PUBLIC HEARING
OCTOBER 13, 2026
GALWAY TOWN HALL

Deputy Supervisor Fred Arnold called the Public Hearing to order at 6:46 p.m. The following Board Members were present:

PRESENT: Deputy Supervisor Fred Arnold Councilmember Daniel Clemens
Councilmember James Ross

ABSENT: Supervisor J.D. Arnold

OTHERS PRESENT: Audience that spoke: M. Miller; B. Spagnola, Bookkeeper; J. Jackowski & M. DeFoe, Town Clerk. There were many other residents in attendance at Public Hearing.

Town Clerk read Legal Notices Placed in Daily Gazette on September 10, 2026 and posted at Bank; Post Office; Library & Town Website. Legal Notice advising public of Public Hearing to be held on October 13, 2026 at 6:45 p.m., propose of said hearing is to receive comments from public and take action on Proposed Local Law to override the 2% tax levy limits established in General Municipal Law 3-c. At said hearing any person may be heard in favor or against Proposed Local Law, or for or against any item or items as there in contained.

Deputy Supervisor Fred Arnold asked if there were any questions or comments from the public regarding the Proposed Local Law. **Maria Miller** questioned now that you have a budget before you, do you have an exact amount above & beyond the 2% tax cap residents are looking at. **Brandon Spagnola, Bookkeeper** advised that this was to allow the Town Board if needed to exceed the tax cap. They have to plug these figures into formula to determine if in fact there is an increase needed. **Brandon** stated if there was an increase, it would be minimal. **Maria** questioned what the fiscal year for this proposed budget was. **Town Clerk, DeFoe** stated that it was Local Law No. 2 of 2026 for the 2027 Budget. **Jim Jackowski** requested clarification regarding why these figures are not in writing before the Local Law is approved. **Brandon** stated that each fund shows the increase on Preliminary Budget. General Town & Highway 1.5% increase & Fire/EMS is 3%.

On a motion of Councilmember Daniel Clemens, seconded by Councilmember James Ross the Public Hearing was closed at 6:50 p.m.

All ayes. MOTION CARRIED

REGULAR MEETING
OCTOBER 13, 2026
GALWAY TOWN HALL

Deputy Supervisor Fred Arnold called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. The Board Members were the same as Public Hearing and audience people that spoke: B. Adair; M. Rathbun; T.

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O'Brien, Dog Control Officer; F. Flanagan, Highway Mechanic K. & S. Gregory; R. Daino, Planning Chair; S. Atkins; C. Carr & A. McPherson.

Pledge to Flag

Town Clerk, DeFoe stated that there were two typo correction on minutes. Both corrections were in Resolution #28-2026, 1st typo year said 25 should be 26, 2nd typo DA5142.41 should be DA5142.4. A motion was made by Councilmember Daniel Clemens, seconded by Councilmember James Ross to approve the minutes of the September 8, 2026 Regular Meeting with corrections.

All ayes. MOTION CARRIED

Communication – The following correspondence was received by Town Board but not read at meeting: NYS Department of Health; NYS Environmental Facilities Corporation; NYS Department of State Planning, Development & Community Infrastructure; RISE Housing & Support Services; NY Assoc. of Towns; Gordian, Edmunds GovTech; United Way; NYS Comptroller; William Adair requested a seat on the Galway Planning Board, he requested status on operation of Swat Gun Club on NYS Route 29 and he also requested a speed limit reduction from Lake Road to his home on Hermance Road; Research request from Cornell on Mental Health in Public Service; Notification from Tom O'Brien, Dog Control Officer that he would be out of Town from 9/28/26 until 10/9/26; Institute on Disability Awareness; Bankruptcy notification from DISH DBS Corporation & DISH Wireless L.L.C.; Notification from previous cleaning service "Daigle Cleaning Systems, Inc." advising they received spam email no information within our account has been compromised or affected; Bloom Municipal Insight; Email correspondence from Brian Burns asking for clarification on 1) How long has Highway Superintendent, Dave Costanzo been employed by private company in Albany. 2) Will Town report actual hours worked to NYS Retirement System for this time period? 3) Status of Provisions/Galway Plaza; How are they operating without Certificate of Occupancy; Why is Town Supervisor handling a Building Department/code issue; Why was Kiley Gregory allowed to remain on ZBA when Dave McKenzie was removed due to questioning actions against him & not following code. 4) Clarification on the Town Facebook page. Councilmember Daniel Clemens has volunteered to take over Councilmember Raia's work with Galway Plaza & Town; Melissa Rathbun sent proposed Amendments to Chapter 115 of Town Code; NYSDEC Floodplain Meeting; Capital District Regional Planning Commission welcomes Nathalie Berger, Sustainability Planner; Letter of Interest & Resume from Melissa Rathbun for Councilmember Position; Collective Bargaining Agreement signed by Teamsters needs approval tonight for Town Board to authorize Supervisor to sign; Dog Control Officer's Report for August & September along with 2025 list of dog penalties for Galway & surrounding Towns, Tom would like to see this schedule addressed & Highway Report for September with schedule for October that Board will go over later in meeting.

