

Present at meeting:	Michael Geraci	Supervisor
	Kayla Carlozzi	Councilmember
	Scott Hayes	Councilmember
	John Francisco	Councilmember
	Krista Wood	Town Clerk
Absent:	Teri Schuerlein	Councilmember

Also: Becky Ross, Barb French, Assessor Christine Hayes, HS Darian Granger, Bob and Sylvia Smith, Matt Wood, Jim Ventura, Janet Early, Wayne Butler, Joan Johnson, Drew Cappabianca, Dave Krogman, and Dennis McElroy.

Supervisor Geraci opened the meeting at 6:00pm.

Approval of Minutes: Minutes of the December 19, 2024 regular meeting, December 30, 2024 year-end meeting, and January 6, 2025 organizational meeting were approved by Motion of Councilmember Carlozzi and Councilmember Hayes.

Ayes: 4 (Carlozzi, Hayes, Francisco, Geraci) Nays: 0 Absent: 1 (Schuerlein)

Chamber of Commerce presentation

Drew Cappabianca explained that the North Warren Chamber of Commerce was awarded money from Warren County for their branding effort for the North Warren area to promote tourism. He said they will be looking at signage among other things, and they will be forming a committee for input.

Local Board of Health

A Motion was made by Councilmember Hayes, seconded by Councilmember Francisco, to go into session as the Local Board of Health. The Board moved into session as Local Board of Health at 6:05 PM.

1) Septic variance request - Krogman / 7259 State Rt. 8, Brant Lake / tax map #72.6-1-3:

Dennis McElroy, of Environmental Design Partnership, LLP, explained that the old septic system needs to be replaced. He said they are proposing to install what he referred to as a "conventional septic tank fed, effluent pump tank assembly pumping to a pressure dosed, stone absorption bed". He noted the absorption bed will be located in the field behind the owner's garage which is 250' from the lake. The system will require the following variances:

- Grinder pump tank to shoreline – 50' required, 19' proposed, variance of 31'
- Force main to shoreline – 50' required, 22' proposed, variance of 28'
- Force main to dwelling – 10' required, 5' proposed, variance of 5'

Councilmember Francisco asked Mr. Krogman what he plans to do about the pine tree on the garage side of the road near where the line to the absorption bed will be. Mr. Krogman said he is currently having some trees on his property taken down and that is one of the trees that will come down.

Supervisor Geraci asked ZA Craig Leggett if he was satisfied with the proposed system; ZA Leggett said he finds no issues.

There were no further comments; motion was made to deem the application complete.

RESOLUTION #31-2025

Councilmember Carlozzi and Councilmember Francisco introduced Res. No. 31 and moved its adoption:

RESOLUTION TO DEEM APPLICATION COMPLETE AND SET PUBLIC HEARING

RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Horicon, acting in its capacity as the Local Board of Health, considers the application made by Environmental Design Partnership, LLP for a septic variance at 7259 State Rt 8

(tax map #72.6-1-3) complete, and does hereby set a Public Hearing for Thursday, February 20, 2025 at 6:00 PM at the Horicon Community Center.

Ayes: 4 (Carlozzi, Francisco, Hayes, Geraci) Nays: 0 Absent: 1 (Schuerlein)

There being no further comments Motion was made by Councilmember Hayes, seconded by Councilmember Carlozzi, to move back into regular session. The Board moved back into regular session at 6:15 PM.

Financial Report - January 2025 Vouchers and Abstracts...

Councilmember Hayes recused himself from approval of the Abstracts due to a conflict of interest with the SF – abstract which is payment to the Fire Department.

RESOLUTION #32-2025

Councilmember Francisco and Councilmember Carlozzi introduced Res. No. 32 and moved its adoption:

RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE PAYMENT OF JANUARY 2025 ABSTRACTS

RESOLVED, that the Horicon Town Board does hereby authorize the payment of the January 16, 2025 Vouchers and Abstracts as follows:

- General Abstract 1 \$ 28,731.27
- Highway Abstract 1 \$ 14,775.64
- SA 1 \$ 117,998.00
- SF 1 \$ 313,450.00

Ayes: 4 (Francisco, Carlozzi, Hayes, Geraci) Nays: 0 Absent: 1 (Schuerlein)

Correspondence to the Board... none

Reports: Town Clerk, Justice, Assessor, Zoning, Transfer Station, NWEMS, Horicon Fire Department, Library, Historical Society, and Historian.

