October 6, 2025

The regular meeting of the Town Board of Vernon was held at 7:00 p.m. on the above date at the Town Office Building. Council members present: Randy Watson, Supervisor; Gene Bennati, Steve Adamkowski, John Peters and Myron Thurston. Also present: 9 residents.

Following the Pledge of Allegiance, the meeting was called to order by Supervisor Watson at 7:00 p.m.

Supervisor Watson asked the council members if there were any additions or corrections to the minutes from the September 8, 2025 meeting. There being none, a motion to approve the minutes as written was made by Thurston, seconded by Peters. No discussion. Ayes 5. Nays 0. Motion carried.

PUBLIC CONCERNS:

Kaylee Sierson sent a letter to the Board Members asking them to reach out to Senator Joe Griffo asking him to come visit the location of the marijuana farm located on Arquint Rd. so he may better understand the public concerns and present them to government officials higher up in the state.

Rose Lockwood asked for an update on the Vernon Center Water District Project. Work has begun for the foundation of the Water Tower and boring will begin in two weeks. The estimated completion date is December 31, 2026.

Mary LaClaire presented each of the board members with a copy of the book, Tell Your Children by Alex Berenson and a copy of the book Smokescreen by Kevin A. Sabet, Ph.D. to Supervisor Watson.

REPORTS:

The following reports were presented: Town Clerk, Codes Enforcement, Intergovernmental Relations: Adamkowski reported that he talked to the City of Sherrill, and they gave him an update on the CAC project. He also said he would like to schedule a time to tour the facility with the board members to see what has been completed. Operations: Thurston stated that they received the engineering report back from Delta Engineers for the Pickleball Court. The project is estimated to cost $72,270. Board members will discuss it further during Executive session. Supervisor's Report was also presented.

There were no reports from Planning/Zoning Board of Appeals, Assessors, Education and Libraries, Economic Development, SWOCO, Highway Superintendent and County Legislator.

A motion to accept the above reports was made by Bennati, seconded by Peters. No discussion. Ayes 5. Nays 0. Motion carried.

A motion to pay the bills was made by Thurston, seconded by Adamkowski. No discussion. Ayes 5. Nays 0. Motion carried.

BUSINESS:

The 2026 Preliminary Budget is complete and on file in the Town Clerk's Office.

A motion to approve holding a public hearing for the 2026 Fire Contracts on November 3, 2025, at 6:30 p.m. was made by Bennati, seconded by Adamkowski. No discussion. Ayes 5. Nays 0. Motion carried.

A motion to approve holding a public hearing for the 2026 Budget on November 3, 2025, at 6:45 p.m. was made by Thurston, seconded by Adamkowski. No discussion. Ayes 5. Nays 0. Motion carried.

A motion to approve a four-year Oneida County Shared Services Agreement for IT Support in the amount of $30.50 per hour for the first year, $31.50 hourly year 2027, $32.50

hourly year 2028, $33.50 hourly year 2029 with a minimum of 10 hours per month was made by Thurston, seconded by Peters. No discussion. Ayes 5. Nays 0. Motion carried.

A motion to appoint John Raynsford to the Board of Assessment Review for a 5-year term was made by Thurston, seconded by Bennati. No discussion. Ayes 5. Nays 0. Motion carried.

A motion to approve the See MY Legacy subscription for the Veteran's Memorial of $2,299 annually plus a one-time story board fee of $199 was made by Peters, seconded by Bennati. The plaque will have QR code that can be scanned. Family and friends can request the town to add videos, photos or something written about their veteran. The company will have the plaque ready by Veteran's Day. The subscription can be cancelled at any time. Thurston would like to give the program a 5-year trial. Ayes 5. Nays 0. Motion carried.

Supervisor signed a letter of support for City of Sherrill to apply for NY Swim Grant.

Supervisor signed Notice of Intent for the Proposed Advance of Public Funds for Vernon Center Water Project with Ag & Markets.

AIM check from New York State has been received in the amount of $32,319.

CHIPS, PAVE NY and EWR checks have been received for a total of $195,133.68.

Received 2nd Quarter payment from Oneida County for the Oneida Indian Nation Agreement totaling $56,250.00.

GOOD OF THE ORDER:

Adamkowski would like to Thank Bob and his crew at Treeland Nursery for a job well done on the Veterans Memorial.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

A motion to enter Executive Session to discuss the Budget at 7:23 p.m. was made by Peters, seconded by Thurston. No discussion. Ayes 5. Nays 0. Motion carried.

There being no further business, a motion to adjourn at 8:11 p.m. was made by Adamkowski, seconded by Peters. No discussion. Ayes 5. Nays 0. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Additions to minutes on file
in Town Clerk's Office.

Jennifer Champney
Town Clerk

COMMUNICATIONS:

Letter from resident Kaylee Sierson