

A Meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Orchard Park, Erie County, New York, was held at the Orchard Park Municipal Center, S4295 South Buffalo Street, Orchard Park, New York on the 18th day of December 2024 at 7:12 PM, the meeting was called to order by Supervisor Eugene Majchrzak and there were:

PRESENT AT ROLL CALL:

Eugene Majchrzak	Supervisor
Joseph Liberti	Councilmember
Julia Mombrea	Councilmember
Scott Honer	Councilmember
John Mariano	Councilmember
Remy Orffeo	Town Clerk
Timothy D. Gallagher	Town Attorney
Tom Minor	Building Inspector
Excused Patrick Fitzgerald	Chief of Police
Gregory Shepherd	Police Captain
Andrew Slotman	Highway Superintendent
Wayne Bieler	Town Engineer

Supervisor Majchrzak read into the record the following: “If anyone appearing before the Town Board has a family, financial or business relationship with any member of the Board, it is incumbent upon that person to make it known under State Law and the Town Code of Ethics.”

1) THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTION WAS OFFERED BY SUPERVISOR MAJCHRZAK, WHO MOVED ITS ADOPTION, SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER LIBERTI, TO WIT:

RESOLVED, that the Town Board does hereby approve the Regular Meeting Minutes: December 4, 2024 and be it further

RESOLVED, that the reading of these minutes be dispensed with as each member of the Town Board has previously received copies thereof.

The resolution was unanimously adopted.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON OLD BUSINESS

Paul Weiss spoke regarding an Out Of District Water agreement for Providence Farm.

Matt Agle spoke of what Providence Farm is and the setbacks they have experienced while trying to get established.

Jacob Shul (Pat Burke representative) voiced their availability to assist in any way with Providence Farm.

Linda Babcock spoke of the slow movement forward regarding the Providence Farm Project.

Maria Stevens spoke of the funds raised by the Junior League for Providence Farm.

Old Business #1 Authorize the Engineering Department to complete a Map Plan & Report for the Burton Road Water District #17-4

2) THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTION WAS OFFERED BY SUPERVISOR MAJCHRZAK, WHO MOVED ITS ADOPTION, SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER MARIANO, TO WIT:

WHEREAS, the Cornell Cooperative and Providence Farms, are requesting public water. The best way to provide fire protection and service residents in this area and possibly service future residents south of this area, is to extend a public water main down Burton Road to provide potable water for their use. The area consist of single family residences and farms with a history of shallow wells with water quality and water supply issues. It is anticipated that fire protection will be required for the Cornell Cooperative, which this will also help provide.

NOW, THEREFORE be it

RESOLVED, that the Town Board does hereby authorize the Engineering Department to complete a Map, Plan and Report for the creation of Burton Road Orchard Park Water District 17-4 as recommended by the Town Engineer.

The resolution was unanimously adopted.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON NEW BUSINESS

Rosalind Wiltse questioned items 1, 2 & 4 on tonight's agenda.

New Business #1 Approve the appointment of a Civil Service Fitness Program Coordinator.

3) THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTION WAS OFFERED BY SUPERVISOR MAJCHRZAK, WHO MOVED ITS ADOPTION, SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER LIBERTI, TO WIT:

RESOLVED, that the Town Board does hereby approve the appointment of Jessica Gartley as a Civil Service Fitness Program Coordinator to a non-union position, with a salary of \$25.00 per hour and a start date of January 3, 2025.

The resolution was unanimously adopted.

New Business #2 Approve the adoption of the Non-Union Salary Schedule.

4) THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTION WAS OFFERED BY SUPERVISOR MAJCHRZAK, WHO MOVED ITS ADOPTION, SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER MARIANO, TO WIT:

WHEREAS, hourly wages and salaries have been determined for the non-union personnel as of January 1, 2025.

NOW, THEREFORE be it

RESOLVED, that effective from and as of January 1, 2025, the salaries, as attached hereto and made a part of this Resolution, be accepted and approved for non-union employees.

The resolution was unanimously adopted.

