management Ordinance for Daryl Dibble to construct a second residence at 3295 County Rd 143, Interlaken, Tax Map #15-1-16.1, on condition that present living quarters is to be converted to workspace not to be used as a dwelling once construction of new home is complete. Aye-Foster, Aye-Bishop, Aye-Wyckoff, and Aye-Nottke.

Foster moved, seconded by Nottke, to refer the Variance Request for Jennifer Meyers, ~~9778~~ 9797 Savercool Rd, Trumansburg, Tax Map #21-1-30.21, to install a solar ground array totaling 31.6 Kw where electricity production systems with a DC capacity greater than 25 kW are prohibited under the Land Management Ordinance to the Seneca County Planning Board. Aye-Foster, Aye-Bishop, Aye-Wyckoff, and Aye-Nottke.

Wyckoff moved, seconded by Foster, that

Whereas, the Town Board of the Town of Covert has reviewed the variance application of Todd & Sarah Searles to build an addition to a single-family residence at Extension Rd., Tax Map 18- 1-09.2; and

Whereas, the SEQR regulations under 6 NYCRR 617.5(c)(1) designates "the construction or expansion of a single-family, a two-family or a three-family residence on an approved lot including provision of necessary utility connections as provided in paragraph (13) of this subdivision and the installation, maintenance or upgrade of a drinking water well or a septic system, or both, and conveyances of land in connection therewith" as a Type II action not being subject to SEQR review; and

Whereas, the Town Board finds that this application fits within this exemption.

TOWN OF COVERT, SENECA COUNTY
REGULAR TOWN BOARD MEETING
& PUBLIC HEARINGS
September 8th, 2025

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Town of Covert Town Board finds the variance application of Todd & Sarah Searles to build an addition to a single-family residence at Extension Rd., Tax Map 18-1-09.2 to be a Type II action under 6 NYCRR 617.5(c)(1).
Aye – Wyckoff, Aye - Foster, Aye - Nottke and Aye - Bishop.

Foster moved, seconded by Nottke, to approve the Request for Variance from the Land Management Ordinance for Todd and Sarah Searles to construct a new home with attached garage at 9732 Extension Rd, Trumansburg, Tax Map #18-1-09.2, on condition of shared driveway agreement. Aye-Foster, Aye-Bishop, Aye-Wyckoff, and Aye-Nottke

Wyckoff moved, seconded by Nottke, that

Whereas, the Town Board of the Town of Covert has reviewed the variance application of George Daddis to build an addition to a single-family residence at 8347 NYS Route 89, Tax Map 06-02-71.1; and

Whereas, the SEQR regulations under 6 NYCRR 617.5(c)(1) designates "the construction or expansion of a single-family, a two-family or a three-family residence on an approved lot including provision of necessary utility connections as provided in paragraph (13) of this subdivision and the installation, maintenance or upgrade of a drinking water well or a septic system, or both, and conveyances of land in connection therewith" as a Type II action not being subject to SEQR review; and

Whereas, the Town Board finds that this application fits within this exemption.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Town of Covert Town Board finds the variance application of George Daddis to build an addition to a single-family residence at 8347 NYS Route 89, Tax Map 06-02-71.1 to be a Type II action under 6 NYCRR 617.5(c)(1).
Aye-Foster, Aye-Bishop, Aye-Wyckoff, and Aye-Nottke

Foster moved, seconded by Nottke, to approve the Request for Variance from the Land Management Ordinance for George Daddis to construct a new home at 8347 Rte 89, Interlaken, Tax Map #06-2-71.1, on condition of written authorization for driveway access has been provided in an acceptable form to the Town and filed with Seneca County. Aye-Foster, Aye-Bishop, Aye-Wyckoff, and Aye-Nottke

Foster moved, seconded by Wyckoff, to authorize the Highway Superintendent to order and purchase a 2026 F2520 truck with Western plow from Maguire through OGS State Contract #PC68973SSB for \$69,477.43. 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 August 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 August 2025. Aye – Wyckoff, Aye – Nottke, Aye - Foster, and Aye - Bishop.

Nottke moved, seconded by Wyckoff, to approve Town Clerk report for the month of August 2025. Town Clerk received a total of \$2629.00; \$808.09 was remitted to the Supervisor. Aye - Bishop, Aye – Wyckoff, Aye - Nottke and Aye-Foster.

Nottke moved, seconded by Bishop, to approve the Code Enforcement Officer Report for August. Aye - Bishop, Aye – Nottke, Aye - Wyckoff and Aye-Foster.

**TOWN OF COVERT, SENECA COUNTY
REGULAR TOWN BOARD MEETING
& PUBLIC HEARINGS**

September 8th, 2025

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

Nottke moved, seconded by Bishop, that Highway Fund Vouchers #105 - 114 in the amount of \$15,106.91 and General Fund Vouchers #170 – 184 in the amount of \$4,876.36 be approved for payment. Aye-Bishop, Aye – Nottke, Aye - Wyckoff and Aye-Foster.

Nottke moved, seconded by Bishop, to adjourn the meeting at 8:03 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Leslie Adams-Compton, Town Clerk



Maguire Commercial Department
State Contract Pricing
8/20/2025

Maguire Motors LLC
OGS Contract #PC6897355B
Fed ID#26-0548077
NYS Vender ID#1100058540

Town of Covert Highway Department
2026 Ford F2520 Crew Cab
\$70,535 (MSRP)
\$61,478 (Maguire State Contract Price)
+ \$199.43 Fees
\$61,677.43
+\$6,800 Western 9ft Straight Plow
\$68,477.43
+\$1,000 Back Rack & Light

Total \$69,477.43

Options
6yr-100k Bumper/Bumper Warranty -\$2,750
5yr/20visits – Maintenance Plan - \$1,250

Cody Rose
Maguire Commercial Department
Commercial Accounts Manager
Crse@maguirecars.com
607-229-4089



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| <p><small>MAGUIRE CHEVROLET OF BALDWINVILLE 112 Syracuse Street, Baldwinsville, NY 13027 (315) 635-1956</small></p> <p><small>MAGUIRE CHEVROLET OF GRAND ISLAND 3000 Alvin Road, Grand Island, NY 14072 Phone: (716) 404-4001</small></p> <p><small>MAGUIRE HONDA OF GRAND ISLAND 790 Alvin Road, Grand Island, NY 14072 Phone: (716) 404-8005</small></p> <p><small>MAGUIRE TOYOTA OF GRAND ISLAND 1974 Alvin Road, Grand Island, NY 14072 Phone: (716) 404-6004</small></p> <p><small>MAGUIRE AUDI, VOLKSWAGEN, VOLVO, KIA, TOYOTA OF ITHACA 370 Elmore Road, Ithaca, NY 14850 (607) 257-7015</small></p> <p><small>MAGUIRE CHEVROLET, CADILLAC OF ITHACA 35 Onondaga Drive, Ithaca, NY 14850 (607) 272-9292</small></p> | <p><small>MAGUIRE CHRYSLER DODGE JEEP RAM FORD OF ITHACA 216 Drive Road, Ithaca, NY 14850 (607) 256-3300</small></p> <p><small>MAGUIRE FORD, LINCOLN OF ITHACA 504 S. Madison Street, Ithaca, NY 14850 (607) 272-9000</small></p> <p><small>MAGUIRE HONDA OF ITHACA 315 Elmore Road, Ithaca, NY 14850 (607) 272-9295</small></p> <p><small>MAGUIRE HYUNDAI, SUBARU, GENESIS OF ITHACA 320 Elmore Road, Ithaca, NY 14850 (607) 272-8555</small></p> <p><small>MAGUIRE NISSAN OF ITHACA 17 Lantown Road, Ithaca, NY 14850 (607) 889-2322</small></p> <p><small>MAGUIRE SEALE 154 Carol Malone Drive, Ithaca, NY 14850 (607) 882-2538</small></p> | <p><small>MAGUIRE CHRYSLER DODGE JEEP RAM OF SYRACUSE 959 Hiawatha Blvd., Syracuse, NY 13204 (315) 487-6211</small></p> <p><small>MAGUIRE NISSAN OF SYRACUSE 78 W. Genesee Street, Syracuse, NY 13204 (315) 823-4432</small></p> <p><small>MAGUIRE CHEVROLET OF TRUMANBURG 2073 State Route 96, Trumanburg, NY 14886 (607) 387-9115</small></p> <p><small>MAGUIRE CHRYSLER DODGE JEEP RAM OF WATKINS GLEN 522 N. Parkway Drive, Watkins Glen, NY 14897 (607) 355-6223</small></p> |
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MaguireCars.com

TOWN OF COVERT, SENECA COUNTY
REGULAR TOWN BOARD MEETING
October 13th, 2025

The regular meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Covert was held Monday, October 13th, 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 | Absent |
| | Deputy Supervisor 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, Code Enforcement Officer Roger Ward, Town Attorney Patrick Morrell, Jen Meyers, Frank Becker/Good Neighbors, Ben Guthrie, Barb Soyka and other interested citizens.

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

Nottke called for a moment of silence at the passing of former Town of Covert employee, Eddie Turk.

Approval of Minutes: Wyckoff moved, seconded by Foster, to approve the September 8th, 2025 Regular Town Board meeting and Public Hearings minutes. Aye – Bishop, Aye – Wyckoff, Aye – Foster and Aye – Nottke.

