

The Fine Town Board held its regular meeting on Wednesday, February 12, 2025, at the Municipal Office Building in Star Lake. Attendance was taken and a quorum was present. The meeting was called to order with the Pledge of Allegiance at 6:30 PM.

Board Members	Present	Absent	Late	Arrived
Supervisor Jeremy Thompson	X			
Councilman Philip Giardino	X			
Councilman Carlton Kerr	X			
Councilman Samuel Bryant	X			
Councilwoman Gigi Hayden	X			

Town officials present:	Present	Absent
Hope Dolan, Town Clerk	X	
Craig Demmon, Code Enforcement Officer	X	

Guests: B. Brown, D. Demmon, County Sheriff Rick Engle, County Legislator, Larry Denesha, and Chris Cook (on the phone).

Dog Control – The Dog Control Officer report was submitted to the board. Sam has not contacted a vet to set up the date and time for a rabies clinic yet.

Codes – Craig has been doing inspections; he placed a stop work order on the property on Campus Drive. He is making sure they are building per the building plans. He has one more class to go for his certification.

Sheriff – Rick Engle, County Sheriff, was present to talk to the board about the possibility of putting in a satellite office in the office building in Star Lake. The board was in favor of looking into this.

Agreement - 02/2025-31 – Moved by C. Kerr, seconded by P. Giardino to authorize the signing of the Agreement to Spend Town Highway Funds.

Ayes: 5 Noes: 0 Carried.

Agreement 02/2025-32 - Moved by C. Kerr, seconded by S. Bryant to adopt the attached Hold Harmless Agreement with the County.

Ayes: 5 Noes: 0 Carried.

Contract –02/2025-33 Moved by C. Kerr, seconded by P. Giardino to authorize the signing of the Supplemental Agreement #1 with Barton & Loguidice for the Youngs Road Bridge Project.

Ayes: 5 Noes: 0 Carried.

Reports –02/2025-34 Moved by S. Bryant, seconded by G. Hayden to accept the town clerk’s report as presented.

Ayes: 5 Noes: 0 Carried.

Minutes –02/2025-35 Moved by S. Bryant, seconded by G. Hayden to accept the minutes from the January 8th town board meeting as presented.

Ayes: 5 Noes: 0 Carried.

Reports –02/2025-36 Moved by G. Hayden, seconded by S. Bryant to accept the Supervisor’s Financial reports as presented.

Ayes: 5 Noes: 0 Carried.

Bills –02/2025-37 Moved by S. Bryant, seconded by G. Hayden the town bills represented by vouchers 25-12 through 25-53 be paid.

<i>General Fund -</i>	<i>\$ 96,483.34</i>
<i>Highway Fund -</i>	<i>\$ 36,986.00</i>
<i>Fire Protection -</i>	<i>\$ 17,804.00</i>
<i>Golf Course -</i>	<i>\$ 4,266.15</i>
<i>Sewer District -</i>	<i>\$ 2,032.56</i>
<i>Water District -</i>	<i>\$ 13,620.17</i>
<i>Fire District-</i>	<i>\$102,118.00</i>
<i>Total -</i>	<i>\$273,310.22</i>

Ayes: 5 Noes: 0 Carried.

Annual Financial Report – The Golf Course and the Youth Commission Annual Financial Reports have been submitted and are available on the website. The Town Annual Financial Report will be done by the end of February.

Justice Audit – 02/2025-38 Moved by S. Bryant, seconded by P. Giardino the 2024 Justice Audit was accepted as presented.

Ayes: 5 Noes: 0 Carried.

Arena – The financials for the arena were presented to the board. The committee meeting minutes have not been presented to the board yet.

Action Plan – The action plan was reviewed.

Cemetery -The cemetery committee needs to meet. The Oswegatchie Cemetery has been officially abandoned. The committee needs to come up with suggestions on rules, prices and staffing for the March meeting. There is about \$37,000 that the cemetery will be turning over to the town.

Street Lights – The landowner in Wanakena will need to request shields to be installed on the street lights.

