**TOWN OF PENDLETON**
**WORK SESSION**
November 24, 2025

A Work Session of the Town Board of the Town of Pendleton was held at the Town Hall, 6570 Campbell Blvd., Pendleton, NY, on the 24th day of November, 2025 at 7:00 p.m. The meeting was open to the public.

Supervisor Maerten called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m.

Supervisor Maerten, Councilman Buechler, Councilman Lombardo, Councilman Hickman and Councilman Rumbold were present.

Also present:
Deborah Maurer – Town Clerk
Dave Fischer – Highway/Water & Sewer Superintendent
Claude Joerg – Town Attorney
Dave Britton – Town Engineer

There were five residents in attendance.

RESOLUTION 307-25
**PUBLIC HEARING MINUTES – NOVEMBER 6, 2025**
Motion by Councilman Lombardo, seconded by Councilman Buechler, the following resolution was
ADOPTED: Ayes 5 Maerten, Buechler, Hickman, Lombardo, Rumbold
Nays 0
BE IT RESOLVED, by the Town Board of the Town of Pendleton on this 24th day of November 2025, that the meeting minutes for the Public Hearing held on November 6, 2025, are approved as presented by Town Clerk Maurer.

RESOLUTION 308-25
**MEETING MINUTES – NOVEMBER 10, 2025**
Motion by Councilman Buechler, seconded by Councilman Rumbold, the following resolution was
ADOPTED: Ayes 5 Maerten, Buechler, Hickman, Lombardo, Rumbold
Nays 0
BE IT RESOLVED, by the Town Board of the Town of Pendleton on this 24th day of November 2025, that the meeting minutes for the Regular Meeting held on November 10, 2025, are approved as presented by Town Clerk Maurer.

RESOLUTION 309-25
**ABSTRACT #22**
Motion by Councilman Buechler, seconded by Councilman Lombardo, the following resolution was
ADOPTED: Ayes 5 Maerten, Buechler, Hickman, Lombardo, Rumbold
Nays 0
BE IT RESOLVED, by the Town Board of the Town of Pendleton on this 24th day of November 2025, to authorize payment of Voucher Abstract #22, Vouchers #25-01184 to #25-01238, to be paid on November 26, 2025 as follows:

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| General Fund | $ | 26,885.22 |
| Highway | $ | 23,684.13 |
| Capital Funds | $ | 225,201.50 |
| Fire District | $ | 4,220.00 |
| Refuse | $ | 50,688.79 |
| Sewer | $ | 19,092.98 |
| Water | $ | 22,287.27 |
| Trust & Agency | $ | 16,775.50 |
| Total | $ | 388,835.39 |

RESOLUTION 310-25
**AUTHORIZATION OF STIPEND FOR DECLINATION OF HEALTH INSURANCE**
Motion by Councilman Lombardo, seconded by Councilman Hickman, the following resolution was
ADOPTED: Ayes 5 Maerten, Buechler, Hickman, Lombardo, Rumbold
Nays 0
WHEREAS, full-time employees of the Town of Pendleton not subject to a Collective Bargaining Agreement are eligible for health insurance coverage paid for by the Town; and

WHEREAS, such employees eligible for health insurance offered by the Town of Pendleton may choose to decline this coverage due to existing coverage available through a spouse or otherwise; and

WHEREAS, employees declining health insurance coverage provides substantial savings to the Town of Pendleton.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Town Board of the Town of Pendleton on this 24th day of November 2025, that employees declining health insurance coverage for the 2026 calendar year shall be paid a $1,000.00 stipend in the last pay cycle of 2026, provided eligible employees sign and return a declination of health insurance form prior to January 1, 2026.

FURTHER, BE IT RESOLVED, that this resolution shall only apply to employees not represented by a Collective Bargaining Agreement. This resolution shall take effect immediately.

RESOLUTION 311-25
**TEMPORARY APPOINTMENT TO POSITION – TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE**
Motion by Councilman Buechler, seconded by Councilman Rumbold, the following resolution was
ADOPTED: Ayes 5 Maerten, Buechler, Hickman, Lombardo, Rumbold
Nays 0
BE IT RESOLVED, by the Town Board of the Town of Pendleton on this 24th day of November 2025, that Tracy Graczyk is appointed to the part-time temporary position of Clerk assigned to the Town Clerk's Office at a rate of compensation of $21.00 per hour.

FURTHER, BE IT RESOLVED, that this appointment is approved from the date of approval of this resolution to January 5, 2026. This resolution shall take effect immediately.

