

Regular Meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Van Buren, held on December 17, 2025 at 7:00 pm at the Van Buren Town Hall, 7575 Van Buren Road, Baldwinsville, New York.

Mrs. Charity Gustke	Councilor
Mr. Michael Burke	Councilor
Mr. Roger Hand	Councilor
Mr. Robert Grover	Councilor
Mrs. Jennifer Sullivan	Councilor
Mrs. Wendy Van Der Water	Supervisor

Absent: Ms. Darcie Lesniak, Councilor

Also Present:

Ms. Nadine Bell	Town Attorney
Mr. Jason Hoy	Town Engineer
Mr. David Blaisdell	Highway Superintendent
Ms. Lynn Precourt	Town Clerk

Pledge of Allegiance and Roll Call.

Approve meeting minutes of Regular Town Board Meeting on December 3, 2025:

255-25-000 MOTION BY Mr. Grover, seconded by Mrs. Sullivan, to approve the meeting minutes of the Regular Town Board Meeting on December 3, 2025 as published.

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

Motion Carried & Adopted

Citizens Comments: None

Budget transfers and modifications:

256-25-007 MOTION BY Mr. Burke, seconded by Mr. Hand, to approve the following budget transfers:

BUDGET TRANSFERS:

FROM:	A.7189.0409	RECREATION PROGRAM	\$
		COSTS	(700.00)
			\$
TO:	A.7110.0100	RECREATION WAGES	700.00

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FROM:	A.1621.0480	GENERAL POSTAGE	\$ (600.00)
TO:	A.1620.0429	GENERAL LEGAL LITIGATION AND EMPLOYMENT	\$ 600.00
FROM:	A.1621.0480	GENERAL POSTAGE	\$ (2,900.00)
TO:	A.1420.0430	GENERAL LEGAL FEES NON RETAINER	\$ 2,900.00
FROM:	B.8020.0443	PLANNING PUBLIC NOTICES	\$ (300.00)
TO:	B.8020.0430	PLANNING ATTORNEY NON RET	\$ 300.00
FROM:	B.9010.0800	PART TOWN RETIREMENT	\$ (800.00)
TO:	B.9030.0800	PART TOWN SOCIAL SECURITY	\$ 800.00
FROM:	B.9010.0800	PART TOWN RETIREMENT	\$ (2,700.00)
TO:	B.8020.0429	PLANNING LEGAL RETAINERS	\$ 2,700.00
FROM:	B.9010.0800	PART TOWN RETIREMENT	\$ (3,600.00)
TO:	B.8020.00430	PLANNING NON RETAINERS	\$ 3,600.00
Year end Budget Tranfers			

BUDGET AMENDMENTS:

FROM:	DB.0000.0909	HIGHWAY FUND BALANCE	\$ (65,000.00)
TO:	DB.5142.0403	HIGHWAY SALT	\$ 65,000.00

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

Motion Carried & Adopted

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Public Hearing on Local Law F-2025, Zone Change for tax map # 036.-03-21.0 from R-40 to PUD:

257-25-000 MOTION BY Mr. Burke, seconded by Mrs. Gustke, to recess the regular meeting, open the public hearing and waive reading the legal notice published in the *Post Standard* on December 11, 2025.

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

Motion Carried & Adopted

Mr. Al Yager, CHA Consultants, was present to address the Board. He said this plan is for 21 single family homes on a cul-de-sac. He said the intersection for the new road is 225 feet from the fog line on Downer Street.

Mike Meyer, Commane Road, asked about drainage in the buffer area between existing properties and new development. They will leave five to ten feet .

Mr. Meyer said he's not happy the town is changing this to PUD because it was supposed to give more control over the way it's developed but he thinks R-40 would have allowed for larger lots.

Mr. Tim Morgan, Lanyard Lane, asked if there will be any other way out besides the Commane Road. Mr. Yager said no.

Mr. Dan Miller, Massey Place, said he liked the larger lots.

258-25-000 MOTION BY Mrs. Gustke, seconded by Mr. Grover, to adjourn the public hearing to the January 7, 2025 meeting.

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

Motion Carried & Adopted

Action on Local Law F-2025:

Ms. Bell said the town doesn't have county comments back yet so this will have to wait until the next meeting.

Approval of AED Donation from Cpl. Kyle Schneider Foundation to be located at the Town of Van Buren Park:

259-25-034 MOTION BY Mrs. Sullivan, seconded by Mr. Grover, to approve the AED donation from the Cpl. Kyle Schneider Foundation.

