

Regular Meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Van Buren, held on May 7, 2025, at 7:00 pm at the Van Buren Town Hall, 7575 Van Buren Road, Baldwinsville, New York.

Ms. Darcie Lesniak	Councilor
Mr. Michael Burke	Councilor
Mr. Roger Hand	Councilor
Mr. Robert Grover	Councilor
Mrs. Jennifer Sullivan	Councilor
Mrs. Wendy Van Der Water	Supervisor

Also Present:

Ms. Nadine Bell	Town Attorney
Mr. David Blaisdell	Acting Highway Superintendent
Ms. Lynn Precourt	Town Clerk

Pledge of Allegiance and Roll Call.

Approve Meeting Minutes of Regular Town Board Meeting on April 16, 2025:

113-25-000 MOTION BY Mr. Grover, seconded by Mr. Hand, to approve the minutes of the Regular Town Board Meeting on April 16, 2025 as published.

Mr. Burke – Yes, Mr. Hand – Yes, Mr. Grover – Yes, Mrs. Sullivan – Yes, Ms. Lesniak – Yes, Mrs. Van Der Water – Yes

All Ayes – Motion Carried & Adopted

Citizens Comments: None

Budget Presentation by Baldwinsville School District Representative:

Baldwinsville School District Superintendent DeBarbieri was present to address the Board. He said the proposed budget of \$102.5 Million Dollars is comprised of three sections. Seventy Seven percent of the budget goes to programs, eight percent to administrative services and fifteen percent for capital projects. He said the district has the lowest per pupil administrative cost in the region. He thanked the community for supporting the capital improvements the district has made and has proposed for the future and reminded everyone that aid from New York State does offset much of these costs. He said this budget maintains all current programs, including the summer enrichment programs for K -6, to help prevent the summer slide. The estimated budget increase is 3.21 %, historically that number is lower once recalculated in August when the Tax Warrant is issued.

The second proposition voters will consider is the purchase of 14 new diesel buses. He said with the reimbursement from the state the cost of each bus is around \$40,000. He said this purchase is consistent with their replacement plan for the 125 vehicle fleet.

Proposition three on the ballot this year is for the creation of a Capital Reserve Fund not to exceed \$10,000,000. He said the district has used these in the past for excess funding but cannot replenish a fund, once funded and money spent, they need to create a new one and that is what this proposition will allow.

There are three Board of Education members on the ballot this year and they are running unopposed.

He said the district will have a more detailed presentation Monday, May 12<sup>th</sup> at 6 pm at the Transportation Center and it will be live streamed on Zoom, the link will be available on [www.bville.org](http://www.bville.org). The school budget vote is May 20<sup>th</sup> from 6:00 am to 9:00 pm at the District Operations Building on East Oneida Street.

Mrs. Van Der Water said she is happy to see the bus purchase is for diesel powered buses and not electric.

Mr. De Barbieri said the community was clear in last year's budget vote that they do not want EV buses.

Unveil the new Erie Canal Sign:

Mrs. Sullivan said for the bicentennial of the Erie Canal the Board commissioned a new sign for the trailhead in Memphis. The sign will be dedicated this summer. Mrs. Sullivan thanked Mr. John Landers, the artist, for the beautiful new sign.

Budget Transfers and Modifications:

114-25-007 MOTION BY Mr. Burke, seconded by Mrs. Sullivan, to approve the following:

FROM:	A.1990.0400	GENERAL FUND CONTINGENCY	\$ (236.36)
TO:	A.7110.0414	PARKS -2025 RAIL TRAIL SIGN <b>(Erie Canal Sign 2025)</b>	\$ 236.36
FROM:	A.1990.0400	GENERAL FUND CONTINGENCY	\$ (14,900.00)
TO:	A.1680.0200	TECHNOLOGY EQUIPMENT <b>(New Server)</b>	\$ 14,900.00

Regular Town Board Meeting May 7, 2025

FROM:	A.1620.0420	BUILDINGS & GROUNDS TELEPHONES	\$ (242.62)
TO:	A.1620.0456	BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS TREES AND BEAUTIFICATION (Flowers)	\$ 242.62

**BUDGET AMENDMENTS:**

FROM:	DB.0000.0909	HIGHWAY FUND BALANCE	\$ (19,525.00)
TO:	DB.5110.0200	HIGHWAY EQUIPMENT (Replace broken highway roller)	\$ 19,525.00

