

Presiding Supervisor Laura Elsbree called the Regular Town Board Meeting, County of Wayne, State of New York, held at the Walworth Town Hall, 3600 Lorraine Drive, Walworth, NY to order at 6:30 PM and led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

PRESENT:

Laura Elsbree	Supervisor
Amber Linson	Councilwoman
Craig Jeffers	Councilman
Daniel Botsford	Councilman
Alex Kelly	Councilman
Nadine Seppeler	Town Clerk

ABSENT Kevin Switzer - Highway Superintendent

OTHERS PRESENT: Parks and Facilities Superintendent – Mike Buckley, Confidential Secretary – Teresa Flye, Town Historian – Gene Bavis, News Reporter – Times of Wayne County, Sixteen (16) members of the public.

MINUTES

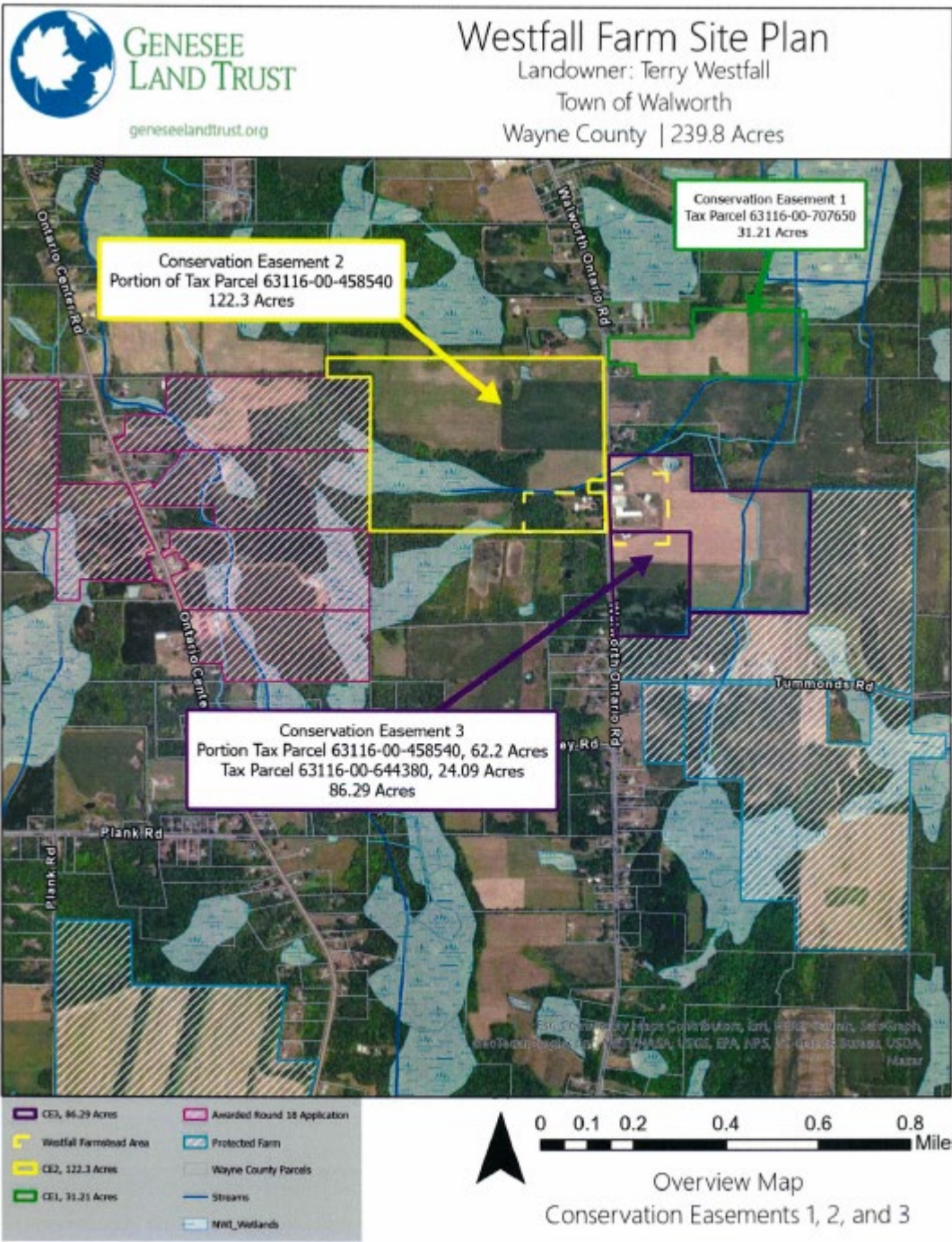
Motion by Council that the minutes of **March 19, 2026**, are approved as submitted by the Town Clerk. Seconded by Council.

