

REGULAR MEETING
JANUARY 13, 2026
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 Daniel Clemens Councilmember James Ross
 Councilmember Gabriel Rais

OTHERS PRESENT: A McPherson; A. Decker, ZBA Chair; S. Costanzo; B. Krueger; C. Baxter; C. Moon; H. O'Brien; T. O'Brien, Dog Control Officer; B. Adair; A. D. & A. Balbian; D. Knizek-Neahr, Historian; C. Schweizer; C. Arnold; D. Costanzo, Highway Superintendent; J. Bellone; M. Rathbun; J. Snyder; R. Daino, Planning Chair; M. Luetters, Building/Code Officer & M. DeFoe, Town Clerk.

Pledge to the Flag

A motion was made by Councilmember Fred Arnold, seconded by Councilmember Gabriel Raia to approve the minutes of the December 9, 2025 Regular Meeting & the January 5, 2026 Organizational Meeting as submitted.

All ayes.

MOTION CARRIED

Communications – Town Clerk stated that Board Members received copies of the following correspondence: RISE; Association of Towns; USI Executive Series; NYS Comptroller; United Way; Saratoga County Planning/Zoning Conference Notification (given to Planning/Zoning/Code Enforcement); Spectrum Business would like to do a check in on services, forwarded to Supervisor & Bookkeeper; FEMA; NYS Dept. of State Planning, Development & Community Infrastructure; NYS Dept of State; Max's submission to Uniform Code Administration & Enforcement Report; Highway Report for December with schedule for January which Dave will go over later; Tom O'Brien's Dog Control Officer Report for November & December; Letter sent to resident Thomas Ambrosino from NYS DOT regarding his letter & petition for reduction of speed limit on NYS Route 147. No reduction was granted on this request. Town Clerk stated at that time Town send a speed limit reduction in also for NYS Route 147 & a signage request for no parking on road sides by School ballfield. Nothing has been received to date on signage request.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES: **Historian, Darby** stated that she continues to go through boxes of history information from previous Historian, Phyllis Keeler. She is trying to figure out something to do for Town & County 250 Anniversary Celebration. **Supervisor Arnold** stated that he was very impressed to see the number of people in attendance for Preservation Society Meeting, Town Board also had their Organizational Meeting that night. He went into discussion with Darby & Carol Schweizer regarding programs & notification to public of speakers. Town Clerk stated that she would put information on Town Website if they wanted the public to be more aware of what they have going on. **Youth Commission** – Ski tickets will be available

soon. **Planning Board – Jim** stated that AT&T & Verizon both now have approval for antennas on Rute 29 cell tower; Isabella's received approval for lot line adjustment on Diamond Pt. Rd.; Johnston's special use permit for accessory apartment was tabled and referred to ZBA & Larson lot line adjustment on NYS Route 29 was approved. **Zoning Board – No Report.** **Dog Control Officer – Tom** – Thanked the Town Board for his reappointment, he will be starting his 22nd year. **Building Department – Max** went over the status of old and new building permits to date; He received correspondence from NYS Department of State advising that they received his filed Report; There are 12 new building permit applications drafted and ready for review, 3 others need to be completed; His office answered 30 F.O.I.L. requests in 2025; Max will be attending Saratoga County Soil & Water DEC Wetlands training on February 3rd ; Saratoga County Planning & Zoning Training on February 11th & Code Training Seminar in Lake Placid from March 2-5. **Highway – Dave** stated for December they plowed & sanded 14 days; cut & chipped overhead brush on Perth & Jersey Hill Roads; Mixed sand & salt; Chipped trees & limbs downed by town-wide ice & windstorms. For January they will continue to plow & sand as needed; Cut & chip overhead brush on Jersey Hill Road & patch potholes. **Supervisor – J.D.** stated that he had a meeting with Mike Miller at Galway Central School where they discussed the shared service agreement we have with them, both parties are very happy with how things are going. They will be bringing another scaled back project proposal to the voters. School would like to participate in the 250 Celebration. Joseph Henry Day was always celebrated with past Historian, would like to bring that back. On a county level he is on the same three committees as last year: Chair of Real Property Tax, Veteran's Affairs & Bldg. & Grounds, new committee Law & Finance. J.D. is the County Representative for Saratoga County Soil & Water, they do the tree sales in spring, fresh water fish stocking program & also support agriculture with grants. The Town needs a new Employee Handbook drafted; Master Plan will be getting addressed; Town will be getting the grant that Assemblywoman Walsh put in for a roof replacement & he and Brandon will be meeting with Ballston Spa Bank representative to go over accounts.

J.D. advised that there are two sets of Abstract of Vouchers, 2025 & 2026.

Councilmember Fred Arnold made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Daniel Clemens to approve the December 2025 General Abstract of Vouchers (A) for a total of \$15,515.94.

All ayes.

MOTION CARRIED

Councilmember Daniel Clemens made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Gabriel Raia to approve the December 2025 General Abstract of Vouchers (B) for a total of \$7,031.98.

All ayes.

MOTION CARRIED

Supervisor state this abstract was different Boards pay, legal fees & misc.

Councilmember Gabriel Raia made a motion, seconded by Councilmember James Ross to approve the December 2025 Highway Abstract of Vouchers (DA) for a total of \$35,472.80.

Supervisor stated that this was lots of parts & fuel.

All ayes.

MOTION CARRIED

Councilmember James Ross made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Fred Arnold to approve the December 2025 Highway Abstract of Vouchers (DB) for a total of \$28,040.96.

All ayes.

