

A Meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Orchard Park, Erie County, New York, was held at the Orchard Park Municipal Center, S4295 South Buffalo Street, Orchard Park, New York on the 18th day of March 2026 at 7:13 PM, the meeting was called to order by Supervisor Joseph Liberti and there were:

PRESENT AT ROLL CALL:

Joseph Liberti	Supervisor
Julia Mombrea	Councilmember
Scott Honer	Councilmember
John Mariano	Councilmember
Excused Greg Bennett	Councilmember
William Even	Town Clerk
Timothy D. Gallagher	Town Attorney
Tom Minor	Building Inspector
Greg Sheppard	Interim Chief of Police
Andrew Slotman	Highway Superintendent
Excused Wayne Bieler	Town Engineer

Supervisor Liberti read into the record the following: “If anyone appearing before the Town Board has a family, financial or business relationship with any member of the Board, it is incumbent upon that person to make it known under State Law and the Town Code of Ethics.”

1) THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTION WAS OFFERED BY SUPERVISOR LIBERTI, WHO MOVED ITS ADOPTION, SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER MARIANO, TO WIT:

RESOLVED, that the Town Board does hereby approve the Regular Meeting Minutes: March 4, 2026 and be it further

RESOLVED, that the reading of these minutes be dispensed with as each member of the Town Board has previously received copies thereof.

The resolution was unanimously adopted.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON OLD BUSINESS

Rosalind Wiltse requested more details regarding Old Business #1.

Old Business #1 Approve closure of Capital Projects and Transfer of Capital Projects Funding.

2) THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTION WAS OFFERED BY COUNCILMEMBER HONER, WHO MOVED ITS ADOPTION, SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER MARIANO, TO WIT:

WHEREAS, certain capital projects are complete and can be closed, and

WHEREAS, certain projects are in need of funding that is available in other projects, and

WHEREAS, the Town has reviewed the source of funds within each project and determined that the funds can be transferred to projects as described.

NOW, THEREFORE, be it

RESOLVED, that the Town Board authorizes the closure of the following capital projects and transfers of funding as of December 31, 2025:

Close AD007 Townwide Drainage District Consolidation balance of \$1,661.29 to AD001 Unallocated General Drainage.

Close AP005 Yates Park Trail balance of \$8,929.00 to AP009 Brush Mountain Football Field

Close AP009 deficit balance of \$12,589.61 by transferring \$12,589.61 from AP001 Unallocated General Parks projects.

Close DB006 Burmon Drive Reconstruction balance of \$554,617.70 to DB011 Eaglebrook HWY.

Close DB008 Lakeview HWY balance of \$351,964.18 to DB015 Dennis Road Bridge.

Close DB014 Bussendorfer Overlay balance of \$2,368.59 to DB001 Unallocated HWY Projects.

Close FX002 Chestnut Ridge Rd Waterline balance of \$61,564.66 to FX013 Elmtree/Dorchester Waterline.

Close FX008 Bussendorfer Waterline balance of \$247,934.82 to FX009 Eaglebrook Waterline.

Close FX011 Lakeview Waterline Balance of \$6,206.87 to FX001 Unallocated Water District Projects.

Close G0011 Lakeview Sanitary Sewer balance of \$228,565.25 to G0001 Unallocated Sanitary Sewer Projects.

The resolution was unanimously adopted.

Old Business # 2 Extend the appointment of the Interim Chief of Police

3) THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTION WAS OFFERED BY COUNCILMEMBER MARIANO, WHO MOVED ITS ADOPTION, SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER HONER, TO WIT:

WHEREAS, the Town previously appointed Greg Sheppard to serve as Interim Chief of Police; and

WHEREAS, it is in the best interest of the Town to maintain continuity of leadership in this role for an additional period of time.

NOW, THEREFORE, be it

RESOLVED, that the Town Board hereby extends the appointment of Greg Sheppard as Interim Chief of Police through and including May 3, 2026; and be it further

RESOLVED, that all appropriate Town officials are hereby authorized and directed to take all actions necessary to effectuate this extension in accordance with applicable laws, rules, and regulations.

