

11-6-25 Town Board Public Hearing & Meeting Minutes – Revised 11-12-25

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

Members Present: Supervisor Arthur Wright, Attorney Raeann Johnson, Town Clerk Colleen DeMarsh, Board Members; James Brewster, Tina Ladd & Charles Ovitt.

Members absent: Highway Superintendent Andrew Gilbert and Town Board Member Tim Hilker.

6:45 p.m. Supervisor Wright opened the Public Hearing on Proposed 2026 Budget for the town of Hadley.

- Sue Wilder asked about the increase in the Youth Budget.
 - o Supervisor Wright explained that Lake Luzerne was increasing the amount they provide.

6:47 p.m. Supervisor Wright closed the Public Hearing on Proposed 2026 Budget for the town of Hadley.

7:00 p.m. Supervisor Wright called the meeting to order and all cited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of Pre-Paid:

General:	\$ 13,625.89	Highway:	\$ 10,919.33
Water 1:	\$ 2,089.49	Water 2:	\$ 1,775.97
Sewer:	\$ 351.65	Street Lighting:	\$ 2,602.67

Motion made by Charles Ovitt. Second by Tina Ladd. All Ayes. Approved.

Approval of Paying Bills:

General:	\$ 19,392.60	Highway:	\$ 14,952.34
Water 1:	\$ 1,530.93	Water 2:	\$ 2,079.28
Sewer:	\$ 1,610.71	Park:	\$ 575.00
HO-25:	\$ 9,978.99	Cemetery:	\$ 439.90

Motion made by Charles Ovitt. Second by Tina Ladd. All Ayes. Approved.

Budget Transfers:

GENERAL:

Transfer **\$75.87** from CODE 1620.4 (BUILDINGS) to CODE 1670.4 (CENTRAL PRINT)

Transfer **\$300.00** from CODE 6772.2 (AGING) to CODE 67721.1 AGING P/S)

Meal Delivery Salary

Transfer **\$657.00** from 1420.4 (ATTORNEY) to CODE 8020.4 (PLANNING)

Will cover remainder of year expenses

Transfer **\$4,286.96** from CODE 1430.1 (PERSONNEL P/S) to CODE 8160.1 (REFUSE P/S)

Motion made by Charles Ovitt. Second by Tina Ladd. All Ayes. Approved.

WATER 1

Transfer **\$2094.36** from CODE 8330.4 (PURIFICATION) to CODE 8320.4 (SOURCE)

Motion made by Charles Ovitt. Second by Tina Ladd. All Ayes. Approved.

Provided in Folders: Minutes from 10-9-25 Town Board Meeting &
Proposed 2026 Budget
Reports for October: Town Clerk including DEC, Code
Enforcement, Supervisor, Operating

Public Comments

Sue Wilder passed out Save the Dates for the 250th Anniversary of Henry Knox's Noble Train of Artillery to be held on December 13th, 2025 and encouraged all to attend.

She also announced that the Hadley Lake Luzerne Historical Society has a new Facebook page.

The Hadley Lake Luzerne Historical Society

She also asked if the Holiday Banners could be hung up around town

Freemont Young reported that the Washington County Draft Animals will be hauling cannons and making a documentary for the 250th Anniversary of our country.

Acceptance of 10-9-25 Town Board Meeting Minutes

Motion made by Charles Ovitt. Second by Tina Ladd. All Ayes. Approved.

Acceptance of October 2025 Supervisor's Report

Motion made by Charles Ovitt. Second by Tina Ladd. All Ayes. Approved.

Highway Superintendent's Report:

Supervisor Wright reported for Highway Superintendent Andrew Gilbert about a new program through CHIPS (Consolidated Highway Improvement Program). The town could obtain up to \$20,000.

