

Town of Nichols
Regular Town Board Meeting Minutes
December 16, 2025

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 PM by Deputy Supervisor B. Fay-Pelotte.

- Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Roll Call:

- Present: Councilpersons R. Cole, J. Ladd Yost, B. Fay-Pelotte, L. Tinney
- Absent: Supervisor E. Woods
- Others Present: Robert Nugent, Jeff Blow, Ray Thetga Jr., Barb Cushman, Harold Hall, Cathy Westfall, and Marcy Hill, Town Clerk

Public Hearing – Solar Law

The public hearing on the proposed Solar Law was opened at 6:02 PM.
Deputy Supervisor Fay-Pelotte asked for public comments.

There were no public comments.

The public hearing was closed at 6:03 PM.

Approval of Minutes

A motion was made by Councilperson R. Cole, seconded by Councilperson L. Tinney, to approve the November 25, 2025 meeting minutes.

Vote: 4 Ayes, 0 No, 0 Abstain, 1 Absent

Acceptance of Financial Reports

A motion was made by Councilperson L. Tinney, seconded by Councilperson R. Cole, to accept the financial reports.

Vote: 3 Ayes, 0 No, 1 Abstain, 1 Absent

Public Comments

There were no public comments.

New Business

Solar Law

Resolution #21-2025

A motion was made to adopt Local Law #5 of 2025 (Solar Law).

Vote: 4 Ayes, 0 No, 0 Abstain, 1 Absent

Motion carried.

The Board thanked all involved.

Updated Employee Handbook – Sick Days

Effective January 1, 2026:

- Full-time employees will receive 14 PTO days
- Maximum accrual of 80 hours
- A copy of the disability policy will be provided to each full-time employee

A motion was made by Councilperson L. Yost, seconded by Councilperson L. Tinney, to accept the handbook changes.

Vote: 4 Ayes, 0 No, 0 Abstain, 1 Absent

Motion carried.

Thanks were extended to Ladd and Rose for their work on the updates.

Tioga Downs Lease

A motion was made by Councilperson L. Tinney, seconded by Councilperson, L. Yost, to approve the 2026–2030 Lease Agreement with Tioga Downs and authorize signature on the updated five-year lease.

Vote: 4 Ayes, 0 No, 0 Abstain, 1 Absent

Motion carried.

Budget Transfers: Prepared by LGSS(town comptroller) for year end processing.

Town of Nichols

2025 Year End

Budget Transfer Recommendations

General Fund

<u>Transfer From</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Transfer To</u>	<u>Amount</u>
AA.1620.200.000 Buildings Equip - Town Hall	(125,000.00)	AA.8094.200.000 Flood & Erosion Control Cap Outlay	146,000.00
AA.1990.400.000 Contingency	(21,000.00)		
AA.1620.400.000 Buildings, Contr Expend	(7,000.00)	AA.1910.400.000 Unallocated Insurance, Contr Expend	11,000.00
AA.1990.400.000 Contingency	(4,000.00)		
AA.1990.400.000 Contingency	(2,105.00)	AA.9050.800.000 Unemployment Insurance, Empl Bnfts	2,105.00
AA.1110.102.000 Municipal Court, Pers Serv Clerk	(9,075.00)	AA.1620.102.000 Buildings & Grounds Asst.	9,075.00
AA.1990.400.000 Contingency	(1,500.00)	AA.1220.400.000 Supervisor, Contr	1,500.00
AA.1110.102.000 Municipal Court, Pers Serv Clerk	(1,500.00)	AA.5010.100.000 Street Admin, Pers Serv	1,500.00
AA.9040.800.000 Workers Compensation, Empl Bnfts	(2,105.00)	AA.9050.800.000 Unemployment Insurance, Empl Bnfts	2,105.00
AA.1990.400.000 Contingency	(1,000.00)	AA.1010.400.000 Legislative Board, Contr Expend	1,000.00
AA.1110.102.000 Municipal Court, Pers Serv Clerk	(601.00)	AA.1620.100.000 Buildings, Pers Serv	601.00
	(174,886.00)		174,886.00

Highway Fund

<u>Transfer From</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Transfer To</u>	<u>Amount</u>
DA.5130.200.000 Machinery, Equip & Cap Outlay	(1,500.00)	DA.5142.100.000 Snow Removal, Pers Serv	1,500.00
	(1,500.00)		1,500.00

