

Minutes of the Smithville Town Board
Sept. 15, 2025

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

6:30PM

Supervisor John Cammarata
Board members:
Shane Butler
Russell Wark
Fred Heisler
Dakota Warren, arrived late

ALSO:

Alison Owens, Town Clerk
Vince Witkowski, Hwy Supervisor
Bob Whitmore, resident
Barbara Tallet, Resident
Bruce Kinney, Enforcement Officer
Faline Ward, Assessor

ROLL CALL/PLEDGE/LATE ADDITIONS: C1,2,3

PUBLIC HEARING ON TENTATIVE BUDGET

6:35PM

There was no Public Hearing on the Budget as the newspaper lost the notice to print. A Public Hearing will be held on the Preliminary Budget in November.

CORRESPONDENCE

6:45PM

C1) Mr. Cammarata received a notice from NBT that accounts dormant for 24 months or more will be charged a fee. For the Town of Smithville, this includes the Bottle Fund, Playground and 1 other.

C2) Gates Cole will become High Street Gates-Cole Mr. Cammarata has been notified that the increase in rates for next year will be 12%.

C3. A letter of resignation was received from Bookkeeper Virginia Smith. Ms. Smith will work until no later than 12/31/25 but would prefer earlier if someone can be found. Mr. Cammarata mentioned that options are limited and expensive.

NEW BUSINESS

6:45PM

NB1) consider calling for a Public Hearing on Snowmobile/Seasonal Rd. for Oct. 20th. The Hwy Supt. and Town Board reviewed the current list and indicated no changes.

RESOLUTION #47 (2025): SNOWMOBILE, SEASONAL ROADS PUBLIC HEARING OCTOBER 20th

On motion by Mr. Butler, 2nd by Mr. Wark, the following Resolution was approved

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

RESOLVED to advertise for Public Hearings on the Snowmobile and Seasonal Roads in the Town of Smithville for the term November 1, 2025-April 1, 2026. Such Public Hearings will be held at 6:35PM and 6:40PM, on Monday October 20th respectively.

NB2) acceptance of Tentative Budget as the Preliminary Budget for 2026. Mr. Cammarata indicated he had changed a few more items in the budget on pages 10 & 12, adding in dust oil for \$30K and a small tools budget of \$1500. The new rate for the Highway comes in at \$8.80 p/th. The General is coming in at \$1.68 p/th. It was also mentioned that additional expenses would have to be added in for a new Bookkeeper or Bookkeeping service. Mr. Cammarata will make some additional adjustments there but asked if the Board wanted to approve the Tentative Budget now before the October 1st deadline. The Preliminary Budget can still be changed up until the Budget approval Public Hearing in November. Board members replied in the affirmative. Mr. Cammarata will make the additional adjustments and then call Board members.

RESOLUTION #48 (2025): ADOPT THE TENTATIVE BUDGET AS THE PRELIMINARY BUDGET FOR 2026

On motion by Mr. Butler, 2nd by Mr. Wark, the following Resolution was approved

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

RESOLVED to adopt the tentative budget for 2026 as the Preliminary Budget for 2026 with additional changes to be added by Supervisor Cammarata who will notify Board members by phone.

Mr. Warren arrived at 6:45pm.

NB3) The Fire Contracts for 2026 were introduced but since Mr. Cammarata has not yet received the 2026 Budget from the Genegantslet Fire Co., these will not be approved until the Public Hearing in November. Mr. Cammarata indicated the 2 Budgets are basically the same but have not yet been received by him.

OLD BUSINESS (UPDATES IF ANY)

6:55PM

OB1) continued discussion on the addition to Town Hall. Mr. Heisler said that not one of the contractors would consider a bid at this time of year. There is one company that can do the work without using prevailing wage. He will resume this effort in the spring. With the Town's Procurement Policy, the requirement is 3 written bids.

OB2) continued discussion on the dog control situation. There has been no contact with the current DCO, and other County and Health agencies have not followed up on the dog bite which occurred in June of this year. Mr. Cammarata will address this further in an executive session at the end of the meeting.

