

Regular Meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Van Buren, held on April 15, 2026 at 7:00 pm at the Van Buren Town Hall, 7575 Van Buren Road, Baldwinsville, New York.

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

Absent: Mr. Robert Grover, Councilor

Also Present:

Ms. Nadine Bell	Town Attorney
Mr. Jason Hoy	Town Engineer
Mr. David Blaisdell	Highway Superintendent
Mr. Ken Bush	County Legislator
Dr. Joseph DeBarbieri	Baldwinsville School District Superintendent
Ms. Lynn Precourt	Town Clerk

Pledge of Allegiance and Roll Call.

Approve Meeting Minutes of Regular Meeting April 1, 2026:

096-26-000 MOTION BY Mrs. Gustke, seconded by Mr. Sherwood, to approve the meeting minutes of the Regular Town Board Meeting April 1, 2026 as published.

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

Motion Carried & Approved

Citizens Comments:

Mr. Ken Bush, County Legislator, invited the Board to a meeting being held by the Housing and Transportation Citizens Advisory Board that will be at the Baldwinsville Public Library on April 23<sup>rd</sup> from 6:00 to 8:00 pm.

Budget Presentation from Baldwinsville Central School District:

Dr. DeBarbieri was present to address the Board. He said the vote on the school budget is May 19<sup>th</sup> from 6:00 am to 9:00 pm at the District Operations Building.

Dr. DeBarbieri said the estimated tax increase is 3.46%. He said there has been some increase in assessed value due to building but he is hopeful both Lysander and Van Buren will begin reassessing all properties. He said the largest part of the budget is capital projects but they will have state aid coming in to offset some of that cost. He said this budget keeps all current programs and expends some others. He said compared to other districts ours is in a good financial position. He said there is also a proposition to purchase 14 diesel buses. This will allow the district to keep up to date with the replacement plan in place.

There will be a public hearing on the budget on May 11<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 pm at the Transportation Building. He said there will also be a meet the candidates night at that time also.

Mrs. Van Der Water thanked Dr. DeBarbieri and said she is pleased to see they are purchasing diesel buses rather than electric ones.

Dr. DeBarbieri said right now they can apply for a waiver and he is hopeful the state legislature will change the schedule for mandating electric bus purchases but if they do not it starts in the 2027-2028 school year.

Mrs. Van Der Water said she has talked with the Lysander Supervisor and Assessor about beginning to reassess annually again. She said this is a three year process that will not start until 2030 at the earliest.

Mrs. Gustke asked if enrollment has gone up or down.

Dr. DeBarbieri said it remains flat partly due to the addition of universal pre-k program.

Budget Transfers and modifications:

097-26-007 MOTION BY Mrs. Sullivan, seconded by Mr. Burke, to approve the following:

**BUDGET AMENDMENT**

		\$
A.0000.3089	J-CAP REVENUE	1,259.98
		\$
A.1110.0200	COURT CAPITAL	1,259.98
	<b>J-CAP GRANT</b>	

**BUDGET  
TRANSFER:**

DB.1910.0450	INSURANCE (LIABILITY)	\$ (647.00)
DB.9050.0800	UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE	\$ 647.00

**UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE**

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

Motion Carried & Approved

Accept bids for Park Pavilion Electric Installation:

098-26-037 MOTION BY Mrs. Sullivan, seconded by Mr. Hand, to accept the bid for park pavilion electric installation.

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

Motion Carried & Approved

Award bid for Park Pavilion Electric Installation:

099-26-037 MOTION BY Mrs. Sullivan, seconded by Mrs. Gustke, to award the bid for park pavilion electric installation to O’Connell Electric in the amount of \$96,147.00.

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

Motion Carried & Approved

Resolution endorsing the Canton Woods Kitchen project and authorizing the application in the amount of \$50,000:

100-26-023 MOTION BY Mrs. Gustke, seconded by Mr. Hand, to approve the Community Development Block Grant for the Canton Woods Kitchen project in the amount of \$50,000.

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

Motion Carried & Approved

Approve MOA with AFSCME for Highway Mechanic to add the position to roster and approve salary:

101-26-001.1 MOTION BY Mrs. Gustke, seconded by Mr. Sherwood, to approve the MOA with AFSCME to add the position of Highway Mechanic on the roster and approve the salary.

