

**TOWN OF BLEECKER
REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING
JUNE 25, 2025**

The meeting was called to order at 7:00

Councilman Becker: Present

Councilman Croucher: Present

Supervisor Howard: Present

Councilman Bartholomew: Present

Councilman Smith: Absent

Also in attendance were David Cosselman, Brian Macintosh, John Delesky, Cinda Spraker, Brenda Craig, Kathy Henry, and Jeff Brooks.

Pledge of Allegiance

Councilman Becker made a motion to accept the minutes from the last meeting. It was seconded by Councilman Croucher and approved; In Favor: 4 Opposed: 0

Clerk Report:

In May the Town took in \$382.20; \$90 in Transfer Station permits, \$197.20 in Building permits, \$70 in Certified Copies, and \$25 in Sporting Licenses. It was disbursed; \$23.62 to DEC and \$358.50 to the Supervisor.

Code Enforcement:

John Furlong performed 4 inspections and issued one new permit for a garage.

Dog Control:

Pat Ashbey reported 2 dog bites. The first was by a dog coming out of a property and scratching a dog being walked on the road. The owner has agreed to pay for the vet bill. The other was an attack by two loose dogs on another dog on private property. The two loose (maybe wild) dogs have not been located long enough to catch them yet. Caution is recommended until they are caught.

Ag and Markets will be meeting with the Supervisor to discuss plans for the handling of stray dogs in the absence of a Shelter contract.

Highway, Building, and Grounds:

On Saturday, June 28, all the Town Highway equipment will be available for inspection. Paving is scheduled to begin in the second week of July.

RESOLUTION #32-25
Authorization to Pay General, Highway, and Trust&Agency Fund Bills

Councilman Bartholomew offered the following Resolution and asked for its' approval:

Resolved: The Bleecker Town Board has hereby audited and approved for payment General Fund bills #V-67 through #V-74 for a total of \$1587.49, Highway Fund bills #v48 through #V-53 for a total of \$973.29, and T&A bills #V-9 and #V-10 for a total of \$16417.00.

It was seconded by Councilman Becker and approved; In Favor: 4 Opposed: 0

Councilman Becker: Yes

Councilman Croucher: Yes

Supervisor Howard: Yes

Councilman Bartholomew: Yes

The Caroga Lake Volunteer Fire Company presented a check to the Board, returning some money from last year's Fire Tax that was covered by a Grant received by the Fire Company.

Brian Macintosh made a presentation to the Board explaining the formation of a Fire District covering Caroga Lake and part of Bleecker. The District would follow the same boundaries as the current coverage area, but the funding would be tied to property tax assessments instead of a contract. Currently, the Fire Tax for Bleecker is 74 cents per thousand, the Fire District would bring the properties in Caroga's district to 49 cents and Mecos to 98 cents. No service will be changed at all for either Companies. The District would be overseen by an elected Board, and the Public would have access to meetings. Caroga Lake has not decided on the formation of the District yet, so there is really not much to be done tonight.

Councilman Croucher asked about the anticipated budget, Mr. Macintosh answered that it would probably be around \$300,000 based on current assessments at 22%. The Fire District tax will be assessed by property value.

Councilman Bartholomew asked about the advantage of having a Fire District instead of a coverage contract. Mr. Macintosh said that it would provide a better way to handle money, and going by assessed valuation would help with the amount of financing available to the Fire Company.

Councilman Becker observed that the Fire District will become a taxing entity, and Commissioners would determine the tax rate. He also observed that Town Board members cannot be Commissioners.

Supervisor Howard asked if the status quo holds until Caroga Lake votes on the District, the answer is yes. He was told that we would also still have the option to just contract with the District instead of joining it.

Councilman Croucher made a motion to adjourn. It was seconded by Councilman Bartholomew and approved; In Favor: 4 Opposed: 0

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30

Recorded and submitted by Toni Johnson, Town Clerk