

REGULAR MEETING
JULY 14, 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 Daniel Clemens
 Councilmember James Ross Councilmember Gabriel Raia

ABSENT: Councilmember Fred Arnold

OTHERS PRESENT: S. Costanzo; C. Baxter; C. Moon; M. Luetters, Building Inspector/Code Enforcement; D. Knizek-Neahr, Historian; H. O'Brien; T. O'Brien, Dog Control Officer; S. Gregory; B. Krueger; J. Bellone; R. & G. Marsh; A. Decker, ZBA Chair; B. Burns; C. Schweizer; C. Carr; A. McPherson; B. Spagnola, Bookkeeper & M. DeFoe, Town Clerk.

Pledge to Flag

Councilmember Daniel Clemens made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Gabriel Raia to approve the minutes of the June 9, 2026 Regular Meeting as submitted.

All ayes.

MOTION CARRIED

Communications – Town Clerk stated that the Board Members received multiple correspondence from the following organizations: Weekly updates from the Comptroller; Gordian; United Way; RISE Housing & Support Services; NY Assoc. of Towns; Town of Charlton proposed Local Law regarding Solar Energy Systems temporary moratorium on Large Scale Commercial Solar Installations; NYS Dept. of State Planning, Development & Community Infrastructure; Bloom; RIMTECH training; NY Class; Digital Communications; Imaging & Microfilm Access; Funding opportunity for FEMA; Neumo; Town of Milton Proposed Local Law to extend moratorium on Solar; Highway Report for June with Schedule for July; Galway Baseball/Softball advising they have a spare scoreboard they removed from Lion's Field two seasons ago, it worked fine asked if we wanted it they got a new double sided sign off of a grant; Resolutions were needed for (2) Highway Budget Amendments; Date needs to be changed for August Meeting & Public Hearing needs to be scheduled for Moratorium on Solar Farms & Battery Energy Storage Systems.

Reports of Committees – **Historian** – **Darby** stated that the Town of Charlton Preservation Society gave her a bag of Galway History stuff they had. Her Poster Board presentation for the Fair is due tomorrow on Revolutionary War. Did some research on a gentleman and found some interesting facts on his military history, followed him thru war and different locations he was in. She has more research needed on family history. Asked if it would be ok with Board if she left meeting to work on finishing up her poster board for Fair. Board was fine with her leaving.

Youth Commission – **No Report.** **Planning Board** – **Jim** stated that Planning Board gave Camile Parisi conditional approval for her Farm Stand on NYS Route 29 conditional on DOT approval; Barbara Wright minor subdivision on Armer Road was tabled for county review. **ZBA** – **Gabriel** stated Jerrol Kain at 2320 Diamond Point Road received approval for a front & side lot variance; Eric Larson at 2769 NYS Route 29 received approval for a side lot set back

variance & Dawn Heritage at 4966 Bliss Road had the fence discussion tabled and the side lot variance for shed was approved. **Dog Control – Tom** stated he had (3) dog bites last month, (2) in Town (1) in Village. Two of the dogs were surrendered to shelter. **Building Department – Max** stated that he had approximately 70 building permits issued to date since January. Numbers are now closer in line with where they were at this time in 2025. The status update for the two remaining Supreme Court Cases is that he has upcoming meetings for both within the month. He is hoping to have an update next month on status. FOILS & complaints continue to take a significant amount of office time; organizing files in archives has largely aided in response time. **Highway – Councilmember Clemens** stated for June the Highway Department shimmed parts of Greens Corners & Hermance Roads; paved with Ballston, Charlton, Milton & Stillwater; ditched, graveled & graded Cruthers Road; chipped town-wide storm damage; fought beaver activity on Benzal, Hermance & Kania Roads along with Peaceable Street; mowed Town Hall, ball fields & cemeteries. For July they will pave North end of Greens Corners Road & Hermance Road from NYS Route 147 to Parkis Mills Road; shim & pave Bliss Road; pave with Providence & mow ROW's, Town Hall & ball field. **Supervisor – J.D.** stated that Flag Day Celebration was very successful. Clerk stated that many complements on the Flag display & celebration were received by people coming in after event & calling on telephone. Blueberry Festival is from 9-3 on July 25th. Volunteers are still needed to help with event set up & clean up. On August 11, 2026 at 5:30 p.m. at the Galway Preserve Saratoga Plan will be un-vailing a mural painted on building.

Councilmember Daniel Clemens made a motion, seconded by Supervisor J.D. Arnold to approve the General Abstract of Vouchers (A) dated 7/14/26 for a total of \$22,256.53.