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

Motion Carried & Approved

Approve Councilor Gustke to attend NYS AOT conference April 27-28 in Canandaigua to include registration, hotel, meals and mileage.

102-26-027 MOTION BY Mr. Burke, seconded by Mr. Sherwood, to approve Councilor Gustke to attend the NYS AOT conference April 27-28 in Canandaigua to include registration, hotel, meals and mileage.

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

Motion Carried & Approved

Approve seasonal park laborers:

103-26-038 MOTION BY Mr. Hand, seconded by Mrs. Sullivan, to approve the following park laborers:

Park Laborers:

Zach Johnson will be a new employee with the Town.

Start Date: 5/1/26                      End Date: 12/31/26                      Rate: \$17.00/hr.

Brianna Armstrong will be a new employee with the Town.

Start Date: 4/21/26                      End Date: 12/31/26                      Rate: \$17.00/hr.

Sub Park Laborer:

Anna Rossman will be a returning as a sub park laborer for the second year.

Start Date: 4/21/26                      End Date: 12/31/26                      2025 Rate: \$17.00                      2026 Rate: \$17.25/hr.

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

Motion Carried & Approved

Councilor Committee Reports and Comments

Mr. Hand went to the Little League meeting and they discussed getting the fields ready. He said their enrollment is up 10%. He said the Village of Baldwinsville is pursuing a DASNY grant to upgrade the field lighting.

Mrs. Sullivan said she attended the Canton Woods Senior Center Board of Directors meeting and they discussed the upgrades to security through the Bucci Grant they received. She said their golf fundraiser is June 15<sup>th</sup> at Battle Island golf course. She said they are looking for drivers for B'Ville Express and Meals on Wheels.

Mrs. Sullivan said the Memorial Day Parade is May 30<sup>th</sup>.

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Mrs. Sullivan said she received the Park & Recreation monthly report, the summer playground program is full. She said the Easter egg hunt was well attended. They are finalizing the program brochure and swim lesson sign ups start April 27<sup>th</sup>.

Mrs. Sullivan said the Buildings and Grounds Department has been busy getting the park ready for summer. She said they finished siding the concession stand and putting up security cameras.

Mr. Sherwood scheduled a Public Safety meeting on April 20<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 am at the Highway Garage.

Supervisor Comments:

Mrs. Van Der Water said the codes office submitted their monthly report and they have been busy with issuing and closing out permits.

Mrs. Van Der Water said Earth Day is April 24<sup>th</sup>.

Mrs. Van Der Water said the town is hosting an electronics recycling event in the park April 23<sup>rd</sup> through the 25<sup>th</sup>. She said there will be signage to direct you to the self service drop off bins.

Highway Superintendent Comments: Mr. Blaisdell said any groups collecting roadside trash need to be signed up with OCRRA. They will be giving stickers to put on the bags and those bags can be dropped at the Highway Garage.

Mr. Blaisdell said April 24<sup>th</sup> from 7:00 am to 3:00 pm residents can drop off up to four tires at a cost of \$5.00 each. He said scrap metal will be accepted for free. He said they cannot accept any yard waste.

Mr. Blaisdell said they are out taking delineators down and anyone with yard damage from the snow plows should call the department.

Engineer Comments: None

Attorney Comments:

Ms. Bell said the town has an agreement to sell a portion of the four acres on Town Hall property to Marian Gardens Apartments, LLC. They have asked the town to consider allowing them to assign their interest to Hyacinth Land Development, LLC..

104-26-001.1 MOTION BY Mrs. Sullivan, seconded by Mr. Hand, to approve the assignment of land purchase contract from Marion Gardens Apartments, LLC to Hyacinth Land Development, LLC.

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

Motion Carried & Approved

105-26-014 MOTION BY Mr. Burke, seconded by Mrs. Gustke, to recess the regular meeting and go into Executive Session to discuss to discuss a personnel matter at 7:35 pm.

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

Motion Carried & Approved

106-26-000 MOTION BY Mr. Sherwood, seconded by Mr. Burke, to close the Executive Session and resume the regular meeting at 8:01 pm.

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

Motion Carried & Approved

107-26-000 MOTION BY Mr. Sherwood, seconded by Mr. Burke, to adjourn to the next Regular Town Board Meeting on May 6, 2026 at 7:00 pm.

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

Motion Carried & Approved

Meeting closed 8:01 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Lynn Precourt

Town Clerk

Dated: 4/16/26