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

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Motion Carried & Adopted

Acceptance of LoCap Grant from DASNY for \$60,000 for Rewiring Town Hall and Park Office and to authorize the Supervisor to sign all Grant Agreements:

260-25-057 MOTION BY Mr. Burke, seconded by Mrs. Sullivan, to Accept LoCap Grant from DASNY for \$60,000 for Rewiring Town Hall and Park Office and to authorize the Supervisor to sign all Grant Agreements.

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

Motion Carried & Adopted

Authorize Capital Project and authorize loan from the General Fund to the Capital Fund in the amount of \$60,000:

261-25-057 MOTION BY Mr. Hand, seconded by Mr. Burke, to authorize Capital Project and authorize loan from the General Fund to the Capital Fund in the amount of \$60,000.

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

Motion Carried & Adopted

Acceptance of agreement with ComSource for professional services on GSA Contract GS-35F-267DA and Meraki hardware on NCPA Contract 01-169 and authorize Supervisor to sign Agreement:

262-25-057 MOTION BY Mr. Grover, seconded by Mrs. Gustke, to accept the agreement with ComSource for professional services on GSA Contract GS-35F-267DA and Meraki hardware on NCPA Contract 01-169 and authorize Supervisor to sign Agreement:

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

Motion Carried & Adopted

Assessor's Report:

Senior exemption renewals are being accepted and processed as time permits. An additional review of completed applications has been added for training purposes. Exemption training for our new clerk is progressing well.

The office has 229 Senior Citizen exemption renewals not yet received and 27 applications that require a denial letter because of income limit. Reminder postcards and denial letters will be sent in January.

Renewal applications for agricultural, non profit, firefighters, and clergy exemptions will be mailed in late December.

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The Assessor attended the NYS Assessor's Association Conference the week of October 6. This was awarded 12 continuing education credits. The attendance set a post covid record with nearly 250 people attending in person.

Course's attended included, Association of Towns "Beyond the Roll" Deep dive into the roll of the Assessor, Inventory and Cost valuation of communication towers, Legal and Valuation challenges in property tax assessment, Administration of Agricultural land assessments, Sales Chasing, and the NYS Office of Real Property Tax updates.

Lysander office update: The assessment clerk has departed to the position of Deputy Town Clerk/Receiver of taxes. An information aide has been hired full time, as a new entry level addition to the Assessor's Office.

Van Buren office update: The new assessment clerk has taken and passed the assessment clerk civil service exam. Her position has been approved by the County and is no longer a provisional appointment.

The Assessor's Continuing Education Status Report is attached. Continuing education requirements met through September 30, 2026. Ethics recertification satisfied for the current term of office.

Ms. Golden said the state has approved legislation, at local option, to increase the tax exemption for low income seniors to 65%.

Schedule Organizational Meeting January 1, 2026 at 3:00 pm:

263-25-000 MOTION BY Mr. Grover, seconded by Mr. Burke, to schedule the Organizational Meeting on January 1, 2026 at 3:00 pm.
Mrs. Gustke – Yes, Mr. Burke – Yes, Mr. Hand – Yes, Mr. Grover – Yes, Mrs. Sullivan – Yes, Mrs. Van Der Water – Yes

Motion Carried & Adopted

Councilor Committee reports and Comments:

Mrs. Sullivan said Canton Woods Senior center was awarded a Bucci Grant and are using the money to enhance security and install better lighting in the parking lot.

Mrs. Sullivan said the B'Ville Express has 251 riders and is split fairly evenly between Lysander and Van Buren.

Mrs. Sullivan said the Parks & Recreation Dept. has been busy with their winter programs. She said Buildings and Grounds has been winterizing the park and been busy with snow removal.

Supervisor Comments: None

Highway Superintendent Comments:

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Mr. Blaisdell said please do not park on the street between 2:00 am and 6:00 am so the plows can clear the roads. He thanked his employees for their hard work this winter.

Mr. Blaisdell asked anyone who has mailbox or lawn damage to contact the department.

Mr. Blaisdell asked that residents keep their trash cans inside their driveway and not on the street.

Engineer Comments: None

Attorney Comments: None

264-25-000 MOTION BY Mr. Burke, seconded by Mr. Grover, to adjourn to the Organizational Meeting on January 1, 2026 at 3:00 pm.

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

Motion Carried & Adopted

Meeting closed 7:44 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Lynn Precourt

Town Clerk

Dated: 12/18/25