

1-9-25 Hadley Town Board Meeting Minutes

Supporting documents for this meeting are available in the Town Clerk's Office

Members Present: Supervisor Arthur Wright, Highway Superintendent Andrew Gilbert, Attorney Raeann Johnson, Town Clerk Colleen DeMarsh, Town Board Members; Charles Ovitt, James Brewster & Tim Hilker.

Members Absent: Town Board Member Tina Ladd

6:15 p.m. Interviews for Animal Control Officer (Board Members & Supervisor Only)

6:59 p.m. **Supervisor Wright called the Public Hearing to order.**

- Public Hearing for Proposed Local Law 1 of 2025 - A Local Law 1 of 2025-A Local Law of the Town of Hadley Enacting a Property Tax Exemption for Volunteer Firefighters and Volunteer Ambulance Workers Pursuant to Section 466-a of the Real Property Tax Law.
- Doug Dutcher asked about being able to get both the income tax credit and property tax exemption because currently, you cannot get both. Supervisor Wright responded that there is a Budget Bill in process that would allow both, and he is hopeful it will pass at the state level.

7:04 p.m. **Supervisor Wright closed the Public Hearing.**

7:04 p.m. **Supervisor Wright called the meeting to order and all cited the Pledge of Allegiance.**

Approval of Pre-Paid:

General:	\$ 9,798.22	Highway:	\$ 10,067.53
Water 1:	\$ 690.05	Water 2:	\$ 757.66
Sewer:	\$ 208.94	Street Lighting:	\$ 2,685.52
Ambulance:	\$140,000.00	Refuse Truck:	\$152,032.00

Motion made by Charles Ovitt. Second by Tim Hilker. All Ayes. Approved.

Approval of Paying Bills:

General:	\$ 13,789.21	Highway:	\$ 20,637.00
Water 1:	\$ 427.66	Water 2:	\$ 615.96
Sewer:	\$ 1,017.42		

Motion made by Charles Ovitt. Second by Tim Hilker. All Ayes. Approved.

Provided in Folders - Minutes from 12-12-24 Town Board, 12-27-24 End of Year & 1-2-25 Organizational Meetings, Proposed Local Law 1 of 2025, Applications for Animal Control Officer, Letter from Adirondack Association of Town & Villages
Reports for December: Town Clerk & DEC, Building Inspector, Fuel, Supervisor, Operating

Public Comments

- Cecil Hayes asked for an update on NYSERDA
 - o Supervisor Wright responded that we have set aside **\$20,000** from the fund balance this year to have an Energy Audit done on the Town Hall. We will be doing upgrades based on their recommendations. He stated that he believes it will be enough to get points. He also stated that everything we have done so far (LED Streetlights) have qualified for points.
- Cecil also asked about the recent letter sent out to the Sewer residents regarding oil and grease.
 - o Supervisor Wright responded that the problem is coming from household grease and oil. DEC is working with us as we are currently investigating where it is coming from. We are opening manholes as well as sending cameras down to try and pinpoint the problem. DEC will be coming in 2 months to re-assess the situation.

**Acceptance of 12-12-24, 12-27-24, & 1-2-25 Organizational Town Board Meeting Minutes
Motion made by Charles Ovitt. Second by Tim Hilker. All Ayes. Approved.**

**Acceptance of December 2024 Supervisor's Report
Motion made by Charles Ovitt. Second by Tim Hilker. All Ayes. Approved.**

Highway Superintendent's Report

- Highway Superintendent Gilbert reported that the motor on the Garbage Truck blew. They will have to temporarily change the garbage pick-up days. They will be using pick-up trucks on Monday and borrowing Day's Garbage Truck on Tuesdays.
- **Councilman Hilker requested for a motion to waive the fee for bringing garbage bags to the recycling center until February 1st, 2025.**
Motion made by Tim Hilker. Second by James Brewster. All Ayes. Approved.
- Town Clerk DeMarsh stated that she would post the changes to garbage pick-up and fees on the town Facebook page and Website to get the word out.
- **Highway Superintendent Gilbert also requested permission to purchase a motor for the garbage truck using an emergency exception from competitive bidding.**

RESOLUTION #20

Be it resolved that the town board of Hadley hereby gives Highway Superintending Andy Gilbert permission to purchase a motor for the Garbage Truck that is currently broke down using an Emergency Exception from Competitive Bidding due to an Emergency Situation.