The resolution was unanimously adopted.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON NEW BUSINESS

No one came forward.

New Business #1 Approve the extension of the contracted mowing service with Jensen Lawn and Yard Care.

4) THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTION WAS OFFERED BY COUNCILMEMBER HONER, WHO MOVED ITS ADOPTION, SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER MOMBREA, TO WIT:

RESOLVED, that the Town Board does hereby approve an additional extension of the 2024 contract with Jensen Lawn & Yard Care for the Mowing Service for Town owned cul-de-sacs and other entrance ways to the 2026 season, as recommended by the Highway Superintendent.

The resolution was unanimously adopted.

On the question, Councilmember Honer inquired about the contract and Highway Superintendent Slotman responded.

New Business #2 Approve the appointment of a Chief of Staff to the Supervisor's office.

5) THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTION WAS OFFERED BY COUNCILMEMBER MOMBREA, WHO MOVED ITS ADOPTION, SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER MARIANO, TO WIT:

WHEREAS, the Town desires to appoint a Chief of Staff to assist in the administration, coordination, social media strategy, and implementation of Town policies and initiatives; and

WHEREAS, it is in the best interest of the Town to formally appoint Brooke Majka to the position of Chief of Staff and to establish the effective date and regular work hours.

NOW, THEREFORE, be it

RESOLVED, that the Town Board hereby appoints Brooke Majka to the part time regular position of Chief of Staff, effective January 5, 2026; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the regular work hours for the Chief of Staff shall not exceed 19.5 hours per week at a pay rate of \$25.00 per hour. Her work hours will range between the hours of 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., Monday through Friday; and be it further

RESOLVED, that all appropriate Town officials are hereby authorized and directed to take all actions necessary to implement this appointment in accordance with applicable laws, rules, and regulations.

The resolution was unanimously adopted.

On the question, Councilmember Mariano informed the public that Brooke Majka will be working under Supervisor Liberti.

New Business #3 Approve the appointment of Recreation Department Staff.

6) THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTION WAS OFFERED BY COUNCILMEMBER MARIANO, WHO MOVED ITS ADOPTION, SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER MOMBREA, TO WIT:

RESOLVED, that the Town Board is hereby authorized to approve the following residents' appointments to the 2026 part-time Seasonal Staff for the Orchard Park Recreation Department retroactive to March 8, 2026 as recommended by the Recreation Director:

Sean Dovi	\$17.25 Lifeguard
Vincenzo Mesi	\$17.25 Lifeguard
Ayla Pitirri	\$17.25 Lifeguard

Alex Shields	\$16.50 Program Coordinator
Matthew Wright	\$17.25 Lifeguard
Gloria Buckwalter	\$17.75 Program Supervisor

The resolution was unanimously adopted.

New Business #4 Approve a Change in Use for 11 Cobham Drive (SBL# 161.18-2-3.12)

7) THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTION WAS OFFERED BY SUPERVISOR LIBERTI, WHO MOVED ITS ADOPTION, SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER MARIANO, TO WIT:

WHEREAS, at the Planning Board's March 12, 2026 meeting they recommended a Change in Use be approved for 11 Cobham Drive.

NOW, THEREFORE be it

RESOLVED, that the Town Board does hereby approve a Change in Use for Planning Board File #03-26, 11 Cobham Drive, located in the Quaker Centre Industrial Park, Zoned I-1. (SBL#161.18-2-3.12); and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Change in Use is from Light Industrial to Vehicle Storage Facility with the following stipulations:

1. Personal use only
2. Nothing service or rental related
3. This is a private collection of classic cars

The resolution was unanimously adopted.

New Business #5 Approve appointment of a Part-Time IT employee.

8) THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTION WAS OFFERED BY COUNCILMEMBER HONER, WHO MOVED ITS ADOPTION, SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER MARIANO, TO WIT:

WHEREAS, the Town of Orchard Park requires additional assistance in the Information Technology (IT) Department to meet workload demands; and

WHEREAS, Olivia Jurek, who holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Cybersecurity from the University of Tampa, has been recommended for this position; and

WHEREAS, funds for this position are available in the 2026 IT Budget.

NOW, THEREFORE, be it

RESOLVED, that the Town Board authorizes the hiring of Olivia Jurek as a Part-Time Employee in the Information Technology Department at the rate of \$20.00 per hour, effective March 23, 2026 as recommended by the Director of IT.

The resolution was unanimously adopted.

BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR

Benjamin Nold questioned the procedure of applying for and appealing a denied variance for a fence permit on his corner lot. He wasn't allowed to speak at his appeal hearing and wanted to know if there is anything further he can do for approval.

Rosalind Wiltse inquired about a Conservation Committee in Orchard Park and if there are restrictions against stripping trees from developing lots.

ELECTED OFFICIALS & DEPARTMENT MANAGERS

Supervisor Joseph Liberti presented the Highway Superintendent with a Proclamation from Legislator Mills for Highway's dedication throughout all our weather events. He spoke of the Comprehensive Plan, major projects in the Town, welcomed Olivia to the IT department and thanked the Interim Chief for extending his appointment. He also informed the public that the Fourth of July fireworks will be at Green Lake this year due to the construction at the Middle and High Schools.

Councilmember Scott Honer welcomed Brooke Majka. He also addressed Ms. Wiltse's comments about Old Business #1, spoke of fences in front and side yards and the \$100.00 application fee for a variance.

Councilmember Julia Mombrea thanked the Interim Chief of Police for extending his appointment and for a job well done.

Councilmember John Mariano welcomed the part-time staff and thanked Interim Chief Sheppard for extending his appointment. He also congratulated Officers Vranic and Kowalski for their part in a life saving event.

Building Inspector Tom Minor responded to the comments from "Business From The Floor." He stated there are regulations for stripping trees and the Town Code will eventually be amended regarding fences but stated side yards are difficult when it comes to fencing.

Highway Superintendent Andrew Slotman thanked his staff for handling the many weather related issues this week so well. He also stated Brush Collection will continue to April 30, 2026 and all brush should be put out by April 15, 2026 to be collected.

Interim Police Chief Greg Sheppard spoke of a Letter of Commendation that was presented to Officers Vranic and Kowalski for a lifesaving act involving a cardiac event. He also commended his staff for servicing the community during a busy weather week. There were downed trees, power outages, traffic light malfunctions and other emergencies. He also informed the public of a department sponsored Easter Egg hunt on April 9, 2026 for children ages 1-10 at the Community Activity Center. Please register at OPREC.org

9) THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTION WAS OFFERED BY SUPERVISOR LIBERTI, WHO MOVED ITS ADOPTION, SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER MARIANO, TO WIT:

RESOLVED, that the Town Board does hereby authorize the approval of all entries on Warrant #6 following auditing by members of the Town Board and in the funds indicated:

General Fund	\$113,126.12
Public Safety Fund	\$22,853.58
Part Town Fund	\$516.26
Risk Retention	-0-
Cemetery Fund	-0-
Highway Fund	\$51,700.68
Special Districts	\$139,069.10
Trust & Agency	\$8,785.46
Capital Fund	-0-

The resolution was unanimously adopted.

REPORTS

10) THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTION WAS OFFERED BY COUNCILMEMBER MARIANO, WHO MOVED ITS ADOPTION, SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER MOMBREA, TO WIT:

RESOLVED, that the Town Board does hereby receive and file the February 2026 Building Inspector's Monthly Report.

The resolution was unanimously adopted.

There being no further business, on a motion by Supervisor Liberti, seconded by Councilmember Mariano, the meeting adjourned at 7:48 pm (local time).

Respectfully Submitted,

William C. Even
Town Clerk