

# MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE TOWN BOARD

TOWN OF SANDY CREEK  
1992 HARWOOD DRIVE, PO BOX 52  
SANDY CREEK, NEW YORK 13145-0052

**Date:** October 8, 2025

**Type of Meeting:** Regular Meeting

**Place:** Sandy Creek Town Hall

**Board Members Present:** Timothy D. Ridgeway, Town Supervisor  
Nola J. Gove, Town Council Member  
Ruth E. Scheppard, Town Council Member  
A.Dave Warner, Town Council Member

**Absent:** John W. Wood Jr., Town Council Member

**Others Present:** Katrina McDougal, Ron Fisher, Bill Joyce, Mike Kastler, Michael Yerdon, Meg Sprague (out at 6:43pm), Pat McDougal, Jimmy Sprague III, Jay Bergin (out at 6:41pm), Shane Martin (out at 6:41pm), Don Schneider, Denise Schneider, and Brittany Washburn.

**CALL TO ORDER:** Town Supervisor Timothy D. Ridgeway called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm with the Pledge of Allegiance.

## **Public Hearing: Tax Levy Limit Local Law**

Town Supervisor Timothy Ridgeway opened the public hearing on Local Law #1 of 2025, a local law to override the tax levy limit established in General Municipal Law section 3-c at 6:01pm. With no public comment regarding this proposed local law the public hearing was closed at 6:01pm.

## **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

### **Resolution #94-25**

Motion made by Ruth E. Scheppard seconded by Nola J. Gove, the following resolution was **Adopted** with

**4 Ayes** Ridgeway, Gove, Scheppard, and Warner

**0 No**

**1 Absent** Wood

**Resolved** that the Town Board of the Town of Sandy Creek approves the minutes of the September 10<sup>th</sup> and October 1<sup>st</sup> meetings as written.

## **REPORTS:**

**Code Enforcement Officer** – James Sprague III, read his report for September. There were ten permits and two violations. This report is on file in the Town Clerk's office. Mr. Sprague brought a local law with the Village of Sandy Creek that he would like to have the Town consider. This would be local law #1 of 2024 in the Village of Sandy Creek for regulating junk, junk vehicles, and licensing of junk yards. He has given the Akkoul property a second notice for their violation, they have three days left to comply.

**Sole Assessor** – No report received.

**Dog Control Officer** – Report for September has been filed with the Town Clerk's office.

**Highway/Water Superintendent** – Mike Kastler read his Highway report for September. His report is on file with the Town Clerk's office. Mike plans to put the 2008 International Dump Truck on Auctions International. The financing paperwork for the new truck was mailed last night. Dave Warner questioned when the old pickup truck would be put up for auction. Mr. Kastler explained that they have been using the old truck a lot while other trucks have been in the shop for repairs. Mr. Kastler would like the board to deem the 2008 International Dump truck as surplus so that it can be put up for auction.

### **Resolution #95-25**

Motion made by Dave Warner seconded by Timothy D. Ridgeway, the following resolution was **Adopted** with  
**4 Ayes** Ridgeway, Gove, Scheppard, and Warner

**0 No**

**1 Absent** Wood

**Resolved** that the Town Board of the Town of Sandy Creek deems the 2008 international dump truck as surplus and may be auctioned off on Auctions International.

**Historian** – Monthly report is on file with the Town Clerk's office.

**Judges** – Monthly reports are filed with the Town Supervisor. Judge Terry Crast is still in the hospital.

**Legislator** – Michael Yerdon – The County had a few more meetings regarding a project from Oneida Lake to Fulton. They are awaiting comments from Town Supervisors and Town Highway Superintendents for the Snow and Ice Contract. Mike Kastler spoke up that the Towns have not had many meetings to discuss the Snow and Ice Contract as the last three meetings were cancelled.

**Library** – Jessica Godfrey was absent tonight. However, she did email the newsletter for October. Ms. Godfrey wanted to know if the Town could relocate a water spigot inside the library. She also wanted to know if the Town could change the way a door opens because the shelf, she wants installed will be hit by the door in its current configuration.

**NOCA** – No report was received. We did receive a copy of their budget for 2026.

### **Resolution #96-25**

Motion made by Ruth E. Scheppard seconded by Nola J. Gove, the following resolution was **Adopted** with  
**4 Ayes** Ridgeway, Gove, Scheppard, and Warner

**0 No**

**1 Absent** Wood

**Resolved** that the Town Board of the Town of Sandy Creek authorizes Town Supervisor Ridgeway to sign the 2026 ambulance contract with Northern Oswego County Ambulance (NOCA).

