

**MINUTES OF THE ORGANIZATIONAL & REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING
OF THE TOWN BOARD OF THE TOWN OF CANAJOHARIE
HELD JANUARY 9, 2025 AT THE TOWN HALL COMMENCING AT 7:30 PM**

Present: Michael Muhlebeck, Town Supervisor
Rodney Young, Councilman
Mike Ehrenreich, Councilman

Recording Secretary: Erica Hayes, Town Clerk

Others Present: Steve Oare, Town Highway Superintendent
Amy Kretser, Town Bookkeeper
Keith Fergusson, Town Code Enforcement Officer
Kirsten Dunn, Town Attorney
Claude Pietrowicz, Residents for the Preservation of the MV Committee Member
Jennifer Stein, Residents for the Preservation of the MV Committee Member
Sue Mallory, Residents for the Preservation of the MV Committee Member
Chip Readling, Cordelio Power
Raymond Kiefl, Resident
Pete Vroman, Resident
Jarod March, Resident

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Muhlebeck, at 7:31 PM, with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Accept the December 2024 Meeting Minutes

A motion was made by Mr. Young, seconded by Mr. Ehrenreich, that the minutes of the December 2024 meeting, as submitted by the Town Clerk, be approved. All in favor ayes, carried.

Resolution #1 – 2025
Organizational Appointments

Sponsor: Rodney Young, Councilman

Second: Mike Ehrenreich, Councilman

Whereas, the Town of Canajoharie must make various appointments for Town operation in the coming year,
Resolved, the following appointments are made effective immediately:

Town Attorney:	Dunn and Dunn, PLLC
Bookkeeper:	Amy Kretser
Code Enforcement/Zoning Officer:	Keith Ferguson
Sole Assessor:	Charlene Ruszkowski
Town Historian:	Vacant
Animal Control Officer/Rabies Response Agent:	Steven Fredenburg
Health Officer:	Brian Hall, P.A.
B.A.R. Councilman:	Dale Button

Zoning Board of Appeals:	David Shults - Term to end December 31, 2028
	Daniel Hazzard-Term to end December 31, 2029
	Francis Avery - Term to end December 31, 2026

Planning Board Members: Michael Cole, Chair – Term to end December 31, 2028
Dennis McEwan- Term to end December 31, 2031
Wayne Conard – Term to end December 31, 2026
Elam Kaufman – Term to end December 31, 2027
Ivan Easton – Term to end December 31, 2027
Alternate (*Open*) – Term to end December 31, 2028

Further resolved, the following miscellaneous assignments are made:

Official newspaper: The Amsterdam Recorder
Official depository: NBT Bank
Mileage reimbursement rates: Per IRS rules, as altered through the year.

Utility bills, insurance, postage, credit cards, and gas cards may be paid ahead of the monthly council meeting when they are received.

Salaries of part-time employees set to the New York State minimum wage, as altered through the year.
Salaries for part-time Highway employees are at the discretion of the Highway Superintendent.

VOTING	AYES	NAYS	ABSENT
Michael Muhlebeck, Town Supervisor	X		
William Armitstead, Councilman			X
Mike Ehrenreich, Councilman	X		
Rodney Young, Councilman	X		

RESOLUTION #2 of 2025
Appointment of Raymond Kiefl to the Town Board

Sponsor: Mike Ehrenreich, Councilman
Second: Rodney Young, Councilman

Whereas, the Town of Canajoharie Board has (1) one vacancy,

Whereas, Raymond Kiefl was nominated by the board to fill the vacancy,

Now, therefore, be it RESOLVED that: Raymond Kiefl is appointed to the Town Board effective January 9, 2025 to finish Mr. Muhlebeck's term, and has plans to run in the November election.

VOTING	AYES	NAYS	ABSENT
Michael Muhlebeck, Town Supervisor	X		
William Armitstead, Councilman			X
Rodney Young, Councilman	X		
Mike Ehrenreich, Councilman	X		

Town Supervisor

Mr. Muhlebeck gave the floor to Mr. Readling of Cordelio Power; he stated that although their September application was declined, they plan to address the concerns from the first application and re-apply in two weeks' time.

Town Supervisor Muhlebeck asked if anyone from the Board had information on the stone wall located at the back of the property. Mr. Young will get in contact with a surveyor to come assess the property, as the deed is dated and hard to decipher.

In regard to the Personnel Handbook, Mr. Muhlebeck has been in contact with the County to review our needs.

Mr. Ehrenreich agreed to work with the Union Representative and the Town Shop Representative to negotiate the contract.

Code Officer:

Mr. Ferguson invited the Town Board to attend a presentation of the permitting software he'd like to use for Town permitting, on January 15th at 12PM.

Town Clerk

Mrs. Hayes reported that from October to December of 2024, 6 building permits were issued, totaling \$310.00.

Town Bookkeeper

**TOWN OF CANAJOHARIE-1/15/24
CASH REPORT
December 31, 2024**

CHECKING ACCOUNTS

General	\$ 40,944.51
Fire District	\$ 39.86
Highway Town Wide	\$ 195,421.09
Highway Part Town	\$ 195,782.61
Capital Project	\$ 4,979.05
Trust & Agency	<u>\$ 66,978.27*</u>
Total	\$ 504,145.39

*\$65,848.96Avangrid/Mohawk Host Community

MONEY MARKET ACCOUNTS

General	\$ 26,375.01
Highway Town Wide	\$208,202.17
Highway PartTown	<u>\$311,161.10</u>
Total	\$545,738.28

SAVINGS ACCOUNTS

Highway Cap Reserve	\$ 10,005.39
Gen-Cap Reserve-Garage	\$314,936.65
Gen-Cap Reserve-land	<u>\$ 15,628.65</u>
Total	\$340,570.69

Sincerely,

Amy S. Kretser, Bookkeeper

Public Comment

Jarod March expressed his concerns about the snow and drifts that have been accumulating his road, and would like to have the Highway Department address them.

At 8:16PM Executive Session was called. It closed on a motion made by Mr. Kiefl, seconded by Mr. Ehrenreich at 9:25.

One a motion made by Mr. Kiefl, seconded by Mr. Ehrenreich, the Board voted to approve Mr. Muhlebeck to sign insurance contracts on behalf of the Board. All ayes carried.

Authorization of Vouchers

The Town Clerk presented the following bill vouchers for approval:

Vouchers #1 through #48, totaling \$67,679.13.

On a motion by Mr. Kiefl, seconded by Mr. Ehrenreich, the bill vouchers were unanimously approved for payment.

Adjournment

On a motion by Mr. Young, seconded by Mr. Kiefl, the meeting was adjourned at 9:39 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Erica Hayes
Town Clerk