Roll call vote:	Councilwoman Linson	Aye
	Councilman Jeffers	Aye
	Councilman Botsford	Aye
	Councilman Kelly	Aye
	Supervisor Elsbree	Aye

Motion carried.

PRESENTATIONS:

Genesee Land Trust – Amanda Grayson (rep of the Genesee Land Trust) spoke on behalf of Terry Westfall and his intentions of joining the Genessee Land Trust to preserve approximately 240 acres of farmland that he owns on Walworth – Ontario Road. There are already 2 neighboring farms (Amsler and Demink) that are a part of the Land Trust. She explained that the program is to protect wildlife habitat, wetlands, and woodlands to mitigate climate change and support local agriculture as well as connect people with nature. They have over 1400 acres of protected farmland within Wayne and surrounding counties. She then submitted a map (seen below) of the existing protected farmland on Walworth – Ontario Road as well as the proposed addition to the land trust.



REPORTS OF COMMITTEES (LIAISON/ELECTED OFFICIALS’ REPORTS):

Motion by Councilwoman Linson to approve the **February 2026** monthly report from the Town Clerk, Supervisor for the month of **January 2026**, and the **February 2026** monthly report from the Receiver of Taxes Seconded by Councilman Botsford.

Roll call vote:	Councilwoman Linson	Aye
	Councilman Jeffers	Aye
	Councilman Botsford	Aye
	Councilman Kelly	Aye
	Supervisor Elsbree	Aye

Motion carried.

TOWN CLERK –

- **Peddler / Solicitor Permits were issued to representatives from Renewal by Andersen for 2026. Should any residents have any concerns, Town Clerk Seppeler encourages them to contact her office.**
- **Tax collection is completed as of 3/31/2026. Any outstanding payments need to be made directly to the Wayne County Treasures Office. Settlement date with the County is set for April 15, 2026.**

COUNCILMAN KELLY- Reports that it is the season for Chicken BBQ – look out for the signs that will be posted throughout Town for any details.

COUNCILWOMAN LINSON – Nothing to report.

COUNCILMAN BOTSFORD – Nothing to report.

COUNCILMAN JEFFERS - Nothing to report.

SUPERVISOR ELSBREE- Reports that she will be away at training during the next Town Board meeting April 16, 2026.

RESOLUTIONS:

RESOLUTION 93-26 APPROVING “PURCHASE OF DEVELOPMENT RIGHTS AGREEMENT AND SALES CONTRACT” BETWEEN THE GENESEE LAND TRUST, INC., THE TOWN OF WALWORTH, AND TERRY WESTFALL FOR LANDS COMPRISING APPROXIMATELY 240 ACRES AT OR ABOUT WALWORTH-ONTARIO RD.

