TOWN OF COEYMANS MEETING MINUTES
August 27, 2026 5:00PM

A Town Board Meeting was held Tuesday, August 27, 2026 at 5:00p.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 George LaMountain, Highway Superintendent James Cross, Chief of Police Richard C. Reilly, Town Attorney Michael Ravalli, Jr., Town Attorney

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Budget presentations were continued.

Town Clerk: 4 accounts are handled by the town clerk. She would like to mail the property tax bills herself as opposed to having a 3rd party do so to decrease time within the mail. In records management the town clerk requested funds to preserve and digitize 2 of the older records books for deaths. The cost would be approximately $5,000.

Police Department: Chief Cross reviewed his budget line items with the board. He is looking to add another leased car and phase out the DCO vehicle. Chief Cross would like to go to the same record managements that is used by the Sheriff's office, they initial cost would be $5,000. A speed trailer was requested as well. He is working with Verizon regarding prices for modems and lines. He is working on some grants for the cost of vests. Chief Cross stated the Sheriff's no longer covering directly effects all our costs moving forward.

Highway Department: George LaMountain reviewed his budget requests with the board. Mr. LaMountain is requesting a part time clerk for the highway and would like get an equipment operator 2 placed back in the budget. He is budgeting for 3 seasonal snow plow drivers. A request has placed for a new computer. Mr. LaMountain proposed a raise for the seasonal employees to $21 per hour. A $5,000 raise was requested for the park's stipend. A quick discussion was had about bringing back the parks department. A new mower is being requested and 3 quotes were supplied.

A Motion was made by Council member Stott to enter into executive session to discuss some contractual matters and confer with counsel. The board will be returning, this was seconded by council member Schmitt, all were in favor. 6:17p.m.

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A Motion was made by Council member Stott to leave executive session and return to the floor which was seconded by Council member Schmitt, all were in favor. 6:47p.m.

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 release of funds should happen for the CDBG and USDA Grants. The next steps are with NYS DEC and NYD DOT

-Classic Car Cruise held by the Coeymans Police Benevolent Association

Approval of Minutes: The following minutes were approved:

-August 11, 2026 Town Board Meeting

Council member Donnelly made a motion to accept the minutes listed above and Council member Schmitt seconded the motion.
APPROVED – VOTE – AYES 4 – NAYS 0 – ABSENT 0 – ABSTAIN - SO MOVED

Department Reports

Supervisor Report – July 2026 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

Town Clerk Report –July 2026 Report read by Town Clerk Candace McHugh

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

Police Department Report – July 2026 Report read by Police Chief James Cross

Motion to Accept the 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

Building Department – July 2026 Report was **tabled**

Sewer Department Report – July 2026 Sewer Department Report was **tabled**

Highway Department Report- July 2026 Highway Department Report was by Highway Superintendent George LaMountain

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Old Business:

-Flag Pole Status: The Supervisors Office has reached out to get quotes for installation of the flag pole and they have started to come in. Supervisor Donnelly asked if Mr. LaMountain felt confident in his crew's ability to install the flag pole in which he replied that he did. There was a question about the need for a permit due to the placement being next to a state highway. Mr. Reilly asked for some specifics on the placement of the flag pole and he could look into the need for permits.

- Truck Traffic: A constituent asked that his email be entered into the record regarding the speed limit near the twin dips on 9W. (see attached)
A letter was received from Amrize in response to the Town Boards letter regarding a meeting. Council member Stott read the letter aloud stating the crushing operations have been concluded at this time and they reiterated their commitment to open communication with the town. Council member Stott feels the board should continue to push for an in-person meeting. Mr. Reilly will redraft a letter in return and circulate it for review. The board would still like to have an in person sit down meeting.

-Zoning Code Amendments/ Comprehensive Review: Council member Grogan and Stott would like more time to review the documents. Council member Stott feels it is still valuable to look at the definitions they have created so far and supports the definitions of transportation terminal and contractor yard.

