

Sennett Town Board Organizational Meeting

Meeting minutes

Minutes of the Town of Sennett Town Board Organizational Meeting Held on Tuesday, January 2, 2025, at 5:30 PM at the Sennett Town Office Building.

Members Present: Thomas Blair, Supervisor
Michael Wellauer, Councilman
Edward Rizzo, Councilman
Kristopher LaPointe, Councilman
James Vivenzio, Councilman (arrived at 5:39 pm)

Also Present: Kris LaPointe, Water & Sewer Superintendent
Kathleen Salisbury, Town Clerk

Residents: Amy Rose

Call to Order

Supervisor Blair called the Sennett Town Board Organizational Meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance

Supervisor Blair led the Pledge of Allegiance, followed by a prayer.

Roll Call

The Town Clerk conducted a roll call. Present were Councilman Wellauer, Councilman Rizzo, Councilman LaPointe, and Supervisor Blair. Councilman Vivenzio was noted as "on the way."

Annual Organizational Appointments and Town Business

Planning Board

Supervisor Blair reported that Chris Peters had resigned from the Planning Board, leaving one opening for a term from 2025 through 2028. He mentioned that two alternates, Dan O'Hara and Jeana, were not returning for 2025. Mr. Edmunds, the Planning Board Chair, was seeking bios from interested candidates for the open positions.

The board discussed appointing Mr. Edmunds as Planning Board Chair and renewing Heather Edmunds as secretary for a one-year term.

*Motion made by Councilman LaPointe, seconded by Councilman Wellauer, to appoint Mr. Edmunds as Planning Board Chair for the indicated term and renew Heather Edmunds as secretary for a one-year term.
Motion passed 4-0, 1 absent.*

Zoning Board of Appeals (ZBA)

Supervisor Blair reported on the status of ZBA members. He noted that Mrs. Cool's term was up and Mr. Magdziak's status as an alternate needed confirmation. The board discussed appointing Mr. Magdziak as an alternate for one year and Heather Edmunds as secretary for one year.

Motion made by Councilman LaPointe, seconded by Councilman Rizzo, to appoint Mr. Magdziak as an alternate for one year and Heather Edmunds as secretary for one year for the ZBA. Motion passed 4-0.

Board of Assessment Review

Supervisor Blair reported that Sue Reardon had resigned from the Board of Assessment Review. He mentioned that they were looking for a new member, preferably someone with a real estate background.

Other Appointments and Business

Supervisor Blair went through a list of various appointments including the Ethics Board, Bookkeeper, Code Enforcement Officer, Deputy Highway Superintendent, Fire Marshal, Zoning Enforcement Officer, Historians, Constables, Court Clerks, Records Management Officer, Veteran Service Officer, Vital Statistics Officer, Dog Control Officer, Water Superintendent, Water and Sewer Billing Clerk, Deputy Town Clerk, Association of Towns Representative, Senior Director, County Planning Representative, Banks, Audit Firm, Insurance Company, Tompkins Health Consortium Representative, Owasco Lake Watershed Representative, and various consulting attorneys and engineers.

The board discussed the permit fee schedule, planning board attorney fee schedule, and planning board engineering fee schedule. They also discussed changing the regular meeting time from 6:30 PM to 6:00 PM.

Motion made by Councilman LaPointe to accept all appointments and approvals as presented, including the rollover of 2024 fee schedules for 2025, with the amendment of the \$20 return check fee. Seconded by Councilman Wellauer. Motion passed 5-0 after a roll call vote.

See full list at end of minutes.

Highway Superintendent Salary

The board engaged in a lengthy discussion about the salary for the newly elected Highway Superintendent, Brandon La Sagna. They debated the appropriate salary given the expectations for the position and Mr. La Sagna's commitment to fulfilling the duties while maintaining other employment.

Motion made by Councilman LaPointe, seconded by Councilman Vivenzio, to set the Highway Superintendent's salary at \$66,000 with a review after 60 calendar days and the potential for a \$2,000 increase. Motion passed 5-0 after a roll call vote.

Executive Session (if needed)

No executive session was held.

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn made by Councilman LaPointe, seconded by Councilman Rizzo. All in favor. Meeting adjourned at 6:18 p.m.

Next regular meeting: January 16, 2025

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen Salisbury, Town Clerk
Town of Sennett

2025 Appointments

SWEARING IN OFFICERS:

Brandon La Sagna, Highway Superintendent – January 1, 2025

Planning Board:

Robert Edmunds, Chairman	12/31/2024	01/01/025 – 12/31/2031 – NEW 7 YEAR TERM
Michael Szozda, Deputy Chairman	12/31/2025	01/01/2019 - 12/31/2025
Joe Giacona, Member	12/31/2029	01/01/2023 - 12/31/2029
Jerry Sankey, Member	12/31/2026	01/01/2020 - 12/31/2026
NEED NEW FULL MEMBER	12/31/2028	01/01/2022 - 12/31/2028
Jeremy Bacon, Member	12/31/2027	01/01/2021 - 12/31/2027
Gideon Driscoll, Member	12/31/2030	01/01/2024-12/31/2030
NEED NEW ALTERNATE	12/31/2024	01/01/2025 - 12/31/2025
NEED NEW ALTERNATE	12/31/2024	01/01/2025 - 12/31/2025
Heather Edmunds, Secretary	12/31/2024	01/01/2025 - 12/31/2025

