

Town of Monroe
Town Board Minutes
Tuesday, January 20, 2026
www.townofmonroeny.gov

Generated by Valerie Bitzer

Members Present

Maureen Richardson, Bethany Stephens, Luis Rivera, Mary Bingham
Town Counsel - Darius Chafizadeh

Call to Order

1.1. Pledge to the Flag

The Supervisor led the room in the Pledge of Allegiance.

I pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one Nation, under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

Motion to Open Town Board Meeting

2.1. Motion to Open Town Board Meeting of January 20th, 2026

2026-#81

BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board of the Town of Monroe Made a Motion to Open the Town Board Meeting of January 20, 2026, at 7:00 PM.

On a motion by Town Councilmember Bingham, seconded by Town Council Member Rivera

Ayes: Supervisor Richardson, Town Councilmember Stephens, Town Council Member Rivera, Town Councilmember Bingham

Nays: None

Abstain: None

Community Announcements

3.1. Meeting Room Doors

We are asking all residents to use the front doors to the building as there is a weather related issue with the meeting room doors off the patio.

3.2. Blood Drive at Sacred Heart Church

Blood Drive

Sacred Heart - St. Patrick

Sunday, January 25, 2026

9am-3pm

Sacred Heart School Gym 26 Still Rd., Monroe, NY

Visit nybc.org/sponsor and use code #08832

You may also call Aileen McCarthy 781-0856, Johanna De Maria 783-3026, or Tina Quirk 783-3252.

3.3. Free Narcan Training

Opioid Overdose Response Training

Learn basic information about opioids and how they work

Learn about opioid and overdose trends in Orange County

Understand how to recognize the signs of a potential opioid overdose

Learn how to respond to an opioid overdose using Narcan nasal-spray

Every participant receives a free Narcan kit

Event Details - 2026

February 7, March 7, April 6, May 2, June 6, August 1, October 3, November 7, December 5

1:00pm-2:00pm

30 Harriman Dr., Goshen, NY 10926

This event is free to all and should be attended by anyone interested in learning how to prevent opioid overdose deaths.

845-291-2614 bbogert@orangecountygov.com

3.4. Ladies Aux Murder Mystery

Lakeside Ladies Auxiliary Murder Mystery

Date: Saturday, February 7, 2026

Time: 6:00pm doors open, 7:00pm sharp show starts

Snow Date: Sunday, February 8, 2026, at 4:00pm

Place: Lakeside Fire And Rescue Company 147 W. Mombasha Rd., Monroe, NY

Cost: \$45 p/p

RSVP: Call Laura to reserve your spot ASAP 845-325-8238

K & K Catering Food Truck will be on premises from 6-7:30pm

Coffee and cake will be provided.

3.5. Winter Weather Reminders

The Town of Monroe would like to remind residents of important local ordinances that are in effect during winter weather to ensure public safety and allow for efficient snow and ice removal.

Deposits of Snow and Ice on Roadways Prohibited (43-28)

No person, firm, or corporation may deposit, throw, place, or strew snow or ice onto any Town street, avenue, roadway, or highway. This included pushing or plowing snow from private property, driveways, or parking areas into the roadway. Doing so creates hazardous conditions and interferes with snow removal operations.

Parking Restrictions During Snowfall and Icy Conditions (51-3.1)

It is unlawful to park any vehicle on a public road located in the Town of Monroe whenever snow is accumulating or ice is forming on the roadway, or when such conditions have been forecasted. Once snowfall begins or ice starts to form, parking is prohibited on all public roads until they have been treated and/or plowed and cleared to the curb or edge of the

pavement. Vehicle owners or operators must move or cause their vehicles to be moved so they do not delay, hinder, or obstruct snowplowing, snow removal, or roadway treatment operations. These regulations are essential to keeping Town roads safe and accessible during winter weather events. Your cooperation is appreciated. Thank you.