**Town of Orchard Park
2025 Salaries - Nonunion Raises**

Employee Name	Title	Union Group	2025 Rate	2025 Salary	
Mariano, John	Town Board Member	Elected		\$ 23,478.72	
Liberti, Joseph	Town Board Member	Elected		\$ 23,478.72	
Mombrea, Julia	Town Board Member	Elected		\$ 23,478.72	
Honer, Scott	Town Board Member	Elected		\$ 23,478.72	
Pastrick, Michael	Town Justice	Elected		\$ 53,916.92	
De Rosas, Jorge	Town Justice	Elected		\$ 53,916.92	
Falzone, Marie	Court Clerk	Non-Union Full	\$ 27.13		
Miller, Courtney **	Court Clerk	Non-Union Full	\$ 23.69		
Kelly, Suzanne **	Court Clerk - Part Time	Non-Union Part	\$ 17.00		
Majchrzak, Eugene	Supervisor	Elected		\$ 89,953.73	Hired 5/22/2024
	Budget Officer	Appointed		\$ 6,768.80	Hired 5/22/2024
Potopchuk, Carolyn	Assistant to Supervisor	Non-Union Part	\$ 19.10		
Jurek, Tricia	Accounting Clerk	Non-Union Full	\$ 28.87		
Comisso, Jennifer **	Payroll Clerk	Non-Union Full	\$ 26.74		Hired 2/20/2024
Kenlon, Nancy	Assessor	Department Manager		\$ 90,176.62	
Iannarelli, Rita	Clerical Personnel - Part Time	Non-Union Part	\$ 16.89		
Orffeo, Remy	Town Clerk	Elected		\$ 76,794.86	
	Vital Statistics Officer	Appointed		\$ 4,458.07	
	Records Management Officer	Appointed		\$ 4,636.39	
Perram, Mary	Tax - Deputy Town Clerk	Non-Union Full	\$ 30.55		
Spengler-Serwinoski, Jennifer	Second Deputy Town Clerk	Non-Union Full	\$ 24.39		
Brady, Jennifer	Deputy Town Clerk	Non-Union Full	\$ 27.80		
Faust, Michelle	Records Management Clerk - Part Time	Non-Union Part	\$ 18.77		
Swarbrick, Kathy	Tax Assistant - Part Time	Non-Union Part	\$ 29.48		
Gallagher, Timothy	Town Attorney	Appointed		\$ 54,486.87	
	Prosecuter	Appointed		\$ 9,454.76	
Bailey, John	Deputy Town Attorney	Appointed		\$ 21,344.31	
Messina, Charles	Prosecuter	Appointed		\$ 5,943.05	
Bieler, Wayne	Town Engineer	Department Manager		\$ 130,616.25	
Ostrander, Thomas	Assistant Municipal Engineer	Non-Union Full		\$ 90,900.10	
	Stipend	Non-Union Full		\$ 2,600.00	

