



The Town of
New Hartford

Town Hall Highlights



July 9, 2026 Board Meeting Highlights

*From the office of James Messa,
New Hartford Town Supervisor*

July was another productive month for the Town, and I'd like to share a few highlights from our recent Town Board meeting to keep you informed about the work happening on behalf of our community.

Financial Accountability. One of the biggest accomplishments was the presentation of our **2024 independent audit by Drescher & Malecki**. I'm pleased to report that the Town received a **clean opinion on its fund-level financial statements**, and the auditors recognized the significant progress we've made in strengthening our financial processes and getting our audits back on schedule. This is an important step in ensuring accountability and responsible management of taxpayer dollars.

Improving Efficiency. We're also taking a close look at how the Town administers employee health, dental, and vision benefits. Currently, these plans are managed through separate insurance brokers. During our July meeting, the Board heard presentations from firms interested in **consolidating all benefit plans under a single provider**. While no decision has been made, this approach has the potential to simplify administration, improve communication and service for employees, reduce redundancy, and create greater long-term efficiencies. It's another example of our commitment to continually evaluating how Town government can operate more effectively.

A Community Celebration. We also took time to recognize the incredible success of Fireworks Over the Park. Seeing thousands of families and neighbors gather at Sherrillbrook Park for the return of fireworks after more than 20 years was truly special. Thank you to our Town departments, emergency services, volunteers, sponsors, vendors, and everyone who attended. Your support made the event a tremendous success, and we're already looking forward to next year.

Building for the Future. The Board approved several actions to strengthen Town operations, including appointing a new **full-time Codes Enforcement Officer** while retaining the experience of our former officer in a part-time role during the transition. We also submitted our application for the Resilient Watershed Grant, which could help **fund future stormwater improvement projects throughout New Hartford**. Grant notification is expected in late October - early November.

Investing in Our Community. Our **Parks Department** will soon have a dedicated Town vehicle for the Parks Director, John Randall, allowing him to work more efficiently throughout our park system, while the **Police Department** shared continued progress on the new Municipal Animal Shelter, which is moving closer to opening. The **Highway Department** also continues investing in infrastructure, including traffic signal improvements at Chapman Road and Valley View and ongoing improvements at Washington Mills Park. Finally, the Board approved a partnership with the Presbyterian Home to expand **Senior Services** using its Activities Room, pending final billing arrangements.

Thank you for your continued support and interest in our community. My goal is to keep New Hartford moving forward while keeping you informed every step of the way. I look forward to sharing more updates with you next month.


— James Messa, Town Supervisor



Highway Department News

*Submitted by: Richard Sherman,
Highway Superintendent*

As summer is in full swing, there are a lot of things going on in the Town of New Hartford. Your Highway crew is very busy with various projects and Curbside Brush Collection.

The Town Highway Department lent a hand with the Fireworks at Sherrill Brook Park. It was a great event enjoyed by many. We also had a small crew present at the Boilermaker to assist where needed.

I'm sure most of you have noticed, there is a lot of working being done at the 4 corners of Oneida Street and Chapman Road. Some of this project includes drainage upgrades, new curbs, sidewalks, pedestrian signals and cross walks and new signal lights. Please use caution when driving through this area.

Work is still underway for the Rayhill Trail Project. As a reminder, the section from Burrstone Rd to New Hartford Street is closed, but the other sections are open for use.

With improvements to the softball fields, a new fishing pier and parking lot work, our work at the Washington Mills Athletic Park is complete.

Bids have gone out and been accepted for the Higby Rd and Chapman Rd Signalization Project. That work will start in the upcoming months.

With the nice weather here to stay, we understand the increase in activity with tree removals, lawn care and yard work. As you clean up your yards, remember to please separate the brush from the green waste, putting the brush in a pile, and containerize your loose green waste items (grass, hedge clippings, flowers and small piles of branches). These items are picked up by two different trucks, so one pile may get picked up before the other. A friendly reminder to please not put out piles of dirt and/or stone, as those are not items that we pick up.

Our work continues with mowing town and county road shoulders and right-of-ways. Please be mindful and use

caution when you see mowing ahead signs out.

Lastly, a reminder that there is Trash Drop off every Monday from 7am to 11am at the Highway Garage located at 111 New Hartford Street. Please follow the guidelines outlined in the mailer on what items will be accepted. If you want your items picked up directly from your residence, you must purchase a tag for \$5.00 per item from the Clerk's office by Friday before the scheduled Monday. Pick ups are scheduled for the first Monday of every month. The Clerk's office is located at 8635 Clinton Street at Town Hall Building from 8:00am- 4:00pm.

If you have any questions please call me at 315 534-2998 or e-mail me at rsherman@townofnewhartfordny.gov.



Summer Services at the Town Clerk's Office

Submitted by: Michele Moran
The Town Clerk's Office continues to be a busy resource

for residents throughout the summer months. Whether you are applying for a marriage license, renewing a dog license, obtaining a hunting or fishing license, requesting records, submitting permits, or simply looking for guidance on a Town service, our staff is here to help.

We encourage residents to contact the office with questions and to visit the Town website for forms, meeting information, public notices, and other helpful resources.

It is always our pleasure to assist the residents of New Hartford and help make Town services as convenient and accessible as possible.

ANNOUNCEMENTS & EVENTS



AUGUST MEETING SCHEDULE

Town Board Meeting	08/05	6:00pm
Planning Board Meeting	08/10	5:30pm
ZBA Meeting	08/17	6:00pm
Stormwater Committee Meeting	08/12	6:00pm

Schedule subject to change.
Visit the website for schedules, agendas and minutes.

LIVE-STREAMED Town Board Meetings

SCAN THE CODE and Click "LIVE" tab.



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