

Town of Leicester Work Meeting; September 08, 2026, at 7:00 P.M.

Meeting Minutes

September 8, 2026, 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM

132 Main Street, Leicester, NY 14481, US

I. Call to Order / Roll Call

The meeting called to order at 7:00 PM at 132 Main Street, Leicester, NY 14481.

1. Pledge to the Flag

Councilmember Gerald Hull led the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. Board Members Present / Excused: Deputy Supervisor Yasso

Present: Councilmember Gerald Hull, Councilmember Matthew Durbin, Councilmember/Historian Karen Roffe, Highway Superintendent Russell Page Absent/Excused: Deputy Supervisor Yasso

3. Others Present: Town Clerk

Town Clerk/Tax Collector Amy L. Neumann was present.

4. Public Present

Ken Mock Jr., Rob Semmel, Lisa Semmel, John Yasso.

II. Approval of Minutes

1. Motion to Accept Minutes of August 11th Work Meeting as Written/As Corrected

Motion to accept the minutes of the August 11th Work Meeting with corrections was made by Councilmember Matthew Durbin and seconded by Councilmember Karen Roffe. Motion carried.

2. Motion to Accept Minutes of August 25th Regular Meeting as Written/As Corrected

Councilmember/Historian Karen Roffe noted minor grammatical corrections. The Board acknowledged the automated transcription system and agreed to work toward converting output to a word document for easier editing.

Motion to accept the minutes of the August 25th Regular Meeting as corrected made by Councilmember Gerald Hull and seconded by Councilmember/Historian Karen Roffe carried. Motion carried.

III. Communications to the Board

1. Supervisors Reports and Budget Report for July

The Supervisor's report and budget report for July were distributed and reviewed. No questions were raised by Board Members.

2. SLRF Closeout

The Board was informed that the federal government had accepted the Town's closeout numbers for the SLRF funds. The matter is considered closed.

IV. DOT Meeting: RT36 & Perry Road, September 15th, 2026, At 4 PM

The Board was reminded of the upcoming DOT meeting at the Leicester Fire Hall on September 15th at 4:00 PM. Setup was planned to begin at 3:30 PM. It was noted that the proposed roundabout at RT36 and Perry Road would include four light poles, and the DOT has requested the Town take over responsibility for the associated lighting costs following installation. The Supervisor indicated this is consistent with practice in neighboring municipalities and is considered a relatively minor ongoing expense.

V. 2027 Budget: Discussions

1. JCAP Grant For Court Discussion, Door and Camera System

The Supervisor reported that the Town Court is seeking permission to file a JCAP Grant application to replace the front door with a handicap-accessible door and to upgrade the building's camera security system. The estimated project cost is \$24,000.00, with no required Town contribution.

2. Worksheet

The Supervisor presented a 2027 budget worksheet. Key discussion points included:

Revenue was not anticipated to change significantly. The goal was to keep spending relatively flat while monitoring the fund balance used to offset the budget, with caution noted against allowing a deficit to grow to a point requiring a large future correction.

Salaries were reviewed via a county-wide comparison sheet. A 4% across-the-board increase was presented as a reference scenario, with final figures to be determined at the next meeting. The Supervisor also proposed rebalancing the allocation of the Deputy Town Clerk's hours between the Court and Deputy Clerk budget lines to better reflect actual duties performed.

Highway figures were reviewed with Councilmember Russell Page. Key points included:

- CHIPS revenue and expenditure budgets were suggested to be increased to approximately \$250,000 to better reflect recent averages.
- General repairs contractual line proposed to increase from \$45,000 to \$50,000 to keep pace with inflation.
- \$25,000 was retained for the cold storage project, pending progress.
- Snow removal hours were noted as potentially tight, with a suggestion to add a modest buffer.
- The Perry Road cross pipe replacement was discussed. An engineering estimate had previously been cited at approximately \$1,000,000, but options involving pipelining or pulling a smaller pipe through the existing structure could reduce costs significantly — potentially to approximately \$100,000 or less. The matter remains under investigation.

Zoning and Planning stipends were identified as needing upward adjustment to better reflect required training obligations.

Medical insurance, Social Security, and retirement costs were expected to rise. A final retirement contribution figure had not yet been received from the State.

Street lighting for Jones Bridge at Perry Road was flagged by Highway Superintendent Russell Page as a potential addition to the budget.

The Board agreed to continue detailed budget deliberations at the next meeting.

VI. White Creek Solar

1. Reminder - Second Pre-Construction Meeting: Tuesday Nov 4th at 10AM

The Board was reminded of the second pre-construction meeting for the White Creek Solar project. The date was confirmed as Wednesday, November 4th at 10:00 AM.

VII. PT/WTWD Update

1. Draft Agreement to Pay LCWSA Direct- Waiting on Final Acceptance

The Pine Tavern Water District agreement to pay LCWSA directly remains pending final acceptance. The surcharge was noted to be coming off beginning in October, which will simplify district finances going forward.

VIII. Resolution to Allow Court Clerk to File JCAP Grant: 0901-2026

Motion to authorize the Court Clerk to file an application for a JCAP Grant for a new front door and camera system, estimated at approximately \$24,000.00, Resolution No. 0901-2026, was made by Councilmember Matthew Durbin and seconded by Councilmember Gerald Hull. Motion carried.

IX. Executive Session: If Needed

Executive Session was not convened.

X. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn was made by Councilmember Matthew Durbin and seconded by Councilmember Gerald Hull. Motion carried at 7:31 p.m. The meeting was adjourned.