**RESERVES:**

Motion to Authorize the transfer of \$37,066.09 from general fund balance to Building and Grounds Vehicle Reserve; and \$35,601.74 from general fund balance to Highway Superintendent vehicle reserve;

**(these transfers bring each reserve to \$50,000)**

Mr. Burke – Yes, Mr. Hand – Yes, Mr. Grover – Yes, Mrs. Sullivan – Yes, Ms. Lesniak – Yes, Mrs. Van Der Water – Yes

All Ayes – Motion Carried & Adopted

Appoint Patrick Browne seasonal custodian, effective May 4, 2025, at a rate of \$20.00/hr for six hours a week:

115-25-038 MOTION BY Mrs. Sullivan, seconded by Mr. Hand, to appoint Patrick Browne seasonal custodian, effective May 4, 2025, at a rate of \$20.00/hr for six hours a week.

Mr. Burke – Yes, Mr. Hand – Yes, Mr. Grover – Yes, Mrs. Sullivan – Yes, Ms. Lesniak – Yes, Mrs. Van Der Water – Yes

All Ayes – Motion Carried & Adopted

Approve revised Employee Handbook:

Ms. Lesniak said the handbook is now aligned with union contracts which makes administration easier and has been updated with all new state and federal laws regarding employment.

116-25-038 MOTION BY Mr. Grover, seconded by Mrs. Sullivan, to approve the revised Employee Handbook dated May 7, 2025.

Mr. Burke – Yes, Mr. Hand – Yes, Mr. Grover – Yes, Mrs. Sullivan – Yes, Ms. Lesniak – Yes, Mrs. Van Der Water – Yes

All Ayes – Motion Carried & Adopted

Declare highway equipment surplus and authorize sale at auction:

Mrs. Van Der Water said this item will be tabled until the next meeting.

Approve the 284 Highway Agreement with the Highway Superintendent:

Mrs. Van Der Water read a list of the roads that will be either surface treated or re-paved: Brickyard Road, Daywood and Deerwood Drive, Sun Meadows Way, Cross Country Drive, Milan Way, Caserta Drive, San Marino Path and Tuscany Lane.

117-25-024 MOTION BY Mr. Burke, seconded by Mr. Grover, to approve the 284 Highway Agreement with the Highway Superintendent.

Mr. Burke – Yes, Mr. Hand – Yes, Mr. Grover – Yes, Mrs. Sullivan – Yes, Ms. Lesniak – Yes, Mrs. Van Der Water – Yes

All Ayes – Motion Carried & Adopted

Approve seasonal staff for park and recreation per memo from Park Director:

118-25-038 MOTION BY Mrs. Sullivan, seconded by Ms. Lesniak, to approve the following seasonal employees:

Sub Park Attendants:

Anna Rossman is a new employee with the Town

Start Date: 5/12/25 End Date: 12/31/25 2025 wage: \$17.00/hr

Lynn Pinard is a returning sub park attendant. This will be Lynn's 4th year with the Town.

Start Date: 5/12/25 End Date: 12/31/25 2024 wage: \$17.50/hr 2025 wage: \$17.70/hr

Recreation Head Staff:

Emma Warren is a 5 year employee with the Town.

Start Date: 6/01/25 End Date: 12/31/25 Last year's wage: \$17.75/hr 2025 wage: \$18.00/hr

James Brussel is a 6 year employee with the Town.

Start Date: 6/01/25 End Date: 12/31/25 Last year's wage: \$18.00/hr 2025 wage: \$18.25/hr

Recreation Aide Staff:

Catherine Goeckel is a 1 year employee with the Town..

Start Date: 6/01/25 End Date: 8/31/25 2025 wage: \$16.00/hr

Juli Rogers is a 1 year employee with the Town.

Start Date: 6/01/25 End Date: 8/31/25 2025 wage: \$16.00/hr

Daniel Widrick is a 1 year employee with the Town.

Start Date: 6/01/25 End Date: 8/31/25 2025 wage: \$16.00/hr

Sydney Neish is a 1 year employee with the Town.

Start Date: 6/01/25 End Date: 8/31/25 2025 wage: \$16.00/hr

Acadia Gates is a 1 year employee with the Town.

Regular Town Board Meeting May 7, 2025

Start Date: 6/01/25 End Date: 8/31/25 2025 wage: \$16.00/hr

Gianna Carbone is a 1 year employee with the Town.

Start Date: 6/01/25 End Date: 8/31/25 2025 wage: \$16.00/hr

Caitlyn Guilfoil is a 1 year employee with the Town.

