

Town of Leicester Public Hearing/Work Meeting, July 14, 2026

Meeting Minutes

July 13, 2026, 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM

Leicester Town Hall 132 Main Street, Leicester, NY 14481, US

I. Call to Order / Roll Call

1. Pledge To the Flag

Town Supervisor Richard White led the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. Board Members Present / Excused: All Present

Present: Town Supervisor Richard White, Councilmember Matthew Durbin, Councilmember Karen Roffe, Councilmember Gerald Hull, Councilmember Jason Yasso

3. Others Present: Town Clerk, Town Attorney James Campbell

Town Clerk/Tax Collector Amy L. Neumann, Town Attorney James Campbell, Highway Superintendent Russell Page and Sarah Wright from LCWSA were present.

4. Public Present:

Present: Ken Mock Jr., Rob Semmel, Lisa Semmel, Jo Barratt, Lorie Stewart, Lauraine Montemarano, John Yasso.

II. Open Public Hearings

1. Open Public Hearing On Removing Charge On OLCWD

Town Supervisor White opened the Public Hearing on the proposed removal of the \$30.00 quarterly surcharge on the Old Leicester Cuylerville Water District (OLCWD). He confirmed that proper notice had been given and that the legal notice had been duly published. Town Attorney Campbell read the legal notice into the record, which stated that the quarterly debt charge of \$30.00 per unit — originally imposed to repay debt owed to the Village of Leicester — was proposed to be terminated, as the underlying debt to the Village had been satisfied and all associated interfund loans through the Town of Leicester were imminently to be repaid. If adopted, the rate change would take effect beginning August 1, 2026, first appearing in November 1, 2026, billing cycle.

A member of the public, Lorie Stewart, asked when the loan had been paid off and whether residents would be reimbursed if they had overpaid. Town Supervisor White clarified that the loan had not yet been fully paid off and was expected to be satisfied by the end of the month. Town Attorney Campbell further explained that the final payment to the Village was made in December 2025, and that what remained was repayment of an interfund transfer — specifically, funds the Town had borrowed from its highway department equipment reserve account to cover early payments. Town Supervisor White noted that any residual funds would remain within the water district to offset future costs, rather than being returned to individual ratepayers.

2. Open Public Hearing On Grant For Sewar District Pump Replacement

Town Supervisor White opened the Public Hearing on a proposed Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) application for sewer district pump replacement. Town Attorney Campbell read the legal notice, which indicated the Town of Leicester was applying for \$1,000,000.00 in CDBG funds for a public infrastructure

project to upgrade pump stations in Sewer Districts 1 and 2. Town Clerk Neumann noted that the notice had been advertised on the Town's behalf by the Livingston County Water Sewer Authority.

3. Open Discussion On Each

No additional public comment was received on either hearing. Both hearings were left open until the end of the meeting.

III. Minutes

1. Motion To Accept Minutes Of The June 9th Work Meeting

Town Supervisor White noted that the minutes contained an AI-generated "financial benefit" section and directed Town Clerk Neumann to remove that section going forward, stating the minutes should contain only the facts.

Motion to accept the minutes of the June 9th Work Meeting was made by Councilmember Karen Roffe and seconded by Deputy Supervisor/Councilmember Jason Yasso. The motion carried unanimously.

2. Motion To Accept Minutes Of The June 23rd, Regular Meeting

Motion to accept the minutes of the June 23rd Regular Meeting was made by Councilmember Gerald Hull and second by Councilmember Matthew Durbin. The motion carried unanimously.

IV. LCWSA

1. Authorization For Supervisor To Sign Required Paperwork For Grants

Town Supervisor White advised the Board that he would be seeking authorization at the end of the meeting to sign all documents required by the Livingston County Water Sewer Authority in connection with the CDBG grant application for sewer pump replacement.