Presenter: Joel Fey from Trumansburg Ambulance spoke about an analysis report he did of ambulance services across the country and their service. He said that Trumansburg EMS is a small municipal ambulance service that covers the Village of Trumansburg and contracts with neighboring municipalities that makes them a large service altogether. A challenge is the significant increase in cost with lower reimbursement rates. He said it costs around \$1 million for a fully equipped ambulance. Paramedics require a degree program. They are ever facing challenges for financial sustainability, especially as a rural EMS department. He has been looking at new revenue streams that do not increase taxes. Highlights from his in depth study are that 60% of calls are ALS (advanced life support), 38% BLS (basic life support), 16% commercial insurance, 22% the local burden (ie. taxes), 57% medicare/Medicaid. Treatment places (no transport) make up almost 40% of calls. He said our rates are pretty much the national average. Fey presented an adjustment in rates with the goal as not to increase the burden on the taxbase/patients but to increase the profit margins by collecting more of the insurance companies allowable costs. He said a key is to continue with good charity care practices allowing for reductions/adjustments for those that cannot afford it.

Fey said that they have seen significant increases in capture rates since switching to a new billing company, from 8-9% to about 30% of what was billed out.

Fey said that nationally, EMS service is not categorized as Public Service or Healthcare, but under the Department of Transportation. Ambulance service is considered transportation.

He said that the Town of Covert has its own billing practices at the sole discretion of the Town Board. Bills do not go to collections for most of the participating municipalities. The Town had adopted the same rates as the Village of Trumansburg in 2023 and now they are proposing an increase to approve at the Town Board's discretion.

Presenter: Frank Becker of the newly-formed Good Neighbors Interlaken shared about their service to the Interlaken community. He said they began about a year ago offering free assistance to people in need of rides, light carpentry/painting, yard work, computer assistance, etc. He said they are made up of

TOWN OF COVERT, SENECA COUNTY
REGULAR TOWN BOARD MEETING
October 13th, 2025

about 17 volunteers and are operating under the Interlaken Community Action Group umbrella. Volunteers sign waivers and offer service at no cost to anyone. Boundary lines have not been established but their hope is that the group can be extended into other communities eventually. A single dispatching phone number will be used using Google voice.

Becker invited all to come to the kick-off for Good Neighbors Interlaken at the Interlaken Public Library on Saturday, October 18th at 6 PM for an info meeting and pizza party.

Highway: The Highway Department oil and stoned previously paved roads: Burdick, Townline Rd, and Halls Corners and oil and stoned with the Towns of Lodi and Ovid. They chip sealed Oak Harbor Road, did ditching on Townline and E Bates Rd, installed two new culvert pipes on Townline, and did cold patching on all Town roads. They installed a new driveway for the new salt barn, dug out, filled with crusher and put a new pad in, and installed concrete blocks on the ends of the driveway for the salt barn. They worked with Heavenly Tree Care to take down and clean up a large tree on S Frontenac, did more shoulder work and installed speed limit signs and other warning signs on S Frontenac Rd. They replaced lift cylinder on 2010 International and worked on hydronic issues on 550 dump truck, and did regular maintenance on all equipment.

MacCheyne said that the new salt barn has been delivered. Construction date has not been decided yet.

Guthrie asked if the replaced culverts will be capped after settling. MacCheyne said yes. He said Congress St would be paved in November, but 4 or 5 need to be addressed.

Town Clerk: Adams-Compton shared a letter that the Village of Interlaken received stating that after December 31, 2025, the Beverly Animal Shelter will no longer provide housing for its dogs. The Town had not received this letter yet.

The Town Clerk's office will be closed until about 1:00 PM on October 21st* due to Seneca County Town Clerks Assoc meeting. *Meeting was postponed, office was opened @ 9AM.

Committees: Nottke reported that Three Falls LDC had a master plan project info meeting with Fisher Associates about the 'Barton' NYS Park.

Nottke said that after an accident with a motorcycle and vehicle on Rte 89 off of Frontenac, she will contact the Sheriff's Dept to devise a plan to make the intersection safer due to the increased traffic of the park.

All are welcome to Three Falls LDC meeting on the first Thursday of the month at 9:00 AM in Trumansburg.

Attorney: Morrell said that a Public Hearing will be needed for the alteration of fire district lines and that each fire district has to hold a Public Hearing to adopt this change.

TOWN OF COVERT, SENECA COUNTY
REGULAR TOWN BOARD MEETING
October 13th, 2025

Morrell explained that the Variance Request for Intelligent Green Solutions/Jennifer Meyers is an unlisted action under SEQR and proceeded to guide the Town Board through Part 2 – Impact Assessment.

Petitioners: Bill Overbaugh said that in April he had addressed the Board about the Town’s Lakeview St property line being 6’8” over/into his garage. He had TG Miller draw up a new survey which shows this is still the case. He would like the Town to consider a boundary line adjustment. Morrell will review the survey and draft a resolution for the Town Board to consider.

Barry Ford said he had his well tested as he is preparing to sell and move. He said it was mostly normal except for nitrate that was double the national average. He is concerned that this is caused from industry farming fertilizing practices. He said it can be fixed with reverse osmosis, but the cost is prohibitive and it removes other vital minerals. His neighbors drink bottled water.

Town of Covert Budget Workshops are scheduled for Mondays, October 20th and October 27th, 2025 at 6:00 PM.

Resolutions:

Foster moved, seconded by Nottke, to designate the Town of Covert Town Board as the lead agency for making SEQR determinations for the approval of the Variance for Intelligent Green Solutions/Jennifer Meyers, ~~9778 9797~~ 9791*New # created Savercool Rd, Trumansburg, Tax Map #21-1-30.21, to install a a solar ground array totaling 31.6 Kw, where all electricity production systems with a DC capacity greater than 25 kW are prohibited under the Town of Covert Land Management Ordinance.

Foster moved, seconded by Nottke, that

Whereas, the Town Board of the Town of Covert has reviewed the variance application for Intelligent Green Solutions/Jennifer Meyers, ~~9778 9797~~ 9791*New # created Savercool Rd, Trumansburg, Tax Map #21-1-30.21, to install a a solar ground array totaling 31.6 Kw, where all electricity production systems with a DC capacity greater than 25 kW are prohibited under the Town of Covert Land Management Ordinance; and

Whereas, the Seneca County Planning Board has reviewed the variance application for Intelligent Green Solutions/Jennifer Meyers, ~~9778 9797~~ 9791 Savercool Rd, to install a a solar ground array totaling 31.6 Kw; and

Whereas, the Town Board of the Town of Covert, has designated the Town of Covert Town Board as the lead agency for making SEQR determinations for the approval of the Variance for Intelligent Green Solutions/Jennifer Meyers, ~~9778 9797~~ 9791*New # created Savercool Rd, to install a a solar ground array totaling 31.6 Kw; and

Whereas, the Town Board has determined, based on information and analysis, and any supporting documentation, that the proposed action will not result in any significant adverse environmental impacts.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Town of Covert Town Board finds the variance application of Intelligent Green Solutions/Jennifer Meyers, ~~9778 9797~~ Savercool Rd, Trumansburg, Tax Map #21-1-30.21, to install a a solar ground array totaling 31.6 Kw, Tax Map 15-1-16.1 to be an Unlisted Action under **6 NYCRR 617.5(c)(l)**.

Aye – Wyckoff, Aye - Foster, Aye - Nottke and Aye - Bishop.

TOWN OF COVERT, SENECA COUNTY
REGULAR TOWN BOARD MEETING
October 13th, 2025

Foster moved, seconded by Bishop, to approve the Variance Request for Jennifer Meyers, 9778 9797 Savercool Rd, Trumansburg, Tax Map #21-1-30.21, to install a solar ground array totaling 31.6 Kw where electricity production systems with a DC capacity greater than 25 kW are prohibited under the Land Management Ordinance. Aye-Foster, Aye-Bishop, Aye-Wyckoff, and Aye-Nottke.

Foster moved, seconded by Wyckoff, to schedule a Public Hearing for the adoption of a proposed local law to authorize the Town Board to adopt a budget for the fiscal year 2026 that requires a real property tax levy in excess of the amount otherwise specified in General Municipal Law 3-c for October 27th, 2025 at 6:00 PM. Aye – Wyckoff, Aye - Foster, Aye - Nottke and Aye - Bishop.

Foster moved, seconded by Wyckoff, to schedule a Public Hearing for the Town of Covert 2026 Budget on October 27th, 2025 at 6:00 PM. Aye – Wyckoff, Aye - Foster, Aye - Nottke and Aye - Bishop.

Foster moved, seconded by Wyckoff, to schedule a Public Hearing for the altering of Fire District lines on November 10, 2025 at 7:00 PM. Aye – Wyckoff, Aye - Foster, Aye - Nottke and Aye - Bishop.

Foster moved, seconded by Wyckoff, to authorize the Highway Superintendent to order and purchase a 2026 F2520 truck with Western plow from Maguire through OGS State Contract #PC68973SSB for \$69,477.43. Aye – Wyckoff, Aye - Foster, Aye - Nottke and Aye - Bishop.

