TOWN OF ROSE

TOWN BOARD MEETING MINUTES

August 18, 2026

A Public Hearing and a Regular Town Board Meeting were held at the Rose Town Office Building, located at 5074 North Main Street, North Rose, Wayne County, New York, on Thursday, August 18, 2026, with Supervisor Christine M. Rice presiding.

PRESENT

- Christine M. Rice, Supervisor
- Richard A. Lasher, Councilman
- Phil Torrey, Councilman
- Scott J. Converse, Councilman
- Jennifer M. Murphy, Councilwoman

ALSO PRESENT

Code Enforcement Officer (CEO) Paul Fordham; Animal Control Officer (ACO) Flo Miller; Planning Board Chairman Steve Guthrie; Roger Betts; Barb Betts; Richard Wigfield; Dennis Wigfield; Matthew Hilkert; Mrs. Hilkert; and Town Clerk Ann Gonzalez.

PUBLIC HEARING

Supervisor Rice opened the Public Hearing at 6:37 p.m.

Attendees asked the Board for clarification regarding the law.

A motion was made by Councilman Lasher, seconded by Councilman Torrey, and agreed upon by all to close the Public Hearing at 7:00 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER

Supervisor Rice opened the regular meeting by leading all present in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR

TextMyGov Presentation

Teagan Campbell of TextMyGov gave a presentation via Zoom. The information provided was as follows:

“TextMyGov was developed to open lines of communication with local government agencies and citizens. The system works 24 hours a day and easily connects with your website and other communication methods. Using the regular messaging app on any smartphone, the smart texting technology allows the citizen to ask questions and get immediate responses, find links to information on the agency’s website, address problems, report any issues, and upload photos.”

The Board and attendees asked questions regarding information security and cost. Mr. Campbell explained that the system includes web security and that costs are determined by the population of the town. For the Town of Rose, the cost would be $3,500.00 annually, with a $1,700.00 setup fee and an annual recurring charge for three years. The Board thanked Mr. Campbell for his time and stated that the matter would be discussed at a later date.

Wayne County Sales Tax

Jamie Corteville, Acting Treasurer of Wayne County, was next to address the Board. She explained that, for the past three years, the County had sent sales tax revenue to the Town. Unfortunately, there had been a miscalculation, and the Town had been overpaid $60,234.66. The Town has until December 31, 2027, to repay the County. The Board asked several questions regarding why the Town was being given only so little time to repay the amount when the overpayment occurred over a period of three years. The Board also asked whether there was an appeal process that would allow the Town additional time to repay the amount resulting from the County's error. Ms. Corteville did not know whether an appeal or request for additional time was available. She assured the Board and residents that she would communicate their questions to the County Treasurer's Office.

RESOLUTION NO. 34-2026

SALES TAX COLLECTED BY WAYNE COUNTY — ELECTING DIRECT PAYMENT PURSUANT TO TAX LAW § 1262

On motion of Councilman Converse, seconded by Councilman Torrey, the following resolution was adopted:

Ayes: Murphy, Converse, Torrey, Lasher, Rice
Nays: 0

WHEREAS, the County of Wayne imposes and collects sales tax pursuant to Article 29 of the Tax Law of the State of New York; and

WHEREAS, the amount of said sales tax collected and allotted to the Town of Rose is currently applied to reduce county taxes levied upon real property in the Town of Rose; and

WHEREAS, § 1262 of the Tax Law provides that any town, other than a town within a county having a population of one million or more and containing not more than three towns, or other than a town within a county having a population of not less than seven hundred thousand or more than eight thousand, may, by local law, ordinance, or resolution, provide that all amounts that would otherwise be applied to reduce county taxes levied upon real property in such town shall instead be paid directly to such town to be used for any town purpose; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Rose is a qualified town within the meaning of § 1262 and elects that all amounts that would otherwise be applied to reduce county taxes levied upon real property in such town shall be paid directly to the Town of Rose to be used for any town purpose;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the amounts that would otherwise be applied by the County of Wayne to reduce county taxes and general town taxes levied upon real property in the Town of Rose shall be paid directly to the Town of Rose to be used for any town purpose authorized by § 1262 of the Tax Law of the State of New York; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that, pursuant to § 1262 of the Tax Law, this resolution shall be effective for all calendar year or years subsequent to its enactment; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Town Clerk is authorized and directed to mail a certified copy of this resolution, by registered/certified mail, to the Chief Fiscal Officer of the County of Wayne before August 19, 2026.