All ayes.

MOTION CARRIED

Supervisor J.D. Arnold made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Gabriel Raia to approve the General Abstract of Vouchers (B) dated 7/14/26 for a total of \$4,693.92.

All ayes.

MOTION CARRIED

Councilmember Gabriel Raia made a motion, seconded by Councilmember James Ross to approve the Highway Abstract of Vouchers (DA) dated 7/14/26 for a total of \$19,690.18.

All ayes.

MOTION CARRIED

Councilmember James Ross made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Daniel Clemens to approve the Highway Abstract of Voucher (DB) dated 7/14/26 for a total of \$74,146.95.

All ayes.

MOTION CARRIED

Councilmember Daniel Clemens made a motion, seconded by Supervisor J.D. Arnold to approve the Special Lighting District Abstract of Vouchers (SL) dated 7/14/26 for a total of \$184.17.

All ayes.

MOTION CARRIED

Supervisor J.D. Arnold made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Gabriel Raia to approve the Trust & Agency Abstract of Vouchers (TA) dated 7/14/26 for a total of \$2,493.12.

All ayes.

MOTION CARRIED

On a motion of Supervisor J.D. Arnold, seconded by Councilmember Gabriel Raia the meeting was adjourned to Executive Session at 7:14 p.m. to discuss personnel issues.

All ayes.

MOTION CARRIED

On a motion of Supervisor J.D. Arnold, seconded by Councilmember Gabriel Raia the Town Board returned to Regular Session at 7:30 p.m., Supervisor Arnold advised that no action was taken by Town Board during Executive Session.

All ayes.

MOTION CARRIED

RESOLUTION #: 19-2026 – Budget Amendments. Highway Superintendent Costanzo requested authorization to spend the Chips, EWR,PAVENY & POP funds and a budget resolution for 2026 budget to spend up to an additional \$179,326.45 in anticipation of the additional CHIPS, EWR,PAVENY & POP funding. Councilmember Daniel Clemens requested a roll call vote on resolution. On a motion of Councilmember James Ross, seconded by Councilmember Gabriel Raia the following resolution was ADOPTED BY ROLL CALL VOTE:

Councilmember Daniel Clemens – AYE

Councilmember James Ross – AYE

Councilmember Gabriel Raia – AYE

Supervisor J.D. Arnold – AYE

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

Increase	DB5110.4	Road Repairs Contractual	\$179,326.45
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Increase	DB3501	Chips	\$179,326.45
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4 – AYES 0 – NAYS

MOTION CARRIED

RESOLUTION #: 20-2026 – Budget Amendments. Supervisor Arnold stated that two checks were received from Galway Emergency Medical Service for reimbursement of fuel, Highway Superintendent Costanzo requested designation to Account DA 5142.4 Snow Removal – Contractual. Councilmember Daniel Clemens requested a roll call vote on resolution. On a motion of Councilmember Daniel Clemens, seconded by Supervisor J.D. Arnold the following resolution was ADOPTED BY ROLL CALL VOTE:

Councilmember Daniel Clemens – AYE

Councilmember James Ross – AYE

Councilmember Gabriel Raia – AYE

Supervisor J.D. Arnold – AYE

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

Galway Emergency Medical Service (check #: 0084701403) in the amount of \$2,000.89

Galway Emergency Medical Service (check #: 0084701402) in the amount of \$1,770.69

Budget Resolution Request – Designate to Account: DA5142.4 Snow Removal – Contractual

Decrease	DA1640	Ambulance Charges	\$3,771.58
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Increase	DA5142.4	Snow Removal Contractual	\$3,771.58
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4 – AYES 0 – NAYS

MOTION CARRIED

RESOLUTION #: 21-2026 – Change in Meeting Date for August. On a motion of Councilmember Gabriel Raia, seconded by Councilmember Daniel Clemens the following resolution was ADOPTED: AYES – 4 NAYS – 0

RESOLVED that the Galway Town Board change the meeting date for August from August 11, 2026 to August 18, 2026 at 7:00 p.m. Clerk will place legal ad, put on website and post at library, bank & post office.

All ayes.

