

REGULAR MEETING
MARCH 10, 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 Raia

OTHERS PRESENT: B. Dwyer, Teamsters Local 294 Representative; Highway Department Employees; H. O'Brien; T. O'Brien, Dog Control Officer; B. Krueger; J. Snyder; C. Rohling; A. Decker, ZBA Chair; D. & A. Balbian; D. Costanzo, Highway Superintendent; S. Costanzo; D. Knizek-Neahr, Historian; S. & B. Poulin; B. Adair; A. McPherson; R. Sleeper & M. DeFoe, Town Clerk.

Pledge to Flag

A motion was made by Councilmember Daniel Clemens, seconded by Councilmember Fred Arnold to approve the minutes of the February 10, 2026, Regular Meeting as submitted.

All ayes.

MOTION CARRIED

Communications – Town Clerk stated that the Town Board received numerous correspondence from the following: Gordian; NY Association of Towns; Weekly Updates from Comptroller; NYS Dept. of State; Epic Fund NY; Millennium Strategies; NYS Dept. of State Consumer Protection; United Way; RISE Housing & Support Services; NY Class: Trending Legislation; IMA; NYS Comptroller Local Government & School Accountability; USI; NYS Dept. of State & Local Government; NYS Health Commerce System; Notification from NYS Bldg. Standards & Code, 2025 report received from Max; PFM Asset-Management; MRB Group; NYS Environmental Facilities Corp.; Highway Report for February with Schedule for March along with request for 4-ton weight limit on Town Roads.

Reports of Committees - **Historian - Darby** stated that she is researching Revolutionary Soldiers that moved to Galway after the war. She has found about 50 Soldiers buried throughout the Town of Galway, half of which were from surrounding towns. She has been doing research for different families and trying to determine maiden names. Working along on 250th research. **Youth Commission – Fred** stated that they had a couple more representatives show up at meeting, things are getting better on that end. Looking at programs & schedules. Ski tickets went fast. Sam is doing a good job. They are still trying to get more volunteers. **Planning – Jim** stated that Osie Johnston was in for a special use permit for an accessory apartment at 5140 Bliss Road, this was scheduled for Public Hearing next month. **ZBA – Gabriel** stated that there were two applications before Board, one was approved & one was tabled. April & May meeting dates were changed. **Dog Control – Tom** stated that activity would be included in next months report. **Building Department – Supervisor** stated Max was out of town, would give report next month. **Highway – Dave** stated for February they plowed 7 days; pushed drifts 4 days; cut & chipped overhead

brush on Jersey Hill & Perth Roads; mixed sand & salt; patched potholes-town wide; replaced signs-town wide; employee training for First Aid, Fire Extinguisher & Forklift Trucks. The schedule for March is to plow & sand as needed; cut & chip overhead brush; replace signs-town wide; post roads for 4-ton weight limit & clean up from winter. **Supervisor – J.D.** stated that the County Planning & Zoning Conference was held last month, very good attendance by our Planning & ZBA Members. Last week they had a Master Plan kick off meeting which went very well, great public input. Next meeting will be held March 30th at 6:00 p.m., will pick scheduled meeting date at that meeting to go forward. Yellow Ribbon Day collection box is here at Town Hall & sponsored by the Saratoga County Clerk's Office for items to be sent to or Military Service Members, they also take financial donations. J.D. went over the Flag Day Celebration being held here at Town Hall on June 14th sponsored by the Alliance 180 that works with 1st Responders & Military dealing with Post Traumatic Stress Issues; information on website. Blueberry Festival will be held the last Saturday in July at Dockstader Field, information also on website regarding this. On a County level, he talked about the Code Blue Shelter requirements once temperature goes below 32 degrees. The County in the past rented hotel room for people when temperatures got low. These hotels have closed and regrouped/rebuilt more for the tourism industry. County purchased property in Saratoga Springs on Ballston Avenue across from the Price Chopper to build a Code Blue Shelter. They will have public hearing regarding this tomorrow. There are some NYS Retirement changes coming, they will be bringing the people in Tier 6 back to the Tier 4 this will have some financial impacts on Town level. Will keep everyone informed on changes.

Councilmember Fred Arnold made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Daniel Clemens to approve the General Abstract of Vouchers (A) dated 3/10/26 for a total of \$71,684.46.

All ayes.

MOTION CARRIED

Councilmember Daniel Clemens made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Gabriel Raia to approve the Abstract of Vouchers (AM), Ambulance Fund dated 3/10/26 for a total of \$192,000.19.

All ayes.

MOTION CARRIED

Councilmember Gabriel Raia made a motion, seconded by Councilmember James Ross to approve the General Abstract of Vouchers (B) dated 3/10/26 for a total of \$9,020.34.

All ayes.

MOTION CARRIED

Councilmember James Ross made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Fred Arnold to approve the Highway Abstract of Vouchers (DA) dated 3/10/26 for a total of \$65,343.31.

All ayes.

MOTION CARRIED

Councilmember Fred Arnold made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Daniel Clemens to approve the Highway Abstract of Vouchers (DB) dated 3/10/26 for a total of \$12,735.92.

All ayes.

MOTION CARRIED

Councilmember Daniel Clemens made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Gabriel Raia to approve the Abstract of Vouchers (SF1) Galway Volunteer Fire Co. Inc. dated 3/10/26 for a total of \$358,200.24.

All ayes.

