

Minutes of the Town of Chesterfield Regular Town Board Meeting Held on Tuesday, June 9, 2026 at the Town of Chesterfield Office, 1 Vine Street, Keeseville, County of Essex and State of New York, Pursuant to Due Notice.

Supervisor Barber called the Meeting to order at 6:00 PM.

Everyone stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

Those Present:

Supervisor:	Clayton Barber
Town Clerk:	Bruce Bourgeois
Councilman:	David Gload
Councilman:	John Casey
Councilman:	Harrison Blaise
Town Attorney:	Mark Cowen
HW Supt:	John "Jay" Campine
Water Supt:	Dave Winter
Code Officer:	Trent Gravelle

Councilman Mitchell was excused.

Guests Present:

Greg Zais Gordon Howard Caleigh Goddeau Brayden Lafountain
Lucas Dashnaw Warren Pray

Upon a motion by Councilman Gload and seconded by Councilman Casey and unanimously carried it was

#104 Resolved: To accept and waive the reading of the May 12, 2026 Regular Board Meeting Minutes.

Supervisor Barber informed the Board Henry Bennage passed away on May 12 2026. Henry served as Town Clerk for the Town of Chesterfield for many years.

Upon a motion by Supervisor Barber and seconded by Councilman Gload and unanimously carried it was

#105 Resolved: To offer the sincerest condolences to the family of Henry Bennage, born May 17, 1931 and deceased on May 12, 2026, graduating from Keeseville High School, serving in the United States Navy from 1951-1954, working as meat cutter for Grand Union before retiring in 1993 and serving the Town of Chesterfield as Town Clerk for many years.

Supervisor informed the Board he has received a letter of resignation, due to health concerns, from Councilman Patrick Mitchell. He will be sorely missed.

Upon a motion by Supervisor Barber and seconded by Councilman Blaise and unanimously carried it was

#106 Resolved: To accept, with regret, the resignation of Councilman Patrick "Bill" Mitchell, effective June 30, 2026, leaving his current position open until the next election cycle in November of 2027.

Supervisor Barber presented the Board with a copy of the Town of Essex's Local Law on Moratorium on Battery Energy Storage Systems. He would like the Board to consider adopting a temporary moratorium mirroring the Town of Essex. This would not affect private residential homes. He stated New York State is pushing to have 300,000 acres put into solar farms in the Adirondack Park. Supervisor Barber would like to have a Public Hearing to hear comments from the Town's constituents and decide whether to adopt a moratorium for Chesterfield.

Upon a motion by Councilman Blaise and seconded by Supervisor Barber and unanimously carried it was

#107 Resolved: To schedule a Public Hearing on Tuesday, July 14, 2026 at 5:30 PM to hear comments and concerns on a proposed temporary moratorium of battery energy storage systems and major solar energy systems.

Supervisor Barber informed the Board the Planning Board has changed their Regular Meeting day to the first Tuesday of the month to better fit into Code Officer Gravelle's schedule.

Supervisor Barber informed the Board he, Town Clerk Bourgeois, Clerk to the Supervisor Ocasio and Planning Board Chair Prescott met with Town of Essex Supervisor Hughes for a workshop on improving information to the public via computer. At that time, to ensure better FOIL responsibilities, it was determined the best practice of Planning Board Chair would be to have a dedicated laptop for correspondence and information. The Town can purchase a good quality laptop for \$700.

Upon a motion by Supervisor Barber and seconded by Councilman Casey and unanimously carried it was

#108 Resolved: To purchase an Apple laptop for an amount not to exceed \$700 to for use by the Planning Board Chair.

Supervisor Barber informed the Board they need to approve the Planning Board's acceptance of MJ Engineering to apply for the grant and then provide the service to update the Town of Chesterfield Zoning Law.

