

**TOWN OF COEYMANS MEETING MINUTES
JANUARY 22, 2026 6:00PM**

The Town Meeting was held Thursday, January 22nd, 2026 at 6:00p.m. at 18 Russell Avenue, Ravena N.Y.

PRESENT: Stephen Donnelly, Supervisor
Michael J. Stott, Deputy Supervisor
Stephen J. Schmitt, Council Member
Patricia Grogan, Council Member

ALSO PRESENT: Candace McHugh, Town Clerk
Richard Reilly, Town Attorney
Daniel D. Baker, Superintendent of Highways
Jason Chmielewski, Building Inspector/ Code Enforcement Officer
Marc Tryon, Chief of Police
Keith Geraldson, Chief Sewer Plant Operator

Supervisor Donnelly opened the meeting and led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance. He asked that the record reflect all board members were present. He proceeded to read a State of The Town Address:

The State of Coeymans: Doing the Necessary Work to Build a Better Future

Local government has one fundamental purpose: to make life better for the people it serves. That means safer neighborhoods, reliable infrastructure, stable taxes, and a government that plans ahead rather than reacts to crisis. These outcomes do not happen by accident. They require discipline, coordination, and a willingness to confront long-ignored issues.

That is the approach this administration has taken from the start.

When we took office, we committed to centralizing government, opening lines of communication between the Town of Coeymans, the Village of Ravena, and the RCS School District, and operating transparently. We said local government should work together for the benefit of residents, and we are doing exactly that.

Cooperation alone does not solve structural problems, however, that required a clear plan and a realistic understanding of the Town's resources. The execution of this economic development plan over the last two years has garnered real results.

Step One: Budget Discipline and Investment

The first and most critical step was tightening and reworking the Town's budget. Before new projects could move forward, the Town needed a stronger financial foundation.

We reviewed spending practices, updated long-neglected fiscal policies, and imposed discipline where it was overdue. Just as important, we changed how Town funds were managed. Instead of

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A Town Board Meeting was held Thursday, January 8th, 2026 at 6:00p.m. at 18 Russell Avenue, Ravena N.Y.

PRESENT: Stephen Donnelly, Supervisor
Michael J. Stott, Deputy Supervisor
Stephen J. Schmitt, Council Member
Patricia Grogan, Council Member

ALSO PRESENT: Candace McHugh, Town Clerk
Richard Reilly, Town Attorney

Supervisor Donnelly opened the meeting and led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance. He asked that the record reflect all board members were present.

Announcements:

- The Town Offices will be closed on 1/19/26, Martin Luther King, Jr Day.

Approval of Minutes: The following minutes were approved:

- December 22, 2025 Town Board Meeting

Council member Donnelly made a motion to accept the minutes for December 22, 2025, Council member Stott seconded the motion.

APPROVED – VOTE – AYES 3 – NAYS 0 – ABSENT 0 – ABSTAIN 1 (Grogan) - SO
MOVED

Old Business:

-A Discussion was held regarding the possible R-A Zone Definition for Agritourism/ Event Space. The definition draft was given to the board for review. Council member Grogan asked if anyone had reached out to NYS Agriculture & Markets. Our attorneys had not at this point. Supervisor Donnelly asked if Council member Grogan would like to continue to take the lead on reaching out to NYS Agriculture & Markets, she accepted.

Council member Schmitt was reached out to by Mrs. Dorsey with a piece of the Comprehensive Plan (page 28 amendment, figure 5). Mr. Schmitt does not feel the comprehensive plan and zoning currently match. Council member Grogan referred to a comment once made regarding retaliation towards the Dorsey's and asked Mr. Schmitt if he had reached out to Jason; he had not. Mrs. Grogan did reach out to Jason regarding the denial of the most recent permits. She said she understood once Jason explained it that a permit can't be given if there are open violations.

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She asked where the attorneys stand as far as creating a list to remedy the situation. Mr. Reilly stated he had circulated a draft to the board just before the meeting for review. Mr. Schmitt wanted to clarify that this barn is not finished so Jason is able to conduct an inspection. Mr. Ravalli stated Jason had been there for a pre inspection. Mr. Stott feels the definition is a good first step but still needs to be reviewed properly. Supervisor Donnelly summarized that Mr. Schmitt will forward the Dorsey email to the board and contact Jason. Mr. Reilly asked if this definition should be brought to the PBZBA board to get it on their radar for a joint meeting.

-A Joint meeting is scheduled for January 29, 2026 for the PBZBA and Town Board at 6:30pm at 18 Russell Ave, Ravena, NY 12143.

A Motion was made by Council member Stott to authorize the Town Clerk to publicly notice the joint meeting scheduled for January 29, 2026 at 6:30pm at 18 Russell ave which was seconded by Supervisor Donnelly, all were in favor.

Resolutions

Resolution #032-26 Appointment of Budget Officer

	<i>Present</i>	<i>Absent</i>	<i>Aye</i>	<i>Nay</i>	<i>Abstain</i>
Stephen Donnelly	☒	☐	☒	☐	☐
Michael J. Stott	☒	☐	☒	☐	☐
Stephen J. Schmitt	☒	☐	☐	☒	☐
Patricia Grogan	☒	☐	☒	☐	☐
	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
<i>Total</i>	<u>4</u>		<u>3</u>	<u>1</u>	

I, Council member Grogan offer the following resolution and move its adoption:

WHEREAS, the Town Board of the Town of Coeymans is desirous of appointing a Budget Officer whose duties and responsibilities shall be consistent with Town Law.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Coeymans does hereby appoint Stephen Donnelly as Town Budget Officer at an annual rate of \$15,000.00. This appointment will terminate on January 31, 2026.

