

March 26, 2026
Special Meeting
Town of Afton
Chenango County

Present at the continuation of meeting for March 12, 2026, were John Lawrence, Supervisor; Councilmen Jamie Baciуска, Calvin Tallmadge, Ron Sherman and Joel Lawrence; Hwy Superintendent Kirk Hoyt; DCO Amy Cross. Absent: Sanitation Officer Bailey DeBetta

Meeting called to order at 6:30 pm with the Salute to the Flag.

John Thanked the four people that were helpful during the stressful situation on March 12th.

Starting with

Old Business:

- 1/ Town of Afton to enter into a host community agreement with Town of Coleville. Jamie explained that there are 2,000 parcels in Afton, for this one parcel to be removed it comes to a total of \$24.00 that will cover the School, Town, County and Fire per household, for town it is \$1.70 per household. One parcel from this property is being removed and to be sold. Motion made to enter into the Host Community Agreement with the Town of Colesville to pay a one-time payment of \$15,000 at the time of sale and approval of the Town Attorney. Motion made by Jamie Baciуска, seconded by Joel Lawrence. All in favor, motion so carried.
- 2/ A resolution to approve the contract for the sale of Town property along north side Of Bettsburg Road designated as parcel A to Tim East and Tammy Nelson consisting of 4.539 acres for \$9,639.00, subject to a Permissive Referendum and to authorize the Town Supervisor to sign said contract and any other documents necessary to complete said sale. It is 30 days for contract to East and Nelson, Special Town Board meeting to be held April 27, 2026 at 6:30 pm for any public comment or concerns. Motion to approve the Permissive Referendum. Motion made by Calvin Tallmadge, seconded by Jamie Baciуска. All in favor, motion so carried.
- 3/ A resolution to approve proposed Local Law 1 of 2026, entitled Game of Chance Law Subject to a Permissive Referendum. And for any public comment or concerns to be heard on May 14, 2026 Town Board meeting. Motion made to approve the Permissive Referendum. Motion made by Ron Sherman, seconded by Jamie Baciуска. All in favor, motion so carried.

New Business:

- 1/ To accept the "Commercial Lease Agreement" between Hollie Vanderheide DBA Musica Therapeutic Message and the Town of Afton for the Afton Medical Building. Motion to approve of the signing of the lease agreement, and keeping it a medical center. Motion made by Jamie Baciуска and seconded by Ron Sherman. All in favor, motion so carried.
- 2/ John read the Town Resolution 1 of 2026 addressing NYSEG bills. Motion to adopt this resolution on March 26, 2026. Motion made by Calvin Tallmadge, seconded by Ron Sherman. All in favor, motion so carried.

3/ John to invite Teresa Schunk of NBT Insurance Agency to talk to the Board about The NYMIR Insurance at the April 9th meeting.

Recognition of visitors.

Motion to go into Executive Session to review and interview the applicants for the Town Planning Board. Motion made to 7:30 pm by Jamie Baciуска seconded by seconded by Calvin Tallmadge. All in favor, motion so carried.

Motion to end Executive Session at 10:10 pm. Motion made by Calvin Tallmadge, seconded by Joel Lawrence. All in favor, motion so carried.

Vote was made by the Town Board for the Town Planning Board, see attached list of Applicants, for three board members with two alternates. Motion to appoint. Motion made by Jamie Baciуска, seconded by Joel Lawrence. Also, mentioned to make Bailey DeBetta as Interim Chair for the Planning Board. Calvin Tallmadge to abstain on the appointment of Interim Chair. Motion made to appoint Bailey as Interim Chair to the Planning Board by Joel Lawrence, seconded by Jamie Baciуска. And approved by Ron Sherman. Motion so carried.

Motion to adjourn at 10:10 pm. Motion made by Calvin Tallmadge, seconded by Joel Lawrence. All in favor, motion so carried.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Sandra D Reiling". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Sandra D Reiling
Clerk of the Board

TOWN OF AFTON RESOLUTION NO. 1 OF 2026

A RESOLUTION STONGLY URGING IMMEDIATE REVIEW OF ELECTRIC DELIVERY CHARGES, DEMANDING IMPROVED COST CONTROLS AND TRANSPARENCY, AND AUTHORIZING FORMAL COMPLAINTS TO THE NEW YORK STATE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION REGARDING THE ESCALATING COST OF ELECTRICITY

WHEREAS, residents, seniors, and small businesses in the Town of Afton are experiencing unsustainable, repeated, and compounding increases in electric bills that are placing a growing financial strain on households and the local economy; and

WHEREAS, a substantial portion of these increases is attributable not to increased energy consumption, but to escalating delivery charges, fees and approved rate adjustments imposed by NYSEG; and

WHEREAS, electric delivery charges and rate structures are regulated and approved by the NYS Public Service Commission, which is statutorily charged with ensuring that utility rates are just, reasonable and affordable for ratepayers; and

WHEREAS, the town board has received numerous complaints from residents who are struggling to afford basic electric service and who have expressed serious concern regarding the frequency, magnitude, and lack of transparency surrounding recent and ongoing rate increases; and

WHEREAS, rural and low-density communities such as the Town of Afton are disproportionately impacted by delivery charge increases and cost-recovery mechanisms that fail to adequately account for affordability, equity, and the cumulative burden placed on ratepayers; and

WHEREAS, the Town board finds that continued approval of rate increases without stronger cost controls, greater transparency, and meaningful affordability protections is unacceptable and contrary to the public interest;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Afton formally and strongly urges the NYS Public Service Commission to conduct a thorough and immediate review of electric delivery charges, rate increases, and cost-recovery practices applicable to NYSEG customers; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Town Board calls upon the Public Service commission to prioritize ratepayer affordability, demand greater transparency from NYSEG, and require demonstrable cost-containment and operational efficiency measures before approving any future rate increases; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Town Board expressly opposes continued or automatic rate increases that shift rising operational, infrastructure, and administrative costs onto ratepayers without clear justification or adequate protection for rural communities; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Town supervisor is hereby authorized and directed to submit formal complaints, written comments, and supporting documentation to the NYS Public Service Commission on behalf of the Town and its residents, objection to excessive electric costs and requesting regulatory intervention; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Town Clerk is directed to transmit copies of this resolution to the NYS Public Service Commission, NYSEG, the Governor of the State of New York, members of the New York State Legislature, and neighboring municipalities served by NYSEG, and to encourage coordinated action among affected towns; and


BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this resolution shall take effect immediately upon adoption.

Adopted this 26th day of March 2026, by the Town Board of the Town of Afton.

MOVED BY: _____ Calvin Tallmadge _____, SECONDED BY : _____ Ron Sherman _____

VOTE: Supervisor, John H Lawrence

	AYE	NYE	Absent
Councilman, Jamie Baciuska	<u> X </u>	_____	
Councilman, Ronald Sherman	<u> X </u>	_____	
Councilman, Calvin Tallmadge	<u> X </u>	_____	
Councilman, Joel Lawrence	<u> X </u>	_____	



Sandra D Reiling
Town Clerk

Town of Afton
Applicants for the Planning Board
Three board members, with two alternates

Nicki Andrews, Alternate

Earl W Colley

Amy Cross

Dale Dewey, Board

Chris Kehoe, Board

John McGovern, Board

Dianne Miller

Michael Schinn

James VanDerHeide

Jason Wicks, Alternate

Rachael Wicks

