

TOWN OF BARTON

DONALD FOSTER, SUPERVISOR

MINUTES – SEPTEMBER 14, 2026 @ 6:30 PM

Via In-Person

Board Members Present: Supervisor Donald Foster, Councilperson Michael Rice, Councilperson Andy Plaisted, Councilperson Jeffrey Coleman, Councilperson David Shipman

Board Members Absent: None.

Staff Present: Fred Schweiger, Highway Superintendent; Arrah Richards-McCarty, Town Clerk; Wayne Searles, Dog Control Officer

Guests:

Candy Likins; Sayre, PA (OBO Phyllis Surber; Barton, NY

Robert Likins; Sayre, PA

Leroy Surber; Barton, NY

Patty & Andy Aronstam; Waverly, NY

Ron Perry; Waverly, NY

Julia Laude; Morning Times

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 pm by Supervisor Donald Foster.

Pledge of Allegiance

Privilege of the Floor

1. Candy Likins attended on behalf of her mother and stepfather to address an ongoing issue involving their neighbor. Ms. Likins requested clarification on the applicable town regulations so they can be applied fairly and consistently. She explained that the neighbor's fence appears to be approximately 10–11 inches from the property line and asked what the required setback is in the town.

On July 16, 2026, Ms. Likins emailed the Code Officer with questions about these regulations and received a reply on July 20 stating only that “no permit [is] needed.” The response did not address the specific questions asked, so she sent a follow-up email, but she has not received any further communication.

Ms. Likins also inquired about regulations related to pools. She stated that the neighbor's pool is over 24 inches in height and therefore requires a permit. A FOIA request confirmed that no permit was issued. She also noted that the pool does not have a barrier or alarm. Ms. Likins is asking the town to review the situation to determine whether the installation is compliant.

Supervisor Foster asked Ms. Likins to remain after the meeting to speak with him in his office so he could contact the Code Officer and work to resolve the matter.

Approval of Minutes: A **motion** to approve August 10, 2026, Regular Meeting minutes as submitted by the Town Clerk with the following correction:

- Replaced Chairpersons with Councilpersons: "Present for the executive session were: Supervisor Donald Foster; **Councilpersons** Mike Rice, Andy Plaisted, Jeff Coleman, David Shipman; Highway Superintendent Fred Schweiger, and Town Clerk Arrah Richards-McCarty"

made by Councilperson Mike Rice, seconded by Councilperson Andy Plaisted. All in favor.

Vouchers: A **motion** to approve the vouchers made by Councilperson Andy Plaisted, seconded by Councilperson Dave Shipman.

2026 (Abstract 9):

FUND	VOUCHER NO'S	TOTAL CLAIM
➤ General Fund	211-238.....	\$14,772.38
➤ Highway Fund	116-134.....	\$36,114.69
➤ Water/Sewer Fund	29-35.....	\$34,203.98

5-Ayes, 0-Noes

Personnel:

Town Clerk Arrah Richards-McCarty

1. **Transfer of Cemetery deed** from Aloysuis Shipman to Tamara Davenport.

Motion to approve this transfer made by Councilperson Jeff Coleman, seconded by Councilperson Andy Plaisted. All in favor.

2. Attended the **LEPC Meeting** September 2nd. Anyone can join. They are quarterly meetings and are in-person and virtual.
 - a. NOAA is forecasting an El Niño pattern, which typically brings above-normal temperatures and an increase in mixed precipitation. I've included a screenshot of the winter summary that was shared for this year's outlook. Even though our region is expected to have below-average snowfall, we could still see a few larger storms come through. Our region's long-term average snowfall is about 40 inches.
 - b. Air quality has continued to improve gradually over the years, which is encouraging.

- c. EMO is in the early stages of incorporating GIS as an internal tool to support emergency contact information. More updates will be shared as this develops. This sounds like a great tool and I'm excited to learn more about it.
 - d. Tioga County reported one confirmed case of measles. There may have been additional suspected cases, but only one has been officially confirmed.
3. I was asked by **REACT** if the town would like to do one more electronic pickup in the fall. The board is okay with this.
4. **Water/sewer:** Jim Pierce from TiSales met with Don and me to discuss upcoming upgrades. The new meters are producing improved results. The standard meter will cost about \$193 and provides readings down to 1/8 gallon with 95% accuracy. The meter is magnetic in the way it works and therefore doesn't require a battery. This is warranted for years on the register. The UltraSonic Mach 10, priced at \$210, reports down to 1/20 gallon with 100% accuracy and includes a 20-year warranty—100% coverage for the first 10 years, followed by prorated coverage for years 11 through 20. This meter does require a battery.

Now, if we wanted to spend a little more money we could add radios to these meters for a speedier process. A radio for the standard meter runs about \$155 and gets tied into the standard meter. The Mach 10 has an integrated radio option and that would cost around \$354.

I wanted to give everyone a heads-up now so we can start thinking about the costs of replacing meters. A lot of our meters are getting older and will need to be swapped out soon. Last year, I asked the board if we could apply for grant funding, but we agreed to hold off until the bond was paid off. Well—we're finally there, and applications open in November.

