

Town of LeRay

Town Board Minutes

February 19, 2026

Call to Order

Proceedings of a Town Board Meeting held at the LeRay Town Municipal Office on February 19, 2026. The meeting was called to order at 4:00 p.m. by Supervisor Carpenter who led the room in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Open Regular Meeting

Leland J. Carpenter – Supervisor, Melissa L. Verne – Town Clerk, Nathan Toutant – Director of Finance/Clerk to Supervisor, Board Members in attendance: Samuel Biondolillo, Wayne Robbe, Merle Otis, Patrick O'Donnell, James Burrows – Town Attorney – **Absent**, Debbie Biondolillo – Planning Board Chairperson, Lee Shimel – Zoning Enforcement Officer, William Vargulick – Town Assessor, Bruce Shawcross – Highway Superintendent, Mike Altieri – Town Engineer, Tony Goodrich – DANC

Approval of Minutes

The minutes from the meeting held on January 8, 2026, were reviewed by the Board Members. A motion to approve the minutes as drafted was made by Councilman Otis and seconded by Councilman Robbe.

The vote went as follows:

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| Ayes: | 5 | Nays: | 0 |
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The motion passed.

Comments from the Floor

No Comments

Report from Town Dog Control Officer – Lindsay Hess

DCO Hess submitted her monthly report.

Public Hearing scheduled at 4:10 p.m. to consider Local Law #2 of 2026 – Set Water and Sewer Rates for 2026 as follows:

Former Water District #1 – Effective January 1, 2026 - \$0.00490 per gallon charge for metered water usage and a 3% per quarter penalty after 30 days from billing date.

Former Water District #2 – Effective January 1, 2026 - \$0.00490 per gallon charge for metered water usage and a 3% per quarter penalty after 30 days from billing date.

Former Water District #3 – Effective March 1, 2026 - \$0.01095 per gallon charge for metered water usage and a 3% per quarter penalty after 30 days from billing date.

Former Water District #4 – Effective January 1, 2026 - \$0.00490 per gallon charge for metered water usage and a 3% per quarter penalty after 30 days from billing date.

Sewer District #1 – Effective January 1, 2026 - A minimum charge of \$15.00 for usage up to and including the first 1,980 gallons based on metered water usage bill quarterly. Usage exceeding 1,980 gallons is charged at \$0.00760 per gallon sewer rate and a 3% per quarter penalty after 30 days from billing date.

Sewer District #2 – Effective March 1, 2026 - A minimum charge of \$15.00 for usage up to and including the first 1,990 gallons based on metered water usage bill quarterly. Usage exceeding 1,990 gallons is charged at \$0.00800 per gallon sewer rate and a 3% per quarter penalty after 30 days from billing date.

Sewer District #3 – Effective January 1, 2026 - A minimum charge of \$66.00 for usage up to and including the first 12,500 gallons based on metered water usage bill quarterly. Usage exceeding 12,500 gallons is charged at \$0.00300 per gallon sewer rate and a 3% per quarter penalty after 30 days from billing date.

Sewer District #4 – Effective January 1, 2026 - A minimum charge of \$63.00 for usage up to and including the first 12,500 gallons based on metered water usage bill quarterly. Usage exceeding 12,500 gallons is charged at \$0.00300 per gallon sewer rate billed quarterly and a 3% per quarter penalty after 30 days from billing date.

Supervisor Carpenter opened the Public Hearing at 4:10 p.m. Supervisor Carpenter asked Clerk Verne to read the Public Hearing Notice as published in the Watertown Daily Times on February 11, 2026. Supervisor then asked if there were any comments from the floor. No comments were made.

A motion was made by Councilman Otis and seconded by Councilman Biondolillo to close the Public Hearing.

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| The vote went as follows: | | | |
| Ayes: | 5 | Nays: | 0 |
| The motion passed. | | | |

RESOLUTION #3 OF 2026

ADOPTING LOCAL LAW 2 of 2026 SET WATER AND SEWER RATES FOR 2026

WHEREAS, the Town Board of the Town of LeRay, New York is interested in setting the Water and Sewer rates for 2026; and

WHEREAS, the Town Board has evaluated the legislation in light of the State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQR) and has determined SEQR does not apply; and

WHEREAS, the Town Board has determined to proceed with legislation to set the Water and Sewer rates for 2026.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Town Board of the Town of LeRay, New York that:

1. The Town Board hereby enacts Local Law No. 1 of 2026 and which is intended to update the Water and Sewer Rates.
2. The Supervisor for the Town of LeRay and the Town Clerk for the Town of LeRay, their respective agents and employees are authorized to sign all documents and take all steps necessary to enact the legislation.
3. This resolution shall take effect immediately.

The foregoing Resolution was offered by Board Member, **Biondolillo**, and seconded by Board Member, **Robbe**, and upon roll call vote of the Board was duly adopted as follows:

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|--------------------------------|---------------------|----------|
| Supervisor Leland J. Carpenter | Yes <u>X</u> | No _____ |
| Wayne L. Robbe | Yes <u>X</u> | No _____ |
| Samuel J. Biondolillo | Yes <u>X</u> | No _____ |
| Patrick E. O'Donnell | Yes <u>X</u> | No _____ |
| Merle C. Otis | Yes <u>X</u> | No _____ |

Dated: February 19, 2026

Melissa L. Verne, Town Clerk

Report from Highway Superintendent – Bruce Shawcross

Mr. Shawcross gave his monthly report.