Upon a motion by Supervisor Barber and seconded by Councilman Gload and unanimously carried it was

#109 WHEREAS, the New York State Department of State has made grant funds available in 2026 through the Environmental Protection Fund (EPF) Smart Growth Program for community Planning, which provides grant funds on a competitive basis to eligible villages, towns, cities, counties, regional planning entities, and non-profit organizations, to advance the preparation and adoption of new or updated community wide zoning regulations that would implement an existing comprehensive plan that supports DOS Smart Growth Principles; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Chesterfield is proposing to undertake a project to consolidate and update the community's existing land use regulations and zoning ordinance to address current conditions and guide future Smart Growth; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Chesterfield intends to submit a grant application to request funding through the 2026 EPF Smart Growth Community Planning and Zoning Grant Program, and

WHEREAS, the Town of Chesterfield has been identified as a municipality where more than 20% of owner and renter households are considered housing-cost burdened and is therefore eligible for increased state assistance up to 85% of total eligible project costs.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Chesterfield Town Board hereby authorizes the submission of a grant application on behalf of the Town of Chesterfield, including provision of the 15% local match requirement, to request State funding for the purposes of hiring a consultant to coordinate a community-supported process to develop a Unified Land Use and Zoning Law for the Town of Chesterfield; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that if awarded, the Town Supervisor of the Town of Chesterfield is hereby authorized to execute all necessary documents relating to the NYS Department of State 2026 EPF Smart Growth Community Planning Grant Program application.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that if awarded, the Town of Chesterfield will use MJ Engineering as their business of choice to proceed with the grant; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, to designate, as special permit fees for the Town of Chesterfield, the total of \$50 for small projects and \$150 for large projects.

Supervisor Barber informed the Board the Town has signed with E-Waste to pick up electronics at the transfer station. He is meeting with the company June 10.

Supervisor Barber opened the floor to elected officials.

Town Clerk Bourgeois presented the Board with the May Clerk's Report. He gave a report on the 250 Celebration including a schedule of planned activities. He asked for any help from Town Councilmen for the Rabies Clinic June 23.

Councilman Gload asked about campers and other vehicles on the corner of Thompson Road and Mace Chasm Road. Supervisor Barber noted this was short term as a new home was being constructed at the site.

Highway Superintendent Champine thanked Fuller's Excavating for repairing sidewalks by Veteran's Park. There will be a tire pickup June 22 from 1-3 at Chesterfield Highway Garage. One Highway employee has left which started a conversation on pay, sick time and the Employee Handbook.

Councilman Casey suggested the Board address some issues in Executive Session. The Town may have a chance to purchase a used roller the town has been renting each summer for \$76,900 to be split between the Towns of Ausable and Chesterfield. The Town of Willsboro will be writing a check for 1/3 of the lift truck so it would not cost too much. The Town will wait on Town of Ausable recommendation.

Water Superintendent Winter would like to put the old skid steer and vac-truck out to bid locally before putting the equipment on an auction site. There have been some interest from residents in purchasing the equipment. The Town can always refuse bids if they are deemed too low. He will compile pictures and descriptions for Town Clerk Bourgeois to advertise for sealed bids.

Upon a motion by Supervisor Barber and seconded by Councilman Gload and unanimously carried it was

#110 Resolved: To declare the old skid steer and vac-truck surplus and for Town Clerk Bourgeois to advertise for sealed bids to be opened at the July 14, 2026 Board Meeting.

Supervisor Barber opened the floor for public comment.

Greg Zais appreciated the blight property regulations as it was an important point in the Town of Chesterfield Comprehensive Plan. He applauds for taking the step to correct these properties as well as being supportive of the Town Planning Board.

Zoanne Schnell appreciated all the info the Town provides on their website and Face Book pages/

Supervisor Barber presented the Board with a water ordinance law that would supersede any previous water ordinance in the Town of Chesterfield. He requested the Councilmen review it for any alterations before next Board Meeting. Water Superintendent Winter will review the fee schedule.

Upon a motion by Supervisor Barber and seconded by Councilman Gload and unanimously carried it was

#111 Resolved: To hold a Public Hearing on Tuesday, July 14, 2026 at 5:30 PM to address comments and concerns on a proposed water ordinance for the Town of Chesterfield and Port Kent Water Districts.

Supervisor Barber presented the Board with a draft Property Maintenance Law that was drawn up by the Essex County Attorney. This should help address the blight properties in the Town of Chesterfield. Town Attorney Cowen suggested the Town at same time repeal the Town's Unsafe Building Law to be more consistent.