Supervisor’s Report: see copy attached.

Additional comments: Supervisor Geraci said there had been discussion about the Town of Horicon Seniors joining the Town of Chester Seniors, but Town of Chester Seniors voted it down. They said they do not mind Horicon residents attending the programs, but they did not want Horicon to join with Chester and have their name changed to Chester/Horicon. Supervisor Geraci said they invited him and Becky Ross to attend their next meeting on February 13th to discuss this further.

Town Board Liaison Reports: see copies attached.

Additional comments:

Councilmember Carlozzi said she and the Town Clerk have researched various website companies and they recommend CivicPlus for the Town’s new website. She asked for approval to use Occupancy Tax funds to purchase the CivicPlus Ultimate website. Supervisor Geraci said one of the eligible costs for Occupancy Tax funding is the development and maintenance of a new website.

RESOLUTION #33-2025

Councilmember Carlozzi and Councilmember Hayes introduced Res. No. 33 and moved its adoption:

RESOLUTION TO APPROVE CIVICPLUS AS THE NEW WEBSITE PROVIDER

RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Horicon does hereby approve CivicPlus to design, implement, and host a new website for the Town at a cost of \$5,608.00.

Ayes: 4 (Carlozzi, Francisco, Hayes, Geraci) Nays: 0 Absent: 1 (Schuerlein)

Councilmember Carlozzi said the Town of Horicon Comprehensive Plan Committee would like to invite everyone to attend a public workshop at the Horicon Community Center on February 27th from 4:30 pm to 7:00 pm. She explained it is an opportunity for members of the community to come by and offer suggestions, thoughts, and comments on what they would like to see for the Town.

Councilmember Hayes said he met with HS Darian Granger about the \$1,000 spending limit HS Granger has for purchases without Board approval. Councilmember Hayes said this has been a problem in the past and he suggested the amount be raised from \$1,000 to \$4,000-\$5,000. He said with the price of everything now the \$1,000 does not cover much. Supervisor Geraci asked HS Granger if he feels this is necessary; noting the current procurement policy requires quotes for anything over a certain dollar amount. HS Granger said the only issue he has is when he needs parts right away. He said, for example if a radiator goes in a truck during the night while they are plowing he can have a new one here in the morning and get the truck back in service; explaining that they are part of a program where if he has a breakdown at 1:00 am he can order the part and have it first thing in the morning. HS Granger said as it stands now with the \$1,000 limit, he would need to wait until morning to get approval because the cost of the radiator is \$4,200.00. Supervisor Geraci said that would be considered an emergency situation so it would be fine to go ahead and order the part needed. Supervisor Geraci asked for a recommendation from the Board as to what they think is reasonable. Councilmember Francisco suggested the limit be raised to \$2,500. Councilmember Hayes proposed the limit be increased to \$4,000.00.

RESOLUTION #34-2025

Councilmember Hayes and Councilmember Carlozzi introduced Res. No. 34 and moved its adoption:

RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE THE HIGHWAY SUPERINTENDENT TO EXPEND AMOUNTS UP TO \$4000.00.

RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Horicon does hereby authorize the Highway Superintendent to expend amounts up to \$4,000.00. Any other expenditure shall be reviewed by the Highway Committee.

Ayes: 4 (Hayes, Carlozzi, Francisco, Geraci) Nays: 0 Absent: 1 (Schuerlein)

Resolutions:

Councilpersons Carlozzi and Francisco introduced Resolutions #35 - #38 and moved their adoption:

Ayes: 4 (Carlozzi, Francisco, Hayes, Geraci) Nays: 0 Absent: 1 (Schuerlein)

RESOLUTION #35-2025**RESOLUTION TO ACKNOWLEDGE COMPLETION OF AUDIT OF THE TOWN CLERK RECORDS**

RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Horicon does hereby state that the examination of the 2024 Town Clerk records was completed and presented at the meeting of the Board on January 16, 2025, and the records were approved by all members of the Board.

