

AGENDA
Galway Town Board Meeting
April 08, 2025
7:00p.m.

Call to order – Supervisor Arnold
Roll Call – Town Clerk DeFoe
Pledge to the flag – All

Approval of minutes of the meeting held 03/11/2025
Communications Received – Town Clerk DeFoe

Reports of Committees

Historian

Youth Commission

Planning Liaison

Zoning Liaison

Dog Control

Building Department

Highway Department

Supervisor

BUDGET

1. Approval of Abstract Fund A
2. Approval of Abstract Fund B
3. Approval of Abstract Fund DA
4. Approval of Abstract Fund DB
5. Approval of Abstract Fund SL
6. Approval of Abstract Fund TA

EXECUTIVE SESSION

RESOLUTIONS

- 1) The Highway Department Supervisor David Costanzo requests the following budget resolutions for the 2025 Budget:
Galway Emergency Medical Services (check # 0091330056) in the amount of \$1,118.56
Resolution Request – Designate to Account: DA5142.41. Snow Removal - Fuel
Decrease DA1640 – Ambulance Charges \$1,118.56
Increase DA5142.41 – Snow Removal Fuel \$1,118.56
- 2) The Town Supervisor JD Arnold request a budget resolution to no longer get a BAN (Bond Anticipation Note) in the amount of \$300,000 for the remainder of the funds for the Salt Barn and instead use fund balance from General Fund A to cover the remaining cost of the Salt Barn.
Resolution Request
Decrease A917 Fund Balance \$300,000
Increase A9550.9 Transfer to Capital Projects \$300,000
Decrease HB5731 Bond Anticipation Note \$300,000
Increase HB5031 Interfund Transfer \$300,000

- 3) Accept (ROA) Record of Activity for standard workday and report requirements for Retirement Reporting to NYSLR for Daniel Clemens.

OTHER BUSINESS

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR

ADJOURN

REGULAR MEETING
APRIL 8, 2025
GALWAY TOWN HALL

Supervisor J.D. Arnold called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. The following Town Board Members were present:

PRESENT: Supervisor J.D. Arnold Councilmember Fred Arnold
 Councilmember Ryan Flinton Councilmember James Ross
 Councilmember Daniel Clemens

OTHERS PRESENT: J. Snyder; A. McPherson; J. Peterson; C. Moon; C. Baxter; S. Costanzo; D. Costanzo, Highway Superintendent; S. Costanzo; D. Knizek-Neahr, Historian; F. Daino; R. Daino, Planning Chair; B. Adair; A. Decker, ZBA Chair; T. Boerenko; B. Bischoff; M. Luetters, Building Inspector/Code Enforcement; H. O'Brien; T. O'Brien, Dog Control Officer; S. & B. Burns; D. & A. Balbian; R. Sleeper; C. Schweizer; F. Sutch; F. Schwab; G. Raia; G. & N. Evans; M. Carota; C. Carr; C. Arnold; M. DeFoe, Town Clerk and many more Town residents.

Pledge to Flag

Councilmember Daniel Clemens made a motion, seconded by Councilman Fred Arnold to approve the minutes of the March 11, 2025 Regular Meeting as submitted.

All ayes.

MOTION CARRIED

Communications – Town Clerk stated that the Board Members received multiple correspondence from the following organizations: FEMA; Evison; Association of Towns; Weekly updates from Comptroller; Empire Center; USI: Smart Cities; GoGov; ICMA & NYS Department of Public Service. Other information received: County sent salary survey to be completed, emailed to Brandon; Andy McPherson gave Green Energy Times; Resolutions are needed for Budget Amendments for Highway & two for Supervisor & Standard Workday Reporting for NYSLRS for Councilmember Clemens; Tom O'Brien, Dog Control Officers rabies vaccine information came back within acceptable range & Highway Superintendent will go over March Highway Report with Schedule for April.

Reports of Committees – **Historian-Darby** advised that the movie was done, she watched it two weeks ago. They are presenting movie to Preservation Society tomorrow evening at their Board Meeting. Public presentation will be planned. Town Clerk asked if that would be held in school auditorium? Darby stated she would know more on that after tomorrow's meeting. Darby had a woman researching the "Hick's Family" a well-known name in Galway. She was looking for information from the late 1700's. Darby believes the burial plots are on private property that is in Galway/Providence & Broadalbin. She has contacted the current property owners and is currently trying to get access to this property to see if in-fact they are buried there. **Youth Commission** – **Fred** stated that he didn't attend meeting but see vouchers for summer youth program and wrestling. **Planning Board-Jim** stated that the application of Martel Haynes on Jockey Street was withdrawn, will make existing home code compliant. The subdivision application of David & Kathryn Arnold on Jersey Hill Road was conditionally approved. **ZBA-**