Gasiorowski, Cheryl	Cleaner - Part Time	Non-Union Part	\$ 16.50	
Stewart, Amy **	Cleaner - Part Time	Non-Union Part	\$ 16.50	Hired 4/4/2024
Fisher, Gary	Cleaner - Part Time	Non-Union Part	\$ 16.50	
Melendez, Alex	Cleaner - Part Time	Non-Union Part	\$ 16.50	
Ensminger, Alex	Cleaner - Part Time	Non-Union Part	\$ 16.50	
Pepero, Paul	Director of IT	Non-Union Full	\$ 127,443.61	
	Stipend	Non-Union Full	\$ 7,245.00	
Denz, Shannon **	Computer Technician	Non-Union Full	\$ 23.81	Hired 1/29/2024
Trigilio, Christian *	Computer Technician	Non-Union Full	\$ 27.07	
	Dispatcher - Part Time	Non-Union Part	\$ 31.21	
Welch, Kristin	Recreation Director	Department Manager	\$ 86,008.00	
Stevens, Christine	Recreation Attendant - Part Time	Non-Union Part	\$ 16.75	
Santillo, Rise	Recreation Attendant - Part Time	Non-Union Part	\$ 16.75	
Slotman, Andrew	Highway Superintendent	Elected	\$ 99,000.00	
	Parks Superintendent	Appointed	\$ 9,000.00	
	Sewer/Water	Appointed	\$ 9,000.00	
	Compost	Appointed	\$ 9,000.00	
	Drainage	Appointed	\$ 9,000.00	
Carey, Michael	Working Crew Chief	Non-Union Full	\$ 37.61	
Hemingway, Susan	Community Activity Director	Non-Union Full	\$ 26.94	
Ensminger, Alex	CAC Personnel - Part Time	Non-Union Part	\$ 16.50	
Graham, Lynn	CAC Personnel - Part Time	Non-Union Part	\$ 16.50	
Higgins, Patrick	CAC Personnel - Part Time	Non-Union Part	\$ 16.50	
King, Barb	CAC Personnel - Part Time	Non-Union Part	\$ 16.50	
Nowak, Richard	CAC Personnel - Part Time	Non-Union Part	\$ 16.50	
Galley, Maria	Senior Center Director	Department Manager	\$ 72,177.46	
Turner, Kayla	Senior Center Assistant - Part Time	Non-Union Part	\$ 22.00	
Otis, Claire	Senior Center Staff - Part Time Receptionist	Non-Union Part	\$ 17.00	
Kornowicz, Kevin	Kitchen Manager	Non-Union Part	\$ 17.00	
Kostran, Robert	Senior Center Staff - Part Time	Non-Union Part	\$ 17.00	
Olandt, Barb	Senior Center Staff - Part Time	Non-Union Part	\$ 16.25	
Gartley, Gina **	Senior Center Staff - Part Time	Non-Union Part	\$ 17.00	Hired 3/4/2024
Sanna, Margaret	Senior Center Staff - Part Time	Non-Union Part	\$ 18.00	
Deluca, John	Conservation Board Alternate	Appointed	\$ 1,103.68	
Jaeger, Thomas	Conservation Board Member	Appointed	\$ 1,103.68	

Claneaux, Bernadette	Conservation Board Member	Appointed	\$	1,103.68
Schechter, Rich	Conservation Board Chairperson	Appointed	\$	1,416.82
Witt, Kyle	Conservation Board Member	Appointed	\$	1,103.68
Ward, David	Conservation Board Member	Appointed	\$	1,103.68
Grosjean, Amy	Conservation Board Member	Appointed	\$	1,103.68
Lebedzinski, Melissa	Conservation Board Member	Appointed	\$	1,103.68
Rodgers, Sydney *	Dispatcher - Part Time	Non-Union Part	\$	28.92
Schreiber, Chelsea *	Dispatcher - Part Time	Non-Union Part	\$	31.97
Galas, Jacob *	Dispatcher - Part Time	Non-Union Part	\$	31.21
Kessel, Courtney *	Dispatcher - Part Time	Non-Union Part	\$	31.97
Manne, Kristin	Administrative Aid - Police	Non-Union Full	\$	29.45
Kaczor, Jaqueline	Bingo Inspector	Appointed	\$	1,821.78
McCarthy, Thomas	Dog Control Officer Assistant	Non-Union Part	\$	23.24
Minor, Thomas	Building Inspector/CEO	Department Manager	\$	81,950.73
Holland, David	Code Enforcement Officer - Part Time	Non-Union Part	\$	35.92
Fulton, Marla	Clerk Typist - Part Time	Non-Union Part	\$	16.48
Williams, Michael	Zoning Board Alternate	Appointed	\$	1,104.05
Bowers, Kim	Zoning Board Member	Appointed	\$	1,104.05
Kaczor, Lauren	Zoning Board Chairperson	Appointed	\$	1,417.56
Lennartz, Robert	Zoning Board Member	Appointed	\$	1,104.05
Mateer, Dwight	Zoning Board Member	Appointed	\$	1,104.05
Metz, Robert	Zoning Board Member	Appointed	\$	1,104.05
Worang- Zizzi, Anna	Director of Community Development	Non-Union Full	\$	23.00
Baich, Nicholas	Planning Board Member	Appointed	\$	1,104.05
Long, Alex	Planning Board Member	Appointed	\$	1,104.05
Fabinsky, Harol	Planning Board Chairperson	Appointed	\$	1,417.30
Heppner, Jr Henry	Planning Board Member	Appointed	\$	1,104.05
Kaczor, David	Planning Board Member	Appointed	\$	1,104.05
Bennett, Gregory	Planning Board Member	Appointed	\$	1,104.05
Mellerski, David	Planning Board Alternate	Appointed	\$	1,104.05
Murray, Philip	Planning Board Member	Appointed	\$	1,104.05
Kuhnle, Christopher	Assistant Highway Superintendent	Appointed	\$	8,240.00
	Working Crew Chief	Non-Union Full	\$	43.40
Smith, Jeffrey	Working Crew Chief	Non-Union Full	\$	36.68

