TOWN OF NICHOLS
TOWN BOARD MEETING MINUTES
September 29, 2026

Call to Order 6PM.

ROLL CALL: Present: Supervisor B. Cushman, Councilperson L. Tinney, Councilperson, Councilperson R. Cole Councilperson J. Ladd Yost; Councilperson B. Fay-Pelotte

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Councilperson R. Cole to approve the updated minutes, seconded by Councilperson J. Ladd Yost.

Vote: B. Cushman -Aye; Councilperson L. Tinney-Aye; Councilperson; Councilperson R. Cole; B. Fay-Pelotte – Aye; Councilperson J. Ladd Yost-Aye
Motion carried.

FINANCIALS

A motion was made by Councilperson R. Cole and seconded by Councilperson B. Fay-Pelotte to approve the financial reports.

Vote: B. Cushman -Aye; Councilperson L. Tinney-Aye; Councilperson; Councilperson R. Cole; B. Fay-Pelotte – Aye; Councilperson J. Ladd Yost-Abstain
Motion carried

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Camden Group – Wastewater Treatment Contract

The Board discussed the Camden Group contract for wastewater treatment services. The contract has been reviewed by the Town's attorneys.

Councilperson L. Tinney thanked Supervisor B. Cushman and Councilperson B. Fay-Pelotte for their work on the contract.

A motion was made by Councilperson B. Fay-Pelotte and seconded by Councilperson R. Cole to authorize the Supervisor to sign the Camden Group contract.

Vote: B. Cushman -Aye; Councilperson L. Tinney-Aye; Councilperson; Councilperson R. Cole; B. Fay-Pelotte – Aye; Councilperson J. Ladd Yost-Aye
Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS

1. Carriage House - Follow-Up

Councilperson L. Tinney reported that she had spoken with Ryan Vergason several times in an effort to connect with Jason Bellis regarding evaluation of the structure. Hunt had recommended contacting Nate Bins; however, no response had been received.

2. Town Hall Parking Lot Milling

The Board discussed a possible change to the parking lot milling schedule, with work potentially taking place on Friday, October 2, rather than October 5. Access on October 6 may be limited, and the building will be closed that day. Councilperson B. Fay-Pelotte will keep everyone abreast of changes.

3. Veterans Exemption

The Board was advised that, according to the Town's attorney, a resolution is not required regarding the veteran's exemption.

4. HVAC Feasibility Study

Councilperson L. Tinney reported that there are several outstanding issues and ongoing communications regarding the HVAC feasibility study. A face-to-face meeting is scheduled for October 21 at 5:30 p.m. to review and resolve the outstanding matters.

Councilperson R. Cole stated that she would like to attend the meeting but will be unavailable. Councilperson L. Tinney and Ladd Yost agreed that the meeting should proceed as scheduled rather than be delayed further.

5. Boiler Design and Upgrades

The boiler design and upgrade discussion will be addressed in conjunction with the HVAC feasibility study meeting scheduled for October 21 at 5:30 p.m.

6. Resolution #17-2026 TO AMEND THE 2026 TOWN BUDGET TO ESTABLISH A BUDGET LINE FOR CONFIDENTIAL SECRETARY

Certified Copy *

RESOLUTION TO AMEND THE 2026 TOWN BUDGET TO ESTABLISH A BUDGET LINE FOR CONFIDENTIAL SECRETARY

WHEREAS, the Town Board of the Town of Nichols, Tioga County, New York, has established the position of Confidential Secretary; and

WHEREAS, the Town Board desires to establish a separate budget line for the compensation and/or expenses associated with the Confidential Secretary position; and

WHEREAS, it is necessary to amend the adopted 2026 Town Budget to establish the appropriate budgetary account for said position; and

WHEREAS, the Town Board has determined that funds in the amount of $5,000.00 are available from AA.1650.400.000 and may be appropriated for this purpose;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Nichols hereby amends the 2026 Town Budget by establishing the following budget line:

Account/Line No.: AA.1220.102
Account Description: Supervisor Confidential
Secretary Amount: $5,000.00

BE IT FURTHER

RESOLVED, that the sum of $5,000.00 be transferred/appropriated from AA.1650.400.000 to the newly established Confidential Secretary budget line AA,1220.102; and

BE IT FURTHER

RESOLVED, that the Town Supervisor and/or Town Clerk, as appropriate, are hereby authorized and directed to make the necessary entries and adjustments to the Town's 2026 budget and accounting records to effectuate this resolution; and

BE IT FURTHER

RESOLVED, that this resolution shall take effect immediately upon adoption.