OB3) continued discussion on Wilcox Cemetery: Mr. Butler is applying for a grant for Wilcox Cemetery for fencing and refurbishing of the cemetery gate. The descendent who has been communicating with Town Clerk Owens has indicated spring might be a better time for the dedication as the application for the Revolutionary War marker has just been submitted.

REPORTS

7:05PM

R1.) Highway: report submitted:

- Currently working on Pollard Rd,; millings from the County have been used and also some on S. Tyner
- Discussion on the '02 Volvo and the grader to be put on auction: new truck will not be ready for a while, and Mr. Witkowski would rather offer the '02 truck to Pharsalia as their truck burned up. Both items would need to be declared surplus before selling.

RESOLUTION #49 (2025): DECLARE THE '02 VOLVO AND THE GRADER SURPLUS EQUIPMENT

On motion by Mr. Warren, 2nd by Mr. Butler, the following Resolution was approved

AYES: Heisler, Butler, Wark, Warren Cammarata

NAYES: 0

RESOLVED to the '02 VOLVO and the GRADER as surplus equipment. It was requested to sell the grader first and wait to sell the '02 Volvo.

R2.) Assessor: report submitted

R3.) Enforcement Officer: no report submitted:

- Mr. Cammarata said there is still a problem with people taking a building permit application to Norwich, bypassing the EO's signature. It was suggested to add a Signature Fee next year to maybe offset that continual problem.
- Enforcement Officer asked about the 2026 Cemetery Budget and was told it was raised from \$2100. to \$2500. (A8810.4) For abandoned cemeteries an additional account in the amount of \$2000. was added for maintenance costs (A8810.4b)

R4.) Planning Board: minutes submitted

R5.) DCO: no report submitted;

R6.) vacant

R7.) Justice: report on Justice grant process

R8.) Custodian/Groundskeeper: no report submitted

R9.) Playground Committee: no report submitted.

R10) Town Clerk: report submitted

- Records to be destroyed are being stored in the foyer and should be ready soon for shredding
- The new dedicated trees in the park have been a snack for the critters. Wood, fencing and mulch rings were purchased at Lowe's and Amazon and Groundskeeper Keith Sabin installed them to hopefully ward off the midnight snacking.

R11) vacant

R12) Supervisor's Report: submitted

- CHIPS check came back and was put back into the FEMA Hwy account and Hwy Road fund
- Accounts are all looking good
- A motion to approve the Supervisor's report was made by Mr. Butler, 2nd by Mr. Warren. All 5 Board members were in favor, motion carried.

MINUTES APPROVAL for August 18th, 27th 2025

7:15PM

The minutes of August 18th and 27th were reviewed and approved in a motion by Mr. Wark, 2nd by Mr, Warren. All five Board members in favor, motion carried.
Wark/Dakota all

WARRANTS

7:20PM

General Warrant # 9, Vouchers # 121-134 in the amount of \$2,633.88 were submitted for payment for approval.

122, 123 account #'s were changed to .4 from .1. A motion to approve these claims was made by Mr. Butler 2nd by Mr. Heisler. All five Board members in favor, motion carried.

Highway Warrant # 9, Vouchers # 102-115, in the amount of \$19,391.02 were submitted for payment. Claim # 109 was initially voided but Mr. Witkowski explained it is correct as the company did not bill in time. It will be re-added to the warrant for a total of \$30,672.02. A motion to approve these claims was made by Mr. Warren, 2nd by Mr. Butler. All five Board members in favor, motion carried.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

7:30PM

Into @ 7:30PM on a motion by Mr. Heisler, 2nd by Mr. Butler, all in favor, motion carried

Subject is to discuss an employee situation

Out @ 7:41pm on a motion by Mr. Heisler, 2nd by Mr. Butler, all in favor, motion carried.

No action was taken.

There was no additional business to come before the Board. Supervisor Cammarata declared the meeting adjourned at 7:41PM.

Alison B. Owens
Smithville Town Clerk