

October 13, 2025

Minutes of the Regular Monthly Meeting of the Town of Otisco held on October 13, 2025 at 7:00 PM at the Otisco Town Hall, 1924 Barker Street, with the following members present:

PRESENT: Supervisor Glenn R. Hall
Councilman Tyler Knapp
Councilman Roger Volles
Councilman Doug LaFrance

OTHERS PRESENT: Thomas Chartrand, Financial Advisor; Douglas Hoffman, Highway Superintendent; Craig Billinson, Attorney for the Town; Cheryl Brunet, Town Clerk; Mandie Young, Deputy Town Clerk; and 13 others.

The minutes of September 8, 2025 Regular Monthly Town Board Meeting have been distributed via email to all members of the town board by the Town Clerk prior to the meeting.

Motion was made by Councilman Volles and seconded by Councilman LaFrance to accept the September 8, 2025 minutes.

All in favor, motion carried
(Hall, Knapp, LaFrance and Volles) Ayes 4 Noes 0

Sydney Rosensaft, Project Developer for UGE/OYA Dutch Hill Rd Solar, LLC gave a presentation to the Board and attendees on the Dutch Hill Rd solar project.

The Town intends to act as the lead agency under SEQRA to review potential environmental impacts.

The project will use approximately 25 acres of a 285.55-acre lot.

The anticipated life of the project is 20-25 years.

Jennifer Griffon, President of the Otisco Lake Preservation Association gave an overview of the purpose and scope of the association's mission. She addressed issues they are identifying with the goal of lake preservation. They are seeking future financial assistance as well as recognizing practical changes that could help positively affect the health of Otisco Lake.

Supervisor Hall inquired if the recent manure pits are making a difference in run-off. Ms. Griffen thinks they probably are helping and hopes that future testing will confirm.

Ms. Griffen provided answers to many more questions.

Accountant Chartrand and Attorney Billinson discussed stipulations for OLPA before the town can provide any potential financial support.

HIGHWAY SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

- Getting plow trucks ready for winter
- Finishing up mowing, brush cutting, loose ends
- New plow truck guestimate to be finished Fall 2026
- Filling the salt barn
- Will be changing the water supply company

Superintendent Hoffman asked about the truck replacement in 2025 vs 2026. It is under contract. It was noted that contract costs will increase in 2026. The truck will replace 2 trucks. Delivery is projected to take 90-120 days.

Motion was made by Councilman Volles and seconded by Councilman LaFrance to authorize the town clerk to submit a letter of intent to the Friendly Ford Dealer authorizing the purchase of a 2026 F550 Chassis Cab per quote number Otisco-82925A through OGS - Contract number PC69149. Truck to be upfitted with plow, sander, and flatbed at Boondocker. Equipment per quote #5305. Expected Cost is approximately \$130,000.

All in favor, motion carried
(Hall, Knapp, LaFrance and Volles) Ayes 4 Noes 0

SUPERVISOR'S REPORT:

Thomas Chartrand, Financial Advisor, gave an overview of the monthly spending and revenue for September 2025.

Motion was made by Councilman Knapp and seconded by Councilman Volles to accept the September Supervisors Report.

All in favor, motion carried
(Hall, Knapp, LaFrance and Volles) Ayes 4 Noes 0

Motion was made by Councilman Volles, seconded by Councilman Knapp to approve the bank reconciliation.

All in favor, motion carried
(Hall, Knapp, LaFrance and Volles) Ayes 4 Noes 0

Motion was made by Councilman Volles and seconded by Councilman Volles to pay the bills out of the proper funds. They are General Abstract # 10 in the amount of \$25,765.24 and Highway Abstract # 10 in the amount of \$36,590.69.

All in favor, motion carried
(Hall, Knapp, LaFrance and Volles) Ayes 4 Noes 0

Motion was made by Councilman Knapp and seconded by Councilman Volles to approve reimbursement for educational courses paid for by Mark Kosalek, Assessor (\$818) and Kate Fitzpatrick, Historian.- (\$300).

All in favor, motion carried
(Hall, Knapp, LaFrance and Volles) Ayes 4 Noes 0

Accountant Chartrand and Supervisor Hall received a preliminary fire budget report indicating they had a Tax Cap override and a tax rate increase greater than 2%. The official budget will be submitted to the Town Clerk when it is final.

BUSINESS DISCUSSION

Cell Tower - Verizon still working on finalizing the cell tower project. Hopefully it will be operational by the end of the month.

IT – All town pc’s and laptops are now converted to Windows 11.

All town e-mails are now using a .gov extension.

The Town of Otisco website is now identified as www.townofotisco.gov.

Triple Cities configured the change so that the .com extension for e-mails and website search are still functional.

Litigation – The court date has been postponed to November 6.

Upcoming Laws – Attorney Billinson is working on updating/extending our commercial moratorium law, and new laws regulating outdoor generators and property setbacks. All have been sent to the Onondaga Planning Board and upon receipt notified Attorney Billinson that their next meeting is November 5.

The November Town Board Meeting will be held on Thursday November 6, 2025 immediately following the 6:00pm Public Hearing on the Preliminary Budget for 2026.

Motion was made by Councilman Knapp and seconded by Councilman LaFrance to schedule additional Public Hearings as follows:

7:00 – The enactment of a Local Law Imposing a six-month Moratorium on Commercial and Industrial Construction within the Town Of Otisco.

7:10 – The enactment of a Local Law Establishing Minimum Setback Requirements for Permanent Structures in the Town of Otisco.

7:20 – The enactment of a Local Law Regulating the Siting, Installation, and Operation of Generators in the Town of Otisco

All in favor, motion carried
(Hall, Knapp, LaFrance and Volles) Ayes 4 Noes 0

Motion was made by Councilman Volles and seconded by Councilman Knapp appoint the Town Board to act as the lead agency for the UGE SEQRA review.

All in favor, motion carried
(Hall, Knapp, LaFrance and Volles) Ayes 4 Noes 0

Supervisor Hall opened a discussion considering raising the town income limits for the Senior Citizen Limited Income Tax Exemption to the County levels. Per the 2025 roll, the increase would benefit approximately 27 resident senior citizens. The Town Clerk/Assessor Clerk will provide additional information. Possible public hearing in December.

Other comments, suggestions, and questions were heard from the attendees.

Historian Fitzpatrick updated the Board on Patriot Markers for two of our rural cemeteries.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to Adjourn was made by Councilman Volles and seconded by Councilman Knapp at 8:36 PM.

All in favor, motion carried
(Hall, Knapp, LaFrance and Volles) Ayes 4 Noes 0

Respectfully submitted: _____
Cheryl Brunet, Town Clerk