

**REGULAR MEETING  
SHELDON TOWN BOARD  
April 15, 2026**

The Regular Meeting of the Sheldon Town Board held March 15, 2026 at the Sheldon Town Hall, 1380 Centerline Rd., NY 14145 was called to order by Town Supervisor Brian Becker at 7:00 p.m.

Present: Supervisor Brian Becker  
Councilmen: Joe Meyer, Jim Fontaine, Jim Kirsch  
Absent: Councilman Vince Kirsch, Town Clerk Kate Bulera  
Also present: Highway Superintendent Luke Metz  
Recording Secretary: Deputy Town Clerk Carol Zittel  
A signed list of all present is on file in the Town Clerk's office.

**Minutes**

A motion was made by Joe Meyer and seconded by Brian Becker that the minutes from the March 18, 2026 regular meeting be approved.

Ayes: (4) Becker, Meyer, Fontaine, J. Kirsch Nays: (0) Absent: (1) V. Kirsch Motion Carried.

**Communications**

Deputy Town Clerk Zittel reported the following:

**Strykersville Fire Department Officers**

The list of 2026 officers for the Strykersville Fire Department was received and is listed on the Town website.

**Town Historian Communication**

A letter from Jeanne Mest, Sheldon Historian, was distributed to the board prior to the meeting.

**NYMIR Property Appraisal Report**

The Town received a property appraisal report from NYMIR. Supervisor Becker toured Town property with the appraiser in 2025. A copy of the report has also been sent to Tompkins Insurance.

**NYS Dog Licensing – Donation Option**

NYS has added a section to the licensing law which requires licenses to have a donation option. Any donations that are made must go into a town fund which will be submitted annually to NYS. The Town Clerk will have more information to share next month.

A motion was made by Jim Fontaine and seconded by Joe Meyer to authorize the Town bookkeepers to create a fund to keep the donations until it's time to submit the annual payment to NYS.

Ayes: (4) Becker, Meyer, Fontaine, J. Kirsch Nays: (0) Absent: (1) V. Kirsch Motion Carried.

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**Reports**

The Town Supervisor financial reports, Town Clerk monthly report and Town Justice report were distributed.

**Wyoming County Zoning Report**

The Wyoming County Zoning report was distributed and is on file in the Town Clerk's office.

**Highway Superintendent Report**

Highway Superintendent Luke Metz reported the following:

**Road Sign Inventory**

The road sign inventory is going well. The Highway Superintendent is working on determining who is responsible for purchasing the signs. (State, County or Town). As the department is doing the sign inventory, they are also doing a culvert inventory. All of this is being done with GPS.

**Recent Heavy Rains**

The Town roads held up pretty well after the recent heavy rains at the end of March and beginning of April. Armbrust Road and Humphrey Road had some issues which the department is addressing.

**Truck Work**

The department has been working on getting the trucks ready. After the 2015 Western Star is sold, all of the department's trucks will have disc brakes which will be easier to work on.

**Brooming Sand**

The department will be working on brooming the roads of excess sand.

**Paving Remainder of North Sheldon Road**

Either the week before or after Memorial Day, the department will be paving the remaining portion of North Sheldon Road to the Fugle residence. BreezyHill Farm is aware of the schedule.

**Cutting Shoulders – Strykersville**

The department will be cutting back shoulders in Strykersville and will then spread grass seed. Councilman Jim Kirsch has a contact that has a hydro-seeder that the department may want to rent or use.

**Supervisor Report**

Supervisor Brian Becker reported the following:

**Speedy Cow Internet**

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The tower on Maxon Road is up and working to provide County-owned Speedy Cow internet. Flyers will be distributed this month to inform County residents of the new service. It will be fiber optic from tower to tower. From the tower to the house, it will be transmitted through the air.

**4-H Cornell Cooperative Extension Camp (Camp Wyomoco)**

The former Cornell camp on Buffalo Road in Orangeville was closed last year. It is over 300 acres with the potential of a donation of more land from Nick Fisher. The site has historical significance as Mary Jemison hid on the land. NYS has a grant for developing open air spaces. Wyoming County will be applying for grant funds to purchase the land and convert it to a County-owned Park. Five or six County Supervisors voted against the purchase, however, the resolution still passed. The grant will provide 100% of the purchase price.

**Cross Culvert on Route 98 in Varysburg**

There has been significant yard flooding at several addresses on Route 98 in Varysburg. Supervisor Becker showed photos from his tablet. NYSDOT has been contacted and they will snake the culvert to alleviate the problem.

**Acceptance of Reports**

A motion was made by Jim Fontaine and seconded by Joe Meyer to accept all reports as presented.

Ayes: (4) Becker, Meyer, Fontaine, J. Kirsch Nays: (0) Absent: (1) V. Kirsch Motion Carried.

