

REGULAR TOWN BOARD MEETING

Town of Berlin
October 9, 2025
7:30p.m.

The Town Board of the Town of Berlin, County of Rensselaer, State of New York met on the above date to transact such business as may lawfully come before such board. Members present were Supervisor Robert Jaeger, Councilman Stephen Riccardi, Councilman Douglas Feathers, Councilman Winn, and Councilman Dean Maxon.

Councilman Riccardi made a motion to accept the workshop minutes from September. Councilman Maxon seconded the motion.

 5 Ayes 0 Nays Motion Carried

Supervisor Jaeger opened the meeting with the town clerk's report from September. Supervisor Jaeger made the motion to accept the town clerks report with Councilman Feathers seconding the motion.

 5 Ayes 0 Nays Motion Carried

WATER DISTRICT #1 – Nothing to report.

WATER DISTRICT #2 – Supervisor Jaeger reported that there was a minor issue with water service to the tank. There was a malfunction with the transducer on the tank which caused the tank to completely drain. The engineer that was in charge of the tank project came out to the water tank and determined which parts need to be replaced and will work to acquire those parts. The system is currently running manually. A resident from the audience expressed their concern with the water issues as a result of this new tank. They expressed that sediment coming through the lines has caused their hot water heaters to become faulty and burn out, an issue that has occurred numerous times. They also must replace their water filters numerous times a year and it is getting expensive and is inconvenient. They have also reported high levels of chlorine. A representative from Rensselaer County did come to their home on one occasion to test those levels.

Another resident also expressed their concern with water in their basement. This is a known issue, and the board has been attempting to rectify this issue. The source of the problem is believed to be coming from another property. Since this is not property that is owned by the Town of Berlin, the board needs an easement. The board has contacted that property owner regarding the easement, but the resident has not responded. The board and the affected resident agreed that they are at some what of an impasse. Councilman Riccardi suggested reaching out to the towns attorney regarding forcing an easement so that this issue can be addressed and corrected

The board will be updating the affected residents once there are answers to some of their questions.

HIGHWAY – Highway Superintendent James Winn reported that they have been busy paving roads, and they would like to pave a few more roads before the end of the season.

DOG CONTROL OFFICER – DCO Doug Goodermote reported a rabies clinic will be held on October 25, 2025. He has picked up one dog and addressed a few neighbor complaints regarding dogs.

CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER – CEO Walter Yerdon reported that there a few new houses that are going up. He is attending a conference next week and he is hoping to get some input regarding Solar arrays and their permit schedule for commercial solar arrays. The major issue is that the town has no zoning regulations for large solar arrays.

COMMITTEES -

ZBA – Nothing to report.

Comprehensive Plan- Nothing to report.

PLANNING BOARD – Nothing to report.

TRANSFER STATION – Transfer station supervisor Doug Goodermote reported that he has taken apart the compactor, and it needs some serious repair. Doug will reach out to a vendor to have the repairs made.

AMBULANCE – There was some misinformation that was being distributed at a local coffee shop regarding the new ambulance building. Supervisor Jaeger approached the individuals and corrected the misinformation. The residents' taxes will not be increased because a new Ambulance building is being constructed. That building is being paid for using the monies received from the insurance companies for billed services.

YOUTH COMMISSION – Nothing to report.

ASSESSOR – David McNally has expressed that he does not wish to be the Chairman of the Assessors. The board will look to appoint a new chairperson.

WORKSHOP- Nothing to report.

WEBSITE- Nothing to report

HISTORIAN – Nothing to report.

TAX COLLECTOR – Nothing to report

CORRESPONDENCE- Nothing to report

OLD BUSINESS –Councilman Feathers reported that he received approval to get a quote from Greater Heights for mowing of the old landfill.

NEW BUSINESS- Budget Workshop will be held on the day of the workshop meeting, October 23, 2025, at 6PM. Each board member was provided with a copy of the tentative budget for 2026.

BOARD –

The monthly bills were read by Town Clerk Sarah VanBuskirk. After the reading of the bills, Councilman Maxon made a motion to accept the bills with Councilman Feathers seconding the motion.

5 Ayes 0 Nays Motion Carried

PUBLIC- A resident has approached the board regarding a neighbor flying a drone in his back yard. According to what he has researched the FHA is charged with monitoring the flight of drones, the state is charged with illegal trespass, and the towns are responsible in enacting an ordinance pertaining to the usage of drones. He is looking for the town to see what other towns' policies are regarding ordinances for drones and adopting one here.

There being no further business, the motion was made by Councilman Maxon to adjourn the meeting. Supervisor Jaeger seconded the motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:35pm.

 5 Ayes 0 Nays Motion Carried