

Town of Leicester Regular Meeting, September 23, 2025

Meeting minutes

Call to Order/Roll Call

Supervisor Richard White called the meeting to order. The Pledge to the Flag was led by Jim Campbell.

All Board Members were present except for Council Member Yasso, who was excused. Others present included Town Clerk Amy Neumann and Town Attorney James Campbell.

Others Present:

Kenneth Mock, Paula Smith.

Approval of Minutes

Supervisor White asked if the board had received the minutes from the September 9th Work Meeting.

Motion to approve the Minutes of September 9th Work Meeting made by Councilmember Roffe, seconded by Councilmember Durbin. Motion carried with Supervisor White abstaining as he was not present at the meeting.

Reports to the Board

Supervisors Financial Reports: Supervisors Report and Budget Report

Supervisor White noted that he had just received the financial reports at 5:30 PM that afternoon and had not had time to verify the numbers. He mentioned that the reports were marked "UV" for unverified, and that going forward he would stamp reports when he had verified the information.

Highway Superintendent Report

No report was provided.

Town Clerk Financial Reports: Animal, Marriage and Monthly Receipts

Supervisor White noted that the Town Clerk had sent digital copies of the animal, marriage, and monthly reports to Board Members.

AFR Report: Update

Supervisor White reported that the AFR had filed with the State of New York, and no clarification had been requested from the state so far.

Code Office Report

No specific report from Sean Sullivan was provided.

Pine Tavern Water District: Update if available

Supervisor White reported there was a pause in the project. He explained that two objections had been filed to the SEQR, but the Livingston County Water Authority had filed with the Department of Conservation to overrule them because the objections did not properly fit into environmental guidelines. Town Attorney James Campbell clarified that the objections were more business-related concerns from Mount Morris.

Budget Preparation

Supervisor White stated that he had filed the Supervisors Tentative Budget with the Town Clerk just before the meeting. He noted he hadn't had a chance to review the numbers to ensure they matched what was expected but thought it would be immaterial unless there were disagreements later. He mentioned that this was the budget the Board had worked on previously.

Councilmember Hull expressed his satisfaction with how the budget process went, complimenting both the Supervisor and the Accountants.

Supervisor White recommended setting a date for the public hearing on the budget.

Motion to hold the Public Hearing on the 2026 Budget on October 28th, 2025, made by Councilmember Durbin, seconded by Councilmember Roffe. Motion carried.

Town Attorney Campbell confirmed that the budget would not exceed the tax cap. Supervisor White affirmed this and added they would be using some of their fund balance to balance the budget. He expressed concern about not depleting the fund balance too much due to potential future expenses related to electric vehicles.

Other items

Complaint on River Road power poles

Supervisor White shared that Todd Lubanski had reported an issue on River Road, just past A-On-Do-Wa-Nuh Sportsman Club, where a cable company had installed new poles with guide wires only 2-3 feet from the edge of the road. This presented a hazard for snowplows and vehicles. Town Attorney Campbell had received the information and would contact the company about moving the poles or finding another solution.

Empire Racetrack asked for help with camper parking

Supervisor White reported that Mr. Scaccia from Empire Racetrack had contacted him about creating parking for racers' campers, allowing them to leave their campers from the beginning to the end of the racing season. There appeared to be an issue with the Health Department. Supervisor White would be meeting with Mr. Scaccia on Thursday at 9:00 AM and invited any interested Board Members to join. He had requested clarification from the Health Department regarding their concerns but had not yet received a response.

Attorney Campbell suggested the Health Department might treat the area as a campsite, which would have requirements for water, electricity, and sewer services. Supervisor White noted that options exist for sewage handling, such as service trucks that pump out holding tanks or dump stations.

New Code Officer Candidate

Supervisor White reported they had a candidate for a New Code Officer who was already in training. Councilmembers Roffe and Durbin had spoken with him that evening.

Councilmember Durbin expressed that he thought the candidate was very qualified with extensive work experience, maintenance experience, and house-building knowledge. He noted the candidate also seemed to know how to interact well with the public.

Supervisor White mentioned the candidate was expected to complete his required courses by December, and that Sean Sullivan (Current Code Officer) was willing to stay on to help until the New Officer was certified. Supervisor White suggested possibly using some of Sean's unspent budget funds to pay the candidate, David Walters, to come in for a few hours to help Sean with paperwork and reinforce his training.

Cemetery plot exchange - Joseph Sage

Supervisor White explained that Joe Sage had a family plot at the cemetery where his family members were buried, and he wanted to be buried there as well. However, he also wanted his girlfriend to be buried with him, which would require an adjoining plot. Joe Sage was requesting to trade his current plot for another location where two adjoining plots would be available for full burials.