-Ravena Rescue Squad: The Supervisor stated the board has copies of the 2023 map and the budget which has been provided by the squad. Council member Schmitt stated the Village has reached out and expressed their support on this project. Council member Reilly explained what would be subject to permissive referendum. Their research has found that there is a way to put this out to permissive referendum for the town. Council member Stott asked Council member Schmitt about the potential of town over sight for the district. Supervisor Donnelly asked Council member Schmitt if he would broach the subject of legal fees. He stated he would. In the original agreement the squad had agreed to pay 50% of the fees. The Town of New Baltimore has a contractual agreement with the Ravena Rescue Squad, the question came up on priority.

-Boys & Girls Club: Supervisor Donnelly reviewed what has occurred so far. An informal meeting was held at 79 Main Street with Carver Companies, County Legislator Zach Collins and the Boys & Girls Club. RCSCSD Superintendent has offered transportation from the school to the club. Several contractual agreements will be needed between all parties. Supervisor Donnelly stated the Boys & Girls Club has been successful in Albany with mitigating dirt bike issues.

-CodeRed: The Supervisor asked the board if feels the program is worth the money. It was suggested the Supervisor reach out to Dominic Bruno regarding its value compared to a similar free program offered by FEMA. A decision needs to be made by September 30th in order to cancel for 2027.

New Business:

-Plow Truck Purchase: Council member Grogan asked for more background on this as she was not on the board at that time. The plow truck has been delivered and in order to complete payment a bond needs to be issued. The board needs to decide how long the bond should be taken out for. Currently they are looking at 3-5 years. Half the truck has been paid for upfront.

-Assessor Training/Laptop: The Assessor would like to send her clerk to an upcoming training session. All were in favor as long as the funds are available. Council member Grogan feels the subject of continuing with a seasonal employee is a bigger conversation to have later. Supervisor Donnelly stated about 800 files have been completed so far and the floater clerk performing the duties is making great progress. The question is can it be extended through the end of the year financially. The Supervisor stated he would follow up with the assessor.

-Flock Cameras: Emails have been received regarding flock cameras in the town. Chief Cross stated 3 are located on state or county roads, we most likely do not have the authority to do anything about them. There are no flock cameras at the Coeymans Landing or the red light as people have speculated. Council member Grogan asked if they have been helpful. Chief Cross stated they have been very helpful. Our police department does not have access to the cameras. A request must be submitted and a reason why the information is needed.

Resolutions

Resolution #111-26 Bond Resolution (Plow Truck)

	Present	*Absent*	*Aye*	*Nay*	*Abstain*
Stephen Donnelly	☒	☐	☒	☐	☐
Michael J. Stott	☒	☐	☒	☐	☐
Stephen J. Schmitt	☒	☐	☒	☐	☐
Patricia Grogan	☒	☐	☒	☐	☐
	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Total	4		4		

BOND RESOLUTION DATED AUGUST 27, 2026.

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASE OF AN INTERNATIONAL TRUCK IN AND FOR THE TOWN OF COEYMANS, ALBANY COUNTY, NEW YORK, AT A MAXIMUM ESTIMATED COST OF $267,598, AND AUTHORIZING EXPENDITURE OF $140,000 AVAILABLE MONIES AND THE ISSUANCE OF $127,598 BONDS OF SAID TOWN TO PAY THE COST THEREOF.

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

WHEREAS, the capital project hereinafter described, as proposed, has been determined to be a Type II Action pursuant to the regulations of the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation promulgated pursuant to the State Environmental Quality Review Act, which regulations state that Type II Actions will not have any significant adverse impact on the environment; and

WHEREAS, it is now desired to authorize the financing of such capital project.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the affirmative vote of not less than two-thirds of the total voting strength of the Town Board of the Town of Coeymans, Albany County, New York, as follows:

Section 1. The purchase of an International truck, in and for the Town of Coeymans, Albany County, New York, including incidental equipment and expenses in connection therewith, is hereby authorized at a maximum estimated cost of $267,598.