Dan stated that they have had no application the last few months. **Dog Control-Tom** stated that he will have his yearly meeting with the girl from Ag. & Markets here tomorrow at 11:30. They go over his records and examine his vehicle. **Building Department-Max** stated that he was able to confirm his report was filed with NYS. He attended the Adirondack Code Enforcement continuing education conference two weeks ago. The flexibility these in person classes give him to complete on going requirements for continuing education credits is a very worthwhile investment. Max is working on amending building permit application forms, hopes to have completed this by next meeting. On local level the Town Planning Board/ZBA/Building Department & Supervisor met with the new attorneys for a very informative training on Code, Planning & Zoning last night. He will attend a DEC wetland training tomorrow evening at Fulton Montgomery Community College. **Highway-Dave** stated for March they posted 4-ton weight limit signs; cut brush & overhead; chipped brush town wide from high winds; graded & rolled ballfield parking lot; fixed wing cuts town wide & did clean-up maintenance at town hall from winter plowing. For April they will remove 4-ton weight limit signs when conditions permit; continue fixing wing cuts; grade gravel roads when conditions are dry enough; cut brush & overhead; continue working on site prep for salt shed which is on schedule for end of April & start summer maintenance on ballfields & Town Hall. **Supervisor-J.D.** that he, Max & Bill Adair helped unload food shipment at pantry last month. Wanted to give a big "Thank You" to the highway department for taking the trailer that the pantry was given from Lion's Club and putting new tires on it; re-packed the wheel bearings; fixed all lights & brakes. This is what they will now be using to transport food from the regional food bank to pantry instead of multiple vehicles. It is very eye opening to see the usage that our food pantry has. Supervisor & Councilmember Clemens went to see the new brush truck at Galway Fire Department, Councilmember Arnold was there as a Fireman. The price of supplies to run that facility is hard to believe. J.D. met with Ethics Board and was given their update suggestion. Information was passed out to Board to review for next month. Ethics and Disclosure changes could then be update and added to manual. J.D. stated that Ethics Board did a very good job updating this information. Planning/Zoning Conference held last night here with Planning/Zoning Attorney's, two hours of productive worthwhile training. Great turn out with Planning /Zoning Members, their office can do further training if needed in future. Hopefully, this will help streamline process and make things easier for everyone. We have been talking informally about work needed at Town Hall (roof; insulation; windows & energy conservation). J.D. stated that there is significant grant money available for these types of projects. Jim Snyder has been helping with setting up appointments with different Solar & Geo Thermal Companies to see what is available for Town Hall. Will keep everyone informed on what they find. New DEC regulations with reference to wetlands will probably be the hot button issue tomorrow at FMCC. This Friday at 2:00 volunteers are encouraged to help unload Easter Basket supplies at Food Pantry. Mary Beth Walsh & Sheriff Zurlo will hold a drug drop off on April 19th from 11-2, you will be able to dispose of medications at the Dockstader Fields. Brandon & J.D. will be attending a finance/management school in Saratoga from April 22-24th. Memory Café is held here at Town Hall on the 4th Friday of each month, very well attended great for dementia person and family members/care givers to interact with others. On a county level, tomorrow at 4:30 they will have a public hearing regarding bar closing times for Saratoga County.

Councilmember Fred Arnold made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Daniel Clemens to approve the General Abstract of Vouchers (A) dated 4/8/25 for a total of \$29,209.59.

All ayes.

MOTION CARRIED

Councilmember Daniel Clemens made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Ryan Flinton to approve the General Abstract of Vouchers (B) dated 4/8/25 for a total of \$9,524.62.

All ayes.

MOTION CARRIED

Councilmember Ryan Flinton made a motion, seconded by Councilmember James Ross to approve the Highway Abstract of Vouchers (DA) dated 4/8/25 for a total of \$14,252.53.

All ayes.

MOTION CARRIED

Councilmember James Ross made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Fred Arnold to approve the Highway Abstract of Voucher (DB) dated 4/8/25 for a total of \$7,115.01.

All ayes.

MOTION CARRIED

Councilmember Fred Arnold made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Daniel Clemens to approve the Trust & Agency Abstract of Vouchers (TA) dated 4/8/25 for a total of \$2,736.00.

All ayes.

MOTION CARRIED

No Executive Session was requested by Town Board.