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Reports of Committees – **Historian – Darby** stated that she continues to plug along on her history research. If anyone is interested in the Galway Preservation Society Presentations they are now on YouTube, to access put in Galway New York Preservation Society Presentations. **Youth Commission – Deputy Supervisor Arnold** stated that Karate has started back up in school. They have a few new students. They had to cancel a tournament scheduled at school. They will participate in tournaments on October 18th & 24th. Soccer has 122 youth signed up. Girl's basketball has started, Boy's not yet. **Planning – Councilmember Ross** stated Brian Furnia's 2-lot subdivision will be scheduled for public hearing in October. Paul Foust received approval for a lot line adjustment on 2595 May Road, ZBA variance was required and obtained prior to approval. There were two pre application conferences that neither applicant was in attendance. Home business discussion Mathias Remigy's property on corner of Greens Corner Road & NYS Route 29. The other Pre-application conference was that of Brian Furnia for a proposed PDD on property located on NYS Route 29 & 147. **ZBA – No Report. Dog Control – Tom O'Brien** stated he gave Board copies of proposed fines that he would like to see the Town Board go forward with, not sure if Board needs to complete Comprehensive Plan first. **Building Department – Max** stated that his office has received about 115 building permits to date, 8 of which are pending. There has been 33 Freedom of Information Request received to date. Thank you to Councilmember Daniel Clemens for stepping up to help out with Galway Plaza. **Highway – Councilmember Clemens** stated for September they paved with Providence & Saratoga County; installed shoulders & gravel driveways on Hermance Road; paved section of Birchton Road; cut down dead trees on Hermance Road; assisted Providence with dead trees; chipped, fixed washouts & picked up brush town wide; checked & maintained beaver flow activity throughout town; bulk waste drop-off had 96 residents utilize services & mowed ROW's, town hall & ball field. For October they will pave with Providence Southline Road/Whitesides Road; shoulders & driveway with Providence; pick up brush/chip town wide; overhead brush & dead trees town wide; cold patch potholes town wide & mow ROW's, town hall & ball field. **Supervisor's Report – Deputy Supervisor Arnold** stated that they had received applications for Highway Superintendent, Planning Board, MEO & Clerk to Building Department. Met with Providence & Milton regarding Tri-Town Gravel Pit. Code Blue Shelter ground breaking was 10/1/26. Bids are due 10/20/26 for roof project. They have two food pantry food deliveries 10/15 & 10/21/26. Speed limit reduction request was received; action will be taken later in meeting. Collective Bargaining Agreement has been received authorization for Supervisor to sign will be done later in meeting.

Councilmember Daniel Clemens made a motion, seconded by Deputy Supervisor Fred Arnold to approve the General Abstract of Vouchers (A) dated 10/13/26 for a total of $19,621.42.

All ayes. MOTION CARRIED

Deputy Supervisor Fred Arnold made a motion, seconded by Councilmember James Ross to approve the General Abstract of Vouchers (B) dated 10/13/26 for a total of $9,964.82.

All ayes. MOTION CARRIED

DRAFT

Councilmember James Ross made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Daniel Clemens to approve the Highway Abstract of Vouchers (DA) dated 10/13/26 for a total of $10,289.24.
All ayes. MOTION CARRIED

Councilmember Daniel Clemens made a motion, seconded by Deputy Supervisor Fred Arnold to approve the Highway Abstract of Vouchers (DB) dated 10/13/26 for a total of $105,341.13.
All ayes. MOTION CARRIED

Deputy Supervisor Fred Arnold made a motion, seconded by Councilmember James Ross to approve the Special Lighting District Abstract of Vouchers (SL) dated 10/13/26 for a total of $236.80.
All ayes. MOTION CARRIED

Councilmember James Ross made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Daniel Clemens to approve the Trust & Agency Fund Abstract of Vouchers (TA) dated 10/13/26 for a total of $1,152.48.
All ayes. MOTION CARRIED

Councilmember Daniel Clemens made a motion, seconded by Councilmember James Ross to approve the Supervisor's Report's covering March 2026 – August 2026.
All ayes. MOTION CARRIED

Executive Session was not needed.