Councilwoman Linson offered the following Resolution and moved its adoption. Seconded by Councilman Botsford to wit:

WHEREAS, Terry Westfall (“Grantor”) has offered to grant Conservation Easements (the “Conservation Easements”) to the Town of Walworth (the “Town”) and the Genesee Land Trust, Inc. (the “Land Trust”) on lands (the “Land”) consisting of approximately 240 total acres in the Town of Walworth, in return for payment of \$635,325.00 (the “Purchase Price”) to be paid fully out of NYS grant proceeds as described herein, in order, in sum and substance, to preserve the use of the Land for agricultural purposes; and

WHEREAS, a proposed Purchase and Sale Agreement (the “Agreement”), by which the Town and the Land Trust would acquire 3 Conservation Easements in return for the Purchase Price, and the Land Trust would monitor the Conservation Easements, has been presented to the Town Board; and

WHEREAS, on or about July 6, 2023, the Walworth Town Board authorized the GLT to pursue a grant relative to such preservation efforts; and

WHEREAS, in order to pay the Purchase Price and other expenses associated with this transaction, the Town and the Land Trust have obtained a commitment in the form of the New York State Department of Agriculture and Market Farm Protection Implementation Grant (hereafter the “Grant”), and the Purchase Price will be paid in full via the proceeds of said Grant; and

WHEREAS, the project is a Type II pursuant to the State Environmental Quality Review Act and is thus not subject to review thereunder.

NOW THEREFORE IT IS RESOLVED that the Agreement, and the associated form proposed Conservation Easements, are hereby approved, and, the Supervisor is authorized to execute the

same, but with execution of the Conservation Easements being subject to and conditioned upon the terms (including contingencies) of the Agreement and the finalization of the same (e.g., the purchase price amount), including subject to attorney review, and the Town Board accepts the Grant on behalf of the Town, and authorizes execution of such other documentation as may be necessary to acquire the Conservation Easements in the Land.

Adopted this 2nd day of April, 2026 at a meeting of the Town Board.

Roll call vote:	Councilwoman Linson	Aye
	Councilman Jeffers	Aye
	Councilman Botsford	Aye
	Councilman Kelly	Nay
	Supervisor Elsbree	Aye

Resolution carried.

RESOLUTION 94-26 ABSTRACT OF CLAIMS FOR TOWN BOARD APPROVAL DATED APRIL 2, 2026

Councilwoman Linson offered the Resolution and moved its adoption. Seconded by Councilman Jeffers to wit:

Voucher numbers **2296 – 2322**

Are audited and approved for payment by the Town Board.

Abstract of audited vouchers is on file in the Town Clerk’s office.

Supervisor Elsbree motioned to amend the resolution seconded by Councilwoman Linson to include the Abstract of Claims Summary by Fund.

Role call on the amendment:	Councilwoman Linson	Aye
	Councilman Jeffers	Aye
	Councilman Botsford	Aye
	Councilman Kelly	Aye
	Supervisor Elsbree	Aye

Amendment carried.

Run: 4/02/2026 at 7:06 AM Page: 1
ABSTRACT OF CLAIMS FOR TOWN BOARD AUDIT DATED 4/16/2026
 Town of Walworth
 3600 Lorraine Drive

SUMMARY BY FUND

	<u>Prepays</u>	<u>Unpays</u>	<u>Totals</u>
AA - General Fund TOTAL	341.45	10,060.14	10,401.59
DA - Highway Fund TOTAL	0.00	31,681.78	31,681.78
SL - Special District - Lighting TOTAL	0.00	1,680.10	1,680.10
SM - Special District - Sidewalks TOTAL	0.00	238.82	238.82
SS - Special District - Sewer TOTAL	162.03	935,059.00	935,221.03
REPORT TOTAL	503.48	978,719.84	979,223.32

Adopted this 2nd day of March 2026 at the meeting of the Town Board.

Roll call vote: Councilwoman Linson Aye
 Councilman Jeffers Aye
 Councilman Botsford Aye
 Councilman Kelly Abstain
 Supervisor Elsbree Aye

Resolution carried.

