

Town of Alfred
Regular Monthly Meeting
April 9, 2026

The monthly meeting of the Town Board was opened at 7:00 with the Pledge to the Flag. Board members present were: Supervisor Jesse Szalc, Brad Burdick, Kathleen Benzaquin, and Kate Rogers. Absent was Josh McGraw. Guests were Village of Alfred Mayor Jim Ninos, Tim Cochran and Mark Bloxson. Others present were Highway Superintendent Bob Halsey and Town Clerk Jan Burdick.

Tim Cochran, Chairman of the Planning Board. Mr. Cochran reported that he received information from Town Attorney Kanyuck regarding the format of what they can do and some changes. Want to put dual use in the forefront of the solar law so land can be returned to an Ag use to ag land. Also, would like to see a deposit required at the beginning of any solar project. If using lithium batteries, increase the deposit amount. General consensus was to leave Tier I alone since these area for personal but would like to be placed on side or back yard instead of front. Tier III are controlled by the State. Can't necessarily say no to more projects but can make more requirements. It was decided to put this on hold until the May meeting until recommendations are received from the Town Attorney. Brad Burdick asked if there is any mention of what happens if solar panels area destroyed during a hurricane or tornado? Mr. Cochran replied that if they are no longer functioning they would have to be decommissioned. If partial damage, the Town's Solar Codes Officer would need to inspect and enforce clean up.

Mr. Cochran noted that Shawn Hyland has resigned from the Planning Board so there is a vacancy. Supervisor Szalc stated that the next project is for Data Centers. The Town does have a 1-year Moratorium on them.

Police Report: Reviewed written report. 100% increase in tickets from March 2025. 122 traffic tickets issued. APD received the Agency of the Year through NYS STOP DWI. Chief VanSkiver has been invited to serve as the keynote speaker at the Governor's Traffic Safety Board dinner.

Approval of Minutes: The minutes of the March 12, 2026 meeting were moved for approval with a motion by Brad Burdick, seconded by Kathleen Benzaquin and carried 4-0.

Highway Report: Reviewed monthly report. Highway Superintendent Bob Halsey reported they are still sanding, filling in potholes and removing trees from ditches. Repairs to the 2014 Mack and Ram 5500. Also reported that starting in 2027 New Enterprise is thinking of not doing the salt/sand mixture. Right now, when he orders salt, it is delivered to New Enterprise and they mix it with the sand. If they no longer do that, the Town will have to figure out where to get it mixed.

MACE: (Municipal Association of Code Enforcement). Reviewed report.

Dog Control: Received 3 calls.

Monthly Report: Three line items to keep an eye on.

General Abstract #4-2026 Vouchers #39-51 in the amount of \$10847.29 in the General A Fund; Voucher #5 in the amount of \$3710.66 in the B Fund, #4 in the SF Fund in the amount of \$4083.33. These were approved with a motion by Jesse Szalc, seconded by Kathleen Benzaquin and carried 4-0.

Highway Abstract #4-2026 Vouchers #39-52 in the DA Fund in the amount of \$13579.47 Voucher #2-4 in the DB Fund in the amount of \$2854.00 were approved with a motion by Brad Burdick, seconded by Kate Rogers and carried 4-0.

Correspondence: Allegany County Planning Board approving the Local Law on a Moratorium for Data Centers.

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Supervisor's Report: Sewer study is requesting a letter from the Town stating the Town is interested in pursuing this study. Local Government Conference – June 4th at Houghton.

Planning Board members who attend will receive their required 4 hours of training.

Motion by Jesse Szalc to enter into Executive Session to discuss potential contract was seconded by Kate Rogers and carried 4-0. Executive session lasted from 7:55 pm to 8:23 pm and was adjourned with a motion by Jesse Szalc, seconded by Kathleen Benzaquin and carried 4-0.

A motion to adjourn was made at 8:25 pm by Brad Burdick, seconded by Kate Rogers and carried 4-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Janice L. Burdick
Town Clerk