RESOLUTION #36-2025**RESOLUTION TO ACKNOWLEDGE COMPLETION OF AUDIT OF THE JUSTICE COURT RECORDS**

RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Horicon does hereby state that the audit of the 2024 Justice Court records was completed by Supervisor Geraci, according to the General Recordkeeping Requirements for Town and Village Justice Courts, and the audit report was presented at the meeting of the Board on January 16, 2025; said report was reviewed and approved by all members of the Board.

RESOLUTION #37-2025**RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE SUPERVISOR TO SIGN AMENDED MOU WITH WARREN COUNTY**

RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Horicon does hereby authorize Supervisor Geraci to sign the amended MOU with Warren County for administration of the 2018 Waterfront Revitalization Plan regarding the required reimbursement amount from the Town of Horicon to Warren County for contract expenses for removal of aquatic vegetation.

RESOLUTION #38-2025**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING SOLICITATION OF SAND BIDS**

RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Horicon does hereby authorize the Town Clerk to solicit, by legal advertisement, bids for processed highway sand. Bids are to be opened at the regular Town Board meeting on February 20, 2025.

Old Business...

Proposed local law regarding short-term rental units:

Supervisor Geraci explained that there has been discussion about this for some time. He said the Board members have a copy of the draft law and asked them to review this carefully and be ready for discussion at next month's meeting.

RESOLUTION #39-2025

Councilmember Francisco and Councilmember Carlozzi introduced Res. No. 39 and moved its adoption:

RESOLUTION TO SET A PUBLIC HEARING TO CONSIDER A LOCAL LAW REGULATING SHORT-TERM RENTAL UNITS

WHEREAS, the Town Board wishes to consider adoption of Local Law #1 of 2025 entitled, "A Local Law Regulating Short-term Residential Rental Units in the Town of Horicon", now, therefore be it RESOLVED, that the Horicon Town Board does hereby set a public hearing for a proposed Local Law regulating short-term rental units for Thursday, February 20, 2025 at 6:00 pm at the Horicon Community Center.

Ayes: 4 (Francisco, Carlozzi, Hayes, Geraci) Nays: 0 Absent: 1 (Schuerlein)

New Business...

Occupancy tax applications:

Supervisor Geraci said the Town has received five Occupancy Tax applications. He noted the Warren County Occupancy Tax committee has requested that there be reductions on an annual basis because the number of applicants continues to increase. He cautioned anyone from thinking these awards are guaranteed in future years as some reductions will likely take place in the future.

RESOLUTION #40-2025

Councilmember Carlozzi and Councilmember Francisco introduced Res. No. 40 and moved its adoption:

RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE 2025 OCCUPANCY TAX FUNDS

RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Horicon does hereby authorize a total of \$21,750.00 in Occupancy Tax funds, code A6410.4 - Publicity, to be awarded to the following as listed:

<u>Group/Individual:</u>	<u>Purpose/Event:</u>	<u>Amount:</u>
Tri-Lakes Community Alliance	Annual Adirondack Woofstock	\$ 5,000.00
Tri-Lakes Community Alliance	Brant Lake Winter Carnival	\$ 5,000.00
Matt Strickland	Brant Lake Canoe Race	\$ 5,000.00
Horicon Fire Department	Community Dinner	\$ 3,250.00
Adirondack Sports Council	Adirondack Marathon	\$ 3,500.00

Ayes: 3 (Carlozzi, Francisco, Geraci) Nays: 0 Absent: 1 (Schuerlein)

Councilmember Hayes recused himself from the vote authorizing Occupancy Tax funds due to a conflict of interest with the Horicon Fire Department application.

Privilege of the Floor... Two-minute time limit

-Drew Cappabianca said he is building an apartment unit where his parking lot is next to The Hub. He said in a past conversation, Matt Simpson had suggested closing off Market Street and making a park at the end for fishing, events, parking, etc. Drew said there would still be access to New Street via the new bridge over the upper dam. He stressed this is entirely conceptual at this point as there is a lot to look at, but he just wanted to see what the feeling on this would be. Supervisor Geraci asked what his time frame is for this. Drew said he has no idea because of what would be involved in doing something like this. As far as the apartment building, he is hoping to have it built next year. As far as the road, that would take quite a while to get done if it were approved. Supervisor Geraci said they had spoken about this a year ago and he had recommended holding off and including it in the Comprehensive Plan. He also noted Market Street is a County road so there would have to be a conversation with the County. Christine Hayes noted that fire trucks would not be able to make the swing onto New Street if they accessed it using the bridge; they would have to come in the other end off of Route 8. Drew said you would still be able to circumnavigate the road like you can now; the concept is to take the two lanes of Market Street and make a lane through the center with parking on the side. Councilmember Francisco