RESOLUTION 95-26 TO AUTHORIZE TOWN SUPERVISOR TO SIGN WITH QUADIENT LEASING USA FOR THE LEASE OF POSTAGE METER MACHINE

Councilwoman Lison offered the following Resolution and moved its adoption. Seconded by Councilman Jeffers to wit:

WHEREAS, the current lease and maintenance fee for the postage meter machine for use at the Walworth Town Hall is about to expire and would like to continue to contract with Quadient Leasing USA; and

WHEREAS the Clerk to the Supervisor did solicit 3 quotes for the work per the procurement policy, as follows:

Quadient/Lineage (incl maintenance)	\$13677.93	63mos
Pitney Bowes (incl maintenance)	\$10316.40	60mos
Business.com	Did not respond to quote request	

WHEREAS, a quote was obtained for renewal of the lease and maintenance with Quadiant Leasing USA in the amount of \$217.11 per month for a term of 63 months; and

WHEREAS funds are available in AA.00.1670.401 for the current 2026 budget and the Town has been satisfied with the services provided;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Supervisor is hereby authorized to sign the lease with Quadiant Leasing USA for a postage meter machine with a cost of \$217.11 per month for a term of 63 months.

Adopted this 2nd day of April, 2026 at a meeting of the Town Board.

Roll call vote:	Councilwoman Linson	Aye
	Councilman Jeffers	Aye
	Councilman Botsford	Aye
	Councilman Kelly	Aye
	Supervisor Elsbree	Aye

Resolution carried.

RESOLUTION 96-26 TO ACKNOWLEDGE THE APPOINTMENT OF ANDREA COLOCILLO TO THE SECOND DEPUTY CLERK POSITION IN THE TOWN CLERK’S OFFICE, EFFECTIVE APRIL 6, 2026

Councilwoman Linson moved the following Resolution and moved its adoption. Seconded by Councilman Kelly to wit:

WHEREAS, the Town Clerk’s office has a need for a part time clerk; and

WHEREAS, the Town Clerk has budgeted for a part time clerk in the 2026 budget; and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Mrs. Andrea Colocillo is hired as part time clerk, on condition that the employee passes Alcohol and Drug screening as required by Town Policy, with a rate of \$17.94 per hour effective April 6, 2026.

Adopted this 2nd day of April, 2026 at the meeting of the Town Board.

Roll call vote:	Councilwoman Linson	Aye
	Councilman Jeffers	Aye
	Councilman Botsford	Aye
	Councilman Kelly	Aye
	Supervisor Elsbree	Aye

Resolution carried.

RESOLUTION 97-26 AUTHORIZE THE TOWN SUPERVISOR TO RENEW THE 2026 PREVENTATIVE MAINTENANCE SERVICE AGREEMENT WITH VAN HOOK SERVICE CO., INC. FOR THE TOWN HALL, GINEGAW LODGE, AND 3451 ONTARIO CENTER RD.

Councilwoman offered the following Resolution and moved its adoption. Seconded by Councilman Kelly to wit:

WHEREAS, the Town’s HVAC systems are currently serviced by Van Hook, and

WHEREAS, recurring service agreements are renewed by the Supervisor, and

WHEREAS, the service agreement renewal was received in the amount of \$5,135.00, and

WHEREAS, this is a budget item.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED the Town Supervisor is authorized to renew the 2026 preventative maintenance service agreement with Van Hook Service Co., Inc. for the Town Hall, Ginegaw Lodge, and 3451 Ontario Center Rd.’s HVAC systems.

Adopted this 2nd day of April, 2026 at a meeting of the Town Board.

Roll call vote:	Councilwoman Linson	Aye
	Councilman Jeffers	Aye
	Councilman Botsford	Aye
	Councilman Kelly	Aye
	Supervisor Elsbree	Aye

Resolution carried.

