

# TOWN OF BROADALBIN

201 UNION MILLS RD  
BROADALBIN, NY 12025  
518-883-4657  
REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING  
March 11, 2025

## TOWN OFFICIALS

Town Supervisor- Joseph DiGiacomo-present  
Town Board Member- Doug Kissinger-present  
Town Board Member – David Bardascini-present  
Town Board Member – David Bogardus-absent  
Town Board Member – Mike Rorick-present

Call to Order – Supervisor Joseph DiGiacomo 6:30 pm

Pledge of Allegiance was said in unison.

Roll Call – was taken by Supervisor DiGiacomo, Town Clerk absent

## Public Comment

Laurie Bollock stated she would like to present the Board with a letter of interest for the Vacancy on the Board of Assessment Review.

-Supervisor DiGiacomo stated he will accept the letter of interest but stated, as per the County, this position will be for 2026.

**Speaker** -Sheriff Giardino explained the Constable Position for the Town of Broadalbin Court, that if the Constables wear their uniform, it becomes a County Liability. He stated he talked to Judge Gilston about this explaining they may not be covered under Workmen's Comp. if anything happened. Supervisor DiGiacomo stated the Town pays \$80 per session. Sheriff Giardino proposed as per contract, 2 deputies for 3 hours twice a month and 1 deputy one time for small claims. A deputy billed at part-time rate and 1 billed at time and a half. He can't pull a Deputy from the road. (Both with benefits and 2% county admin fee).

Part-timer 7 hours \$225 (If a deputy is at a lower rate of pay then it would be based on that rate.)

Full-timer 6 hours \$425

Councilman Bardascini questioned a past estimate of using deputies, which would be @ \$60/hour and pay for workmen's comp. etc.

-Supervisor DiGiacomo stated we are paying that now, they are on our payroll.

-Sheriff Giardino stated he didn't know they were on our payroll but still believes this gives them more protection if they get hurt. If they don't wear uniforms and use equipment they can't be here, since the County pays for all equipment.

-Councilman Bardascini questioned staffing; will our Court always have coverage? Are all the Towns going to this? Sheriff Giardino stated all but Mayfield.

-Supervisor DiGiacomo stated he asked Judge Gilston to be here tonight but he declined, stating a Board Decision.

Cont.

After Board discussion the Board agreed to approve the inter-municipal agreement between Fulton County and Town of Broadalbin for Constable Coverage in the Town of Broadalbin.

On a motion made by Councilman Bardascini and seconded by Councilman Rorick  
A motion to enter an Inter-Municipal Agreement between Fulton County and Town of Broadalbin to be included in these minutes, to sign the contract that Sheriff Giardino presented this evening for Court Security.

Discussion: This contract will begin March 20, 2025.

VOTE: DiGiacomo-aye Bardascini-aye Kissinger-aye Bogardus-absent Rorick-aye

**Acceptance of Minutes from previous meeting.**

On a motion made by Councilman Kissinger and seconded by Councilman Bardascini  
**RESOLUTION #2025-60 APPROVAL OF SUBMITTED MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETING**  
BE IT RESOLVED that the Town of Broadalbin Town Board approved the submitted minutes from the previous meeting February 11, 2025 as submitted.

No further discussion: nothing at this time.

VOTE: DiGiacomo-aye Kissinger-aye Bardascini-aye Bogardus-absent Rorick-aye

**DEPARTMENT REPORTS**

**Town Supervisor**

-Supervisor DiGiacomo stated he received a thank you letter from the Library for our donation for 2025.

-He also received a letter from the Dept. of Treasury saying it was their first letter to recover the ARPA money of \$403,000. Apparently no communication or reports were done for the years of 2022, 2023 or 2024 and they were ready to take our money back. Supervisor DiGiacomo said he looked into websites and still couldn't get in so he contacted Dr. Harry Brooks and the Mohawk Valley Economic Development District Rep. The reports were caught up and we should be good. Apparently the problem was phone calls that were never returned and an e-mail that no one had the password to.

-NYMIR recently sent an e-mail with recommendations of improvements for us to do. Some items are rather picky but one they suggested we put a sign up on the Town Park Playground stating no one over twelve(12) be allowed to play on the playground. A copy of the recommendations will be given to each Board Member for review.

-At the County meeting recently it was stated that our Social Service Programs resulted in an increase of @ 30% compared to 2024's budget.

**Assessor** -Marti Young sent a written report stating that the office has been busy with Star Enhanced Exemptions and exemptions that were not completed in the Fall.



