

Bennington Town Board

January 8, 2026

DRAFT #1

Workshop Session 6:00 pm. Audit of bills and review Board meeting agenda

In Attendance: Supervisor Mark Prior, Council Members Jeff Burger (7:30 arrival), Bernie Frounick, Joyce Mohun, Maria Prior, Clerk Joanne Rosenthal.

2026 Organizational Meeting

Call to Order by Supervisor Prior at 7:00 pm. Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag led by Maria Prior

Swearing In of Newly Elected Officials - Supervisor Mark Prior, Council Member Mara Prior.

Oath of Office administered by Clerk Rosenthal

A. Salaries, Fees & Financial Matters

2026 Town Salaries

Supervisor	\$ 6,000/year	
Town Councilman (4) @	500/year	
Town Justice (2) @	8,700/year	
Highway Superintendent	79,310/year	
Town Clerk/Collector/Registrar	17,750/year	
Deputy Town Clerk I		\$21.50/hour
Deputy Town Clerk II		\$18.50/hour
Budget Director	500/year	
Town Assessor (sole)	29,365/year	
 <u>Planning Board:</u>		
Zoning Board of Appeals Member I		\$40.00/meeting
Zoning Board of Appeals Member II		\$25.00/meeting
Zoning Board of Appeals Chair I		\$50.00/meeting
Zoning Board of Appeals Chair II		\$30.00/meeting
ZBA/Assessment Review Secretary		\$18.50/hour
Board of Assessment Review Members		\$35.00/hour
Board of Assessment Review Chair		\$45.00/hour
Court Clerk	8,750/year	
Town Bookkeeper	6,000/year	
Town Custodian	2,500/year	
Town Historian	200/year	
Attorney for the Town of Bennington	Per voucher	
Town Park Maintenance Person	1,000/year	
Prosecutor	4,000/year	
Motor Vehicle Operator w/CDL (PT Seasonal)		\$23.50/hour
Laborer (PT Seasonal)		\$17.50/hour
Water System Operator (WSO)		\$20.50/hour
Assistant Water System Operator		\$18.50/hour
WSO/Assist WSO Emergency Call Out		\$ 3.00/hour premium
Water Clerk	600/year	
Swim Instructors		\$16.50/hour
Life Guards		\$16.50/hour
Youth Recreational Coordinator	500/year	

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Fees

Driveway Pipe Installation (initial)	\$ 300.00
Tower Special Use Permit Fee	2,000.00
Building Permit Fee for Towers	
First 100 feet	1,000.00
Next 100 feet (or part thereof)	600.00
Each 100 feet (thereafter or part thereof)	400.00
Co-location Application Fee	1,000.00
Co-location Building Permit Fee	1,000.00
Park Rental	50.00 per function
Park Security Deposit	50.00 per function
Copies of official documents	\$.40 per page
Official rate for Mileage while on Town Business	\$.45 per mile

Banking Accounts

General Fund Checking	Five Star Bank
Highway Fund Checking	Five Star Bank
Trust & Agency Account	Five Star Bank
Town Clerk Account	Alden State Bank
Tax Collector Account	Five Star Bank
Justice Court Funds	Five Star Bank
Cowlesville Water District	Five Star Bank
Escrow Accounts	Five Star Bank
Certificates of Deposit	Banks with the best interest rate

Authorized Personnel to Maintain Banking Accounts

General Fund/Highway Fund/Cowlesville Water Fund/Trust & Agency Account - Mark Prior Authorized signers; Mark Prior, authorized electronic/wire transfers.

Town Clerk/Tax Collector Accounts - Joanne Rosenthal, Deanna Nikiel, authorized signers.

Justice Court Funds - Mark Linsey, James Wawrzyniak, authorized signers.

B. Notice of Meeting Dates, Times, Locations, and other legal notices

Official Meeting Dates:	Location of all meetings: Bennington Town Hall.
Town Board Meetings:	(Tentative) Second Wednesday of each month; Start: 7:30 pm.
Workshop Sessions:	Start 6:30 pm, one hour before the regular Town Board meeting.
Planning Board	3rd Wednesday of every month. Start: 6:00 pm.
Zoning Board of Appeals	1st. Tuesday of every month, as needed. Start: 7:00 pm.
Zoning Update/Green Energy Comm.	Dates to be set at January 21, 2026 Town Board Meeting.
Official Election Places	Districts #1, 2 & 3 - Bennington Town Hall.

Official Newspaper for Legal ads & Official Notices:

The Daily News, Batavia NY and Warsaw Penny Saver. Emailed to residents on file.

Official Bulletin Board for posting of Town Notices:

Town Clerk's public bulletin board, Bennington Town Hall Bennington Center, NY.

Official Town Website - www.benningtonny.com, to transition to www.benningtonny.gov.

