

**TOWN OF BLEECKER
REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING
AUGUST 27, 2025**

The meeting was called to order at 7:00

Councilman Becker: Present

Councilman Croucher: Present

Supervisor Howard: Present

Councilman Bartholomew: Present

Councilman Smith: Present

Also in attendance were Kathy Henry, Wayne and Michelle Hutchins, Alex and Stella Miller, Molly Eveland, Jeff Brooks, Jeff M Brooks, Jeff Martin.

Pledge of Allegiance

Public Comment:

Alex Miller asked about the process for getting an "Autistic Child" sign for a section of Co Hwy 112. He was told to contact the State DOT, as a traffic study would have to be done, and the speed limit would have to be lowered first.

Jeff Martin, the new County Highway Superintendent, introduced himself to the Board, and talked in support of increased cooperation between the County and Towns to get projects done more economically and efficiently.

Councilman Becker made a motion to adopt the minutes from the last meeting. It was seconded by Councilman Croucher and approved: in favor:5 Opposed: 0

Clerk Report:

In July the Town took in \$448: \$30 in Dog Licenses, \$120 in Transfer Station permits, \$143 in Building Permits, \$55 in Sporting Licenses, and \$100 in Certified Copies. It was disbursed; \$51.96 to DEC and \$396.04 to the Supervisor.

Code Enforcement:

John Furlong reported 10 inspections, 5 new permits, 1 demolition permit and completed 6 hours of in-service training.

The Assessor's and Supervisor's reports were submitted.

Caroga Lake Volunteer Fire Department notified the Town that they will be cancelling the fire protection contract and negotiating a new one. Caroga did not establish their Fire District this year, so they will have to go on contract again. Alex Miller asked about the letter that was sent from the Fire Department, but was told that the Caroga Lake Town Board did not pass the resolution for a Fire District yet.

Supervisor Howard informed the Board that four resumes have been received for the Assessor's position, so the Board will have to set up times for interviews and decide on the criteria for the job.

Highway, Building, and Grounds:

Jeff Brooks thanked the Board for allowing him to buy the excavator. He also reported that he will be using millings on Lily Lake Road as a test this year, to see if it is feasible to use them on the gravel roadways.

Councilman Becker asked if the Board was interested in pursuing a Town Law to bond the roads for heavy trucks. He will pursue it with the Town Attorney if they are interested.

RESOLUTION #34-25
Contract for Snow and Ice Removal on County Roads

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

Whereas, the County Superintendent of Highways & Facilities of Fulton County has submitted a contract for the removal of snow and ice control from certain designated County Roads within the Town under Section 135A of the Highway Law, now be it therefore

Resolved, that pursuant to Section 135A of the Highway Law, this Board does hereby accept the contract for snow removal and ice control as submitted and authorizes the Supervisor and Town Board to execute the contract.

It was seconded by Councilman Smith and approved; In Favor: 5 Opposed: 0

Councilman Becker: Yes

Councilman Croucher: Yes

Supervisor Howard: Yes

Councilman Bartholomew: Yes

Councilman Smith: Yes

RESOLUTION #35-25
Transfer Funds for Bridge Repair

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

Resolved, the Bleecker Town Board does hereby authorize the transfer of \$21,150 from the Bridge Repair fund to Highway Checking to cover bridge repairs on Pinnacle Road, Holmes Lake Outlet bridge.

It was seconded by Councilman Croucher and approved; In Favor: 5 Opposed: 0

Councilman Becker: Yes

Councilman Croucher: Yes

Supervisor Howard: Yes

Councilman Bartholomew: Yes

Councilman Smith: Yes

RESOLUTION #36-25
Transfer Funds for Excavator

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

Resolved; the Bleecker Town Board does hereby authorize the transfer of \$89,041.05 from the Equipment Fund to Highway Checking to cover the purchase of a 2014 Caterpillar excavator.

It was seconded by Councilman Smith and approved; In Favor: 5 Opposed: 0

Councilman Becker: Yes

Councilman Croucher: Yes

Supervisor Howard: Yes

Councilman Bartholomew: Yes

Councilman Smith: Yes

Supervisor Howard told the Board that Caroga Lake has notified us that they are raising the Garbage Contract to \$35,000 from the current \$21,000. Jeff Brooks told the Board that he has run the route, a total of 65 miles, and used 7 gallons of gas. In light of the fact that the Town of Bleecker picked up their own garbage a total of 12 times last year, he believes that we can pick up our own for around \$3,000 a year and save the money.

RESOLUTION #37-25
Decision to Not Renew Caroga Lake Garbage Contract

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

Whereas, the contract for garbage pick-up with Caroga Lake is set to increase from \$21,000 to \$35,000, the Bleecker Town Board has decided that it is in our best interest to forego renewing the contract, and pick up our own garbage.

It was seconded by Councilman Croucher and approved; In Favor: 5 Opposed: 0

Councilman Becker: Yes

Councilman Croucher: Yes

Supervisor Howard: Yes

Councilman Bartholomew: Yes

Councilman Smith: Yes

RESOLUTION #38-25
Sign Logging Contract for Gravel Pit

Councilman Becker offered the following Resolution and asked for its' approval;

Resolved; the Bleecker Town Board does hereby authorize a contract with North Country Timber Management Corp. to cut timber on Town property for the purpose of expanding the gravel pit. All proceeds shall go into the Highway Equipment Fund.

It was seconded by Councilman Smith and approved; In Favor: 5 Opposed: 0

Councilman Becker: Yes

Councilman Croucher: Yes

Supervisor Howard: Yes

Councilman Bartholomew: Yes

Councilman Smith: Yes

RESOLUTION #39-25
Authorization to Pay General, Highway, and Trust & Agency Bills

Councilman Becker 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-85 through #V-94 for a total of \$1,928.62, Highway Fund bills #V-65 through #V-76 for a total of \$227,318.06, and Trust & Agency bills #V-14 and #V-15 for a total of \$6,912.20.

It was seconded by Councilman Smith and approved; In Favor: 5 Opposed: 0

Councilman Becker: Yes

Councilman Croucher: Yes

Supervisor Howard: Yes

Councilman Bartholomew: Yes

Councilman Smith: Yes

Councilman Smith made a motion to adjourn. I was seconded by Councilman Croucher and approved; In Favor: 5 Opposed: 0

The meeting was adjourned at 8:00

Recorded and submitted by Toni Johnson, Town Clerk