

Westmoreland Town Board
Regular Meeting
May 12, 2025

Supervisor Charles Hebbard called this regular meeting to order at 6:00 pm on May 12, 2025. Present at this meeting were Councilpersons Burton Seymour Jr., Randy Rundle, Kirk Donley and Pete Smith. Also present were Highway Superintendent Russell Young, Sole Assessor Holly Osterhoudt, Codes Enforcement Officer Fred Fox Jr., Tax Collector Margaret Leone and two (6) audience members. Absent from this meeting was Building Inspector Patrick Baron and Attorney Gregory Mattacola.

Supervisor Hebbard asked all to stand for the Pledge of Allegiance.

Supervisor Hebbard then recessed the regular meeting to allow comments from the floor.

There being no one wishing to address the board, he reconvened to the regular session.

Highway Superintendent Russell Young submitted this report:

- Highway Dept. started filling sand building, it's 80-90% filled and waiting for more sand to come in.
- We started paving roads, hopefully be done this week
- Guys are out chipping and mowing
- Highway budget is not looking good for striping this year
- We have two openings for jobs, but not one call this month regarding the positions

Highway Superintendent Young states that there won't be enough in his budget to cover road striping, but it is important to get done for safety reasons. In the past they have used money from the mowing fund to cover road striping, and he requests the board allow that this year. The board agrees that would be fine, and Supervisor Hebbard says we will do a budget modification when the bill comes for striping.

Councilperson Seymour asks if the salt is in for the whole year, and Highway Superintendent Young says the building is about 90% full at this time, and it should last until January.

Supervisor Hebbard has heard of a potential grant opportunity to build a salt barn, and will keep the board updated.

Sole Assessor Holly Osterhoudt submitted the following report:

2025 Grievance Day is Tuesday, May 27th from 4 pm to 8 pm. If you feel your assessment is too high, fill out the grievance application (available in the Town Hall or online), with documentation and submit it to the assessment office by 5/27/2025 before 8 pm. Any application received after that, or received incomplete cannot be accepted. Please call if you have any questions.

Sole Assessor Osterhoudt says that all the tax parcels, approximately 130, that were missing a fire district tax will now have it added on. Her research has not shown any reason why they should not have the tax, or why it was omitted in the first place. Councilperson Smith wonders how much revenue was possibly lost, and Sole Assessor Osterhoudt says she can calculate that. Councilperson Smith asks if the tax rate is the same for residence and business, and the assessor states that it is.

Supervisor Hebbard thanked the Assessor.

Codes Enforcement Officer Fred Fox submitted the following report:

Complaints

4-15-19 5845 Scadden Rd. Violation notice sent for junk and debris on the entire property (scrape metal, demolished trailer etc....) property maintenance on the house, garbage & junk vehicles. Order to Remedy Date 5-21-19.

3-9-20 Spoke with deceased owner's son, Brian Grant. Going to work with him on cleaning up property. He has already started.

Photo(s) taken 3-12-20.

11-23-21 Re-Checked property. Vast improvement noted from initial inspection. Re-cited under Brian Grants name with an OTR date set for June 1, 2022.

7-12-22 Re-Checked progress still being made. Have to track down owner again, phone numbers I have are disconnected.

10-23-23 inspected property. high grass made it hard to view. Majority of junk and debris from initial violation notice was abated. To date no contact with owner's son, Brian Grant.

4-14-25 Clean up progress being made. Still no contact with owner's son. Spoke with tenant.

10-11-22 (6000) Greenway-Lowell Rd. Notice of violation written for unsafe structure and junk and debris. Building placarded for unsafe structure (foundation wall). OTR set for 11-8-22. 11-8-22 No progress made. Preparing paperwork for court. 11-15-22 Court paperwork filed. Court date set for 12-7-22. 12-6-22 No contact with owner as of this date. 12-20-22 I have to file court paperwork after the 1st of the year.

6-4-24 Sent a certified letter requesting owner to contact our office immediately upon receiving the letter. 6-26-24 Certified letter was received, no contact from owner to date.

7-9-24 Court paperwork submitted and mailed certified letter. Court date set for 8-28-24.