said you cannot take a County road and make it one lane or a parking lot. Drew said the thought is the County would give up the road and then go from there. Supervisor Geraci said an engineering rendering would need to be done for everyone to look at.

-Wayne Butler said he would like to propose a committee be formed for septic inspections of Brant Lake and Brant Lake access properties as currently defined. He said the reason is to protect and grow Brant Lake's economy and to protect public health. He noted by doing these evaluations and identifying problems it will keep the lake cleaner and mean less money being spent to combat milfoil. He is asking for support from the Board to form this committee to investigate septic systems around Brant Lake. Councilmember Francisco said he needs a chance to think about things. Supervisor Geraci said this will be put on next month's agenda for further discussion.

Adjourn... There being no further business to attend to the meeting was adjourned at 6:55 PM by MOTION of Councilmember Carlozzi and Councilmember Hayes, all in favor.

Respectfully Submitted:

Town Clerk

**Supervisor's Significant Meetings / Activities Report
December 20, 2024 – January 16, 2025**

December 20	Warren County Board of Supervisors
December 23	TD Bank ref Town's investment
December 24	Town Hall closed at 12pm
December 25	Christmas – Town Hall closed
December 30	Audit of Town Court's financial records for 2024
December 30	Meeting with West and Company CPA's
December 30	Town Board Year End Meeting
December 31	NYS Short Term Rental legislation review
January 1	New Year's Day - Town Hall closed
January 3	Warren County Board of Supervisors Organizational meeting
January 6	2025 Organization Town Board meeting
January 7	Adirondack Association of Towns and Villages Board meeting
January 8	Short Term Rental Committee
January 9	NYS Association of Towns Supervisors Roundtable
January 9	Cedarwood Engineering ref Capital Projects
January 9	Horicon Comprehensive Plan Committee
January 10	Chair of the Warren County Board of Supervisors
January 10	Red Cross & Adirondack Explorer ref Horicon Emergency Shelter
January 10	Meeting with Chair of the Starbuckville Dam Commission
January 13	Meeting with the Chair, Warren County Traffic Safety Board ref Vision Zero
January 13	Horicon Historical Society monthly meeting
January 15	Town Hall Staff Meeting
January 16	Special TB meeting – Capital Projects presentation by Cedarwood Engineering
January 16	Town Board Meeting

Town Board Member Kayla Carlozzi
Activity Report December 19 – January 16, 2025

DATE	ACTIVITY
Monday, January 6 th	Town of Horicon Organizational Meeting
Thursday, January 9 th	Town of Horicon Comprehensive Meeting Feb 27 th there will be a workshop open to the public from 4:30-7 pm at the Town Hall – encourage everyone to drop in
Wednesday, January 15 th	Website discussion with Krista & Mike
Thursday, January 16 th	Prepped for Meeting, signed checks Special Meeting Town of Horicon for Facilities Town Board Meeting

John Francisco

Horicon Town Board

Activity Report –December 27,2024 – January 16, 2025

- 12/27/24 Received offer for land
- 12/30/24 Town meeting (end of year)
- 1/2/25 Met John Maday to talk about ice retardant. Met with Mike G. about property offer to town.
- 1/3/2025 Took a video of Brant lake with bubbler.
- 1/5/2025 Received phone call from a resident about open water on the lake. Went out and took pictures.
- 1/6/2025 Board meeting beginning of year
- 1/7/2025 Phone call from Scott Hayes fire chief concerning LOSAP program.
- 1/9/2025 Meet and get PenFlex representative's name and phone number regarding LOSAP program
- 1/10/2025 Phone conversation with PenFlex rep.
- 1/13/2025 Phone call with Mike concerning LOSAP for Fire Co.
Phone call with Scott Hayes on LOSAP and Highway Dept. repair
- 1/14/2025 Met zoning officer at Town Hall and presented De-icer regulations and discussed short term rentals.
Read variance application for Krogman's and visited site.
- 1/16/2025 Sign bills. Meeting at Town Hall ~~on~~ January Board meeting.