Fulton, Bill	Working Crew Chief	Non-Union Full	\$	37.35
Geitter, Randy	Working Crew Chief	Non-Union Full	\$	35.79
Opoka, James	Part-Time Laborer	Non-Union Part	\$	21.22
Helwig, David	Part-Time Laborer	Non-Union Part	\$	21.94

*Non-Union Dispatcher follow White Collar salary steps - 2025 wage increase pending new union agreement

** Rate increase will occur on anniversary date

New Business #3 Declare Lead agency, approve SEQR Negative declaration and approve Site Plan for Elmtree & Dorchester Road Reconstruction Project.

5) THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTION WAS OFFERED BY SUPERVISOR MAJCHRZAK, WHO MOVED ITS ADOPTION, SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER LIBERTI, TO WIT:

WHEREAS, the Town has completed the SEQR EAF long form for the Elmtree & Dorchester Road Reconstruction Project SEQR Type 1 and on November 11, 2024, the Planning Department sent out for the long EAF for SEQR coordinated review and seeking Lead Agency for the Elmtree & Dorchester Road Reconstruction Project. At this time the Town has received several responses without objection to the Towns request for lead agency and the 30 day review window has closed.

NOW, THEREFORE be it

RESOLVED, that the Town Board does hereby declare this is a SEQR Type 1 action based on the submitted Long EAF, and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Town Board declares the Town as Lead Agent of the Elmtree & Dorchester Road Reconstruction Project and approves the SEQR Negative Declaration, and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Town Board does hereby approve the presented Elmtree & Dorchester Road Reconstruction Project site plan as recommended by the Town Engineer.

The resolution was unanimously adopted.

New Business #4 Establish a Steering Committee for the Stadium Re-Zoning Project.

6) THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTION WAS OFFERED BY COUNCILMEMBER LIBERTI, WHO MOVED ITS ADOPTION, SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER HONER, TO WIT:

WHEREAS, the Town of Orchard Park recognizes the importance of strategic planning and development for the area surrounding the stadium to maximize its potential and benefit the community; and

WHEREAS, it is essential to form a dedicated committee to oversee and guide the re-zoning process, ensuring the interests and well-being of the community are prioritized.

NOW, THEREFORE be it

RESOLVED, by the Town Board of Orchard Park that a Steering Committee for the Stadium Re-Zoning Project is hereby established, consisting of the following members:

- Joe Liberti, Chair
- JoAnn Litwin as Co-Chair.
- Peter Lukasiewicz/Wayne Bieler
- John Mariano
- Anna Worang-Zizzi
- Don Lorentz
- Dave Holland
- May add another town business owner or town resident.

and be it further,

RESOLVED, that the Steering Committee shall meet once a month to discuss and oversee the re-zoning project, provide recommendations, and ensure that the project aligns with the town's development goals and comprehensive plan, and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Steering Committee shall report its findings and progress to the Town Board once a month and seek approval for major decisions and milestones, and be it further

RESOLVED, this resolution shall take effect immediately upon its adoption.

The resolution was unanimously adopted.

On the question: Town Engineer Wayne Bieler stated there will be one meeting a month with the consultant but there will be other meetings beyond that once a month meeting.

New Business #5 Approve a Budget Amendment

7) THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTION WAS OFFERED BY COUNCILMEMBER MOMBREA, WHO MOVED ITS ADOPTION, SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER MARIANO, TO WIT:

WHEREAS, the Town was required to pay for a judgement in the amount of \$900,000.00, and,

WHEREAS, the Town does not have the funds available within the 2024 budget,

NOW, THEREFORE, be it

RESOLVED, that the Town Board hereby authorizes the following amendment of the Town’s 2024 budget to utilize use of unassigned fund balance to provide funds to pay the judgement:

General Fund Amendment:

Increase use of unassigned fund balance		
A00000 30	General Fund Balance	\$ 900,000.00

Increase appropriation account:		
A01910 50557	Judgements & Claims	\$ 900,000.00

The resolution was unanimously adopted.

BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR

Victoria Grace Karambizi spoke of the importance of Providence Farm and the need of connecting it to a public water supply.

Carol Schuster spoke of the need Providence Farm has for a connection to Erie County Public Water Supply.

David Schuster spoke of the need and good of Providence Farm and the history Orchard Park has as a farming community began by immigrants.

Dan Bremmer is from the Erie County Farm Bureau and spoke of the options to connect Providence Farm to the Powers Road water supply.

Brett Lombardo is from the Erie County Farm Bureau and told the Board that Providence Farm would only be using water to wash vegetables and not irrigation.

Matt Agle (President of Providence Farm) spoke of their dwindling funds and the required funds needed to complete the construction of Providence Farm.

In response to the comments regarding Providence Farm:

Town Engineer Wayne Bieler stated originally Providence Farm decided to use 2 wells and then changed to requesting public water. He stated the Engineering Department and Town Board are trying to assist them with grant opportunities. He also stated that area has had past issues with droughts.

Town Attorney Tim Gallagher proposed and spoke with Providence Farm's attorney on an earlier date regarding an Out of District Water Agreement. He spoke of the Town Law used to assess the value of a Water District.

Paul Weiss questioned the cost of an Out of District Water agreement.

ELECTED OFFICIALS & DEPARTMENT MANAGERS

Supervisor Eugene Majchrzak questioned Providence Farm's description of the process to access public water and asked the Town Engineer and Town Attorney to clarify it. He also wished everyone a Merry Christmas and a safe 2025.

Councilmember Joseph Liberti thanked everyone who spoke for Providence Farm and stated he would like to see their water connection issue resolved soon.

Councilmember Julia Mombrea stated she thinks Providence Farm is an asset to our community. She questioned their attorney's idea of decoupling an Out of District Water agreement and connecting to an ECWA access point.

Councilmember Scott Honer thanked all Orchard Park departments involved with the snowstorm cleanup. He also stated he looks forward to more answers regarding Providence Farm's water connection at the next Town Board meeting on January 15, 2025.

Councilmember John Mariano thanked people who spoke regarding Providence Farm but stated the Town Board has to think of all the residents of Orchard Park and their water needs. He also thanked the Highway and Police Departments for their work during the snowstorm.

Town Clerk Remy Orffeo questioned the Town Board's policy of having three (3) members approve an item prior to it being approved to be put on the Town Board agenda.

Highway Superintendent Andrew Slotman thanked the Emergency Management Team for their work done during the snowstorm and spoke of two snowplow trucks in need of repair and waiting for parts.

8) THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTION WAS OFFERED BY SUPERVISOR MAJCHRZAK, WHO MOVED ITS ADOPTION, SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER LIBERTI, TO WIT:

RESOLVED, that the Town Board does hereby authorize the approval of all entries on Warrant #24 following auditing by members of the Town Board and in the funds indicated:

General Fund	\$57,139.81
Public Safety Fund	\$68,661.59
Part Town Fund	\$729.77
Risk Retention	-0-
Cemetery Fund	-0-
Highway Fund	\$309,526.98
Special Districts	\$18,382.53
Trust & Agency	\$10,176.18
Capital Fund	\$711,833.51

The resolution was unanimously adopted.

REPORTS

9) THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTION WAS OFFERED BY COUNCILMEMBER MARIANO, WHO MOVED ITS ADOPTION, SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER LIBERTI, TO WIT:

RESOLVED, that the Town Board does hereby receive and file the November 2024 Building Inspector’s Monthly Report.

The resolution was unanimously adopted.

There being no further business, on a motion by Supervisor Majchrzak, seconded by Councilmember Mariano, the meeting adjourned at 8:10 pm (local time).

Respectfully Submitted,

Remy C. Orffeo
Town Clerk