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

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

Wyckoff moved, seconded by Bishop, to approve Town Clerk report for the month of September 2025. Town Clerk received a total of \$2648.00; \$610.82 was remitted to the Supervisor. Aye - Bishop, Aye – Wyckoff, Aye - Nottke and Aye-Foster.

Wyckoff moved, seconded by Bishop, to approve the Code Enforcement Officer Report for September. Aye - Bishop, Aye – Nottke, Aye - Wyckoff and Aye-Foster.

Bishop moved, seconded by Wyckoff, that Highway Fund Vouchers #115 - 130 in the amount of \$169,122.57 and General Fund Vouchers #185 – 205 in the amount of \$11,650.60 be approved for payment. Aye-Bishop, Aye – Nottke, Aye - Wyckoff and Aye-Foster.

Bishop moved, seconded by Wyckoff, to adjourn the meeting at 8:32 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Leslie Adams-Compton, Town Clerk

TOWN OF COVERT, SENECA COUNTY
BUDGET WORKSHOP

October 20TH, 2025

The budget workshop meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Covert was held Monday, October 20th, 2025 at 6:00 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 | Absent |
| | Councilman Bill Bishop | Present |
| | Councilman Brayton Foster | Present |
| | Councilman Todd Wyckoff | Present |

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

Call to order: Supervisor Reynolds called the meeting to order at 6:25 P.M.

Reynolds explained that the Assessor line was dropped a little bit, but the Valuation line was dropped \$40K as the Revaluation had been finished.

He said that Utilities has been adjusted due to the new heating system for the Town Hall using more electricity and less fuel oil.

Public Safety was increased by \$3K for the Interlaken Police. There was some discussion about the Town's court revenue vs. the cost for the justice. Net has been up \$5K for extra tickets written.

There was some discussion about the needs and costs to have a dog shelter. Dog Control Officer April Moore may have a place available at the former Seneca Army Depot. For heat, water, electricity, etc. about \$400,000 is needed to run the shelter. Barry Ford said his place has what would be needed and he would be willing to work out a deal.

Ambulance is up about 2%, and Highway garage maintenance line was raised for the aging building's increased needs.

There was some discussion about the Playground and Recreation line designating \$10K for former Barton NYS Park. The Town is currently short \$30K in dues to the Three Falls LDC.

Seneca County did not reach its goal for Sales Tax sharing with the towns.

It was mentioned that Dog Control and Cemetery upkeep are bound by law, but not a park.

There was some discussion about Lakeview Cemetery and its upcoming needs. \$10,000 has been added to the Cemeteries line for the potential need at Lakeview. The Town Board will firm up what the actual needs may be in the upcoming year and make adjustments, if need be, at the next meeting.

Retirement line is up, while Medical Insurance is down.

Total proposed General Fund appropriations is down \$7K.

DA/DB Highway sees an increase in revenue raised by taxes because there was no Sales Tax sharing.

Highway expects some revenue from selling a pickup, bridge beams and salt spreader.

Trumansburg Fire expense is up 17+% and Interlaken Fire up 5%.

Foster moved, seconded by Bishop, to remove \$10,000 from appropriations line A7140.4, Playground and Recreation. Aye – Bishop, Aye – Foster, and Aye – Wyckoff.

Wyckoff moved, seconded by Reynolds, to adjourn the meeting at 8:17 PM.

Respectfully submitted, Leslie Adams-Compton, Town Clerk

TOWN OF COVERT, SENECA COUNTY
BUDGET WORKSHOP
PUBLIC HEARINGS

October 27TH, 2025

The budget workshop meeting and Public Hearings of the Town Board of the Town of Covert was held Monday, October 27th, 2025 at 6:00 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, and Barry Ford.

Call to order: Supervisor Reynolds called the meeting to order at 6:05 P.M. All rose for the pledge of allegiance.

Reynolds said he spoke with both John Hubbard and Marcia Taylor of the Lakeview Cemetery. John believes they only have \$40k before needing the Town's support. Marcia thinks they have about 60K left and with a 18K mowing contract they will be okay this coming year.

Reynolds thinks that adding another 10K to the cemetery line will be sufficient.

Foster believes they should wait until they need it. The highway department has helped more this past year.

Reynolds said that Proctor will not be digging graves anymore. They dig 5 – 6 graves per year. There is much to upkeep, from hundreds of trees, a lot of weed-eating, mowing, and clerical work, and the members of the cemetery board are aging.

There was more discussion about the Interlaken Police, court expenses and revenue, and mention of the highway barn maintenance needed. Both Public Safety and Highway Garage Maintenance lines have been increased from 2025 budget.

Reynolds said he raised the Assessor line 3%, because all employees receive the 3% raise.

Reynolds said the Town will need immediate money to cover payroll etc. for the rest of the year. He is still working on the bonding for the Town's portion of Frontenac Bridge.

Public Hearing: Nottke moved, seconded by Wyckoff, to open the Public Hearing at 6:45 PM to hear comments on a Local Law to Override the Tax Levy Limit Established in General Municipal Law 3-C.

Barry Ford said he would come up with the least amount to make the budget work, but he agreed there is no way to save \$100,000 in the current budget.

Ford also said that appropriations taken back from the Park's line should not be used for the cemetery.

Ford also shared opinions on the way the police and court operations were shared between the Village and Town.

Nottke moved, seconded by Foster, to close the Public Hearing at 6:59 PM.

Public Hearing: Nottke moved, seconded by Bishop, to open the Public Hearing at 7:00 PM to hear comments on the 2026 Town of Covert Preliminary Budget.

TOWN OF COVERT, SENECA COUNTY
BUDGET WORKSHOP
PUBLIC HEARINGS
October 27TH, 2025

There were no comments.

Nottke moved, seconded by Foster, to close the Public Hearing at 7:01 PM.

Resolutions:

Resolution #3-2025
Resolution Adopting Proposed Local Law

WHEREAS the Town Board of the Town of Covert believes that it would be advantageous to the Town to override the tax levy limit imposed by General Municipal Law section 3-c;

WHEREAS subdivision 5 of General Municipal Law section 3-c expressly authorizes the Town Board to override the tax cap by the adoption of a local law approved by vote of sixty percent (60%) of the Town Board;

WHEREAS the Town Board held a public hearing on said proposed Local Law at the Town of Covert Offices, 8469 South Main Street, Interlaken, NY on this 27th day of October, 2025 at 6:00 p.m.; and

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that proposed Local Law entitled “*A Local Law To Override The Tax Levy Limit Established In General Municipal Law 3-C*” is hereby adopted by the Town Board of the Town of Covert, New York.

Local Law No. 1 of the year 2025
Town of Covert, County of Seneca

**A Local Law To Override The Tax Levy Limit Established
In General Municipal Law 3-C**

Be it enacted by the Town Board of the Town of Covert as follows:

Section 1. Legislative Intent

It is the intent of this local law to override the limit on the amount of real property taxes that may be levied by the Town of Covert pursuant to General Municipal Law § 3-c, and to allow the Town of Covert to adopt a budget for the fiscal year 2026 that requires a real property tax levy in excess of the “tax levy limit” as defined by General Municipal Law § 3-c.

Section 2. Authority

This local law is adopted pursuant to subdivision 5 of General Municipal Law § 3-c, which expressly authorizes the town board to override the tax cap by the adoption of a local law approved by vote of sixty percent (60%) of the Town Board.

Section 3. Tax Levy Limit Override

The Town Board of the Town of Covert, County of Seneca is hereby authorized to adopt a budget for the fiscal year 2026 that requires a real property tax levy in excess of the amount otherwise proscribed in General Municipal Law, §3-c.

Section 4. Severability.

If any clause, sentence, paragraph, subdivision, or part of this Local Law or the application thereof to any person, firm or corporation, or circumstance, shall be adjusted by any court of competent jurisdiction to be invalid or unconstitutional, such order or judgment shall not affect, impair, or invalidate the remainder thereof, but shall be confined in its operation to the clause, sentence, paragraph, subdivision, or part of this

**TOWN OF COVERT, SENECA COUNTY
BUDGET WORKSHOP
PUBLIC HEARINGS**

October 27TH, 2025

Local Law or in its application to the person, individual, firm or corporation or circumstance, directly involved in the controversy in which such judgment or order shall be rendered.

Section 5. Effective date.

This local law shall take effect immediately upon filing with the Secretary of State.

Motion: Nottke, Second: Wyckoff. Aye – Nottke, Aye – Foster, Aye – Bishop, Aye –Wyckoff.

**Resolution #4-2025
Adopting the 2026 Preliminary Budget as Final**

Nottke moved, seconded by Foster,

THAT the 2026 Preliminary Budget be adopted as the final budget for 2026 and,

WHEREAS, this Town Board met October 27, 2025 at the time and place specified in the notice of the Public Hearing on the Preliminary Budget and heard all persons desiring to be heard thereon;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT The Town Board of the Town of Covert hereby adopts such Preliminary Budget, as originally compiled with modifications* and amendments, as the Annual Budget of the Town of Covert, as for the fiscal year beginning January 1, 2026 and that such budget, as adopted, be entered in detail into the minutes of the proceeding of the Town Board, and Be it

FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Town Clerk of the Town of Covert shall prepare and certify in duplicate copies of said Annual Budget, as adopted pursuant to Section 202, Subd.2 of the Town Law, and deliver one copy thereof to Supervisor of this Town to be presented by him to the Board of Supervisors of this County.