At 7:33 p.m., Jamie Corteville left the meeting.

Water District No. 5

Roger Betts was next to address the Board. He asked when Water District No. 5 would finish paying for the water project from approximately 20 years ago.

The Clerk to the Supervisor, Learo, would have that information but was not present at the meeting. Supervisor Rice stated that she would obtain the information as soon as she was able to speak with Clerk Learo.

CODE ENFORCEMENT REPORT

CEO Fordham reported the following activities for the month of July:

- 10 building permits
- 3 appeals
- 2 violation warnings
- Attendance at 1 Planning Board meeting
- $1,506.80 collected in fees
- 1 septic inspection, which passed
- 1 911 response on Wolcott Road in the Town of Rose
- 3 verbal warnings
- 1 written warning

HIGHWAY REPORT

The Highway Department completed preparatory work on Buchanan Road and is ready for asphalt, which is expected to be laid in late August or early September. The Department replaced rotted pipes on Catchpole, Covell, and Glenmark Roads. Brown Road was paved from the Huron line south for 1,350 feet, completing all of Brown Road.The Highway Department has been assisting other towns with their paving and sealing projects. In turn, those towns will assist the Town of Rose when needed. The third pass of mowing has been completed. The County has very few personnel available to assist with stormwater drainage. Superintendent Jay is hoping to address the drainage work before the winter weather arrives.

WATER REPORT

Resident Matthew Hilkert asked to address the Board regarding damage to his boiler. During a fire on Wolcott Road in the Hamlet of Rose, two fire hydrants were used, one on each side of his house. When the hydrants were used, a backflow of water entered his basement and affected his boiler. Mr. Hilkert attempted to repair the boiler by replacing several parts. Ultimately, he had to purchase a new boiler at a cost of $10,400.00. Mr. Hilkert requested that his pipes be repaired to prevent this issue from occurring again. He does not have a meter pit on his parcel, which could potentially prevent the backflow issue.

The Water Department is waiting for a part and will make the necessary repair as soon as the part arrives.

The Water Department also reported that it:

- Replaced 2 meter pits;
- Completed 3 final reads;
- Received 2 new water service applications; and
- Read 5 monthly meters.

ANIMAL CONTROL REPORT

A resident called to report that his neighbor's dog had bitten him while he was walking along Route 414. Animal Control Officer Miller took the resident's report and then obtained a report from the dog's owner. The dog was current on its rabies vaccination and was licensed through the Town. ACO Miller completed a report for Wayne County Public Health and had the dog quarantined for 10 days. There were two additional calls that resulted in the owners retrieving their animals, with no complications.

HISTORIAN'S REPORT

The Rose Bicentennial was a success. Historian Miller extended her thanks to everyone involved. It is believed that approximately 2,500 to 3,000 people attended throughout the course of the day. The next event will be the Old Wolcott Community Heritage Jubilee on October 17, 2026. Historian Miller will have historical displays from various collections contributed by citizens of the towns, including farm histories, family histories, student projects, and reenactments.

PLANNING BOARD REPORT

The Planning Board has been researching other towns' laws in preparation for developing a Rental Law for the Town of Rose. The proposal is ready and is awaiting review by the Town's attorney. Chairman Guthrie estimates that the law should be ready within six months. Chairman Guthrie also noted that the drainage project had been tabled due to more pressing matters. He believes stormwater drainage is a problem. The project may provide some assistance to residents but will not resolve the underlying problem, which is more than likely erosion and would depend on individual homeowners to correct.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Murphy, seconded by Councilman Lasher, and agreed upon by all to accept the reports as presented.

BUDGET MODIFICATIONS

RESOLUTION NO. 35-2026

On motion of Councilwoman Murphy, seconded by Councilman Lasher, the following resolution was adopted.