- Highway Superintendent is asking permission to use this funding to purchase a Tow Behind Blower for Ditches. It has already been approved thru DOT for reimbursement thru CHIPS. State pricing is **\$15,000**. Unit is remote start and direction from truck. It will save a lot of time and money on dirt roads.
 - o Cyclone Mega3 Debris Blower Model #BT-MEGA3

RESOLUTION #41

Be it resolved that the town board of Hadley hereby approves Highway Superintendent Andrew Gilbert to purchase a Cyclone Mega3 Debris Blower Model #BT-MEGA3 through the new CHIPS (Consolidated Highway Improvement Program) for a price of \$15,000. The Town of Hadley will be reimbursed for the purchase either in Quarter 4 of 2025 or Quarter 1 of 2026.

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

He also reported that Highway Superintendent Gilbert would like to purchase a 1.5 Fisher Poly Sander with stainless steel chute from Woodward Equipment in Fort Ann for the price of **\$6,865.00**. He does have the right to purchase without approval due to his procurement policy, but would like the board's approval nonetheless.

Motion made by Charles Ovitt. Second by Tina Ladd. All Ayes. Approved.

He also reported for Superintendent Gilbert of what the crews are working on

- Still Grading Dirt Roads
- Working on Sand Pile
- Getting Plows Ready

Supervisor's Report:

Supervisor Wright reported that the Saratoga County Office of the Aging would assist in the purchase of a new vehicle for the town of Hadley's Meal Delivery and Senior Transportation to Medical Appointments. He is asking for board approval.

The vehicle is a 2026 Ford Explorer;

\$ 43,500.00 provided from Saratoga County Office of the Aging

\$ 10,875.00 provided from the town of Hadley

\$ 4,000.00 received for trade in of the old Traverse

\$ 6,875.00 TOTAL COST TO THE TOWN OF HADLEY

RESOLUTION #42

Be it resolved that the town board of Hadley hereby approves Supervisor Wright, with the assistance of Saratoga County Office of the Aging to purchase a 2026 Ford Explorer for Meal Delivery and Senior Transportation to Medical Appointments. The financial breakdown is as follows;

\$ 43,500.00 provided from Saratoga County Office of the Aging

\$ 10,875.00 provided from the town of Hadley

\$ 4,000.00 received for trade in of the old Traverse

\$ 6,875.00 TOTAL COST TO THE TOWN OF HADLEY

Motion made by Charles Ovitt. Second by Tina Ladd. All Ayes. Approved.

He also reported on the ongoing Sewer issue. Our new Water/Sewer Plant Operator Clay Laubach is asking permission to hire Blue Diamond for a price of **\$3600.00** to completely pump down the Imhoff tank across from the town hall on Elm Street. He states that there is 3 feet + of sludge and chunks of grease at the bottom and possible that is part of the Sewer grease problem. Supervisor Wright stated that we would need to transfer from Sewer Fund Balance to Sewer Operating in order to fund the project and is asking for board approval.

RESOLUTION #43

Be it resolved that the town board of Hadley hereby approves hiring Blue Diamond at the price of \$3600.00 to completely pump down the Imhoff Tank across the street from the town hall on Elm Street.

Be it resolved that the town board of Hadley hereby also approves the Supervisor to transfer funds from the Sewer Fund Balance to the Sewer Operating to pay for this project.

Motion made by Tina Ladd. Second by James Brewster. All Ayes. Approved.

He also reported on the town of Hadley Retirees insurance plans.

If the town renewed with the current plan, it would increase **\$75** per month for a total of **\$526.00** per month.

We can go with Highmark BC/BS with pretty much the same coverage, excluding prescriptions. Use Humana for the Prescription Plan for a total of **\$375.00** per month.

It would mean that the retirees would have 1 insurance card for medical and 1 for prescriptions. He stated that he would have the insurance representative come in to explain to the retirees to avoid confusion.

RESOLUTION #44

Be it resolved that the town board of Hadley hereby approves the Supervisor to provide the retirees with Highmark Insurance Plan for Medical and Humana Insurance Plan for Prescriptions.