Town Clerk Neumann clarified that Sage had found a receipt for the plot and explained that he wanted to trade his single plot and move to a new area with plenty of open spots, where both he and his girlfriend could have full burials, as two full burials cannot fit in one plot.

Supervisor White noted that he didn't see an issue with the exchange, as it would be trading one lot for another, and the Town could then sell the original lot to someone else.

Complaint about Perry Road Property

Supervisor White reported that while he was on vacation, Councilmember Yasso had fielded another complaint about the Perry Road property. Supervisor White discussed it with Attorney Campbell and shared photographs.

Supervisor White explained that they were trying to find additional laws that would help address the problem. The Code Officer was confident that a mini house on the property with pillars and an apparent extension cord running to it could be grounds to take the property owner to court.

After taking pictures of the property on Sunday, Supervisor White expressed concern about the number of campers and cars on the property, wondering if the owner might be renting them out on a short-term basis.

Councilmember Durbin confirmed that the property owner had advertised on Facebook. Resident also mentioned that the owner was doing roadside cooking and food delivery from the property.

Attorney Campbell indicated he would look at some of the Town's past Local Laws and work with the Town Clerk to find adequate measures within the Town's own code and existing Local Laws, rather than using the Uniform Code, which would require a more sophisticated level of prosecution. He mentioned the Town's junk law as a possible enforcement tool and would develop a plan with the Code Officer.

Councilmember Roffe noted that the Town Code only allows one primary residence on a parcel, which could be another angle for enforcement.

Court Grant from NYS OCA: Update

Supervisor White reported that the Court had decided not to file for the previously discussed Grant to redo the ramp at the front of the building and potentially renovate the face of the building. He explained that the Court did not feel the state of New York was taking their request seriously, despite having sent information to the engineering department that was supposed to help.

Instead, the Court had applied for a Grant to replace the front door, which had been problematic, with a new one that would include a handicap button.

Audit of Claims - Abstract #9

Motion to pay Abstract of Claims #9 as audited, in the amount of \$19,948.90 made by Councilmember Durbin, seconded by Councilmember Hull. Motion carried.

Executive Session: If needed

No executive session was needed.

Supervisor White asked if there was anything else the board wished to discuss and then shared one additional item not on the agenda. He reported that he had met with Angela Ellis from the County Planning Department, who wanted to know if the Town needed help with programs for Senior Housing or Low-Income Housing. After

discussion, they concluded that there were no specific issues the County could help with at this time, as properties in the Town seemed to be moving well.

Supervisor White did express interest in a program that could help elderly residents with home repairs, noting that by the time it becomes apparent that elderly homeowners cannot keep up with repairs, it's often too late. This program could potentially provide assistance before problems become severe, including handicap accessibility improvements like ramps.

Town Clerk Neumann asked if this might include abandoned homes that were not maintained, specifically mentioning two properties on Route 20A toward Geneseo. She explained that one homeowner had moved after her husband passed away and was now living in an apartment in Avon because she couldn't maintain two residences. Supervisor White asked for the homeowner's information to share with Angela Ellis to see if the program might help in this situation.

There was additional discussion about the Pine Tavern Water District project. Councilmember Hull confirmed that the County was still moving forward with the Waterline, though there had been some delays. Attorney Campbell noted that the timeline had accelerated because they had simplified the number of players involved.

Supervisor White mentioned he expected to learn about the agreement between the County and Town to allocate funding at the first meeting in October. He explained that while they had hoped six months ago that water would be running in houses within two years, the timeline had adjusted because they couldn't apply for the WIIA grant this year. He noted it would be worth waiting 6-9 months to secure WIIA funding rather than proceeding with a project that homeowners might not be able to afford.

Attorney Campbell reported that the Regional Water Project was moving faster than expected, which was a prerequisite for the Pine Tavern project. He noted that the State Parks had approved an agreement that day, which would need to be approved by the Livingston County Water Authority Board. He expected the project would move more quickly than previously planned, with engineering and design work potentially beginning before the end of the year.

Councilmember Hull explained that they had initially hoped to get water from Geneseo, but when that option was no longer available, they found an alternative water source from Hemlock Lake, which would cross the river at Jones Bridge Road. Attorney Campbell confirmed this would be a reliable water source compared to the challenged Silver Lake and Canisius Lake sources.

Supervisor White noted that the plans included upsizing the line and adding a tank, which could potentially serve the County's Murray Hill campus in the future if needed.

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn made by Councilmember Durbin, seconded by Councilmember Roffe. Motion carried.