Town of Starkey
Regular Meeting
January 9, 2025

Council Members Present:	George Lawson, Supervisor	Jeremy Hall, Councilperson
	Caryl Sutterby, Councilperson	Julie Dunkelberger, Councilperson
Council Member Absent:	John Socha, Councilperson	
Recording Secretary:	Candace Iszard, Town Clerk	
In-Person Attendees:	Ralph Warren, Highway Superintendent	Robert Druker, III, Resident
	Robert Cooke, Resident	Tim Senavaitis, Planning Board
	Teressa Grady, Assessor's Office	Brian Shriver, Code Office
Zoom Attendees:	NONE	

The regular Town of Starkey Board meeting was called to order at 6:34 PM by George Lawson, Supervisor.
Pledge of Allegiance- George Lawson led the pledge of allegiance.

Approval of Minutes
Minutes of the December 12, 2024, regular meeting were approved by a motion made by Caryl Sutterby, councilperson, seconded by Julie Dunkelberger, councilperson.
*All in favor; none opposed- Motion carried.
Public Comment-
Audit of Claims

On a motion by Julie Dunkelberger, councilperson and seconded by Caryl Sutterby, councilperson
2024 Abstract #014 December 12, 2024 Vouchers Number: 396 through 422
The vouchers contained in the above-mentioned abstract were reviewed by the Town Board and are authorized for payment in the amount totaling $59,288.61.
2025 Abstract #001 January 9, 2025 Vouchers Number: 1 through 19
The vouchers contained in the above-mentioned abstract were reviewed by the Town Board and are authorized for payment in the amount totaling $366,921.14.
*All in favor; none opposed- Motion carried.

Department Reports
Assessor's Report—Teresa Grady, Assessor Aide
- No report provided.

Bookkeeping Report
- Financial Reports received by the board members.

Court Report- Carrie Wood, Justice
- No report provided.

Clerk Report– Candace Iszard
- The Clerk Report was presented to the board. Laserfiche, the record retention software that we obtained with the LGMIRF Grant, will host training at Yates County on January 14th. The Townhall will be closing early for the staff to attend.

Code Enforcement Report—Brian Shriver
- The Code Enforcement Report was presented to the board. The Yates County grant for Wastewater systems has been exhausted, and there is now a waiting list.

Highway Report– Ralph Warren
- Ralph continues to work on tree removal services. The goal is to obtain a fixed contract price for 2025, either by the day or per tree. George Lawson asks how Yates County handles tree removal and if we can utilize the county services as a shared service. Ralph will investigate this option.
- Replacing the next 10-wheeler, Ralph discussed that the original conversation regarding electric truck mandate, it was thought that due to the nature of the highway use being emergency services, we would be able to order a diesel, with a waiver, however the new regulations from the state will require that we submit a letter to the NYS Department of Transportation and Truck Manufacture. Ralph and George will work to get this letter submitted, so we will maintain our position for estimated truck purchase in 2026.
- Tree removal, Ralph questions the existing procurement policy, and if the removal of trees is deemed as an emergency. George states that the Town does not remove trees, unless they pose a hazard, therefore tree removal would be an emergency service.

Final

- Highway Barn heaters that were replaced last year; There is a flaw in the design, that is resulting in the separation at the clamps during the heating and cooling process. These clamps are designed to hold the sections together. CB Butler has been back to work on this issue.

Supervisor Report– George Lawson

- The **Salt Barn-** paperwork has been submitted for reimbursement. Final inspection is complete.
- **Junkyard Law-** George has reached out to the Town Attorney, regarding how to proceed using the new Junkyard Law to require parcel cleanup of abandoned vehicles. George suggests that when a property is sited for non-compliance, the Town could provide a packet including the local law, highlighting the criteria of junk, and a list of vendors who can/will remove "junk" to help the owner bring their property into compliance. He states, "instead of getting into fines, let's work with the people to offer solutions for the changes we want." Julie Dunkelberger suggests a town wide cleanup day, where some of the problem items can be brought to lessen the financial burden on the property owner that may not have lots of items, but this could help to prevent the buildup over time.
- **Sean Socha**- The appeal case is due in court on February 26, 2025. To prevent a massive gathering in the court room, Goerge states that it will be lived streamed. He will provide the link for those who are interested in watching.

Brush Pile- George Lawson

- The Board discussed ideas on what we can do with Starkey's brush pile, George states that in Barrington, contactors are not permitted to dump brush unless it has been previously chipped off site. There was a discussion on how we can manage this, and we will work on installing a gate to control dumping.

Flood Plain

- Brian with the help of George and Amy Fleet have been working on the FEMA Flood Plain changes. Next month we will be discussing the Local Law for the Flood Plains.