Seconded by Council member Stott, offered for discussion and duly put to a vote, the results of which appear above.

Discussion: Council member Schmitt stated he felt this is a part of the Supervisors daily duties. He struggles approving a stipend for this reason. Supervisor Donnelly feels Mr. Schmitt is conflating his statutory responsibility with the delegating of clerical duties. They continued to discuss what was considered day to day. The Supervisor feels more than 50% of his job deals

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with the budget in some way. Mrs. Grogan had researched this stipend and found the first time it came about was in 2014 and gave a timeline of it. Many sections of the town law contradict one another regarding this as well. She reached out to the comptroller's office for an answer and received one stating generally the Supervisor is the CEO/CFO of the town however most Supervisors hire a book keeper or financial person to handle the day-to-day financial operations. While she is not opposed to raising the salary, she does not feel there should be a separate stipend. Council member Stott explained the Supervisors position is odd and can differ between Supervisors. He feels as though it is not ok to take away 25% of a person's income. Council member Stott feels it should stand for this year and can be discussed further when planning next year's budget. The Supervisor explained his understanding of the budget officer position as one of oversight and delegation. He explained the police department has been expanded along with a new building purchased without raising the tax levy. His budget planning helped raise the town \$300,000. The Supervisor stated it took 3 months to realize the previous budget was mismanaged and 3 more months to see department heads weren't paying attention. He feels all liaisons should completely understand their departments budget. Council member Grogan stated just because something was done a certain way for a while does not mean it should continue that way. Council member Grogan suggested extending the resolution for a certain amount of time while the attorney looks into what it would entail to raise the Supervisor salary mid-year. Council member Stott was okay with that as well. The resolution was edited as reflected above prior to voting to change the appointment termination date.

Resolution #033-26 Update Authorization of 2026 Employee Rates

	<i>Present</i>	<i>Absent</i>	<i>Aye</i>	<i>Nay</i>	<i>Abstain</i>
Stephen Donnelly	☒	☐	☒	☐	☐
Michael J. Stott	☒	☐	☒	☐	☐
Stephen J. Schmitt	☒	☐	☐	☒	☐
Patricia Grogan	☒	☐	☒	☐	☐
	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
<i>Total</i>	<u>4</u>		<u>3</u>	<u>1</u>	

I, Council member Stott offer the following resolution and move its adoption:

WHEREAS, the Town Board of the Town of Coeymans, by Resolution #030-26, previously authorized a schedule depicting the salaries for employees and positions for the Budget Year 2026 (the "Schedule"); and

WHEREAS, the Town Board filled the position of Budget Officer for the Town of Coeymans.

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NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Coeymans hereby authorizes an amendment to the employees, positions and salaries listed on the Schedule attached to Resolution #030-26. Such updated schedule is attached hereto and made a part hereof, and shall supersede the Schedule attached to Resolution #030-26.

Seconded by Council member Donnelly, offered for discussion and duly put to a vote, the results of which appear above.

Discussion: Council member Schmitt clarified the annual pay periods for the Budget Officer depicted below should be changed to 3 to match the current termination date. Council member Schmitt stated the Supervisor declined the \$1,000 pay increase last year but asked if he was taking the money this year. The Supervisor stated he is taking the \$1,000 this year. Council member Grogan is looking for clarification on the pay periods, it was recommended she speak to payroll.

EMPLOYEE RATES 2026

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Annual Pay Periods</u>	<u>Hourly Rate/ Biweekly Salary</u>
S. Donnelly	Supervisor	26	\$1769.23
S. Donnelly	Budget Officer	3	\$576.92
S. Fazio	Confidential Secretary	26	\$25.18
Floater	Clerk 1 – P/T	26	\$20.20
R. Bryant	Business Office Manager	26	\$32.44
L. Ziegler	HR Clerk 1 - P/T	26	\$24.70
S. Morrison	Accountant	26	\$538.46
P. Grogan	Council Member	26	\$519.23
Vacant	Council Member	26	\$519.23
S. Schmitt	Council Member	26	\$519.23
M. Stott	Council Member	26	\$519.23
R. Hotaling	Justice	26	\$1038.46
L. Eissing	Justice	26	\$1038.46
H. Collins	Clerk to the Justice	26	\$25.92
L. Eissing	Clerk to the Justice	26	\$1250.00 monthly
C. McHugh	Town Clerk	26	\$2115.50
S. Slingerland	Deputy Town Clerk	26	\$24.90
D. DeRose	Assessor	26	\$1,279.52
M. Peters	Clerk 1 - P/T	26	\$20.20
S. Hamilton	Clerk 1 – P/T	26	\$20.20