PB Member and Two Alternate positions = remain open

Zoning Board of Appeals:

Dennis Sherry, Chairman	12/31/2028	01/01/2024 - 12/31/2028
David Sikora, Deputy Chairman	12/31/2026	01/01/2022 - 12/31/2026
Jeffrey Hofmann, Member	12/31/2027	01/01/2023 - 12/31/2027
Marion Cool, Member	12/31/2024	01/01/2020 - 12/31/2024 – Dennis is checking with her to see if she is renewing for another term
Bob Steiner, Member	12/31/2025	01/01/2021-12/31/2025
Edward Magdziak, Alternate	12/31/2024	01/01/2025 - 12/31/2025
NEED AN ALTERNATE		
Heather Edmunds, Secretary	12/31/2024	01/01/2025 - 12/31/2025

ZBA Alternate position = One remains open

Board of Assessment Review:

David Hearn, Member	9/30/2027	10/01/2023 - 09/30/2027
NEED NEW MEMBER	9/30/2023	
Arlie Howell, Member	9/30/2026	10/01/2022 - 09/30/2026
Aaron Burnham, Member	9/30/2025	10/01/2021 - 09/30/2025
Michael Cuddy, Member	9/30/2028	10/01/2024 – 09/30/2028

Ethics Board	To Be Advertised	
Bookkeeper	Cheri Major	01/01/2025 - 12/31/2025
Code Enforcement Officer	Harold Gilfus	01/01/2025 - 12/31/2025
Deputy Highway Superintendent	Bill Perkins	01/01/2025 - 12/31/2025
Fire Marshal	Harold Gilfus	01/01/2025 - 12/31/2025
Zoning Enforcement Officer	Jerry VeVone	01/01/2025 - 12/31/2025
Town Historians	Jim Vivencio & Scott Longtin	01/01/2025 - 12/31/2025
Constables	Charles Augello and Al Parsons	01/01/2025 - 12/31/2025
Court Clerks	Melissa Perkins and Kelly Snow	01/01/2025 - 12/31/2025
Records Management Officer	Kate Salisbury	01/01/2025 - 12/31/2025
Veteran Service Officer	Adam Jenks	01/01/2025 - 12/31/2025
Vital Statistics Registrar	Kate Salisbury	01/01/2025 - 12/31/2025
Deputy Vital Statistics Registrar	Jeana Leamy	01/01/2025 - 12/31/2025
Dog Control Officer	Suzie Tracy, Canine Cove	01/01/2025 - 12/31/2025
Water Superintendent	Kris A. LaPointe	01/01/2025 - 12/31/2025
Water and Sewer Billing Clerk	Kris A. LaPointe	01/01/2025 - 12/31/2025
Water and Sewer Clerk Collector	Kate Salisbury	01/01/2025 - 12/31/2025
Deputy Town Clerk	Jeana Leamy	01/01/2025 - 12/31/2025
Association of Towns Representative	Edward Rizzo	01/01/2025 - 12/31/2025
Sennett Seniors Director	Kathy Gray	01/01/2025 - 12/31/2025
Cayuga County Planning Rep	Mike Szozda	01/01/2025 - 12/31/2025

Banks	M&T, Savannah Bank, Lyons National Bank, Cayuga Lake	01/01/2025 - 12/31/2025
Audit Firm	Insero & Co.	01/01/2025 - 12/31/2025
Tompkins Health Consortium Rep.	Tom Blair	01/01/2025 - 12/31/2025
Owasco Lake Watershed Comm. Rep.	Tom Blair	01/01/2025 - 12/31/2025
Town Board Consulting Attorneys	Costello Cooney & Fearon, PLLC	01/01/2025 - 12/31/2025
Planning Board Consulting Attorney	Dominic Giacona	01/01/2025 - 12/31/2025
ZBA Consulting Attorneys	Costello Cooney & Fearon, PLLC	01/01/2025 - 12/31/2025
Consulting Engineer	MRB Group	01/01/2025 - 12/31/2025
Official Town Newspaper	Auburn Citizen	01/01/2025 - 12/31/2025

2025 Ad Hoc Committees

Parks and Recreation Committee
Sennett Seniors Committee
Veteran Affairs Committee

Other Approvals

Advance Conference Expenses = \$1,000.00
Mileage Reimbursement Rate = \$.70/mile (IRS rate)
Approval of bills lawfully due that may accrue a late charge or finance fees
(subject to review and recommendation of Supervisor and Bookkeeper)
Permit Fee Schedule
Planning Board Attorney Fees Schedule
Planning Board Engineering Fees Schedule
2025 Town Board Regular Meeting Nights – 3rd Thursdays at **6:00 p.m.** (note time change)
Return Check Fees \$20.00