

Conewango Town Board Meeting July 8, 2026

The meeting was called to order at 7:03 PM, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silence for American heroes.

All Board Members present: Supervisor McGuire, Councilman Studley, Hubbard, Finch & Pitts. Also present was Jennifer McGuire Town Clerk.

Review of Minutes:

Councilman Studley made a motion to accept the last month's minutes, seconded by Supervisor McGuire. All in favor: Aye. None opposed or abstained.

Department Head Reports

- **Highway Department:** Reported on busy working on dirt roads, patching potholes, preparing for skid patch/hot mix, pulling shoulders, and prepping for one more blacktop job in late August/early September.
- **Building Code Officer:** No report submitted.
- **Dog Control:** No report submitted.
- **Assessor:** Reported helping taxpayers with enhanced STAR exceptions and beginning data collection for properties.
- **Justice:** During June, one traffic case resolved, four arraignments were performed (two after hours), with other cases deferred to July. \$168 in fines collected.
- **Clerk:** Total revenue for the month was \$1,314, with the town's portion being \$1,166.68 (from 7 building permits, 1 marriage license, 1 certified copy, 2 dog licenses, 4 fishing licenses). Notarization commissioning complete, awaiting stamp. Credit card payment system is operational for town and court.
- **Supervisor:** Financials provided by Doreen Mayhew; all accounts match.

Unfinished Business

- **Dog Census:** The dog census is postponed until January 2027. This avoids charging residents for a partial year's license and allows for cost-saving by potentially including flyers with tax bills. The plan is to finalize the strategy in December 2026 and launch it with the January 2027 tax bills. The Dog Control Officer would follow up with non-respondents.
- **Salt Shed Project:** The project is on hold pending the submission of required insurance documents (workers' comp, disability, etc.) from the town. Jennifer sent some insurance information, and the Supervisor will follow up with Tara to clarify needs.

Community Comments

- no public present

New Business

- **Supervisor Audit:** The year-end audit, including reconciliations and check numbers, was presented. Councilman Studley motioned, seconded by Councilman Finch, to accept the audit.

All in favor: Aye. Supervisor McGuire abstained. A comment was added to ensure deposits are made within 24 hours to meet auditor expectations.

- **2027 Budget:** The board is revamping budget forms for department heads for better clarity. A worksheet will be prepared by Doreen Mayhew for the next meeting.
- **Town Hall Beautification:** Discussion on the rundown appearance of the town hall (fading paint, exposed tin, overgrown landscaping).
 - **Immediate Steps:** Consider redoing flower beds (possibly with gravel) and installing a "Conewango Town Hall" sign.
 - **Longer Term:** Explore power-washing and professional painting of the tin siding, as highway crews are unavailable or unequipped. The Clerk will obtain quotes for professional painting.
- **Highway Truck (Piggybacking Legislation):** Governor signed a bill extending the ability to "piggyback" on cooperative bids from other municipalities, resolving a potential issue with purchasing the new truck bed.
- **EMS Planning:** The County Office of Emergency Services requires counties to develop a comprehensive EMS plan, collaborating with local municipalities. The town is asked to send one or two representatives to a kickoff meeting on July 21st, 2026, at 6:30 PM at the Great Valley Fire Department. Councilman Pitts (due to his EMS knowledge) is being registered to attend, Councilman Studley is checking his schedule and may attend.
- **NYAOT Conference:** The legislative portion of the annual meeting will be held in Albany on September 22nd-23rd. No board members plan to attend, so no resolution for designating voting privileges is needed.
- **Speed Limit Change:** The Department of State approved the town's resolution requesting a 45 MPH speed limit on County Routes 40 and 7 (between NYS Route 241 and Walker Road), a distance of 8.4 miles. Signage changes by the County are expected in the near future.

Resolutions and Votes

- **Resolution 12-2026 (Budget Transfer):** Transfer \$466 from contingency to tax collector contractual, \$186 from contingency to building contractual, and \$68 from contingency to garage contractual (total \$720 from contingency). Motion by Supervisor McGuire, seconded by Councilman Pitts.
 - **Roll Call Vote: Councilman Pitt (Aye), Councilman Finch (Aye), Councilman Studley (Aye), Councilman Hubbard (Aye), Supervisor McGuire (Aye). Motion carried.**
- **Resolution 13-2026 (NYAOT Bill of Rights):** Adopt the New York Associations of Towns Bill of Rights. Motion by Supervisor McGuire, seconded by Councilman Finch.
 - **Roll Call Vote: Councilman Pitts (Aye), Councilman Finch (Aye), Councilman Studley (Aye), Councilman Hubbard (Aye), Supervisor McGuire (Aye). Motion carried.**

Audit of Bills

General Warrant # 6 -2026	Vouchers 121-139	Totaling \$ 10,372.28
Highway Warrant #6-2026	Vouchers 56-63	Totaling \$ 85,488.04
Justice Warrant #		Totaling \$108.00

Motion made by Councilman Studley, seconded by Councilman Hubbard, to pay the bills. All in favor: Aye. None opposed or abstaining.

Adjourn

Motion to Adjourn made by Councilman Finch at 7:51 pm