3.6. 2026 Budget

Supervisor Richardson commented on the 2026 Adopted Budget to address residents' questions/concerns. Numbers were cut/pasted into the wrong spot. Numbers weren't adding up. Supervisor Richardson felt that this was a retaliatory budget. Tax Levy number was a negative and you cannot levy a negative Tax Levy. When the Budget went to the County Finance Department, it was zeroed out. There was a lot of back and forth. This caused an increase. Additionally, there was a 92% increase in the Highway Fund in the Town. There was a decimal that should have been converted to a percent. The number is correct. The County has zeroed it out. The County is not mandating refunds. It is not appropriate in this case. Supervisor Richardson is looking to restore essential services that were cut.

Public Hearing

4.1. Motion to Open the Continuation of the Public Hearing RE: Road Improvement Petition, Seven Springs Road Realignment

2026-#82

BE IT RESOLVED that the Town of Monroe Made a Motion to Open the Continuation of the Public Hearing RE: Road Improvement Petition, Seven Springs Road Realignment.

On a motion by Town Councilmember Bingham, seconded by Town Council Member Rivera

Ayes: Supervisor Richardson, Town Councilmember Stephens, Town Council Member Rivera, Town Councilmember Bingham

Nays: None

Abstain: None

- Supervisor Richardson: Okay. Is the petitioner or anyone with the petition here tonight?
- Town Counsel Chafizadeh: Supervisor, I did speak to their Counsel yesterday about this being (inaudible). I told them it would probably be adjourned (inaudible) to comply with the Town (inaudible) this petition submitted. So, if you want to potentially consider adjourning it maybe for next meeting we can see where we are.
- Supervisor Richardson: Are they gonna be done by the next meeting? Because I have this relisted as adjourning for the first meeting in March. I don't know if we want to just give them the whole month of February or if we just want to keep talking about this at every meeting.
- Town Counsel Chafizadeh: Yeah. Maybe give them a month. (Inaudible) second meeting in February. See where we are.
- Supervisor Richardson: What is the second me meeting in February Val? Oh, are we skipping that meeting?

- Town Counsel Chafizadeh: (Inaudible)
- Supervisor Richardson: Is that the date of the conference for the Association of Towns? Are we going to have to push that meeting? I'm just gonna adjourn it for the first week of March. Hold on.
- Director of Public Information George Carney: Darius, talk into your mic.
- Supervisor Richardson: Yeah, Darius.
- Town Counsel Chafizadeh: Can you hear me now?
- Supervisor Richardson: No, you have to turn it on.
- Councilwoman Bingham: (Inaudible)
- Supervisor Richardson: Pull back the band-aid covering and there's a guy with a line, and you just click that. Oh, there we go.
- Councilwoman Bingham: You got it.
- (Inaudible)
- Supervisor Richardson: No.
- Councilwoman Bingham: He had it for a second.
- Town Counsel Chafizadeh: Sorry about that.
- Town Clerk Valerie Bitzer: March 2nd.
- Supervisor Richardson: Thank you. Make a motion to adjourn this Public Hearing until March 2nd at 7 PM.
- Councilwoman Stephens: Stevens will second.
- Supervisor Richardson: Call to question.
- Councilman Rivera: Rivera Aye.
- Councilwoman Bingham: Bingham Aye.
- Supervisor Richardson: Richardson Aye.
- Councilwoman Stephens: Stephens Aye.
- Town Clerk Valerie Bitzer: There was no public comment for that also.

4.2. Possible Motion to Keep Open the Continuation of the Public Hearing RE: Road Improvement Petition, Seven Springs Road Realignment

2026-#83

BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board of the Town of Monroe Made a Motion to Keep Open the Continuation of the Public Hearing RE: Road Improvement Petition, Seven Springs Road Realignment until March 2nd, 2026, at 7:00 PM or soon there-after.

