

TOWN OF BRUNSWICK
REGULAR TOWN BOARD MEETING
November 13, 2025 7:00 P.M.
TOWN HALL

Board Members Present: Supervisor Herrington, Councilman Christian, Councilman Cipperly, Councilman Balistreri, and Councilman Sullivan.

Also Present: Town Attorney Gruenberg and Deputy Town Clerk DamaPoleto.

Supervisor Herrington called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

All joined in with the pledge of allegiance.

Supervisor Herrington congratulated all those who won their elections earlier this month.

MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING:

Councilman Christian made a motion to accept the minutes of the regular Town Board meeting from October 9th, 2025, the Special Meeting about the Preliminary Budget Presentation on October 23rd, 2025, the Public Hearing about Local Law Number 1 of 2025 on November 6th, 2025, and the Public Hearing about the Preliminary Budget on November 6th, 2025. Councilman Balistreri seconded the motion. It was unanimously approved.

REPORTS:

Deputy Town Clerk: Vinny DamaPoleto

Mr. DamaPoleto gave the report for the month of October. \$7,299.73 will be remitted to the Supervisor's office. Recycling fees accounted for \$3,253.60, Community Center rental fees for \$2,555.00, Dog License fees for \$451.00 and \$724.33 in miscellaneous fees. Our share of \$5,369.00 in NYSDEC sales was \$245.80.

Motion to accept the report was made by Councilman Christian and seconded by Councilman Sullivan. Unanimously approved. A copy of the written report is on file in the Town Clerk's Office.

Highway Superintendent: Michael Bayly

Mr. Bayly gave the report for the month of October. Mr. Bayly reported that he had six men working seven days to pick up brush, five men patching roads for four days, one man pulled recycling materials for a day, five men worked six days on the shop, one man worked for a day mowing roadside, one man worked for a day mowing the ballfields, two men worked for four days picking up bags, and two crews of five men worked for eleven days picking up leaves. The department is also getting trucks ready for the winter season.

Motion to accept the report was made by Councilman Cipperly and seconded by Councilman Balistreri. Unanimously approved. A copy of the written report is on file in the Town Clerk's Office.

Water Superintendent: Bill Bradley

Mr. Bradley gave the report for the month of October. The department is waiting on the engineering firm working on the Vanderheyden dam to approve liner submittals. There is a minor discrepancy in the pipe diameter and the liner thickness. We are also waiting to hear from the manufacturer of the liner to move the project forward towards completion. Supervisor Herrington asked if there's a timeline for this, and Mr. Bradley said hopefully in a month or two. Due to the nature of this liner, the winter cold won't actually be a hinderance because the liner has to be transported in refrigeration trucks.

Mr. Bradley said he's working with the folks at QuickChek and Marie's Muse to resolve stormwater issues. He expressed the difficulties he's had getting straight answers from the developer and engineer. He suggested that we work to get a Stormwater Maintenance Agreement in place to ensure future compliance if their system fails to work correctly as promised. Mr. Bradley went on to talk about the stormwater issues regarding the project on Sharpe Road. The building Department is withholding any new building permits until the problems have been corrected. A complaint was registered with the New York State Department of Environment Conservation (NYSDEC) and fines could be coming if the site remains in non-compliance.

The Department just finished the Water and Sewer Relevy for the January tax bill and it was \$341,265.17, which is up substantially from last year. The surprise was that many businesses and large apartment complexes didn't pay their bills this year. Mr. Bradley said that while the town does collect extra revenue due to the 10% late fee, it does create a cashflow issue waiting for the county to make us whole. Councilman Sullivan asked if the 10% late fee was set by state law and Mr. Bradley clarified that it isn't, but that it's an economic discussion to have the board raise it to try and get better compliance. A concern is that if a company were to declare bankruptcy, this would be a forgiven debt that the town would not be able to collect.

Mr. Bradley then explained how the leak detection system that he requested the town board approve works. He explained that due to leaks in the system, the town is losing up to 30% of the water we purchase from the City of Troy, which is approaching an annual cost of \$100,000. Several of the leaks that have been repaired recently were situations where the water never reached the surface, remaining hidden under the pavement for potentially weeks at a time. Supervisor Herrington asked if the system would download the data daily, and Mr. Bradley clarified that the system listens to the pipes nightly and then would require a vehicle to drive by

to collect the data via a radio device, like the new water meters. Supervisor Herrington inquired about the feasibility of having the three Water Department field techs driving all over town, and Mr. Bradley assured him that they already cover the vast majority of it on their own, but that the radio receivers can also be attached to highway vehicles. Councilman Balistreri asked how much more would a cellular system cost, and Mr. Bradley admitted that he didn't do a full financial analysis, but that just the costs of just the sensors and needed modifications was much more than the 64 Seconds system. Mr. Gruenberg asked Mr. Bradley to explain his thought process for selecting the system he did. Mr. Bradley reviewed six different acoustical leak detection systems; the most cost-effective one is the AFLX system from 64 Seconds. There are cellular systems, but they cost a lot more, are more intrusive to the water system, and aren't as sensitive. The owners of 64 Seconds are the originators of the acoustical leak detection industry. The proposed AFLX system has the highest sensitivity of any system on the market, allowing for a reduced number of sensors to be installed. The ALFX system mounts onto hydrants, allowing fast and easy installation. Other systems that were reviewed either need access into homes and businesses, need to be installed in road valve boxes, or need special modification of the hydrants. Councilman Balistreri asked why the sixteen inch water main wouldn't be monitored and Mr. Bradley explained that there aren't enough hydrants on it for the system to work. Councilman Cipperly asked if we should add more hydrants to the sixteen-inch water main, Mr. Bradley said that would be nice, but we should prioritize finding and stopping all the leaks so the town has the funds to add the hydrants. The quoted cost for the AFLX system is \$58,000 for two hundred sensors and a five-year contract.

