

REGULAR TOWN BOARD MEETING

Town of Berlin
August 14, 2025
7:30p.m.

The Town Board of the Town of Berlin, County of Rensselaer, State of New York met on the above date to transact such business as may lawfully come before such board. Members present were Supervisor Robert Jaeger, Councilman Stephen Riccardi, Councilman Douglas Feathers, and Councilman Dean Maxon. Councilman John Winn was absent.

Councilman Maxon made a motion to accept the board meeting minutes from July. Supervisor Jaeger seconded the motion.

 4 Ayes 0 Nays Motion Carried

Supervisor Jaeger opened the meeting with the town clerk's report from July. Supervisor Jaeger made the motion to accept the town clerk's report with Councilman Feathers seconding the motion.

 4 Ayes 0 Nays Motion Carried

WATER DISTRICT #1 – Nothing to report.

WATER DISTRICT #2 – Resident, Michael Knuetter, has taken to social media to express his concern regarding a broken water line at his residence.

Jim Winn and Paul Baker have determined that the break is on the property owners' side of the line. It has always been the town's policy that if the break was on the property owners' side of the line, the town would not be responsible for correcting those issues. In an effort to minimize damage to the rest of the town's water supply, and the newly constructed system, the water to this residence has been shut off. Supervisor Jaeger then contacted the county health department. The county determined the town is well within their rights to turn off the water and it is the homeowner's responsibility to have the line repaired. Supervisor Jaeger has informed Mr. Knuetter of the town's longstanding policy in writing. Mr. Knuetter was advised the town is not responsible for repairs made to private property owner's lines, and that he will need to have his water line repaired by a certified/licensed contractor before the water can be turned back on to his residence.

Supervisor Jaeger reaffirmed the Town's longstanding policy that the Town of Berlin is not responsible for repairs made to a resident's private line. It is the property owner's responsibility to have issues concerning the private water line corrected within seven (7) calendar days by a licensed/certified contractor. Councilman Douglas Feathers seconded the motion.

__4__Ayes __0__Nays Motion Carried

HIGHWAY – Highway Superintendent James Winn reported that the crews have been busy chip sealing.

DOG CONTROL OFFICER – DCO Doug Goodermote had one call for a dog that had jumped through a window and injured itself. He assisted in getting the dog into the residents vehicle so that the dog could be taken to the vet.

CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER – CEO Walter Yerdon reported he will be attending the conference in October for Building Inspectors & Code Enforcement Officers in Albany, NY. There have been a number of new laws concerning electric energy established this year, so he is hoping to garner a better understanding of those at the conference.

Councilman Maxon reported that CEO Walter Yerdon and himself have met with the Engineer for an exterior visual inspection of two neglected properties in town. The Engineer would like to schedule an internal inspection of the property at 111 Green Hollow Rd before making a final determination. Once a determination has been made the letters will be mailed to the property owners.

COMMITTEES -

ZBA – Nothing to report.

Comprehensive Plan- Nothing to report.

PLANNING BOARD – Nothing to report.

TRANSFER STATION – Transfer station supervisor Doug Goodermote reported that one of the employees who was thinking about leaving has now decided to

stay. There have been a number of residents who have been completing their checks with a total amount due for construction debris and garbage without first checking with an attendant to see how much is owed.

AMBULANCE – The squad is in the process of renewing their certificate. A new building is on order and stakes have been placed in the ground to show the outline of where the building will be placed. The goal is to have the new building erected by November 2025

YOUTH COMMISSION – Nothing to report.

ASSESSOR – Nothing to report

WORKSHOP- No workshop meeting in July.

WEBSITE- Nothing to report

HISTORIAN – Nothing to report.

TAX COLLECTOR – Nothing to report

CORRESPONDENCE- Nothing to report

OLD BUSINESS –Nothing to report

NEW BUSINESS- There have been a series of young individuals who have been running the streets in the center of town at all hours of the day and night. Most of the time on dirt bikes or other gas-powered vehicles. Most of the time they are running well over the speed limits and without any sort of lights or safety equipment. Multiple residents have complained about these individuals and frankly worried that they, or someone else, may be injured by their actions.

There is an individual at Bucks Corners who is throwing stones into plank road and at people who are driving down the road. He has also tried to interfere with pedestrian and automobile traffic on more than one occasion.

Supervisor Jaeger will be contacting the Sheriff's Department regarding both situations and asking them to step up patrols as well as speak to these individuals.

BOARD –

The monthly bills were read by Town Clerk Sarah VanBuskirk. After the reading of the bills, Councilman Maxon made a motion to accept the bills with Supervisor Jaeger seconding the motion.

 4 Ayes 0 Nays Motion Carried

PUBLIC- Nothing to report

There being no further business, the motion was made by Councilman Maxon to adjourn the meeting. Supervisor Jaeger seconded the motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:24pm.

 4 Ayes 0 Nays Motion Carried