

Town of Leicester
Work Meeting - March 10th, 2026.
Meeting minutes

Call to Order/Roll Call

Pledge to the Flag

Karen Roffe (Councilmember/Historian) led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Board Members Present/ Excused: All Present

Town Supervisor Richard White confirmed all board members were present for the meeting.

Others Present: Town Clerk, Town Attorney James Campbell

Town Clerk Amy L Neumann and Town Attorney James Campbell, Highway Superintendent, Russell Page were in attendance.

Public Present:

Ken Mock Jr., John Yasso, Dennis Prevost, Alvin Laney.

Approval of Minutes

Motion to accept Minutes of February 28th Regular Meeting: As written / with corrections.

Councilmember/Historian Karen Roffe made a motion to accept the minutes of February 28th as written. The motion was seconded and carried unanimously.

Motion: Councilmember/Historian Karen Roffe, moved to accept the minutes of February 28th as written. Second by Councilmember Matthew Durbin. Motion Passed.

White Creek Solar

Update

Town Supervisor Richard White provided an update on the White Creek Solar project, noting that tree cutting and brush clearing activities are actively underway. He informed the Board that the project has been sold again, which he indicated was common for solar projects, referencing those similar projects in York had changed ownership multiple times. Supervisor White stated this ownership change should not impact on the Town's involvement or obligations related to the project.

County Highway

List of 2026 County Road Projects Proposed

Town Supervisor Richard White reported receiving a comprehensive list of 2026 County Road Projects, noting that several projects are planned for Leicester. He offered to email the complete list to Board Members for review. Supervisor White specifically mentioned Gibsonville Road as one of the Leicester projects included in the County's plans.

Starr Road Bridge

Supervisor White provided an update on the Starr Road Bridge Project, indicating that the bidding process has been completed and the project is ready to commence once weather conditions permit. He confirmed the Bridge Work is scheduled to begin this summer.

Court Audit: Councilperson Roffe and Hull - Findings Report

Motion to Accept Audit findings & Report to NYS OCA

Town Supervisor Richard White confirmed that Councilmember/Historian Karen Roffe, and Councilmember Jerry Hull, had completed the court audit, with all documentation signed and submitted to Town Clerk Amy L Neumann. Supervisor White explained that the Town must file a formal report with the Office of Court Administration (OCA) based on the audit findings.

Motion: Councilmember Matthew Durbin moved to accept the audit findings and report to NYS OCA. Second by Deputy Supervisor/Councilmember Jason Yasso. Motion Passed unanimously.

Code Office

2160 Perry Road Property: Trash, Vehicles, Buildings, etc.

Town Supervisor Richard White presented photographs and discussed ongoing code enforcement issues at 2160 Perry Road, describing persistent problems with trash accumulation and numerous unregistered vehicles on the property. Supervisor White confirmed that the New Code Enforcement Officer has prioritized this case and is working closely with Town Attorney James Campbell to address the violations. Supervisor White noted that neither the buses nor campers on the property appear to be properly registered or licensed.

Added another bus over the weekend.

Supervisor White reported that a neighbor contacted him over the weekend expressing frustration about an additional bus being moved onto the problematic property. Town Attorney James Campbell assured the Board that they would "spread a wide net" in addressing the various violations at the property.

PT/WTWD

Petition Update

Town Supervisor Richard White provided an update on the petition process, indicating that petitions are expected to be completed within a week. He explained that once submitted,

the petitions would be officially presented to the Board at the next meeting, allowing for the scheduling of a required Public Hearing.

Update on AKZO/LCWSA contracts

The Town Board discussed ongoing matters related to AKZO and LCWSA contracts as part of the Water District proceedings.

Meeting with Conflict Attorney moved to Thursday at 2PM

Supervisor White informed the Board that the previously scheduled meeting with the Conflict Attorney had to be rescheduled to Thursday at 2:00 PM. He clarified that this would be an Attorney-Client privileged meeting, not open to public attendance, and encouraged available Board Members to participate.

