

Wednesday, April 1, 2026
Regular Town Board Meeting - 7:00PM
Tannery Pond

In Attendance: Sterling Goodspeed - Supervisor Anna Bowers – Councilperson
 Paul Heid – Councilperson Mindy Preuninger - Councilperson
 Matt Parobeck – Councilperson Jean Comstock – Town Clerk

1. Pledge of Allegiance – Candace Lomax
2. Call to Order the Regular Meeting at 7:01PM
3. Resolution to Accept the Minutes of the Regular Meeting from March 18, 2026
RESOLUTION # 56 – 26
Ms. Bowers made a Motion to accept the Meeting Minutes from the Marth 18, 2026 Town Board Meeting and moved its passage with a Second Motion from Ms. Preuninger. With the Town Board Members voting in favor of the Resolution, it is carried. Ayes – 5 (Goodspeed, Bowers, Heid, Parobeck, Preuninger), Nays – 0.
4. Supervisor’s Report
 - ORDA Parking – a new summer venue opening hopefully by July and parking at Ski Bowl during ski season; want to work with ORDA on this; good discussion with the County DPW, Kevin Hajos; Pete Olesheski good with this as well as the Board Members; solve the problem of excessive parking in the park; this is a good opportunity.
 - Front Street – we have been waiting for a memo from attorneys re: a meeting two weeks ago; we have to be responsive because of the Master Agreement, Parcel B; a lot of MOU’s, paperwork, correspondence with the APA; had a good long group session talking about the issues and identifying our concerns; Front Street still has three more items for the APA and some from the Town; this is confidential right now due to negotiations, I’m not trying to keep anything from the public; more details as we move forward; the developer has to keep up his end of the agreement; we’re not for or against the development of the hotel, we’re making sure all is done fair and legally. Judy Brown – Front Street agreed to take the sewer from the Ski Bowl – Ms. Preuninger – he did put in his own system, but it will need to tie into our system; Mr. Parobeck – Minder Lodge is where it would hook up and they are having issues right now; Supervisor Goodspeed – it includes the pavilion; I remain concerned the discharge problem we had still is being covered by a piece of wood and cones around it; hard for us to negotiate with “poop” in our park.

Resolution to extend curfew for Timber & Thyme – question from a citizen concerned that an event was being held there and going until 11:59PM; Ms. Bowers – it’s an unusual situation in a State owned building on Town land – we want to support small businesses that are supporting veterans; can we give them until 12:30AM; Mr. Parobeck – I know there’s a curfew on the park, with clean up and all.

RESOLUTION # 57 – 26

Ms. Preuninger made a Motion to extend the curfew for Timber & Thyme and moved its passage with a Second Motion from Mr. Heid. With the Town Board Members voting in favor of the Resolution, it is carried. Ayes – 5 (Goodspeed, Bowers, Heid, Parobeck, Preuninger), Nays – 0.

- Septic failure on Circle Avenue – Supervisor Goodspeed – there’s been a lot of talk on the Internet – all the appropriate agencies have been informed, we are working on it.
- Sign in Town – Supervisor Goodspeed – I have had people in and out of my office for days, some say it’s inappropriate, some say it’s a 1st Amendment Right; don’t want to make this a political event; I wish more people that came to see me were here tonight; we all love to live here and that’s the focus; I view it as protected speech, one word was threatening and the other sign advertising Tannery Pond; reach out to counsel, did we need a permit for signage – there is one in the file; the application was not required; temporary political signs are exempt, it seems to be in accordance with it all; referrals to the police and the FBI; I have done my best to try to de-escalate it and talk through it; I think we have a compromise; Tannery Pond sign will be removed; my understanding is that one word is no longer there, it has been covered up; this has been difficult and stressful for all, I think this is a fair compromise; I read the code today, we need to find the appropriate balance; we’re in a good place right now. Kelly Nettle – I think that the people that have been offended by the word “neutralize” need to look up the definition of the word; Bob Nettle – thanks for the call this afternoon, I am absolutely thrilled to see a reaction from this Town; the so-called President of the United States shouldn’t be there; there are people here that I know voted for him; I could have Mindy arrested for trespassing on my property; I will not take the sign down. I am the only one that will decide what goes up there; I’d like more and more reaction from the Town. Supervisor Goodspeed – can I clarify that the “neutralize” language is still there? Bob Nettle – yes. Supervisor Goodspeed – Can I ask that you change the word and have permission to remove the Tannery Pond sign? Words can go too far, when I started receiving calls from the Sheriff and the FBI, I became concerned; with the Tannery Pond sign there it would indicate that Tannery Pond agrees with the sign; Beth Maher – we can live in a world where we respect each other without being hateful; Sterling Goodspeed - at the close of business today I received a call from the Sheriff’s Office – the FBI had just contacted them with their conclusion – it is awful, but not unlawful; if you don’t take it down, the Town doesn’t have any rights. Bruce Dunkley – this sign was presented to me just before the meeting – kill and killing are also on the sign; to me that points to a more common use of the word neutralize; I was very dismayed, disgusted and put off by this; this sign is evil; I would recommend with the fact the Town of Johnsbury owns Tannery Pond; I would highly recommend also make a public statement that organization does not support this sign; I’m just appalled; Supervisor Goodspeed – Bob Nettle – would you have a problem removing the Tannery Pond sign? Bob Nettle – I called Tannery Pond and no one answered the phone; Supervisor Goodspeed – are we OK to take the Tannery Pond sign down? I’ll give Mindy a pass right now for today; Supervisor Goodspeed - the Town Board is asking you to take the Tannery Pond sign down; Bob Nettle – if they want the sign down, I’ll take it down.