Check Protection – Jeremy looked into the check protection program with Community Bank. It would cost the town \$35 per month per account. Chris will talk with the bank to see if we can set up the accounts to require two signatures for checks over a certain amount.

County – Larry Denesha, County Legislator was present to give an update on what is happening at the county level.

Public Safety Building - The public safety building should be complete and under budget within the next 30 days. An open house will be scheduled.

Office of the Aging - \$45 million in additional funding was added to the State budget for the Office of the Aging. The county passed a resolution thanking the Governor for this.

Corrections – The county passed a resolution to deal with the multiple errors that happened with several town tax bills this year. There was \$198,000 in undercharges and \$151,735 in overcharges. The county will have to absorb the undercharges and refund the overcharges with next year's tax bills. Real Property has installed checks and balances going forward so that this does not happen again.

Sales Tax- The sales tax revenues were above what the county had budgeted. They will be sharing the excess collected with the towns.

County Clerk – The County Clerk is reimbursed by the State for DMV processing. In the past it was \$.127/\$1, now it is \$.105/\$1. It is important for people to do their registrations locally.

Social Media—A group of teenagers presented to the county legislature that March 7, 2025, from 4 PM to 9 PM, be Five Hours Free From Social Media. They are encouraging everyone to do this to show how much time people spend on social media.

Gas Prices – The County has not heard anything on their request to look into why gas prices in St. Lawrence County are so much higher than in Franklin or Jefferson County. The County Attorney will reach out to the CEO of Stewarts to see if he is willing to come and speak to the County Board.

Letter – The Town Board received a letter from New York State Department of Environmental Conservation letting the town know that a landowner in the town is looking to sell the State a Conservation Easement on approximately 4392 acres.

Appointment – 02/2025-39 Moved by C. Kerr, seconded by S. Bryant to re-appoint James Snyder to the position of Sole Assessor for a 6-year term from 10/1/2025-09/30/2031.

Ayes: 5 Noes: 0 Carried.

Adjourn – 02/2025-40 Moved by S. Bryant, seconded by C. Kerr the meeting was adjourned at 8:04 PM.

Ayes: 5 Noes: 0 Carried.

Respectfully Submitted,

Hope M. Dolan, Town Clerk

**RESOLUTION NO. 02/2025-32
THE TOWN OF FINE**

**HOLDING HARMLESS THE COUNTY OF ST. LAWRENCE FOR PROVIDING
SERVICE FOR 2025**

By Town Board, Town of Fine

WHEREAS, the Town of Fine is desirous of St. Lawrence County Department of Highways providing shared services such as paving, signage, road stripping, blasting, and other routine maintenance activities to the Town, and

WHEREAS, both the Town of Fine and the County of St. Lawrence are desirous of promoting partnering efforts for the safety of the traveling public in St. Lawrence County, and

WHEREAS, in this joint cooperative endeavor the Town of Fine and the County of St. Lawrence desires to be reimbursed for their expenditures, and

WHEREAS, the Town is aware that the County may incur liability in the providing of the services and wishes to indemnify the County in this regard,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that to the fullest extent permitted by law, the Town of Fine will indemnify and hold harmless the County, their officers, directors, partners, representatives, agents and employees from and against any and all claims, suits, liens, judgments, damages, losses and expenses, including legal fees and all court costs and liability (including statutory liability) arising in whole or in part and in any manner from injury and/or death of person or damage to or loss of any property relating to or arising out of any negligent or intentional acts and/or omissions of the Town of Fine or any of its directors, officers, employees, contractors, representatives, or agents.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the following request for General Liability (GL) coverage is as follows:

General Liability Insurance

On an "Occurrence" basis, with the following limits:

\$1,000,000 Each Occurrence

\$3,000,000 General Aggregate

\$1,000,000 Products Aggregate

\$1,000,000 Personal Injury

\$ 50,000 Fire Damage Legal Liability

\$ 5,000 Medical Payment Expense

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that St. Lawrence County shall be an additional insured on the GL Policy, via ISO endorsement CG 2026.

2/12/2025
Date

Hope M. Dolan, Town Clerk Town of Fine