Town Attorney James Campbell confirmed that the 30-day review period will be completed by the next Board meeting, allowing the Town Board to begin the SEQR (State Environmental Quality Review) process. Attorney Campbell indicated his intention to have a structured agenda ready for the next meeting to advance the Water District establishment process, including accepting petitions and scheduling the required Public Hearing. He noted that the Public Hearing process for Water Districts differs from typical Town Public Hearing and promised to guide the Town Board through the specific requirements.

Other items

Tree survey for Cemetery

Town Supervisor Richard White presented information from a Tree Survey Proposal for the Cemetery. Councilmember/Historian Karen Roffe explained that she had contacted a surveyor to assess trees in the Cemetery, initially estimating 25 trees needing evaluation. After driving through the Cemetery, she acknowledged there were significantly more trees than initially estimated, focusing primarily on larger hardwood trees while excluding pine trees along the fence line. The Town Board agreed to review the Proposal and discuss it at the next meeting.

AFR Report: Update (2024)

Supervisor White provided an update on the 2024 Annual Financial Report, explaining that completion has been delayed due to a \$35,000 discrepancy involving a Certificate of Deposit that was cashed in 2020 and transferred to the General Fund, though it continued to be carried on Cemetery Records.

Councilmember/Historian Karen Roffe provided Historical context, explaining the CD originated from the Botsford Trust along with the Main Trust Fund. She noted previous Supervisors had refused to allow the CD to be used for Cemetery Improvements, despite her recommendations that it could be utilized for necessary road work and maintenance. Councilmember/Historian Karen Roffe indicated she had contacted the Trust Administrators and offered to provide their contact information to help resolve the Accounting Discrepancy.

Supervisor White assured the Board that once the 2024 report is resolved, the 2025 financial reporting would proceed much more quickly.

Financial Impact & Community Benefit: The \$35,000 CD discrepancy from Cemetery Funds represents a one-time accounting correction that must be resolved to complete the 2024

Annual Financial Report. The funds, originally from the Botsford Trust, were transferred to the general fund in 2020 but continued to appear on cemetery records. Resolution of this accounting issue will enable proper financial reporting and potentially unlock cemetery improvement funds that have been unavailable for maintenance and road work, directly benefiting families who visit the cemetery and ensuring proper stewardship of the Botsford Trust legacy.

Additional Business

Commander of the American Legion Alvin Laney addressed the Board, providing an update on the American Legion facility renovations. Laney reported that the building has been completely rebuilt with a new deck and fully remodeled interior, describing it as "like a showplace." He noted that county meetings will resume at the facility and proudly announced his role as the First County Commander from Leicester since 1932.

Laney discussed the financial challenges facing the organization, presenting an invoice showing \$149 per gross for Flags, to ensure all Veterans' Graves receive New Flags. He praised the Local Scout Troops for their assistance in Flag placement, noting they reduced the task from four hours to under an hour. Laney mentioned that grave markers cost \$60 each, though he has been purchasing plastic ones for \$10 to manage costs.

The organization currently has approximately 15 members and faces the ongoing challenge of losing members to age while working to recruit new ones. Laney reported that the Post Office Box alone costs \$110 annually, emphasizing how the Town's donation helps with basic operational expenses.

Financial Impact & Community Benefit: The American Legion's ongoing operations, supported by Town donations, provide essential services including maintaining Veterans' Graves with \$149 flag purchases and \$10 plastic grave markers throughout Leicester Cemeteries. The \$110 annual Post Office Box cost represents a recurring operational expense. The Town's financial support enables this All-Volunteer Organization of 15 members to honor deceased Veterans and maintain Memorial Services, providing tangible benefits to Veterans' families and preserving Community Military Heritage through visible grave markers and ceremonial observances.

Adjournment

Highway Superintendent Russell Page indicated he had no prepared items for discussion but confirmed ongoing conversations with Town Supervisor Richard White regarding various Highway Department matters.

The meeting adjourned following a motion and second, with all members in favor.

Motion: Motion to adjourn by Deputy Supervisor/Councilmember Jason Yasso.

Seconded by Councilmember Matthew Durbin at 7:17 p.m. Motion Passed.