

Town of Bennington
August 12, 2026
DRAFT #1

Workshop Session 6:00 p.m.
Audit of bills; Highway Dept report; review Board meeting agenda

In attendance: Supervisor Mark Prior, Council Members Deborah Anstett, Lynn Dusen, Danielle Lampart, Maria Prior. Clerk Joanne Rosenthal.

Regular Board Meeting 7:30 p.m.

Call Meeting to Order by Supervisor Prior at 7:32 p.m.
Pledge of allegiance led by Council Member Maria Prior.

Oath of Office taken by new Council Members Lynn Dusen, and Danielle Lampart, appointed to office at Special Session August 4, 2026.

Set Agenda – Town Board presented Supervisor Prior with a plaque and a picture memorial to honor his work done on the Hometown Hero Banner program.

Conflict of Interest – none.

	Voucher #	Totals
<u>Financial Matters</u>		
General Fund	#533 to #553.	\$14,843.33.
Highway Fund	#351 to #362.	\$27,067.56.
Cowlesville Water Fund	# 47 to # 50.	\$ 3,851.21.
Cowlesville Light Fund	#7.	<u>\$ 187.75.</u>
Total		\$45,949.85.

Motion by D. Anstett. Seconded by Maria Prior to approve vouchers for payment.
Ayes: 5. Noes: 0. Abstain: 0. Absent: 0.

Unfinished Business – none.

Petitions and public concerns – none presented.

New Business

Resolution #2026-8-3 Set date for Public Hearing on Bennington Volunteer Fire Company

WHEREAS, The Town of Bennington is in receipt of a request from the Bennington Volunteer Fire Company for a fire and rescue services contract for calendar years 2027, at an increase of four (4.78%) percent for 2027 on the fire services levy;

Resolution #2026-8-3 Set date for Public Hearing on Bennington Volunteer Fire Company

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Town Board shall hold a public hearing on the 9th day of September, 2026 at the Bennington Town Hall, 905 Old Alleghany Road, Attica NY, to hear all persons related to said contract proposal; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Town Clerk is authorized and directed to advertise the same in the legal newspaper of this Town.

Note: (Completed legal notice, posted on Clerk's public bulletin board)

Motion by L. Dusen. Seconded by D. Lampart to approve vouchers for payment.
Ayes: 5. Noes: 0. Abstain: 0. Absent: 0.

Resolution #2026-8-4 Resolution Authorizing Wyoming County to Correct and Assume Meter Reading and Billing Responsibilities for the Cowlesville Water System

WHEREAS, the Town of Bennington currently maintains responsibility for certain water system administrative functions, including meter reading, billing, and account reconciliation for Town water customers; and

WHEREAS, the Wyoming County Administrator, by letter dated **July 22, 2026**, provided formal guidance identifying past errors and recommending correction as Wyoming County Water Administration assumes responsibility for meter reading and billing functions in order to improve accuracy, consistency, and administrative efficiency; and

WHEREAS, the Town Board of the Town of Bennington previously adopted **Resolution 2022-12-6**, establishing the Town's water rate schedule and associated billing structure; and

WHEREAS, transitioning meter reading and billing responsibilities to Wyoming County will ensure that all customer accounts are billed in accordance with the rate schedule established in Resolution 2022-12-6, and will support uniform application of county-level administrative standards; and

WHEREAS, the Town Board finds that authorizing Wyoming County to correct existing account discrepancies and assume ongoing meter reading and accurate billing duties is in the best interest of Town residents and will promote long-term administrative efficiency and service reliability.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Bennington hereby authorizes **Wyoming County** to correct existing water account records, including meter readings, usage data, and billing histories, as necessary to ensure conformity with the rate schedule established in Resolution 2022-12-6; and

Resolution #2026-8-4

Resolution Authorizing Wyoming County to Correct and Assume Meter Reading and Billing Responsibilities for the Cowlesville Water System

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Town Board authorizes **Wyoming County** to assume full responsibility for **meter reading and billing responsibilities** for all Town of Bennington water system customers, effective upon coordination between the Town Supervisor and the Wyoming County Administrator; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Town Supervisor is hereby authorized to execute any agreements, forms, or administrative documents necessary to implement this transition in accordance with the guidance provided in the Wyoming County Administrator's letter dated July 22, 2026; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that this Resolution shall take effect immediately upon adoption.

Motion: D. Anstett. Second: Maria Prior
Ayes: 5. Noes: 0. Abstain: 0. Absent: 0.

Minutes of Previous Meetings

Minutes accepted July 8, 2026 as submitted by the Clerk.

Communications

Clerk

1. 2026 NYS Hunting, Trapping permits now being issued.
2. Notice of GLOW Collections
Hazardous Waste (Saturday, August 29, 2026)
Paint Collection (Saturday, September 19, 2026)
Electronic Collection (Saturday, September 26, 2026)

Supervisor

1. Bennington Volunteer Fire Dept.

Departments

Highway

1. Summer road work continues with ditching operations done on Town roads.

Town Clerk/Tax Collector

1. Town Clerk monthly report for July 2026.
2. Vital statistics 2026 YTD: Births: 0. Deaths: 4. Marriage permits issued: 7.

Departments

Town Clerk/Tax Collector

3. Renewal request for Special Use Permits 2026-2029:

J.M.M. Construction of WNY Home Office.

J.M.M. Construction of WNY Co.

This business remains in good standing with no complaints on file.

Motion by: L. Dusen. Seconded by: Maria Prior to renew the above Special Use Permits

Ayes: 5. Noes: 0. Abstain: 0. Absent: 0.

Assessor

1. Report submitted for July 2026.

Zoning/Planning

1. Dates set for additional 2026 workshops.
Thursday, August 27, Wednesday, September 2, Thursday, September 10.

Note: (Completed legal notice, posted on Clerk's public bulletin board)

Recreation/Park

1. Swim Program – concludes on August 13, 2026 with a pizza party and award of certificates of completion.

Water District

1. Reference Resolution #2026-8-4

Historical Society - no report

Supervisor's address

1. Swim program
2. SPEEDY COW update
3. NYS Financial Audit
4. Job opening for Bennington Highway Superintendent
5. Grant pursuit February 2027 for Pine Tree Park
6. Wyoming County grant \$62 million housing

Any other Business to Come before the Board/County Matters

None

Motion to enter Executive session to discuss the employment history of a particular person or persons and to discuss proposed, pending, or current litigation.

Motion: Maria Prior. Seconded: D. Anstett to adjourn regular board meeting at 8:01 pm to enter into Executive session,

Ayes: 5. Noes: 0. Abstain: 0. Absent: 0.

Executive session action – discussion only. No actions taken.

Motion by: Maria Prior. Seconded by: Mark Prior to move out of Executive session

Ayes: 5. Noes: 0. Abstain: 0. Absent: 0.

Adjourn regular meeting by Maria Prior

Time: 10:11 pm

Attendance: 29