Motion to accept the report was made by Councilman Christian and seconded by Councilman Balistreri. Unanimously approved. A copy of the written report is on file in the Town Clerk's Office.

Code Enforcement: No one was present for the meeting, but the department submitted their report and it's on file in the Town Clerk's Office.

Town Attorney: David Gruenberg

Nothing to report this month.

Town Historian: Tracy Broderick

Town Historian Broderick informed the board that the Forest Park Walkthrough was held on October 18th, and there was approximately 120 people in attendance. She said that so far, she has researched over 300 families interred at that cemetery. She is also continuing to document the veterans from the town. According to a 1930 Census, there were 108 veterans recorded: 1 from the Civil War, 3 from the Spanish-American War, and 104 from World War One. Then Town Historian Broderick regaled the board with two tales from the scrapbooks of Mable

Keys, who was a teaching in Brunswick. The first was a story about the four Hauenstein brothers who all served in World War Two. The second was a story about Captain Dayton VanDeusen who was a Chaplain in the Army during World War Two.

Motion to accept the report was made by Councilman Christian and seconded by Councilman Balistreri. Unanimously approved. A copy of the written report is on file in the Town Clerk's Office.

Recycling Coordinator: Thomas Engster

Mr. Engster gave the report for October. There were 356 Blue Bags purchased at the center for \$1,068, 600 Blue Bags purchased at vendors for \$1,530, 176 Purple Bags purchased at the center for \$352, 1.91 tons of metal and light iron generated \$248.30, 1.87 tons of auto batteries generated \$935, 4.48 tons of baled cardboard generated \$89.60. There were also 7 large and small appliances, 4 air conditioners, 8 tires, and 1 micro, which generated \$164 in miscellaneous funds. The total revenues for the month were \$4,386.90.

Mr. Engster then explained what the center's expenses were. 21.06 tons of refuse at the landfill cost \$2,737.60, 12.81 tons of SSR recycled cost \$2,322, 2.2 tons od CEE recycled with a smoke detector cost \$26, freon removal for 40 air conditioners, 16 dehumidifiers, and 2 water coolers cost \$307. The total expenses for the month were \$5,392.60.

Motion to accept the report was made by Supervisor Herrington and seconded by Councilman Sullivan. Unanimously approved. A copy of the written report is on file in the Town Clerk's Office.

Community Library: Alix Duggan, President of the Board of Trustees

President Duggan began by explaining that Sara Hopkins, the Library Director, is unfortunately sick so she's filling in. Director Hopkins emailed the board the full report, so President Duggan covered the highlights at the meeting. The library had 2,319 visitors, 438 reference questions, 209 Wi-Fi users averaging 19 per day, 340 study space users, 101 visitors helped with tech use and other assistance, and 10 passports were processed. These will be the last 10 passports processed because the federal government has decided to remove libraries abilities to process them. There was a total of 3,417 total services rendered. There were also 3,504 physical items checked out, 2,074 on Overdrive, 103 on Hoopla, and 1,146 on NewsBank. The total items checked out across off the services were 6,827. There were 19 different programs held at the library in October, with the Halloween Party having 240 participants. There was a total of 819 participants across all the programs. President Duggan then gave a brief overview of the upcoming events at the library. A copy of the written report is on file in the Town Clerk's Office.

RESOLUTIONS:

RESOLUTION NO. 73 OF 2025

RESOLUTION DIRECTING RELEVY OF UNPAID VACANT BUILDING REGISTRATION FEES

The foregoing Resolution, offered by Supervisor Herrington and seconded by Councilman Sullivan, was duly put to a roll call vote as follows: Councilman Cipperly, Voting Aye; Councilman Christian, Voting Aye; Councilman Sullivan, Voting Aye; Councilman Balistreri, Voting Aye; Supervisor Herrington, Voting Aye. The foregoing Resolution was thereupon declared duly adopted.

RESOLUTION NO. 74 OF 2025

RESOLUTION ADOPTING A PROPOSED LOCAL LAW AUTHORIZING THE TOWN BOARD TO OVERRIDE THE TAX LEVY LIMIT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2026

The foregoing Resolution, offered by Councilman Balistreri and seconded by Supervisor Herrington, was duly put to a roll call vote as follows: Councilman Cipperly, Voting Aye; Councilman Christian, Voting Aye; Councilman Sullivan, Voting Aye; Councilman Balistreri, Voting Aye; Supervisor Herrington, Voting Aye. The foregoing Resolution was thereupon declared duly adopted.