On a motion by Town Councilmember Bingham, seconded by Town Councilmember Stephens

Ayes: Supervisor Richardson, Town Councilmember Stephens, Town Council Member Rivera, Town Councilmember Bingham

Nays: None

Abstain: None

Acceptance of Minutes

5.1. Acceptance of January 5th, 2026 Minutes

2026-#84

BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board of the Town of Monroe accepts the January 5th, 2026, Re-Organizational meeting minutes.

On a motion by Supervisor Richardson, seconded by Town Councilmember Bingham

Ayes: Supervisor Richardson, Town Councilmember Stephens, Town Council Member Rivera, Town Councilmember Bingham

Nays: None

Abstain: None

Audit of Claims

6.1. General Fund Abstract

2026-#85

BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board of the Town of Monroe requests approval of Abstract #26-01 General Fund containing Check # 37647 - 37829 totaling \$771,002.75.

On a motion by Supervisor Richardson, seconded by Town Councilmember Bingham

Ayes: Supervisor Richardson, Town Councilmember Stephens, Town Council Member Rivera, Town Councilmember Bingham

Nays: None

Abstain: None

6.2. Escrow Abstract

2026-#86

BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board of the Town of Monroe requests approval of Abstract #26-01 Escrow Fund containing Check # 2269 totaling \$5,757.10.

On a motion by Supervisor Richardson, seconded by Town Councilmember Bingham

Ayes: Supervisor Richardson, Town Councilmember Stephens, Town Council Member Rivera, Town Councilmember Bingham

Nays: None

Abstain: None

Cash Transfer Abstract

7.1. Cash Transfer Abstract

2026-#87

BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board of the Town of Monroe made a motion to approve cash transfer abstract 26-01 in the amount of \$1,065,000 to move cash back to funds from NYCLASS investments to cover expenditures.

CASH TRANSFERS TO/FROM INVESTMENT FUNDS

TOWN OF MONROE

DATE OF AUDIT: January 20, 2026

ABSTRACT #CASH 2026-01

DATE	GL NO.	DESCRIPTION	Account	Trans To	Trans From	
9/15/2025		Consolidated Savings	A000	Fund A000-0201	350,000.00	
		NYCLASS Investment	A000	Fund A000-0240	350,000.00	
		Consolidated Savings	DA00	Fund DA00-0201	50,000.00	
		NYCLASS Investment	DA00	Fund DA00-0240	50,000.00	
		Consolidated Savings	DB00	Fund DB00-0201	200,000.00	
		NYCLASS Investment	DB00	Fund DB00-0240	200,000.00	
		Consolidated Savings	SL00	Fund SL00-0201	15,000.00	
		NYCLASS Investment	SL00	Fund SL00-0240	15,000.00	
		Consolidated Savings	SR00	Fund SR00-0201	450,000.00	
		NYCLASS Investment	SR00	Fund SR00-0240	450,000.00	
					1,065,000.00	1,065,000.00

On a motion by Supervisor Richardson, seconded by Town Councilmember Bingham

Ayes: Supervisor Richardson, Town Councilmember Stephens, Town Council Member Rivera, Town Councilmember Bingham

Nays: None

Abstain: None

Budget Transfer

New Business

9.1. Climate Smart Community Coordinator

2026-#88

BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board of the Town of Monroe appoints Heather Siani as Climate Smart Community Coordinator, term to expire 12/31/2026.

On a motion by Supervisor Richardson, seconded by Town Council Member Rivera

Ayes: Supervisor Richardson, Town Councilmember Stephens, Town Council Member Rivera, Town Councilmember Bingham

Nays: None

Abstain: None

9.2. Appointment of Court Prosecutor

2026-#89

BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board of the Town of Monroe Made a Motion to appoint John Bach as the new Court Prosecutor to start with the February 2026 Court Sessions.