Aye - Nottke, Aye - Foster, Aye – Wyckoff and Aye - Bishop.

*Changes to Preliminary Budget:

| | |
|--|-------------|
| Increase line item: A1355.1 Assessor | \$4,249.42 |
| Increase line item: A8810.4 Cemeteries..... | \$10,000.00 |
| Increase line item: A Appropriated Fund Balance..... | \$4,249.42 |

Resolution #5-2025

Resolution To Authorize A Revenue Anticipation Note Pursuant To Local Finance Law § 40.10

WHEREAS the Town Board of the Town of Covert has determined that there will be a deficiency in the Town’s highway fund by the end of the fiscal year 2025; and

WHEREAS the 2025 revenues will not be sufficient to make payment to Hybrid Building Solutions required under the contract for Highway Salt Barn entered by the Town Board of the Town of Covert on May 20, 2025; and

TOWN OF COVERT, SENECA COUNTY
BUDGET WORKSHOP
PUBLIC HEARINGS

October 27TH, 2025

WHEREAS the Town Board has determined that there is no other source of financing available except for a Revenue Anticipation Note and the Town Board has received a proposal from Community Bank, N.A for a Revenue Anticipation Note not to exceed \$100,000.00; and

WHEREAS the Town of Covert has total indebtedness during the current fiscal year that will not exceed \$5,000,000.00 and the amount of the budget deficiency note is less than 5% of the 2025 budget of the Town of Covert; and

WHEREAS Local Finance Law §§ 29.20 and 40.10 allow for this type of municipal finance and the Town Board of the Town of Covert intends for this resolution to satisfy the requirements of these sections of the Local Finance Law.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board of the Town of Covert hereby adopts this Revenue Anticipation Note Resolution pursuant to Local Finance Law § 40.10; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Town Board of the Town of Covert hereby authorizes the Town Supervisor to execute any and all documents necessary to arrange for this financing on behalf of the Town of Covert.

Motion: Nottke, Seconded by Foster. Vote: Aye-Nottke, Aye-Foster, Aye-Wyckoff and Aye-Bishop.
Motion carried.

Nottke moved, seconded by Reynolds, to adjourn the meeting at 7:06 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Leslie Adams-Compton, Town Clerk

TOWN OF COVERT, SENECA COUNTY
REGULAR TOWN BOARD MEETING
& PUBLIC HEARING
November 10, 2025

The regular meeting and Public Hearing of the Town Board of the Town of Covert was held Monday, November 10th, 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 |
| | Deputy Supervisor Deborah Nottke | Present |
| | Councilman Bill Bishop | Present |
| | Councilman Brayton Foster | Present |
| | Councilman Todd Wyckoff | Absent |

Others Present: Town Clerk Leslie Adams-Compton, Highway Superintendent Jeffrey MacCheyne, Code Enforcement Officer Roger Ward, Town Attorney Patrick Morrell, Deputy Clerk Brian Quan, Ben Guthrie, Barb Soyka 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 Foster, to approve the October 13th, October 20th, October 27th, 2025 Regular Town Board meeting and Public Hearings minutes. Aye – Bishop, Aye – Foster and Aye – Nottke.

Public Hearing: Nottke moved, seconded by Foster, to open the Public Hearing at 7:01 PM to hear comments on altering the boundary between the two Fire Districts within the Town of Covert. The new boundary line between the two districts would be the center line of West and East Covert Roads to the centerline of Hatch Road to the lake. Reynolds said it would take a little (territory) from Trumansburg Fire District and add a little to Interlaken.

Interlaken Fire Chief Jim Borden said that the way the lines are now messes up the dispatchers.

There was discussion on when the change would take place. The Town Assessor would have to make the change on the tax roll by taxable status date of 3/1/2026. It would not be made before the 2026 Town/County taxes. Borden said it would not make a difference in service...They all come (for a fire). Borden said he would be the one to notify 911.

Highway: Highway Superintendent MacCheyne reported that they installed the pad for the new salt barn and dug footers for the walls. They mortared the headwall on the Booth Road culvert, cleaned culvert pipes and did ditching on East Bates Rd, and did cold patching on all Town roads. They cleaned up fallen trees on South Frontenac Rd, mowed roadsides and backslopes on Town roads. They took the 2022 F-550 to Tenco for sander repairs. A new part's been ordered but it could be a couple months. They can use the F-550 with a temporary fix. They installed plow frames on the 10-wheelers (wings not on yet) and did regular maintenance on all equipment.

MacCheyne said he had asked SC Soil and Water what can be done about the flooding on E Bates Rd. They said bigger pipes but they can't do that. He spoke with residents about slowing the water down.

Town Clerk: Clerk Adams-Compton said she had applied to NY Genealogical and Biographical Society for their "Digitize New York" program where they loan out scanning equipment for digitizing historical records and provide a platform for public access. They approved use for scanning ~16 minute books and vital records. Only those records that are allowed to be in public domain would be accessible on their platform. A contract will be forthcoming, projected start date would be April of 2026.

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Committees: Nottke gave an update on Three Falls Development Corp: The hired engineering company, Fisher Associates, presented a tentative master plan for the “Barton” park; schematics include a parking area, nothing definite yet. A meeting will be planned to present to Fred Bonn, NY Parks.

Reynolds reported that the county is working on their budget. They’ve got the tax rate down to \$4.54/1000 but the new manager, Melissa Taylor, thinks they can get it lower. He says that other counties that are paying more are taking their employees. They have ≈200 vacancies. He said the Sheriffs Dept has gone to arbitration.

Reynolds presented the Resolution to support Nick Langworthy's Energy Choice Act. The Town had received a request from the office of Nick Langworthy and a letter in support from local resident Fred Bassette. Guthrie presented Reynolds with a 25-signature petition against the Energy Choice Act. (letters and petition on file with Town Clerk)

Attorney: Morrell presented the Town Board with a revised resolution to authorize a revenue anticipation note. He said the note must be paid within the same fiscal year.

Morrell also spoke on the logistics of changing fire district lines. He said a memorandum of request from the Fire Commissioners, presumably the Trumansburg Village Board and the Interlaken Village Board, notarized, with a resolution from the Covert Town Board would be needed.

Morrell said they are still working on getting additional funding from Greene County Bank for the Salt Barn and Frontenac Bridge.

It is unknown when DEC grant money will come for the Salt Barn. The Town will get paid for digging the footers. The Town owes their 5% portion (≈\$100,000) to the county for the Frontenac Bridge.

Barry Ford asked Morrell if an individual can lend money to the Town. Morrell did not know but he is skeptical.

Foster spoke on the Resolution in support of the Energy Choice Act and saw it as a resolution to preserve choice, rather than having a government mandate. He said electricity is fine but there are areas where the present infrastructure cannot support additional electricity, so it would be preventing new construction in that area.

Nottke said that Langworthy wants to get rid of the ban on fossil fuels. Reynolds said the new law says new houses have to use electric beginning January 1st. Nottke said we have a real climate change going on on our planet and that if we don’t do something now, it will never get done. She said there has been progress and she doesn’t want to see us moving backwards. She said that it also gives creative people license to go ahead and start creating something better.

Ford asked how this affects the old constructions. Will they be able to replace the old systems? He said it would probably trickle down to not having accessibility to these other fuels and almost be forced to go to electric because of lack of availability.

Bishop said that everybody has noticed the price of electricity going up and it would be nice to have a choice on that. And, in the interest in being independent of the grid or self-sustainability, when the powers out it’s easier to run a propane or fuel oil furnace on a generator than electric heat.

Resolutions:

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Resolution #6-2025
RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE A REVENUE ANTICIPATION
NOTE PURSUANT TO LOCAL FINANCE LAW § 39.00

WHEREAS the Town Board of the Town of Covert has determined that there will be a deficiency in the Town's highway fund by the end of the fiscal year 2025; and

WHEREAS the Town of Covert has submitted its reimbursement request to the New York State Consolidated Local Street and Highway Improvement Program (CHIPS) and anticipates receiving \$274,118.47 on December 16, 2025; and

WHEREAS the Town Board has received a proposal from Community Bank, N.A for a Revenue Anticipation Note up to \$100,000.00 at an annual interest rate of 6.2% based on a 30/360 day year with a maturity date of December 31, 2025; and

WHEREAS the Town of Covert has total indebtedness during the current fiscal year that will not exceed \$5,000,000.00 and the amount of the revenue anticipation note is less than 5% of the 2025 budget of the Town of Covert; and

WHEREAS Local Finance Law §§ 25.00 and 39.00 allow for this type of municipal finance and the Town Board of the Town of Covert intends for this resolution to satisfy the requirements of these sections of the Local Finance Law.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board of the Town of Covert hereby adopts this Revenue Anticipation Note Resolution pursuant to Local Finance Law § 39.00; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Town Board of the Town of Covert hereby authorizes the Town Supervisor to execute any and all documents necessary to arrange for this financing on behalf of the Town of Covert.

Date: November 10, 2025

Motion: Foster, Seconded by Bishop. Vote: Aye-Nottke, Aye-Foster, and Aye-Bishop. Motion carried.

