

Draft
TOWN OF OTEGO
MAY 13, 2026

The Town Board of the Town of Otego held a regular board meeting on Wednesday, May 13, 2026 at 6:00 pm at the Municipal Building, 3526 State Highway 7, Otego, New York. The purpose of the meeting was to audit the bills and any other business coming before the board.

The following members were present:

Joseph Hurlburt	Town Supervisor
Terri Horan	Town Clerk
Barbara Stanton	Councilperson
Terry Brown	Councilperson
Royce Livingston	Councilperson
Jimmy Hamm	Councilperson
JR Hurlburt	Highway Supervisor

Visitors: Hank Schecher, Katharine Davis, Wendy Altonberg

Minutes

A motion was made by Royce Livingston, seconded by Jimmy Hamm, to accept the minutes of the April 8th meeting. Motion: 5 Ayes, 0 Nays.

Supervisor's Report

Mr. Hurlburt read the Supervisor's report for April:

General Fund townwide beginning balance:	\$864,580.93
Receipts:	17,871.16
Disbursements:	<u>23,560.31</u>
Ending balance:	\$858,891.78
General Fund outside village beginning balance:	\$ 57,416.76
Receipts:	6.95
Disbursements:	<u>1,130.81</u>
Ending balance:	\$ 56,292.90
Highway Fund townwide beginning balance:	\$951,056.09
Receipts:	4,592.41
Disbursements:	<u>52,855.86</u>
Ending balance:	\$902,792.64
Highway Fund outside village beginning balance:	\$1,326,120.28
Receipts:	13,709.62
Disbursements:	<u>24,749.31</u>
Ending balance:	\$1,315,080.59

A motion was made by Terry Brown, seconded by Royce Livingston, to accept this report as read. Motion: 5 Ayes, 0 Nays.

Dog Control Officer

Read by Mrs. Horan. April 1 a call was received that a dog had been left in the road for hours – she read the tags and returned the dog to the residence. April 9, she received call about a dangerous dog, but was unable to locate. April 20 she received a call about loose dogs; she located the dogs, called the owner and got them home. Called delinquent dog owners on list for April.

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Town Clerk Report

Mrs. Horan gave the Town Clerk report for April. Tax collection ended at 82.97 % collected for a total of \$1,782,714.80. Tax season is now complete; she will settle with the county on Thursday, May 28, 2026. She also stated the new .gov website is in the draft stages and is coming along well.

Code Officer

Mr. Wilber reported that building permit applications for new construction and renovations have been scarce but requests for Air BnB and short-term rental inspections are up. He suggested a local law may be needed to require an onsite manager for some of these as requests are being received from out of state. Beth Westfall, the town's attorney will look into this request.

Highway Report

JR reported that excavator status is awaiting passage of the new CHIPS funding. Also, Otego Clean-up Day netted 1.8 tons of tires that were taken to the shredder. He said he has a concern that a couple of culverts will need replacing in the distant future. He will keep these monitored for the time being.

Planning Board

The planning board has been quiet as well – they had one action at the last board meeting. The zoning document review is continuing.

Food Pantry

The newly revised task document sent by Lynn Gould to board members on Monday, May 11, 2026 was distributed and discussed. Attorney Beth Westfall will respond directly to Lynn regarding some questions and comments on it.

FOIL Requests

Beth also noted that there has been an increase of FOIL requests coming to the town clerk's email in the last few months. Since she needs to review them prior to any response, they should be forwarded to the town clerk to send to her.

New Business

Board members Barbara Stanton, Terry Brown, Jimmy Hamm, Royce Livingston, Supervisor Joe Hurlburt and Town Attorney Beth Westfall met with Attorney Wendy Altonberg regarding her interest in the open Town of Otego Justice position. It was their decision to appoint Ms. Altonberg as Town Justice beginning May 14, 2026 until December 31, 2026.

A motion was made by Barbara Stanton, seconded by Royce Livingston to approve the appointment of Wendy Altonberg to fill the Otego Town Justice vacancy. Motion: 5 Ayes, 0 Nays.

Warrant #5

A motion was made by Barbara Stanton, seconded by Jimmy Hamm, to pay the warrant in the following amounts: General Fund vouchers # 93-122 in the amount of \$76,580.26. Highway Fund vouchers # 49-60 in the amount of \$29,232.71. Motion: 5 Ayes, 0 Nays.

A motion was made by Barbara Stanton, seconded by Jimmy Hamm, to adjourn the meeting. Motion: 5 Ayes, 0 Nays.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:45 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Terri Horan
Town Clerk

_____ Supervisor

_____ Town Clerk

_____ Councilperson

_____ Councilperson

_____ Councilperson

_____ Councilperson

_____ Highway Supt.