**Planning Board** – Bill Joyce – There is a site plan for the other side of the S&R Automotive building to have a feed and hardware store. We also have a draft subdivision law that the Planning Board has been working on with Luke Mazzotta from Oswego County. It is a mix of laws that Granby and Schroepel had. A draft will need to be sent to the attorney.

**Town Clerk** – Brittany Washburn – Monthly reports for the Town Clerk and Water Clerk are on file and available for inspection. Town Clerk Washburn asked to revise the procurement policy on page one section two so that just titles were listed and not individual names and titles. This saves us from editing the procurement policy every time there is a personnel change. The attorney also said this change was fine. Ms. Washburn read three quotes on website design companies. The first quote was from Civic Plus. The first year would be \$4,348 with a one time 25% discount. The second year would be \$4,664 plus 5%. The second quote was from Revize LLC. The first year would be \$2,850, the second year would be \$1,350 per year but would be locked in at that price for four years. The third quote was from Munibit. They offer their services for \$189 per month but at a yearly cost of \$2,268 but did not have any price given for the next year's fee. Ms. Washburn recommended going with Revize LLC because their design and Munibit were very similar and Revize LLC would be cheaper than Munibit after the first year.

**Resolution #97-25**

Motion made by Ruth E. Scheppard seconded by Nola J. Gove, the following resolution was **Adopted** with  
**4 Ayes** Ridgeway, Gove, Scheppard, and Warner  
**0 No**  
**1 Absent** Wood

**Resolved** that the Town Board of the Town of Sandy Creek will update the procurement policy on section two “Designation of Purchasing Agent” to list titles of town officials not names and titles.

**Resolution #98-25**

Motion made by Ruth E. Scheppard seconded by Nola J. Gove, the following resolution was **Adopted** with  
**4 Ayes** Ridgeway, Gove, Scheppard, and Warner  
**0 No**  
**1 Absent** Wood

**Resolved** that the Town Board of the Town of Sandy Creek agrees to sign the sales contract with Revize LLC for the Town’s new .gov website.

**Resolution #99-25 – Local Law #1 of 2025 – Tax Levy Limit**

Motion made by Timothy D. Ridgeway seconded by Ruth E. Scheppard, the following resolution was **Adopted** with  
**4 Ayes** Ridgeway, Gove, Scheppard, and Warner  
**0 No**  
**1 Absent** Wood

**Resolved** that the Town Board of the Town of Sandy Creek adopts Local Law #1 of 2025, a local law to override the tax levy limit established in General Municipal Law Section 3-c as follows:

**Section One (1). Legislative Intent**

General Municipal Law §3-c (“GML §3-c”) places a limit upon the amount of real property taxes that may be levied by various governmental bodies, including incorporated Towns. Although it is the stated and clear intent of the Town Board to not exceed such limit during the upcoming fiscal year commencing January 1, 2026, due to the potential for (i) unforeseeable events causing an increase or decrease in revenues and/or expenses of Town operations; (ii) unknown or unforeseen effect(s) of interpretations, application or enforcement of GML §3-c relative to the required computation or accounting treatment of Town expenses and revenues; and (iii) the potential for such computation errors failing to accurately project fiscal year 2026 Town expenses and revenues, the Town Board as prudent stewards of the public trust desires to insulate the Town from possible sanctions, penalties or similar adverse consequences resulting from an unintentional failure to comply with GML §3-c, by providing for the override of the property tax cap imposed thereby. Accordingly, it is the intent of this local law to override such statutory limit, as may be required, on the amount of real property taxes that may be levied by the Town of Sandy Creek, County of Oswego pursuant to GML § 3-c, and to allow the Town of Sandy Creek, Oswego County to adopt a Town budget for (a) town purposes (b) any other special or improvement district governed by the Town Board for the fiscal year 2026 that requires a real property tax levy in excess of the “tax levy limit” as defined by GML § 3-c.

**Section Two (2). Authority**

This local law is adopted pursuant to subdivision 5 of General Municipal Law §3-c, which expressly authorizes a local government's governing body to override the property tax cap for the coming fiscal year by the adoption of a local law approved by a vote of sixty percent (60%) of said governing body.