5. Board Discussion – Sand; Supervisor Goodspeed – trying to look out for the future; Fred Comstock– we will need about 10,000 yards; \$10/ton – 14,000 tons will be needed = \$140,000. The upper part of the pit we can dig down; lower pit is being reclaimed; we can dig up higher where the screen plant is, but we need to find a pit; Supervisor Goodspeed – Mindy and I looked at some property on State Route 28; you can take 1,000 yards without a permit; Supervisor Goodspeed – we need to keep this on our minds; we’re trying to get more information about it; Chris Heidrich – how much would a tandem hold; Fred – about 12 yards; Chris Heidrich– plus wear and tear on the truck, driver time, gas; Kelly Nettle – it’s the land behind Tops, the Town owns it?; also the triangular piece of land on Main Street; Supervisor Goodspeed – we have reached out to the owner.

6. Resolution to Approve Attendance of Members of the Comprehensive Plan Action Committee to Attend the 2026 Adirondack Planning Forum May 6-7, 2026
RESOLUTION # 58 – 26
Mr. Parobeck made a Motion to approve CPAC attendance at the Adirondack Planning Forum and moved its passage with a Second Motion from Mr. Heid. With the Town Board Members voting in favor of the Resolution, it is carried. Ayes – 5 (Goodspeed, Bowers, Heid, Parobeck, Preuninger), Nays – 0.

7. Resolution to Approve Attendance at NYAOT Finance and Personnel School April 27-28, 2026 for Mindy Preuninger and May 6-7, 2026 for Danae Tucker.
RESOLUTION # 59 – 26
Mr. Parobeck made a Motion to approve the attendance of Danae Tucker and Mindy Preuninger at the NYAOT Finance and Personnel School and moved its passage with a Second Motion from Mr. Heid. With the Town Board Members voting in favor of the Resolution, it is carried. Ayes – 5 (Goodspeed, Bowers, Heid, Parobeck, Preuninger), Nays – 0.

8. Resolution for the Librarian to Place an Ad for a Library Clerk – 2 days a week, part-time.
RESOLUTION # 60 - 26
Mr. Heid made a Motion to approve placing an ad for a Library Clerk and moved its passage with a Second Motion from Ms. Preuninger. With the Town Board Members voting in favor of the Resolution, it is carried. Ayes – 5 (Goodspeed, Bowers, Heid, Parobeck, Preuninger), Nays – 0.

9. Resolution in Support for the Creation of a North Creek Arts and Cultural District – Ms. Bowers – there’s a working group doing leg work to create this district, we are not asking for funding, not a tax district; the State is working on legislation right now to designate these areas; supporting it, not funding it; the district can then go to the State for support from them with potential grants, funding; we’re not promising anything financial; Ms. Preuninger – it does help with their grant applications and request for funding; Bruce Dunkley – what are the boundaries of the district; Kate Hartley– it’s still open at this point; Ms. Preuninger – all of the Town of Johnsbury; Ms. Bowers – it can be as large and small as the Town wants it to be; Bruce Dunkley – tax district? Ms. Bowers – it would never be a tax district; Supervisor Goodspeed – could we amend the Resolution to Johnsbury; Kate Hartley– we’ve had this discussion; Mr. Heid – there are

other areas mentioned; Supervisor Goodspeed – do you want us to table this until you decide the name; Bob Nettle– any development restrictions of the district? – it’s not a prohibitive designation. Table this Resolution

10. Resolution to Post a “No Fishing” sign prior to the Annual Fishing Derby

RESOLUTION # 61 – 26

Ms. Bowers made a Motion to approve posting a “no fishing” sign prior to the Annual Fishing Derby and moved its passage with a Second Motion from Mr. Parobeck. With the Town Board Members voting in favor of the Resolution, it is carried. Ayes – 5 (Goodspeed, Bowers, Heid, Parobeck, Preuninger), Nays – 0.

11. Supervisor’s Financial Reports

RESOLUTION # 62 – 26

Mr. Heid made a Motion to accept the Supervisor’s Financial Reports and moved its passage with a Second Motion from Ms. Preuninger. With the Town Board Members voting in favor of the Resolution, it is carried. Ayes – 5 (Goodspeed, Bowers, Heid, Parobeck, Preuninger), Nays – 0.

