

Town of Monroe
Town Board Minutes
Monday, July 6, 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.

Motion to Open Town Board Meeting

2.1. Motion to Open Town Board Meeting of July 6, 2026

2026-#252

BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board of the Town of Monroe Made a Motion to Open the Town Board Meeting of July 6, 2026, at 7:05 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

3.1. Round Lake Water Quality Results — 6/10/26

Town Supervisor Maureen Richardson commented:

"We received some feedback that there was nonharmful algae. that the overall the lake is in good health and the total phosphorus which often comes from fertilizers mowing the lawn such like leaves decaying in the lake are approaching the limit but right now, it's standard but it can cause algae blooms and excessive plant growth. So, their recommendations were that the bofilm was present throughout the basin and most likely caused by decaying pollen. The outlet at the boat launch, which many residents have called the office about, have dense amounts of what's called invasive Eurasian water mil foil and benthic filamentous algae.

They have moderates amount of floating filamentous algae and sparse amounts of

common water weed, picker weed and tail was documented. Trace amounts of white-water lily and invasive water chestnut were also observed.

They continued, "The wetlands support sparse to moderate amounts of spatterrock, floating filamentous algae, and invasive curly leaf pondweed, moderate amounts of tail, sparse amounts of common water weed, trace amounts of water lily, great duckweed, and invasive water chestnut. A nutrient reduction treatment is recommended to reduce total phosphorus levels and decrease photosynthetic growth. An algae treatment to reduce the amount of floating mats in the basin is recommended and recurring monitoring to record any change in water algae was also mentioned. The white foam on top of the lake is not harmful".

3.2. Out in the Garden 2026

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

Pest Management, Wednesday, July 15 @ 6:00 P.M.
Harvesting & Cooking, Wednesday, August 19 @ 6:00 P.M.
Fall Gardening Practices, Wednesday, Sept. 16 @ 6:00 P.M.

Cost: Free!

Location: 1465 Orange Turnpike, Monroe, NY

Contact: Barbara Singer

bsinger@townofmonroeny.gov
(845) 783-1900 (ext. 100)

Master Gardener Volunteer Program
Cornell Cooperative Extension | Orange County

3.3. Mobile DMV at Town Hall July 30, 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. Thursday, July 30, 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.

3.4. Summer Reading Party

Dig into the past. Summer Reading 2026 Kickoff Party. Time to register! Join us for games, snacks & live music from local band, Pocket Change. Saturday, June 27th. All ages, 12-2:00 PM. For more info...845-783-4411, monroefreelibrary.org, 44 Millpond Parkway, Monroe,

NY.

3.5. Woodbury Animal Shelter

The contract was negotiated at the end of 2024 for the year 2025. It had an automatic rollover for the year 2026. The town was not invoiced by the town of Woodbury. We expressed we would be willing to increase our engagement to \$33,000 rather than the contracted \$31,000. We then hit a wall with those negotiations. Woodbury then made a motion at one of their meetings. The contract year is now fully cemented. Woodbury indicated that Monroe never paid a dollar towards medical bills. The town has been paying them. The Supervisor dropped off the check at Woodbury. The town will attempt to reengage for the 2027 contract year, and have back up plans if that's unsuccessful.

9 minutes, 37 seconds

3.6. Hydrant Flushing Notice

Town of Monroe Water Department
87 Mine Rd., Monroe, NY

Hydrant Flushing Notice

The Town of Monroe Water Department would like to notify residents that hydrant flushing will take place over the coming weeks as part of our routine maintenance program to help ensure the continued quality of your water supply.

Hydrant Flushing Schedule:

Week of July 6: Water Districts #8 and #10

Week of July 13: Water Districts #1 and #7

Week of July 20: Water Districts #2, #12 and #14

During the flushing process, residents may experience temporary water discoloration or a reduction in water pressure. These conditions are normal and should be temporary. If you notice water discoloration, please run a cold-water faucet for several minutes until the water runs clear.

We appreciate your patience and cooperation as we perform this important maintenance to help maintain the quality of the Town's water system.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the Town of Monroe Water Department at 845-782-8583.

Acceptance of Minutes

4.1. Acceptance of June 9, 2026 Minutes

2026-#253

BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board of the Town of Monroe Made a Motion to accept the Minutes of June 9, 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

5.1. Abstract of Audited Vouchers Escrow Fund

2026-#254

BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board of the Town of Monroe approves Abstract of Audited Vouchers Escrow Fund #26-08, check #2287 totaling \$325.00.

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

5.2. Abstract of Audited Vouchers General Fund

2026-#255

BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board of the Town of Monroe approves Abstract of Audited Vouchers General Fund #26-12, check #38424-38486 totaling \$374,028.99.

