

Supervisor James Schmitt opened the regular meeting of the town board of the Town of Pawling at 6:00 PM October 8, 2025 at Pawling Town Hall, 160 Charles Colman Blvd., Pawling, New York. Present were councilwomen Snow and Pitt, councilmen Mygan and McCarthy, Nancy Tagliafierro, town attorney, and approximately 45 interested citizens.

MINUTES

Supervisor Schmitt made a motion to acknowledge the minutes of September 3, 2025, seconded by councilman Mygan and passed unanimously.

Supervisor Schmitt made a motion to acknowledge the minutes of September 10, 2025, seconded by councilwoman Snow and passed unanimously.

2026 TENTATIVE BUDGET PRESENTATION

Christine Mitchell, bookkeeper/budget officer presented the 2026 tentative budget to the board as follows:

2026 TOWN TENTATIVE BUDGET SUMMARY

Estimated tax increase: 2.99% if you live in the Village= \$6.08/1,000 1.10% if you live outside the Village=\$9.09/1,000

How do I easily calculate my 2026 Town Tax? Say your house is assessed at \$300,000 Drop the last 3 zeros, you get \$300

You live in the VillageTake \$300X \$6.08 Your Town tax is \$1,824

You live outside the VillageTake \$300X \$9.09 Your Town Tax is \$2,727

CONTINUED and ADDED SERVICES

-Park & Recreation Programs -Contracted Ambulance Service -Transfer Station -Golf Course - Paving, plowing & road maintenance -Building Department staffing in house vs contracting - \$35K for a Town Planner -DC Agreement for HWY to handle snow/ice removal on County Roads

PERSONNEL -3.00% wage increase for most employees & elected officials Benefit increases - Retirement system contribution about \$382K. Rates by Tier have increased over 8% from - Health insurance is estimated at a 10 % increase. We should know the new rates in November. Total 2026 health insurance costs are over \$1.1 million annually across all Funds. This is still the major budget challenge the Town faces going forward. 2025 Health insurance expenditures will be about \$960k across all funds.

EQUIPMENT & CAPITAL IN BUDGET \$77,155 Total in General Fund A Budget \$24,000 Building Equipment & Capital (A.1620.2) \$10k A/C for Lathrop Conference Rooms, \$8k for Kitchen upgrades Holmes/Whaley Lake Civic Center \$6K to paint the exterior of Holmes/Whaley Lake Civic Center, \$5,975 Central Data Processing (A.1680.2) Annual computer upgrades \$20,000 Traffic Signs (A.3310.2) \$14,500 Garage Equipment (A.5132.2) For two new Garage Doors \$ 1,400 Park Equipment & Capital (A.7110.2) Water heater for Lion's Building, Murrow Park \$ 1,280 Golf Course Clubhouse Equip (A.7260.2) For 8 pull carts \$10,000 Transfer Station container (A.8160.2) paid by Transfer Station Capital Program

CAPITAL BUDGETED HIGHWAY FUND (DB)

Paving (DB.5112.2) \$643,725 for 2026 \$270,000 of revenue from NYS CHIPs program (DB.3501) is budgeted to offset the tax cost

USE OF FUND BALANCE (savings) 2026 The Town use of Fund Balance in the 2026 budget compared to 2025 Adopted Budget changed as follows: Adopted Tentative 2025 2026 Change A Fund \$150,185 \$ 80,225 (69,960) DA Fund \$ 0 \$ 0 -0- B Fund \$145,000 \$157,275 12,275 DB Fund \$200,000 \$183,100 (16,900) SW2 Fund \$ 10,000 \$ 10,000 -0- WL Fund \$ 12,000 \$ 12,000 -0-

How much will we have left 12/31/26? About \$1.1M in A, \$44K in DA, \$690k in B, \$1.2M in DB, \$40K in SW2 and \$82k in WL, assuming we use all of our 2026 appropriation. Fund Balance estimates are monitored and updated on a regular basis

TAX LEVY LIMIT for 2026 Tax Levy limit for 2026 is \$4,887,275 for all Funds and special districts We are currently under the limit by \$13,920

GENERAL FUND (A) Revenue Highlights -Golf Fees (A.2050) \$340,000 Golf revenue continues to do well -Fines & Forfeited Bail (A.2610) \$80,000 -Park & Rec Summer Camp (A.2001.01) \$215,000 -Park & Rec Charges (A.2001) \$50,000 -Refuse & Garbage Charges (2130) \$275,000 Transfer Station Revenue -Mortgage Tax (A.3005) \$250,000, 2025 Mortgage Tax collections are up about \$62k Through August compared to 2024

GENERAL FUND (A) Other Expenditures -Auditor (A.1320.4) \$32,000 for independent audit, had NYS Audit end of 2020 -Ambulance (A.4540.4) \$583,950 New contract in 2022. There was a significant increase. This contract expires 12/31/26. DEBT Total Town Debt for all Funds as of 12/31/25 will be \$6,324,452.