RESOLVED, to move $481.29 from A1990.4 Special Items Contingent to A1330.4 Tax Collection.

Ayes: 3 — Murphy, Torrey, Lasher
Nays: 2 — Converse, Rice

ABSTRACTS

RESOLUTION NO. 36-2026

On motion of Councilwoman Murphy, seconded by Councilman Lasher, the following resolution was adopted:

Ayes: 5 — Murphy, Converse, Torrey, Lasher, Rice
Nays: 0

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board authorizes payment of the following amounts on Abstract No. 8:

Fund	Vouchers	Total
General	227–254	$13,976.75
Highway	98–110	$87,504.72
Water	108–123	$6,411.94
Street Lighting District No. 1	8	$1,037.99
Street Lighting District No. 2	8	$806.99
Total Disbursements		**$109,738.39**

MINUTES

A motion was made by Councilman Torrey, seconded by Councilwoman Murphy, and agreed upon by all to accept the minutes as written.

SUPERVISOR'S REPORT

A motion was made by Councilman Lasher, seconded by Councilman Torrey, and agreed upon by all to accept the Supervisor's report as presented.

OLD BUSINESS

A motion was made by Councilwoman Murphy, seconded by Councilman Lasher, and agreed upon by all to hold a Policies and Procedures Workshop on September 2, 2026, at 4:30 p.m.

RESOLUTION NO. 36-2026

ENACTING LOCAL LAW NO. 2 OF 2026 — OVERRIDE OF THE 2027 TAX CAP LIMIT

On motion of Councilwoman Murphy, seconded by Councilman Converse, the following resolution was adopted:

Ayes: 5 — Murphy, Converse, Torrey, Lasher, Rice
Nays: 0

WHEREAS, the New York State Legislature enacted General Municipal Law § 3-c, which establishes a limit upon real property tax levies by local governments; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to General Municipal Law § 3-c(5), a local government may adopt a budget in excess of the tax levy limit only if the governing body of such local government first enacts a local law to override the tax levy limit for the coming fiscal year only; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Rose, New York, Town Board has not yet finalized the fiscal year 2027 budget and may need the flexibility to exceed the property tax cap if deemed necessary; and

WHEREAS, the current inflationary environment threatens to significantly increase costs to the Town, including costs for labor, energy, equipment maintenance, transfer station contract increases, road repair, and other expenses;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ENACTED by the Town of Rose, New York, Town Board, as follows:

Section 1. Legislative Intent

The Rose Town Board has determined that it is important to maintain flexibility in the process of finalizing the fiscal year 2027 budget and that it may be necessary to override

the limit on the amount of real property taxes that may be levied by the Town of Rose for the coming fiscal year 2027.

Section 2. Override of Tax Levy Limit

Upon adoption of this local law, the Town Board is hereby authorized to override the tax levy limit for the coming fiscal year 2027 if the Board deems it necessary for the Town of Rose to adopt a budget for fiscal year 2027 that may require a real property tax levy in excess of the "tax levy limit," as defined by General Municipal Law § 3-c.

Section 3. Legal Authority

The authority to override the tax levy limit is authorized by General Municipal Law § 3-c(5), which expressly authorizes a local government to override the tax levy limit for the coming fiscal year 2027 by adoption of a local law approved by a vote of sixty percent (60%) of the total voting power of its governing body, the Rose Town Board.

Section 4. Effective Date

This Local Law shall take effect immediately, in accordance with the provisions of the Municipal Home Rule Law of the State of New York.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

A motion was made by Councilwoman Murphy, seconded by Councilman Lasher, and agreed upon by all to enter into Executive Session at 8:42 p.m. to discuss the personal performance of an employee, which matter, if disclosed, would imperil the public safety.

A motion to come out of Executive Session at 9:28 p.m. was made by Councilwoman Murphy and seconded by Councilman Lasher.

Upon returning from Executive Session, a motion was made by Councilman Converse, seconded by Councilman Lasher, to issue the Water Department a work order for the Matthew Hilkert property.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion to adjourn was made by Councilwoman Murphy, seconded by Councilman Lasher, and agreed upon by all at 9:32 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Ann Gonzalez
Town Clerk
Town of Rose