

**PRESENT:** Greg Reuter, Supervisor, Patty Bikowsky, Deputy Supervisor, Jim Lundrigan, and Steve Johnson, Councilpersons; Tina Livermore, Town Clerk, Roy Kirley, Road Superintendent and 10 guests.

Supervisor Greg Reuter opened the meeting at 7:00 PM with the Pledge of Allegiance.

**AGENDA:** Greg Reuter added an addition to the agenda under Reports: H. Madison Ambulance. Patty Bikowsky made the motion seconded by Steve Johnson to accept the agenda. Motion carried.

**MINUTES:** Minutes from the October 10, 2024, meeting were read by Town Clerk, Tina Livermore. Corrections/changes to be made include 1) Roy Kirley, Highway Superintendent; 2) Supervisor Reuter said Madison Lake; 3) small trees. Steve Johnson made a motion seconded by Patty Bikowsky to accept the minutes as changed. Motion carried.

**PUBLIC HEARING:** Jim Lundrigan made a motion seconded by Steve Johnson to enter into a Public Hearing on the 2025 budget. Motion carried at 7:11 pm.

- A. Resolution 24-13: The Hamilton Fire Contract increased by approximately \$500. Steve Johnson made a motion seconded by Patty Bikowsky to accept the \$180,000 Hamilton Fire District Contract. Motion carried. Voting Yes: Steve Johnson, Patty Bikowsky, Jim Lundrigan, Greg Reuter. Voting No: None.
- B. Resolution 24-14: Jim Lundrigan made a motion seconded by Patty Bikowsky to accept the Madison Fire Contract of \$170,000. Motion carried. Voting Yes: Steve Johnson, Patty Bikowsky, Jim Lundrigan, Greg Reuter. Voting No: None.
- C. Resolution 24-15: Patty Bikowsky made a motion seconded by Steve Johnson to accept the Village of Madison Ambulance Contract for \$135,000. Motion carried. Voting Yes: Steve Johnson, Patty Bikowsky, Jim Lundrigan, Greg Reuter. Voting No: None.

Greg Reuter reported that the bookkeeper, Brynley Wilcox, stated that working with Madison, one of six towns she does the books and budgets for, is like a breath of fresh air as their finances and fund balance are healthy. Greg also reported that the 1.87% increase is under the 2% cap. There will be no new assessments of property in the town as there is no need for it. Greg stated that Roy Kirley does a fine job on the roads.

- D. Resolution 24-16: Steve Johnson made a motion seconded by Jim Lundrigan to accept the 2025 preliminary budget as the 2025 adopted budget. Motion carried. Voting Yes: Steve Johnson, Patty Bikowsky, Jim Lundrigan, Greg Reuter. Voting No: None.

Patty Bikowsky made a motion seconded by Steve Johnson to close the Public Hearing. Motion carried.

**REPORTS:** Supervisor's Report: Highway Supt. Report: Town Clerk Report: Dog Control Officer Report: Bookkeeper Report: Code Enforcer Report: Ambulance Report: Reports were presented and viewed by the Board. All Reports were presented and reviewed by the board

Diane VanSlyke, Historian, reported that the Madison Seniors attended a luncheon at the Oneida Community Golf Course. The Historical Society held an Election Day Ham Dinner that sold 44 dinners at Hotel Solsville. A program was held at Hotel Solsville giving the history of the Hotel and surrounding area and Brad gave the 43 people in attendance a tour of the upstairs, including the ballroom. Hamilton College and Colgate University students have been working on the trail on the Chenango Canal. Parking lots have been made, thanks to Greg Reuter, Rusty Coleman, Roy Kirley, and the Town of Madison Highway Department. The Madison County Highway Department used a rotary boom mower along Canal Road to open up spaces along the canal. Patty Bikowsky said there is a safety issue crossing on Canal Road. Roy Kirley said to call Wampsville and ask for Eric.

Roy Kirley, Highway Superintendent, reported that McCormick Road is finished and that the crew had used the roller every day for 3 weeks. Robinson Hill and Landers seasonal parts of the road are finished. His crew is getting equipment ready for winter as well as getting roads patched when the weather allows. Greg reported that when he visited the highway barn, every person was on task over or under equipment working on it.

Steve Johnson reported the park is closing up for winter. The electrical is still being worked on and waiting for NYSEG to inspect the new entrance. The light was up for the pep rally. The gate for snowmobilers has to be removed as well as a post

moved so as to allow for the grooming machine to get through and to keep snowmobilers off the lake. The speed bumps and blocks have been picked up and/or moved. Mark Lewis has shut off the water at the lake.

Greg reported that all towns get a share of Indian Casino gambling revenue. The Town received \$66,932 this year. The Town of Hamilton received \$45,000 and the Town of Nelson received \$70,000. He also reported that Point Place in the Town of Sullivan is putting up two large hotels.

Greg also reported that money is put aside for unfunded mandates for a rainy day (or for a new snow plow/sander).

Greg reported that the Tentative County Budget is an increase of 4 percent (maybe a little higher) but less than the 13 percent of 2024. The budget is due by November 30.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:** Madison Lake is continuing the work on the electrical. The new panel box has been installed.

Koen Rental has received no building permit as of this date as the last two prints did not have the 70 square feet required for bedrooms; they came in at 64 followed by 68 square feet.

The McCormick Road project is done for the winter. A few soft spots remain but should dry out. Hutchings got all the trees down and stumps removed. Roy and the crew finished with the help of the County bulldozer that was used at no charge.

A letter was sent to the Town Attorney concerning the houseboat that is on Lake Moraine. Greg stated that a law restricting or prohibiting houseboats on town lakes is in the works.

**NEW BUSINESS:** Greg would like the Town Board to consider purchasing two moveable solar powered speed control signs at approximately \$3,000 each to put on various roads in the town to slow cars down to the speed limits. Roy Kirley stated that if a road is not posted with a speed limit sign on a road, then New York State Law says the speed is 55 miles per hour. Patty Bikowsky made a motion seconded by Steve Johnson to proceed to get proposals from vendors for two speed control signs.

In December, there will be a workshop with the Antique Dealers, Codes Enforcement Officer, Town Board, and the Town Attorney.

The Town Highway Garage needs new 10-foot LED lighting in the work bays. The local electrician who installed LED lighting in the town hall will be contacted and come back with the cost.

**PUBLIC PRESENTATION:** John Gaiser asked where the septic goes on the lakes. Greg said that there are chemical, self-contained, and regular septic systems. Martha Young said that tests are done on the lake every year and tests show the water is fine. A company from Old Forge comes down to pump the systems on the island which is paid for by the landowners. The houseboat on the lake is not a landowner and not a resident of the county.

Lake Moraine is the only lake with no zebra mussels and people use it to drink. However, the lake will be drained down 10 feet this year so as to get ready for the \$50 million dollar dam work to be done next year.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:** None.

**APPROVAL OF BILLS:** Patty Bikowsky made a motion seconded by Steve Johnson to pay the General Bills in the amount of \$38,802.05 and Highway Bills in the amount of \$72,053.70 for a total of \$110,855.75. Motion carried.

**ADJOURNMENT:** Patty Bikowsky made a motion seconded by Jim Lundrigan to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 8:20 pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Tina Livermore, Town Clerk