12. Warrants

RESOLUTION # 63 – 26

Ms. Preuninger made a Motion to accept the Warrants and moved its passage with a Second Motion from Mr. Parobeck. With the Town Board Members voting in favor of the Resolution, it is carried. Ayes – 5 (Goodspeed, Bowers, Heid, Parobeck, Preuninger), Nays – 0.

GENERAL FUND:	\$ 41,827.63
HIGHWAY FUND:	\$ 35,122.37
LIBRARY FUND:	\$ 2,774.66
FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT:	\$ 133,166.40
WATER DISTRICT:	\$ 5,787.11
TRUST & AGENCY:	<u>\$ 298,077.87</u>
TOTAL:	\$ 516,756.04

13. Committee Reports

Paul Heid

- Before the May Board Meeting we’ll have a Solid Waste Committee Meeting; I spoke with Pete Olesheski – all is going well; much neater and cleaner; railings are up.

Anna Bowers

- We are not actually installing a European roundabout – April Fools.
- Grant from the County for Mill Creek and Riverfront Park – hoping for a study.
- Comp Plan – 4/8/26 – 3:30 – 4:00, Ethan Gaddy; 4:00- funding opportunities – Sam from LGLCRPB; always open to the public.

- Occ Tax – workshop last night; notes are here for your use; 3:30 4/30/26 turn in to Joann at Town Hall; reach out with any questions; Bruce Dunkley – would hope the committee would address a budget; Occ Tax – how is Occ Tax collected – Ms. Bowers – it’s through the County and the State; Bruce Dunkley– they won’t address the short-term rental rules; Ms. Preuninger – they are getting direct reports from AirBNB and Vrbo, hoping people would be forthcoming with their rentals; Mr. Parobeck – I’m familiar with filing Occ Tax with the County, how long have they been collecting? Ms. Preuninger – 2019, as of 2025 it’s a law; Mr. Parobeck – what is the influx since it’s become a law; Ms. Preuninger – more than a 65% increase for the County; Bruce Ashline – short term rentals in the Town of Johnsbury? Supervisor Goodspeed – County would honor a request from me, but it’s confidential at this time; Mr. Heid – I searched Air BNB and Vrbo – the Town of Johnsbury is large; Kelly Nettle– does the money go to the County or the Town? Ms. Preuninger – it comes back to the Town; Supervisor Goodspeed – funding to events that were young and get them going; some were funded for several years; we’ll work on getting that number; Bruce Dunkley – is the Town getting paid quarterly? Ms. Preuninger – no twice a year.
- Child Care – 3/26/26 meeting – survey response has been low; it’s on the website, JCS site; possibly hosting a round table, hopefully in May; we’ll keep you updated.

Ms. Preuninger

- Senior Committee – met this morning; Adirondack Community Foundation – asked for \$4,450 – it was awarded for \$4,240; good participation with painting, yoga; newsletter is in the 3rd month; it’s very informational; planning Community Day – 6/10/26 – speakers, informational sessions; Thursday May 28, 2026 – Community Luncheon. PACE from Hudson Headwaters – Tracy spoke at this meeting; it’s an incredible program; on 6/10/26.

Mr. Parobeck

- Sewer – no updates; we’re having a meeting on Friday; with the ground thawing out; collection system redesign has been moving forward; laterals – most people have been contacted; rules and regs have been reviewed by legal and engineers are also working on changes; hopefully ready for the next meeting; May 6th – discussion of the law; Cedarwood has provided us with the operational agreement; I will send that out to all; we’ll have to have legal look at it as well.

14. Privilege of the Floor

- Judy Brown – coordinator for the Ski Bowl Garden; all of our paths will be redone and be handicap accessible; working on a stone wall between dump road and the park; Don Potter will be doing the wall for us, we could also use volunteers – plants need to be dug up, Fred Comstock has offered to help as well as Barton Mines for material; Supervisor Goodspeed – has Pete Olesheski been contacted on this? JudyBrown – yes. Beth Maher – what’s your timeline? Judy as soon as possible; we could use volunteers as well.

- Bruce Ashline – during jury duty people had to go downstairs at the Wevertown Community Center – it’s very, very moldy, and it’s got to be hard to heat; move the Library over to Tannery Pond – and use that space for the Court System; Supervisor Goodspeed – I have talked with the Town Judge and there are problems with the building.

15. Motion to Adjourn

RESOLUTION # 64 - 26

Ms. Bowers made a Motion to adjourn the Town Board Meeting at 8:21PM and moved its passage with a Second Motion from Ms. Preuninger. With the Town Board Members voting in favor of the Resolution, it is carried. Ayes – 5 (Goodspeed, Bowers, Heid, Parobeck, Preuninger), Nays – 0.

Prepared by:

Jean M. Comstock

Jean M. Comstock
Town Clerk

THE NEXT TOWN BOARD MEETING
WILL BE HELD ON
TUESDAY, APRIL 14, 2026 AT 7:00PM
AT TANNERY POND AND LIVESTREAM