Section 2. The plan for the financing of the aforesaid $267,598 maximum estimated cost is as follows:

a) by the issuance of $127,598 serial bonds of said Town, hereby authorized to be issued therefor, pursuant to the provisions of the Local Finance Law; and
b) by the expenditure of $140,000 available funds monies, hereby appropriated therefor.

Section 3. It is hereby determined that the period of probable usefulness of said specific object or purpose is 15 years pursuant to subdivision 28 of paragraph a of Section 11.00 of the Local Finance Law. It is hereby further determined that the maximum maturity of the bonds herein authorized will not exceed five years.

Section 4. Subject to the provisions of the Local Finance Law, the power to authorize the issuance of and to sell bond anticipation notes in anticipation of the issuance and sale of the bonds herein authorized, including renewals of such notes, is hereby delegated to the Supervisor, the chief fiscal officer. Such notes shall be of such terms, form and contents, and shall be sold in such manner, as may be prescribed by said Supervisor, consistent with the provisions of the Local Finance Law.

Section 5. All other matters, except as provided herein relating to such bonds, including determining whether to issue such bonds having substantially level or declining annual debt service and all matters related thereto, prescribing whether manual or facsimile signatures shall appear on said bonds, prescribing the method for the recording of ownership of said bonds, appointing the fiscal agent or agents for said bonds, providing for the printing and delivery of said bonds (and if said bonds are to be executed in the name of the Town by the facsimile signature of the Supervisor, providing for the manual countersignature of a fiscal agent or of a designated official of the Town), the date, denominations, maturities and interest payment dates, place or places of payment, and also including the consolidation with other issues, shall be determined by the Supervisor. Such bonds shall contain substantially the recital of validity clause provided for in section 52.00 of the Local Finance Law and shall otherwise be in such form and contain such

recitals in addition to those required by section 52.00 of the Local Finance Law, as the Supervisor shall determine.

Section 6. The faith and credit of said Town of Coeymans, Albany County, New York, are hereby irrevocably pledged for the payment of the principal of and interest on such bonds as the same respectively become due and payable. An annual appropriation shall be made in each year sufficient to pay the principal of and interest on such bonds becoming due and payable in such year. There shall annually be levied on all the taxable real property of said Town, a tax sufficient to pay the principal of and interest on such bonds as the same become due and payable.

Section 7. This resolution shall constitute a statement of official intent for purposes of Treasury Regulations Section 1.150 - 2. Other than as specified in this resolution, no monies are, or are reasonably expected to be, reserved, allocated on a long-term basis, or otherwise set aside with respect to the permanent funding of the object or purpose described herein.

Section 8. The validity of such bonds and bond anticipation notes may be contested only if:

a) Such obligations are authorized for an object or purpose for which said Town is not authorized to expend money, or
b) The provisions of law which should be complied with at the date of publication of this resolution are not substantially complied with, and an action, suit or proceeding contesting such validity is commenced within twenty days after the date of such publication, or
c) Such obligations are authorized in violation of the provisions of the Constitution.

Section 9. This resolution, which takes effect immediately, shall be published in summary form in the official newspaper of said Town for such purpose, together with a notice of the Town Clerk in substantially the form provided in Section 81.00 of the Local Finance Law.

Seconded by Council member Donnelly, offered for discussion and duly put to a vote, the results of which appear above. The question of the adoption of the foregoing resolution was duly put to a vote on roll call, which resulted as follows:

Stephen Donnelly	VOTING	Yes
Michael J. Stott	VOTING	Yes
Stephen J. Schmitt	VOTING	Yes
Patricia Grogan	VOTING	Yes

The resolution was thereupon declared duly adopted.

