July 14, 2026 LaFayette Town Board Meeting Minutes

LaFayette Town Board Meeting held on July 14, 2026, at 6:00 p.m. at the LaFayette Town Hall, 2577 US Route 11 N, LaFayette, NY.

Present: William McConnell, Supervisor
Melanie Palmer, Town Councilor
Jerry Marzo, Town Councilor
Nate Loughlin, Town Councilor
Michele Pirro Bailey, Town Councilor

Recording Secretary: Kristin Shute Colburn, Town Clerk

Town Attorney: Jeff Brown

Others Present: Ralph Lamson, Bldg. & Code Enforcement
Sue Marzo, Information Officer
Steve Robson, Highway Superintendent
Jessica Rice, Library Director
David Prince, Parks Dept.
Several other residents

1. Supervisor McConnell called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm
2. Town Clerk Kristin Shute Colburn took the roll – All present
3. Councilor Marzo led the pledge to the U. S. Flag.
4. Motion to accept the Regular Meeting Minutes of June 9, 2026

R-71-26 Councilor Palmer moved, and Councilor Loughlin seconded the motion to accept the June 9, 2026, regular Town Board meeting minutes as submitted by Town Clerk Kristin Shute Colburn. Motion carried 4-1– 0

William McConnell	**Supervisor**	**Voted**	**Yes**
Melanie Palmer	**Councilor**	**Voted**	**Yes**
Jerry Marzo	**Councilor**	**Voted**	**Yes**
Nate Loughlin	**Councilor**	**Voted**	**Yes**
Michele Pirro Bailey	**Councilor**	**Voted**	**Abstained**

5. Dedication of the Justice Court Bench to Judge Maureen Perrin for her 40+ years of service to the Town of LaFayette. "In over 40 years of service to the Town of LaFayette, Judge Perrin has ruled over tens of thousands of cases and has been seen by all as a firm but fair judge. During her tenure, the Town Court of LaFayette has been one of the busiest courts in New York State, with huge numbers of infractions flowing from Interstate 81. Throughout all of this, Judge Perrin always maintained the highest degree of integrity and impartiality, making her an unforgettable asset for the Town of LaFayette."

6. BOARD ACTIONS / COMMUNICATIONS
   A. County Legislator Dave Knapp advised that he has been working with County Executive Ryan McMahon on a way to fill in the $1.3 million gap for funding on the Cardiff and Tully Valley Water System Project.
   B. Approval of the flyer for the Ambulance Service Referendum at the September 8, 2026, Town Board Meeting to be held at the LaFayette Jr. Sr. High School. –

Supervisor McConnell advised that the meeting was moved to allow room for all who wished to be in attendance. He also advised that the Ambulance Dept. has agreed to split the cost of the mailer and postage. He thanked Information Officer Sue Marzo for all her hard work on putting the flyer together.

R-72-26 **Supervisor McConnell moved, and Councilor Marzo seconded the motion to accept the latest edition of the Ambulance Service Referendum for Information Officer Sue Marzo to print and mail, and move the regular September 8th Town Board meeting to LaFayette Jr./Sr. High School auditorium. Motion Carried 5– 0**

William McConnell	**Supervisor**	**Voted**	**Yes**
Melanie Palmer	**Councilor**	**Voted**	**Yes**
Jerry Marzo	**Councilor**	**Voted**	**Yes**
Nate Loughlin	**Councilor**	**Voted**	**Yes**
Michele Pirro Bailey	**Councilor**	**Voted**	**Yes**

C. NYS Ag & Markets Dog License requires an update – Town Clerk Kristin Shute Colburn explained that New York State Ag & Markets has amended its law regarding the licensing of dogs in municipalities. They now require that we include a line on our renewal & registration forms allowing residents to make a voluntary donation to a non-profit animal shelter of the Town's choosing. We will need to adopt a resolution indicating our choice, and then Jim Pompo will have to create a budget line strictly for those funds. At the end of the fiscal year, we will cut a check to the entity for whatever funds are there. In doing this, it also involves Jerry Brown coming in to update our BAS Clerk Program. Jerry is aware and working with BAS to ensure the transition is seamless and we don't have any issues. We are tentatively looking to implement this transition in the next week.

