

Town of Monroe
Town Board Minutes
Monday, April 20, 2026
www.townofmonroeny.gov

Generated by Valerie Bitzer

Members Present

Maureen Richardson, Bethany Stephens, Juan 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.

Moment of Silence

2.1. Moment of Silence RE Ninal Petito, Conservation Commission

Moment of Silence RE Ninal Petito, Conservation Commission.

Motion to Open Town Board Meeting

3.1. Motion to Open Town Board Meeting of April 20, 2026

2026-#174

BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board of the Town of Monroe Made a Motion to Open the Town Board Meeting of April 20, 2026, at 7:02 PM.

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

Community Announcements

4.1. Round Lake Park Activity Update

- Putting in driveway
- Need to file curb cut permit with Highway
- No violations at this time
- Has been extremely cooperative
- 1 acre, 1 lot
- No playground going in

- Anticipating 1 home on 1 acre down line
- No current projects being accepted at this time
- Building Inspector is keeping an eye our for any issues
- Town is mitigating any impact. Currently, there is no impact at this time.

4.2. Mobile DMV at Town Hall April 27, 2026

Orange County Clerk Kelly Eskew invites you to the Orange County Mobile DMV Unit. Transactions Offered: All Registration Transactions, all License Transactions including Real/Enhanced, Enforcement Transactions. Monday, April 27, 2026, 10:00AM-12PM, closed 12-1pm, 1-3:30pm. Monroe Town Hall, 1465 Orange Tpke., Monroe, NY 10950. Please visit dmv.ny.gov for all necessary original documents needed before your visit to the Mobile DMV.

Expect some delays due to the high volume of customers applying for the REAL or Enhanced ID.

4.3. Community Art Exhibition

Selected artwork will be displayed on the walls of Monroe Town Hall. Artists whose work is chosen will be notified after the submission deadline and provided with instructions for delivering their artwork. The community art display will be formally recognized during a Town Board meeting in June, where participating artists will be invited to attend a public showcase of the artwork. Deadline to submit is May 4th. Additional Notes: The Town reserves the right to determine the final selection and placement of artwork.

4.4. Monroe Clean Sweep

The 2026 Monroe Clean Sweep event will take place on Saturday, May 2nd, beginning at 8 a.m. in the St. Anastasia Church parking lot located on Route 17M in Harriman. (21 No. Main Street, Harriman). Registration is free at townofmonroeny.gov. Click on Community / Clean Sweep. Shredding, Electronic Recycling, Textile Recycling, Tire Recycling (no rims accepted), oil recycling (Freeman's). Bags and gloves will be provided for all volunteers. Shuttles will be available to/from St. Anastasia's. T-shirts are still available for sponsorship through March 28th for a donation. Monroe Conservation Committee will be presenting environmental information. Available to any resident of the Town/Village of Monroe/Harriman only.

4.5. Community Garden Educational Opportunity

Join us at the Town of Monroe Community Garden!30-Minute Gardening Lessons

Wednesday, April 22 @ 6:00 P.M. / Planning your Vegetable Garden

Wednesday, May 20 @ 6:00 P.M. / Direct Seeding & Transplanting

Wednesday, June 17 @ 6:00 P.M. / Garden Maintenance

Wednesday, July 15 @ 6:00 P.M. / Pest Management

Wednesday, August 19 @ 6:00 P.M. / Harvesting & Cooking

Wednesday, Sept. 16 @ 6:00 P.M. / Fall Gardening Practices

Cost: Free!

Location: 1465 Orange Turnpike, Monroe, NY

Contact: Barbara Singer, bsinger@townofmonroeny.gov / 845-783-1900 x100

Master Gardener Volunteer Program

Cornell Cooperative Extension | Orange County

4.6. 2026 Orange County Household Hazardous Waste & Operation Safe Scripts Pharmaceutical Collection Event

2026 Orange County Household Hazardous Waste & Operation Safe Scripts Pharmaceutical Collection Event Saturday, May 9, 2026 9AM-3PM (Rain or Shine)OCTS #1 Maintenance Garage, 21 Training Center Lane, New Hampton, NY. Entrance across from the Mid-Hudson Psychiatric Center. Please see Flyer for details of what is/not accepted.

4.7. 14th Annual Orange County Senior Health & Fitness Day

"Move a Little... Live a Lot" Wednesday, May 27, 2026

10:00a.m. to 2:00p.m.

