

**Town of Eaton, Madison County, NY Regular Monthly Meeting  
April 14<sup>th</sup>, 2026**

**Eaton Town Council Regular Board Meeting Minutes,  
Tuesday, April 14<sup>th</sup>, 2026 at 6:00 pm  
Town of Eaton Office Building, 35 Cedar Street, Morrisville, New York, there were  
present:**

Joseph Wicks, Supervisor  
Jeff Golley, Councilmember  
Dave Verne, Councilmember - Absent  
Stephen Dickerson, Councilmember  
Jean Hilts, Councilmember  
Dean Curtis, Town Clerk

Also present: Celeste Amaral, Don Bigelow, Ken Masker, Kevin Reyes, Nate Dziedzic, Denise Lodor-Morris, Bill and Corinne Banker, Carol Borg, Becky Rochin, Jim Kallmerten, Ryan F and Eoin Byrne

**Call to order & Welcome:** The Meeting opened at 6:00 pm with the Pledge of Allegiance.

**PUBLIC COMMENT (5 min):**

Celeste Amaral - The NYS Federation of Lake Associations will hold their annual meeting in Lake George on May 7-9. Academia, state agencies, industry, and lake associations come together to share the latest information on lake water quality issues and solutions. Madison County lakes are usually well represented.

Don Bigelow - 1. The Town needs to proactively consider regulations for Battery Energy Storage Systems (BESS) (if it isn't already in the Solar Codes) which may head our way in the future. Why a concern? Because we are accumulating numerous renewable energy sources in the Town (Solar, Wind) that would benefit from Storage Systems.

2, The Town may also want to proactively consider regulations on Data Centers coming our way in the future. Town of Dryden just did this in response to a data center coming to nearby Lansing on Cayuga Lake. These Centers need cheap power and we have renewables.

<https://ithacavoice.org/2026/02/the-town-of-dryden-just-banned-data-centers-heres-why/>

3. Beavers are back at MCCC and the Camp now has made a decision to control them to prevent future dam blowouts. Golley is on the MCCC Board.

4. Canal Corp has not been able to control the lake levels well this winter and Bradley and Hatch are both full and over the spillways. Some docks were ice damaged from ice near the shore due to the high water levels. Canal Corp stated high levels were due to high precipitation levels this season.

Ken Masker – Questioned the Town on what they were going to do about the numerous houses that have condemned due to fires. Supervisor Wicks is speaking with the County for help with these.

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Inquired about updates on the Short Term Rental Law and the Septic Permits and other regulations regarding them.

Inquired about the Speed Study on Westcott Road, Supervisor Wicks will work with Highway Superintendent on pulling data.

Inquired about the DEC wetland Jurisdiction On April 8, 2026, the Albany County Supreme Court issued a decision affecting DEC freshwater wetlands regulations.

DEC is currently conducting a comprehensive evaluation of the decision and its potential implications on the State's permitting program.

While this review is ongoing, this webpage may not be timely updated and DEC will evaluate freshwater wetland [permit applications](#) and [jurisdictional determinations](#) on a case-by-case basis.

More information can be found @ <https://dec.ny.gov/nature/waterbodies/wetlands/freshwater-wetlands-program>

Denise Lodor-Morris asked about the Town Clean Up Days, Supervisor Wicks stated that at this time Town of Eaton will not be conducting one this year for various reasons.

Bill & Corinne Banker – Asked if the Town of Eaton received the Sound Study, Supervisor Wicks received it and will distribute to the Board. Bankers are no longer milking cows only raising Heifers.

Carol Borg – Inquired about the Speed Study review on Westcott Road to include other locations on Westcott even possibly installing Traffic Counter and Speed Bumps but this would affect Ambulance, Fire Departments and Seasonal Plowing, further discussion would be appreciated.

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**REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING:**

**CODES OFFICER REPORT:**

**Town of Eaton**  
**Codes Officer Report**  
**03/01/2026 - 03/31/2026**

| Type                | Date       | Comment                 | Name            | Fee               |
|---------------------|------------|-------------------------|-----------------|-------------------|
| Subdivision         | 03/02/2026 | 2282 Bradley Brook Rd   | Sterle, Daniel  | 175.00            |
| Building Permit     | 03/10/2026 | #64-25 4 Bd HS & Garage | Malsch, Michael | 1,333.87          |
| Building Permit Ren | 03/06/2026 | #43-20 2022-2025        | Boyden, Doug    | 200.00            |
| Building Permit Ren | 03/23/2026 | #51-21 2025-2026        | Benedict, Jamie | 50.00             |
|                     |            |                         |                 |                   |
|                     |            | <b>Total</b>            |                 | <b>\$1,758.87</b> |
|                     |            |                         |                 |                   |
|                     |            |                         |                 |                   |