RESOLUTION 98-26 AUTHORIZE THE HIRE AND SET SALARY FOR TWO (2) SEASONAL PARK GROUNDSKEEPERS

Councilwoman Linson offered the following Resolution and moved its adoption. Seconded by Councilman Kelly to wit:

WHEREAS, annually the Town Board will hire and set the salary for seasonal employees; and

WHEREAS, the following rates were established by the 2026 budget and consistent increase from year to year as Collective Bargaining Employees’ Wages:

EMPLOYEE	POSITION	HOURS	WAGE
DAVE BARMASTER	SEASONAL PARKS GROUNDSKEEPER	40 HOURS / WEEK MAXIMUM – TOTAL 1280 HOURS	\$19.57
DAVE BARMASTER	SEASONAL PARKS GROUNDSKEEPER	LIGHT THE NIGHT	\$19.57
MARK KRITALL	SEASONAL PARKS GROUNDSKEEPER	40 HOURS / WEEK MAXIMUM – TOTAL 1280	\$19.57
MARK KRITALL	SEASONAL PARKS GROUNDSKEEPER	LIGHT THE NIGHT	\$19.57

WHEREAS, the calendar for seasonal employees is set through December 5, 2026, dependent on if budget has funding available.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED the hiring and the salaries of the two seasonal park laborers are authorized and set as presented, contingent on pre-hire drug and alcohol testing.

Adopted this 2nd day of April, 2026 at a meeting of the Town Board.

Roll call vote: Councilwoman Linson Aye
 Councilman Jeffers Aye
 Councilman Botsford Aye
 Councilman Kelly Aye
 Supervisor Elsbree Aye

Resolution carried.

RESOLUTION 99-26 ACCEPT THE RESIGNATION OF ERIC ROBERTS AS MOTOR EQUIPMENT OPERATOR EFFECTIVE APRIL 3, 2026

Councilwoman Linson offered the following Resolution and moved its adoption. Seconded by Councilman Kelly to wit:

WHEREAS, the following was submitted:

Dear Walworth town board members,

I am writing to formally resign from my position at the Walworth Highway Dept, effective April 3.

This was not an easy decision, as I truly value the work I do and the opportunity I've had here. However, I have decided to accept another opportunity that offers better compensation and aligns more closely with my current needs. I sincerely appreciate the experience and opportunities I've received during my time here.

Sincerely,
 Eric Roberts

WHEREAS, Eric Roberts has submitted his letter of resignation as Motor Equipment Operator for the Town of Walworth Highway Department, effective Friday April 3rd, 2026; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Walworth Highway Department will have a vacancy of a Motor Equipment Operator effective April 3rd 2026,

NOW THEREFORE IT BE RESOLVED, by the Town Board of the Town of Walworth that the resignation of Daniel Woodard be effective April 3rd, 2026.

Supervisor Elsbree motioned to amend the resolutions last section of “NOW THERE FOR”

Seconded by Councilwoman Linson to read:

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Town Board of the Town of Walworth that the resignation of Eric Roberts be effective April 3rd, 2026.

Role call on the amendment:	Councilwoman Linson	Aye
	Councilman Jeffers	Aye
	Councilman Botsford	Aye
	Councilman Kelly	Aye
	Supervisor Elsbree	Aye

Amendment carried.

Adopted this 2nd day of April, 2026 at a meeting of the Town Board.

Roll call vote:	Councilwoman Linson	Aye
	Councilman Jeffers	Aye
	Councilman Botsford	Aye
	Councilman Kelly	Aye
	Supervisor Elsbree	Aye

Resolution carried.

RESOLUTION 100-26 AUTHORIZATION TO FILL THE POSITION OF MOTOR EQUIPMENT OPERATOR WITHIN THE HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

Councilwoman Linson offered the following Resolution and moved its adoption. Seconded by Councilman Kelly to wit:

WHEREAS, a Motor Equipment Operator within the Highway Department has resigned effective April 3rd, 2026, leaving the position of Motor Equipment Operator vacant; and

WHEREAS, the Highway Superintendent has determined that filling the position is necessary to continue to provide efficient and effective operation of his department;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board hereby authorizes the Highway Superintendent to fill the vacant position as soon as possible.