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

He also reported that the agreement with Erie Boulevard (Assessment on Dam) expired in 2023 and Erie Boulevard has decided to take the town of Hadley to court over assessment. He asked for permission to sign a retainer with Hacker Murphy Law Firm at a price of **\$345.00** per hour to represent us. Total cost to be determined.

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

He also requested permission to sign a contract to hire consultant Brian Fogg LLC at a price of **\$12,000.00** to provide professional assessment services regarding the value of the dam.

RESOLUTION #45

Be it resolved that the town of Hadley hereby approves the Supervisor signing a contract with Brian Fogg LLC at the price of \$12,000.00 to provide professional assessment services regarding the value of the dam.

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

Supervisor Wright also requested a motion to adopt the Proposed 2026 Budget.

RESOLUTION #46

Be it resolved that the town board of Hadley hereby adopts the Proposed 2026 Budget for the town of Hadley.

Motion made by James Brewster. Second by Tina Ladd. All Ayes. Approved.

He also reported that he met with Tim Rodrigue about redoing the sign at Fowler Lot (I took the road less traveled by). Tim Rodrigue will submit a proposal at the December meeting for approval. Supervisor Wright stated that there is an Economic Development Grant available that could possibly pay for the new sign.

Town Clerk Report:

Town Clerk Colleen DeMarsh requested the town board to approve the Certificate of Designation Association of Towns to designate Arthur Wright as delegate to attend the Annual Business Session of the Association of Towns of the State of New York to be held in February 17th, 2026 and to cast the vote of aforesaid town. In his absence, the alternate delegate would be Pamela Wright.

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

She also requested that any items for the Fall 2025 Newsletter be submitted ASAP. The Newsletter will be going out within the next 2 weeks.

She also reported that the William J. Varney American Legion Post #862 in Lake Luzerne will be hosting a Veteran's Day Dinner on November 11th, 2025. Veterans eat for free.

She also reported that there are many local places offering food and clothing for those in need. She is attempting to share them all of them on the Town of Hadley Facebook page.

She also read a letter from Sue Wilder/Hadley Business Association;

A Message from Sue Wilder from the Hadley Business Association

At this time of year our thoughts turn to those who give without recognition of their good deeds for others and to the volunteers and business owners who give to the community in meaningful ways. For over 25 years the Hadley Business Association has brought to the community activities that benefit us all. From the popular Maple in April Festival, holiday decorations, the Tree Lighting Event with non-profits decorating trees with a theme, to securing advertising, printing, and distributing Business Directories to places where visitors gather.

The H.B.A. donated funds of \$2,000 each to the Double H Camp, the Charles Wood Cancer Center and to Operation Adopt-a-Soldier. Through the years over \$12,000 worth of scholarships has been awarded to graduates from Hadley-Luzerne. The H.B.A. continues to give back to its community with upgrades to kiosks, information bill boards, pole banners, flags and lights on the historic bow bridge, welcomed new businesses, hosted many Community Mixers to connect town leadership and businesses and the list goes on.

I'm most thankful for the many, many volunteers who have worked tirelessly to the success of the Hadley Business Association. The president, Sue Wilder is stepping down this year. She is most hopeful the volunteers will still support the workings of the HBA to give back to its community. Please plan to join the Hadley Business Association at their Winter Mixer TBD as plans will be made to continue or to dissolve the Hadley Business Association for lack of direction and workers.

Thank you Sue for all of the years of volunteerism with the Hadley Business Association.

She also reported that Doug Dutcher submitted his resignation from the town of Hadley Planning Board – effective 12/31/25 and asked permission to advertise for the rest of his term (expires 12/31/28).

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

UPCOMING MEETING

Thursday, December 11th, 2025 at 7:00 p.m.

7:35 p.m. Supervisor Wright entertained a motion to adjourn.

Motion made by James Brewster. Second by Tina Ladd. All Ayes. Approved.