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C. Appointments

Appointments

Attorney for the Town	TBA
Deputy Town Clerk I	Deanna Nikiel
Historian	Michael Mohun
Registrar	Joanne Rosenthal
Deputy Registrar	Deanna Nikiel
Bookkeeper	TBA
Budget Director	Mark Prior
Town Prosecutor	Matthew Dillion (as appointed by WY CO DA)
Court Clerk	Christa Dake
Planning Board Chairman	Robert Gadd
Secretary, Planning Board	Donna Hummel
Secretary, Zoning Board of Appeals	Peggy Schmidt-Wlostowski
Town Hall Custodian	Carolyn Mruzek
Office for the Aging Representative	Faith Miller
Town Park Custodian	
County Planning Board Representative	Robert Gadd
Assessor	James Kirsch
Water System Operator (WSO)	TBA
Deputy WSO	TBA
Water Clerk	Judith Brown
Deputy Supervisor	TBA

***Motion by J. Mohun, seconded by B. Frounick to approve Organizational sections A, B, C.
Ayes: 4. Noes: 0. Abstain: 0. Absent: 1. (J. Burger)***

State of the Town Address by Supervisor Prior.

***Motion by J. Mohun, seconded by M. Prior to close the Organizational Meeting.
Ayes: 4. Noes: 0. Abstain: 0. Absent: 1. (J. Burger)***

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Regular Board Meeting 7:30 pm

Call Meeting to Order at 7:25 pm by Supervisor Prior

Set Agenda - no additions

Conflict of Interest - none

Open Public Hearing on Resolution #2026-1-1 to Consider the Adoption of #1 of 2026 Local Law Establishing Zoning Guidelines for Kennels in the Town of Bennington.

Financial Matters

General Fund Vouchers	#400 to #409	\$ 79,837.70.
Highway Fund Vouchers	#200 to #213	\$194,502.67.
Water Fund Voucher	# 15	\$ 74.25.
Lighting Fund Voucher	# 1	\$ 171.89.

Motion by J. Mohun, seconded by B. Frounick to approve vouchers for payment.

Ayes: 4. Noes: 0. Abstain: 0. Absent: 1. (J. Burger)

Financial Reports None presented.

New Business

Resolution #2026-1-2 Appoint Bookkeeper and Designate Account Signee

Be it Resolved, that the Town Board hereby appoints Melissa Lieder, 10 Clinton St., Alden, NY 14004 as Town Bookkeeper. Due to extenuating circumstances of the departure of our previous bookkeeper and the need to avoid an interruption in payroll service, Mrs. Lieder has already begun bookkeeping duties under the supervised access of Councilwoman Maria Prior. Her effective date of service, therefore, shall be January 6, 2026.

Motion: J. Mohun. Second: B. Frounick.

Ayes: 4. Noes: 0. Abstain: 0. Absent: 1 (J. Burger).

Resolution #2026-1-3 Establish a Petty Cash Fund for Tax Collection

Be it Resolved, that the Town Board hereby authorizes the establishment of a petty cash fund in the amount of \$100.00 for use by the Town Tax Collector for the purpose of making change for individuals making cash payments for their property taxes.

Motion: M. Prior Second: J. Mohun

Ayes: 4. Noes: 0. Abstain: 0. Absent: 1 (J. Burger).

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New Business

**Resolution #2026-1-4 Authorize Attendance of 2026 NYAOT NETO
Newly Elected Town Officials School**

Be it Resolved, that the Town Supervisor and Council Member Maria Prior are hereby authorized to attend the 2026 NYS Association of Towns NETO Newly Elected Town Officials school, January 14,15,16, 2026

Motion by: J. Mohun. Seconded by B. Frounick.

Ayes: 3. Noes: 0. Abstain: 2 (Supervisor Prior, & M. Prior). Absent: 0.

**Hear Comments on Public Hearing for Resolution #2026-1-1 to Consider the Adoption of #1 of
2026 Local Law Establishing Zoning Guidelines for Kennels in the Town of Bennington.**

John F. - Tinkham Rd.	opposed.
Matt - Church Rd.	opposed.
Cindy - Blood Rd.	opposed. Will forward questions to the Clerk.
Katherine - Clinton St.	opposed.
Richard - Clinton St.	spoke but did not state if in agreement or opposed.
Alycia - Kern Rd.	opposed.
Mark - Geise Rd.	opposed.
Lynn - Geise Rd.	opposed.
Jenny - Schoellkopf Rd.	opposed.
John - Reiliein Rd.	referendum vote.
Eileen - Church Rd.	opposed.

Supervisor Prior keeping this public hearing open until the next Town Board meeting of February 11, 2026. Any additional comments should be forwarded to the Clerk [@benn-clerk@rochester.rr.com](mailto:benn-clerk@rochester.rr.com) for review by the Town Board.

***Motion by J. Mohun. Seconded by: M. Prior to end this portion of the public hearing
Ayes: 5. Noes: 0. Abstain: 0. Absent: 0.***

The next Board meeting will be January 21, 2026 at 8:00 pm.
All future meetings are tentatively scheduled for the second Wednesday of each month.

Adjourn by J. Mohun
Time: 8:20 pm
In Attendance 45