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K. Geraldson	Chief Sewer Treatment Plant Op.	26	\$33.69
T. Gillespie	Sewer Treatment Plant Op.	26	\$29.29
J. Rice	Sewer Treatment Plant Op.	26	\$24.59
D. Baker	Highway Superintendent	26	\$2500.00
D. Baker	Parks/Town Hall/Cemetery	26	\$576.92
M. Ferriero	Deputy Highway Superintendent	26	\$31.40
J. Fink	Equipment Operator I	26	\$27.13
A. Melas	Equipment Operator I	26	\$26.22
H. Stannard	Equipment Operator I	26	\$27.13
B. Pugsley	Equipment Operator 1	26	\$27.13
C. Liscum	Equipment Operator 1	26	\$26.22
J. Williams	Equipment Operator 1	26	\$25.88
C. Radley	Equipment Operator 1	26	\$25.88
D. Poulin	Mechanic	26	28.32
M. Tryon	Chief of Police	26	\$3272.30
K. Arnold	Sergeant – F/T	26	\$40.85
M. Veeder	Sergeant – F/T	26	\$40.85
V. Traina	Police Officer – F/T	26	\$30.47
M. Gailliard	Police Officer – F/T	26	\$26.65
J. Cross	Detective Sergeant - P/T	26	\$43.93
H. Klein	Police Officer – P/T	26	\$35.27
R. Loran	Police Officer – P/T	26	\$38.17
S. Mullen	Police Officer – P/T	26	\$38.17
J. Weir	Police Officer – P/T	26	\$36.27
S. Davis	Police Officer – P/T	26	\$30.47
M. Patterson	Police Officer – P/T	26	\$35.27
D. Beachand	Police Officer – P/T	26	\$35.27
S. Hamilton	Clerk 1 – F/T	26	\$21.37
M. O'Brien-Loran	Dog Control Officer – P/T	26	\$211.53
J. Chmielewski	Building Inspector & Code Enforcement Officer	26	\$30.40
S. DeBacco	Asst. Building Inspector	26	\$27.16
R. Smith	Clerk 1	26	\$23.58
C. McHugh	Registrar of Vital Statistics	Annual	\$500.00
S. Slingerland	Deputy Registrar of Vital Statistics	Annual	\$500.00
D. Bruno	Civil Defense Director	12	\$125.00
J. Boehlke	Town Historian	12	\$62.50

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N. Boomer	Planning/Zoning Board Chairman	12	\$130 per meeting/ \$50 per workshop
A. Collins	Planning/Zoning Board Member	12	\$80 per meeting/ \$50 per workshop
P. Cronin	Planning/Zoning Board Member	12	\$80 per meeting/ \$50 per workshop
M. McGuire	Planning/Zoning Board Member	12	\$80 per meeting/ \$50 per workshop
B. teRiele	Planning/Zoning Board Member	12	\$80 per meeting/ \$50 per workshop
Vacant	Planning/Zoning Board Member	12	\$80 per meeting/ \$50 per workshop
Vacant	Planning/Zoning Board Member	12	\$80 per meeting/ \$50 per workshop
J. Cinque	Planning/Zoning Board Member (Alternate)	12	\$80 per meeting/ \$50 per workshop
L. Ziegler	Planning/Zoning Board Recording Secretary	12	\$100 per meeting/ Workshop

Resolution #034-26 Authorize Retainment of Town Attorney

	<i>Present</i>	<i>Absent</i>	<i>Aye</i>	<i>Nay</i>	<i>Abstain</i>
Stephen Donnelly	☒	☐	☒	☐	☐
Michael J. Stott	☒	☐	☒	☐	☐
Stephen J. Schmitt	☒	☐	☒	☐	☐
Patricia Grogan	☒	☐	☒	☐	☐
_____	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
<i>Total</i>	<u>4</u>		<u>4</u>		

I, Council member Donnelly offer the following resolution and move its adoption:

WHEREAS, the Town of Coeymans wishes to retain the services of an attorney to render legal advice to the Town Board through December 31, 2026.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that Gleason, Dunn, Walsh & O'Shea, P.C. is hereby retained as Attorneys for the Town of Coeymans pursuant to a Letter of Engagement for Professional Legal Services dated January 1, 2026, which provides for an annual retainer fee of \$32,960.00; and that the Town Supervisor is hereby authorized to execute said agreement.

Seconded by Council member Stott, offered for discussion and duly put to a vote, the results of which appear above.

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Discussion: Council member Schmitt read a part of the retainer to confirm the town wasn't locked into an additional one-year period. He would like the board and attorneys to work on staying within the annual budget of \$80,000. Mr. Reilly stated his firm breaks down the tasks by certain categories, many of which are not reoccurring. He offered to try to keep the board up to speed on additional inquiries. Council member Schmitt suggested that department heads may need to speak to the supervisor before going directly to the attorney. Council member Grogan researched the amounts the Town has paid over the past several years compared to recent. She stated she has reservations going forward and feels the board needs to work through some of these questions first before presenting to the attorney. Council member Stott agrees the board could work on researching as well. He feels our attorney's do break down the bills very well. Council member Schmitt brought up a bill which was an error in November. Mr. Reilly has spoken to the Supervisor about this and it is being corrected. Council member Schmitt asked if all of the town resolutions need to go through him. Mr. Reilly stated it is within the retainer so it wouldn't save any additional money but possibly some time. Supervisor Donnelly stated he prefers to run them through legal to avoid any defects. He did announce we received the CDBG Grant that was applied for. To save money on legal fees we would need to stop doing large projects such as truck traffic.