On a motion by Town Councilmember Bingham, seconded by Supervisor Richardson

Ayes: Supervisor Richardson, Town Councilmember Stephens, Town Council

Member Rivera, Town Councilmember Bingham

Nays: None

Abstain: None

2026-#89A

BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board of the Town of Monroe authorizes the Supervisor to sign the retainer agreement with John Bach designating him as the Court Prosecutor at a rate of \$500 per court session.

On a motion by Town Councilmember Bingham, seconded by Town Councilmember Stephens

Ayes: Supervisor Richardson, Town Councilmember Stephens, Town Council Member Rivera, Town Councilmember Bingham

Nays: None

Abstain: None

- 9.3. Approval of Settlement to Tax Litigation entitled ACP Monroe Associates LLC v. The Assessor et al.

2026-#90

BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board of the Town of Monroe approves the settlement of litigation entitled ACP Monroe Associates LLC v. The Assessor et al. under Orange County Supreme Court Index Nos.: 004644/21; 003887/22; 004500/23; 005581/24 and 006634/25 pursuant to the terms and conditions set forth in the settlement documents annexed hereto as Exhibit "A".

On a motion by Supervisor Richardson, seconded by Town Councilmember Stephens

Ayes: Supervisor Richardson, Town Councilmember Stephens, Town Council Member Rivera, Town Councilmember Bingham

Nays: None

Abstain: None

WHEREAS, the Town of Monroe, New York ("Town") in the years 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024 and 2025 made assessments of real property by the Town Assessor; and

WHEREAS, litigation was commenced by property owners seeking a review of such assessments; and

WHEREAS, the Town Board is empowered and authorized to review any proposed settlement of tax certiorari matters and reject or approve such settlements as recommended by professionals employed by the Town; and

WHEREAS, Special Counsel Feerick Nugent MacCartney PLLC, for the Town has approved the settlement of this matter as recommended by the Town Assessor and all professionals employed by the

Town recommend that it is in the best interest for the Town to resolve the litigation entitled ACP Monroe Associates LLC v. The Assessor et al. under Orange County Supreme Court Index Nos.: 004644/21; 003887/22; 004500/23; 005581/24 and 006634/25 pursuant to the terms and conditions set forth in the settlement documents annexed hereto as Exhibit "A".

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: that:

1. All "Whereas" clauses are hereby incorporated by reference as though set forth in full herein.
2. Special Counsel for the Town is hereby authorized to execute a Consent Judgment to resolve ACP Monroe Associates LLC v. The Assessor et al. upon the terms and conditions set forth in the settlement documents annexed as Exhibit "A" because such a settlement of the Litigation is in the best interest of the Town.

1. This Resolution shall be effective immediately.

The question of the adoption of the foregoing Resolution was duly put to a vote on roll call, which resulted as follows:

	<u>Yea</u>	<u>Nay</u>	<u>Abstain</u>	<u>Absent</u>
Maureen Richardson, Supervisor	[X]	[]	[]	[]
Mary Bingham, Councilperson	[X]	[]	[]	[]
Sal Scancarello, Councilperson	[]	[]	[]	[X]
Bethany Stephens, Councilperson	[X]	[]	[]	[]
Luis Rivera, Councilperson	[X]	[]	[]	[]

The Resolution was thereupon duly adopted.

9.4. Approval of Katherine O'Boyle's salary adjustment

2026-#91

BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board of the Town of Monroe approves a salary adjustment for Kathrine O'Boyle and retroactive pay addition for the period of January 1, 2026 onward - from \$25.41/hr to \$28.00/hr.

On a motion by Supervisor Richardson, seconded by Town Councilmember Stephens

Ayes: Supervisor Richardson, Town Councilmember Stephens, Town Council Member Rivera, Town Councilmember Bingham
Nays: None
Abstain: None

9.5. Town of Monroe Employee Holiday Calendars Adjustment

2026-#92

BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board of the Town of Monroe makes the following adjustments to the previously approved holiday schedule to accommodate for the summer hour schedule, while providing appropriate time off to office employees for federal holidays, while adding Juneteenth for the IBEW union.