RESOLUTION 312-25
**MODIFICATION OF APPOINTMENT TO POSITION – TOWN PROSECUTING ATTORNEY**
Motion by Councilman Hickman, seconded by Councilman Lombardo, the following resolution was
ADOPTED: Ayes 5 Maerten, Buechler, Hickman, Lombardo, Rumbold
Nays 0
WHEREAS, the Town Board of the Town of Pendleton appointed an individual to the title of Town Prosecuting Attorney by resolution at the November 10, 2025 monthly meeting; and

WHEREAS, the approved resolution detailed the duties of the position of Town Prosecuting Attorney related to efforts generally focused on advising the Planning Board, Zoning Board of Appeals, Building Department, and Town Board; and

WHEREAS, it is expected that the incumbent in this position will continue duties related to prosecution of matters of the Town Court; and

WHEREAS, the compensation for this position was not clearly stated in the authorizing resolution.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Town Board of the Town of Pendleton on this 24th day of November 2025, that Theodore A. Joerg has been appointed to the position of Town Prosecuting Attorney at a rate of compensation of $20,000.00 annually and this position shall also continue to be compensated in the amount approved for the duties of Town Prosecutor. This resolution shall be considered effective November 10, 2025.

RESOLUTION 313-25
**2025 BUDGET AMENDMENT AND TRANSFER**
Motion by Councilman Rumbold, seconded by Councilman Hickman, the following resolution was
ADOPTED: Ayes 5 Maerten, Buechler, Hickman, Lombardo, Rumbold
Nays 0
BE IT RESOLVED, by the Town Board of the Town of Pendleton on this 24th day of November 2025, that the following amendment to the 2025 budget is approved:

Add budget line Town Prosecuting Attorney (A1420.0103) in the amount of $3,500.00.

Transfer $3,500.00 from Contingency (A1990.0400) to Town Prosecuting Attorney (A1420.0103).

This resolution shall take effect immediately.

RESOLUTION 314-25
**ACCEPTANCE OF ENGAGEMENT LETTER – HODGSON RUSS**
Motion by Councilman Lombardo, seconded by Councilman Buechler, the following resolution was
ADOPTED: Ayes 5 Maerten, Buechler, Hickman, Lombardo, Rumbold
Nays 0
WHEREAS, the Town Board of the Town of Pendleton endeavors to review the current funds with a designation indicating a possible reserve; and

WHEREAS, such review will potentially result in recommendations to modify such funds indicated as potential reserves; and

WHEREAS, proper legal consultation will be necessary in the preparation of action by the Town Board resulting from this review.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Town Board of the Town of Pendleton on this 24th day of November 2025, that the engagement letter submitted by Hodgson Russ for the work detailed in this resolution is accepted and approved. This resolution shall take effect immediately.

**BOARD DISCUSSION**

Councilman Buechler reported that he, Councilman Rumbold, and Councilman-Elect Tim Lukasik attended the recent Recreation Committee meeting held at the Community Center. He noted that the committee discussed the need to have the floors finished and confirmed that the Holiday Event is scheduled for Tuesday, December 9th, from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

Councilman Rumbold reported that he met with Town Clerk Maurer, Councilman Buechler, and Tom Quattrini from the Niagara County IT Department to review the pending 2026 contract and to discuss ongoing projects.

Engineer Britton provided the Board with proposed layouts for new pickleball and tennis courts at both the Town Park and Depeau Park. The Board reviewed the various configurations presented. It is anticipated that the project will need to be completed in two phases due to the estimated costs, with Depeau Park requiring more extensive work than the Town Park courts. Engineer Britton also reviewed the bid process, and a lengthy discussion followed regarding the available options. He will prepare the request for proposals so they are ready to be released for bid.

Town Clerk Maurer reported that the Town's website has been down and that she is working with the website administrator to restore it. She also informed Town Attorney Joerg that she has been unable to file the Local Law related to Proposal Three, Town Proposition One—regarding the amendment to the Defined Benefit Service Award Program—because the election results have not yet been certified. Lastly, she asked about the status of the Community Center Reservation Policy. Councilman Hickman responded that he will circulate the draft again and anticipates placing it on the December meeting agenda for approval.

Town Attorney Joerg reported that the lawsuit filed by Niagara Pole Barn has been dismissed by the court.

**PUBLIC REMARKS/COMMENTS**

The first speaker commented on the amendment to the 2025 budget for the Town Prosecuting Attorney and the anticipated need for a similar amendment to the 2026 budget, questioning the overall budgeting process.

Another resident noted that the engagement letter/contract from HR had not been published and expressed uncertainty about what the previously approved resolution actually authorized, stating it was not clear to the public. This resident also raised concerns regarding payments exceeding $225,000.00 from the H Fund that were not included in the budget.

Lastly, a resident referenced a new NYS DOT TAP grant opportunity to complete the trail from Meyer Road to Killian Road and encouraged the Board to consider applying.

No other public remarks or comments were made.

Motion by Councilman Buechler, seconded by Councilman Rumbold, to adjourn from the Work Session at 7:55 p.m. Motion carried.

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Deborah K. Maurer, Town Clerk