RESOLUTION #: 29-2026 – Adoption of Local Law No. 2 of 2026 – Override Tax Levy Limits. On a motion of Councilmember James Ross, seconded by Councilmember Daniel Clemens the following resolution was ADOPTED BY ROLL CALL VOTE:
Councilmember Daniel Clemens – AYE Councilmember James Ross – AYE
Deputy Supervisor Fred Arnold - AYE
BE IT RESOLVED that the Galway Town Board Approve Local Law No. 2-2026 entitled "A Local Law to Override the Tax Levy Limits Established in General Municipal Law 3-C".
3-AYES 0-NAYS MOTION CARRIED

RESOLUTION #: 30-2026 – Set date for Public Hearing on the 2027 Budget. On a motion of Councilmember James Ross, seconded by Councilmember Daniel Clemens the follow resolution was ADOPTED: AYES – 3 NAYS – 0
RESOLVED that the Galway Town Board schedule a Public Hearing for review of the 2027 Preliminary Budget to begin at 6:45 p.m. & Regular Meeting to begin at 7:00 p.m. on November 10, 2026. Legal Notice will be placed in Daily Gazette with proposed salary figures for Elected Officials.
All ayes. MOTION CARRIED

RESOLUTION #:31-2026 Phase 2 - Hudson River Valley Greenway Community & Compact Planning Grant. On a motion of Councilmember Daniel Clemens, seconded by

DRAFT

Councilmember James Ross the following resolution was ADOPTED BY ROLL CALL VOTE:
Councilmember Daniel Clemens – AYE Councilmember James Ross – AYE
Deputy Supervisor Fred Arnold – AYE

WHEREAS, the Town of Galway is applying to the Hudson River Valley Greenway for a grant under the Hudson River Valley Greenway Planning Grant Program for a project entitled "Phase 2 - Comprehensive Plan Update" to be located in the Town of Galway,

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved that the governing board of the Town of Galway hereby does approve and endorse the application for a grant under the Hudson River Valley Greenway Planning Grant Program, for a project known as Phase 2 - Comprehensive Plan Update and located within this community.
3 - AYES 0 – NAYS MOTION CARRIED

October 13, 2026 Date of Adoption

Margaret L. DeFoe Name of Municipal Clerk

_____ Signature

RESOLUTION #: 32-2026 – Authorization for Supervisor to sign Collective Bargaining Agreement with Teamsters Local 294. On a motion of Councilmember James Ross, seconded by Councilmember Daniel Clemens the following resolution was ADOPTED BY ROLL CALL VOTE:
Councilmember Daniel Clemens – AYE Councilmember James Ross – AYE
Deputy Supervisor Fred Arnold – AYE

BE IT RESOLVED that the Galway Tow Board Authorize the Town Supervisor to sign the Collective Bargaining Agreement by and between Town of Galway and Teamsters Local 294, period covering October 13, 2026 – December 31, 2029.
3-AYES 0-NAYS MOTION CARRIED

RESOLUTION #: 33-2026 – Appoint Melissa Rathbun to the Galway Town Board. On a motion of Councilmember Daniel Clemens, seconded by Councilmember James Ross the following resolution was ADOPTED BY ROLL CALL VOTE:
Councilmember Daniel Clemens – AYE Councilmember James Ross – AYE
Deputy Supervisor Fred Arnold – AYE

BE IT RESOLVED that the Galway Town Board appoint Melissa Rathbun to the vacant seat on the Galway Town Board, term 10/14/26 - 12/31/27.
3-AYES 0-NAYS MOTION CARRIED

RESOLUTION #: 34-2026 – Speed limit reduction request for Hermance Road. On a motion of Councilmember James Ross, seconded by Councilmember Daniel Clemens the following resolution was ADOPTED: AYES – 3 NAYS – 0

RESOLVED that the Galway Town Board authorize the Town Clerk to send a request to

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County to then be forwarded to NYS for a review of the speed limit on Hermance Road from Lake Road to 1587 Hermance Road.

All ayes. MOTION CARRIED

RESOLUTION #: 35-2026 – Budget Amendments. On a motion of Councilmember James Ross, seconded by Councilmember Daniel Clemens the following resolution was ADOPTED:

AYES – 3 NAYS – 0

Increase	A1420.4	Attorney – Contractual	$3,700.00
Decrease	A1990.4	Contingent	$3,700.00
Increase	A1430.4	Personnel/Accounting – Contractual	$1,000.00
Decrease	A1990.4	Contingent	$1,000.00
Increase	A6772.4	Nutrition Meal Site - Contractual	$1,500.00
Decrease	A1620.4	Buildings - Town Hall Contractual	$1,500.00
Increase	A9089.8	Employee Benefits	$1,800.00
Decrease	A9060.8	Health Insurance/Employee Benefits	$1,800.00
Increase	B1420.4	Attorney – Contractual	$2,400.00
Decrease	B1990.4	Contingency	$2,400.00
Increase	B3620.4	Building Inspection – Contractual	$7,500.00
Decrease	B1990.4	Contingency	$7,500.00
Increase	DA9089.8	Employee Benefits	$675.00
Decrease	DA9060.8	Hospital & Medical insurance	$675,00
Increase	DB9089.8	Employee Benefits	$675,00
Decrease	DB9060.8	Hospital & Medical Insurance	$675.00

All ayes. MOTION CARRIED

Other Business – None.

