

**SPECIAL MEETING OF THE TOWN BOARD
OF THE TOWN OF NEW HARTFORD, NEW YORK,
HELD AT TOWN HALL, 8635 CLINTON STREET, NEW HARTFORD, NY
ON WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 21, 2026 at 5:00 P.M.**

Town Supervisor Messa called the meeting to order at 5:00 P.M. and the roll was taken with the following Town Officials and Department Heads being present during the progress of the meeting. Supervisor Messa then led those in attendance in the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag.

TOWN BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Councilman Vincent Pristera
Councilman John Latini
Councilman David M. Reynolds
Councilman David Tehan
Supervisor James Messa

OTHER TOWN OFFICIALS/EMPLOYEES PRESENT:

Deputy Town Supervisor, David Tehan
Town Attorney, Herb Cully
Town Clerk, Michele Moran
Highway Superintendent, Richard Sherman
Police Chief, Ronald Fontaine
Finance Dept., Christina Lacy
Supervisor's Confidential Secretary, Christine Martin
Lt. Thomas Hulser, NHPD
Inv. Adam Sardina, NHPD

ABSENT: Assistant Director of Personnel, Barb Schwenzfeier
 Assessor Darlene Abbatecola
 Codes Officer George Farley

Thereafter a quorum was declared present for the transaction of business.

APPROVAL APPOINTMENTS FOR POSITIONS

Supervisor Messa announced a Part-Time position of Clerk to Town Justice at a salary of \$23.34/hr, effective immediately to fill an open part-time position.

The following Resolution was introduced for adoption by Councilman Tehan and duly seconded by Councilman Latini.

(RESOLUTION NO. 38 OF 2026)

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RESOLVED, that the New Hartford Town Board does hereby accept and approve Anne Kuhn as Town Court's newest employee as stipulated above.

The Town Board voted upon roll call, resulting as follows:

Councilman Pristera	-Aye
Councilman Latini	-Aye
Councilman Reynolds	-Aye
Councilman Tehan	-Aye
Supervisor Messa	-Aye

The Resolution was unanimously carried and duly **ADOPTED**.

APPROVAL APPOINTMENTS FOR POSITIONS

Supervisor Messa announces 2 Full-Time positions of Motor Equipment Operator (MEO) in the Highway Department at a salary of \$22.00/hr., effective immediately to fill 2 of 5 open full-time positions.

The following Resolution was introduced for adoption by Councilman Latini and duly seconded by Councilman Pristera.

(RESOLUTION NO. 39 OF 2026)

RESOLVED, that the New Hartford Town Board does hereby accept and approve Zachary J. Constas as Town Highway's newest employee as stipulated above.

The Town Board voted upon roll call, resulting as follows:

Councilman Pristera	-Aye
Councilman Latini	-Aye
Councilman Reynolds	-Aye
Councilman Tehan	-Aye
Supervisor Messa	-Aye

The Resolution was unanimously carried and duly **ADOPTED**.

The following Resolution was introduced for adoption by Councilman Tehan and duly seconded by Councilman Latini.

(RESOLUTION NO. 40 OF 2026)

RESOLVED, that the New Hartford Town Board does hereby accept and approve Bruce A. Relyea, Jr. as Town Highway's newest employee as stipulated above.

The Town Board voted upon roll call, resulting as follows:

Councilman Pristera	-Aye
Councilman Latini	-Aye
Councilman Reynolds	-Aye
Councilman Tehan	-Aye
Supervisor Messa	-Aye

The Resolution was unanimously carried and duly **ADOPTED**.

STORAGE TANK LIABILITY POLICY – RATE INCREASE

Supervisor Messa announces a proposal to sign a new Storage Tank Liability Policy from Highstreet reflecting a rate change from \$2,695 to \$2,788. The contract had previously been signed with the lower rate.

The following Resolution was introduced for adoption by Councilman Reynolds and duly seconded by Councilman Pristera.

(RESOLUTION NO. 41 OF 2026)

RESOLVED, that the New Hartford Town Board does hereby accept and approve the rate change as stipulated above and direct Supervisor Messa to sign the new contract.

The Town Board voted upon roll call, resulting as follows:

Councilman Pristera	-Aye
Councilman Latini	-Aye
Councilman Reynolds	-Aye
Councilman Tehan	-Aye
Supervisor Messa	-Aye

The Resolution was unanimously carried and duly **ADOPTED**.

BUDGET ADJUSTMENTS for year 2026

- 1.) Supervisor Messa presented budget (transfer) – decrease is A50100.14 (Personnel - Highway Secretary) for \$4,264.00 and increase A13150.14 (Personnel – Comptroller) for \$4,264.00.

Councilman Tehan introduced the following Resolution for adoption and seconded by Councilman Latini.

(RESOLUTION NO. 42 OF 2026)

RESOLVED, the Town of New Hartford Town Board does hereby approve to increase funding for Comptroller Personnel from Highway Secretary for \$4,264.00.

