

**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, MARCH 4, 2026 at 6:00 P.M.**

Town Supervisor Messa called the meeting to order at 6:00 P.M. and observed a moment of silence in memory of former Councilman George Herthum, and former Town Comptroller, Joe Timpano and thanked them for their service to the Town of New Hartford. The roll was then taken with the following Town Officials and Department Heads being present during the progress of the meeting. Supervisor Messa 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
Deputy Supervisor / Councilman David Tehan
Supervisor James Messa

OTHER TOWN OFFICIALS/EMPLOYEES PRESENT:

Town Attorney, Herb Cully
Town Clerk, Michele Moran
Deputy Clerk, Susan Keller
Highway Superintendent, Richard Sherman
Police Chief, Ronald Fontaine
Supervisor's Confidential Secretary, Christine Martin
Finance Dept., Christina Lacy
NH Library Director, Anne DuRoss
Codes Officer George Farley
Heather Mowat, Chair -NH Planning Board

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

Councilman Latini introduced the following Resolution for adoption, seconded by Councilman Tehan

(RESOLUTION NO. 79 OF 2026)

RESOLVED that the New Hartford Town Board does hereby accept and approve as submitted the minutes of the Special Town Board meeting held January 22, 2026 and does further waive the reading of the same. Upon roll call, the Board members voted as follows:

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

The Resolution was declared unanimously carried and duly adopted.

Councilman Latini introduced the following Resolution for adoption, seconded by Councilman Pristera

(RESOLUTION NO. 80 OF 2026)

RESOLVED that the New Hartford Town Board does hereby accept and approve as submitted the minutes of the Regular Town Board meeting held February 4, 2026 and does further waive the reading of the same. Upon roll call, the Board members voted as follows:

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

The Resolution was declared unanimously carried and duly adopted.

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

(RESOLUTION NO. 81 OF 2026)

RESOLVED that the New Hartford Town Board does hereby accept and approve as submitted the minutes of the Special Town Board meeting held February 18, 2026 and does further waive the reading of the same. Upon roll call, the Board members voted as follows:

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

The Resolution was declared unanimously carried and duly adopted.

PUBLIC COMMENT – Steve Buck, Buck Construction addressed the board in regards to his project, Hartford Luxury Apartments. Discussion between Mr. Buck, the Board members and Planning Board Chair, Heather Mowat. Planning Board Chair Mowat is working with Mr. Buck on the current project before the Planning Board in getting clarification on some Planning Board concerns. Councilman Tehan’s agenda item titled “Hartford Luxury Apartments – Review/approval not found for construction underway” was moved to Public Comment section for discussion. Councilman Tehan requests the “approval and review process documentation for the 3 buildings constructed now”. Mr. Buck indicates that “was part of an amendment to final that was completed in or around 2022” and that he will email the approved drawings requested.

PUBLIC HEARING LOCAL LAW INTRODUCTORY “2” OF 2026 A LOCAL LAW TO RESTORE THE SALARY OF THE TOWN SUPERVISOR. The Town Supervisor then opened the Public Hearing at 6:24 P.M., in the matter of Local Law Introductory “2” of 2026. [The Town Clerk had available copies of the proposed local law, the Notice of Public Hearing, Affidavit of Posting, Proof of Publication in The Observer Dispatch.]

David Maier, Mallory Road spoke to the Board in agreement with the proposed local law to restore the salary.

There being no one further to speak in the matter, the Public Hearing was declared closed at 6:27 P.M.

Thereafter, Councilman Reynolds moved, and Councilman Latini seconded that Local Law Introductory “2” of 2026 be adopted as Local Law No. 2 of 2026 in the following format: A Local Law to restore the salary of the Town Supervisor.

(RESOLUTION NO. 82 OF 2026)

BE IT ENACTED - BY THE TOWN OF NEW HARTFORD AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. Title This Local Law shall be known as Local Law No. 2 of 2026. A Local Law to restore the salary of the Town Supervisor.

Section 2. Authority This Local Law is adopted pursuant to New York Municipal Home Rule Law Section 10 and Town Law Section 27, which is authorized to increase the salary of an elected official by Local Law.