RESOLUTION #: 10-2025 – Budget Amendments. On a motion of Councilmember Fred Arnold, seconded by Councilmember Ryan Flinton the following resolution was ADOPTED:

AYES- 5 NAYS – 0

RESOLVED that the Galway Town Board authorize the following Budget Amendments:

Decrease	DA1640	Ambulance Charges	\$1,118.56
Increase	DA5142.41	Snow Removal Fuel	\$1,118.56
Decrease	A917	Fund Balance	\$300,000
Increase	A9550.9	Transfer to Capital Project	\$300,000
Decrease	HB5731	Bond Anticipatin Note	\$300,000
Increase	HB5031	Interfund Transfer	\$300,000

Supervisor advised that we would not be doing a Bond Anticipation Note for Salt Shed as one of the requirements is to supply three years of financial statements and the 2023 books are not currently closed. Still working with Auditors & Accountant to get that done.

Decrease	B1990.4	Contingency Account	\$7,000
Increase	B1420.4	Attorney Contractual Acct.	\$7,000

Supervisor stated we had an unexpected expense come up; we hired a labor attorney to represent the Town in negotiation with Local 294 Teamsters.

All ayes.

MOTION CARRIED

RESOLUTION #: 11-2025 – Standard Work Day for Councilmember Daniel Clemens.

Supervisor stated that the Board needed to accept (ROA) Record of Activity for standard workday and reporting requirements for Retirement Reporting to NYSLRS for Councilmember Daniel Clemens. On a motion of Councilmember Ryan Flinton, seconded by Councilmember

Fred Arnold the following resolution was ADOPTED: AYES – 5 NAYS – 0

BE IT RESOLVED that the Town of Galway/Location Code 30776 hereby establishes the following as a standard work day for elected and appointed officials and will report this based on the time keeping system records or the records of activities maintained and submitted by those officials to the Clerk of this Body.

All ayes.

MOTION CARRIED

Other Business – Supervisor requested that Board review the Ethics & Disclosure Forms updated by Ethics Committee for next month action. Councilmember Daniel Clemens requested a copy of current Ethics information to compare to update. Town Clerk stated that she would pull information and put a copy in all Board Members boxes.

Privilege of the Floor – **Andy McPherson** had Green Energy Times available for anyone that would like a copy. He is willing to do a workshop on climate change if needed, please contact Library for that. **Brad Bischoff** questioned if there was any progress on Employee Handbook, may want to incorporate Ethics into that as well. **Supervisor Arnold** stated that no action has been taken to date on handbook. J.D. stated after talking with other Supervisor's he's not sure if we will update handbook in house or look into having it done. **Brad** questioned status on Comprehensive Plan. **Supervisor Arnold** stated there is nothing to report to date on Comprehensive Plan. **Brad** questioned status of State Audit. **Supervisor** stated that they are here every day, he and Brandon have daily conversation with them. He doesn't anticipate them being done any time soon. They came in and looked at the prior year, which triggered them to go back further. There were budgeting and accounting transaction that were not done at the appropriate time and they are trying to figure out why. Transfers from fund to fund were not done how they should have been done. It has been wonderful having them here, he and Brandon have been learning a lot from them. They have gone to them for guidance on budget amendments to make sure they are doing things correctly; making sure budget transfers are done properly. Supervisor stated that previous work is not necessarily done incorrectly on purpose, maybe they just didn't know. There are strict guidelines on how this stuff should be done, and it was not always done properly. **Brad** questioned if this would be in a written report when they are done? **Supervisor** stated that State would do a written report of findings. He believes they come up with their findings/report and Supervisor has to sign-off on them. They give option points that need to be done to correct process or require a written plan on how to put these steps into place. As they have been going through Audit regarding issues that have come up, Town has already implemented the suggestions of the State to changes areas of concern. **Supervisor** stated that one of the biggest changes to date is that now every voucher is signed by all five members of the Town Board. Once that was put into place last year there was only one voucher pulled and not paid out of over 1,000. **Brad** had one more issue of concern. The existing Blueberry Farm, how is Town dealing with the issuance of permits & cc for that project. **Max** stated that anyone could come and discuss this property in his office at any time. There is an open building permit on building constructed without a permit. On that open building permit Max was working with the previous property owner to close permit out and now working with new property owner to close out. **Brad** questioned if cc have been issued on this parcel. **Max** stated that cc have not been issued just building permit. **Brian Burns** stated that there was a Cease & Desist order on