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7. Appreciation for Bob Nugent

The Board presented Bob Nugent with a thank-you card in appreciation of his time and service to the Town and wished him the best in his future endeavors.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Highway Department

- The McCoy Road project was reported to have turned out well.
- Approximately 275 tons of pavement were placed over two days using a rented paver.
- Jeff will rent an arm mower to cut brush at a cost of approximately $6,000 per month, with a delivery charge of $600.
- A lift will also need to be rented to complete tree work along Mount Pleasant, at an estimated cost of $2,700.
- The Board discussed the possible purchase of a sander for Truck 105 if the Volvo truck is not returned in time. The estimated cost of the sander is $5,900.
- Supervisor Cushman reported that she had called regarding the Volvo truck and was advised that it would be sent to Viking this week. Once the truck arrives at Viking, Jeff will inspect it. Assembly is expected to begin upon arrival, with an estimated build time of approximately eight weeks.
- The Board expressed concern regarding the length of time required to receive the truck. If the truck is not returned, a sander may need to be purchased.

Buildings and Grounds

- The siding project is progressing, with completion anticipated by the end of the following week.
- The soffit has been installed, and fascia work is next, followed by the siding.
- Several shingles are missing from the shed roof. Although the roof is not currently leaking, a steel roof was discussed as a longer-term solution.
- The estimated cost for the steel roofing is approximately $2,000. The existing roof is expected to hold through the spring.
- The Board agreed to approve the purchase of steel roofing for the shed.
- The man door will be painted.

Sewer/Water Department

- The department is working to complete outstanding items.
- The Camden Group has been on-site for the past three days.
- The Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) is scheduled to conduct a final inspection tomorrow.
- The SKADA project representatives have been made aware of the change in personnel.

Code Enforcement Officer

- The Code Enforcement Officer reported passing the most recent test with a score of 96%.
- Work continues on new permits and responding to inquiries from Town residents.

Library

- Stray Haven donations are being accepted, and ongoing library programs continue.
- Chatney Clark has resigned from the Library Board.
- The Library Board has been reduced to five members.
- Erica is working to identify a new board member.

Fire Commissioners - No report was provided.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

REAP Meeting - Councilperson J. Ladd Yost reported that there was limited activity regarding USDA projects. It was noted that only two counties qualify for this funding, with Tioga County being one of them.

The committee discussed whether anything could be done to assist the Spencer community following the loss of Spencer Shurfine. Concerns were raised regarding the distance residents must now travel to access groceries and other essential food supplies.

LPEC / Emergency Services -The Board discussed LPEC and community disaster response coordination.

It was reported that the Red Cross attended the most recent Fire Chiefs meeting and advised that the organization is downsizing. The Red Cross plans to remove its trailer currently located in Tioga County, with resources being consolidated through Rochester.

Although there will no longer be a locally stationed trailer, the Red Cross indicated that it would respond when needed and could establish operations for two to three weeks if necessary. It was also noted that nonprofit organizations may qualify for a free trailer.

APPROVAL OF VOUCHERS

A motion was made by Councilperson R. Cole and seconded by Supervisor B. Cushman to approve the vouchers.

General Fund $83567.30
Highway: $46955.
Sewer/Water: $28686.34

Vote: B. Cushman -Aye; Councilperson L. Tinney-Aye; Councilperson; Councilperson R. Cole; B. Fay-Pelotte – Aye; Councilperson J. Ladd Yost-Aye
Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Supervisor B. Cushman and seconded by Councilperson J. Ladd Yost to adjourn the meeting.

Vote: B. Cushman -Aye; Councilperson L. Tinney-Aye; Councilperson; Councilperson R. Cole; B. Fay-Pelotte – Aye; Councilperson J. Ladd Yost-Aye
Motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at **6:46 p.m.**

Respectfully submitted,

Marcy Hill
Town Clerk
Town of Nichols

Approved 10/27/26