Section 3. Legislative Intent The Town Board of the Town of New Hartford finds it necessary and appropriate to adjust the annual salary of the Town Supervisor and restore it to the level it was in 2025 to reflect the responsibilities of the office and current fiscal conditions. The adopted 2026 Town Budget set the Supervisor’s Salary at \$18,500. The Town Board now determines the salary should be increased to \$32,000.

Section 4. Salary of Town Supervisor Effective as provided in Section 6 of this Local Law, the annual salary of the Town Supervisor shall be \$32,000.

Section 5. Budget Amendment The 2026 Town Budget is hereby amended to reflect the salary increase set forth in Section 4 and the necessary adjustments shall be made.

Section 6. Effective Date This Local Law shall take effect upon filing with the New York State Secretary of State pursuant to Municipal Home Rule Law Section 27.

RESOLVED that this Local Law shall take effect immediately upon filing of same in the Office of the Secretary of State.

Upon roll call, the Board members voted as follows:

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

The Resolution was carried with a 4-0 vote and duly adopted.

PLANNING BOARD UPDATES – Planning Board Chair, Heather Mowat gave overview updates on matters discussed with NYS DOT and Planning Board matters:

Upper Seneca Turnpike, Kellogg Road off Rt. 8, Joe Tahan interchange, Benderson possible extension near Michael’s Craft Store, St. Luke’s Project, Zoning updates, Traffic Stacking, Chic Fil A and Mobil phone store & restaurant, Former Big Lots store (storage units), O’Reilly Auto Parts by Burger King, Dwyer events center Brewery & outside venue, Hartford Luxury Apartments, Middle Settlement Apartments, Owens Community Solar Project – Oxford Road. Highway Superintendent Sherman also added that there are plans for NYS to pave Commercial Drive and Seneca Turnpike in 2027.

VOUCHERS

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

(RESOLUTION NO. 83 OF 2026)

RESOLVED, that the New Hartford Town Board does hereby approve the vouchers. The Town Board voted upon roll call, resulting as follows:

- Councilman Pristera -Aye
- Councilman Latini -Aye
- Councilman Reynolds -Aye
- Councilman Tehan -Aye (Abstain from ADK bank voucher(s))
- Supervisor Messa -Aye

The Resolution was unanimously carried and duly ADOPTED

MUNICIPAL ENTRANCE – WATER ISSUES (ASSESSOR’S OFFICE)

Project declared an emergency due to ongoing water infiltration and mold concerns.

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

(RESOLUTION NO. 84 OF 2026)

RESOLVED, that the New Hartford Town Board does hereby approve the quote from H.R. Beebe to install a new door, complete concrete work and repair of the wall(s) affected will be needed. H.R. Bebee Construction will perform work: the projected start is 5–6 weeks. Includes a one-year warranty.

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

The Resolution was unanimously carried and duly ADOPTED

RFP for HVAC MAINTENANCE – NH TOWN MUNICIPAL BUILDING

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

(RESOLUTION NO. 85 OF 2026)

RESOLVED, that the New Hartford Town Board does hereby approve to seek Request for Proposal (RFP) for HVAC Maintenance at NH Town Hall Building. 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

RFP for PHONE SYSTEM – ALL TOWN BUILDINGS

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

(RESOLUTION NO. 86 OF 2026)

RESOLVED, that the New Hartford Town Board does hereby approve to seek Request for Proposal (RFP) for Phone System(s) at all NH Town Buildings (Recreation Center, Town Hall, Highway Garage, Animal Shelter). 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

RFP for IT SERVICES – TOWN MUNICIPAL BUILDING

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

(RESOLUTION NO. 87 OF 2026)

RESOLVED, that the New Hartford Town Board does hereby approve to seek Request for Proposal (RFP) IT Services at NH Town Municipal Building. 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

RFP for SECURITY CAMERAS – PARKS, RECREATION & ANIMAL SHELTER

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

(RESOLUTION NO. 88 OF 2026)