**Building and Grounds** –Councilman Rorick stated light bulbs have been replaced by the Highway Crew with ten more to go, since we had to buy more bulbs. The ladies room fan still needs to be cleaned or replaced which he will get to soon.

-Supervisor DiGiacomo stated he recently replaced our Town Hall Flag since it was pretty tattered during this winter weather. Last Saturday our tattered flag was taken down prior to him putting up a new one. Recently a Veteran sent us a new flag in an Amazon delivery, which we are very thankful for. A resident in attendance stated her dad, who also was a Veteran, used to do that, so we would like to thank them very much for this service.

**Code Enforcer** Tom DiCaprio provided a written report of permits in February having a total of \$50.

**Dog Control Officer** –Dale Potts stated 2 missing dogs, 3 bites, 1 adopted from the Shelter and 1 cat scratch.

-Supervisor DiGiacomo stated he received a report from the Shelter stating the last report Dale received all satisfactory marks.

- A resident asked if anyone was interested in adopting a dog from the Shelter there are a couple available. Also thanked the Town Highway for a job well done.

#### **Highway Superintendent**

-Sandy Thompson- the Board discussed possibly putting a couple pickle ball courts at the Town Park to be bid with the Highway Paving Bids this year. (@ 50' X 50') with striping to be done as the Town Hall Parking Lot was done.)

-Sandy stated the NYMIR rep. was here but was told a new Highway Garage will be completed at the end of the year, come back then. New Loader is fine, had a small oil leak but has been repaired. Also stated Mike Winney has resigned and went back to working for the State. Sandy will replace him at the end of April.

-Councilman Bardascini inquired about the new truck, Sandy replied the box came through Canada and is in New York at this time. We are currently on the build list for another truck in the future without any payment prior to new construction.

-Supervisor DiGiacomo stated the contractor would like to get stated on the new garage soon.

-Insurance company will want Security System in the new garage, along with (2) 200 amp service along with other upgrades he will have for next meeting.

-Discussion continued on amperage for highway garage (200 vs 400), advised with welding etc to go higher.

On a motion made by Supervisor DiGiacomo and seconded by Councilman Kissinger  
A motion to increase amperage in the new highway garage construction from 200 amps to 400 amps at an increased cost.

Discussion; Supervisor DiGiacomo stated he will have a list of prices and items at next meeting.

VOTE: DiGiacomo-aye Kissinger-aye Bardascini-aye Bogardus-absent Rorick-aye

**Justice Court** –Councilman Kissinger read aloud the Court Report for February 2025 as follows;  
Total fines and fees collected was \$3,716 of which \$2,769 were old fines.  
Total cases, 51 closed tickets, 49 VTL, 38 PL, 10 Civil, 0 LO, 0 DEC.

**Planning Board**-Jay Abrams stated at the recent meeting they reviewed a survey and neighboring properties for septs at the proposed shed project on Route 29.

-Councilman Bardascini asked Mike Crispin if he had a copy of the law that was passed, years ago, for lot sizes which they are waiting on to finish the reworded building permits.

-Mike Crispin stated he hasn't been able to locate it yet but remembers possibly in 1997 it was stated a builder needed one (1) acre lot unless it was a strange sized lot.

-Supervisor DiGiacomo stated speaking of permits, he doesn't believe having the permit applications notarized makes any difference, since you are only stating that the signatures are true not the information contained in the permit.

-Councilman Bardascini stated he thinks by getting a notarization it will make the permit holder stay true to the information on the permit, even though it makes the Town Clerk have extra work, she has the time.

-Councilman Rorick stated with all our Laws, like the Junkyard Law, Site Plan Law, he believes the enforcing of these laws is what is lacking in the Town. He believes we should have a Compliance Officer to enforce the commercial aspect of the Town. The code Enforcer has enough to do enforcing residential permits. He stated we are representing the people of the Town for safety and fairness for all, and suggests establishing a moratorium on commercial building only, until laws are reviewed.

-Supervisor DiGiacomo stated he doesn't want to see moratoriums but many of the questions and comments Councilman Rorick brought up this evening are good ones and should be discussed at next month's meeting when our Town Attorney, Chris Stanyon, is here.

-Dale Potts stated with the Site Plan Review Law businesses are supposed to come in and reapply if their business expands more than 10%.

-Supervisor DiGiacomo stated the State has just come out with new laws for Air B & B's that they will need to register with the County and will need to be inspected.