- **Motion made by Charles Ovitt. Second by Tim Hilker. All Ayes. Approved.**
- He also stated that he has found 2 motors – 1. With high mileage for **\$6,500.00** and 2. With low mileage for **\$7,500.00** but he has to check to see if they will fit. He also stated that he has contacted Kenworth and requested that they try to push the delivery date for the new garbage truck up.
- Councilman Ovitt asked if they were warrantied. Superintendent Gilbert said yes for 1 year.
- Superintendent Gilbert also discussed the delivery for the Western Star Plow Truck that we were supposed to have by Christmas. There has been a recall on the wiring harness so delivery won't probably be until next week.
- Superintendent Gilbert also requested permission to purchase a new Kenworth T480 Single Axle Plow Truck for the price of **\$261,329.00**.

RESOLUTION #21

Be it resolved that the town board of Hadley hereby gives Highway Superintendent Andy Gilbert permission to purchase a Kenworth T480 Single Axle Plow Truck for the price of \$261,329.00.

Motion made by Charles Ovitt. Second by James Brewster. All Ayes. Approved.

- Superintendent Andy Gilbert also stated he is researching purchasing a regular pick-up truck through OGS and will report back to the board at the February meeting.

Supervisor's Report:

- Supervisor Wright requested a vote on Local Law 1 of 2025.

RESOLUTION #22

Be it resolved that the town board of Hadley hereby adopts Local Law 1 of 2025 - A Local Law of the Town of Hadley Enacting a Property Tax Exemption for Volunteer Firefighters and Volunteer Ambulance Workers Pursuant to Section 466-a of the Real Property Tax Law.

Motion made by Tim Hilker. Second by James Brewster. All Ayes. Approved.

- Supervisor Wright also requested approval of the Audit of the Town Clerk, Tax Collector and Bookkeeper's 2024 books.

RESOLUTION #23

Be it resolved that the town board of Hadley hereby approves the Audit of the following books; Town Clerk, Tax Collector and Bookkeeper for the year 2024.

- Supervisor Wright recused himself from the vote as his wife is the Tax Collector.

Motion made by Tim Hilker. Second by Charles Ovitt. Ayes from Tim Hilker, James Brewster, Charles Ovitt. Supervisor Wright recused himself. Approved.

- Supervisor Wright stated that the board conducted interviews with 3 people for Animal Control Officer. They were given paperwork to outline the responsibilities of the position and read before they determined if they are still interested.
- Supervisor Wright also discussed the Health Insurance for our retirees. CDPHP and Albany Med are still in negotiations and have been given a 30 day extension. Our Broker thinks an agreement will be made. And recommended that we discuss again at the February meeting before making a decision.
- Supervisor Wright requested a resolution to close out the HO-23 Capital ARPA Fund. We have a balance of .08 to be moved to General Fund.

RESOLUTION #24

Be it resolved that the town board of Hadley hereby approves closing out HO-23 ARPA CAPITAL FUND and transfer .08 balance to General Fund.

Motion made by Charles Ovitt. Second by James Brewster. All Ayes. Approved.

- Supervisor Wright requested leaving the Capital Sewer Fund open. It has a **.06** balance but with the Sewer District problems, he would like to leave open if we need to allocate money.

Town Clerk's Report:

- Town Clerk DeMarsh reported that Burn Permits are available at the Town Clerk's Office. Permits are valid from January 1st 2025 to March 15th, 2025 and from May 15th, 2025 to December 31st, 2025. **There is a ban on burning from March 16th, 2025 to May 14th, 2025 due to the high fire danger that occurs in the spring.** Her office hours are Monday thru Thursday 8-3 and Friday 8-Noon.
- She also reported that the Hadley Seniors are always looking for new members. It is **\$7.00 a year** for 55 and older. They have Pot Luck dinners and games every Thursday (weather permitting) and meetings every 3rd Thursday after the Pot Luck. Hadley is also a member of the Tri-Town Seniors so they are eligible to go on their bus trips as well. Applications available at the Town Clerk's Office.

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Other items:

Councilman Tim Hilker requested that any items to be voted on be added to the Agenda.

7:35 Supervisor Wright entertained a motion to adjourn.

Motion made by James Brewster. Second by Tim Hilker. All Ayes. Approved.

Upcoming meeting:

February 13th, 2025

Public Hearing 6:45 Proposed PHA Plan for 2025 for the Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher Program.

Meeting 7:00 p.m.