We'll need to decide how much funding we want to request. The village has applied for this grant for several years, so this isn't new territory for them. They already understand the commitment involved if we end up getting the award.

I have a quote from TiSales in my office that provides a general idea of what kind of costs we're looking at. Supervisor Foster suggested that the board take some time to consider the matter and revisit it at the October budget meeting. Councilperson Coleman asked about the battery's life expectancy and cost. Town Clerk Richards-McCarty stated that she would like to coordinate a meeting with the village and Jim Pierce of TiSales to address any questions the board may have. Supervisor Foster asked the Clerk to prepare a resolution to apply for the grant, and she agreed.

Highway Superintendent Schweiger agreed with me that, since the town will need to purchase meters regardless, it would be worthwhile pursuing the grant.

Councilperson Coleman asked whether the 110 meters quoted would cover all accounts. I explained that the 110 quoted would cover a substantial portion of the accounts, but not all of them.

Highway Superintendent Fred Schweiger

1. The OGS salt contract was released on Friday, and American Rock Salt was awarded the contract for Tioga County. We previously had them two years ago, and, as you may recall, they were unable to meet their commitments. This may lead to challenges again. Although their bid won, the price increased by \$10.00/ton, bringing the cost to \$76.47 per ton. Salt prices have fluctuated greatly without any clear pattern. Based on an estimated need of 2,800–3,100 tons, this represents an additional \$28–31,000 for the upcoming snow season. The county range goes anywhere from \$64.87/ton - \$115.00/ton. The statewide average is now \$87.69/ton.
2. The snow/sand county contract is expected to be released at the end of October and will likely remain in the \$10–11.00 range. With the town estimating a need of 2,800–3,100 tons, this will result in a few thousand dollars in additional cost overall.
3. The forecasted strong El Niño suggests a winter with more freezing rain and ice. This will require the highway crew to pretreat roads more often, and the repeated freeze–thaw cycles will likely cause additional road damage.
4. Additionally, the backhoe has been out of service for ten days; the transmission will not shift out of first gear. Hoping to get this up and running in the next week. The highway employees are trying to get as much ditching and tree trimming done as they can.

New Business

1. Approve Extra \$600.00 Service Fee for 311 and 313 Norris Road Cleanup
- Supervisor Foster read aloud American Key Pickers email explaining heavy equipment was needed due to the amount of unforeseen garbage and debris that could not be moved by other means.

CERTIFIED COPY OF RESOLUTION ADOPTED BY THE BARTON TOWN BOARD

ADOPTED 09/14/2026

RESOLUTION NO 35-2026

APPROVE EXTRA \$600.00 SERVICE FEE FOR 311
AND 313 NORRIS ROAD CLEANUP

WHEREAS, American Key Pickers and Haulers have performed additional services required due to unforeseen amounts of loose debris at 311 and 313 Norris Road; and

WHEREAS, heavy equipment was required to remove debris and garbage that was not able to be removed by other means; and

NOW THEREFORE upon a motion by Councilperson Andy Plaisted, seconded by Councilperson Jeff Coleman and carried; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that on this day, September 14, 2026, the Town Board of the Town of Barton approves the additional service fee of \$600.00 presented by American Key Pickers and Haulers for the cleanup of 311 and 313 Norris Road.

Roll Call Vote:

Mike Rice	Aye
Andy Plaisted	Aye
Donald Foster	Aye
Jeffrey Coleman	Aye
Dave Shipman	Aye

2. Discussion on Barton Well #5 Upgrades

Supervisor Foster read aloud the letter requesting authorization, if approved, for the village to pursue funding for the Town of Barton Well Redevelopment. The board, along with the Water/Sewer Administrator (Fred Schweiger) and the Water/Sewer Clerk, agreed that they are comfortable with the village seeking funding at this stage only. They emphasized that they do not want the town to incur any additional costs that could negatively impact residents.

Supervisor Foster clarified his stance, noting that if the town were to move forward, he would want the Town of Barton to maintain control of the Barton well and ensure that the town does not assume any debt associated with the upgrade. He also recommended developing a Plan B so the town has an alternative path if needed.

Mr. Coleman asked current Legislator and former Village of Waverly Mayor, Andy Aronstam, whether he knew anything about the matter and what his thoughts were. Mr. Aronstam explained that the request is simply to allow the village to seek funding. He noted that if the well were to fail, the financial burden would fall on the Town of Barton, and the town would not want residents to be left with a significant expense. He emphasized that the resolution only provides an option and that the Town will have an opportunity to withdraw later if necessary. Mr. Coleman then asked why the village does not use the reservoir. Mr. Aronstam stated that he is not aware of the village ever using the reservoir as a water source. He added that studies have been conducted there several times, but only in the context of emergency needs.

