

Minutes of the Smithville Town Board
March 16, 2026

OPENING of Town Board meeting

6:30PM

ROLL CALL/PLEDGE/LATE ADDITIONS:

Supervisor John Cammarata
Board members:
Karen Cammarata
Chris LaCotta,
Dakota Warren
Fred Heisler

ALSO:

Alison Owens, Town Clerk
Bob Whitmore, Hwy Supt.
Bruce Kinney, Code Enforcement Officer
Kenny Whitmore, Planning Board member
Faline Ward, Assessor

CORRESPONDENCE

6:35PM

C1) none

NEW BUSINESS

6:35PM

NB1) discussion of 2nd position of Code Enforcement Officer:

Supervisor Cammarata would like the Board to consider a 2nd Code Enforcement Officer position to help with the enforcement of Local Laws in the Town of Smithville and to sign Building permit applications. This would be on a part-time basis, per diem, with mileage paid, the hourly rate being, currently, \$18.00 p/hr. The person in this 2nd position would be required to write tickets and to attend Court with the property owner of offending properties. Supervisor Cammarata feels that if fines are imposed at Court, monies will start coming back into the Town; ultimately this will help clean up the Town from some of the complaints over junk and trash.

An example of recent activity on Marvin Rd was discussed where a property owner's access way had been filled by junk and trash from another property. The Highway Dept is trying to work with the situation. Another situation on Enggaard Rd was also discussed.

Town Board members discussed the situation and ultimately decided they would rather not see the position split up into 2. It was questioned whether the current Code Enforcement Officer would want to take on the extra responsibilities. Supervisor Cammarata will contact him to discuss the situation.

NB2) consider Resolution to add a "Signature Fee" for the Code Enforcement Officer to sign Septic and Building Permit applications. This would not only add to the income of the Code Enforcement Officer but it would also help the County Code Enforcement Office to recognize that building permits from Smithville should have this signature. Often, applicants bypass the Town requirement for an officer signature and go directly to the County for the permit. Supervisor Cammarata suggested a Signature fee of at least \$30; Town Board members suggested either \$25 or \$50, with the ultimate decision of \$50 being made. This Resolution was made effective immediately.

RESOLUTION # 12 (2026): ESTABLISH CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER SIGNATURE FEE FOR SEPTIC AND BUILDING PERMITS

On a motion by Mr. Heisler, 2nd by Mr. LaCotta, the following RESOLUTION was ADOPTED.

AYES: Heisler, K. Cammarata, LaCotta, Warren, J. Cammarata
NAYES: 0

RESOLVED to establish a Signature Fee for the the Code Enforcement Officer to sign Septic and Building Permit Applications. Such fee will be \$50 per application and will be effective immediately.

NB3) Discussion of a way to pay for stone and oil roads.

Supervisor Cammarata said former Hwy Supt. Vince Witkowski is in the process of finishing up the CHIPS paperwork for the paving of Round Pond. About \$250K will be impacted if CHIPS money allocated to the Town of Smithville this year is used to pay for that project.

Current Hwy Supt. Bob Whitmore suggested an audit be completed on the Town Hwy Dept to figure out how things have been paid for. He said there is no money in the budget for gravel, only salt and sand. Maintenance of blacktopped roads will be difficult. Another suggestion was made to bring estimates to the table, maybe have an action plan or a 5 yr plan; perhaps an line # in the Hwy Budget for General Maintenance. An additional suggestion was to have the Highway Committee meet with the Hwy Supt. prior to the next Board meeting to go over any issues that are pending.

RESOLUTION # 13 (2026): ESTABLISH MEETING TIMES FOR THE HWY SUPT/HWY COMMITTEE, HAVE HWY AUDIT DONE

On a motion by Mr. Heisler, 2nd by Mr. LaCotta, the following RESOLUTION was ADOPTED.

AYES: Heisler, K. Cammarata, LaCotta, Warren, J. Cammarata
NAYES: 0

RESOLVED to establish meeting times for the Highway Supt with the Highway Committee to discuss pending issues and working on the Hwy budget for solutions. RESOLVED also to have a Highway Audit done

NB4) Review proposed Battery & Energy Storage Local Law

A copy of the Planning Board proposed Local Law # 1 2026 had been emailed to Town Board members. The Local Law is designed to regulate renewable energy and battery storage for decommissioning of solar systems operating in the Town of Smithville and are consistent with the Town's Comprehensive Plan. Supervisor Cammarata suggested this be sent to the Town Att'y for his opinion and possible inclusion of fees that should be implemented in the Local Law. Board members were in agreement with this.

RESOLUTION # 14 (2026): FORWARD POTENTIAL LOCAL LAW # 1 TO THE TOWN ATT'Y

On a motion by Mr. Heisler, 2nd by Mr. Warren, the following RESOLUTION was ADOPTED.

AYES: Heisler, K. Cammarata, LaCotta, Warren, J. Cammarata
NAYES: 0

RESOLVED to forward the potential Local Law # 1 Battery and Energy Storage, to the Town Att'y for his opinion and possible inclusion of fees that should be implemented in the Local Law.

OLD BUSINESS (UPDATES IF ANY)

7:10PM

OB1) A building permit for 2063 County Rd. 2 was signed by Supervisor Cammarata, picked up by the owner and taken to Norwich to have County Code issue a building permit.

OB2) continued discussion of new truck purchase

As previously discussed, the option to purchase another new truck based on the availability of parts available from the previous cancelled truck was an option Board members considered. It would be \$134K for box, wing, plow which is available now but a call to order the \$169K Freightliner cab and chassis has not yet been made. Board members decided to move forward with ordering the Freightliner.