Pro-Housing Community

- Brian discussed that the Pro-Housing application has been completed. Due to the minimum amount of growth, the Town will need to pass a resolution to proceed (the sample was presented for review and will be discussed next month). George Lawson stated that he feels that the Town is not currently prohibiting multifamily housing. Terri Grady states that NYS has tax exemptions for multifamily dwelling and is encouraging them.

Budget Amendments and Transfers

On a motion by Julie Dunkelberger, seconded by Jeremy Hall, the following resolution was
ADOPTED Ayes 4 George Lawson, Jeremy Hall, Caryl Sutterby, Julie Dunkelberger
Nays 0

RESOLVED that the Town Board, Town of Starkey, does hereby approve the following 2024-year end budget transfers:

To cover Zoning Fees:	Decrease B8010.11 – Scanning Technician	$70
	Increase B8010.4 – Zoning C.E .	$70
To cover Attorney Fees:	Decrease B8010.11 – Scanning Technician	$2292
	Increase B1420.4 – Attorney C.E.	$2292
To cover Attorney Fees:	Decrease B8010.12 – Zoning Board P.S.	$1770
	Increase B1420.4 – Attorney C.E.	$1770
To cover Attorney Fees:	Decrease B8020.4 – Planning C.E.	$1470
	Increase B1420.4 – Attorney C.E.	$1470
To cover Attorney Fees:	Increase B2110 – Zoning Fees	$10011
	Increase B1420.4 -Attorney C.E.	$10011
To cover Attorney Fees:	Increase B2401 – Interest & Earnings	$1795
	Increase B1420.4 -Attorney C.E.	$1795
To cover Youth Program:	Decrease B8020.1 – Planning Clerk	$51
	Increase B7310.4 – Youth Program	$51
To cover Planning Board:	Decrease B8020.1 – Planning Clerk	$140
	Increase B8020.11 – Planning Board	$140
To cover Uniforms:	Decrease DA5142.4 – Snow Removal C.E.	$20
	Increase DA9089.8 – Uniforms	$20

Final

Resolutions

Resolution 1-2025
Board of Assessment Review
Motion by: George Lawson, Supervisor Seconded: Caryl Sutterby, Councilmember
To appoint Martin Gibson to the Board of Assessment Review to fill the vacant term ending – 9/30/2026.
Duly put to a vote as follows:
Ayes: George Lawson, Julie Dunkelberger, Caryl Sutterby, Jeremy Hall Noes: None
Abstentions: None **Appr: 4-0**

Resolution 2-2025
Letter of Authorization for Truck Purchase
Motion by: George Lawson, Supervisor Seconded: Jeremy Hall, Councilmember
To sign a letter to the DEC for authorization to purchase a diesel truck for emergency services.
Duly put to a vote as follows:
Ayes: George Lawson, Julie Dunkelberger, Caryl Sutterby, Jeremy Hall Noes: None
Abstentions: None **Appr: 4-0**

Resolution 3-2025
Motion By: Julie Dunkelberger Second By: Jeremy Hall

Approval of the 2025 Amendment to the Municipal Cooperative Agreement for the Greater Tompkins County Municipal Health Insurance Consortium

WHEREAS, the Town of Starkey (municipality) applied for membership in the Greater Tompkins County Municipal Health Insurance Consortium (the "Consortium"), a municipal cooperative organized under Article 47 of the New York Insurance Law, and

WHEREAS, the municipal participants in the Consortium, including this body, have approved and executed a certain Municipal Cooperation Agreement (the "Agreement"; effective date of October 1, 2010), and

WHEREAS, the Town of Starkey (municipality) received notification of approval by the Consortium Board of Directors to become a Participant in the Consortium effective January 1, 2025, now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Town of Starkey (municipality) herby accepts membership effective January 1, 2025 and authorizes the Chief Elected Official to sign the 2025 Amendment to the Municipal Cooperative Agreement of the Greater Tompkins County Municipal Health Insurance Consortium as recommended by the Board of Directors.

* * * * * * * * **2025 Municipal Cooperative Agreement Signature** * * * * * * * *

In Witness Whereof, the undersigned has caused this Agreement to be executed as of the date adopted by the Greater Tompkins County Municipal Health Insurance Consortium Board of Directors and subsequently adopted by the Municipal Corporation named below. Town of Starkey
Municipal Corporation

George E. Lawson — Printed Name of Chief Elected Official or Chief Officer
Supervisor — Title


Signature

January 9, 2025
Date

Duly put to a vote as follows:
Ayes: George Lawson, Julie Dunkelberger, Caryl Sutterby, Jeremy Hall Noes: None
Abstentions: None **Appr: 4-0**

The minutes of this meeting will be offered for approval at the next regular Town Board meeting, February 13, 2025, at 6:30 PM. The meeting was adjourned at 7:45 PM by George Lawson.



Candace J. Iszard, Starkey Town Clerk