

A regular Town Board Meeting was held on January 2, 2025 at Lysander Town Hall, 8220 Loop Road, Baldwinsville, New York.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Kevin Rode, Supervisor
Peter Moore, Councilor
Jeffrey Kudarauskas, Councilor
Robert Geraci, Councilor

MEMBERS ABSENT: None

Supervisor Rode called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM with a pledge to the Flag.

OTHERS PRESENT: Town Clerk, Dina Falcone, David Herkala, Town Attorney, Ken Svitak, Highway Superintendent, Al Yager, Town Engineer, and several guests and residents.

ADOPTION OF THE DECEMBER 19, 2024 MEETING MINUTES

RES#1/2025

Motion made by Councilor Geraci seconded by Councilor Kudarauskas to adopt the December 19, 2024 Town Board meeting minutes.

Supervisor Rode	Aye	Councilor Kudarauskas	Aye	Councilor Geraci	Aye
Councilor Moore	Aye				

Supervisor Rode mentioned that Gene Dinsmore has a health issue and will not be at the meeting to be sworn in this evening. He has 30 days to be sworn in to take his Oath of Office for the Town Board seat. He has until the end of January to sign the Oath.

MOTION TO OPEN THE PUBLIC HEARING REGARDING EXTRAORDINARY CIRCUMSTANCES VIDEOCONFERENCING LOCAL LAW

RES#2/2025

Motion made by Councilor Geraci seconded by Councilor Kudarauskas to open the public hearing to consider a local law under Chapter 58 regarding Extraordinary Circumstances Videoconferencing at 6:36 PM.

Supervisor Rode	Aye	Councilor Kudarauskas	Aye	Councilor Geraci	Aye
Councilor Moore	Aye				

Fred Burtch: *Would anybody on the board like to elaborate a little bit more on this topic? I have some questions, or anything like, you know...*

Supervisor Rode: *All it is, that during COVID, the state did approve video conferencing, you know, a virtual meeting. Last year the state ended that. So, if you're a municipality and you still want to have video conferencing, and they added extraordinary circumstances, you have to pass a local law. And the local law would only be in effect, I believe, right now, for that per that statute, would be until July 26 of this year. Dina, I'm sorry, is it 2026 or is it 2025 that that would extend to?*

Ms. Falcone: *There's a draft of the local law in front of you.*

Supervisor Rode: *Yeah, so it's a temporary thing, but what in essence? So here's the rules on it: This is a five member board. Three members would still have to be in public. So right now, we're with four, with hopefully Gene coming out as the fifth. We've avoided some issues, but you saw last year there was a couple times where there's three given our meeting schedule of the first and third Thursday, we are going to run up against a lot of vacations. This is the idea of - if someone can attend virtually that might not be there to make the fourth member and still run.*

Fred Burtch: *Okay, so yeah, I'm glad you explained that. I guess that changed my - so my question would be, does this only pertain to board members, or would this include also with department heads, or things of that nature as well? Could, is it for them to participate, or is this just a measure to cover? You know, somebody might be gone on vacation.*

Supervisor Rode: *This is really for voting members, but anybody. A second monitor, two monitors here, speakers up here, and hopefully we get to the next point of streaming. So, you know, these are the camera systems that we've already installed, and we can get to that process. So, you know, we're trying to work this out. But this also covers the Planning Board and the Zoning Board, so those boards could also meet.*

Fred Burtch: *Okay, that's fine. I'm going to, - you know, that makes sense. And I was just, you know, concerned. You know who would cover. You know whether this is just something covered board members or what if I wanted – we wanted, the Town Attorney or the Highway Superintendent, any of them, if anybody wanted, to virtually attend all they could, because we've done that in the last few meetings. I'm not sure who they were. I think they were builders or developers called their attorneys or whatever, but I've seen that. Yeah, we've done that. Do we have confidence that this is something that's not going to cut in and out for the individual?*

Supervisor Rode: *I would hope so. Okay, but it'll depend on their connection as well. So is that something you guys would like maybe want to try earlier in the day, make sure that connection works, and then when you come in at meeting time... okay, thank you, appreciate it.*

**MOTION TO CLOSE THE PUBLIC HEARING REGARDING EXTRAORDINARY
CIRCUMSTANCES VIDEOCONFERENCING LOCAL LAW**

RES#3/2025

Hearing all comments, motion made by Councilor Moore seconded by Councilor Kudarauskas to close the public hearing at 6:41 PM.

Supervisor Rode	Aye	Councilor Kudarauskas	Aye	Councilor Geraci	Aye
Councilor Moore	Aye				

Citizens Comments

Fred Burtch of Plainville Road asked about the dog control contracts. It was explained that other towns do not have dog control and use the SPCA. There is not 24/7 coverage, but daily coverage, and they have been responsive to past residents' complaints. **Supervisor Rode** advised that there is a new director at the SPCA, and he will be meeting with him to discuss services. Discussion ensued regarding coverage and the cruelty contract.

Town Board Comments

The **Councilors** chose to move to the agenda.

