November 3, 2025

A special meeting of the Town Board of Vernon was held at 6:30 p.m. on the above date at the Town Office Building for the purpose of a public hearing to consider the advisability of entering into contracts for providing fire protection services with the following fire companies with respect to the following fire protection districts:

- Oneida Castle Fire Department
  - District #1 $28,567.00
  - District #2 $59,917.00
- Sherrill-Kenwood Volunteer Fire Company $51,053.00
- Volunteer Fire Company of Vernon $111,255.00
- Vernon Center Volunteer Fire Company $110,614.00

Council members present: Randy Watson, Supervisor; Gene Bennati, Myron Thurston and Steve Adamkowski. Absent: John Peters. Also present: 4 community members. The meeting was called to order by Supervisor Watson at 6:30 p.m.

Vernon Center Fire Chief Tony Doty advised the Town Board that they were looking to buy a new Freightliner pumper/rescue truck.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:45 p.m.

A special meeting of the Town Board of Vernon was held at 6:45 p.m. on the above date at the Town Office Building for the purpose of a 2026 Preliminary Budget Hearing. Council members present: Randy Watson, Supervisor; Gene Bennati, Myron Thurston and Steve Adamkowski. Absent: John Peters. Also present: 9 community members. The meeting was called to order by Supervisor Watson at 6:45 p.m.

The proposed salaries of the following Town offices are hereby specified as follows:

	Supervisor	$25,000.00
	Deputy Supervisor	$ 4,700.00
4	Council Person (each)	$10,000.00
	Town Clerk/Tax Collector	$49,045.00
1	Justice	$25,000.00
	Assessor-Certified Chairman	$24,000.00
1	Assessor-Certified	$23,300.00
1	Assessor-Certified	$23,300.00
	Highway Superintendent	$70,000.00

Keith Schiebel advised that Oneida County has projected a decrease in sales tax revenue.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:00 p.m.

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, and Myron Thurston. Absent: John Peters. 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 October 6, 2025 meeting. There being none, a motion to approve the minutes as written was made by Bennati, seconded by Thurston. No discussion. Ayes 4. Nays 0. Motion carried.

PUBLIC CONCERNS:

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Kaylee Sierson expressed her concerns about lack of security at the Marijuana Field gates on Arquint Rd. She also followed up on her request from last month and asked if Senator Griffo was contacted. Supervisor Watson said he had been out of the country and that he plans on reaching out to him. He mentioned that he did have a conversation with Assemblyman Brian Miller. The Town Board will be sending out a letter expressing their concerns about the issues that they have with the farm. Thurston believes the Town should reach out to their attorney to see if any legal action could be taken. The board was advised previously that the smell would only be in the area for about two weeks of the year. The smell has been present throughout the town for about two months. Mary LaClaire is also concerned with the effects of having a marijuana farm in the Town of Vernon.

REPORTS:

The following reports were presented: Town Clerk, Codes Enforcement, Intergovernmental Relations: Adamkowski reported that he talked to the City of Sherrill about how residents reserve the pickleball court. They have an online registration form to fill out and that has seemed to work well. The plaques for the Veteran's Memorial will begin to be installed on Thursday. Pet waste bag dispensers have been installed along the walking path. Working on landscaping around the gazebo this week. Will talk to the Highway Dept. to see if they have time to help plant 8 memorial trees. Supervisor's Report was also presented. County Legislator reported on Republican lawsuit on the new even year election requirement, congratulated the Town for the Vernon Center Water District ribbon cutting, NYS received a $2 million grant for child advocacy center, Chobani progress is moving along, school patrol officer contracts with the schools, roadside mowing budget increase and OIN money being shared with municipalities.

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

A motion to accept the above reports was made by Thurston, seconded by Bennati. No discussion. Ayes 4. Nays 0. Motion carried.

A motion to pay the bills was made by Bennati, seconded by Adamkowski. No discussion. Ayes 4. Nays 0. Motion carried.

BUSINESS:

A motion to approve 2026 Fire Contracts was made by Bennati, seconded by Thurston. No discussion. Ayes 4. Nays 0. Motion carried.

A motion to approve 2026 Budget was made by Adamkowski, seconded by Bennati. No discussion. Ayes 4. Nays 0. Motion carried.

A motion to approve transfer of $300 from A1990.4 Contingency to A1010.4 Town Board Contractual was made by Bennati, seconded by Thurston. Ayes 4. Nays 0. No discussion. Motion carried.

A motion to approve transfer of $3130 from B1990.4 Contingency to B1910.4 Unallocated Insurance was made by Thurston, seconded by Adamkowski. Ayes 4. Nays 0. No discussion. Motion carried.

A motion to approve request for Lori Klopfer to attend Judge training December 8th-12th was made by Bennati, seconded by Thurston. Ayes 4. Nays 0. No discussion. Motion carried.

A motion to approve request for Town Supervisor to appoint interim emergency Judge was made by Bennati, seconded by Thurston. Ayes 4. Nays 0. No discussion. Motion carried.

A motion to approve request to pay Vernon Center Water District Construction bills once government shut down is over was made by Thurston, seconded by Bennati. Ayes 4. Nays 0. No discussion. Motion carried.

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A motion to approve request to put pickle ball court out to bid was made by Thurston, seconded by Bennati. Ayes 4. Nays 0. Adamkowski mentioned the possibility of changing the location of the walkway to go to the pavilion as Peters had previously mentioned. This change can be decided on and changed at a later date. Motion carried.

A motion to approve quote from Daryl Co. of $27,478 for repairs to 2009 Mack all-wheel drive, replacing front axle 4wd system was made by Bennati, seconded by Thurston. Ayes 4. Nays 0. No discussion. Motion carried.

A motion to approve electrical quote of $3750 by Kevin Mumford for Veterans Memorial was made by Thurston, seconded by Adamkowski. Ayes 4. Nays 0. No discussion. Motion carried.

A motion to approve quote for Microsoft 365 G3 annual license for 12 computers with email in the amount of $4993.80 was made by Thurston, seconded by Adamkowski. Ayes 4. Nays 0. No discussion. Motion carried

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A motion to approve scheduling a Public Hearing on December 8, 2025, at 6:45pm for a local law to provide for the codification of the local laws, ordinances and certain resolutions of the Town of Vernon into municipal code to be designated the "Code of the Town of Vernon" was made by Adamkowski, seconded by Bennati. Ayes 4. Nays 0. No discussion. Motion carried.

Town of Vernon to hold Veterans Memorial Service on 11/11/25 at 11:00am.

GOOD OF THE ORDER:

None

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

None

There being no further business, a motion to adjourn at 7:40p.m. was made by Thurston, seconded by Adamkowski. No discussion. Ayes 4. Nays 0. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Jennifer Champney
Town Clerk

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