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

6.1. Monroe Intent to Declare Lead Agency for WD#2 WIIA Grant

#2026-256

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

RESOLUTION DECLARING INTENT TO SERVE AS LEAD AGENCY UNDER SEQRA RELATED TO APPLYING FOR A STATE "WIIA" GRANT TO REPLACE EXISTING PIPING AND APPURTENCES WITHIN THE EXISTING WELLHOUSE AND CONSTRUCTION OF A NEW ATMOSPHERIC STORAGE TANK (WATER DISTRICT #2) WHEREAS, the Town of Monroe is seeking to replace the piping and appurtences within the existing wellhouse and construct an atmospheric

storage tank for the municipal water facility located at 357 W. Mombasha Road (near Mombasha Park) within Water District #2; and WHEREAS, the work to be performed is an Unlisted Action under the New York State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQRA) requiring coordinated review. NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Monroe hereby designates its intent to serve as Lead Agency for the SEQRA coordinated review and will circulate the Lead Agency Notice and all relevant documents to all Involved and Interested Agencies who shall all be given 30 days from the mailing of the Lead Agency Notice to challenge the Town Board's designation. (Authorize representative from MHE to partake in this action). The question of the adoption of the foregoing Resolution was duly put to a vote on roll call, which resulted as follows:
AYES: 4 NAYS: 0 ABSENT: 1 DATE: July 6, 2026

The Resolution was thereupon duly adopted.

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

6.2. Proposal for Phase 1 Hydrogeological Consulting Services Town of Monroe

2026-#257

BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board of the Town of Monroe Made a Motion to Approve the proposal from Hanson Van Vleet, PLLC (HVV) to perform the Phase 1 Hydrogeologic Investigation in support of evaluating a potential groundwater supply source for the Town. The lump-sum cost for HVV to complete the Phase 1 investigation is \$4,320, which is a fixed, not-to-exceed amount based on the proposed scope of work.

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

6.3. Resignation RE Francisca Tapia-Santos, Finance Clerk

2026-#258

BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board of the Town of Monroe Made a Motion to accept the resignation of Francisca Tapia-Santos, Finance Clerk effective July 3, 2026.

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

6.4. Motion to Approve the Freelance Service Agreement of Cheryl Gross

2026-#259

BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board of the Town of Monroe Made a Motion to Approve the Freelance Service Agreement of Freelancer Cheryl Gross at a rate of \$45.00 an hour with an effective date of June 23, 2026. (Finance Department)

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

6.5. Memorandum of Agreement between the Town of Monroe and IBEW Local Union 363

2026-#260

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

WHEREAS, the Town of Monroe must fill a Licensed Water Operator position by July 7, 2026, due to the retirement of the current Operator; and

WHEREAS, the Town and IBEW Local Union 363 have drafted a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) to provide temporary operational terms to ensure continuity of Water Department services;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

1. The Town Board hereby approves the Memorandum of Agreement between the Town of Monroe and IBEW Local Union 363 regarding Water Department operations.
2. Craig Lundgren shall assume the role of Water Department Lead Operator effective July 7, 2026, with a \$10.00 per hour wage increase.
3. The Town shall post a position for Water Department Laborer to support weekend operational needs.
4. The Town and Union agree to formally separate the Water Department from the Highway Department and negotiate a standalone Water Department Collective Bargaining Agreement later this year.
5. If the Town and Mr. Lundgren mutually determine the arrangement is not satisfactory, he may return to the Highway Department with his previous classification and seniority.
6. The Town Board authorizes Supervisor Maureen Richardson to execute the MOA and any necessary documents.

This resolution shall take effect immediately.

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

Stephens

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

Nays: Town Councilmember Stephens

Abstain: None

Supervisor Richardson thanked everyone for cleaning out the drain catches while Highway Superintendent Bill Brown was away.

6.6. Procurement Agreement with Cintas Supplies

2026-#261

WHEREAS, the Town of Monroe requires professional facility and maintenance supplies for daily municipal operations; and the town's current supplier has raised prices, causing the Supervisor, Town Clerk, and Department Heads to search for more competitive supply management, and

WHEREAS, Cintas Supplies provides procurement options that meet the operational and budgetary requirements of the Town, decreasing supply costs while increasing inventory management oversight;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Monroe hereby authorizes the Town Supervisor to sign and execute the procurement agreement with Cintas Supplies.

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

6.7. Appointment of Zach Murphy as Zoning Board of Appeals Chair

2026-#262

BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board of the Town of Monroe Made a Motion to accept the resignation of Chip Francis Postiglione as ZBA Chair, while maintaining his position as ZBA member, and accept his recommendation to formally elevate Zach Murphy to ZBA Chair with a term to expire 12/31/2026.