Resolution #7-2025

Resolution of Town Board Approving Alteration of Boundaries of Adjoining Fire Districts

Whereas, a memorandum dated _____, has been duly adopted by a majority of the members of the board of fire commissioners of both the Trumansburg Fire District No. 1 and the Interlaken Fire District No. 2 of the Town of Covert, New York (the "Town"), according to law, proposing that the boundaries of said Fire Districts be altered as follows:

Current Boundary Line:

1. Beginning at the centerline of Lodi Covert Townline Rd. at its intersection with West Covert Road;
2. South along the centerline of West Covert Road to its intersection with the centerline of County Road 143;
3. East along County Road 143 to its intersection with the centerline of County Road 142;
4. North along the center of County Road 142 to the intersection with the centerline of

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West Covert Road;

5. East on the centerline of West Covert Road to the intersection with the centerline of NYS Route 96;
6. Northwest along the centerline of NYS Route 96 to its intersection with the centerline of Little Point Road;
7. East along the centerline of Center Point Road to its easternmost and continuing further along the same course to Cayuga Lake;
8. Trumansburg Fire District No. 1 covers the land south of this line and Interlaken Fire District No. 2 covers the land north of this line.

Altered Boundary Line:

1. Beginning at the centerline of West Covert Road at its intersection with Lodi Covert Townline Road;
2. East along the centerline of West Covert Road East to its intersection with NYS Route 96;
3. Continuing East along the centerline of East Covert Road to its intersection with NYS Route 89;
4. Continuing East along the centerline of Hatch Road to its easternmost point and continuing along the same course to Cayuga Lake;
5. Trumansburg Fire District No. 1 covers the land south of this line and Interlaken Fire District No. 2 covers the land north of this line.

Whereas a Public Hearing was held at the Covert Municipal Building, 8469 South Main Street, Interlaken, New York, on the 10th day of November 2025, at 7:00 p.m. to consider said memorandum and hear all persons interested in the manner of the alteration of boundaries of such Fire Districts, and notice of such hearing was duly published and posted as prescribed by law, and said boards of fire commissioners have, at the time and place specified in said notice, duly met and considered the matter of such alteration of boundaries, and heard all persons interested in the subject thereof who appeared at such time and place, concerning the same; and

Whereas, the said boards of fire commissioners have considered said memorandum and all the evidence submitted at such hearing; and

Whereas, the boards of fire commissioners of said Fire Districts, in a joint resolution dated _____, determined as follows:

- (1) That all of the property and property owners within said Fire Districts are benefited by the proposed boundary change.
- (2) That all the property and property owners within the area of the proposed boundary change are benefited thereby.

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(3) That it is in the public interest to grant the boundary changes as set forth in said memorandum, and

Whereas, in said resolution dated _____, the boards of fire commissioners of said Fire Districts did jointly approve the boundary line changes hereinabove set forth, and

Whereas, the aforesaid memorandum of proposed change of boundaries dated _____, and the joint resolution dated _____, were duly filed with the Town Clerk and Town Assessor on _____.

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved, that the Town Board hereby approves the proposed change of boundaries of said Fire Districts as hereinabove set forth.

Motion: Nottke, Second: Foster. Aye - Foster, Aye - Nottke and Aye - Bishop.

Resolution #8-2025

A RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF CONGRESSMAN NICK LANGWORTHY'S ENERGY CHOICE ACT (H.R. 3699, S. 1945) AND IN OPPOSITION TO GOVERNMENT-MANDATED NATURAL GAS BANS

WHEREAS, affordable and reliable energy is essential to the health, safety, and economic prosperity of New York families, businesses, and communities; and

WHEREAS, natural gas remains a dependable, cost-effective, and clean-burning energy source used by millions of New Yorkers to heat their homes, cook their food, and power their businesses; and

WHEREAS, in 2019, New York State enacted the Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act (CLCPA), which mandates aggressive emissions reductions and serves as the foundation for sweeping energy restrictions, including efforts to phase out natural gas; and

WHEREAS, building on the CLCPA, Governor Kathy Hochul and the New York State Legislature in 2023 enacted provisions in the state budget banning natural gas and other fossil fuel hookups in most new residential and commercial buildings, effective 2026 for smaller buildings, and 2029 for larger buildings, thereby eliminating consumer choice and limiting access to affordable energy; and

WHEREAS, Governor Hochul has publicly supported these bans and related measures as part of her administration's climate and energy agenda, despite widespread concerns that such mandates will increase costs, strain grid reliability, and restrict energy diversity; and

WHEREAS, these top-down policies undermine affordability, threaten reliability during peak demand, and strip away the freedom of consumers and businesses to choose the energy sources that best meet their needs; and

WHEREAS, Congressman Nick Langworthy of New York and Senator Jim Justice of West Virginia introduced the Energy Choice Act (H.R. 3699, S. 1945), federal legislation that ensures state and

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local governments cannot restrict consumer access to natural gas and other affordable energy sources, thereby protecting freedom of choice for New Yorkers and all Americans; and

WHEREAS, the Energy Choice Act would safeguard households, small businesses, hospitals, farmers, and manufacturers from harmful government overreach and preserve access to an “all-of-the-above” energy strategy that strengthens reliability and affordability;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Covert strongly supports the Energy Choice Act as introduced by Congressman Langworthy (H.R. 3699) and Senator Justice (S. 1945) and stands firmly opposed to New York State’s natural gas bans, the CLCPA-driven restrictions, and other state energy mandates that eliminate consumer choice; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Covert urges Congress to pass the Energy Choice Act to defend consumer choice, protect energy affordability, and preserve reliable access to natural gas for New Yorkers; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that copies of this resolution be sent to Congressman Nick Langworthy, Senator Jim Justice, the New York Congressional delegation, Senators Chuck Schumer and Kirsten Gillibrand, Governor Kathy Hochul, and leadership of the New York State Legislature.

Date: November 10, 2025

Motion: Foster, Seconded by Bishop. Vote: Aye - Foster, and Aye - Bishop. Nay - Nottke, Motion carried.

Nottke moved, seconded by Bishop, to approve the Supervisor’s Income and Expenditure Report for the month of October 2025. Aye - Foster, Aye - Nottke and Aye - Bishop.

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

Nottke moved, seconded by Bishop, to approve Town Clerk report for the month of October 2025. Town Clerk received a total of \$2140.50; \$511.26 was remitted to the Supervisor. Aye - Bishop, Aye - Nottke and Aye-Foster.

Nottke moved, seconded by Foster, to approve the Code Enforcement Officer Report for October. Aye - Bishop, Aye – Nottke and Aye-Foster.

Nottke moved, seconded by Bishop, to approve the Dog Control Officer Reports for September and October. Aye - Bishop, Aye – Nottke and Aye-Foster.

Nottke moved, seconded by Foster, that Highway Fund Vouchers #131-137 in the amount of \$9,211.07 and General Fund Vouchers #206 – 224 in the amount of \$8,243.79 be approved for payment. Aye-Bishop, Aye – Nottke, Aye - Nottke and Aye-Foster.

Nottke moved, seconded by Foster, to adjourn the meeting at 7:51 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Leslie Adams-Compton, Town Clerk

TOWN OF COVERT, SENECA COUNTY
REGULAR TOWN BOARD MEETING
December 8, 2025

The regular meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Covert was held Monday, December 8th, 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 |
| | Deputy Supervisor 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, Code Enforcement Officer Roger Ward, Town Attorney Patrick Morrell, Deputy Clerk Brian Quan, Ben Guthrie, Barb Soyka and other interested citizens.

Call to order: Supervisor Reynolds called the meeting to order at 7:01 P.M. All rose for the pledge of allegiance.

Approval of Minutes: Nottke moved, seconded by Wyckoff, to approve the November 10th Regular Town Board meeting and Public Hearing minutes. Aye – Bishop, Aye – Wyckoff, Aye – Foster and Aye – Nottke.

Highway: Highway Superintendent MacCheyne reported that they put a perimeter drain around the new salt barn and blacktopped the interior. They fixed the drain in the shop. They did paving on East Bates Rd, East Covert, and Congress Street and installed shoulders on those roads. They installed a new driveway for a new house and ditched on Tunison Rd. They cleaned up a fallen tree in Lakeview Cemetery, cleaned 10-12” of mud off of Halls Corners Rd, plowed and sanded Town roads and Village streets, and did cold patching on all Town roads. They installed sander and county radio on new pickup and installed wings on both 10-wheel dump trucks, and did regular maintenance on all equipment. One employee took a week vacation.

Town Clerk: Clerk Adams-Compton reported that an Ag + Market inspection report for Dog Control Officer April Moore’s shelter mostly passed with the exception of not having a contract or lease with the town. She reported that she had received an agreement from NY Genealogical and Biographical Society for their “Digitize New York” program for borrowed scanning equipment for digitizing historical records. If approved, the projected start date would be April or May of 2026.

She reported that there was an unauthorized ACH withdrawal from a cable company appeared on the tax collector bank account. The money was re-couped, but that account will be closed to prevent further withdrawals.

Adams-Compton reminded the Board that the NYS Cyber Security mandate starts January 1st, 2026, when cyber security training will be required annually. Also, the Town Board was reminded they should be using their .gov emails.

Committees:

Foster questioned how many write-offs are there for EMS bills and from what demographic. Reynolds said that the Charity Care policy is due for a re-do. Ideas were discussed about the need for additional billings or a collection company.