Thomas Bull Memorial Park—Day Camp Area

211 NY-416, Montgomery, NY 12540

Bringing Orange County seniors together for a Free day of health, fitness and fun!

- Health Information & Screenings
- Fitness & Dance Demonstrations
- Group Walk in the Park
- Nutritious Lunch
- Raffles & Prizes
- Prescription Drug Take Back Program
- Financial Health & Wellness
- Healthy Orange Mobile Unit
- DMV Mobile Unit
- EMS Mobile Unit

REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED

For more information and to sign up, please contact Melanie Tanner no later than May 20th
845-615-3736

Steven M. Neuhaus County Executive

Danielle Diana-Smith Director of Office for the Aging

Travis B. Ewald, P.E. Commissioner of Parks and Recreation

Dr. Jennifer Roman, Acting Commissioner for the Department of Health

www.orangecountygov.

4.8. 2026 Spring Compost Schedule

GET READY FOR YARD CLEAN UP! Spring is here, and warmer days are ahead!
Just a reminder — yard waste is not accepted with garbage pickup. Good news! There are convenient yard waste drop-off locations right here in Monroe.

Yard Waste Drop-Off Locations:

- Town of Monroe Highway Department - 87 Mine Road
- Town of Monroe Compost Facility — Solar Farm, 813 Lakes Road

GUIDELINES:

- * Sign in at the office before dropping off (Highway Department only).
- * Brush must be under 4 feet in length.
- * Branches must be no larger than 5 inches in diameter.
- * No logs or wood accepted.
- * No commercial or business waste permitted.

Compost Facility - Special Spring Hours

Operating hours: 8:00 AM - 2:00 PM. Open rain or shine!

- SATURDAY, APRIL 25
- SATURDAY, MAY 2
- SATURDAY, MAY 9
- SATURDAY, MAY 16

PLEASE NOTE — THE COMPOST FACILITY WILL CLOSE FOLLOWING THESE DATES & REOPEN IN THE FALL.

FOR ANY QUESTIONS, PLEASE CONTACT THE TOWN OF MONROE HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT AT 845-782-8583.

4.9. St. Paul Lutheran Church Blood Drive

Donate on Saturday, April 25th and receive a \$15 e-gift card to a merchant of your choice.

9:00 am-2:00 pm

St. Paul Lutheran Church 21 Still Rd., Monroe, NY

Scan the QR Code on the flyer to register or walk in.

REDCROSSBLOOD.ORG

SPONSOR CODE: STPAULLUTHERAN

4.10. Orange County's 250th: Individuals and Artifacts of the American Revolution

Individuals and Artifacts of the American Revolution

Sunday, April 26, 2026 12:00 PM-4:00 PM

Woodbury Senior Center, 16 County Route 105, Highland Mills, NY

Join the Woodbury Historical Society, Orange County Historian's Office, and twenty

historical groups as well as historians to see, experience, and learn about artifacts and people who shaped the American Revolution here at home.

Acceptance of Minutes

5.1. Acceptance of April 6, 2026 Minutes

2026-#175

BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board of the Town of Monroe accepts the Minutes of April 6, 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

Audit of Claims

6.1. General Fund Abstract

2026-#176

BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board of the Town of Monroe requests approval of Abstract #26-07 General Fund containing Check # 38168-37829 totaling \$447,137.50.

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

7.1. Budget Transfer Abstract

2026-#177

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Monroe hereby approves Budget Transfer Abstract #2026-1 totaling \$6,900.00 for 2025 Expenditure Adjustments.

ABSTRACT OF BUDGET TRANSFERS

TOWN OF MONROE

DATE OF AUDIT: April 20, 2026

ABSTRACT 2026-1

2025 EXPENDITURE ADJUSTMENTS

DATE GL NO. DESCRIPTION Account Trans In Trans Out

2/17/2026 Highway Admin Deputy Highway Superintendent A000-5010-1010-00

6,500.00

Highway Garage Engineering A000-5132-4020-00 6,500.00

Highway Working Leader Stipend A000-5010-1030-00 400.00

Highway Admin Equipment A000-5010-2000-00 400.00

6,900.00 6,900.00

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

7.2. Budget Transfer Abstract

2026-#178

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Monroe hereby approves Budget Transfer Abstract #2026-02 totaling \$1,500.00 for 2025 Expenditure Adjustments.