RESOLVED, that the New Hartford Town Board does hereby approve to seek Request for Proposal (RFP) for Security Cameras at Parks, Recreation and Animal Shelter. 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

RFP for SIDEWALK PAVING - CHADWICKS

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

(RESOLUTION NO. 89 OF 2026)

RESOLVED, that the New Hartford Town Board does hereby approve to seek Request for Proposal (RFP) for Sidewalk paving in Chadwicks (funded through Oneida County Grant and Town BAN). 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

ASSISTANT PERSONNEL DIRECTOR – CHRISTINA LACY

Upon Recommendation of Supervisor Messa, Councilman Latini introduced the following Resolution for adoption and seconded by Councilman Reynolds.

(RESOLUTION NO. 90 OF 2026)

RESOLVED, the Town of New Hartford Town Board does hereby approve to appoint Christina Lacy as a Asst. Personnel Director/Finance. This is an exempt position. Combined position rate of pay is \$55,000/yr. salary with benefits, effective immediately. Upon roll call, the Board members voted as follows:

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

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

PARKS & REC MAINTENANCE WORKER – BRIAN JENNY

Upon Recommendation of Supervisor Messa, Councilman Latini introduced the following Resolution for adoption and seconded by Councilman Reynolds.

(RESOLUTION NO. 91 OF 2026)

RESOLVED, the Town of New Hartford Town Board does hereby approve to appoint Brian Jenny as Maintenance Worker in the Parks & Recreation Department. Part-Time, Permanent, rate of pay is \$25/hr., with no benefits, effective 3/9/26. Upon roll call, the Board members voted as follows:

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

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

PARKS & REC LABORER – SHELDON GORDON

Upon Recommendation of Supervisor Messa, Councilman Pristera introduced the following Resolution for adoption and seconded by Councilman Latini.

(RESOLUTION NO. 92 OF 2026)

RESOLVED, the Town of New Hartford Town Board does hereby approve to appoint Sheldon Gordon as Laborer in the Parks & Recreation Department. Part-Time, Permanent, rate of pay is \$20/hr., with no benefits, effective 3/9/26. Upon roll call, the Board members voted as follows:

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

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

PER DIEM CONSULTANT - BARB SCHWENZFEIER

Upon Recommendation of Supervisor Messa, Councilman Latini introduced the following Resolution for adoption and seconded by Councilman Pristera.

(RESOLUTION NO. 93 OF 2026)

RESOLVED, the Town of New Hartford Town Board does hereby approve to appoint Barbara Schwenzfeier as a consultant in the Personnel Department. Per-diem rate of pay is \$50/hr., with no benefits, effective 3/9/26. Estimated hours will be 10-15/hrs per month as needed. Supervised by Asst. Personnel Director, Christina Lacy. Upon roll call, the Board members voted as follows:

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

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

HIGHWAY CLERK – SHANNON GUERNSEY

Upon Recommendation of Highway Superintendent Sherman, Councilman Latini introduced the following Resolution for adoption and seconded by Councilman Reynolds.

(RESOLUTION NO. 94 OF 2026)

RESOLVED, the Town of New Hartford Town Board does hereby approve to appoint Shannon Guernsey as Clerk in the Highway Department. Part-Time, Permanent, rate of pay is \$20/hr., with no benefits, effective 3/9/26. This appointment may be revisited for consideration for Full-Time. Upon roll call, the Board members voted as follows:

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

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

HIGHWAY LABORER/MEO POSITION

Upon Recommendation of Highway Superintendent Sherman, Councilman Reynolds introduced the following Resolution for adoption and seconded by Councilman Latini.

(RESOLUTION NO. 95 OF 2026)

RESOLVED, the Town of New Hartford Town Board does hereby approve to create a position for a Highway Laborer/MEO. Position would be Full-Time, contingent upon obtaining a CDL. Starting rate of pay is \$22/hr., with benefits, effective 3/9/26. This appointment will be revisited and upgraded to MEO if the CDL is passed in the 6 month grace period. Benefits and pay then determined per Union Contract. Upon roll call, the Board members voted as follows:

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

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

BUDGET ADJUSTMENTS PARKS & RECREATION

Supervisor Messa presented budget (transfer) – decrease is A70200-20 (Parks & Rec Equipment) for \$21,000.00 and increase A71100-12 (Parks & Rec Working Supervisor – Brian Jenny) for \$21,000.00.