On a motion by Supervisor Richardson, seconded by Town Councilmember Bingham

Ayes: Supervisor Richardson, Town Councilmember Stephens, Town Council Member Rivera, Town Councilmember Bingham
Nays: None
Abstain: None

2026 Holiday Calendar for Town of Monroe Non-Union Employees and Dial-A-Bus Teamsters Local 445 Employees

Thursday, January 1, 2026
New Year's Day

Monday, January 19, 2026
Martin Luther King, Jr. Day

Monday, February 16, 2026
Presidents' Day

Monday, May 25, 2026
Memorial Day

Thursday, June 18, 2026***
Juneteenth (June 19th, Holiday occurs during Friday summer hours)

Thursday, July 2, 2026***
Independence Day (Summer hours holiday adjustment)

Monday, September 7, 2026
Labor Day

Monday, October 12, 2026
Columbus Day

Tuesday, November 11, 2026
Veteran's Day

Thursday, November 26, 2026
Thanksgiving Day

Friday, November 27, 2026

Thanksgiving (Observed)

Thursday, December 24, 2026

Christmas Eve (1/2 Day)

Friday, December 25, 2026

Christmas Day

**2026 Holiday Calendar for Town of Monroe Highway Department
IBEW Union 363 Employees**

Thursday, January 1, 2026

New Year's Day

Monday, January 19, 2026

Martin Luther King, Jr. Day

Monday, February 16, 2026

Presidents' Day

Monday, May 25, 2026

Memorial Day

Friday, June 19, 2026

Juneteenth

Friday, July 3, 2026

Independence Day (Observed)

Monday, September 7, 2026

Labor Day

Monday, October 12, 2026

Columbus Day

Wednesday, November 11, 2026

Veteran's Day (Observed)

Thursday, November 26, 2026

Thanksgiving Day

Friday, November 27, 2026

Thanksgiving (Observed)

Thursday, December 24, 2026

Christmas Eve (1/2 Day)

Friday, December 25, 2026

Christmas Day

***Day of Employee's Choice**

9.6. Bond Approval for 81 Raywood Lot 3

2026-#93

BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board of the Town of Monroe made a motion to approve Bond in the amount of \$22,500 (as recommended by the Town's Consulting Engineer in a letter dated December 29, 2025) for the property known as 81 Raywood, Lot 3. This Bond amount is to satisfy Special Condition 4 of the Planning Board Resolution dated July 15, 2025 and is required in accordance with the Town's Tree Preservation Law (Chapter 57, Article XX)

On a motion by Supervisor Richardson, seconded by Town Councilmember Bingham

Ayes: Supervisor Richardson, Town Councilmember Stephens, Town Council Member Rivera, Town Councilmember Bingham

Nays: None

Abstain: None

9.7. Approval of Contract Renewal with Monroe Volunteer Ambulance Corp 2026

2026-#94

BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board of the Town of Monroe Made a Motion authorizing the Supervisor to sign the Contract Renewal with Monroe Volunteer Ambulance Corp 2026 subject to Attorney approval.

On a motion by Town Councilmember Bingham, seconded by Town Councilmember Stephens

Ayes: Supervisor Richardson, Town Councilmember Stephens, Town Council Member Rivera, Town Councilmember Bingham

Nays: None

Abstain: None

9.8. Authorization to approve preliminary appraisal mandated for Harriman Park Estates v. Town of Monroe et. al

2026-#95

BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board of the Town of Monroe authorizes the preliminary appraisal performed by Sal Mazzella for a flat fee of \$5,500.00 in the matter of Harriman Estates v. Town of Monroe et. al

On a motion by Supervisor Richardson, seconded by Town Councilmember Bingham

Ayes: Supervisor Richardson, Town Councilmember Stephens, Town Council Member Rivera, Town Councilmember Bingham