MOTION CARRIED

Councilmember Gabriel Raia made a motion, seconded by Councilmember James Ross to approve the Abstract of Vouchers (SF2) Harmony Corners Fire District dated 3/10/26 for a total of \$25,425.48.

All ayes.

MOTION CARRIED

Councilmember James Ross made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Fred Arnod to approve the Special Lighting District Abstract of Vouchers (SL) dated 3/10/26 for a total of \$393.82.

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 3/10/26 for a total of \$1,905.12.

All ayes.

MOTION CARRIED

Councilmember Daniel Clemens made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Gabriel Raia to approve the Tri-Town Gravel Abstract of Vouchers (TT) dated 3/10/26 for a total of \$3,892.23.

All ayes.

MOTION CARRIED

Supervisor asked if Executive Session was needed, no Board Member felt it was needed.

RESOLUTION #: 8-2026 – Posting of Roads to seasonal weight limits. On a motion of Councilmember Fred Arnold, seconded by Councilmember Gabriel Raia the following Resolution was ADOPTED: AYES – 5 NAYS – 0

RESOLVED that the Galway Town Board authorize that effective immediately, all Town roads are subject to temporary closure to all vehicles with a gross weight in excess of four (4) tons. Such closure shall take effect upon the erection of signs by the Highway Superintendent on the section of highway for which such traffic is excluded and continue until such time as conditions shall permit opening. Further notice is hereby given that any person or persons violating this order shall be subject to punishment as provided in Section 1800 of the Vehicle & Traffic Law. The Town Clerk will submit Legal Notice, Temporary Order Limiting Roads to four (4) Ton on Town of Galway Roads, to the Daily Gazette for immediate release.

All ayes.

MOTION CARRIED

RESOLUTION #: 9-2026 – Increase ZBA & Planning Board training sessions from \$25. to \$75. per session, limit 2 per year in the Policy & Procedures Manual. On a motion of Councilmember Fred Arnold, seconded by Councilmember Gabriel Raia the following Resolution was ADOPTED: AYES – 5 NAYS -0

RESOLVED that the Galway Town Board authorize the change in the Town of Galway Policy & Procedures Manuel under Section B-3 Salaries to increase the Planning & ZBA Member Training from \$25 per training session to \$75 per training session with a limit of 2 per year.

All ayes.

MOTION CARRIED

RESOLUTION #: 10-2026 – Budget Amendment. On a motion of Councilmember Daniel Clemens, seconded by Councilmember Gabriel Raia the following resolution was ADOPTED: AYES – 5 NAYS – 0

RESOLVED that the Galway Town Board authorize the following budget amendments:

Increase	A1910.4	\$3,000.00	Unallocated Insurance
Decrease	A1990.4	\$3,000.00	Contingency – Contractual

Increase in Insurance Costs.

Increase	AM-1540.4	\$.19	Ambulance
Increase	AM-1001	\$.19	Real Property Taxes

Budget amount to actual funds received.

Increase	SF1-3410.4	\$.24	Fire Protection – Contractual
Increase	SF1-1001	\$.24	Real Property Taxes

Budget amount to actual funds received.

Increase	SF2-3410.4	\$ 356.78	Fire Protection – Contractual
Increase	SF2-1001	\$ 356.78	Real Property Taxes

Budget amount to actual funds received.

All ayes.

MOTION CARRIED

Other Business – None.

Privilege of the Floor – **Andy McPherson** gave Board Members copy of an article in Green Energy Times “Geothermal’s Moment Has Come”, he has copies available if anyone would like one. **Bob Poulin** questioned if the “no parking signs” along Lake Road by Galway Lake were put up by the Town or residents of that area? **Dave** stated that he vaguely remembers there being something about this. **Dave** asked the Town Clerk for her Code Book to see if he could find anything. Will research this and find out exactly what Town approved. **Benjie Dwyer, Business Agent Teamsters Local 294** was here tonight representing the Teamsters/Highway Department Employees. He advised that they have been in contract negotiations with the Town and Highway Department has not seen a raise since 2024. **Benjie** handed out copies of the current highway contract to everyone at meeting, which is what they are following until new contract is approved. In this contract with reference to “Retiree Health Coverage” the Town agrees to continue contribution to medical coverage plan at the level in effect at the time the employee retires on a regular basis until the value of the accumulated sick days is exhausted. **Benji** stated, basically if someone retires at 80% coverage the Town will continue to pay at that 80% level. The employees are upset because they are finding out now that they will not be able to receive their sick bank because Town is taking 100% of their sick time banked per month when they retire. They feel this is wrong, the intent when this was originally negotiated was that the Town would pay 80%, this negotiation was prior to Teamsters involvement with Town Highway Employees. **Heather O’Brien** questioned change in how Freedom of Information were handled, asked for clarification on that. **Town Clerk** stated that nothing has changed in the process for a Freedom of Information, they still go through the Town Clerk. This is a formality, being designated as the Freedom of Information Officer. **Supervisor Arnold** stated that Attorney stated that Town needed to formally appoint the Town Clerk the Freedom of Information Officer and then also appoint a Freedom of Information Appeal Officer, Supervisor Arnold if there is an issue or with something being denied. Clerk stated basically we are getting a lot of F.O.I.L. applications and

they need to go to one office first before being forwarded to other departments. Those departments then get information back to Clerk and she forwards information to the applicant.

On a motion of Councilmember Gabriel Raia, seconded by Councilmember James Ross the meeting was adjourned at 7:26 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Margaret L. DeFoe
Town Clerk

DRAFT