8-28-24 Owner appeared in court. Progress made on cleanup. On site inspection set for 9-3-24. Adjourned until 10-23-24. 10-23-24 Cleanup is done, adjourned until April 2025 to finish structural repairs on the building.

8-30-23 6385 Rt. 26 Notice of Violation written for junk and debris and junked vehicles (camper and boat). 7-9-24 Bank foreclosed on property, emailing Notice of violation to property management company.

3-19-24 6645 Cooper St. Notice of violation & posted unfit/unsafe written for partial collapsed building. OTR to have demolition permit set for April 19, 2024. 9-10-24 mailed final notice with OTR set for 9-24-24. Set for court 11-13-24. Owner did not show. Adjourned until 1-8-25. 11-19-24 emailed court paperwork to a process server per town attorney. 11-26-24 Owner has been served by process server. 1-8-25 Case is put on hold. Owner is deceased and Greg Mattacola will try and reach out to the attorney for the estate.

6-11-24 4741 French Rd. Notice of violation written for property maintenance issues with an order to remedy set for 7-30-24.

6-11-24 6858 Fairway Dr. Notice of violation written for j/d, j/v and w/g with an order to remedy set for 7-16-24. Extended. 9-10-24 j/v has been removed.

7-23-24 6368 Rte. 5. Notice of violation written for property maintenance issues with an order to remedy set for 8-27-24. 9-24-24 majority of the work is complete.

2-4-25 5218 Rte 233. Notice of violation written for garage roof. Order to remedy set for 4-4-25. 4-1-25 Building down, owner applied for demolition permit.

2-26-25 5483 Rte 233. Notice of violation written for collapsed barn. Order to remedy set for 4-29-25. 4-15-25 Demo done still has some clean up. 4-22-25 Abated.

4-8-25 6385 Rte. 26. Notice of violation written for junk and debris. Order to remedy set for 4-22-25. Working with the realtor on this. They are obtaining clean up bids.

4-8-25 6379 Rte. 26. Notice of violation written for junk and debris. Order to remedy set for 4-22-25.

7301 E Carter Rd (on County Seat Rd). Notice of violation written for junk a debris and for unlawful accessory structures. Order to remedy set for 5-27-25. 4-29-25 Owner spoke with Pat regarding permit for structures.

5223 Moore Rd. Notice of violation written for junk and debris. Order to remedy set for 5-27-25.

7201 Rt. 5. Notice of violation written for Improper storage of camper and living in camper. Order to remedy set for 6-3-25.

1203 Fire Prevention Inspections:

6-25-24 4769 Rte. 233 Ballet Arts of Central NY. Notice of violation written with an OTR set for 7-30-24. 5-6-25 Owner set for June 3, 2025 Zoning/Planning Board .

10-29-24 45 Seymour Ln. Borza's Rec Center. OTR set for 12-3-24. Extended. 2-10-25 Verified two of three violations have been abated. 5-6-25 Abated.

11-11-24 4836 Rte. 233 Station 233 The Simple Bar. OTR set for 12-18-24.

2-26-25 6541 Rte 5 Hill Top Repair. OTR set for 3-19-25.

4-1-2025 7505 Rt. 5 The Consignment Chick & 3 family unit. OTR set for 4-22-25.

5-6-25 Abated.

4-2-25 7295 W Main St. Franco's Pizza. OTR set for 5-12-25.

4-14-25 7506 Rt. 5 Upstate Home Care. OTR set for 5-6-25. Abated

4-14-25 7508 Rt. 5 Upstate Home Care. No Violations.

4-15-25 7509 Rt. 5 Chromco Auto Sales. No Violations.

4-15-25 7481 Rt. 5 Cliff's Market/Dunkin. OTR set for 5-6-25.

4-22-25 ABATED.

4-22-25 5483 Rt. 233 Mossier 3 Units. No Violations.

4-29-25 6394 Rt. 5 Gallopin Acres. No Violations.

4-29-25 6926 Rt. 5 Rattray 4 Units. No Violations.