Nays: None

Abstain: None

9.9. Bald Hill Bond Reduction

2026-#96

BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board of the Town of Monroe Made a Motion to reduce Bald Hill Site Improvement/Subdivision Performance Bond #800161955 from the sum of \$2,084,276.15 to \$441,555.51. (front of Bond indicates \$2,084,228.85)

On a motion by Supervisor Richardson, seconded by Councilperson Stephens

Ayes: Supervisor Richardson, Town Councilmember Stephens, Town Council Member Rivera, Town Councilmember Bingham

Nays: None

Abstain: None

Old Business

Public Comment

11.1. Rules for Public Comment

11.2. Public Comment

The following residents signed up for Public Comment:

- Tony Cardone
- Dorey Houle
- Ellen Devlin
- Rich Colon

To hear Public Comment, please go on-line to video time stamp 33.11.

- Tony Cardone: Wanted to clarify a few points on the 2026 Budget. When the Budget was submitted to the County, the Budget Rate for the taxpayers per 1,000 of assessed value was \$12.542. Had multiple conversations with the County Tax Department. Spoke about why the negative number. Was informed that the new program does not acknowledge a negative.
- Dorey Houle: Also spoke on the 2026 Budget. The \$577,000 that was zeroed out was a loan that WD 14 was repaying to the Town. WD No. 14 is being taxed twice. They will be paying that money back in their water bills, and sharing a burden for the \$577,000 that is being assessed. Asking to refund the additional money that would be collected in the tax revenue or putting the money asside so that it could be used towards next year's budget.
- Ellen Devlin: Spoke RE ICE Detention Center in Chester.

- Rick Colon: The Budget can be very confusing. The Budget increased substantially. Will have to bite the bullet this time and be prepared next time. Concerned about the handoff of administration. No transition.

Possible motion to adjourn to Executive and or/ Attorney Client Session

12.1. Enter into Executive Session

Return to Regular Meeting

13.1. Return to Regular Meeting

Adjournment

14.1. Adjournment of Meeting

2026-#97

BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board of the Town of Monroe Made a Motion to adjourn the meeting of January 20, 2026, at 7:59 PM.

On a motion by Supervisor Richardson, seconded by Town Council Member Rivera

Ayes: Supervisor Richardson, Town Councilmember Stephens, Town Council Member Rivera, Town Councilmember Bingham

Nays: None

Abstain: None

Blood Drive

Celebrating
National Blood
Donor Month




**Blood
Emergency**
Donors needed.

Sacred Heart – St. Patrick

Sunday, January 25

9am-3pm

Sacred Heart School Gym

26 Still Road, Monroe, NY

Prepare to donate



Eat well
and hydrate



Bring a
photo ID



Feel good and
symptom free



Meet minimum
weight requirements



Must be 17-75
- 16 with parental
permission form
- 76+ with written
physician consent

Visit nybc.org/eligibility
for complete donation guidelines.



Sign up by scanning the QR Code
or visiting nybc.org/sponsor
and use code #08832

You may also call Aileen McCarthy 781-0856, Johanna
De Maria 783-3026, or Tina Quirk 783-3252



Orange County Department of Mental Health

Steven M. Neuhaus
County Executive



Opioid Overdose Response Training


Training Overview:

- ✓ Learn some basic information about opioids and how they work
- ✓ Learn about opioid and overdose trends in Orange County
- ✓ Understand how to recognize the signs of a potential opioid overdose
- ✓ Learn how to respond to an opioid overdose using Narcan nasal-spray
- ✓ Every participant receives a free Narcan kit

Event Details - 2026

- | | |
|------------|------------|
| February 7 | August 1 |
| March 7 | October 3 |
| April 4 | November 7 |
| May 2 | December 5 |
| June 6 | |

 1:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.

 30 Harriman Drive, Goshen NY, 10924



Scan the QR code to register

This event is free to all and should be attended by anyone interested in learning how to prevent opioid overdose deaths.