**TOWN CLERKS REPORT:**

- Taxes collected as of April 13<sup>th</sup> 2026 - \$3,474,349.50, 2025 - \$3,294,097.31, 2024 \$2,753,561.25 all second notices sent out and Reconciled 04/09/2026
- Received DEC jurisdiction determinations back on Eaton Brook and Bradley Brook, April 8<sup>th</sup> NYS Supreme Court ruled against this amendment so Wetlands less than 12.4 acres are currently not protected (2028 7.4 Acres)
- Received Permit for Memorial Day Parade from Department of Transportation
- Two Charges on abstracts for New Checks and Deposit Slips for Board Approval
- Minute Book up to date from 2022 to current with legal notices,
- New Dog Licensing Requirement for Shelter Donation, effective 1/1/2026
- Local Law 1 – 2026 filed w DOS

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**TOWN CLERK'S MONTHLY REPORT**

TOWN OF EATON, NEW YORK

MARCH, 2026

**TO THE SUPERVISOR:**

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Pursuant to Section 27, Subd 1 of the Town Law, I hereby make the following statement of all fees and moneys received by me in connection with my office during the month stated above, excepting only such fees and moneys the application and payment of which are otherwise provided for by Law:

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|       |           |                         |                 |
|-------|-----------|-------------------------|-----------------|
| A1255 |           |                         |                 |
|       | <u>2</u>  | DECALS                  | <u>1.94</u>     |
|       | <u>1</u>  | MARRIAGE CERTIFIED CPY  | <u>10.00</u>    |
|       |           | TOTAL TOWN CLERK FEES   | 11.94           |
| <hr/> |           |                         |                 |
| A1603 |           |                         |                 |
|       | <u>19</u> | DEATH CERTIFIED COPIES  | <u>190.00</u>   |
|       |           | TOTAL A1603             | 190.00          |
| <hr/> |           |                         |                 |
| A2544 |           |                         |                 |
|       | <u>4</u>  | DOG LICENSES            | <u>60.00</u>    |
|       |           | TOTAL A2544             | 60.00           |
| <hr/> |           |                         |                 |
| A2770 |           |                         |                 |
|       | <u>20</u> | COPIES                  | <u>5.00</u>     |
|       |           | TOTAL A2770             | 5.00            |
| <hr/> |           |                         |                 |
| B2115 |           |                         |                 |
|       | <u>1</u>  | SUBDIVISION FEES        | <u>175.00</u>   |
|       |           | TOTAL B2115             | 175.00          |
| <hr/> |           |                         |                 |
| B2555 |           |                         |                 |
|       | <u>1</u>  | BUILDING PERMIT         | <u>1,333.87</u> |
|       | <u>2</u>  | BUILDING PERMIT RENEWAL | <u>250.00</u>   |
|       |           | TOTAL B2555             | 1,583.87        |

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**DISBURSEMENTS**

|                                               |                 |
|-----------------------------------------------|-----------------|
| PAID TO SUPERVISOR FOR GENERAL FUND           | <u>266.94</u>   |
| PAID TO SUPERVISOR FOR PART TOWN FUND         | <u>1,758.87</u> |
| PAID TO NYS DEC FOR DECALS                    | <u>33.06</u>    |
| PAID TO NYS ANIMAL POPULATION CONTROL PROGRAM | <u>12.00</u>    |
| TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS                           | 2,070.87        |

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**RESOLUTION 2026- 53 : Approval of Minutes – March 10<sup>th</sup>, 2026**

On a motion of Councilmember Hilts, seconded by Councilmember Dickerson, the following resolution was: ADOPTED: Ayes: 4, Nays: 0

Resolved that the minutes for March 10<sup>th</sup>, 2026 be accepted

**HIGHWAY REPORT: Nothing to report**

**SUPERVISOR REPORT:**

Supervisor Wicks to work with Superintendent Phillips on pulling data from Westcott Rd for Speed Study.

Supervisor Wicks attended the Morrisville Eaton School Board Meeting provided update on the Park.

Looking for alternative Suppliers for Energy Delivery Charges on the NYSEG Bills. MEGA Electric

Supervisor Wicks discussed and reviewed with Board on receiving Quotes for Mowing Lawn for Town Park, Lawn mowing of 6.5 acre parcel immediately adjacent to Morrisville Eaton Andrews Elementary School and across the street from Madison County Cornell Cooperative Extension. Quotes will be Seasonal for 2026 Lawn Mowing at Town Park. There were no objections from the Board.

State of the County – Madison County YouTube with Jim Cunningham, Consolidation Study

**RESOLUTION 2026- 54 : Approval of April 14<sup>th</sup>, 2026 Supervisor Report**

On a motion of Councilmember Dickerson, seconded by Councilmember Golley, the following resolution was: ADOPTED: Ayes: 4, Nays: 0

Resolved that the Supervisor Report Submitted on April 14<sup>th</sup>, 2026 is accepted and approved

**OLD BUSINESS:**

Pine Wood Cemetery – Recently received financials from Meredith Leland, still need burial permits, burial records and all other records associated with the Cemetery.