A motion was made by Councilman Biondolillo and seconded by Councilman Otis to approve payment to Philadelphia Fender Menders Inc. in the amount of \$535.80 after discussion of alleged damage to Glenn Brady's 2013 Volkswagen Beetle during snow removal operations.

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| The vote went as follows: | | | |
| Ayes: | 4 – Biondolillo, Otis, O'Donnell , Carpenter | Nays: | 1 – Robbe |
| The motion passed. | | | |

Report from the Zoning Enforcement Officer – Lee Shimel

Mr. Shimel gave his monthly report and updated the Board that the Wewer property on the corner of Waddingham and Route 11, DEC and MS4 need record of compliance submitted to Soil & Water.

Report from Planning Board

Mrs. Biondolillo reported on Planning projects.

Report from the Town Engineer – Mike Altieri

Mr. Altieri discussed BCA's Project Status Update. Town Hall Door Project will be going out for bid.

Report from DANC – Tony Goodrich

Mr. Goodrich gave his monthly report.

A motion was made by Councilman Robbe and seconded by Councilman Biondolillo to get an estimate to replace the gate at Woodcreek pump station.

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| The vote went as follows: | | | |
| Ayes: | 5 | Nays: | 0 |
| The motion passed. | | | |

Report from the Town Assessor – William Vargulick

Mr. Vargulick spoke to the Town Board about the new VA exemption. Litigation with Splash Car Wash is done and the assessment will be locked in for three (3) years, with no refunds for any other years.

Report from the Town Clerk – Melissa L. Verne

| | Cash Balances as of January 31, 2026 | | Current Month Abstract 2 | |
|--|---|--------------|-----------------------------|------------|
| General Fund | \$ | 2,084,966.69 | \$ | 403,948.27 |
| Highway Fund-Town wide | \$ | 658,052.84 | \$ | 96,456.66 |
| Highway Fund-Town Outside | \$ | 628,523.16 | \$ | 1,673.88 |
| Expendable Trust | \$ | 795.21 | \$ | 0.00 |
| Consolidated Water District | \$ | 2,076,027.49 | \$ | 58,810.53 |
| Water District # 3 | \$ | 23,011.24 | \$ | 32.00 |
| Sewer District # 1 | \$ | 1,213,293.69 | \$ | 133,742.69 |
| Sewer District # 2 | \$ | 48,274.76 | \$ | 1,556.65 |
| Sewer District # 3 | \$ | 57,879.47 | \$ | 178,685.77 |
| Sewer District # 4 | \$ | 369,803.78 | \$ | 14,974.03 |
| Capital Project # 3 (Sewer Dist. 1) | \$ | 135,875.96 | \$ | 0.00 |
| Capital Project # 4W (Water 2 Imp) | \$ | 0.00 | \$ | 0.00 |
| Capital Project # 5 (Highway Fac.) | \$ | 0.00 | \$ | 0.00 |
| Trust & Agency | \$ | 219,927.73 | \$ | 651,465.59 |

A motion was made by Councilman Biondolillo and seconded by Supervisor Carpenter that Abstract #2 vouchers 114-281 in the amount of \$1,541,346.07 be paid from the above accounts.

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| The vote went as follows: | | |
| Ayes: | 5 | Nays: 0 |
| The motion passed. | | |

Report from Nathan Toutant, Director of Finance/Clerk to the Supervisor

A motion was made by Councilman Robbe and seconded by Councilman O'Donnell to give 1812 Sports and Entertainment \$2,500 of occupancy tax money to support their sports program.

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| The vote went as follows: | | |
| Ayes: | 5 | Nays: 0 |
| The motion passed. | | |

A motion was made by Councilman Robbe and seconded by Councilman Otis to have Supervisor Carpenter sign the Intermunicipal Agreement for Cooperative Services with Indian River Central School District.

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| The vote went as follows: | | |
| Ayes: | 5 | Nays: 0 |
| The motion passed. | | |

A motion was made by Supervisor Carpenter and seconded by Councilman O'Donnell to go into executive session at 5:02 p.m. to discuss Contractual Matters.

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| The vote went as follows: | | |
| Ayes: | 5 | Nays: 0 |
| The motion passed. | | |

A motion was made by Councilman Biondolillo and seconded by Supervisor Carpenter to enter back into regular session at 5:20 p.m.

A motion was made by Councilman Biondolillo and seconded by Councilman O'Donnell to accept the quote of \$18,974.50 from Hyde-Stone Mechanical to replace hydronic coils that froze and burst in two (2) Trane PTAC units in the Town Office Conference room, this quote includes labor and materials.

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| The vote went as follows: | | |
| Ayes: | 5 | Nays: 0 |
| The motion passed. | | |

A motion was made by Councilman Robbe and seconded by Supervisor Carpenter to deem an antenna surplus that is in the base of LeRay 1 water tower that is no longer in use.

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| The vote went as follows: | | |
| Ayes: | 5 | Nays: 0 |
| The motion passed. | | |

A motion was made by Councilman Biondolillo and seconded by Supervisor Carpenter to put the antenna deemed surplus in LeRay 1 water tower be put in to Auction International.

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| The vote went as follows: | | | |
| Ayes: | 5 | Nays: | 0 |
| The motion passed. | | | |

A motion was made by Councilman Robbe and seconded by Councilman Otis to adjourn this meeting, at 5:53 p.m.

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| The vote went as follows: | | | |
| Ayes: | 5 | Nays: | 0 |
| The motion passed. | | | |

Respectfully given:

Melissa L. Verne

Melissa L. Verne, LeRay Town Clerk