Resolution #112-26 Approval of August Abstract

	Present	*Absent*	*Aye*	*Nay*	*Abstain*
Stephen Donnelly	☒	☐	☒	☐	☐
Stephen J. Schmitt	☒	☐	☒	☐	☐
Michael J. Stott	☒	☐	☒	☐	☐
Patricia Grogan	☒	☐	☒	☐	☐
	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Total	4		4		

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 August 2026, as follows:

PRE-PAID VOUCHERS – 26-00948 to 26-01024 from the following funds:

General	**$ 220,337.36**
Part Town	**$ 22,674.20**
Highway – Part Town (DB)	**$ 50,857.07**
H Fund – Capital Projects	**$ 15,000.00**
Sewer	**$ 230,755.15**
Trust & Agency	**$ 54,813.88**

VOUCHER NUMBERS – 26-01025 to 26-01125 from the following funds:

General	**$ 261,774.19**
Part Town	**$ 7,969.77**
DA	**$ 143,620.27**
Highway-Part Town (DB)	**$ 8,051.67**
Sewer	**$ 26,792.40**

The following vouchers were held: 26-01065, 26-01124, 26-01076

TOTAL FOR ALL FUNDS – $ 1,042,645.96

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

Public Comment:

Council Member Grogan announced she is holding a meeting September 3rd, 2026 for Wreaths Across America to kick off the process and invited the board to attend.

Dan Baker lives on South Clement Ave. Mr. Baker asked if the board was aware of the crisis they have on their hands regarding highway workers. He suggested contacting contractors as soon as possible to line up proper service for the residents. Mr. Baker informed the board the trailer they spoke of taking down needs to be tested for asbestos.

Barbara Heinzen lives on the boundaries of Coeymans and New Baltimore: Ms. Heinzen questioned the oddities of the town not being able to have a voice on the IDA PILOT. She would like to know the legalities of this. Council member Stott stated he finds it odd as well. Supervisor Donnelly has asked for a copy of the PILOT which he has not received yet. Ms. Heinzen felt it was very clear during the public hearing the residents were not in favor of this PILOT. She feels home rule should mean home rule.

Bill Stewart lives in Coeymans: Mr. Stewart referenced some PILOTS within different municipalities. He explained the purpose of the PILOT programs is to create jobs and keep people in the state.

Motion to Adjourn was made by Council member Donnelly and Seconded by Council member Stott- APPROVED – VOTE – AYES 4 – NAYS 0 – ABSENT 0 – SO MOVED 8:26pm

Respectfully Submitted,

Candace McHugh, Town Clerk

Record

Gmail

Walt Birmann <waltbirmann@gmail.com>

Rt 9W
1 message

Walt Birmann
To: michael.fenley@dot.ny.gov
Cc: kircher.kelley@dot.ny.gov

Fri, Jul 10, 2026 at 5:32 PM

Michael W Fenley, PE
Ms. Kelley Kicher

This is in 'reference' to a copy of a letter I'm told was sent to me October 25, 2025 which I did not receive at that time. I just received a copy of the letter that was postmarked July 3, 2026.

Its content is in reference to a 'complaint'. I spoke to Kelley Kicher at 50 Wolf Road last year and 'then again, a week or so ago. I guess my complaint is now 'Case Number' 1250128 for future reference.

My concern is that I live 'just south of Beckers Corners (some call it Callanans Corners) just south of the '4 lane' on Route 9-W' where the speed limit is 55 mph). My home is in an area between 'Finke's Machinery' and the Holcim Cement Plant. The speed limit is 45 mph from north of Ravena to just north of the Holcim Cement Plant. Then it's 55 mph all the way to Jericho Rd.,except now, when construction of the CSX Bridge is going on,

About half a mile north of Holcim Cement Plant entrance a section of 9W referred to by many as the 'Twin Hills' or 'Double Dips'. When you Google 'the history of 'Route 9-W', it refers to it 'as such' and goes on to tell of its 40 plus years of 'a dangerous/unsafe highway and the reasons 'why'. It's 'no secret

that it's been a highway with safety issues for 30 or 40 years as the commentary goes into detail about it as its gone from a NYS Highway to an 'alternate truck route' with increased traffic (much of it trucks) which 'magnifies it's shortcomings with 'safety issues' and '3 foot deep unguarded ditches too close to the highway. A friend of mine was the Supervisor of Coeymans and brought the 'short line of sight distances' to the attention of DOT. The 'Double Dips' detracted from the safety of 9-W of vehicles and 'activity' entering and exiting the '2 Trailer Parks at the top of the 'southernmost hill' and suggested DOT 'deal with it.....unfortunately 'crickets' were the results and that was 25 years ago!.....Today there are more blind driveways, more trucks and more traffic in general, making an 'already identifyed safety issue' even more dangerous.