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

(RESOLUTION NO. 96 OF 2026)

RESOLVED, the Town of New Hartford Town Board does hereby approve to increase funding for Parks & Rec Working Supervisor from Parks & Rec Equipment for \$21,000.00.

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**.

BUDGET ADJUSTMENTS PARKS & RECREATION

Supervisor Messa presented budget (transfer) – decrease is A70200-20 (Parks & Rec Equipment) for \$9,000.00 and increase A71100-15 (Parks & Rec Main. Worker – Sheldon Gordon) for \$9,000.00.

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

(RESOLUTION NO. 97 OF 2026)

RESOLVED, the Town of New Hartford Town Board does hereby approve to increase funding for Parks & Rec Main. Worker from Parks & Rec Equipment for \$9,000.00.

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**.

BUDGET ADJUSTMENTS PARKS & RECREATION

Supervisor Messa presented budget (transfer) – decrease is A71400-20 (Playground Equipment) for \$7,800.00 and increase A71100-15 (Parks & Rec Main. Worker – Sheldon Gordon) for \$7,800.00.

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

(RESOLUTION NO. 98 OF 2026)

RESOLVED, the Town of New Hartford Town Board does hereby approve to increase funding for Parks & Rec Main. Worker from Playground Equipment for \$7,800.00.

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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**.

STORMWATER COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS

Letters of interest submitted for members of a new Stormwater Committee. Superintendent Sherman presented the following members for a 2 year appointment approval: Gary Bullis – Oneida Street, David Maier - Mallory Road, Brian Sanders – Bolton Road, Justin Sorrentino – Hand Place, Travis Thibodeaux – Hartford Terrace, Stewart Kramer – Oxford Rd.

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

(RESOLUTION NO. 99 OF 2026)

RESOLVED, the Town of New Hartford Town Board does hereby approve to appoint Gary Bullis for a 2 year term to the Stormwater Committee. Term commencing March 4, 2026 and ending Dec. 31, 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**.

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

(RESOLUTION NO. 100 OF 2026)

RESOLVED, the Town of New Hartford Town Board does hereby approve to appoint David Maier for a 2 year term to the Stormwater Committee. Term commencing March 4, 2026 and ending Dec. 31, 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**.

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

(RESOLUTION NO. 101 OF 2026)

RESOLVED, the Town of New Hartford Town Board does hereby approve to appoint Brian Sanders for a 2 year term to the Stormwater Committee. Term commencing March 4, 2026 and ending Dec. 31, 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**.

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

(RESOLUTION NO. 102 OF 2026)

RESOLVED, the Town of New Hartford Town Board does hereby approve to appoint Justin Sorrentino for a 2 year term to the Stormwater Committee. Term commencing March 4, 2026 and ending Dec. 31, 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**.

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

(RESOLUTION NO. 103 OF 2026)

RESOLVED, the Town of New Hartford Town Board does hereby approve to appoint Travis Thibodeaux for a 2 year term to the Stormwater Committee. Term commencing March 4, 2026 and ending Dec. 31, 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**.

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

(RESOLUTION NO. 104 OF 2026)

RESOLVED, the Town of New Hartford Town Board does hereby approve to appoint Stewart Kramer for a 2 year term to the Stormwater Committee. Term commencing March 4, 2026 and ending Dec. 31, 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**.

DRESHER & MALECKI, LLP – 2024 FINANCIAL STATEMENT AUDIT

Supervisor Messa introduced a letter of engagement for Drescher & Malecki, LLC to complete an audit of the 2024 Financial Statement at a cost of \$23,250. Attorney Cully reviewed. Councilman Tehan introduced the following Resolution for adoption and seconded by Councilman Reynolds.