Resolution #035-26 Affirming of 2025 Employee Rates

	<i>Present</i>	<i>Absent</i>	<i>Aye</i>	<i>Nay</i>	<i>Abstain</i>
Stephen Donnelly	☒	☐	☒	☐	☐
Michael J. Stott	☒	☐	☒	☐	☐
Stephen J. Schmitt	☒	☐	☐	☐	☒
Patricia Grogan	☒	☐	☒	☐	☐
	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
<i>Total</i>	<u>4</u>		<u>3</u>		<u>1</u>

I, Council member Stott offer the following resolution and move its adoption:

WHEREAS, the Town Board (the "Board") of the Town of Coeymans (the "Town"), by Resolution #034-25, authorized the salaries of employees for the Budget Year 2025, in accordance with labor contracts then-in effect and then-budgeted amounts for positions outside the scope of negotiated contracts; and

WHEREAS, after the adoption of Resolution #034-25, certain clerical errors were discovered in the table entitled "Employee Rates 2025"; and

WHEREAS, the clerical errors discovered included an unintended increase in pay, in the amount of \$1.00 per hour, for the Deputy Town Clerk; and an unintended decrease in pay, in the amount of \$1.00 per hour, for the Building Inspector & Code Enforcement Officer; and

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WHEREAS, the Town proceeded to pay the employees who held those positions as originally intended throughout Budget Year 2025; and

WHEREAS, the Board seeks to clarify the record regarding this matter such that confusion in the future is alleviated.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the schedule attached hereto and made a part hereof reflects the correct salaries and hourly rates for all employees, as paid for Budget Year 2025 and is hereby affirmed by the Town Board; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Coeymans apologizes to the employees involved, for the clerical error and subsequent confusion, and sincerely thanks those employees for their continued service to the Town of Coeymans.

Seconded by Council member Donnelly, offered for discussion and duly put to a vote, the results of which appear above.

Discussion: Council member Schmitt asked if they would like to let the Deputy Clerk speak as she was in attendance, the board agreed. Deputy Clerk Sherle Slingerland stated the following:

“Good evening, my name is Sherle Slingerland, and I am the Deputy Town Clerk for the Town of Coeymans. You were made aware of a clerical error involving my pay rate on March 4, 2025, you waited until January 8, 2026 to rectify this error. Since you allowed the error to go uncorrected for the rest of 2025, I am seeking the \$1.00 per hour I was shorted.

I am aware clerical issues happen; I make them myself. I also correct my errors when I am made aware of them”.

The Town clerk stated she found it comical how worried the board is about a \$15,000 stipend when this issue has gone on all year. Council member Grogan stated she has spoken with the Town Clerk about this and feels it is ridiculous that it has gone on for so long but does feel it was a clerical error. She is happy to see there is a resolution to fix this. Council member Grogan apologized for his taking so long. The Deputy Clerk stated not one person on the board called her to reach out about this. Council member Schmitt also apologized for not acting quicker on this even though he is limited due to their relation. The Supervisor stated he is sure the all of the board feels the same.

-Council member Grogan asked if drafts of agendas and resolutions could be provided on the Monday before a meeting to give the board time to absorb them. She also asked that board members acknowledge the receipt of emails; especially those with specific questions.

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Public Comment:

Barbra Tanner lives on Ridge Road. She feels the deputy clerk would have gotten the additional dollar had this been in the hands of Judge Judy. She asked why department heads were contacting the attorney without prior approval from the supervisor. Mr. Reilly did explain from a practicality stand point not all should have to contact the supervisor first. The Town Clerk stated the attorney bills are broken down very well. If a board member wants to know what departments are using the services, they can review the bills easily.

William Stewart asked if the attorney fees had anything to do with grants and other work. The Supervisor stated that grants and large projects do effect this. Projects would need to be dropped in order to lower the attorney fees, but there are some necessary large projects such as the sewer plant. The Supervisor explained the attorney fees related to these larger projects as a safety precaution for the town.

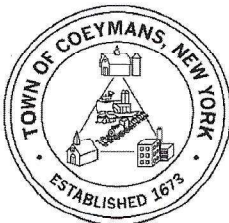
Motion to Enter into Executive Session was made by Council member Donnelly in order to discuss contract matters, no decisions will be made nor will they be returning and Seconded by Council member Stott- APPROVED – VOTE – AYES 4 – NAYS 0 – ABSENT – SO MOVED 7:54pm

Motion to Adjourn Executive Session was made by Council member Schmitt and Seconded by Council member Donnelly- APPROVED – VOTE – AYES 4 – NAYS 0 – ABSENT – SO MOVED 9:55pm

Motion to Adjourn was made by Council member Schmitt and Seconded by Council member Stott- APPROVED – VOTE – AYES 4 – NAYS 0 – ABSENT – SO MOVED 9:55pm

Respectfully Submitted,


Candace McHugh, Town Clerk



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allowing public dollars to sit idle in fund balance, we invested them responsibly to create a new revenue stream. That approach strengthened cash flow and helped offset rising costs without shifting the burden onto taxpayers.

As a result, we were able to hold taxes flat while still addressing essential needs. That matters to families, seniors on fixed incomes, and local businesses. Sound financial management is not about headlines, it is about protecting residents from unnecessary increases while ensuring the Town can meet its obligations.

Step Two: Centralizing Town Operations

The second step was centralizing Town operations. Residents should not have to navigate a fragmented system of buildings and departments to access basic services. Bringing Town offices under one roof improved efficiency, accountability, and public access.

This work is not complete. The long-term goal must be a single municipal campus that includes Town Hall, the Court, and the Police Department. A centralized government functions better and costs less moving forward.

Step Three: Public Safety

If a town intends to grow and remain stable, it must invest in public safety. Growth without safety is not progress - it is risk.

This administration increased funding for the Police Department and expanded the budget by 34 percent. That decision reflects a simple responsibility: protecting residents, businesses, and public investment. Safe communities support property values, encourage responsible development, and maintain quality of life.