V. CPL / Municipal Solutions

1. Authorization For Supervisor To Sign Required Paperwork For WIIA Grant

Town Supervisor White advised the Board that Clark Patterson Lee (CPL) and Municipal Solutions were preparing the Water Infrastructure Improvement Act (WIIA) grant application for the West Town Water District, and that he would similarly be seeking authorization to sign the required paperwork for that application.

VI. Reports / Communications To The Board

1. Mayor Briffa – Noise From Argenna Park (Loud Vehicle)

Town Supervisor White reported that Village Mayor Briffa had brought to his attention a complaint regarding a loud motorbike being operated in Argenna Park. Town Supervisor White noted that multiple law enforcement agencies in the area had also expressed interest in addressing the matter. The Board agreed that residents should be directed to contact the Sheriff's Office, as this is not a matter within the Town Board's direct purview. A work order for the Highway Department to address three streets in the Village was also mentioned in this context.

2. Flood Meeting – Update

Town Supervisor White reported on a recent meeting held with Senator Pam Helming and Assemblywoman Andrea Bailey regarding the ongoing flooding situation. Deputy Supervisor/Councilmember Jason Yasso characterized the meeting as productive, noting that elected officials with greater influence over state agencies were now engaged. Town Supervisor White relayed several developments: Soil and Water Conservation has

since conducted a site visit and identified potential for excavation work; a historic 2,000-foot right-of-way running from River Road into adjacent farm fields had been identified as a former secondary flood channel that had become severely overgrown over decades; and Bob Stryker had offered to use Soil and Water funds to clear and reopen that drainage corridor through affected properties, including Town-owned Boyd Parker property. Town Supervisor White also reported that the Genesee River Protectors organization, though recently denied a related grant, had advised that significant surface water funding exists that Livingston County has not yet pursued, and that a stakeholder meeting is planned for September to identify viable grant opportunities for long-term bank restoration.

3. Budget Request Forms Sent And To Be Returned By Aug 1st, 2026

Town Supervisor White confirmed that budget request forms had been distributed and that he requested all forms be returned by August 1, 2026, to allow the budget process to commence.

4. Letter Of Support From Senator Helming On Grant Application

Town Supervisor White reported that a letter of support from Senator Helming had already been received in connection with the Town's CDBG grant application.

5. Email From Kaufman Utz And AFR

Town Supervisor White noted that a communication from the Town's financial advisors confirmed that the Town's financial figures were correct and that the proposed rate action was appropriate.

VII. OLCWD – BAN Renewal

Town Supervisor White informed the Board that the Bond Anticipation Note (BAN) used to finance the most recent capital project in the Old Leicester Cuylerville Water District was coming due and required renewal. He indicated the outstanding balance to be renewed was approximately \$46,015.00 at an interest rate of 4.70% for one year, and suggested the Board consider identifying additional capital during the upcoming budget process — potentially from cell tower revenues or residual funds from the now-retiring \$30.00 quarterly charge — to accelerate repayment and relieve the tax burden on district residents.

VIII. Highway Equipment

1. Discuss Accepting Bid For Grader From Tietsworth Auctions

Town Supervisor White reported that the Town's old grader had been listed for auction through RTI (Tietsworth) Auctions and had reached a bid of \$4,150.00 at the close of bidding. The Board was asked whether to accept the bid. All members agreed to accept and move forward with the sale.

Motion to accept the highest bid of \$4,150.00 for the grader through RTI Auction was made by Councilmember Gerald Hull and seconded by Town Attorney James Campbell. The motion carried unanimously.

Highway Superintendent Russell Page also noted that Starr Road had been reopened to all traffic following completion of the bridge project, and that upcoming highway work would include oil and stone sealing on High Banks Road and related work. He also reported that the new grader was performing well.

A separate discussion arose regarding a surplus generator from the sewer project at the trailer park. Resident Rob Semmel raised the question of whether the generator, which was to be replaced as part of the pump station upgrade, could be transferred to the Highway Department shop, which currently has no backup power. Town Supervisor White agreed to follow up with LCWSA's Jason Molino to coordinate the transfer.