Adopted this 2nd day of April, 2026 at a meeting of the Town Board.

Roll call vote:	Councilwoman Linson	Aye
	Councilman Jeffers	Aye
	Councilman Botsford	Aye
	Councilman Kelly	Aye
	Supervisor Elsbree	Aye

Resolution carried/failed.

RESOLUTION 101-26 TO SET A PUBLIC HEARING FOR THE APPROVAL OF A CABLE TELEVISION AGREEMENT BETWEEN SPECTRUM NORTHEAST, LLC AND THE TOWN OF WALWORTH

Councilwoman Linson offered the following Resolution and moved its adoption. Seconded by Councilman Kelly to wit

WHEREAS, the Town of Walworth is authorized to grant franchises to construct and operate cable systems using public rights-of-way under federal and state regulations; and

WHEREAS, Spectrum Northeast, LLC has requested the renewal of its cable television franchise; and

WHEREAS, the Town Board has reviewed the proposed agreement to replace the previous agreement; and

WHEREAS, a public hearing is required for the renewal of said agreement in accordance with law.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board sets a Public Hearing for **April 16, 2026 at 6:30PM** at the Walworth Town Hall 3600 Lorraine Dive, Walworth NY to consider the agreement with Spectrum; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that all persons may submit oral or written comments at this hearing; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the proposed agreement is available for review in the Town Clerk's office and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Town Clerk is directed to publish notice of this hearing as required by law.

Councilwoman Linson motioned to table the resolution till the April 16th Regular meeting to have the language within the agreement reviewed and to be sure it is compliant with our Town Code. Seconded by Councilman Kelly.

Tabled this 2nd day of April, 2026 at a meeting of the Town Board.

Roll call vote:	Councilwoman Linson	Aye
	Councilman Jeffers	Aye
	Councilman Botsford	Aye
	Councilman Kelly	Aye
	Supervisor Elsbree	Aye

Resolution tabled.

COMMUNICATIONS:

- **Building Department Monthly Report – February 2026**
- **Highway Department Monthly Report – March 2026**
- **Parks and Facilities Monthly Report – March 2026**
- **Letter of Resignation**
- **Letter from Charter Communications**
- **Franchise Agreement – Charter Communications**

TOWN BOARD REGULAR SCHEDULED MEETINGS:

DATE	TIME	MEETING TYPE
APRIL 16	6:30 PM	REGULAR
MAY 7	6:30 PM	REGULAR
MAY 21	6:30 PM	REGULAR

NEW AND OTHER BUSINESS:

Discussion ensued on the Town Board’s visit to the old Walworth Sewer Plant. They stated that they familiarized themselves with the buildings that the Town still owns. The Town Engineer MRB will be conducting their structural integrity assessment. They stated that the buildings as they are now provide lots of storage space for the Parks Department. They also mentioned that they need a plan so that they can properly budget any changes into the 2027 budget. MRB will hopefully provide guidance as to what will be best. They also mentioned the leased portion of the property that Wayne County Water and Sewer have as well as the possibility of providing an area to wash Highway Trucks since there is a sewer line already there.

Supervisor Elsbree then brought up that the Code Enforcement Officer position has been posted on Indeed.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION- Phil Williamson read out loud and submitted the following:

My concern continues to be; *Building Department Staff, Planning and Town Board Members* not knowing what needs to be known to hear and make determinations regarding the application from “Windward Lake Homes LLC for a 47 lot Subdivision and Site Plan Approval at 1 Country Club Drive, Town of Walworth.”

At the March 5, 2026 Town Board Meeting: Stephanie Follette asked about the Town Board initiating a moratorium. Councilwoman Linson was quick to explain, “that if we were to do a moratorium it would be blanket throughout the Town, not in response to any individual project but stop everyone from doing anything, the Board is always considering all options.”