Step Four: Infrastructure and Wastewater

The most urgent challenge facing Coeymans is infrastructure, particularly the wastewater treatment plant and the trunk lines serving the industrial zone and riverfront. For years, serious infiltration issues went unaddressed and violations accumulated.

That is unacceptable.

This administration aggressively applied for grants and was awarded \$2.5 million in funding toward this project. But grants are not free money. They require local commitment and matching funds. The Town of Coeymans is ultimately responsible for its infrastructure, and without a matching bond, the funding can be lost if not acted decisively upon. If these funds are lost by a failure of Town Board unanimity, they will not be available again.

This work is foundational to public health, environmental protection, and economic stability.

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Step Five: Heavy Truck Traffic

The largest and most visible issue affecting daily life in Coeymans is heavy truck traffic. Since 2020, truck traffic has doubled and tripled. Local roads and neighborhoods have absorbed the impact of industrial success without adequate mitigation.

In 2024, the Town formally engaged state government and agencies along with major industry to ensure Coeymans has a voice in decisions that shape its future. Many solutions have been discussed. None have adequately matched the scale of the problem.

This administration believes the only realistic solution is a New York State Thruway exit for Coeymans. As a major industrial hub, particularly with critical winter salt operations, the traffic will only increase. The Town of Coeymans, and her residents should not bear a statewide burden alone.

Every decision this administration makes returns to one question: does this make life better for the people of Coeymans?

That is the standard. And it is the work ahead.

Stephen Donnelly
Supervisor – Town of Coeymans

Approval of Minutes: The following minutes were approved:

- January 1, 2026 Town Board Meeting
- January 8, 2026 Town Board Meeting

Council member Donnelly made a motion to accept the minutes for January 1st & 8th, 2025 Town Board Meeting and Council member Stott seconded the motion.

APPROVED – VOTE – AYES 4 – NAYS 0 – ABSENT 0 – ABSTAIN - SO MOVED

Department Reports

Supervisor Report – December 2025 report read by Supervisor Donnelly

Motion to Accept Report

Council member Donnelly made a motion to accept the report as read, seconded by Council member Stott. APPROVED – VOTE – AYES 4 – NAYS 0 – ABSENT – SO MOVED

Discussion: Council member Schmitt asked for an itemized breakdown of the withdrawals from NYCLASS. Council member Grogan asked that the details be attached in the future.

Town Clerk Report – December 2025 Report read by Town Clerk Candace McHugh

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Motion to Accept Report

Council member Stott made a motion to accept the report as read, seconded by Council member Donnelly. APPROVED – VOTE – AYES 4– NAYS – ABSENT 0– SO MOVED

Police Department Report – December 2025 Report read by Police Chief Marc Tryon

Motion to Accept the Report

Council member Stott made a motion to accept the report as read, seconded by Council member Grogan. APPROVED – VOTE – AYES 4 – NAYS 0 – ABSENT 0 – SO MOVED

Discussion: Chief Tryon notified the room the Albany County Sheriffs will no longer have a substation in Coeymans. A car will still patrol but it will come out of Albany.

Building Department – December 2025 Report read by Jason Chmielewski

Motion to Accept Reports

Council member Stott made a motion to accept the reports as read, seconded by Council member Grogan. APPROVED – VOTE – AYES 4– NAYS 0 – ABSENT 0– SO MOVED

Sewer Department Report – December 2025 Sewer Department Report was read by Keith Geraldson

Motion to Accept Report

Council member Donnelly made a motion to accept the report as read, seconded by Council member Schmitt. APPROVED – VOTE – AYES 4 – NAYS 0 – ABSENT 0– SO MOVED

Highway Department Report- December 2025 Highway Department Report was by Highway Superintendent Dan Baker

Motion to Accept Report

Council member Grogan made a motion to accept the report as read, seconded by Council member Donnelly. APPROVED – VOTE – AYES 4– NAYS 0 – ABSENT 0– SO MOVED

Liaison Reports – Council member Grogan will be the liaison for the Police department and Council member Schmitt will have the Justice Court along with the Highway Department.

Old Business:

Truck Traffic: The Supervisor said the Town, state an DOT need to start serious conversations about truck traffic.

Lindsay Tutay Lives on Indian fields Rd. She described several instances in which she herself has been impacted by truck traffic but does not hold anyone at fault except those specific drivers. She feels Carver Companies is unfairly targeted for the cause of truck traffic. She gave an array

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of statistics on weight, gears and distance a truck needs to stop. She feels the town can only do so much and feels the state should be held accountable as they are state roads.

Barbara Tanner lives on Ridge Road. She asked how many people go to Village meeting to discuss truck traffic. Mrs. Tanners feels it is unfairly placed upon the town to deal with truck traffic when the majority of main street is within the Village.

Janet Kessler lives off Route 144. She has set up a trail camera at the end of her road. She counted 386 trucks within a 24-hour time period heading South on route 144. She offered a copy of the footage to the Board. She has friends who complain of their businesses and foundations being affected by the trucks. Mrs. Kessler invited 3 TV Channels to the meeting tonight and did not see one of them. She asked if the board had a response. Supervisor Donnelly stated News Channel 13 did contact the office and asked if it was livestreamed. He assumes they may be watching. He has been in several meetings with local officials. They will be going to Senator Fahey's office on February 13th to discuss the issues we are having.