Building Inspections: By Pat Baron

Month	Apr-25	Westmoreland Town Board: Building Permits/ Septic Systems Monthly Report					
Date	NO.	Last Name	First Name	Address	Tax Map ID #	Type Of Permit	Fee Paid
4/1/2025	2025-9999	BROWN	DAVE	7258 NYS RT 5	326.000-2-59	AREA VARIANCE	\$ 75.00
4/1/2025	2025-14	HAGEN	TERRI	5218 STATE RT 233	302.004-2-342	DEMO GARAGE	\$ 50.00
4/15/2025	2025-15	SCHREMMER	DIANE	38 MARTIN DR	327.000-6-19.10	DEMO HOUSE	\$ 50.00
4/15/2025	2025-16	ZIMMERMAN	ADAM	7269 W MAIN ST	302.004-1-17	FRONT PORCH	\$ 75.00
4/15/2025	2025-17	OBERNESSER	PAUL	5027 ALBRECHT RD	288.000-1-14.6	ADDITION RES.	\$ 95.00
4/15/2025	2025-9998	SEYMOUR	BURTON	4852 RTE 233	314.000-1-38	SITE PLAN	\$ 150.00
4/22/2025	2025-18	GEDDES	EDEE	7563 STONE RD	303.000-1-59.2	RENEW PERMIT	\$ 20.00
4/22/2025	2025-19	HOGAN	BRIAN	4495 DEAN'S HWY	325.000-1-58.9	POLE BARN	\$ 291.00
4/22/2025		ROSATI	PAUL	5475 NYS 233	302.000-1-52	SITE PLAN MOD	\$ 100.00
4/22/2025		CHUBBUCK	JOE/BARB	6031 LOWER LAWRENCE	288.000-2-22.1	AREA VARIANCE	\$ 75.00
4/22/2025	2025-20	POCCIA	BRIAN	4961 JENKINS RD	313.000-1-39.2	POOL DECK	\$ 75.00
4/22/2025	2025-21	MOSSLER	RITA	5483 STATE RT 233	302.000-1-52	DEMO BARN/SHED	\$ 50.00
4/28/2025	2025-22	MEULENGRACHT	KALI	5228 MOORE RD	301.000-2-25.7	AG. POOL	\$ 30.00
4/28/2025	2025-23	DAVIES	ANDREW	6682 COOPER ST	313.000-2-25.1	DEMO GARAGE	\$ 75.00
							\$1,211.00

Water Plant Operator Ted Flint submitted the following report:

Westmoreland Water District

- Completed monthly sampling requirements - no issues.
- Performed several UFPO dig requests and 2 Emergency UFPO's.
- Going to be scheduling the replacement of 2 fire hydrants in front to the High School. Both are in very bad shape and do not work well. They were placed on order with Seymour Excavating.

Tindall Corners Water District

- Completed monthly sampling requirements - no issues.
- Performed several UFPO dig requests and 1 Emergency UFPO.
- Received a phone call from 911 saying that we had water coming out of the ground across from the ambulance corps on South Street. Contacted Seymour Excavating to repair the leak. A rock underneath the pipe wore a hole through the pipe (see picture). We are in the process of getting a quote to install a 10" shut off in the main on South Street so we don't have to shut the whole system down if we get a leak in the future.



Spencer Settlement Water District

- Completed monthly sampling requirements - no issues.

Supervisor Hebbard states that it was an expensive month for the water department, as there was a water main break in Tindall Water District that has been repaired.

Reading Center Clerk Sarah Pullman submitted the following report:

- For the month of April, we had 74 visitors at the Reading Center. We checked out 109 items in the library, filled 92 holds for other libraries, overdrive checkouts included 28 e-books, 37 audiobooks and 34 e-magazines, for a total of 300 items circulated from The Reading Center.
- We provided our monthly take and make crafts as well as our monthly subscription to “Bookpage” a free catalog showcasing the up-and-coming new books.
- We are excited to have Linda join our team and help us at the reading center and have been training her on our processes.
- Coming up in May: we will be holding our Book Club meeting on May 15th, and we are looking into the Free Tree Program by Neighborhood Forest, a company that provides free trees to children.

Supervisor Hebbard notes how busy the reading center has been, and believes that will trend upward in the warmer months.

Town Clerk Anna C. Storey submitted the following report:

In April, the Town Clerk’s office sold seventeen (17) new dog licenses and renewed thirty-eight (38) individual dog licenses, for \$432.00 Of that, \$72.00 was sent to the Department of Ag & Markets for New York State’s Dog Population Control Program. The Town Supervisor received \$360.00.