all three of the buildings on this parcel originally, except store. **Max** was not aware of three building? He is talking about the one large building that they went to state to get variance and were denied. **Mark Carota** stated that he is the new owner of the "Hot Topic" property in question. Those were the decision/actions of the prior owner. He has noticed over the last several months that there are individuals in town that are obsessed with that particular property. He isn't Chuck Fetter, any problems people had with him are gone. As the new property owners, they have been working very closely with the Town to make sure they are compliant or actively working on a plan to make everything compliant. They are working on issues and no one needs to be concerned or wonder what's going on, it will all be done. His wife was born & raised in Galway; looking to move their family from Clifton Park to Galway. They are looking forward to a nice quiet life and would like to not have people scrutinizing & questioning everything they are doing. They would request the same respect that they are going to offer, "mind you own business". They will be making property compliant, working on it as quickly as possible. **Brad** stated that he hopes Town offers other residents that got caught up in the previous administrations/building department "hell" the same consideration with reference to receiving compliance/cc. There are other home owners that he knows of that are trying to work with building department to try and reach compliance on their issues that he doesn't believe are getting the same response as this. **J.D.** stated that building permits were done three years ago in error. At this point Mike, Treavor & Chuck Fetter are gone. Some of this needs to get resolved and turn the page. **Brad** stated that he doesn't want to see Town picking & choosing. **Supervisor** questioned who he is referencing that we pick & choose? **Brad** stated that he would discuss this with Supervisor. **Max** stated he has a problem with this "pick & choose" reference, would like to discuss it further in public forum or in private. **Max** stated that he wants to make a good reputation in Town, if anyone has a problem with any of the enforcement, he is doing he would encourage them to let him know or contact Supervisor. **Brian Burns** stated that Mark should not take this as a personal attack on him by Brad. He congratulated him on his new endeavor. No one is trying to "mind your business", we are looking for consistency in a Town that has been very inconsistent. We all want the same treatment; it is not personal. **Supervisor** stated that each person is one part of the total makeup equation of our Town, no one is "special". **Brian** stated that Supervisor preaches transparency but you sit here noticeably frustrated, aggravated, and upset; stating that you could discuss the issue in private. **Supervisor** questioned who was receiving "special treatment"? **Brian** stated that he finds it hard to believe that the entire Board is not familiar with their Policy & Procedures Manual. **Councilmember Clemens** stated that he requested that the Town Clerk give him the current document to compare to what is changed. **Councilmember Flinton** stated that what Dan is saying is that this document has many pages and we don't have it memorized word for word. **Brian** stated that if this is a document you should be referencing you should have it readily available and know the basics of it. **Supervisor** apologized to Brian, don't have policy & procedures manual memorized nor does anyone else. He knows where it is and it can be used as a resource. Arguing continued between Councilmember Clemens & Brian Burns regarding knowledge of policy. **Bill Adair** questioned if dates were set for the road side clean up? **Supervisor** stated that date had not been set. **Councilmember Arnold** stated that it is usually the first week in May recent snow may have changed that. **Superintendent Costanzo** stated that bags are at Highway and with Town Clerk.

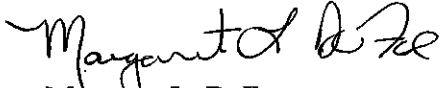
Supervisor asked what the procedure was for this? **Dave** stated residents grab the bags from us, fill them up leave them on the side of their road and the Town picks them up. Any time of the year you can get bags from us and Highway will pick them up. **Fred** suggested if they do a road side clean up call highway or Town Clerk and let them know to pick Galway bags up.

Councilmember Fred Arnold made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Ryan Flinton to adjourn the meeting at 7:48 p.m.

All ayes.

MOTION CARRIED

Respectfully submitted

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Margaret L. DeFoe".

Margaret L. DeFoe
Town Clerk

Received Date

**Standard Work Day and
Reporting Resolution for
Elected and Appointed Officials**

430

SEE INSTRUCTIONS FOR COMPLETING FORM ON REVERSE SIDE

RS 2417-A

(Rev.12/23)

Employer Location Code
3 0 7 7 6

Town of Galway

30776

(Location Code)

hereby established the following standard work days for these titles and will

report the officials to the New York State and Local Retirement based on their record of activities:

Name	Social Security Number	NYSLRS ID	Title	Current Term Begin & End Dates	Standard Work Day	Record of Activities Result	Not Submitted	Pay Frequency	Tier 1
Elected Officials									
Daniel Clemens			Town Board Mem	01/01/2025-12/31/2025	6 Hrs	1.16	<input type="checkbox"/>	Bi-Week	<input type="checkbox"/>
							<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>
							<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>
Appointed Officials									
							<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>
							<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>
							<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>

Margaret L. DeFoe

(Name of Secretary or Clerk)

secretary/clerk of the governing board of the

(Circle one)

Town of Galway

(Name of Employer)

of the State of New York,

08 day of April 2025

08 day of April 2025

on this

08 day of April 2025

on this

08 day of April 2025

Town of Galway

(Name of Employer)

being duly sworn, deposes and says that the posting of the Resolution began on

04/09/2025

and continued for at least 30 days. That the Resolution was available to the public on the:

(Date)

Employer's website at:

Official sign board at:

Main entrance Secretary or Clerk's office at:

5910 Sacandaga Road

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(for additional rows, attach a RS 2417-B form.)