Nottke gave an update on Three Falls LDC. She said that the new acting NY Parks Commissioner is Kathy Mosher. She will do a “drive-by” in the future and supposedly has a new name for the park although it is not public yet. Nottke also said they were working with the DEC and Historic Preservation. Foster

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cautioned on the historic designation as it would limit what could be done. Nottke said it would help with tax breaks and grants. She said they are still working with Fisher Assoc. on the passive opening.

Reynolds reported that the county vote on the budget will be tomorrow. He said that they're looking at a 5% increase. They may take away unfilled positions from the workforce.

Reynolds explained that EMS rates need to be increased. He said that Medicaid calls especially don't pay enough and they make up 60% of the emergency calls.

Attorney: Morrell presented the Town Board with two different bonding proposals to pay for shortcomings in funds : A Statutory Installment Bond for the Town's portion of the Frontenac Bridge project and a BAN (Bond Anticipation Note) for the Water Quality Improvement grant project, a new salt barn. It would span over a 5-year period at 3.9% interest.

Petitioners: Ben Guthrie mentioned that he had heard complaints of the odor from the chicken manure under Porter's new barn(?) at the south end of Town. Reynolds said that having it covered is supposed to be better. If it is an issue, Seneca County Soil and Water should be contacted. The Town has a "Right to Farm" law.

Barry Ford reiterated the need for water testing.

Resolutions:

Resolution #9 -2025
RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF A BOND ANTICIPATION NOTE

The Town Board of the Town of Covert, duly convened in regular session, does hereby resolve as follows:

Section 1. Pursuant to, and in accordance with, the provisions of the New York Local Finance Law, the Supervisor of the Town of Covert is hereby authorized and empowered to issue and sell, in the manner provided by the Local Finance Law, a Bond Anticipation Note of the Town in an amount not to exceed \$ 225,000.00 at such rate of interest as the said Supervisor shall prescribe. Said Bond Anticipation Note is being authorized in furtherance of the Water Quality Improvement Grant awarded by the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation under contract number C03112GM.

Section 2. This resolution shall take effect immediately.

Date: December 8, 2025

Motion: Foster, Seconded by Nottke. Vote: Aye-Nottke, Aye – Wyckoff, Aye-Foster, and Aye-Bishop. Motion carried.

Resolution #10-2025

BOND RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN OF COVERT, SENECA COUNTY, NEW YORK, ADOPTED ON December 8, 2025, AUTHORIZING THE REPLACEMENT OF THE FRONTENAC ROAD BRIDGE OVER TRUMANSBURG CREEK AT AN ESTIMATED MAXIMUM COST OF \$100,000.00, APPROPRIATING SAID AMOUNT THEREFOR, AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF UP TO \$100,000.00 OF

TOWN OF COVERT, SENECA COUNTY
REGULAR TOWN BOARD MEETING
December 8, 2025

STATUTORY INSTALLMENT BONDS OF THE TOWN TO PAY THE COST OF THE PROJECT

WHEREAS, Section 64(3) of the Town Law of the State of New York empowers the Town Board of the Town of Covert, Seneca County, New York (the "Town") to manage maintain and control Town properties as the purposes of the Town may require; and

WHEREAS, the Town Board of the Town has determined that it is necessary and desirable for the Town to undertake a project in coordination with the New York State Department of Transportation consisting of the replacement of the Frontenac Road Bridge Over Trumansburg Creek, including incidental improvements and expenses in connection therewith (the "Project"); and

WHEREAS, CHA Consulting Inc., competent engineers licensed in New York, has prepared a map and plan for the Project; and

WHEREAS, the Town Board now desires to authorize the Project and the financing of the cost the Town's obligation thereof.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED ON December 8, 2025 BY THE TOWN BOARD OF THE TOWN OF COVERT, SENECA COUNTY, NEW YORK (by favorable vote of not less than two thirds of said Board), AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. The undertaking of the Project at a maximum estimated cost of \$100,000.00, including all professional costs, equipment, machinery and other necessary appurtenances and all other necessary costs incidental to such work, which is estimated to be the total cost of the Town's thereof, is hereby approved.

Section 2. The plan for the financing of the aforesaid specific object or purpose includes the issuance of up to \$100,000.00 of statutory installment bonds, or any bond anticipation notes in anticipation of the issuance and sale of the bonds, which are hereby authorized to be issued pursuant to the Local Finance Law, the levy of a tax to pay the bonds and the interest thereon and the application, if and when available, of state and/or federal assistance available or to any revenues available for such purpose from any other source. Undertaking the Project is hereby approved. The bonds and notes authorized hereby may be issued to the United States Department of Agriculture, Office of Rural Development, or any of its related offices or agencies, the New York State Environmental Facilities Corporation under any of its revolving fund programs or any purchaser in accordance with the provisions of the Local Finance Law.

Section 3. The full faith and credit of the Town is hereby irrevocably pledged for the payment of the principal of and interest on the Bonds as the same respectively become due and payable. There shall be annually apportioned and assessed upon the several lots and parcels of land within the District, which the Town Board shall determine and specify to be especially benefited by the improvements, an amount sufficient to pay the principal and interest on such obligations as the same become due, but if not paid from such source, all of the taxable real property in the Town shall be subject to the levy of ad valorem taxes without limitation as to rate or amounts sufficient to pay the principal of and interest on the Bonds as the same shall become due. Such debt service payments may be made in substantially level or declining amounts as may be authorized by law.

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Section 4. Pursuant to Sections 30.00, 50.00 and 56.00 to 60.00, inclusive, of the Local Finance Law, the power to authorize the issuance of and to sell the statutory installment bonds and any bond anticipation notes in anticipation of the issuance and sale of the bonds herein authorized, including renewals of such notes, is hereby delegated to the Town Supervisor, the chief fiscal officer. Such bonds or notes shall be of such form and contents, and shall be sold in such manner, as may be prescribed by said Town Supervisor, consistent with the provisions of the Local Finance Law. The notes authorized herein are issued in anticipation of bonds for an assessable improvement.

Section 5. The Town Supervisor is hereby further authorized, at his sole discretion, to execute all agreements, certificates and instruments in order to effect the financing or refinancing of the specific object or purpose described in Section 1 hereof, or a portion thereof, by a bond, and/or note issue of said Town and such authorization is intended to include authority to enter into and execute on behalf of the Town all agreements, certificates and instruments required in connection with financing the Project costs.

Section 6. The intent of this resolution is to give the Town Supervisor sufficient authority to execute those applications, agreements and instruments and to do any similar acts necessary to effect the issuance of the aforesaid bonds and/or notes without resorting to further action of this Town Board.

Section 7. The following additional matters are hereby determined and declared:

- (a) Pursuant to paragraph a.10 of Section 11.00 of the Local Finance Law the period of probable usefulness of the Project is ten (10) years; and
- (b) Current funds are not required by the Local Finance Law to be provided prior to the issuance of the bonds and any notes issued in anticipation thereof authorized by this resolution; and
- (c) The proposed maturity of the bonds authorized by this resolution will not exceed five (5) years.

Section 8. The temporary use of available funds of the Town, not immediately required for the purpose or purposes for which the same were raised or otherwise created, is hereby authorized pursuant to Section 165.10 of the Local Finance Law, for the capital purposes described in Section 1 of this resolution. The reasonably expected source of funds to be used to initially pay for the expenditures authorized by Section 1 of this resolution shall be from the Town's General Fund. It is intended that the Town shall then reimburse expenditures from the General Fund with the proceeds of the bonds and bond anticipation notes authorized by this resolution and that the interest payable on the bonds and any bond anticipation notes issued in anticipation of such bonds shall be excludable from gross income for federal income tax purposes. This resolution is intended to constitute the declaration of the Town's "official intent" within the meaning of Treasury Regulation Section 1.150-2 to reimburse the expenditures authorized by this resolution with the proceeds of the bonds and bond anticipation notes authorized herein. Other than as specified in this resolution, no monies are reasonably expected to be, received, allocated on a long-term basis, or otherwise set aside with respect to the permanent funding of the objects or purposes described herein.

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Section 9. Such bonds shall be in fully registered form and shall be signed in the name of the Town of Covert, Seneca County, New York, by the manual or facsimile signature of the Town Supervisor and a facsimile of its corporate seal shall be imprinted or impressed thereon and maybe attested to by the manual or facsimile signature of the Town Clerk.

Section 10. The Town hereby covenants and agrees with the holders from time to time of the Bonds and any bond anticipation notes issued in anticipation of the sale of the Bonds, that the Town will faithfully observe and comply with all provisions of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the "Code"), and any proposed or final regulations issued pursuant thereto unless, in the opinion of bond counsel, such compliance is not required by the Code and regulations to maintain the exclusion from gross income of interest on said obligations for federal income tax purposes.