ABSTRACT OF BUDGET TRANSFERS

TOWN OF MONROE

DATE OF AUDIT: April 20, 2026

ABSTRACT 2026-02

2025 EXPENDITURE ADJUSTMENTS

DATE GL NO. DESCRIPTION Account Trans In Trans Out

4/15/2026 Water Admin Equipment SW00-8310-2000-00 1,500.00

Water Admin Miscellaneous SW00-8340-4109-00 1,500.00

1,500.00 1,500.00

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

New Business

8.1. 1st Deputy Town Clerk Appointment

2026-#179

BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board of the Town of Monroe hereby appoints Barbara Singer as 1st Deputy Town Clerk, term to expire 12/31/27. Barbara is currently in the 2nd Deputy position.

Barbara is moving into the 1st Deputy Town Clerk position as Patricia Kasch retired on March 31, 2026. Barbara will be assuming the remainder of Budget Line Item No. A000-1410-1010-00 with an annual salary of \$53,782.28. This will be retroactive as of April 1,

2026.

Terms of Office to be Coterminous with the term of office of Town Clerk.

| OFFICE | TERM EXPIRES |
|---------------------------------------|--------------|
| 1st Deputy Town Clerk, Barbara Singer | 12/31/2027 |
| 2nd Deputy Town Clerk, Mildred Torres | 12/31/2027 |

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

8.2. 2nd Deputy Town Clerk Appointment

2026-#180

BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board of the Town of Monroe hereby appoints Mildred Torres as 2nd Deputy Town Clerk, term to expire 12/31/27.

Mildred will be assuming the remainder of Budget Line Item No. A000-1410-1020-00 with an annual salary of \$45,540.78. Start date of April 21, 2026.

Terms of Office to be Coterminous with the term of office of Town Clerk.

| OFFICE | TERM EXPIRES |
|---------------------------------------|--------------|
| 1st Deputy Town Clerk, Barbara Singer | 12/31/2027 |
| 2nd Deputy Town Clerk, Mildred Torres | 12/31/2027 |

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

8.3. Authorization of Water Department Vehicle Purchase

2026-#181

BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board of the Town of Monroe Made a Motion to approve the purchase of the specialized Water Department utility vehicle at the purchase price of \$101,467.50 to Healy Brothers and authorizes the Supervisor to sign for the purchase of the vehicle.

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

8.4. Ratification of Smith Clove Park Seasonal Hiring

2026-#182

BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board of the Town of Monroe Made a Motion to ratify the seasonal hiring of Michael Jacoby, Robert Nenna, and Richard Strenkopff for Smith Clove Park, effective 4/2/2026, as previously initiated by the Smith Clove Park Commission, at an hourly rate of \$20/hr, \$17/hr, and \$16/hr respectively.

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

8.5. Appointment of Climate Smart Community Members

2026-#183

BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board of the Town of Monroe Made a Motion to appoint the following to the Climate Smart Community with a term to expire 12/31/2026.

- Rich Faigle

- Fred Schuepfer

- Rick Colon

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

8.6. Approval of Employment Status Change for Susan Ciriello

2026-#184

BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board of the Town of Monroe hereby authorizes the change in status for Susan Ciriello from Part-Time Account Clerk to Full-Time Account Clerk. Sue is now pre-approved under the HELPS Program effective 4/16/26 after fulfilling Orange County's criteria. She has been assigned to position #14419H which has been reclassified to the Non-competitive class pursuant to the HELPS Program. This appointment shall become effective **April 21, 2026**, at an annual salary of \$45,500. This appointment is contingent upon County Civil Service / HELPS stipulations.

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

8.7. Approval of Pedro Arroyo as Seasonal Laborer

2026-#185

BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board of the Town of Monroe Made the following Resolution by Supervisor Richardson and seconded by Councilperson Bingham:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Monroe hereby authorizes the hiring of Pedro Arroyo as Seasonal Laborer at a rate of \$20/hr effective 4/21/26.

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

8.8. June 2026 NYALGRO Town Clerk Conference

2026-#186

BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board of the Town of Monroe Made a Motion to approve request submitted by Town Clerk Valerie Bitzer to attend the June 2026 NYALGRO Conference in Lake Placid, NY from June 7th-9th. Valerie will be staying until June 10th. Hotel cost is \$704.20 for three nights, which includes meals. Conference Registration \$30. Amount not to exceed \$1,000.00.

