

Minutes of the Smithville Town Board  
November 17, 2025

**OPENING** of Town Board meeting  
ROLL CALL/PLEDGE/LATE ADDITIONS:

Supervisor John Cammarata	ALSO:	Alison Owens, Town Clerk
Board members:		Vince Witkowski, Hwy Superintendent
Shane Butler		Bob Whitmore, Hwy Supt Elect
Russell Wark, absent		Bruce Kinney, Code Enforcement
Fred Heisler		Karen Cammarata, TB elect
Dakota Warren		Chris LaCotta, TB elect
		Kenny Gardner, Resident
		Sheila Stanbro, resident

**CORRESPONDENCE** 6:45PM  
C1A &C1B) A report of Community Center and Playground fire inspections was reviewed. This year there were no items needing attention

**NEW BUSINESS** 6:55PM  
NB1) Appoint Rachel Miller as Justice for the Town of Smithville, term to end 12/31/2026. This action is needed as the former Justice Jordon Lilley resigned effective Nov.1, 2025. Ms. Miller is a resident of the Town of Smithville.

**RESOLUTION #60 (2025): APPOINT RACHEL MILLER AS JUSTICE, TERM TO EXPIRE 12/31/2026**

On a motion by Board member Heisler 2nd by Board member Butler , the following Resolution was ADOPTED.

AYES:	Butler, Cammarata, Heisler, Warren
NAYES:	0
ABSENT:	Wark

RESOLVED to appoint Rachel Miller as Town Justice effective immediately; term to expire 12/31/2025.

NB2) Mr. Button was not available for the meeting. Mr. Cammarata spoke of a recent dog situation in the Town and expressed the need for a contract with the SPCA for next year.

NB3) accounting of vacant positions for 2026. The positions expiring at the end of the year are: Planning Board chair and a Board of Assessment Review (expired 9/30/2025). The DCO position may also be available.

NB4) Declare Asus laptop excess equipment (old Town Clerk computer)

**RESOLUTION #61 (2025): DECLARE OLD TOWN CLERK ASUS LAPTOP EXCESS EQUIPMENT**

On a motion by Board member Butler 2nd by Board member Heisler , the following Resolution was ADOPTED.

AYES:	Butler, Cammarata, Heisler, Warren
NAYES:	0

ABSENT: Wark

RESOLVED to declare the Town Clerk's old Asus laptop as Excess Equipment.

NB5) Burials in the Town of Smithville on private property: Mr. Cammarata and Mrs. Owens shared an example of a recent request to have someone buried on their property. There are NYS guidelines which regulate those kinds of burials, though there are no Town of Smithville regulations. In the end, the residents chose to bury their deceased relative in the Smithville Flats Cemetery. Town Clerk Owens suggested a statement regarding private burials be added to the Site Plan Review. Board members agreed this should be given to the Planning Board.

NB6) Tax Collection is paid annually from the Budget, divided equally for 12 months. Since the taxes collected and bookkeeping required amount is six months of work, Mr. Cammarata suggested the salary for the Tax Collector would be more representative of payment over six months than 12. Board members were in agreement.

**RESOLUTION #62 (2025): PAY TAX COLLECTOR SALARY OVER 6 MONTH TIME FRAME AND NOT THE FULL 12 MONTH**

On a motion by Board member Warren 2nd by Board member Butler , the following Resolution was ADOPTED.

AYES: Butler, Cammarata, Heisler, Warren

NAYES: 0

ABSENT: Wark

RESOLVED to pay the Tax Collector over a 6 month period as opposed to the 12 months it has always been.

**OLD BUSINESS (UPDATES IF ANY)**

7:05PM

OB1) continued discussion on Wilcox cemetery

Mr. Butler and Mr. Heisler said they both looked to find the "Wilcox Cemetery" sign but couldn't find it. With the cemetery being in poor shape and the 250th anniversary of Revolutionary War being honored this year, Mr. Butler suggested a Cemetery clean-up day in the spring on May 16th. He has spoken with people who repair cemetery stones and hopefully there will be people available to help with mowing and weed-whacking. The Revolutionary War soldier buried there will be honored in 2026 with a special ceremony, tribute and marker. The Historical Society is setting up a special account for donations for this project.

**REPORTS**

7:05PM

R1.) Highway: report submitted

- Round Pond Rd and Tarbell have been paved
- The 550 is fixed up and running
- Beavers on Ludlow were cleaned out
- Both Mac's have been cleaned and updated
- Old tires not wanted by McKee's; a logger will take them for \$1000. They have been considered surplus for over a year but Board members felt another Resolution declaring them surplus should be done.