The Town Board voted upon roll call, resulting as follows:

Councilman Pristera	-Aye
Councilman Latini	-Aye
Councilman Reynolds	-Aye
Councilman Tehan	-Aye
Supervisor Messa	-Aye

The Resolution was unanimously carried and duly **ADOPTED**.

- 2.) Supervisor Messa presented budget (transfer) – decrease is A50100.14 (Personnel - Highway Secretary) for \$5,179.00 and increase A14100.13 (Personnel – Deputy Clerk II) for \$5,179.00.
- 3.) Supervisor Messa presented budget (transfer) – decrease is A14100.12 (Personnel – PT Clerk) for \$19,467.00 and increase A14100.13 (Personnel – Deputy Clerk II) for \$19,467.00.

Councilman Tehan introduced the following Resolution for adoption and seconded by Councilman Reynolds.

(RESOLUTION NO. 43 OF 2026)

RESOLVED, the Town of New Hartford Town Board does hereby approve to increase funding for Deputy Clerk II Personnel from Highway Secretary (\$5,179) and PT Clerk (\$19,467.00) for a total of \$24,646.00.

The Town Board voted upon roll call, resulting as follows:

Councilman Pristera	-Aye
Councilman Latini	-Aye
Councilman Reynolds	-Aye
Councilman Tehan	-Aye
Supervisor Messa	-Aye

The Resolution was unanimously carried and duly ***ADOPTED***.

- 4.) Supervisor Messa presented budget (transfer) – decrease is A50100.14 (Personnel - Highway Secretary) for \$18,200.00 and increase A12200.12 (Personnel – Confidential Secretary) for \$18,200.00.

Councilman Tehan introduced the following Resolution for adoption and seconded by Supervisor Messa.

(RESOLUTION NO. 44 OF 2026)

RESOLVED, the Town of New Hartford Town Board does hereby approve to increase funding for Confidential Secretary from Highway Secretary for \$18,200.00.

The Town Board voted upon roll call, resulting as follows:

Councilman Pristera	-Aye
Councilman Latini	-Aye
Councilman Reynolds	-Aye
Councilman Tehan	-Aye
Supervisor Messa	-Aye

The Resolution was unanimously carried and duly ***ADOPTED***.

EXECUTIVE SESSION – MATTERS SUBMITTED BY SUPERVISOR MESSA

1. Discuss NH PBA Contract
2. Personnel Matters (unknown Dept.)
3. New Hartford Central School Contract

EXECUTIVE SESSION – MATTERS SUBMITTED BY TOWN ATTORNEY CULLY

4. Wachs Tax Certiorari

Councilman Latini introduced the following Resolution for adoption and duly seconded by Councilman Pristera:

(RESOLUTION NO. 45 OF 2026)

RESOLVED, that the New Hartford Town Board does hereby approve to enter into Executive Session at 5:39 pm.

The Town Board voted upon roll call, resulting as follows:

Councilman Pristera	-Aye
Councilman Latini	-Aye
Councilman Reynolds	-Aye
Councilman Tehan	-Aye
Supervisor Messa	-Aye

The Resolution was unanimously carried and duly **ADOPTED**.

Councilman Latini introduced the following Resolution for adoption and duly seconded by Councilman Pristera:

(RESOLUTION NO. 46 OF 2026)

RESOLVED, that the New Hartford Town Board does hereby approve to come out of Executive Session at 6:57 pm.

The Town Board voted upon roll call, resulting as follows:

Councilman Pristera	-Aye
Councilman Latini	-Aye
Councilman Reynolds	-Aye
Councilman Tehan	-Aye
Supervisor Messa	-Aye

The Resolution was unanimously carried and duly **ADOPTED**.

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Councilman Reynolds introduced the following Resolution for adoption, seconded by Councilman Latini:

(RESOLUTION NO. 47 OF 2026)

RESOLVED, the Town of New Hartford Town Board does hereby approve and authorize Supervisor Messa to execute the formal offer of settlement as it relates to the new PBA contract, with 1 change on page 26 - shortening the contract period from 4 to 2 years (2026 & 2027).

The Town Board voted upon roll call, resulting as follows:

Councilman Pristera	-Aye
Councilman Latini	-Aye
Councilman Reynolds	-Aye
Councilman Tehan	-Aye
Supervisor Messa	-Aye

The Resolution was unanimously carried and duly **ADOPTED**.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Board, upon motion duly made by Councilman Latini seconded Councilman Pristera, the meeting was adjourned at 7:01 P.M.

(RESOLUTION NO. 48 OF 2026)

The Town Board voted upon roll call, resulting as follows:

Councilman Pristera	-	Aye
Councilman Latini	-	Aye
Councilman Reynolds	-	Aye
Councilman Tehan	-	Aye
Supervisor Messa	-	Aye

The Resolution was unanimously carried and duly **ADOPTED**.

Respectfully submitted,

Michele Moran

Town Clerk

1/26/2026