

Town of Conewango Board Meeting August 12, 2026

Meeting called to order at 7 pm

In Attendance: Supervisor McGuire, Councilman Hubbard, Councilman Finch, Councilman Pitts & Clerk McGuire

Review of Last Meeting Minutes:

Motion to accept made by Supervisor McGuire and seconded by Councilman Pitts. Vote All aye.

Department Head Reports

- **Highway Report:**
 - Working on road and shoulder work.
 - Gathering building information and measurements along with price quotes for building projects.
 - Looking into cemetery concerns at Little Creek Cemetery
- **Building Code Officer:** Issued 6 permits (\$905 revenue), handled 1 complaint, fielded 17 calls, conducted 8 inspections (1 violation, 2 final inspections, 5 framing inspections).
- **Dog Control Officer:** Picked up and returned one chipped husky mix to its owner (held for one day).
- **Assessor:** Working on STAR exemptions; New York State sent a list of 68 properties needing information from owners to keep STAR exemption. Reviewing properties for changes.
- **Justice Department:**
 - During July: 2 arraignments, 3 criminal cases adjudicated, several cases deferred to August.
 - \$243 in fines collected.
 - Attendance secured for the NYS Magistrates Association Conference in September to fulfill continuing education requirements and for networking.
- **Clerk Report:**
 - Total revenue for the month: \$1,307 (town's portion: \$1,175.60).
 - Revenue sources: 7 building permits, 1 dump ticket, 5 fishing licenses, 4 dog licenses.
 - Gearing up for hunting license season; new books are available due to regulation changes.
- **Supervisor Report:**
 - Financials provided by Dorene Mayhew; all accounts match and are on file at the clerk's office.
 - **Epic Fund Performance:** The Epic Fund is generating a "lot better interest rate" than the savings account.

Building Updates and Projects

- **Flower Bed Renovation:**
 - **External Bids:** Two quotes received: \$3,500 and \$3,800.
 - **Approved In-House Plan:** Use highway staff for labor and purchase materials for under \$800.
 - **Materials:** Perennials, landscape timbers, "really good barrier stuff" (geotextile fabric), and river stone or #2 wash stone (possibly glued to prevent movement).
- **Fascia Paint Job:**
 - **Approved In-House Plan:** Use town staff for labor and purchase materials. Get quotes to possibly use tin to avoid constant painting and upkeep.
- **Roof Repair:**
 - **Status:** Seeking labor quotes from roofers. Material cost for 37 floor sheets is approximately \$5,000.
- **General Building Maintenance (Painting):** Approved as general building maintenance.
- **Siding Repair:** Discussion regarding missing pieces of siding (front and back) and potential to bend new pieces in-house to save costs.
- **Conclusion:** Most projects to be done in-house to save costs.

Community Concerns

- **Pope Road Trees:** A complaint was received regarding trees growing out into the road at the end of Pope Road and Rt 62. This is a state right-of-way, and the issue will be relayed to the new DOT contact, to hopefully allow us to cut down brush.

New Business

- **Hunting License Fee:**
 - New York State allows an extra \$1 charge for printing fees, as towns now print licenses on their own paper.
 - **Decision:** The town will charge an extra dollar to offset printing costs.
- **Local Law for Tax Bill Inserts:**
 - A local law is needed to include informational materials in tax bills.
 - **Action:**
 - **Motion:** To advertise a public hearing for Local Law 2-2026 in the newspaper. By Supervisor McGuire and seconded by Councilman Hubbard. Vote All Ayes.
 - **Public Hearing Date:** September 9, 2026, prior to the regular meeting.
- **NYAOT Training:**
 - Early registration is open until November 30th for the training from March 13-16, 2027.
 - Booking hotel separately by November 30th will secure this year's rates.
 - The event was changed from February to March this year.
- **2027 Budget:**
 - Budget papers sent out; departments to submit requests to the clerk by 9/8 for compilation by the budget officer.
- **Budget Transfer Request (Resolution 14-2026):**
 - **General Fund:** \$1,127 transferred from contingency to various contractual accounts (\$621 Justice, \$50 Town Clerk, \$141 Building, \$40 Traffic Control, \$223 Code Officer, \$46 Garage).

- **Highway Fund:** \$10,000 transferred from Snow Removal Personal to General Repair Personal.
- **Motion: To approve Resolution 14-2026. Motion made by Councilman Finch to accept and seconded by Councilman Pitts. Roll Call vote: Pitts Aye, Finch Aye, Hubbard aye, supervisor McGuire Aye.**
- **EMS Service Review:**
 - **Background:** Councilman Studley along with Councilman Pitts, attended a county EMS meeting on July 21, 2026, in Great Valley to discuss potential improvements and a county-wide EMS plan.
 - **Data Presented:** County-wide first-due agency response rate is 56% (44% of calls are not met by the immediate coverage agency, leading to 20–40-minute response times).
 - Current subcontracted EMS services are adequate and beneficial.
 - **Conewango's Fortunate Position:** Randolph (which covers Conewango) has a 90-91% response rate, the best in the county.
 - **Contractual Issue:** The town's contract with Randolph EMS requires them to provide billing data. This data has not been received for 2026.

Audit of Claims

- **Motion to approve the claims made by Supervisor McGuire and seconded by Councilman Finch. Vote all ayes.**

General Warrant #8 – 2026	Vouchers 140-157	Totaling \$ 4,565.61
Highway Warrant #8-2026	Vouchers 64-75	Totaling \$ 6,353.65
Justice Warrant #8-2026	Vouchers 4	Totaling \$ 153.00

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn made by Councilman Finch at 7:55 pm