According to the letter you sent, one would think we were talking about 2 different places.....first you said there have been 'no accidents' except for a 'deer collision' between Jan. 2020 and Dec. 2024.....I have pictures from Nov. 2024 of an accident where a car went +- 100 feet 'off the road up into the woods across our neighbor's driveway', inclusive of fire trucks, EMT's, police cars and 'volunteers', all directly across from my driveway.....The car had to be 'cut out of the trees' and pulled 'down the hill with a cable.....no mention of a deer at the time that I heard. We have heard stories from neighbors of other incidents that have occurred in that location including squealing brakes and road rage! We get the 'blinking lights, tooting of horns and 'the finger' as we have to almost stop to turn into our driveway as it's a 'right angle'.....

Furthermore, I would like to know 'what is knowing about accidents in an area' supposed to tell you? Are you suggesting 'accidents' are the criteria for 'changing highway construction' and 'speed limits? Why shouldn't highways be assessed for safety issues and be corrected BEFORE' accidents happen' and

not after as is the issue here as things have changed and 'physics principles usually win over opinions' and stopping distances are dictated by physics principles.....Aye? If this is true, it would seem the NYSDOT has pretty low esteem for the 'driving public/citizens/people/taxpayers' and their safety and welfare.....

I'd suggest you look up 'NY 9-W' on Google.....Google seems to have addressed 'Route 9-W's Problems and safety issues' in 'detail' and they go back to its 'construction in 1916 to 'tell the story'.....the major problems apparently 'go back for over 40 years and 'it' addresses them well too..... Waiting for 'the right accident and/or injury or death(s) for 'safety highway changes' is 'pretty lame' to suggest.....even for NYS.....

Don't forget the hills inhibit line of sight for 'the many blind driveways, the 'down hill grades' lengthens the 'stopping distances' and makes it more difficult for much bigger and loaded trucks to safely stop even at 45 mph.....Also remember this is a 'school bus route'. Stopping and re-entering 9-W is hazardous at any time on these 'Double Dips' and because of the '3 foot ditches so close to both sides of the highway there is 'NO' room to pull completely off the 'highway proper' without going into the same 3 foot ditch.....plain and simple.....'so 'widen the paved shoulders to allow busses, trucks and cars to safely pull off in an emergency without going into the ditch which is an 'accident waiting to happen' and could be a castro[hie catastrophe in the making'. A wider 'shoulder' will 'let cars get completely off the road so they can 'also' slow down enough to 'turn into their blind driveways' (no fault of theirs) and 'slow the speed limit down to 35 mph 'to save lives and 'avoid unnecessary 'injuries and 'displace the dangerous '3 foot ditches' further away from the 'edge of the highway. With 'no guard rails 'NO VEHICLE' can stay 'upright' once their 'right wheels go over the edge of the a 3 foot ditch nor

can 'it recover' to come back on the highway once one wheel goes into the ditch.....imagine if a school bus 'ran off'.....Hmmmmmmmmm.

Redundantly, Route 9-W is 'NOW' an 'Alternate Truck Route' and is being used as such. There is much more 'Truck and regular car' traffic than just a few years ago.....however it's construction remains 'much the same as it was many years ago when it had much less traffic of all kinds.....With the exception of 'the replacement of 'some' bridges, it's remained much the same design of a 'rural or country road as when it was built in 1916, I believe.....Again, 'check the Google article for "dates and 'measurements'.....I also think it mentions several areas of 9W including referring to part of it south of Albany as a numbered highway designated for extra funding and special care'. over normal NYS Highways.....

Respectfully,

Walt Birmann
(Just off Route 9-W and 'driving scared' !

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Walt Birmann