(RESOLUTION NO. 105 OF 2026)

RESOLVED, the Town of New Hartford Town Board does hereby approve Supervisor Messa to execute the Letter of Engagement with Dresher & Malecki, LLC to perform an audit of the Town’s 2024 Financial Statement.

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**.

VI. MATTERS SUBMITTED BY THE TOWN ATTORNEY

Introduce Local Law for No Truck Traffic on Andover Ave. Councilman Reynolds moved to introduce the following Resolution for adoption and duly seconded by Councilman Latini:

(RESOLUTION NO. 106 OF 2026)

RESOLVED, The Town Board of the Town of New Hartford finds it necessary and appropriate to amend the Code of the Town of New Hartford, Chapter 113 thereof entitled “VEHICLES AND TRAFFIC”, Schedule VII, Section 113-55. No Trucks (*New Section for Adoption*). A public hearing will be scheduled to be held on May 6, 2026. The Town Board voted upon roll call, resulting as follows:

Councilman Pristera	-Aye
Councilman Latini	-Aye
Councilman Reynolds	-Aye
Councilman Tehan	-Aye

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Supervisor Messa -Aye

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

FOIL APPEAL – NWEIS 2026 A formal administrative appeal regarding the denial of access to records requested under FOIL Request Nweis 2026 was received via email by the Town Clerk on February 27, 2026 at 1:41 PM EST. Chief Fontaine was present for discussion and to answer all questions the Board had in regards to the availability and subsequent release and/or denial of requested records.

(RESOLUTION NO. 107 OF 2026)

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

RESOLVED, that the Town Board, after formal review, does deny FOIL appeal titled nweis2026 filed by Nicole Weis. The Town Clerk is directed to submit a formal denial response with detailed reasons to Ms. Weis within 10 days of receipt of said appeal. The Town Clerk shall also submit a copy of this appeal and response to the Committee on Open Government.

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**

WACHS (PRICE CHOPPER MALL) TAX CERTIORAI – Town Attorney Herbert Cully presented a proposed settlement arrangement and requested authorization to enter into a settlement. Attorney Cully has spoken to New Hartford Central School attorneys and the Court. No refunds up front. A prospective reduction in assessment to \$11 million, compute what the refunds would have been for the 5 years over the \$11 Million and then it would be paid back by a 2 year reduction in assessment to correspond with the amount that would have been refunded.

(RESOLUTION NO. 108 OF 2026)

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

RESOLVED, that the Town Board, after review, does authorize Town Attorney to indicate settlement noting that both the School and the Town are in agreement.

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**

LIQUOR LICENSE NOTIFICATION Town Clerk Moran advised the Board of a Liquor License Application requesting a 30-day waiver for Red Samurai Japanese Steakhouse, Inc., 8562 Seneca Turnpike, New Hartford.

(RESOLUTION NO. 109 OF 2026)

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

RESOLVED, that the Town Board, after formal review, does waive the 30-day advance notice requirement of the New York Alcoholic Beverage Control Law for Applicant.

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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**

ONEIDA COUNTY ASSOCIATION OF TOWNS Town Clerk Moran advised the Board of an upcoming Organizational Meeting held by the Onedia County Association of Towns. Meeting will be March 26, 2026.

(RESOLUTION NO. 110 OF 2026)

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

RESOLVED, that the Town Board, does authorize at a cost \$35/person for up to 6 representatives of the Town to attend.

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**

WILLOWVALE FIRE CO LOSAP Town Clerk Moran introduced the Willowvale LOSAP points listing. After discussion and review by the Board,

(RESOLUTION NO. 111 OF 2026)

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

RESOLVED, that the Town Board, does authorize Supervisor Messa to sign the Willowvale Fire Co., LOSAP agreement. Clerk Moran will transmit signed documents to Willowvale Fire Co for filing with Firefly.

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**

MVP HEALTH INSURANCE RENEWAL Town Clerk Moran introduced a contract renewal with MVP Health for non union employee health insurance coverage. After discussion and review by the Board,

(RESOLUTION NO. 112 OF 2026)

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

RESOLVED, that the Town Board, does authorize Supervisor Messa to sign the contract with MVP Health for non union employee health insurance Coverage. Costs as follows: Single \$1044.49, Double \$2,088.98, Parent +Child \$1,775.63, Family \$2,976.80.