Section 11. All other matters, except as provided herein relating to such bonds, including determining whether to issue such bonds with a schedule of substantially level or declining annual debt service and all matters related thereto, prescribing whether manual or facsimile signatures shall appear on said bonds, prescribing the method for the recording of ownership of said bonds, appointing the fiscal agent or agents for said bonds, providing for the printing and delivery of said bonds (and if said bonds are to be executed in the name of the Town by the facsimile signature of its Town Supervisor, providing for the manual countersignature of a fiscal agent or of a designated Official of the Town), the date, denominations, maturities and interest payment dates, place or places of payment, and also including the consolidation with other issues, shall be determined by the Town Supervisor. It is hereby determined that it is to the financial advantage of the Town not to impose and collect from registered owners of such bonds any charges for mailing, shipping and insuring bonds transferred or exchanged by the fiscal agent, and, accordingly, pursuant to paragraph c of Section 70.00 of the Local Finance Law, no such charges shall be so collected by the fiscal agent. Such bonds shall contain substantially the recital of validity clause provided for in Section 52.00 of the Local Finance Law and shall otherwise be in such form and contain such recitals in addition to those required by Section 52.00 of the Local Finance Law, as the Town Treasurer shall determine.

Section 12. Attorney Patrick J. Morrell, Esq. is hereby appointed bond counsel to the Town in relation to the issuance of the obligations authorized herein.

Section 13. The validity of such bonds and bond anticipation notes may be contested only if:

- (1) Such obligations are authorized for an object or purpose for which said Town is not authorized to expend money, or
- (2) The provisions of law which should be complied with at the date of publication of this resolution are not substantially complied with, and an action, suit or proceeding contesting such validity is commenced within twenty days after the date of publication, or
- (3) Such obligations are authorized in violation of the provisions of the Constitution.

TOWN OF COVERT, SENECA COUNTY
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Section 14. The Town Clerk shall cause the publishing and posting of a notice in substantially the form provided in Section 81.00 of the Local Finance Law together with a summary of this Bond Resolution (attached hereto as **FORM OF NOTICE**).

WHEREFORE, the foregoing Resolution was put to a vote of the members of the Town Board of the Town this December 8, 2025, the result of which vote was as follows:

| Trustee | Voting |
|-----------------------------------|---------------|
| Michael Reynolds, Town Supervisor | Aye |
| Deborah Nottke, Councilor | Aye |
| Bill Bishop, Councilor | Aye |
| Brayton Foster, Councilor | Aye |
| Todd Wyckoff, Councilor | Aye |

DATED: December 8, 2025

CERTIFICATE

I, the undersigned Town Clerk of the Town of Covert, Seneca County, State of New York, **HEREBY CERTIFY:**

That I have compared the annexed extract of the minutes of a special meeting of the Town Board of said Town including the resolution contained therein, held on December 8, 2025 with the original thereof on file in my office, and that the same is a true, complete and correct copy thereof and of the whole of said original minutes so far as the same relates to the subject matters therein referred to.

I FURTHER CERTIFY that all members of the Town Board had due notice of said meeting.

I FURTHER CERTIFY that, pursuant to Section 103 of the Public Officers Law (Open Meetings Law) proper notice was given relative to said meeting and said meeting was open to the general public.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the corporate seal of the Town of Covert, Seneca County, New York, this 8th day of December, 2025.

Leslie Adams-Compton, Town Clerk

[SEAL]

(FORM OF NOTICE See Resolution Section 14)

NOTICE OF BOND RESOLUTION

TOWN OF COVERT, SENECA COUNTY
REGULAR TOWN BOARD MEETING
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The resolution, a summary of which is published herewith, was adopted on December 8, 2025. The validity of the obligations authorized by such resolution may be hereafter contested only if such obligations were authorized for an object or purpose for which the Town of Covert, Seneca County, New York is not authorized to expend money or if the provisions of law which should have been complied with as of the date of publication of this notice were not substantially complied with, and an action, suit or proceeding contesting such validity is commenced within twenty days after the date of publication of this notice, or such obligations were authorized in violation of the provisions of the constitution.

SUMMARY OF BOND RESOLUTION

A Resolution adopted by the Town Board of the Town of Covert, Seneca County, New York (the "Town") on December 8, 2025 authorizes a project consisting of the replacement of the Frontenac Road Bridge Over Trumansburg Creek, including incidental improvements and expenses in connection therewith (the "Project") and authorizes the levy of a tax for the foregoing object or purpose in an amount not to exceed \$100,000.00 which shall be levied and collected in annual installments in such years and in such amounts as may be determined by the Town Board and that in anticipation of the collection of such tax, bonds and notes of the Town are authorized to be issued at one time, or from time to time, in the principal amount not to exceed \$100,000.00 and a tax is authorized to pay the interest on said obligations when due. There shall be annually apportioned and assessed upon the several lots and parcels of land within the Town, which the Town Board shall determine and specify to be especially benefited by the Project, an amount sufficient to pay the principal and interest on such obligations as the same become due, but if not paid from such source, all of the taxable real property in the Town shall be subject to the levy of ad valorem taxes without limitation as to rate or amounts sufficient to pay the principal of and interest on the Bonds as the same shall become due. Under the Local Finance Law, the Project has a period of probable usefulness of ten (10) years. A complete copy of the resolution summarized herewith is available for public inspection during normal business hours for twenty days from the date of publication of this notice.

Date: December 8, 2025

Motion:Nottke, Seconded by Foster. Vote: Aye - Foster, Aye – Wyckoff, Aye - Nottke and Aye - Bishop. Motion carried.

Resolution #11-2025
A RESOLUTION TO INCREASE TOWN OF COVERT
AMBULANCE RATES

Nottke moved, seconded by Bishop, to initiate an increase in Town of Covert Ambulance Service rates as proposed by Joel Fey, Chief of Trumansburg EMS:

| | |
|-----------------------------|---------|
| BLS Treat & Release (RMA) | \$250 |
| ALS Treat & Release (RMA) | \$1,200 |
| BLS Transport Non-Emergency | \$950 |
| BLS Transport Emergency | \$1,150 |
| ALS Transport Non-Emergency | \$1,050 |
| ALS Transport Emergency 1 | \$1,550 |

TOWN OF COVERT, SENECA COUNTY
REGULAR TOWN BOARD MEETING
December 8, 2025

| | |
|---------------------------|---------|
| ALS Transport Emergency 2 | \$1,750 |
| Mileage (per mile) | \$35 |
| MVA Surcharge N/A | \$450 |
| ALS Intercept | \$1,450 |

Aye-Foster, Aye-Bishop, Aye-Nottke, and Aye-Wyckoff.

Nottke moved, seconded by Bishop, to schedule a End-of-Year Town Board meeting for Monday, December 29th at 7 PM. Aye - Foster, Aye – Wyckoff, Aye - Nottke and Aye - Bishop.

Nottke moved, seconded by Foster, to refer the Variance Request for Andrea Pisacano and Harold Perry, 3075 Kellys Corners Road, to the Planning Board on December 18th at 7 PM. Aye – Foster, Aye – Nottke, Aye – Bishop, Aye – Wyckoff.

Nottke moved, seconded by Wyckoff, to schedule a Public Hearing for the Variance Request for Andrea Pisacano and Harold Perry, 3075 Kellys Corners Road, on January 12th at 7 PM. Aye – Foster, Aye – Nottke, Aye – Bishop, Aye – Wyckoff.

Wyckoff moved, seconded by Foster, to schedule a Public Hearing for Trumansburg and Interlaken Fire Contracts for Monday, December 29th at 7 PM. Aye - Foster, Aye – Wyckoff, Aye - Nottke and Aye - Bishop.

Nottke moved, seconded by Foster, to re-appoint John Swanson III to the Planning Board for 7 years, ending 12/31/2032. Aye - Foster, Aye – Wyckoff, Aye - Nottke and Aye - Bishop.

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

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

Nottke moved, seconded by Bishop, to approve Town Clerk report for the month of November 2025. Town Clerk received a total of \$2544.00; \$554.04 was remitted to the Supervisor. Aye - Bishop, Aye – Nottke, Aye - Wyckoff and Aye-Foster.

Nottke moved, seconded by Foster, that Highway Fund Vouchers #138 - 150 in the amount of \$87,496.20 and General Fund Vouchers #225 - 246 in the amount of \$110,765.53 be approved for payment. Aye-Bishop, Aye – Nottke, Aye - Wyckoff and Aye-Foster.

Nottke moved, seconded by Foster, to adjourn the meeting at 7:56 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Leslie Adams-Compton, Town Clerk

TOWN OF COVERT, SENECA COUNTY
YEAR END TOWN BOARD MEETING
December 29th, 2025

The Regular year end meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Covert was held Monday, December 29th, 2024 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 |
| | Deputy Supervisor Deborah Nottke | Absent |
| | Councilman Bill Bishop | Present |
| | Councilman Brayton Foster | Present |
| | Councilman Todd Wyckoff | Present |

Others Present: Town Clerk Leslie Adams-Compton, Highway Superintendent Jeff MacCheyne, Code Enforcement Officer Roger Ward, Barb Soyka, Ben Guthrie and other interested citizens.

Call to order: Supervisor Reynolds called the meeting to order at 7:01 P.M. All rose for the pledge of allegiance.

Recognition of Service: Reynolds took a moment to recognize Brayton Foster and Bill Bishop for their years of service on the Town Board and with the Town for many years, as they will be coming off the Town Board at the end of 2025.

Public Hearing: Wyckoff moved, seconded by Bishop, to open the Public Hearing to hear comments on the 2026 Interlaken Fire Contract. Reynolds said that the next year’s contract would contain the change to service areas around East and West Covert Roads. There was some discussion about the fire districts vs. County, Town, and Village lines. Trumansburg Fire Dept. services north to Covert Rd. Interlaken Fire Dept. services south to Covert Rd. Foster moved, seconded by Wyckoff, to end the Public Hearing.