Upon a motion by Supervisor Barber and seconded by Councilman Gload and unanimously carried it was

#112 Resolved: To hold a Public Hearing on Tuesday, July 14, 2026 to hear comments and concerns on a proposed Town of Chesterfield Property Maintenance Local Law.

Supervisor Barber informed the Board the Town of Willsboro would like to sell the Town of Chesterfield their 3-dog kennel that is approved for use by NYS Ag & Markets. The Town says it has \$28,000 in materials but will sell it to Chesterfield for \$20,000. Willsboro currently does not have a dog control officer. Chesterfield's Dog Control Officer may work for them as well. Other Towns have expressed interest in contracting with Chesterfield to harbor stray dogs there. Supervisor Barber will be looking for

convenient locations to put it. The Frontage Road Water Department location seems best. The Kennel is similar to an Amish shed. Highway Superintendent Champine will research transporting the kennel to Chesterfield. Councilman Gload suggested what happens when we have more than three dogs at one time if we contract our service to other towns. Supervisor Barber responded that Dog Control Hachigan does a great job finding the owners quickly and by contracting with other towns, not only is Chesterfield saving money by not contracting stray dogs with another agency but can also pay for our shelter in a short period of time.

Upon a motion by Councilman Casey and seconded by Supervisor Barber and unanimously carried it was

#113 Resolved: To purchase a 3-dog Kennel from the Town of Willsboro for \$20,000 with Town of Chesterfield responsible for relocation and installation.

Upon a motion by Supervisor Barber and seconded by Councilman Blaise and unanimously carried it was

#114 Resolved: To hold a Public Hearing on Tuesday, July 14, 2026 at 5:30 PM to address comments and concerns from constituents on the proposed six-lot subdivision on Thompson Road, Keeseville owned by the Town of Chesterfield.

Upon a motion by Supervisor Barber and seconded by Councilman Gload and unanimously carried it was

#115 Resolved: To authorize Court Clerks Christine Morrow and Brooke Champine to attend court training in Potsdam, NY on July 15, 2026.

Upon a motion by Councilman Blaise and seconded by Councilman Casey and unanimously carried it was

#116 Resolved: To accept the Supervisor's Financial Report for May 2026 with copies being placed in the Town Clerk's Office.

Upon a motion by Councilman Gload and seconded by Councilman Casey and unanimously carried it was

#117 Resolved: To accept water billing and adjustments for the period of May 12, 2026 to June 8, 2026.

Upon a motion by Councilman Casey and seconded by Councilman Gload and unanimously carried it was

#118 Resolved: To pay all bills, including credit card bills, received since May 11, 2026. Bills amounting to \$40,054.14 were audited and paid from the General Fund. Bills amounting to \$32,717.36 were audited and paid from the Highway Fund. Bills amounting to \$31,656.94 were audited and paid from the TCWD. Bills amounting to \$1,707.28 were audited and paid from the Port Kent Water District. Bills amounting to \$2,273.08 were audited and paid from Village Debt. Bills amounting to \$518.86 were audited and paid from the Compaction Station. The total of all bills received since May 11, 2026 equals \$108,927.66.

Upon a motion by Supervisor Barber and seconded by Councilman Gload and unanimously carried it was

#119 Resolved: To accept all bank reconciliations to May 31, 2026.

Upon a motion by Councilman Blaise and seconded by Councilman Gload and unanimously carried it was

#120 Resolved: To file all letters brought before this Board.

Upon a motion by Councilman Gload and seconded by Councilman Casey and unanimously carried it was

#121 Resolved: To audit and accept all budget amendments up to May 31, 2026.

Upon a motion by Councilman Gload and seconded by Councilman Casey and unanimously carried it was

#122 Resolved: To enter into Executive Session at 7:18 PM to discuss water issues.

The Board returned to open session at 8:11 PM with no decisions being made.

Upon a motion by Councilman Casey and seconded by Councilman Blaise and unanimously carried it was

#123 Resolved: To resolve water issues as discussed

Upon a motion by Councilman Blaise and seconded by Supervisor Barber and unanimously carried it was

#124 Resolved: That with no other business to come before this Board, the Regular Board Meeting of June 9, 2026 be adjourned at 8:17 PM.