Supervisor's Comments

Supervisor Rode thanked the Highway crew for keeping the roads clean and plowed during the bad weather. He also stated that there are contract negotiations pending, and that is why the Town Board met for Executive Session at 5:30 PM. **Supervisor Rode** expressed his condolences to the victims of the attacks in New Orleans, Las Vegas, and New York City. He also stated that this is his second year as Town Supervisor, and he has made some changes and has learned how certain things work. He said the public voted him in, and he hopes he is living up to their expectations.

Supervisor Rode mentioned that the Tax Receiver's hours for collection are 9:00 AM to 3:30 PM Monday through Friday. He advised that there have been issues with the mail and asked that if people are mailing their taxes from out of state to send their checks certified if possible. Otherwise, late fees cannot be waived. He also noted that there were some issues with sewer charges and advised taxpayers to check their bills. He noted that WEP oversees those charges, and to call the Assessor's Office regarding exemptions. **Supervisor Rode** stated that the Comptroller has completed the 2023 audit of the court offices. He will have 2024 completed in the next few weeks.

Department Head Reports

Ken Svitak, Highway Superintendent advised residents to keep their garbage receptacles out of the road so that the plows will not hit them. He also advised residents who are plowing to not push snow across the road.

Agenda Items

MOTION TO ADOPT A LOCAL LAW PERMITTING THE TOL TOWN BOARD AND PLANNING AND ZONING BOARDS TO AUTHORIZE ITS MEMBERS TO ATTEND MEETINGS VIA VIDEOCONFERENCING UNDER EXTRAORDINARY CIRCUMSTANCES

RES#4/2025

Motion made by Councilor Moore seconded by Councilor Geraci to adopt a local law wherein Chapter 56 adds Section 103(a) of the Open Meetings Law, permitting the Town of Lysander Town Board, Lysander Planning and Zoning Boards to authorize its members to attend meetings by videoconferencing under extraordinary circumstances.

Supervisor Rode	Aye	Councilor Kudarauskas	Aye	Councilor Geraci	Aye
Councilor Moore	Aye				

MOTION TO ADOPT THE 2025 ORGANIZATIONAL AGENDA

RES#5/2025

Motion made by Councilor Geraci seconded by Councilor Kudarauskas to adopt the 2025 Organizational Agenda except for the committee appointments.

Supervisor Rode	Aye	Councilor Kudarauskas	Aye	Councilor Geraci	Aye
Councilor Moore	Aye				

Supervisor Rode has not finalized the committee appointments but will be doing so in the near future.

MOTION TO ALLOW THE OFFICIAL BLANKET UNDERTAKING OF 2025

RES#6/2025

Motion made by Councilor Kudarauskas and seconded by Councilor Moore to allow the official blanket undertaking to be procured instead of individual undertakings covering the Town Supervisor, Deputy Supervisor, Town Clerk, Receiver of Taxes, Town Justices, Town Superintendent of Highways, Comptroller, Budget Officer, Town Zoning and Code Enforcement Officer, and that such undertaking contain provisions indemnifying against losses for 2025.

Supervisor Rode	Aye	Councilor Kudarauskas	Aye	Councilor Geraci	Aye
Councilor Moore	Aye				

MOTION TO AUTHORIZE THE TOWN SUPERVISOR TO SIGN THE SPCA DOG CONTROL AND CRUELTY CONTRACTS FOR 2025

RES#7/2025

Motion made by Councilor Geraci and seconded by Councilor Kudarauskas to authorize the Town Supervisor to sign the SPCA Dog Control and Animal Control Agreements for 2025.

Supervisor Rode	Aye	Councilor Kudarauskas	Aye	Councilor Geraci	Aye
Councilor Moore	Aye				

There was an 8% increase which occurs on a yearly basis.

MOTION TO AUTHORIZE THE TOWN SUPERVISOR TO SIGN THE 2025 MUNICIPAL CONSULTING AGREEMENT WITH CHA

RES#8/2025

Motion made by Councilor Moore seconded by Councilor Geraci to authorize the Town Supervisor to sign the 2025 Municipal Consulting Agreement with CHA Consulting for consulting services from January 1, 2025, through December 31, 2025.

Supervisor Rode	Aye	Councilor Kudarauskas	Aye	Councilor Geraci	Aye
Councilor Moore	Aye				

The town does not need to bid on these professional services.

MOTION TO ACCEPT THE HOURLY RATES AND SALARIES
AS APPROVED IN THE 2025 TOWN OF LYSANDER ADOPTED BUDGET

RES#9/2025

Motion made by Councilor Kudarauskas seconded by Councilor Geraci to accept all hourly rates and salaries as approved in the 2025 Town of Lysander Adopted Budget.

Supervisor Rode	Aye	Councilor Kudarauskas	Aye	Councilor Geraci	Aye
Councilor Moore	Aye				

The list of salaries and rates is available in the Comptroller's office. According to Association of Towns, rates do not need to be listed in Town Board organizational agendas.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion made by Councilor Moore seconded by Councilor Kudarauskas to adjourn the Town Board meeting at 7:01 PM.

Supervisor Rode	Aye	Councilor Kudarauskas	Aye	Councilor Geraci	Aye
Councilor Moore	Aye				

This is a true and complete recording
of the action taken at this meeting.

Dina Falcone, Town Clerk