-Discussion continued about the Solar Law that is now in the hand of an Attorney for review. All Board Members agree we need something on the books sooner than later with the current Moratorium ending May 9, 2025, and working on this law for the past two (2) years. Past representation on the Solar Law, presented by Councilman Rorick, was discussed to be more detailed but may not hold up in court.

-Supervisor DiGiacomo stated Schoharie County Townships sued the State over the assessing of Solar Farms and actually won.



-Councilman Rorick offered to pursue the Rotterdam Solar Law presented this past year to the Board to complete with a fee schedule for the Board to review at the April Meeting by motion.

On a motion made by Councilman Rorick and seconded by Councilman Bardascini  
A motion for the Board to Allow Councilman Rorick to pursue to close out and complete the Rotterdam Solar Law presented by him last year to both the Town Board and the Planning Board along with a fee schedule.

Discussion: Supervisor DiGiacomo stated you want to write the Solar Law on your own when this Board authorized to spend \$10,000 for an outside lawyer to review the current draft. He would like to wait and see what the results of this review are before starting all over. Also stating he believes we need to regulate but not prohibit tax payers from building a solar farm if they want.

-Councilman Bardascini inquired if anyone on this Board, relatives or friends that have an interest in building a solar farm? Answer was no.

-Councilman Kissinger inquired where we are with the Attorney that is reviewing this Solar Farm Law. Supervisor DiGiacomo stated he was unsure at this time, hopes to hear from him soon.

VOTE: DiGiacomo-nay Kissinger-nay Bardascini-aye Bogardus-absent Rorick-aye

**Youth Commission-** Supervisor DiGiacomo stated he recently got three (3) bids for the porta johns at the Town Park which was approved by the Board last year to be there from April 15 to October 15 each year with the price from DVR the lowest at \$200/month.

On a motion made by Councilman Kissinger and a second by Councilman Bardascini  
A motion to hire DVR to supply porta johns to the Town Park from April 15, 2025 through October 15, 2025.

No further Discussion:

VOTE: DiGiacomo-aye Kissinger-aye Bardascini-aye Bogardus-absent Rorick-aye

-Councilman Bardascini inquired if there is a written contract payment plan from the Youth Commission to repay the construction BOND to the Town Tax Payers.

-Supervisor DiGiacomo stated there is not a written contract but a verbal agreement to pay @\$25,000/year.

#### **Public Comment**

-Mr. Kennedy a resident that has addressed the Town Board in prior meetings was in question of his FOIL request about a permit that had been pulled for a property on Lakeview Rd. which was revoked by the Town Board last year. He stated he is still waiting for his FOIL request from

the Code Enforcer. He stated in his FOIL request he asked to obtain all documentation as to how the permit was given to the resident when they were in violation of boundaries, setbacks and ownership of trees on the property in question. He stated he wants every document in regard to this property for the permit to be issued.

-Councilman Rorick inquired if this property is grandfathered in with a past law stating prior to 1987 a smaller lot size is permitted. Mr. Kennedy stated only if there is a building already present, which there wasn't one at the time the permit was pulled. Councilman Rorick stated he will look into it.

-Planning Board Chairman, Mike Crispin stated the permit still needs to meet building codes regardless of lot size, well, septic.

-Supervisor DiGiacomo stated this piece of property is a 50' long strip along the road which Town Law states we need a 50' set back from the road, so this shouldn't be a buildable lot size.

-Mr. Kennedy read aloud some of the details in the copy of the permit he received from the Town Clerk. (10' x 10' shed)

-Supervisor DiGiacomo stated he will get his documentation for him but reminded him the permit has been revoked, stating he is not sure what documentation is available but will check.

## **LEGISLATION**

### **OLD BUSINESS**

### **NEW BUSINESS**

Approval to pay vouchers (claim)	
Prepaid	\$10,898.26
General	11,564.01
General OV	1,194.08
Highway	58,456.15
Total	\$82,112.50

On a motion made by Supervisor DiGiacomo and seconded by Councilman Bardascini  
**RESOLUTION #2025-61 APPROVAL TO PAY VOUCHERS (CLAIMS)**

BE IT RESOLVED that the Town of Broadalbin Town Board authorizes the payment of the vouchers in the amount of \$82,112.50.

No further discussion;

VOTE: DiGiacomo- aye Kissinger-aye Bogardus-absent Bardascini- aye Rorick-aye

### **ADJOURNMENT 8:03 P.M.**

On a motion made by Councilman Rorick and seconded by Councilman Bardascini  
The March 11, 2025 Town of Broadalbin Town Board meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted by listening to recording done by Councilman Kissinger

Cheryl Briggs