IX. Close Public Hearings

1. Additional Discussion On Open Hearings

No additional public comment or Board discussion was raised on either public hearing.

2. Close Public Hearing On OLCWD

Town Supervisor White declared the public hearing on the removal of the OLCWD quarterly surcharge closed.

3. Close Public Hearing On Sewar District Grant

Town Supervisor White declared the public hearing on the Sewer District CDBG pump replacement grant closed.

X. Resolutions

1. 0707-2026: Authorizing Supervisor To Sign Required Paperwork To Apply For WIIA Grant For West Town Water District

Resolution 0707-2026, authorizing Town Supervisor Richard White to sign all required paperwork to apply for the WIIA Grant for the West Town Water District, was moved by Deputy Supervisor/Councilmember Jason Yasso and seconded by Councilmember Matthew Durbin. Upon roll call vote: Councilmember Durbin – Yes; Councilmember Roffe – Yes; Councilmember Hull – Yes; Councilmember Yasso – Yes; Supervisor White – Yes. Motion carried 5-0.

2. Motion: Town Board Authorizes Supervisor To Sign Required Documents To File Grants For Replacement Of Sewar Pumps In Sewar District 1&2

Motion authorizing Town Supervisor Richard White to sign all required documents to file CDBG grant applications for replacement of sewer pumps in Sewer Districts 1 and 2 was made by Councilmember Karen Roffe and seconded by Deputy Supervisor/Councilmember Jason Yasso. The motion carried unanimously.

3. Motion: Town Board Authorizes The Supervisor To Sign BAN Renewal In The Amount Of \$46,015.00 At An Interest Rate Of 4.70%

Motion authorizing Town Supervisor Richard White to sign the Bond Anticipation Note renewal in the amount of \$46,015.00 at an interest rate of 4.70% for one year was made by Councilmember Matthew Durbin and seconded by Councilmember Karen Roffe. The motion carried unanimously.

Following the above resolutions, Town Attorney Campbell requested that the Board also entertain a motion to adopt and acknowledge the Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO) policy as required for the CDBG application.

Motion to accept and acknowledge the Equal Employment Opportunity policy in connection with the CDBG grant application was made by Councilmember Karen Roffe and seconded Councilmember Matthew Durbin. Upon vote, the motion carried unanimously.

A separate resolution (0708-2026) removing the \$30.00 quarterly debt service charge from OLCWD water customers was read into the record by Town Attorney Campbell following the close of the public hearing. The resolution formalized that effective with the November 1, 2026, billing cycle, the quarterly debt charge would be discontinued as the underlying obligations to the Village of Leicester had been satisfied.

Resolution 0708-2026, discontinuing the \$30.00 quarterly debt service charge for water customers of the Town of Leicester Consolidated Water District effective with the November 1, 2026, billing cycle, was moved by Councilmember Karen Roffe and seconded by Deputy Supervisor/Councilmember Jason Yasso. Upon roll call vote: Councilmember Durbin – Yes; Councilmember Roffe – Yes; Councilmember Hull – Yes; Councilmember Yasso – Yes; Supervisor White – Yes. Motion carried 5-0.

XI. Executive Session

Town Supervisor White requested the Board enter Executive Session for consultation with the Town Attorney regarding upcoming contracts and employment matters.

Motion to enter Executive Session was made by Councilmember Karen Roffe and seconded by Deputy Supervisor/Councilmember Jason Yasso. The motion carried unanimously.

XII. Adjournment

The Board entered Executive Session. No further business was recorded on the public record. The public was dismissed.

Town Board Entered back into Regular Session at 8:09 p.m. by Motion made by Councilmember Matthew Durbin and seconded by Councilmember Karen Roffe, no action was taken.

Motion to Adjourn was made by Deputy Supervisor/Councilmember Jason Yasso and seconded by Councilmember Matthew Durbin.

Respectfully submitted by Amy Neumann, Town Clerk