George June lives on Uthe Blvd. He offered his prospective as a resident and how truck traffic and port business has affected his way of life. Mr. June stated he cannot open his windows in the summer due to the port loading scrap metal into barges at all hours. He stated he no longer needs an alarm clock due to the number of trucks that come up/down Church Street early in the morning. He feels there needs to be a balance and effort put forth by the businesses and municipalities to solve this issue.

Linda Geraldson lives on Fuller Road. She reviewed her past requests for a road study and wants to know when this will be done. She feels Council member Schmitt should be the point person on resolving this issue as he was on the initial board. She hopes Mrs. Grogan has had the opportunity to catch up on the file Supervisor Donnelly has on Mountain Road Extension. Supervisor Donnelly said our engineers are looking into different companies to complete the road study. NYS DOT, Amrize and the Town are getting together to discuss the mining permit but the process is slow. The Supervisor explained it as a process with many connections. Mrs. Geraldson feels the process to put a weight limit on Jarvis Road was very fast and she does not understand why Mountain Road Ext is taking so long. Council member Grogan asked for clarification on who was doing the road study and if this was in addition to the study being done by the county. Mr. Donnelly said yes this was in addition. Mrs. Grogan reiterated the truck problem is a county and state issue and all need to work together to address it. Council member Schmitt verified that a company has not been found at this time to do a road study. Mrs. Geraldson said she has been actively communicating with NYS DEC for over 5 years.

Nick Laraway of Carver Companies offered to waive conflict and allow their engineers, Lansing Engineering, to help with the road study.

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Zach Collins is our Albany County Legislator. He stated this is the first he has heard of an additional road study being done by the town. He stated this will overlap some of county study and should have been discussed beforehand to avoid overlap. Mr. Collins said he is looking into federal funding for this as well. He stated it will take all entities working together to figure out a solution. Mr. Collins had started a letter writing campaign with the library in the past and suggested it be revived. He has spoken to county officials and Carver about signage regarding speed and braking. Mr. Collins gave several instances of local government officials and businesses lobbying the state regarding the traffic and feels it is important we keep on top of this.

Chief Tryon stated a speed study was done by the local police. Out of 305 trucks 3 were speeding. He feels the speeds are low due to the geometry of Main St. He has also spoken to NYS DOT traffic safety and management. He was given some websites by DOT which are linked on the Police page on the town website. It gives you a 10 year look back on data. Chief Tryon urged the public to take a look. Council member Stott asked about the average daily flow of trucks.

Dan Baker spoke in regards to a traffic study done on Route 144 a few years ago and over 80% of the vehicles were not speeding. When he was on the board, they had asked the state for a speed reduction and were denied.

Nancy Warner spoke as a resident of Main Street. She had asked where the local speed study was done. The Chief stated it was near the firehouse. Mrs. Warner feels it needs to be done in a different area such as closer to the lights on 9W. She understands the importance of truck traffic but would like them to be more courteous to our community. Council member Schmitt asked of the village board has discussed what they can possibly do to work with the town on this topic. She stated they have met several times with the supervisor and are actively participating in achieving some relief for the community. Barbara Tanner said the mayor had set up a radar on main street and the people who were speeding the most were parents on the way to school. Supervisor Donnelly stated the town and the village are working together.

Terry Dickerson with Heidelberg materials asked that the town consider doing a traffic study on North Jarvis as well.

Council member Grogan stated Mr. Laraway had asked to come to speak prior to the meeting and had been put on the agenda to specifically speak on this topic and will be allowed more than the 5 minutes of a public commentor.

Nick Laraway from Carver Companies gave a short history on traffic and explained it as an ongoing topic. He understands this is a problem that affects everyone in the town and Carver Companies wants to help. They also know the only entity that can make helpful decisions is NYS DOT. Several options have been put forth to DOT and rejected. NYS DOT would like traffic to have a natural flow without required/restricted routes such as going North on 9W. He

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wanted to set the record straight that Carver Companies is committed to help the town with this problem. He asked for clarification on the statement that truck traffic has tripled over recent years. This statement could not be statistically proven at this time. Mr. Laraway clarified Carver Companies has always consulted with outside agencies and followed the directions and/or suggestions given to them by those agencies. He urged the public to inform Carver Companies of any drivers that may not be acting as a good steward and they will address it. Supervisor Donnelly invited Mr. Laraway to a meeting the following week which will consist of a joint conversation between he PB/ZBA and town board. Council member Schmitt stated Mr. Laraway and Carver Companies has been before the PB/ZBA numerous times. Mr. Laraway said his companies follows all the processes suggested and required by the municipality.

Alana Moran with Lansing Engineering offered to answer any questions the board may have regarding this topic. She described our community as being in a tough spot due to the amount of access we have to roads meant for heavier trucks and traffic. She suggested bringing in the local law enforcement to strengthen any requests made to DOT. Recently her firm has analyzed the traffic in the area around the port. Suggestions they have put forth to NYS DOT have been similar to those already requested but are still denied. Mrs. Moran offered to help with data in the event the community approached NYS DOT.