General Fund Debt (A) \$1,639,074 Total Bonds \$854,850 4% Bond for Lakeside Pavilion, final payment 2044 \$ 47,491 4% Bond for golf course irrigation, final payment 2044 \$ 94,969 4% Bond for a truck & fairway mower Final payment 2044 \$407,933 1.45% Bond for Building Improvements, final payment 2037, \$112,514 1.45% Bond for Equipment, 2037 \$ 90,360 4% Building Improvements, Paid 2037 \$ 30,957 4% Golf Course Mower, Paid 2037

Highway Fund Outside Village (DB) \$2,300,348 \$358,508 2021 1.45% Bond for Trucks, paid off 2037 \$123,070 2021 1.45% Bond for Town portion of Hurds Corner Improvements, paid off 2037 \$262,533 2021 1.45% Bond for Highway Equipment, paid 2037 \$836,667 4% Paving Bond, paid 2037 \$297,016 4% Truck Bond, paid 2037 \$284,847 4% International Truck, paid 2044 \$137,707 4% Backhoe, Paid 2044

Special DistrictsWhaley Lake Dam District \$1,964,506 1.45% Bond paid off 2037 2026 rate per unit will be \$292.35 vs \$302.17 in 2025, a 3% decrease Water District 2 \$420,524 \$140,936 1.45% Bond paid off 2037 \$279,588 4.39% BAN renewing 12/25 2026 rate per unit will be \$4.90 or \$490 per household, same as the 2025 rate The debt has been issued for District improvements.

Following questions from the board, the public hearing for the budget was scheduled for November 5, 2025 and will be on the agenda November 12th for adoption. The budget has to be adopted by the town board by November 20th.

RESOLUTIONS

RESOLUTION 2025-127 Billing for Pawling Water District No. 2

WHEREAS, Pawling Water District No. 2 bills need to be approved by the Pawling Town Board, and

WHEREAS, the bills have been prepared and submitted in the amount of \$ for the period of July 1, 2025 through September 30, 2025 by the Clerk to the Water District, Catherine Giordano, and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Pawling hereby accepts the billing as recommended for Pawling Water District No.2.

MOTION: Supervisor Schmitt

SECOND: Councilman McCarthy

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Councilwoman Pitt – “AYE”

Councilman Mygan – “AYE”

Councilman McCarthy – “AYE”

Councilwoman Snow - “AYE”

Supervisor Schmitt – “AYE”

RESOLUTION 2025-128
Facilities Use Request

WHEREAS, the Town of Pawling operates facilities that from time to time will be used by the public for events other than the Town’s own usage, and

WHEREAS, the Recreation Director will periodically receive request for special considerations once all application and insurance requirements are met, and

WHEREAS, the Town Board of the Town of Pawling sets the fees for the use of facilities, and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the following waiver(s) have been authorized by the Town Board: Pawling Community Foundation – Alcohol Waiver, Alcohol Control Plan.

MOTION: Supervisor Schmitt
SECOND: Councilman Mygan

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Councilwoman Pitt – “AYE” Councilman Mygan – “AYE”
Councilman McCarthy – “AYE” Councilwoman Snow - “AYE”
Supervisor Schmitt – “AYE”

RESOLUTION 2025-130
Approving the Temporary Hire of Part-Time Contractor

WHEREAS, the Town Board recognizes the need to complete outstanding projects within the Buildings and Grounds Department prior to the onset of winter, and

WHEREAS, the contractor must possess the necessary qualifications and have immediate availability to perform the required work, and

WHEREAS, the scope of the work is temporary in nature and limited in both duration and extent,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board hereby approves the temporary hire of a part-time contractor to perform necessary work for the Buildings and Grounds Department at an hourly rate of \$45.00.