R-73-26 **Councilor Pirro Bailey moved, and Councilor Loughlin seconded the motion to authorize the creation of an account for shelter donations and to accept voluntary donations for the CNY SPCA Animal Shelter, with all funds to be remitted to the shelter at the end of each fiscal year. Motion carried 5– 0**

William McConnell	**Supervisor**	**Voted**	**Yes**
Melanie Palmer	**Councilor**	**Voted**	**Yes**
Jerry Marzo	**Councilor**	**Voted**	**Yes**
Nate Loughlin	**Councilor**	**Voted**	**Yes**
Michele Pirro Bailey	**Councilor**	**Voted**	**Yes**

D. NYAOT – Legislative Conference & Meeting & Town Delegate Nomination Resolution.

R-74-26 **Councilor Palmer moved, and Councilor Marzo seconded the motion to authorize Supervisor Bill McConnell to attend the Association of Towns meeting and serve as the Town of LaFayette voting delegate. Motion carried 5-0**

William McConnell	**Supervisor**	**Voted**	**Yes**
Melanie Palmer	**Councilor**	**Voted**	**Yes**
Jerry Marzo	**Councilor**	**Voted**	**Yes**
Nate Loughlin	**Councilor**	**Voted**	**Yes**

Michele Pirro Bailey	**Councilor**	**Voted**	**Yes**

E. Quote from Eastern Security for an additional camera to the existing system for views of the library parking area. - Supervisor McConnell advised that we received a quote to add a camera to the rear parking lot and entrance to the library. We are also looking into replacing the system with a government-approved system. It was decided to table this decision until the Town Board gets the final cost of the new camera system, which Town Clerk Kristin Shute Colburn advised should be sometime next week.

7. COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC – A resident thanked the Town for taking care of the fallen Willow tree on the corner of Webb & Amidon Roads. Supervisor McConnell took this time to discuss hiring an insured moving group to move Roy Dodge's file cabinets to the historical room. With approval of the Town Board, Tami Moulton Egan was appointed as Deputy Historian (volunteer) for the remainder of the year to help in the organization of the historical items

R-75-26 **Supervisor McConnell moved, and Councilor Palmer seconded the motion to appoint Tami Moltion Egan as a temporary volunteer deputy historian. Motion carried 5-0**

William McConnell	**Supervisor**	**Voted**	**Yes**
Melanie Palmer	**Councilor**	**Voted**	**Yes**
Jerry Marzo	**Councilor**	**Voted**	**Yes**
Nate Loughlin	**Councilor**	**Voted**	**Yes**
Michele Pirro Bailey	**Councilor**	**Voted**	**Yes**

8. MONTHLY REPORTS –

A. Town Supervisor – Report from Jim Pompo

- The Town is looking good versus budget as we pass the midway point of the year. The first budget transfer below is to increase the buildings – equipment line to fund the cost of improvements which have been approved for payment over the past few weeks. The second is to increase the line for celebrations, which is slightly over budget. There are no other adjustments to be made at this time.
- Budget requests will be sent out to department heads later this month or the first week of August.
- NYSLRS projected invoice for 2027's pension contribution is available. The estimated amount due (paid in Jan. 2027) is $144,383, an approximate 15% increase over this year's amount.
- A submission to NYSDOT for the Clark Hollow project once their June invoice is received. We have about $26k owed to us currently.
- Payment on the Town highway garage bond was made last week. Next month, the water district bond will be due.

1. Budget Modification:
   General Fund:
   a. Purpose: To increase the budget for senior center interior improvements & painting.

   General Fund
   To: A1620.2 Buildings -Equipment $32,650.00

From: A599 Appropriated Fund Balance ($32,650.00)

b. Purpose: To increase the budget line for celebrations for higher-than expected costs related to Community Day & USA 250 celebrations.

To: A7550.4 Celebrations Contractual $900.00

From: A1996.4 Contingent ($900.00)

R-76-26 Supervisor McConnell moved, and Councilor Loughlin seconded the motion to approve the above-referenced budget modifications. Motion carried 5-0.