"First and foremost, I would like to send my condolences to anyone who had the pleasure of knowing our Town Secretary, the fantastic Norinne McSweeney. She was a one-of-a-kind

woman, and I will always be grateful for having known her.

Secondly, I would like to thank Chairman Postiglione for his determination and drive to help the community. Understandably things change in life and he will be stepping down as Chairman of the Zoning Board of Appeals.

With the loss of Ms. McSweeney and Chairman Postiglione stepping down I understand how the community may be concerned about the future of the Zoning Board. I would like to assure you all that we will get back to business as usual shortly, but we won't forget the positive impact these two made.

I would like to thank the current Town Supervisor Maureen Richardson for the opportunity to be the new Zoning Board of Appeals Chairman, a role that I do not take lightly. I would also like to thank the previous Town Supervisor Tony Cardone for giving me a chance to be on the Zoning Board nearly 4 years ago. Most importantly, I would like to thank the residents of the Town of Monroe for never giving up. This town is full of hard-working resilient Americans, and I plan on hearing and addressing every one of their concerns.

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

6.8. Resignation RE: John Seeley, ZBA

2026-#263

BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board of the Town of Monroe Made a Motion to accept the resignation of John Seeley from the Zoning Board of Appeals effective March 31, 2026.

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

6.9. Change in Refuse Schedule Due to the Holiday

The refuse schedule for the holiday was pushed.

Motion From the Floor

7.1. Assistant Sr. Center Attendant, Tiffany Truex

2026-#264

BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board of the Town of Monroe Made a Motion to Appoint Tiffany Truex as Assistant Sr. Center Attendant, with a stipend in the amount of \$8,000.

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

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

7.2. Proposed IMA's with the Town of Chester and the Village of So. Blooming Grove Dial-A-Ride

2026-#265

BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board of the Town of Monroe Made a Motion to Approve the Supervisor and Town Counsel Chafizadeh to negotiate on behalf of the Town of Monroe Dial-A-Ride with the Town of Chester and the Village of So. Blooming Grove.

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

Public Comment

8.1. Rules for Public Comment

8.2. Public Comment

The following signed up for Public Comment:

- Tom Lawrence
- Dorey Houle
- Tony Cardone
- Carol Scully
- Mike Sommer
- Mark Lundey
- Herman Wagschal
- Iris Conques
- Steve Thau
- Dan Burke
- Rick Colon
- Carol Hawxhurst

- Tom Lawrence: Conservation Commission Chairperson. People want to live in the Town of Monroe. Monroe is called the Lake Region, and natural habitats are being over developed. Citizens are concerned about Round Lake Development. There are two vacancies on the Conservation Commission. No new date for Repair Café.

- Dorey Houle: Addressed Minutes in Executive Session from June 8, 2026, meeting. Requested that the Town secure an Independent HR Firm. The Village can help with water chestnuts. They have a chestnut harvester.

- Tony Cardone: Spoke regarding the water contract. Questioned if the union members agreed to this. Also, spoke about plowing and having to hire two new hires.
- Carol Scully: Read a letter to the Board from former bookkeeper, Roberta McBride. Spoke about the Budget, Security and NY Class Fund, where her name remained active on the account.
- Mike Sommer: Thanked the Board for the update on WD No. 2. Concerned about heavy metals in well water. Residents prefer option two that was previously discussed.
- Mark Lundey: Concerned about Round Lake. It's fully fenced in. No permits are needed in the Town of Monroe regarding fencing. Endangered species are behind the fence. The fence is in wetlands. Concerned about that.
- Herman Wagschal: Thanked the Board for installing streetlights on Seven Springs Rd. No sidewalks there. People walk. Accidents happening. People are protected under the Constitution.
- Iris Conques: Spoke regarding a presentation about the TNR program she started in Greenwood Lake which you seemed interested in. She's left messages and voicemails and hasn't gotten a response. Looking to get on the Agenda.
- Steve Thau: Spoke regarding resignation within the Town of Monroe.
- Dan Burke: Complimented Town Supervisor. Always looking for good communication. Started Supervisor Reports on Social Media "Across the Aisles."
- Rick Colon: No need to put up a fence on Round Lake. Suggested a No Trespassing sign. Spoke about keeping green space within the Town.
- Carol Hawxhurst: Appreciated the Board's funding of streetlights. Spoke on buses and speeding cars. Questioned CCR again and Pallotti Village. Agrees with the Town hiring an HR Firm.

Adjournment

9.1. Adjournment of Meeting

2026-#266

BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board of the Town of Monroe Made a Motion to adjourn the meeting of July 6, 2026, at 9:21 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