Start Date: 6/01/25 End Date: 8/31/25 2025 wage: \$16.00/hr

Maria Timmons is a 2 year employee with the Town.

Start Date: 6/01/25 End Date: 8/31/25 Last year's wage: \$16.00/hr 2025 wage: \$16.25/hr

Laurin Coomey is a 3 year employee with the Town.

Start Date: 6/01/25 End Date: 12/31/25 Last year's wage: \$16.25/hr 2025 wage: \$16.50/hr

Molly Roche is a 3 year employee with the Town.

Start Date: 6/01/25 End Date: 8/31/25 Last year's wage: \$16.25/hr 2025 wage: \$16.50/hr

Jack Doyle is a 4 year employee with the Town.

Start Date: 6/01/25 End Date: 8/31/25 Last year's wage: \$16.50/hr 2024 wage: \$16.75/hr

Concession/Pool Gate Staff:

Emma Brookins is a 4 year employee with the Town.

Start Date: 6/01/25 End Date: 8/31/25 Last year's wage: \$16.00/hr 2025 wage: \$16.25/hr

Gabrielle Brookins is a 4-year employee with the Town.

Start Date: 6/01/25 End Date: 8/31/25 Last year's wage: \$16.00/hr 2025 wage: \$16.25/hr

Liana Youst is a new employee with the Town.

Start Date: 6/01/25 End Date: 8/31/25 Last year's wage: \$15.75/hr 2025 wage: \$16.00/hr

Lifeguard Staff:

Daniella Palumbo is a returning lifeguard/Aquatics Director with the Town (4th year).

Start Date: 05/15/25 End Date: 8/31/25 Last year's wage: \$18.65/hr 2024 wage: \$21.40/hr

Mackenzie Lloyd is a returning head guard with the Town (4th year). Mackenzie holds a dual role with the Town, she is a head lifeguard as well as a WSI.

Start Date: 05/15/25 End Date: 8/31/25 Last year's wage: \$18.50/hr 2024 wage: \$21.00/hr

Caroline Wilkinson is one of our head lifeguards at the pool. She will be holding a dual role of Supervising Guard and Aquatics Director for a second year.

Start Date: 05/15/25 End Date: 08/31/25 2024 wage: \$18.95/hr. 2025 wage: \$21.45/hr

Ethan Kraynak is a returning sub-lifeguard with the Town. This will be Ethan's third year.

Start Date: 6/01/25 End Date: 8/31/25 Last year's wage: \$16.75/hr 2025 wage: \$19.50/hr

Lucas Wallen is a sub-lifeguard with the Town. This will be Lucas's second year.

Start Date: 6/01/25 End Date: 8/31/25 Last year's wage: \$16.50/hr 2025 wage: \$19.25/hr

Rosalie Kraynak is a sub-lifeguard with the Town. This will be Rosalie's second year.

Start Date: 6/01/25 End Date: 8/31/25 Last year's wage: \$16.50/hr 2025 wage: \$19.25/hr

Nathan Georger is a sub-lifeguard with the Town. This will be Nathan's second year.

Regular Town Board Meeting May 7, 2025

Start Date: 6/01/25 End Date: 8/31/25 Last year's wage: \$16.50/hr 2025 wage: \$19.25/hr

Eliza Gramiak is a 2-year employee with the Town. Eliza will be a full-time lifeguard.

Start Date: 6/01/25 End Date: 8/31/25 Last year's wage: \$16.50/hr 2025 wage: \$19.25/hr

Lilyanna Kupiec is a returning lifeguard with the Town. It will be Lilyanna's third year.

Start Date: 6/01/25 End Date: 8/31/25 Last year's wage: \$16.75/hr 2025 wage: \$19.50/hr

Natasha Melnick is a returning lifeguard with the Town (3rd year).

Start Date: 6/01/25 End Date: 8/31/25 Last year's wage: \$16.75/hr 2025 wage: \$19.50/hr

Campbell Boslet is a returning lifeguard with the Town (3rd year).

Start Date: 6/01/25 End Date: 8/31/25 Last year's wage: \$16.75/hr 2025 wage: \$19.50/hr

Mia Rinko is a returning lifeguard with the Town (3rd year).

Start Date: 6/01/25 End Date: 8/31/25 Last year's wage: \$16.75/hr 2025 wage: \$19.50/hr

Trevor Valenti is a returning lifeguard with the Town (4th year).