Privilege of the Floor – **Sue Atkins** expressed her displeasure with the way the Town Supervisor called Brian Burns out at last month's meeting. She felt that the questioned he asked were legitimate questions that taxpayers had the right to ask and be answered. With reference to audit, the public has the right to question how mistakes happened as some of those errors happened while you were on the Board. Yes, Questions can be submitted before or after a meeting and if you so choose to answer. Sue feels the Board isn't being transparent with the public if that information is not answered in its entirety in meeting minutes. Taxpayers should be able to have their questions answered publicly even if you don't like the questions. **Cathal Carr** stated that she was asked by Brian Burns to see what the answers were to the questions he sent the Board after the last meeting. Deputy Supervisor Arnold stated that he would address the questions Brian had. The Town Board is not aware of the exact time Highway Superintendent

DRAFT

was also working for another private company. He does know that during this overlapping time he was in daily contact with his staff regarding their work schedule and any questions they needed to have addressed. He also prepared the 2027 Highway Budget during this time frame. **Cathal** referenced Brian's questioned about actual hours worked being reported to NYS Retirement System. She stated that she had made the Comptroller's Office aware of her concerns with the way she believed time was being reported to the Retirement System during this time. **Deputy Supervisor Arnold** stated that Highway Superintendent position work is not done under scheduled highway department hours only. Item three questions regarding Provisions/Galway Plaza and why Kiley Gregory was allowed to remain on ZBA. **Seth Gregory** stated he would like to address this. **Fred** stated last item was Facebook page. It's been on our site but not handled by anyone in Town Hall. **Mellissa Rathbun** stated that she unpublished Facebook didn't delete. She uses this for Blueberry Festival. **Seth** stated that when they started looking at opening "Provisions" they alerted Code Enforcement of their plans. They needed a new header which requires a building permit, should they have needed a new special use permit for that business the building permit should not have been granted. Issuing of this permit implied to them that they were in compliance with current special use permit. Fast forward to their opening. Another business owner in town was not happy about the opening and complained. At that point he feels a witch hunt was started. **Seth & Kiley Gregory** feel that Planning Chair has a personal relationship with owner & Board Member Rathbun holds her Rotary Club meeting at Galway Local they should have recused themselves from proceedings. They feel then Ruth Ann hung them out to dry. **Ruth Ann Daino, Planning Chair** not sure where they got their information on her personal relationship? The code explicitly states that you need a special use permit. In the middle of Ruth Ann's sentence Seth & Kiley started yelling and the rest of Ruth Ann's rebuttal was not audible. Councilmember James Ross had to intervene. **Bill Adair** asked status of gun range on NYS Route 29. **Deputy Supervisor Arnold** will look into this and get back to Bill with his findings. **Melissa Rathbun** stated that this Saturday they will hold a fundraiser at the Dockstader Parking Lot & Pavilion for Galway EMS. **Ruth Ann Daino** stated that Planning Board has been operating for two years with four members, now we are down to three. One of the three remaining members can't attend the upcoming meeting. **Councilmember James Ross** didn't feel the Board was ready tonight to make an appointment. They will need to cancel or reschedule meeting. **Tom O'Brien** questioned why Board was against Facebook? **Councilmember Daniel Clemens** stated that the Board was not against having a Facebook page. **Deputy Supervisor Arnold** stated we had someone in that capacity before and we all know how that went. We can do some research and look into this further. **Andy McPherson** stated that the library also has public notification. **Brandon Spagnola** wanted to clarify that there are other things on you tax bill that may cause you bill to go up higher than what we have increased with Town, Highway, Fire Department, EMS & Harmony Fire District due to State mandates. **Frank Flanagan, Highway Mechanic** stated that the word needs to get out that material on the other side of fence is not for the public. They had someone in a tractor taking material. **Town Clerk** stated that they stopped locking fence because previous

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Historian and a few members of Preservation Society couldn't open gate. Gate can be locked if needed just give Darby combination. **Kiley Gregory** asked if there was a Councilmember assigned to take over for Councilmember Raia with reference to the Galway Plaza, so this can be put to bed. **Councilmember Daniel Clemens** stated he was assigned this but volunteered after Gabriel resigned.

Councilmember Daniel Clemens made a motion, seconded by Councilmember James Ross to adjourn the meeting at 7:39 p.m.
All ayes. MOTION CARRIED

Respectfully submitted,

Margaret L. DeFoe
Town Clerk

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