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

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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 - ACO

Supervisor Messa presented budget (transfer) – decrease is A35100.40 (ACO Contractual) for \$5,000.00 and increase New Account A35100.41 (Animal Shelter Contractual) for \$5,000.00.

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

(RESOLUTION NO. 113 OF 2026)

RESOLVED, the Town of New Hartford Town Board does hereby approve to increase funding for ACO Shelter Contractual from ACO Contractual for \$5,000.00.

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**.

AGREEMENT – LEE SHELTER AGREEMENT

Upon recommendation of the Police Chief, Councilman Latini offered the following Resolution for adoption; seconded by Councilman Reynolds:

(RESOLUTION NO. 114 OF 2026)

RESOLVED that the New Hartford Town Board does hereby authorize and direct the Town Supervisor, or in his absence, the Deputy Town Supervisor to enter into and to execute an Agreement between the Town of New Hartford and the Town of Lee, wherein the Town of New Hartford will provide animal shelter services to the Town of Lee during calendar year 2026, in accordance with the terms and conditions set forth therein.

Upon roll call, the Board members voted as follows:

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

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

CREDIT CARD USER – ADD ACO TREEN Upon recommendation of the Police Chief, Councilman Latini offered the following Resolution for adoption; seconded by Councilman Pristera:

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(RESOLUTION NO. 115 OF 2026)

RESOLVED that the New Hartford Town Board does hereby authorize ACO John Treen to be added as a Town of New Hartford Credit Card holder.

Upon roll call, the Board members voted as follows:

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

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

BUFFALO STORMWATER CONFERENCE Upon recommendation of Superintendent Richard Sherman, Councilman Latini offered the following Resolution for adoption; seconded by Councilman Pristera:

(RESOLUTION NO. 116 OF 2026)

RESOLVED that the New Hartford Town Board does hereby authorize Highway Superintendent Richard Sherman to attend a Stormwater Conference to be held in Buffalo, NY.

Upon roll call, the Board members voted as follows:

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

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

FIRE INSPECTION REFUND - APPLEBEES Upon recommendation of Councilman Reynolds, Councilman Latini offered the following Resolution for adoption; seconded by Councilman Pristera:

(RESOLUTION NO. 117 OF 2026)

RESOLVED that the New Hartford Town Board does hereby authorize a refund of \$50 to BG New Hartford LLC, Benderson Development CO., (Applebees). This refund results from an inspection performed in 2023 and was paid for twice. Once by check no. 450122 dated 1/15/24 and again by check no. 2704969 dated 9/9/24.

Upon roll call, the Board members voted as follows:

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

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

OTHER AGENDA ITEMS

1. Petty Cash Policy
2. Grant Funding for Sidewalks
3. NYS Comptroller Audit
4. Part-Time Codes Officer – Position will be advertised
5. Oneida Street – Downtown Chadwicks project

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- 6. Records Management Grant
- 7. New Hartford Public Library Directors Report

NEW BUSINESS The topics below were briefly discussed

- Animal Shelter Volunteers
- Tow Impound Lot
- Highway Department 4-10's proposal
- Sangertown Assessment Reduction request
- 4310 Middle Settlement Road – FD calls
- Gift of parcel of property adjacent to Town Hall
- Sidewalks Kellogg to Oxford Rd
- Athletica – Proposal for Rec Center Glass/Boards – possible grants

ADJOURNMENT There being no further business to come before the Town Board, upon motion of Councilman Latini and second by Councilman Tehan, the meeting was adjourned at 9:35 p.m.

(RESOLUTION NO. 118 OF 2026)

RESOLVED that the New Hartford Town Board does hereby accept and approve as submitted the approval to adjourn. Upon roll call, the Board members voted as follows:

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

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

Next meeting: April 1, 2026

Respectfully submitted,

Michele Moran

Town Clerk

March 23, 2026 9:32 am