**Old Business:**

**Varysburg Water Update:**

**Pre-Fab Pumphouse**

Supervisor Becker and Thane Wright took a tour of a pre-fab pumphouse with Mountain Engineering. Supervisor Becker showed photos from the tour. Mountain Engineering is working on designing a similar pumphouse for Varysburg Water. The pumphouse will be insulated.

**Water Leak – Easter Sunday**

At 5am on Easter Sunday, Supervisor Becker was informed that there was no water in Varysburg. Supervisor Becker and Thane Wright spent all day on Easter Sunday looking for the leak and then fixing it. Videos and photos from the day were shared with the board. The leak was eventually found on the portion of pipe that was replaced 11 years ago. The only contractor available to dig was Ed Zehler. Steve Mountain from Mountain Engineering came to the leak site and then drove to Bethany to obtain pipe materials from a contractor he has worked with. By Monday 5pm, water service was restored. Steve

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Mountain contacted Supervisor Becker today to inform him that there is potential NYS funding to fix this portion of pipe where the leak occurred. Supervisor Becker believes the pipe cracked due to not being properly bedded eleven years ago. He will be discussing this with Town Attorney DiMatteo and Mountain Engineering.

**Yard Clean-up from Recent Water Project**

Yards that were damaged due to the recent water project will be cleaned up and regraded by Fineline Pipe as weather permits.

**Mills Zoning Violation**

Nothing new. Waiting for weather to break and for contractor to come out to remove items.

**Windmill Decommissioning**

Councilman Kirsch will be taking the lead on this. As he is absent tonight, we will hear more next month.

**New Business:**

**Audit Report from Don Przybyl**

A motion was made by Joe Meyer and seconded by Jim Fontaine to accept the audit findings and report submitted by Don Przybyl. The Town Clerk, Town Court, Town Supervisor and Town Water Clerk's books were audited by Mr. Przybyl.

Ayes: (4) Becker, Meyer, Fontaine, J. Kirsch Nays: (0) Absent: (1) V. Kirsch Motion Carried.

**Ball Diamond Sand & Trucking – Vincent Almeter Memorial Park**

A motion was made by Jim Fontaine and seconded by Joe Meyer to authorize the purchase of ball diamond sand/clay mix for the Varysburg ball field and to also authorize the Town Highway department to transport the sand and assist in spreading it. Work will be done after hours.

Ayes: (4) Becker, Meyer, Fontaine, J. Kirsch Nays: (0) Absent: (1) V. Kirsch Motion Carried.

**Resolution – Wyoming County Policy & Procedure Domestic & Gender Based Violence**

Supervisor Becker distributed a copy of Wyoming County's Domestic & Gender Based Violence policy and procedure and asked that the Town Board review the policy for discussion at next month's meeting.

**Wyoming County Sheriff's Court Security Contract**

A motion was made by Joe Meyer and seconded by Jim Kirsch to authorize the Town Supervisor to sign the contract with Wyoming County Sheriff's Office for court security. Of note, the contract reflects an hourly pay increase. Pay will now be \$35.01 per hour.

Ayes: (4) Becker, Meyer, Fontaine, J. Kirsch Nays: (0) Absent: (1) V. Kirsch Motion Carried.

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**Bills:**

Town Supervisor Becker confirmed that the Board had a chance to review the abstracts.

Councilman Fontaine asked if only one panel was replaced on the highway garage overhead door. Superintendent Metz replied yes.

Councilman Fontaine questioned a general bill for a sign for \$2,100. After pulling the invoice, it was determined that it was the historical sign that will be reimbursed with grant funding.

Historian Jeanne Mest was awarded another grant from the Pomeroy Foundation for the sign.

A motion was made by Jim Fontaine and seconded by Jim Kirsch that the

General Bills #61 to #78 for a Total of \$19,849.37, the

Highway Bills #45 to #58 for a Total of \$11,327.90, the

Lighting District bills #7 to #7 for a Total of \$709.08, the

Trust & Agency bills #7 to #8 for a Total of \$294.60, the

Varysburg Water District bills #13 to #16 for a Total of \$753.72, the

Varysburg Water System Improvement bills #9 to #11 for a Total of \$8,933.50 be paid.

Ayes: (4) Becker, Meyer, Fontaine, J. Kirsch Nays: (0) Absent: (1) V. Kirsch Motion Carried.

**Comments from the Floor**

At 7:43 p.m. Supervisor Becker opened the floor to comments.

Councilman Meyer commended the Highway Superintendent for the great job the department is doing. There were no other comments from the floor.

**Adjournment**

At 7:45 p.m. a motion was made by Jim Fontaine and seconded by Joe Meyer to adjourn the April 15, 2026 meeting of the Sheldon Town Board.

Ayes: (4) Becker, Meyer, Fontaine, J. Kirsch Nays: (0) Absent: (1) V. Kirsch Motion Carried.