### **Section Three (3). Tax Levy Limit Override**

The Town Board of the Town of Sandy Creek, County of Oswego, is hereby authorized to adopt a budget for the fiscal year commencing January 1, 2026 that requires a real property tax levy in excess of the amount otherwise prescribed in General Municipal Law §3-c.

### **Section Four (4). SEVERABILITY.**

If any clause, sentence, paragraph, subdivision, section or part of this local law or the application thereof to any person, individual, corporation, firm, partnership, entity or circumstances is adjudged invalid, illegal or unconstitutional by any court of competent jurisdiction, such order or judgment shall be confined in its operation to the clause, sentence, paragraph, subdivision, section or part of this law or in its application directly involved in the controversy in which such judgment shall have been rendered and shall not affect or impair the validity of the remainder of this local law or the application thereof to other persons or circumstances. Further, in adjudging such invalid provision, the court shall attempt to modify same to a provision which is not invalid, illegal or unconstitutional and which best achieves the intent of the invalid provision.

### **Section Five (5). EFFECTIVE DATE.**

This Local Law shall take effect upon its filing in the office of the Secretary of State.

**Ron Fisher** – Mr. Fisher handed out the final monitoring results for fecal coliform and harmful algal blooms from 2025. They were able to monitor 20 samples. Sampling has ended for the year. Mr. Fisher does not recommend the continuation of monitoring for fecal coliform. The results are on file in the Town Clerk's office.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT:**

**Jay Bergin** - Central Oswego County Riders – Mr. Bergin requested that specific portions of roads be open to ATV travel to safely connect to existing trails in the Town of Sandy Creek. The roads they would like permission to use are portions of Frazer Road, County Route 62, County Route 15, West Avenue, Wigwam Drive, Miller Road, County Route 48, Edwards Road, County Route 22, Bremm Road, and Ballou Road. If the board agrees to move forward, there may be a need for a public hearing. The Town Board will reach out to our attorney regarding this matter. Tim Ridgeway agreed that this would be a great opportunity.

**Denise Schneider** – President of the Sandy Pond Sportsmen's Association and resident of Sandy Pond – Agreed that allowing the addition of town roads would bring more revenue to the businesses in our town. She also uses an ATV but must trailer it to other trails in the area.

**Mike Kastler** – Inquired about using the snowmobile trails as well for the ATVs. Mr. Bergin is trying to make that happen.

**Pat McDougal** – Brought up the worsening conditions at the Bauer and Miller Road properties. Code Enforcement Officer Sprague said that he does plan to speak with both property owners.

**Denise Schneider** – President of the Sandy Pond Sportsmen's Association – They have picnic tables that the club no longer needs. They would like to donate some to the town. They are made of heavy steel.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

**CEHA** – Not much news regarding this matter. They may have a meeting in January, but we have not heard anything for sure yet.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

The Town Supervisor received the 2026 water rates and billing schedule from the Town of Richland. The water rates will remain at \$4.50 per thousand.

**Resolution #100-25**

Motion made by Timothy D. Ridgeway seconded by Nola J. Gove, the following resolution was **Adopted** with  
**4 Ayes** Ridgeway, Gove, Scheppard, and Warner

**0 No**

**1 Absent** Wood

**Resolved** that the Town Board of the Town of Sandy Creek agrees to sign the 2026 water rates and billing schedule with the Town of Richland.

**APPROVAL OF BILLS:**

**RESOLUTION #101-25**

Motion made by Ruthe E. Scheppard, seconded by Nola J. Gove, the following resolution was **Adopted** with  
**4 Ayes** Ridgeway, Gove, Scheppard, and Warner

**0 No**

**1 Absent** Wood

**Resolved** that the bills be paid on Abstract #10 in the following amounts:

General Fund (A)	\$	41,745.77
Highway Fund (DB)	\$	303,378.64
Water District #1 (SW1)	\$	4,011.05
Water District #2 (SW2)	\$	9,179.21
Water District #3 (SW3)	\$	1,891.02
Trust & Agency (TA)	\$	23,692.85
<b>Total Bills:</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>383,898.54</b>

The next regular Town Board meeting will be held on November 12<sup>th</sup> at 6pm.

**On motion** made by Nola J. Gove, and seconded by Ruth E. Scheppard, and carried unanimously, the meeting was adjourned at 6:46pm.

Respectfully submitted by,

Brittany M. Washburn  
Town Clerk