MOTION CARRIED

Councilmember Fred Arnold made a motion, seconded by Councilman Daniel Clemens to approve the December 2025 Special Lighting District Abstract of Vouchers (SL) for a total of \$301.02.

All ayes.

MOTION CARRIED

Councilmember Daniel Clemens made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Gabriel Raia to approve the December 2025 Trust & Agency Abstract of Vouchers (TA) for a total of \$577.50.

All ayes.

MOTION CARRIED

Councilmember Gabriel Raia made a motion, seconded by Councilmember James Ross to approve the Supervisor's Report for October & November of 2025 as submitted.

All ayes.

MOTION CARRIED

Councilmember Gabriel Raia made a motion, seconded by Councilmember James Ross to approve the 2026 General Abstract of Vouchers (A) dated 1/13/26 for a total of \$60,505.44. Supervisor stated that the big money item on this Abstract was NYS Local Retirement.

All ayes.

MOTION CARRIED

Councilmember James Ross made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Fred Arnold to approve the 2026 General Abstract of Vouchers (B) dated 1/13/26 for a total of \$8,199.46. Supervisor stated largest item on Abstract was to NYS Local Retirement.

All ayes.

MOTION CARRIED

Councilmember Fred Arnold made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Daniel Clemens to approve the 2026 Highway Abstract of Vouchers (DA) dated 1/13/26 for a total of \$134,392.84. Supervisor stated NYS Retirement, MVP Health Care & Morton Salt.

All ayes.

MOTION CARRIED

Councilmember Daniel Clemens made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Gabriel Raia to approve the 2026 Highway Abstract of Voucher (DB) dated 1/13/26 for a total of \$46,593.58. Supervisor stated that NYS Local Retirement and MVP Health Care.

All ayes.

MOTION CARRIED

Councilmember Gabriel Raia made a motion, seconded by Councilmember James Ross to approve the 2026 Trust & Agency Abstract of Vouchers (TA) dated 1/13/26 in the amount of \$3,081.12.

All ayes.

MOTION CARRIED

Councilmember James Ross made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Fred Arnold to approve the 2026 Tri-Town Abstract of Vouchers (TT) dated 1/13/26 in the amount of \$487.23. Supervisor stated this was property taxes on pit.

All ayes.

MOTION CARRIED

Supervisor Arnold stated that the Board would need to go into Executive Session tonight to discuss contract negotiations & a pending legal matter. On a motion of Councilmember Fred

Arnold, seconded by Councilmember Daniel Clemens the meeting was adjourned to Executive Session at 7:22 p.m. to discuss contract negotiations & a pending legal matter.

All ayes.

MOTION CARRIED

On a motion of Councilmember Fred Arnold, seconded by Councilmember Daniel Clemens the Town Board returned to Regular Session at 7:37 p.m., Supervisor Arnold advised that no action was taken by Town Board during Executive Session.

All ayes.

MOTION CARRIED

Supervisor Arnold stated that the following end of year budget amendments were needed to balance out accounts for 2025.

RESOLUTION #: 2-2026 – Budget Amendments. On a motion of Councilmember Fred Arnold, seconded by Councilmember Daniel Clemens the following resolution was ADOPTED:

AYES – 5 NAYS - 0

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

Increase	A1110.4	Justice-Contractual	\$ 100.00
Decrease	A1010.4	Town Board-Contractual	\$ 100.00
Increase	A8160.4	Refuse/Garbage-Contractual	\$ 500.00
Decrease	A1620.4	Town Hall-Contractual	\$ 500.00
Increase	DA5140.4	Brush/Weeds-Maintenance	\$ 100.00
Decrease	DA5130.4	Machinery-Contractual	\$ 100.00
Increase	DB5110.45	Road Repairs-General Repairs	\$26,000.00
Decrease	DB5110.43	Road Repairs-Blacktop	\$26,000.00
Increase	DB9030.8	Social Security	\$ 800.00
Decrease	DB9060.8	Hospital/Medical Insurance	\$ 800.00

All ayes.

MOTION CARRIED

RESOLUTION #: 3-2026 – Appointment of Jose Sartin as Deputy Highway Superintendent. Supervisor J.D. Arnold stated that the Town Board would like to appoint Jose Sartin Deputy Highway Superintendent as of January 13, 2026 for a six-month appointment. On a motion of Councilmember Gabriel Raia, seconded by Councilmember Fred Arnold the following resolution was ADOPTED: AYES – 5 NAYS – 0

RESOLVED that the Galway Town Board appoint Jose Sartin Deputy Highway Superintendent starting January 13, 2026 for a six-month term.

All ayes.

MOTION CARRIED

Other Business - None

Privilege of the Floor – **Jessica Bellone** questioned if the Town was aware what Saratoga Hospital's plans were for the vacant Family Practice next to her. **Supervisor** Arnold stated that he has no idea, Saratoga Hospital has not had any contact with him regarding this. **Heather O'Brien** questioned what the status of ethics change request was that Ethics Board submitted.

Supervisor Arnold stated that he would check with Attorneys on status. We have a lot going on with them currently. **Heather** stated that there was one vacant seat on their Board that needs to be filled. **Melissa Rathbun** questioned if we were going to do the Blueberry Festival again this year. **Supervisor Arnold** asked that she come in tomorrow and they can discuss it.

On a motion of Councilmember Fred Arnold, seconded by Councilmember Daniel Clemens the meeting was adjourned at 7:43 p.m.

All ayes.

MOTION CARRIED

Respectfully submitted,

Margaret L. DeFoe
Town Clerk

DRAFT