CDBG/WIIA Grant: Supervisor Donnelly reviewed the 3.3-million-dollar sewer related project in which the town is seeking grant funding for. The town has received a CDBG grant for 2.5 million dollars but has a funding gap of \$944,000.00. He explained a 4-person majority is needed to potentially bond the funding gap which has been rejected previously. He feels the best solution is to pass the bond resolution. There was discussion as to whether the project could be scaled back but engineers have explained the amount awarded is based upon the size of the project so funding would most likely be reduced if the project were to be scaled back. Council member Stott asked if the town is unable to use this funding will it hurt their chances for future funding, the supervisor said yes it could very well hurt the towns future chances for grants. Council member Grogan stated that only a certain portion of the tax payers will be affected by a potential bond. The Supervisor stated there is a benefit to the Village by doing this work and they are working together on figuring out numbers. The Village currently pays 75% of all sewer bills occurring within the gates. Council member Grogan asked the engineer from Laberge to be invited to the next meeting. Council member Schmitt felt that MJ engineering should be consulted as well for a 2nd opinion. The Supervisor suggested inviting them both to a future meeting. Council member Stott suggested having a workshop in February. Council member Grogan feels regular workshops would be beneficial. How the board decides to approach the bonding of the gap will affect percentage rates and potentially which additional grants the town goes for.

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Budget Officer: Council member Stott sent the board the opinion of the comptroller on this position. Council member Grogan clarified that the stipend has not be divulged to the public previously but it can be going forward. Mr. Reilly explained in order to change the supervisor salary at this point it would need to be a local law which would be subject to permissive referendum. He stated going forward the salary of the Budget Officer can be added on the posted notice of official's salary as the town is able to go above and beyond the minimum requirements of listing salaries. Mr. Reilly felt the Association of Towns seemed to lean toward keeping it as a stipend. Council member Stott agrees with keeping it as a stipend to allow for flexibility in the future.

Resolution # 035-26 Budget Amendment (Sewer)

	<i>Present</i>	<i>Absent</i>	<i>Aye</i>	<i>Nay</i>	<i>Abstain</i>
Stephen Donnelly	☒	☐	☒	☐	☐
Michael J. Stott	☒	☐	☒	☐	☐
Stephen J. Schmitt	☒	☐	☒	☐	☐
Patricia Grogan	☒	☐	☒	☐	☐
	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
<i>Total</i>	<u>4</u>		<u>4</u>		

I, Council member Stott offer the following resolution and move its adoption:

WHEREAS, the Town Board of the Town of Coeymans has received a claim payment from New York Municipal Insurance, in the amount of \$11,846.78, for a Commercial Vehicle Traffic Accident that occurred on December 2, 2025; and

WHEREAS, the Chief Fiscal Officer of the Town of Coeymans has determined that in order to maintain proper balances within various accounts, an amendment to the 2025 Budget is necessary.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Coeymans does hereby authorize Supervisor Stephen Donnelly to amend the 2025 Budget, as depicted below, for the Budget Year 2025:

Sewer (SS)

Increase Appropriations

(SS)8120.4 Collection System Contractual \$11,846.78

Increase Appropriated Fund Balance

(SS)0599 Fund Balance \$11,846.78

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Seconded by Council member Donnelly, offered for discussion and duly put to a vote, the results of which appear above.

Resolution # 037-26 Extension of Budget Officer Stipend

	<i>Present</i>	<i>Absent</i>	<i>Aye</i>	<i>Nay</i>	<i>Abstain</i>
Stephen Donnelly	☒	☐	☒	☐	☐
Michael J. Stott	☒	☐	☒	☐	☐
Stephen J. Schmitt	☒	☐	☐	☒	☐
Patricia Grogan	☒	☐	☒	☐	☐
	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
<i>Total</i>	<u>4</u>		<u>3</u>	<u>1</u>	

I, Council member Grogan offer the following resolution and move its adoption:

WHEREAS, the Town Board of the Town of Coeymans, by Resolution #032-26, previously appointed Supervisor Stephen Donnelly as Town Budget Officer, for a term to expire on January 31, 2026; an

WHEREAS, the Town Board of the Town of Coeymans is desirous of extending Stephen Donnelly's appointment as Town Budget Officer for a term to expire on December 31, 2026.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Coeymans does hereby extend Stephen Donnelly's appointment as Town Budget Officer, at an annual rate of \$15,000.00, prorated for the period of appointment, for a term to expire on December 31, 2026.

Seconded by Council member Stott, offered for discussion and duly put to a vote, the results of which appear above.

Resolution # 038-26 Updated Authorization of Employee Rates

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	<i>Present</i>	<i>Absent</i>	<i>Aye</i>	<i>Nay</i>	<i>Abstain</i>
Stephen Donnelly	☒	☐	☒	☐	☐
Michael J. Stott	☒	☐	☒	☐	☐
Stephen J. Schmitt	☒	☐	☐	☒	☐
Patricia Grogan	☒	☐	☒	☐	☐
	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
<i>Total</i>	<u>4</u>		<u>3</u>	<u>1</u>	

I, Council member Donnelly offer the following resolution and move its adoption:

WHEREAS, the Town Board of the Town of Coeymans, by Resolution #033-26, previously authorized a schedule depicting the salaries for employees and positions for the Budget Year 2026 (the "Schedule"); and

WHEREAS, the Town Board extended the term of the Budget Officer for the Town of Coeymans.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Coeymans hereby authorizes an amendment to the employees, positions and salaries listed on the Schedule attached to Resolution #033-26. Such updated schedule is attached hereto and made a part hereof, and shall supersede the Schedule attached to Resolution #033-26.

Seconded by Council member Stott, offered for discussion and duly put to a vote, the results of which appear above.