**RESOLUTION #63 (2025): DECLARE OLD HWY TIRES SURPLUS EQUIPMENT**

On a motion by Board member Butler 2nd by Board member Warren , the following Resolution was ADOPTED.

AYES: Butler, Cammarata, Heisler, Warren

NAYES: 0

ABSENT: Wark

RESOLVED to declare the old Highway tires surplus equipment so they can be sold.

- The new truck is expected by the end of November or beginning of December
- Discussion of helping the Town of German with plowing as they have no Hwy employees
- Sheila Stanbro was available to discuss the condition of S. Tyner Rd.; Mr. Cammarata reports that millings to stabilize the road have come from various places to use on S. Tyner. The road has been coated, the ditches have been cleaned, potholes have been filled, culverts replaced; gravel and millings have been used to make a base, and it is nearly ready for oil and chip

Ms. Stanbro asked why the road couldn't be paved?

Mr. Cammarata explained that the Hwy Sup't runs the Highway Dept and decides what projects are worked on, gets paved and what doesn't.

R2) Assessor: report submitted. New Senior's Exemption program is run through NYS

R3.) Enforcement Officer: no report submitted

R4.) Planning Board: no minutes submitted.

R5.) DCO: no report submitted;

R6.) vacant

R7.) Justice: no report submitted

R8.) Custodian/Groundskeeper: no report submitted

R9.) Playground Committee: no report submitted.

R10) Town Clerk: report submitted. Mrs. Owens asked questions about the missing gravestone from Knickerbocker Cemetery. She and Mr. Cammarata have written a letter to the buyer from Facebook Messenger, have had 3 police agencies try to work with the buyer but there has been no response. Mrs. Owens suggested the Town Justice might be able to write a letter to the person. Board members were in favor of that idea.

Mrs Owens also has 15 boxes of records ready for destruction

R11) vacant

R12) Supervisor's Report: submitted. Accounts are in good shape \$61K went into major equipment for the new truck

- 7-10 years to finance or 4.75% Could take monies in the new equipment account, if the old grader is sold, and Western Star would come in at about \$2000 per month. Can take a short term note through NBT.
- Bob's truck is not bringing in the bids so Mr. Witkowski is thinking of stripping for parts
- A motion to accept the Supervisor's report was made by Mr. Warren, 2nd by Mr. Butler. All four Board members: Heisler, Butler, Warren and Cammarata were in favor, motion carried. Mr. Wark was absent

**MINUTES APPROVAL** for October 20th and Nov. 6th

7:40PM

The minutes of the October 20th and November 6th meetings were reviewed. A motion to accept these minutes was made by Mr. Heisler, 2nd by Mr. Warren. All four Board members: Heisler, Butler, Warren and Cammarata were in favor, motion carried. Mr. Wark was absent

**WARRANTS**

7:45PM

General Warrant # 11, Vouchers # 153-171 in the amount of \$5,348.44 was submitted for payment. A motion to pay these claims was made by Mr. Heisler, 2nd by Mr. Butler. All four Board members: Heisler, Butler, Warren and Cammarata were in favor, motion carried. Mr. Wark was absent

Highway Warrant # 11, Vouchers # 129-143 in the amount of \$141,142.83 was submitted for payment. A motion to pay these claims was made by Mr. Heisler, 2nd by Mr. Butler. All four Board members: Heisler, Butler, Warren and Cammarata were in favor, motion carried. Mr. Wark was absent

**NO EXECUTIVE SESSION**

7:55PM

Additional business:

- It was requested to submit an ad for a new employee starting January 1, 2026 to take the place of Bob Whitmore who will be the new Hwy Supt.

**RESOLUTION #64 (2025): POST HELP WANTED AD FOR NEW MEO FOR JANUARY 1st**

On a motion by Board member Heisler, 2nd by Board member Warren , the following Resolution was ADOPTED.

AYES:                    Butler, Cammarata, Heisler, Warren  
NAYES:                    0  
ABSENT:                    Wark

RESOLVED to post a help wanted ad for a new MEO for the Town of Smithville with a start date of January 1, 2026.

There was no other business to come before the Board. Supervisor Cammarata declared the meeting adjourned.

CLOSE:                    7:30PM

Alison B. Owens

Smithville Town Clerk