Start Date: 6/01/25 End Date: 8/31/25 Last year's wage: \$17.00/hr 2024 wage: \$19.75/hr

Lily Rogers is a returning lifeguard with the Town (4th year).

Start Date: 6/01/25 End Date: 8/31/25 Last year's wage: \$17.00/hr 2024 wage: \$19.75/hr

Jackson Rinko is a new lifeguard with the Town.

Start Date: 6/01/25 End Date: 8/31/25 2024 wage: \$19.00/hr

Abe Cavalieri is a new lifeguard with the Town.

Start Date: 6/01/25 End Date: 8/31/25 2024 wage: \$19.00/hr

James Wilkinson is a new lifeguard with the Town.

Start Date: 6/01/25 End Date: 8/31/25 2024 wage: \$19.00/hr

Mr. Burke – Yes, Mr. Hand – Yes, Mr. Grover – Yes, Mrs. Sullivan – Yes, Ms. Lesniak – Yes,  
Mrs. Van Der Water – Yes

All Ayes – Motion Carried & Adopted

Appoint Caleb Crandall as full time MEO in the Highway Department, effective May 27, 2025 at an hourly rate per CBA:

119-25-038 MOTION BY Mr. Grover, seconded by Ms. Lesniak, to appoint Caleb Crandall as full time MEO in the Highway Department, effective May 27, 2025 at an hourly rate per CBA.

Mr. Burke – Yes, Mr. Hand – Yes, Mr. Grover – Yes, Mrs. Sullivan – Yes, Ms. Lesniak – Yes,  
Mrs. Van Der Water – Yes

All Ayes – Motion Carried & Adopted

Update from County Legislator:

Mr. Ken Bush, County Legislator, was present to address the Board. He said he has attended many community events to meet and support constituents.

He said the County is beginning a study on EMT/First Responder services. He said the County will be repairing the bridge on West Dead Creek and will be paving or surface treating many roads in Van Buren this summer. The County is also continuing to combat water chestnuts in the Seneca River this summer. He said they will be using a combination of chemical treatments and mechanical harvesting.

Councilor Committee Reports and Comments:

Mr. Burke said the new server will be purchased and our IT upgrades will be complete.

Mrs. Sullivan said the Facilities Committee is meeting May 22<sup>nd</sup> at the Van Buren Central Park Office.

Mrs. Sullivan said the summer playground program is full and swimming lesson registration has started.

Ms. Lesniak thanked the Village of Baldwinsville for accommodating the conveyor belt to remove the water chestnuts off the harvesting boats in Lions Park.

Mr. Grover said they held the first Comprehensive Land Use Plan Meeting with the consultants from Barton & Loguidice. He said we are still looking for people to participate on the committee. He said the meetings will be every other month in person and via Zoom.

Ms. Lesniak said it will be important as we move forward with this Comprehensive Land Use Plan that people participate in the meetings and any surveys we release so there is input on how the town develops.

Supervisor Comments: None

Highway Superintendent Comments: None

Engineer Comments: None

Attorney Comments: None

120-25-014 MOTION BY Mrs. Sullivan, seconded by Mr. Burke, to go into Executive Session to discuss a personnel issue at 7:49 pm.

Mr. Burke – Yes, Mr. Hand – Yes, Mr. Grover – Yes, Mrs. Sullivan – Yes, Ms. Lesniak – Yes, Mrs. Van Der Water – Yes

All Ayes – Motion Carried & Adopted

Regular Town Board Meeting May 7, 2025

121-25-000 MOTION BY Mrs. Sullivan, seconded by Mr. Grover, to close the Executive Session and resume the Regular Town Board Meeting at 8:51 pm.

Mr. Burke – Yes, Mr. Hand – Yes, Mr. Grover – Yes, Mrs. Sullivan – Yes, Ms. Lesniak – Yes, Mrs. Van Der Water – Yes

All Ayes – Motion Carried & Adopted

122-25-000 MOTION BY Mrs. Sullivan, seconded by Mr. Grover, to adjourn to the next Regular Town Board Meeting on May 21, 2025 at 7:00 pm.

Mr. Burke – Yes, Mr. Hand – Yes, Mr. Grover – Yes, Mrs. Sullivan – Yes, Ms. Lesniak – Yes, Mrs. Van Der Water – Yes

All Ayes – Motion Carried & Adopted

Meeting closed 8:51 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Lynn Precourt  
Town Clerk

Dated: 5/9/25