85 Cedar Street – Supervisor Wicks gave update on transfer of ownership to NYS Troopers

**NEW BUSINESS:**

- **2025 Court Audit**

**RESOLUTION 2026- 55 : Approving Justice Court Audit**

On a motion of Councilmember Golley, seconded by Councilmember Dickerson, the following resolution was: ADOPTED: Ayes: 3, Nays: 0 Abstentions: 1

Resolved that the Town Board acknowledges that a 2025 audit was conducted by Councilmember Jean Hilts, on the Justice Court financial records and accounts and is on file in the Town Clerk's office

**RESOLUTION NO. 2026 - 55**  
**OF THE TOWN OF EATON COUNCIL**

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**A RESOLUTION APPROVING JUSTICE COURT AUDIT FOR THE TOWN OF EATON**

**WHEREAS**, Section 2019-a of the Uniform Justice Court Act requires that Town and Village justices annually provide their court records and dockets to their respective Town and Village auditing boards, and

**WHEREAS**, the Unified Court System's "Action Plan for the Justice Courts", announced in November of 2006, included initiatives to improve accountability and controls over Justice Court finances and records, which includes Town Board compliance with section 2019-a, and

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, BY THE TOWN BOARD THAT:**

1. Jean Hilts, Town Councilmember, has reviewed and completed the annual audit checklist (appendix 10) in examination of the Town of Eaton court records for the year 2025.
2. The examination and audit of the Town of Eaton court records for 2025 have been found to be maintained in an exceptionally organized and proper manner.
3. A Copy of this resolution, along with the Appendix 10 Annual Check lists, be forward to Daniel Johnson, Director of Internal Audit Services, NYS Unified Court Systems.

The above resolution was duly put to roll call vote at a regular meeting of the Town Board held on April 14<sup>th</sup>, 2026, the results of which were as follows:

**Roll Call:**

|                                |              |                |
|--------------------------------|--------------|----------------|
| <b>Supervisor Wicks</b>        | <b>Voted</b> | <b>Yes</b>     |
| <b>Councilmember Golley</b>    | <b>Voted</b> | <b>Yes</b>     |
| <b>Councilmember Verne</b>     | <b>Voted</b> | <b>Absent</b>  |
| <b>Councilmember Dickerson</b> | <b>Voted</b> | <b>Yes</b>     |
| <b>Councilmember Hilts</b>     | <b>Voted</b> | <b>Abstain</b> |

**RESOLUTION 2026- 56 : March 2026 Budget Transfers :**

On a motion of Councilmember Golley, seconded by Councilmember Hilts, the following resolution was: ADOPTED: Ayes: 4, Nays: 0

Resolved that the Board grant authority to Supervisor Wicks to move monies within 2026 Budget to keep all lines in balance

**Budget Transfers for April 2026**

|                                         |                      |                             |
|-----------------------------------------|----------------------|-----------------------------|
| <b><u>Appropriation Over Budget</u></b> | <b><u>Amount</u></b> | <b><u>Transfer from</u></b> |
| DA9080.8 (Unemployment Insurance)       | \$100.00             | DA9010.8 (State Retirement) |

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**Audit and approval of Bills**

- **PAY THE BILLS:**

**RESOLUTION 2026- 57 : Audit of Claims for Abstract 4 for 2026 dates.**

On a motion of Councilmember Golley, seconded by Councilmember Dickerson, the following resolution was: ADOPTED: Ayes: 4, Nays: 0

Resolved that the bills contained on Abstract #4 have been reviewed by the Town Board and are authorized for payment in the following amounts:

**Abstract 4 – 2026**

|                             |     |    |              |    |                     |
|-----------------------------|-----|----|--------------|----|---------------------|
| General A Fund              | No. | 38 | Through      | 52 | \$6,651.26          |
| General B Fund Part Town    | No. | 15 | Through      | 18 | \$ 352.41           |
| General H – Capital Machine | No. |    | Through      |    |                     |
| Street Lighting SL          | No. | 4  | Through      | 4  | \$ 631.26           |
| Highway Fund Townwide DA    | No. | 23 | Through      | 36 | \$ 20,387.90        |
| Highway Fund Part Town DB   | No. | 6  | Through      | 10 | \$25,501.60         |
|                             |     |    | <b>Total</b> |    | <b>\$ 53,524.43</b> |

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**RESOLUTION 2026- 58 : Executive Session**

On a motion of Councilmember Hilts, seconded by Councilmember Golley, the following resolution was: ADOPTED: Ayes: 4, Nays: 0

Resolved that this Board move into an Executive Session for 1. F. employment at 7:06 p.m.

**RESOLUTION 2026- 59 : Return to Regular Session**

On a motion of Councilmember Golley, seconded by Councilmember Dickerson, the following resolution was: ADOPTED: Ayes: 4, Nays: 0

Resolved that the Board return to regular session at 7:20 p.m.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

With no further business, on a motion of Councilmember Dickerson, seconded by Councilmember Hilts, the meeting was adjourned at 7:21 p.m. Carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted, Dean Curtis, Town Clerk/Tax Collector