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

8.9. IBEW363 Highway Department Dial-A-Ride Mechanic MOU & Bi-Annual Safety Plan Update

2026-#187

BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board of the Town of Monroe Made the following Resolution by Councilmember Bingham and seconded by Councilmember Rivera:

WHEREAS, the Town of Monroe operates a Dial-A-Ride program through Orange County and is responsible for the maintenance of the vehicles used in said program; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Monroe currently employs two full-time Highway Department

Mechanics who possess the necessary skills to maintain these vehicles; and

WHEREAS, a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) has been drafted between the **Town of Monroe** and **IBEW Local Union 363** to establish the updated terms of this maintenance arrangement, including scheduling protocols, drug testing requirements, and a temporary wage increase for the mechanics involved in advance of our mandatory Safety Plan filed with Orange County; and

WHEREAS, the Town Board finds it in the best interest of the Town to utilize internal resources and union labor for the maintenance of Dial-A-Ride vehicles to ensure safety, efficiency, and equitable terms;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

The Town Board of the Town of Monroe hereby approves the Memorandum of Understanding between the Town of Monroe and IBEW Local Union 363 as presented.

The Town Board hereby authorizes **Supervisor Maureen Richardson** to execute the MOU and any other necessary documents to finalize this agreement.

1. The terms of this MOU, including the temporary \$2.00 hourly wage increase for the two Town Mechanics, shall remain in effect until the Town hires a full-time mechanic to split duties between Highway and Dial-A-Ride, or until the expiration of the agreement as specified therein.
2. The Town Board authorizes the Supervisor to sign the updated Dial-A-Ride Bi-Annual Safety Plan as required for filing with Orange County and NYSDOT.
3. This resolution shall take effect immediately.

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

8.10. Authorization for the Supervisor to sign Dial-A-Ride Woodbury IMA

2026-#188

BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board of the Town of Monroe Made a Motion authorizing the Supervisor to sign the 2026 Dial-A-Ride Woodbury IMA at a renewal rate of \$18,500 paid to Monroe contingent on attorney's final approval of contract terms.

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

8.11. Authorization for the Supervisor to sign Woodbury Animal Shelter IMA

2026-#189

BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board of the Town of Monroe Made a Motion authorizing the Supervisor to sign the Woodbury Animal Shelter IMA renewing the contract terms at a cost not to exceed \$33,000 and any outstanding terms contingent upon Supervisor and attorney's final approval.

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

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

Nays: None

Abstain: None

8.12. Raffle Consent Form - Access: Supports for Living Foundation

2026-#190

BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board of the Town of Monroe Made a Motion approving the Raffle Consent Form - Access: Supports for Living Foundation.

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

8.13. Release of Bond RE: 24 Raywood Dr.

2026-#191

BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board of the Town of Monroe Made a Motion to release the Bond RE: 24 Raywood Dr. (Bond amount \$16,500).

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

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

Nays: Town Councilmember Stephens

Abstain: None

8.14. Appointment of Signee Planning/Zoning

2026-#192

BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board of the Town of Monroe Made a Motion to appoint Valerie Bitzer to sign on behalf of Norinne McSweeney.

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

Public Comment

9.1. Rules for Public Comment

9.2. Public Comment

The following signed up for Public Comment:

- Carol Sotiropoulos
- Nora Staffwell
- Heather Siani
- Ellen Devlin
- Rick Colon

- Carol Sotiropoulos: Commented again RE Melt Act and NY For All Act. Requests Board reconsideration.

- Nora Staffwell: Spoke on municipalities that have passed resolutions RE: Melt Act, and NY For All. Asking for reconsideration by the Board.

- Heather Siani: Thanked the Board for appointing three new members to the Climate Smart Community. Working on creating a Natural Resource Inventory which will help protect natural resources and manage growth wisely. Will be attending a Smart Summit in June. Looking into resolving food waste.

- Ellen Devlin: Thanked the board for all the support given to the Sr. Center. Also, thanked Ed Morales for all he's done at the Sr. Center.

- Rick Colon: Thanked all speakers for commenting. Congratulated all newly appointed.

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

10.1. Enter into Executive Session

*NO ACTION AT THIS TIME

Return to Regular Meeting

11.1. Return to Regular Meeting

*NO ACTION AT THIS TIME

Adjournment

12.1. Adjournment of Meeting

2026-#193

BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board of the Town of Monroe Made a Motion to adjourn the meeting of April 20, 2026, at 8:16 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.