RESOLUTION # 15 (2026): ORDER THE NEW FREIGHTLINER TRUCK @ \$169K FROM TRACEY ROAD EQUIPMENT

On a motion by Mr. Warren, 2nd by Mr. La Cotta, the following RESOLUTION was ADOPTED.

AYES: Heisler, K. Cammarata, LaCotta, Warren, J. Cammarata
NAYES: 0

RESOLVED to move forward with ordering the new Freightliner cab and chassis from Tracey Road Equipment @ \$169K; The box, wing and plow is still available from Tenco for \$134K.

OB3) duties and responsibilities of the 2nd Laborer position:

Town Clerk Owens has had instructions for the Town Board to define the duties and responsibilities for the 2nd Laborer position they would like to create for the mowing of abandoned cemeteries in the Town and then pass a Resolution to create the position. The duties and responsibilities were discussed with the obvious being the care of the cemetery but also to notify the Town Clerk and Historian if there are any concerns. The position also has responsibility to help the current Laborer should he need help. With the duties and responsibilities defined, the Board was ready to create the position.

RESOLUTION # 16 (2026): DEFINE DUTIES, RESPONSIBILITIES AND CREATE THE POSITION OF 2ND LABORER

On a motion by Mr. Heisler, 2nd by Mr. Warren, the following RESOLUTION was ADOPTED.

AYES: Heisler, K. Cammarata, LaCotta, Warren, J. Cammarata
NAYES: 0

RESOLVED to define the duties and responsibilities of the 2nd Laborer position and then to create the position. The position will be paid the same laborer rate, will be paid mileage to/from the cemetery and will use Town equipment to weed whack or mow the lawn. Mr. Heisler said he would donate a small trailer to hold the weed whacker and/or lawnmower.

REPORTS

7:40PM

R1.) Highway: report submitted. The Hwy Sup't had multiple reports on issues at the Town Barn. Only a few are mentioned here.

- Waste oil furnace stopped working—it was plugged up because it was never cleaned right. The Hwy Dept has to now keep replacement parts for the furnace in stock at the Town Barn
- Suit Kote will have available millings soon
- More scrap metal to be available
- Took items back to NAPA and received over \$1K in credit
- The sand screener is shot but it will be over \$5K to replace parts. The Hwy Dept needs to replace it soon.
- The F550 is really failing and will need to put \$ into it to keep going. It is not being used much.
- Winner Road was getting washed out by a small stream but work was done on it and it is now fixed
- Pipes replaced, brush cut, and roads plowed and sanded
- It was asked if the Town is supposed to get a check for using our loader to load salt/sand onto the County truck? The County may be able to co-op with a bulldozer. Hwy Supt asked if there was paperwork involved with this?

- The Hwy Supt was told he has to have engineered drawings for the small tool room he wants to add on at the Town Barn. At this time there are no quotes

R2) Assessor: report submitted

- Those service persons with a 100% Disability (totally disabled DD-214) will not have to pay property taxes

R3.) Enforcement Officer: no report submitted

R4.) Planning Board: is there a possibility the one PB member could be replaced as he is not coming back. He can be removed next month and replaced by the Town Board. Town Clerk Owens will check with PB Chair Marie Kehl.

R5.) DCO: no report submitted

R6.) vacant

R7.) Justice: no report submitted

- Supervisor Cammarata now has access to the former Justice checking account in order to close it out.

R8.) Custodian/Groundskeeper: no report submitted

R9.) Playground Committee: no report submitted.

R10) Town Clerk: report submitted

R11) vacant

R12) Supervisor's Report: submitted

- \$161K, & \$31K CHIPS checks were received
- 10 yr road plan was made available by NYS CHIPS to show what roads can be worked on
- The Town NYSEG accounts supplier has been switched over to American Tower and Light. The electric rate has dropped 11 cents per kilowatt hour
- ARPA funds are still in the account; it is unknown when they will be withdrawn
- A motion to accept the Supervisor's report was made by Mr. Heisler, 2nd by Mr. Warren. All 5 Board members: Heisler, K Cammarata, LaCotta, Warren and J. Cammarata were in favor, motion carried.

MINUTES APPROVAL for February 16th

8:25PM

Supervisor Cammarata referred to an error on p.4 listed items to be scrapped. These items will be sold at auction instead. Town Clerk Owens will make the change.

A motion to accept the minutes as corrected was made by Mr. LaCotta, 2nd by Mr. Heisler. All 5 Board members: Heisler, K Cammarata, LaCotta, Warren and J. Cammarata were in favor, motion carried.

WARRANTS

8:20PM

General Warrant # 3, Vouchers # 31-49 in the amount of \$37,339.78 were submitted for payment. A motion was made by Mr. Heisler, 2nd by Mr. LaCotta to approve payment of these claims. All 5 Board members: Heisler, K Cammarata, LaCotta, Warren and J. Cammarata were in favor, motion carried.

Highway Warrant # 3, Vouchers # 61-63, 66-83 in the amount of \$40,082.49 were submitted for payment. A motion was made by Mr. Heisler, 2nd by Mr. LaCotta to approve payment of these claims. All 5 Board members: Heisler, K Cammarata, LaCotta, Warren and J. Cammarata were in favor, motion carried.

EXECUTIVE SESSION IF NEEDED

8:30PM

Additional business as added

8:30PM

CLOSE:

by Supervisor Cammarata

8:35PM