MOTION CARRIED

RESOLUTION #: 22-2026 – Set Public Hearing for Proposed Local Law to Establish a Moratorium on Solar Farms & Battery Energy Storage Systems in the Town of Galway. On a motion of Councilmember James Ross, seconded by Councilmember Gabriel Raia the following resolution was ADOPTED BY ROLL CALL VOTE:

Councilmember Daniel Clemens – AYE
Councilmember Gabriel Raia – AYE

Councilmember James Ross – AYE
Supervisor J.D. Arnold – AYE

**TOWN OF GALWAY TOWN BOARD RESOLUTION #: 22-2026
SETTING PUBLIC HEARING TO CONSIDER ADOPTING A LOCAL LAW TO
ESTABLISH A MORATORIUM ON SOLAR FARMS & BATTERY ENERGY STORAGE
SYSTEMS IN THE TOWN OF GALWAY**

WHEREAS, the Galway Town Board wishes to consider adopting a six (6) month moratorium on the construction of any new Solar Farm and/or Battery Energy Storage System to provide the Town time to consider and address, if possible, the impacts that may be created by such land uses; and

WHEREAS, the Town Board has caused the preparation of a Proposed Local Law entitled, “A Local Law Establishing a Moratorium on Solar Farms and Battery Energy Storage Systems in the Town of Galway”, which would establish a Moratorium on the construction, establishment, installation, review or approval of any new or expanded Solar Farm or Battery Energy Storage System within the Town for six (6) months.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Galway Town Board shall meet and hold a public Hearing at the Galway Town Hall, 5910 Sacandaga Road, Galway, NY 12074, at 6:45 p.m. on August 18, 2026 to hear all interested persons and take any necessary action provided by law concerning the Proposed Local Law; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Town Board further authorizes and directs the Galway Town Clerk to publish and post a Notice of Public Hearing concerning the Proposed Local Law in the manner provided by law and to make a copy of the Proposed Local Law available for public inspection in the Town Clerk’s office following the adoption of this Resolution.

4 – AYES 0 – NAYS

MOTION CARRIED

Supervisor stated that the original request for Proposed Local Law also included Data Centers. Since the State has enacted a State-Wide One (1) year Moratorium on Data Center’s it is not necessary for the Town to address this at this time.

Tom O’Brien in the middle of Board making a resolution to schedule public hearing went off on the need for this information to be put on Town Facebook page. Would like the last rabies clinic on Facebook. **Brian Burns** interjected that it states Town of Galway Facebook. **Town Clerk** stated that she doesn’t do the Facebook page that is not done in house since previous Supervisor left. She does the website for everyone but highway & building department. **Councilmember James Ross** stated that Board was in the middle of a resolution comments should come at privilege of the floor. Board finished resolution. **Supervisor Arnold** stated that the Town is not using the Facebook page that states Town of Galway. He believes Melissa Rathbun is putting

some social media information on it like Blueberry Festival Information. He will check with her about adding information. The Town website is where our information is posted for public notification.

Other Business – None

Privilege of the floor – **Roxanne Marsh** stated that last summer the Ethics Board gave the Supervisor suggested changes to Code that needed to be forwarded to Town Attorney for their review, to date that have had no response regarding their proposed changes. **Supervisor Arnold** stated that he has not received anything back from them to date. He will contact them this week and see what the status is on changes. **Roxanne** on another note felt that Facebook was a great avenue to use to get information out to public. She however felt someone should be in charge, and information should be filtered thru the Supervisor's office. **Supervisor** will let Roxanne know what Attorney says regarding update on changes and will see what Melissa says about putting stuff on Facebook. **Jessica Bellone** asked about status of Comprehensive Plan. **Supervisor** stated that they were proceeding on schedule. They have another meeting this month. Surveys continue to come in, mostly completed by Seniors. **Jessica** questioned if information from survey would be shared. **Councilmember Gabriel Raia** stated that survey is still open, once it is closed Engineer will compile information and it will be part of information shared with public. Seniors have surveys on their shelving units in back and we have them in lobby. **Brian Burns** questioned status of negotiations with highway department. **Supervisor** stated that they have had no feed back from them to date. **Andy McPherson** questioned status of connection with solar project. **Max** stated system isn't live, waiting for revisions to be submitted. Depending on level of alterations, may need to go back before planning board. **Tom O'Brien** questioned if new poles in village were for solar. **Max** stated poles were on right-of-way that would not be solar that is National Grid. **Brian Burns** questioned if there were talks about the Town absorbing the Village? **Supervisor** stated that he didn't know for sure, but believes Village may be investigating that avenue. Discussed water/sewer issues, which Supervisor advised would be the responsibility of the property owners that are in that district. **Supervisor** stated that currently we do well with sales tax distribution, this is all subject to change.

Councilmember Gabriel Raia made a motion, seconded by Councilmember James Ross to adjourn the meeting at 7:52 p.m.

All ayes.

MOTION CARRIED

Respectfully submitted

Margaret L. DeFoe
Town Clerk