William McConnell	**Supervisor**	**Voted**	**Yes**
Melanie Palmer	**Councilor**	**Voted**	**Yes**
Jerry Marzo	**Councilor**	**Voted**	**Yes**
Nate Loughlin	**Councilor**	**Voted**	**Yes**
Michele Pirro Bailey	**Councilor**	**Voted**	**Yes**

2. Amortization of the Highway Building Bond -Supervisor McConnell reported that the Town's highway department is on track with building payments, which will be fully paid off in 2030

B. Attorney – Attorney Jeff Brown advised that he had nothing further to report.

C. Highway Dept. - July Report from Superintendent Steve Robson: Roads – The total weight of household debris, including 52 mattresses, hauled to OCRRA during our annual "Dump Days" was 48.04 tons or 96,080lbs. Paving on Colton Road and Markland Road is complete and awaiting a tentative date for surface treatments on both roads. Persse Road, Ashburn Drive, and Smokey Hollow Road "Cross Culvert pipe replacement" will be completed by early August. Miscellaneous general maintenance to our roads, shoulders, ditches, and culverts will continue throughout the summer.

D. Town Clerk – Town Clerk Kristin Shute Colburn advised that her report is in the packet for review and also informed that on Thursday, August 13th, from 9 am-3 pm, the Update Mobile Mammo van will be parked in the lower parking lot providing mammograms, and on Saturday, August 15th, from 8 am – 11 am we will be holding another Passport Day for new passports only, no renewals.

E. Building & Zoning Code Enforcement / SPDES – Monthly report is on file. CEO Ralph Lamson also advised that 5 properties in Town need their lawns mowed; letters have been sent to advise of their non-conformity. He requests permission to contract out to have these lawns taken care of after the 7-day waiting period has lapsed. It was explained that the cost of the mowing then will be applied to the property owners' taxes. The properties are located at 5837 Winacre Drive, 3291 Bella Vista Drive, 6010 Route 20, 3209 Route 11 and 2025 Apulia Roads.

R-77-26 Councilor Palmer moved, and Councilor Marzo seconded the motion to authorize CEO Ralph Lamson to contract to have these non-conforming properties addressed by the Town after the allowed 7 days. Motion carried 5 - 0.

William McConnell	**Supervisor**	**Voted**	**Yes**
Melanie Palmer	**Councilor**	**Voted**	**Yes**

Jerry Marzo	**Councilor**	**Voted**	**Yes**
Nate Loughlin	**Councilor**	**Voted**	**Yes**
Michele Pirro Bailey	**Councilor**	**Voted**	**Yes**

F. Justice Court-

Judge Perrin had 213 cases and turned over $17,712.00 to the Town of LaFayette for June 2026.

Judge Shute had 230 cases and turned over $16,001.00 to the Town of LaFayette for June 2026

G. LCC - Monthly report is on file. Councilor Nate Loughlin took a brief moment to thank outgoing LCC Board members Katie Kautz and Christine Baker for the dedication to our youth sports programs.
H. Library – Monthly report is on file
I. LaFayette Fire Dept – Monthly report is on file.
J. LaFayette Ambulance Dept. – Monthly report is on file.
K. LACC – Monthly report is on file.
L. Assessor's report is on file.

9. Motion of Audit & Pay Bills

R-78-26 Councilor Palmer moved, and Councilor Pirro Bailey seconded the motion to audit and pay bills. Motion carried 5 - 0.

William McConnell	**Supervisor**	**Voted**	**Yes**
Melanie Palmer	**Councilor**	**Voted**	**Yes**
Jerry Marzo	**Councilor**	**Voted**	**Yes**
Nate Loughlin	**Councilor**	**Voted**	**Yes**
Michele Pirro Bailey	**Councilor**	**Voted**	**Yes**

10. Motion to Adjourn

R-79-26 Supervisor McConnell moved, and Councilor Loughlin seconded the motion to adjourn at 6:50 pm. Motion carried 5-0

William McConnell	**Supervisor**	**Voted**	**Yes**
Melanie Palmer	**Councilor**	**Voted**	**Yes**
Jerry Marzo	**Councilor**	**Voted**	**Yes**
Nate Loughlin	**Councilor**	**Voted**	**Yes**
Michele Pirro Bailey	**Councilor**	**Voted**	**Yes**

Respectfully submitted,

Kristin Shute Colburn
Town Clerk