Accepting the statement without comment indicated the other members of the board did not know her statement was incorrect.

The: “Department of State Local Government, publication, “Land Use Moratoria” by “James A. Coon Local Government Technical Series” page 2, entitled “**The Concept of Moratoria**” para 2, states: The moratorium may be **general**, imposing a ban on **all development approvals throughout the community, or specific to one land use or to a particular zoning district.**

I am formally requesting adding the option to enact a “Moratorium” on the application from Windward Lake Homes LLC, for a 47 lot Subdivision and Site Plan Approval at 1 Country Club Drive, Town of Walworth, to the agenda of the April 16, 2026 regularly scheduled meeting. For CONSIDERATION.

A moratorium will allow time for those who need to know, time to get to know what they don't know, before hearing and making decisions regarding:

- **Encouraging** the most appropriate use of the land in the community in order to conserve and enhance the value of property; (Adding houses with back yards facing existing front yards will not conserve or enhance the value of existing properties).
 - **Creating and preserving** a suitable system of open spaces and recreation areas to protect and enhance existing wooded areas, wetlands and waterways. (Reducing (37 years) of open space will not create or preserve the existing system).
 - **Effectuating a development plan** designed to conserve the use of land and minimize the cost of municipal services; (Adding roads and infrastructure will not conserve the use of land, but they will increase the costs for municipal services).
 - **Assuring privacy** for residences and freedom from nuisances and things harmful to the senses; (Looking into backyards and how they are used, landscaped and maintained vs front yards, the present freedom of looking
-

at well designed open space and the unobstructed view of nature will be taken away, harming the sense of sight. In addition being subjected to smoke from grills, fire pits etc. and associated noises from the added residential sites will create a nuisance which will harm the senses of hearing and smell).

- **Enhancing the aesthetic** aspect of the entire community. (More houses, vehicles, commercial traffic, people, associated activities, noise and less open and green space will negatively impact the existing aesthetic aspects of the community).

I suggest requiring the Attorney for the Town attend all Town and Planning Board meetings to provide guidance and procedural direction as needed.

Without fear of contradiction, I will state, the community demands and will accept nothing less than “Knowledgable persons, Integrity, Responsibility and Accountability” from our Elected Board Members, Appointed Board Members and Building Department Staff.

Quote from Ben Franklin

“Well done is better than well said.”

Thank You
Phil Williamson
727 Wood Hill Drive
4/2/2026

Gene Bavis, Town of Walworth Historian: Invited the public to the Lodge at Ginegaw Park on April 20, 2026, for a guest speaker and previous Town Historian for the Town of Ontario to hear about the history of the Town of Ontario. He reminded us that the Town of Walworth used to be a part of the Town of Ontario before they split off. He also mentioned that the Historical Society is seeking nominations for their Community Service Award Program. They will choose the individual at their annual meeting to take place on May 18th. He also mentioned that they held a history on Dairy Farming in Walworth program on March 16th that had a good turnout. He asked the public if they have any knowledge of the history of dairy farming in the Town of Walworth to please share that with the historical society. He then went on to mention to the Cemetery Committee that he is a part of, that they are gearing up for their first meeting of 2026. They would like to initiate a headstone cleaning effort within our Town owned cemeteries, focusing on Veterans Gaves first. Finally, he shared that he is now the Regional Coordinator for the Association of Public Historians and has a meeting with them on April 18th. He is also part of the Cobblestone Society, and they will be meeting on April 20th.

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion by Councilwoman Linson to adjourn. Seconded by Councilman Kelly.

Roll call vote:	Councilwoman Linson	Aye
	Councilman Jeffers	Aye
	Councilman Botsford	Aye
	Councilman Kelly	Aye
	Supervisor Elsbree	Aye

Motion carried.

Time: 7:08PM

Respectfully Submitted,
Nadine Seppeler
Town Clerk