

**Bennington Town Board**

**January 21, 2026**

**Draft #2**

Workshop Session 7:00 p.m.

Audit of bills, Review Board Meeting Agenda.

In Attendance: Supervisor Mark Prior, Council Members Jeff Burger, Bernard Frounick, Joyce Mohun, Maria Prior, Clerk Joanne Rosenthal. Absent: Highway Superintendent Jake Jensen (out plowing)

Regular Board Meeting 8:00 p.m.

**Call Meeting to Order by Supervisor Prior at 8:02 p.m. Pledge of Allegiance led by Supervisor Prior.**

**Set Agenda - no additions or changes.**

**Conflict of Interest - none.**

<b><u>Financial Matters</u></b>	General Fund vouchers	#410 to #424.	\$ 27,560.90.
	Highway Fund vouchers	#214 to #230.	\$108,297.30.
	Cowlesville Water vouchers	# 19	\$ 3,345.93.
	Cowlesville Light vouchers	# -	\$ -
	Bennington Fire Co. voucher	#600	\$ 36,000.00.

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

***Ayes: All (5). Noes: 0. Abstain: 0. Absent: 0.***

**Financial Report** Supervisor monthly report for December 2025.

***Motion by J. Mohun, seconded by Maria Prior to approve the Financial Reports ending December 31, 2025.***

***Ayes: All (5). Noes: 0. Abstain: 0. Absent: 0.***

**Unfinished Business** Review of Account signees

**Authorized Personnel to Maintain Banking Accounts:**

**General Fund/Highway Fund/Cowlesville Water Fund/Trust & Agency Account:**

Mark Prior and Joyce Mohun, authorized signers.

Mark Prior and Melissa Lieder authorized electronic/wire transfers.

**Town Clerk and Tax Collector Accounts:**

Joanne Rosenthal and Deanna Nikiel, authorized signers

**Justice Court Funds:**

Mark Linsey and James Wawrzyniak, authorized signers

***Motion: B. Frounick. Second: Maria Prior.***

***Ayes: All (5). Noes: 0. Abstain: 0. Absent: 0.***

**Appointment of Maria Prior**

Effective January 1, 2026 Council Member Maria Prior was appointed as the current and serving Deputy Supervisor.

**Motion: J. Mohun. Second: J. Burger**  
**Ayes: 4. Noes: 0. Abstain: 1 (Maria Prior). Absent: 0.**

**New Business**

**Resolution #2026-1-5 Authorize Audit of 2025 Financial Records**

**Be it Resolved**, that the Town Board hereby approves engaging the services of Donald E. Przybyl, Municipal Accountant, 205 Shoreline Parkway, Apt. 3, East Amherst New York 14051 to perform an audit of the Town of Bennington financial records, including those of the Town Court, Town Supervisor, Town Clerk, Town Bookkeeper and Cowlesville Water Clerk for the period of January 1, 2025 through December 31, 2025 and to provide a written report of the same to the Town Board.

**Motion: J. Mohun. Second: Maria Prior.**  
**Ayes: All (5). Noes: 0. Abstain: 0. Absent: 0.**

**Resolution #2026-1-6 Adopt Commercial Policy from Tompkins Insurance as Undertaking of Elected or Appointed Public Officers for 2026**

**Be it Resolved**, that the Town Board hereby adopts the Commercial Policy by Tompkins Insurance as the official undertaking of elected or appointed public officers for the Town of Bennington in 2026. This policy will be on file with the office of the Town Clerk.

**Motion: B. Frounick. Second: Maria Prior.**  
**Ayes: All (5). Noes: 0. Abstain: 0. Absent: 0.**

**Minutes of Previous Meetings** Minutes from the Town Board meetings of December 10 and December 30, 2025 accepted as presented by the Clerk.

**Communications**

**Clerk**

- Town of Bennington monthly dog raffle has been cancelled. Per the NYS Gaming Commission, government entities and public officers are not eligible to conduct raffles. Raffles can only be conducted by charitable organizations. In addition, as the Town Clerk who is responsible for issuing raffle licenses, it would be a conflict of interest for a town clerk to conduct a raffle.

**Communications (cont'd)**

**Clerk**

- Upcoming meeting dates at the Town Hall Offices.  
**February 11 - Town Board Meeting @ 7:3 pm.**  
**February 12 - Attica School Board Meeting @ 7:00 pm.**  
**February 18 - Planning Board Meeting @ 6:00 pm**

**Supervisor**

- The financial report will be discussed with the public at future meetings.
- The NY Association of Towns conference in late January was attended by Supervisor Prior and Council Member Prior.
- Bennington monthly newsletter will begin in February 2026 and be available on-line and at the Town Hall.
- Requesting estimates on elevator repair.
- Monthly Town Board meetings will be transitioning to on-line social media with interaction from the public.
- Exploring the possibility of digitizing and automating payable payments.

**Departments**

**Highway**

- No report.

**Town Clerk/Tax Collector**

- Presented Town Clerk monthly report for December 2025.
- Presented Town Clerk annual report ending December 31, 2025
- Vital statistic for YTD 2026. Births: 0. Deaths: 0. Marriage permits issued: 0.

**Assessor**

- No report.

**Zoning/Planning**

- Dates will be set in February 2026 for future zoning meetings.

**Recreation**

- No report.

**Water District**

- There is an open position for a Water System Operator. Contact Supervisor Prior for details.

**Petitions and public concerns**

- A resident inquired who is the current Town attorney. Supervisor Prior - appointment is still under discussion.

**Any other Business to Come before the Board/County Matters**

- A Wyoming County issue of the purchase of **Camp Wyomoco, located at 2780 Buffalo Rd., Varysburg NY**, from the Cornell Co-op. A 285 acre park in Varysburg that would become a County park with a possibility of additional neighboring property to be donated.
- Waste Management roadside 2026 bulk pickups May - October only from the County. The County is requesting the Town to make available time and space for bulk items to be dropped off at the Highway Dept. November - April. Guidelines will be presented to residents before drop offs will be accepted.
- A Wyoming County Press Release: Wyoming County is rolling out a new county wide high speed internet plan named Speedy C.O.W. (Community Operated Wi-Fi). The initiative is funded by a \$15.7 million grant from New York's ConnectALL program and partners with Community Broadband Networks to build a hybrid fiber-optic and fixed-wireless network that will cover every household in the county. **To include 20 strategic outposts for signals and possible add ons to existing structures if height requirement is met.** The county's planning office is inviting residents to attend community meetings to discuss coverage maps and to provide feedback on the final network design. (C.O.W. event).



**Adjourn at 8:45 pm.**

**Motion by J. Mohun**

**Attendance: 5.**