CERTIFIED COPY OF RESOLUTION ADOPTED BY THE BARTON TOWN BOARD

ADOPTED 09/14/2026

RESOLUTION NO 36-2026

AUTHORIZATION FOR THE VILLAGE OF WAVERLY
TO SEEK FUNDING FOR THE TOWN OF BARTON
WELL DEVELOPMENT

WHEREAS, Village of Waverly officials have approached the Town of Barton regarding the redevelopment of the Town of Barton municipal well #5; and

WHEREAS, the Village of Waverly is requesting the Town of Barton authorize the Village to pursue grant funding to redevelop the Town of Barton Well #5; and

WHEREAS, after careful consideration, the Town of Barton agrees with this request; and

NOW THEREFORE upon a motion by Councilperson Andy Plaisted, seconded by Councilperson Mike Rice and carried; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that on this day, September 14, 2026, the Town Board of the Town of Barton, County of Tioga, State of New York, grants the Barton Town Supervisor Donald Foster the authority to sign the proposed letter for authorization to seek funding for the Town of Barton well #5 redevelopment as follows:



TOWN OF BARTON

304 ROUTE 17C, WAVERLY, NY 14892

PHONE (607) 565-2261 ~ FAX (607) 565-2262

Village of Waverly
32 Ithaca Street
Waverly, NY 14892

September 14, 2028

RE: Authorization to Seek Funding for the Town of Barton Well Redevelopment

Dear Mayor and Village Board,

On behalf of the Town of Barton Town Board, this letter serves as formal authorization for the Village of Waverly to pursue grant and funding opportunities that include the redevelopment of the Town of Barton's well as part of the Village of Waverly Water Supply and Source Improvement Project.

The Town of Barton and the Village of Waverly operate interconnected water systems that are mutually dependent upon one another to provide reliable public water service to their respective residents and customers. While the existing ~~Intermunicipal~~ Agreement currently governs the Village's responsibilities for maintenance of the Town's well and the reading of the Town's water meters, both municipalities recognize that additional improvements are necessary to ensure the long-term reliability, capacity, and resiliency of the shared water system.

The Town acknowledges that the proposed redevelopment of the Town-owned well is a critical component of the Village's comprehensive Water Supply and Source Improvement Project and supports the Village's efforts to include this work in funding applications submitted to state and federal agencies.

The Town of Barton and the Village of Waverly are currently working collaboratively to develop a new Intermunicipal Agreement that will supersede the existing agreement. The new agreement is intended to establish the Village as the lead agency for implementation of the well redevelopment project, define each municipality's roles and responsibilities, and outline the financial and debt obligations associated with the project.

This letter is intended solely to authorize the Village of Waverly to seek funding on behalf of both municipalities for the proposed improvements while the updated Intermunicipal Agreement is being finalized. Execution of the new agreement will occur prior to the

commencement of construction and will govern the implementation and long-term operation of the project.

The Town of Barton appreciates its continued partnership with the Village of Waverly and looks forward to working together to strengthen the reliability and sustainability of the region's public water system.

Sincerely,

Supervisor
Town of Barton

cc: Town of Barton Town Board
Village of Waverly Mayor and Board of Trustees

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And be it
FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution shall be sent to the Village of Waverly; and be it
FURTHER RESOLVED that this resolution shall take effect immediately.

Roll Call Vote:

Mike Rice	Aye
Andy Plaisted	Aye
Donald Foster	Aye
Jeffrey Coleman	Aye
Dave Shipman	Aye

3. Discussion on Mowing Municipal Building Lawn

CERTIFIED COPY OF RESOLUTION ADOPTED BY THE BARTON TOWN BOARD

ADOPTED 09/14/2026
RESOLUTION NO 37-2026

HIRE DANIEL SHAY TO MOW MUNICIPAL
BUILDING LAWN

WHEREAS, Steve McNeil will no longer be mowing the Town of Barton municipal building lawn;
and
WHEREAS, Daniel Shay is willing to do this job for the same price; and
NOW THEREFORE upon a motion by Councilperson Mike Rice, seconded by Councilperson Jeff Coleman and carried; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Barton awards the mowing of the Town of Barton municipal building lawn to Daniel Shay; and be it
FURTHER RESOLVED, that the rate of pay shall be set at \$75.00 per service performed for the remainder of fiscal year 2026.

Roll Call Vote:

Mike Rice	Aye
Andy Plaisted	Aye
Donald Foster	Aye
Jeffrey Coleman	Aye
Dave Shipman	Aye

4. Set Time and Date for a Budget Workshop

Under state law, the tentative budget must be presented to the Town Board on or before October 5th each year. The next regular board meeting is Wednesday, October 14, due to the Columbus holiday, so a special meeting will need to be scheduled.

Motion to schedule special meeting on Monday, October 5, 2026, at 6:00 pm made by Councilperson Andy Plaisted, seconded by Councilperson Dave Shipman. All in favor.

Old Business

None.

Motion to adjourn meeting at 7:08 PM made by Councilperson Andy Plaisted, seconded by Councilperson Dave Shipman. All in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Arrah Richards-McCarty
Town of Barton Town Clerk