RESOLUTION NO. 75 OF 2025

RESOLUTION ADOPTING 2026 PREMILINARY BUDGET AS 2026 ANNUAL BUDGET OF THE TOWN OF BRUNSWICK

The foregoing Resolution, offered by Councilman Balistreri and seconded by Councilman Sullivan, was duly put to a roll call vote as follows: Councilman Cipperly, Voting Aye; Councilman Christian, Voting Aye; Councilman Sullivan, Voting Aye; Councilman Balistreri, Voting Aye; Supervisor Herrington, Voting Aye. The foregoing Resolution was thereupon declared duly adopted.

RESOLUTION NO. 76 OF 2025

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE SUPERVISOR TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT Ti SALES INC. FOR THE PURCHASE OF A LEAK DETECTION SYSTEM FOR THE WATER DEPARTMENT

The foregoing Resolution, offered by Councilman Cipperly and seconded by Councilman Sullivan, was duly put to a roll call vote as follows: Councilman Cipperly, Voting Aye; Councilman Christian, Voting Aye; Councilman Sullivan, Voting Aye; Councilman Balistreri, Voting Aye; Supervisor Herrington, Voting Aye. The foregoing Resolution was thereupon declared duly adopted.

OLD BUSINESS:

Supervisor Herrington asked if there was any old business. Councilman Balistreri said that there were two responses to ambulance RFP. The responses are being evaluated.

NEW BUSINESS:

Supervisor Herrington then asked if there was any new business. Councilman Cipperly Had two items. The first was that the Dog Catcher made him aware that she's not able to place animals at the current shelter during outside business hours. The Town of Petersburg has created their own shelter and offered to make it available outside of normal business hours. Councilman Cipperly inquired what kind of contracted would be needed if any to take advantage of the offer. Town Attorney Gruenberg explained that a simple municipal agreement is all that's necessary and offered to put one together.

Councilman Cipperly then said the second item was that he received a plaque from the Cornell Cooperative Extension while representing the town. The CCE had a ceremony recognizing the Town of Brunswick's community center.

Supervisor Herrington wanted to congratulate the Brunswick Bulldogs football team on winning their Superbowl. He said that there were over 400 residents at the game cheering on the Brunswick Bulldogs.

WARRANTS:

The warrants were offered by Councilman Christian and seconded by Councilman Sullivan, and were duly put to a roll call vote as follows: Councilman Cipperly, Voting Aye; Councilman Christian, Voting Aye; Councilman Sullivan, Voting Aye; Councilman Balistreri, Voting Aye; Supervisor Herrington, Voting Aye. The foregoing warrants were thereupon declared duly adopted.

VISITORS WHO WISHED TO SPEAK:

Sue Tollens addressed the Board regarding legislation passed by the County Legislature suggesting that National Grid look elsewhere for its energy transfer station. She hopes that the Planning Board listens to the County Legislature. Then she asked if the Town could get out of the leak detection contract early if desired. Mr. Bradley said he wasn't worried about that because

it's the newest generation of technology. She was happy to hear about the Town's handling of the Sharpe Rd development, and wondered if North Greenbush also paused their permits. Mr. Bradley gave a status update on the project before confirming that North Greenbush is following Brunswick's lead.

Chris Fanning addressed the Board representing the Brunswick Soccer Club. They just finished the fall season which went great. There were over 300 players this season. Many parents gave compliments to the Town for the condition of the fields. He explained the maintenance of the fields. The winter season travel academy is about to begin which will be followed by the spring program. Enrollment is at a five year high. The Brunswick Soccer Club Board is working on getting lights for the fields as well as getting classified as a 501(c)(3) organization with the IRS. Mr. Fanning then gave Town Attorney Gruenberg their insurance policy. The Brunswick Soccer Club Board would like to establish a license for the fields. Supervisor Herrington congratulated Mr. Fanning on running such a popular and successful program.

Mary Ellen Adams asked the Board to take notice of other towns regarding solar expansion. Traffic on Hoosick Rd is still an issue to her, especially after being rear-ended on it. She requested that the Board update its comprehensive plan. She doesn't like the wall being constructed on Hoosick Rd for the development across from Brunswick Plaza. She was happy to hear about the sports programs' successes. She requested that proposed budgets be adjusted to make it easier to compare them from year to year. Then she questioned how County Executive McLaughlin claims to have lowered taxes. Assistant to the Supervisor Mr. Poleto explained how the Town and County Property Taxes work. He started by pointing out that the Town hasn't raised taxes. The county has two places where they can lower their portion of that tax, one of which is what Mr. McLaughlin is referring to in his election materials. The bigger impact on the property taxes is chargebacks, which are incurred by Brunswick residents going to SUNY schools or HVCC. Supervisor Herrington inquired how many years she was on the schoolboard. She said nine years. They then went back and forth over that experience.

ADJOURNMENT:

Supervisor Herrington then motioned to close the meeting. Councilman Christian seconded. Everyone voted "Aye" to close the meeting at 8:08 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Vinny DamaPoleto
Deputy Town Clerk