MOTION: Supervisor Schmitt
SECOND: Councilman McCarthy

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Councilwoman Pitt – “AYE” Councilman Mygan – “AYE”
Councilman McCarthy – “AYE” Councilwoman Snow - “AYE”
Supervisor Schmitt – “AYE”

RESOLUTION 2025-131
Approving the Addition of Michael Main to the Comprehensive Plan Committee

WHEREAS, the Town Board has established a Comprehensive Plan Committee to guide the development and review of the Town’s Comprehensive Plan, and

WHEREAS, the Town Board recognizes the importance of including a diverse range of community perspectives and expertise on the Committee, and

WHEREAS, Michael Main has expressed interest in serving and brings valuable experience and insight to the work of the Committee, and

WHEREAS, the Town Board approved the Comprehensive Plan Committee at its Special Meeting held on September 29, 2025,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board hereby confirms the appointment of Michael Main as a member of the Comprehensive Plan Committee, effective immediately.

MOTION: Supervisor Schmitt

SECOND: Councilman McCarthy

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Councilwoman Pitt – “AYE”

Councilman Mygan – “NAY”

Councilman McCarthy – “AYE”

Councilwoman Snow - “AYE”

Supervisor Schmitt – “AYE”

RESOLUTION 2025-132
ASPCA Option to Purchase Agreement for Sewer

WHEREAS, the American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty of Animals (“ASPCA”) is a party to a certain Sewer System Connection Agreement (the “SSCA”) dated May 1, 2021 with the Pawling Joint Sewer Commission (PJSC) whereby following the construction of ASPCA’s facility on Tax Map Parcel 134809-7056-00-257503 (Parcel 257503), sewerage from said facility would be served by the PJSC via certain sewerage improvements (the “Sewer Improvements”) to be constructed in connection therewith; and

WHEREAS, the construction of the facility and the Sewer Improvements is complete, however, pursuant to the SSCA, the PJSC cannot accept sewerage from the facility until the Town Board is in receipt of either an Option to Purchase Agreement or an Offer of Dedication for the conveyance of the Sewer Improvements to the Town; and

WHEREAS, the Town Board is in receipt of an Option to Purchase Agreement for the Sewer Improvements, which provides a right for the Town, upon the exercise of the option, to purchase the sewer improvements for \$1.00; and

WHEREAS, the Town Board deems it to be in the best interest of the ASPCA and the PJSC to simultaneously enter into the Option to Purchase Agreement and to exercise the option for the ownership of the Sewer Improvements, which will then be maintained by the PJSC via an easement to be granted to the PJSC.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, as follows:

1. The Town Board hereby authorizes the Supervisor (or the Deputy Supervisor in his absence) to execute the Option to Purchase Agreement with the ASPCA for the Sewer Improvements.
2. The Town Board hereby, Pursuant to Paragraph 2 of the Option to Purchase Agreement, exercises the option to purchase the Sewer Improvements for \$1.00. ASPCA shall provide the Town with a Bill of Sale conveying fee title to the Sewer Improvements to the Town free and clear of any liens or encumbrances. A copy of same, when delivered, shall be filed in the office of the Town Clerk.
3. To the extent any other documents are required to be signed by the Town in connection with the conveyance of the Sewer Improvements, the Supervisor (or the Deputy Supervisor in his absence) shall be authorized to sign same.

MOTION: Supervisor Schmitt

SECOND: Councilman Mygan

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Councilwoman Pitt – “AYE”

Councilman Mygan – “AYE”

Councilman McCarthy – “AYE”

Councilwoman Snow - “AYE”

Supervisor Schmitt – “AYE”

TOWN BOARD DISCUSSION

SNOW

Councilwoman Snow thanked county executive Sue Serino for her program awarding \$100,000.00 to agencies supporting people with food insecurities and homelessness, and said the Pawling Resource Center was awarded \$10,000.00. Councilwoman Snow said regarding the exit interviews the board has agreed to conduct, she has reached out to two former employees who would like an exit interview. She wanted to bring this up to the board.

Supervisor Schmitt said those employees would need to contact the town’s HR individual.

MCCARTHY

Councilman McCarthy said he sent the board an email regarding the potential pavilion at Lakeside Park, and he hasn’t heard back from anyone. He asked if the board wanted to move forward with this or if they had a preference. He said the town has already received the 1.2 million dollar grant. He asked the board members to consider the proposals and let him know what they think.

PITT

Councilwoman Pitt thanked Ms. Mitchell and her staff for preparing the budget. She also questioned how many years the board would go back for exit interviews. She would send an email to the new HR person and ask a few questions and let the board know what the response is.

Supervisor Schmitt made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:50 PM, seconded by councilman McCarthy, motion passed unanimously.

Town Clerk