Public Hearing: Foster moved, seconded by Bishop, to open the Public Hearing to hear comments on the 2026 Trumansburg Fire Contract. There was more discussion about the fire districts and that the Village (meaning Trumansburg) shall own primary district. Bishop moved, seconded by Foster, to end the Public Hearing.

There was some discussion about the April Moore Shelter agreement. It was agreed that there is not much of a choice as the Beverly Animal Shelter will be closing. Reynolds mentioned that April is working on the future shelter to be in Romulus. Foster asked if she was applying for a 501c3 non-profit.

Guthrie was concerned about the open-ended vet care part of the contract. NY Ag and Markets law dictates the responsibility of the Towns for dog welfare.

The annual audits of the Town books are scheduled for January 19th, 2026 beginning at 9:00 AM.

Resolutions:

April Moore Shelter Agreement

Foster moved, seconded by Bishop, to approve the following agreement with April Moore Shelter pending review of approval from the Town Attorney:

Shelter Agreement: Town of Covert, New York and April Moore Kennel, Interlaken, New York

**TOWN OF COVERT, SENECA COUNTY
YEAR END TOWN BOARD MEETING**

December 29th, 2025

THIS AGREEMENT, made and entered into this 29th day of December 2025, between the Town of Covert, (hereinafter referred to as the TOWN) and April Moore Kennels, a kennel duly established and existing under the laws of the State of New York, and having its principal office at 8271 Main Street, Interlaken, New York, 14847, (hereinafter referred to as AMK) establishes the following:

Whereas the Town has created the position of Dog Control Officer for the Town but does not desire to establish and maintain a shelter for the impounding of dogs as further required by the provisions of Article VII, Section 115 of the Agriculture and Market Law of the State of New York, and in lieu of providing said shelter, desires to contract with AMK to provide shelter and other services as more specifically set forth in the following paragraphs

Now, therefore, the parties listed above do hereto mutually agree as follows:

- 1.) This contract shall become effective December 10, 2025 for a term ending December 31, 2026 and thereafter it will be on the town's agenda for annual review.
- 2.) **AMK**, in accordance with the policies and procedures established by its Board of Directors and in consideration of the payment to it by the Town, hereby covenants and agrees that it will provide a shelter for seized dogs brought to them by the DCO of the TOWN pursuant to and provided by Section 118 of the Agriculture and Markets Law.

SERVICES AND FEES BOARDING

AMK agrees that it will, during the period of this agreement, provide a suitable shelter for animals seized for a violation within the TOWN and care for and feed such animals therein confined until proper disposition of the animal has been made according to law, by the AMK. The TOWN agrees that it shall pay \$25 per day, per animal, for a maximum of ten (10) days, beginning on the first day the animal is brought to the Shelter, if the animal is not reclaimed by his or her owner.

After ten (10) days, the rate decreases to \$12.50 on approval of the Town Supervisor.

If, after a ten (10) day quarantine period, the animal remains healthy and is deemed adoptable, active adoption procedures will begin, When the dog is adopted, all adoption fees will be collected and retained by AMK. After 20 days, if not adopted the Town will pay fees to transfer to another facility.

IMPOUNDMENT AND VETERINARY CARE (per Agriculture and Markets Law)

Any seized animal suffering from illness or injury must receive prompt treatment from a licensed veterinarian. Emergency treatment or humane euthanasia, as recommended in writing

by the referring veterinarian, to eliminate suffering is the responsibility of the seizing municipality.

LICENSING

**TOWN OF COVERT, SENECA COUNTY
YEAR END TOWN BOARD MEETING**

December 29th, 2025

No dogs shall be released from the shelter without providing proof of a current license from their town clerk.

EUTHANASIA

Should an animal be deemed not adoptable (within ten (10) days of entering **AMK**) because of sickness, displayed aggression or biting, the cost of euthanasia shall be covered by the TOWN at a fee of \$60.

REPORTING PROCEDUES

AMK shall provide the TOWN (in writing) with a monthly list of the following information:

- 1.) TOWN dogs received into the Facility
- 2.) TOWN dogs redeemed, adopted, remaining at AMK or euthanized
- 3.) Other reports reasonably requested by the TOWN

TERMINATION OF CONTRACT

This contract may be terminated by either party providing thirty (30) days advance notice in writing.

PAYMENT FOR SERVICES

All payments for AMK services will be provided within thirty (30) days of invoice receipt.

Resolution #12-2025 Highway Hourly Wages

WHEREAS the Town of Covert Highway Department appointed employees have all maintained acceptable work levels, now THEREFORE BE RESOLVED that the Town of Covert Town Board does hereby accept the recommendation of the Highway Superintendent that the following full-time employees will be given an increase in their hourly rate; part-time employees rates will be as stated.

| | 2025 | | 2026 | 2026 |
|----------------|-----------|-------------|--------------------|---------|
| Employee: | Reg./hour | 3% increase | Total Reg. | O.T. |
| Roger Ike | \$29.24 | | \$30.12 | \$45.18 |
| Glenn Boyes | \$24.60 | | \$25.34 | \$38.01 |
| Jeffrey Monroe | \$23.88 | | \$24.60 | \$36.90 |
| Ryan Smith | \$23.88 | | \$23.88 | \$35.82 |
| Michael Huff | \$23.18 | | \$23.88 | \$35.82 |
| <hr/> | | | | |
| Thomas Hayward | \$15.00 | | Minimum \$16.00 | |

Motion: Foster, Second: Bishop. Vote: Aye-Wyckoff, Aye-Bishop, Aye-Foster.

**TOWN OF COVERT, SENECA COUNTY
YEAR END TOWN BOARD MEETING
December 29th, 2025**

Resolution #13-2025 Yearend Transfers

WHEREAS good fiscal policy dictates that all expenditure accounts are at or above a zero balance at fiscal year-end, and

WHEREAS a number of accounts are currently in a negative state and others in the same department area have excess funds,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the bookkeeper is hereby authorized to make adjustments to bring overspent line items to underspent accounts for the fiscal year-end of 2025.

| Offset Debit | | Overspent Credit | | Offset Debit | | Overspent Credit | |
|-----------------|-------------|---------------------|-------------|-----------------|-------------|---------------------|-------------|
| A1110.2 | \$180.63 | A1010.4 | \$57.24 | DA5130.4 | \$16,838.24 | DA5120.4 | \$21,814.73 |
| A1320.4 | \$200.00 | A1110.4 | \$1,448.84 | DA5142.4 | \$7,046.22 | DA5140.4 | \$3,513.06 |
| A1320.41 | \$1,536.95 | A1220.4 | \$19.92 | DA5130.2 | \$1,443.33 | | |
| A1330.4 | \$15.50 | A1355.4 | \$5,867.92 | | | | |
| A1355.1 | \$3,800.00 | A1620.41 | \$1,615.87 | | \$25,327.79 | | \$25,327.79 |
| A1410.11 | \$746.64 | A1910.4 | \$1,687.61 | | | | |
| A1410.2 | \$601.70 | A5132.42 | \$10,341.30 | | | | |
| A1410.4 | \$2,473.35 | A7410.4 | \$1,000.00 | | | | |
| A1420.4 | \$650.00 | A9055.8 | \$162.28 | DB5110.4 | \$6,313.55 | DB5110.1 | \$3,402.69 |
| A1460.4 | \$50.00 | A9060.8 | \$132.47 | | | DB5148.4 | \$2,367.75 |
| A1620.42 | \$98.62 | | | | | DB9050.8 | \$171.06 |
| A1620.43 | \$1,611.12 | | | | | DB9055.8 | \$1.28 |
| A1620.44 | \$2,700.52 | | | | | DB9060.8 | \$370.77 |
| A1650.4 | \$740.13 | | | | | | |
| A1650.41 | \$931.36 | | | | | | |
| A3510.4 | \$293.49 | | | | \$6,313.55 | | \$6,313.55 |
| A5010.4 | \$659.68 | | | | | | |
| A5132.41 | \$1,906.52 | | | | | | |
| A5231.43 | \$731.94 | | | | | | |
| A6510.41 | \$450.00 | | | | | | |
| A7510.4 | \$1,060.00 | From Fund balance | | | | | |
| A8810.4 | \$20.00 | | | | | | |
| A9010.8 | \$875.30 | | | | | | |
| | \$22,333.45 | | \$22,333.45 | | | | |

Wyckoff moved, seconded by Foster, to approve the Code Enforcement Officer's Year-end Report. Aye-Wyckoff, Aye-Bishop, Aye-Foster.

Wyckoff moved, seconded by Foster, to approve the Dog Control Officer's Report for the month of November. Aye-Wyckoff, Aye-Bishop, Aye-Foster.

Wyckoff moved, seconded by Bishop, that Highway Fund Vouchers #152 - 155 in the amount of \$29,176.89 and General Fund Vouchers #248 - 254 in the amount of \$176,423.29 be approved for payment. Aye-Wyckoff, Aye-Bishop, Aye-Foster.

Wyckoff moved, seconded by Bishop, to adjourn the meeting at 7:31 PM.

Respectfully submitted,