Resolution # 039-26 Approval of Abstract

	<i>Present</i>	<i>Absent</i>	<i>Aye</i>	<i>Nay</i>	<i>Abstain</i>
Stephen Donnelly	☒	☐	☒	☐	☐
Stephen J. Schmitt	☒	☐	☒	☐	☐
Michael J. Stott	☒	☐	☒	☐	☐
Patricia Grogan	☒	☐	☒	☐	☐
	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
<i>Total</i>	<u>4</u>		<u>4</u>		

I, Council member Schmitt offer the following resolution and move its adoption:

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board has approved the payment of bills as presented in the Abstract for January 2026, as follows:

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PRE-PAID VOUCHERS – 25001944 to 25001948; 25001953 to 25001970; 25-00001 to 25-00030 and 26-00001 to 26-00031 from the following funds:

General	\$ 392,974.12
Part Town	\$ 27,082.53
Highway – Part Town (DB)	\$ 87,371.09
H- Capital Projects	\$ 5,350.00
Sewer	\$ 55,267.52
Trust & Agency	\$ 100,885.46

VOUCHER NUMBERS – 25-00031 to 25-00077 and 26-00032 to 26-00055 from the following funds:

General	\$ 47,196.52
Part Town	\$ 9,653.45
Highway (DA)	\$ 32,851.33
Highway-Part Town (DB)	\$ 2,506.75
Sewer	\$ 24,951.18

TOTAL FOR ALL FUNDS – \$ 786,089.95

Seconded by Council member Grogan, offered for discussion and duly put to a vote, the results of which appear above.

Resolution # 040-26 Authorize Hire of Part Time Officer (Hallenbeck)

	<i>Present</i>	<i>Absent</i>	<i>Aye</i>	<i>Nay</i>	<i>Abstain</i>
Stephen Donnelly	☒	☐	☒	☐	☐
Michael J. Stott	☒	☐	☒	☐	☐
Stephen J. Schmitt	☒	☐	☒	☐	☐
Patricia Grogan	☒	☐	☒	☐	☐
	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
<i>Total</i>	<u>4</u>		<u>4</u>		

I, Council member Stott offer the following resolution and move its adoption:

WHEREAS, the town of Coeymans Police Department continues to actively recruit Police Officers to serve the residents of the Town of Coeymans;

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WHEREAS, a candidate, James J. Hallenbeck, has been identified as a candidate for part time employment with the Coeymans Police Department; and has 5 years of experience with the East Greenbush and Troy Police Departments.

WHEREAS, there exists an opening in the department due to the recent resignation of Officer Jason McCanney;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Coeymans does hereby authorize the hiring of James J. Hallenbeck as a part time Police Office with the Town of Coeymans Police Department at an hourly rate of \$35.27/hour with a start date of January 26, 2026.

Seconded by Council member Donnelly, offered for discussion and duly put to a vote, the results of which appear above.

Discussion: Council member Schmitt stated the board had a conversation with the chief before the meeting and it has been confirmed this will not affect the current budget.

There was a conversation regarding the appointment of PB/ZBA Members which led to the board members being unclear of each other's opinions.

A Motion was made by Council Member Grogan to enter into Executive Session to discuss personnel and contract matter and further action may be taken, seconded by Council member Schmitt. APPROVED – VOTE – AYES 4– NAYS 0 – ABSENT 0– SO MOVED

A motion was made by Supervisor Donnelly to come out of executive session which was seconded by Council member Stott. APPROVED – VOTE – AYES 4– NAYS 0 – ABSENT 0– SO MOVED

Resolution # 041-26 Appoint S. Deitz to PBZBA

	<i>Present</i>	<i>Absent</i>	<i>Aye</i>	<i>Nay</i>	<i>Abstain</i>
Stephen Donnelly	☒	☐	☒	☐	☐
Michael J. Stott	☒	☐	☒	☐	☐
Stephen J. Schmitt	☒	☐	☒	☐	☐
Patricia Grogan	☒	☐	☒	☐	☐
	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
<i>Total</i>	<u>4</u>		<u>4</u>		

I, Council member Schmitt offer the following resolution and move its adoption:

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WHEREAS, the term of Robert Nolan, Member of the Town of Coeymans Planning/Zoning Board of Appeals has expired on December 31, 2025; and

WHEREAS, Stephen Deitz has expressed an interest in being appointed to the Planning Board/Zoning Board of Appeals and meets or exceeds the qualification requirements for said position.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Coeymans does hereby appoint Stephen Deitz to a seven (7) year term as a Member of the Planning/Zoning Board of Appeals to expire December 31, 2032.

Seconded by Council member Grogan, offered for discussion and duly put to a vote, the results of which appear above.

****Amendment made to reflect Mr. Deitz receiving a 7-year term to replace Robert M. Nolan which is reflected in the resolution above****

A motion was made by Council member Grogan to accept the amended resolution which was seconded by Council member Stott, all were in favor.

Public Comment:

-Russell Kalney of Uthe Blvd spoke in regards to the noise from the port. He has called the police several times and they can never seem to find a supervisor. He stated his windows are closed and being woken up in the middle of the night and believes the port is in violation of the town noise ordinance. Council member Grogan asked if he had spoken to anyone at Carver. He stated he has not, he has only communicated with the police. Council member Stott suggested the board contact Carver to get some insight on this.

Motion to Adjourn was made by Council member Donnelly and Seconded by Council member Stott- APPROVED – VOTE – AYES 4 – NAYS 0 – ABSENT – SO MOVED 9:35pm

Respectfully Submitted,


Candace McHugh, Town Clerk