Highway Fund - Outside Village

<u>Transfer From</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Transfer To</u>	<u>Amount</u>
DB.9089.800.000 Other Employee Benefits, Empl Bnft	(2,225.00)	DB.9030.800.000 Social Security, Empl Bnfts	2,000.00
	(2,225.00)		2,000.00

Library Fund

<u>Transfer From</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Transfer To</u>	<u>Amount</u>
LL.7410.400.000 Library, Contr	(900.00)	LL.7410.100.000 Library, Pers Serv	900.00
	(900.00)		900.00

Sewer Fund

<u>Transfer From</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Transfer To</u>	<u>Amount</u>
SS.8110.100.000 Sewer Adminstration, Pers Serv	(1,425.00)	SS.8110.102.000 Sewer Director, Services - Deputy	1,425.00
	(1,425.00)		1,425.00

Water Fund

<u>Transfer From</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Transfer To</u>	<u>Amount</u>
SW.8320.102.000 Source Supply, Pers Serv Asst	(610.00)	SW.8320.100.000 Source Supply, Pers Serv	610.00
	(610.00)		610.00

A motion was made by Councilperson R. Cole, seconded by Councilperson L. Tinney, to approve year-end budget transfers as directed by LGSS.

Vote: 4 Ayes, 0 No, 0 Abstain, 1 Absent

Motion carried.

Old Business

Grants - No updates at this time. An update will be provided after the third week of December.

FEMA - Town is awaiting Scope of Work Change reimbursement.

Renovation – Room 2 - No change from last month.

Design Connect –Project closeout is expected by month end. The Town is awaiting the full scope of the project via a formal plan. Additional information is expected in January. This may eliminate the need to pursue grant funding.

Traffic Safety Board - Captain Yeager confirmed the traffic study is complete and no changes were warranted. Contact was made with Gary Hammond (Tioga County) to discuss signage placement and other possible solutions. The goal is to designate West River Road as a 45 MPH zone.

Department Reports

Highway Department

- A new roller was received and will be billed in January 2026
- Sand was previously purchased from Lopke; however, Lopke is closed during winter months. Austin's will supply sand at \$10.45/ton, only three miles farther. Sand purchases will continue with Austin's for the remainder of the season
- Tracey's repaired a warrantied part on the chipper
- The most recent hire was a no-call/no-show.
- Two applicants have been interviewed; a hiring decision will be made this week
- Positive feedback was received from a resident regarding snow removal

Buildings & Grounds

- Apology offered for confusion regarding mower purchase
- Original mower was sold; a replacement will be ordered in January for spring delivery

- Work has begun in the Assessor's Office, including vinyl wall installation and moving filing cabinets
- Library locks are awaiting a quote from Yel-Help; approval given to proceed
- New Sargent-keyed doorknobs (10 keys) will be installed; keys to be left with Erica

Sewer & Water

- Awaiting installation from Matco
- Turnkey is waiting on IT; Bob will contact Turnkey to proceed with network build
- Turnkey will submit a change order for timely completion
- Tioga County IT will be notified
- A tour with Kevin Main (Rural Water) at Crown Cork is scheduled
- A conference call may be arranged to clarify findings

Library

- Budget transfers will be completed in January
- Two grants received for the Children's Fiction section from Friends of the Finger Lakes Library
- Local Historians Meeting to be held next week at the Tioga County Historical Association
- Appreciation expressed for assistance with the Carols and Cocoa event

Committee Reports

- REAP: Ann Hill appointed as Village of Nichols representative; meeting scheduled in January
- LEPC: No report

Abstracts:

A motion was made by Councilperson R. Cole, seconded by Councilperson L. Yost, to accept the vouchers.

Fund District Amount

AA Fund Total	\$124,736.03
DA Fund Total	\$11,003.21

DB Fund Total	\$2,550.43
SS Fund Total	\$1,711.55
SW Fund Total	<u>\$2,765.05</u>
Grand Total	\$142,766.27

Vote: 4 Ayes, 0 No, 0 Abstain, 1 Absent
Motion carried.

Public Comments - None.

Adjournment

A motion to adjourn was made by Councilperson B. Fay-Pelotte, seconded by Councilperson R. Cole.

Vote: 4 Ayes, 0 No, 0 Abstain, 1 Absent

The meeting was adjourned at 6:46 PM.

DRAFT