Town Board Member Scott Hayes
Activity Report January 1 – January 16, 2025

1-6-2025	Organizational Meeting
1-7-2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none">-Contacted Darian Granger to set up a meeting.-Spoke with John Dunn to let him know I am a liaison for BLA, will meet at a later date.-Spoke with Steve Ehlers to get the contact information for the ESSLA president.-Attempted to contact Joan Johnson about the library.
1-9-2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none">-Met with Darian Granger. I questioned if \$1,000 expend amount was enough, he advised it was not and it used to be \$2,500. There are not really any repairs he can make under \$1,000 on trucks and equipment. We will work on a replacement plan for trucks and equipment.-St. Patricks Day parade meeting. Supervisor and board members are invited to march.
1-13-2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none">-Darian Granger called, was waiting on a quote on repairs for a pickup, figured it would be around \$2,000, so was looking to get approval for those repairs. After checking in with Mr. Geraci, I can not approve that cost, advised Darian he had to speak with Mr. Geraci for that approval.
1-15-2024	<ul style="list-style-type: none">-Attempted to contact Bob Colegrove ESSLA president.-Staff meeting.

Proposed Committee Resolution for Septic Inspection for Brant Lake and Brant Lake Access
Properties 01.16.2025

To our Respected Town Board, Supervisor, Assessor and Zoning Administrator:

I'm proposing a committee formation resolution for Septic Inspection of Brant Lake and Brant Lake Access properties as currently defined.

The reason to do so now is to protect and grow Brant Lake's economy and protect public health.

Updated Economic Summary presented to the Horicon board on 09.19.2024:

- Over 340,000.00 was spent in 2024 to restore Brant Lake water quality.
- Five Major Employers (3 Camps, 2 Marinas) with over 6 million in annual payroll.
- 66% of Tax revenue comes from Lake and Lake Access properties.
- Over **88** registered Short -Term Rentals, **now with Sales Tax Revenue Collection and Sharing with the Town of Horicon**
- Over 100 Contractors that have done business in Town of Horicon-**"trickle-down economics, and often first time employment.**
- Town of Horicon First Wilderness Plan as a "destination".
- Eurasian Milfoil property devaluation on record in the Town of Horicon.
- Ralph Bentley, TOH Supervisor, sponsored first NYS invasive law

Health Benefits:

- Brant Lake is classified as "AA-drinking water"-we need to protect this drinking water source
- Brant Lake had its first HAB sighting in 2024. Swimming in a HAB (harmful algae bloom) can sicken children and adults, and can kill a dog within minutes
- HABs have occurred in Friends Lake, Lake George, Moreau Lake among others. HABs are formed from excess nutrient runoff-primarily septic. Brant Lake is at high risk.

LAKE AND RESERVOIR MANAGEMENT
2024, VOL. 40, NO. 4, 373-389
<https://doi.org/10.1080/10402381.2024.2406283>

- Protection from and E-Coli outbreak (Lake George)
- Other communities that have enacted have found both acceptance for the law, with 49% failure rate (undersized and nonperforming)

Why Now:

- Our (Town of Horicon and Brant Lake Association) highest cost for ProcellaCor and hand harvesting treatment in 2024-we can offset future costs by eliminating nutrients entering Brant Lake.

- Though the Town of Horicon and Brant Lake Association 2022 and 2023 public hearings on ProcellaCor, there is increased awareness of the need for this regulation, and the economic benefits it provides
- We are making major investments in the Town of Horicon-lets align with a clean and health lake to support those investments and continue growing our economy.
- Warren County has provided additional funds (up to \$10,000.00) for septic repair and replacement for Brant Lake.
- Help protect against future invasives-Asian Clams, Hydrilla, Water Chestnut
- Restoration of the Brant Lake Fishery
- Bob Blais-the longest running term mayor of 55 years said it best: "If you take care of the lake, you take care of the village" (Lake George Village.)
- May I have a committee resolution vote to form the committee?