On April 25, 2025, renewal notices were sent out for thirty-four (34) dog licenses due in May 2025. Late renewal notices were sent out for March’s overdue licenses, totaling twelve (12).

There were three (3) fishing licenses sold in April, and three (3) turkey licenses, for a total of \$0.00. The Department of Environmental Conservation received \$0.00 and the Town’s commission was \$0.00.

There was one (1) marriage license and zero (0) marriage officiant licenses sold in April, for \$40.00. \$22.50 was sent to NYS Department of Health and the town received \$17.50.

There were two (2) peddler’s permits issued in April. The fees were waived, as they were for the Westmoreland Days event.

Twenty-eight (28) certified copies were issued for \$280.00. There were thirteen (13) fire inspections conducted in April, totaling \$650.00. There were ten (10) building permits issued in April for \$811.00, and four (4) ZBA referrals for \$400.00.

Seven (7) permanent and one (1) temporary handicapped parking permits were issued or renewed during the month.

The park pavilions were booked for three (3) events this summer.

Checks Received:

1. Gubbins	Pavilion Rental	\$75.00
2. Town of Westmoreland Fire District	Annual Assessment Inv.	\$873.55
3. Town of Westmoreland Fire District	Feb 2025	\$737.15
4. Eychner	Pavilion Rental	\$75.00
5. Clark Mills Fire Dist.		\$330.06
6. Rattray	Pavilion Rental	\$75.00
7. County of Oneida	2024-25 snow season	\$119,714.00
8. Camelot Partners, LLC	11/2024-2/2025 water service	\$16,148.10
9. Westmoreland Town Clerk	April 2025	\$2,525.41

10. DiGiorgio Law	water search	\$20.00
11. Westmoreland Central School District	March 2025 fuel	\$11,445.86
12. Stanwix Heights VFD Inc.	Apr Fuel	\$146.88

Communications Received:

- | | |
|-----------------------|----------------------------|
| 1. Kinder Morgan | Information for Excavation |
| 2. Mohawk Valley Edge | April 2025 Newsletter |
| 3. NYAOT | Weekly Legislative Update |
| 4. NYS DEC | Flood Mitigation Funding |

Oriskany Creek Watershed Committee Representative Roger Potenski submitted the following report:

- Meeting held on Thursday, April 17th 2025 at the Westmoreland Town Office.
- Attending for the Town of Westmoreland was Supervisor Chuck Hebbard and PB/ZBA member Roger Potenski
- Unfortunately, group was short voting municipalities, so no quorum present.
- this prevented votes on acceptance of the March 2025 meeting minutes. June meeting will be scheduled for Tuesday the 24th, 4:30pm at the Westmoreland Town offices. Change of day and week of the month made with the hopes of improving attendance.
- Treasurer reported a fund balance of \$29,431
- Rambol Engineering reminded attendees that they are available to assist in grant writing for any projects members may want to apply for.
- It has been relayed that the Federal Government has halted funding through FEMA, and its BRIC Flood Mitigation programs. Unsure at this time if it is a temporary halt, or a longer-term change of policy. Several municipalities are seeing their previously approved projects now be shelved. The OCWC had 5 programs under process, that may be impacted.
- The towns project in conjunction with Westmoreland Central School for field and drainage issues is not affected, as it is being administered directly with Oneida Counties Flood Mitigation Program

Mr. Potenski mentions how many programs under FEMA have been suspended, and it remains to be seen how this will affect local programs. The cleanout project that is proposed along with the school should not be affected as it is funded by the county. Councilperson Donley has drafted a letter to the landowners that will need to give permission for the project to begin. Councilperson Seymour mentions the flooding that has occurred due to the recent heavy rains.

The Supervisor thanks Mr. Potenski.

Councilperson Rundle says the opening day at Wadas Fields was a success. He says the driveway does need some attention, especially with the continuous rains. Supervisor Hebbard says stone has been placed and leveled, and Murphy Excavating has offered to bring millings from the construction at the football field and tennis courts.

Councilperson Rundle says that the fence at the former pool site needs to be taken down for safety and maintenance purposes. Supervisor Hebbard and the board agree that it will be address.

Councilperson Seymour notes that there is a bill for leak detection in the general fund, and questions if it should be in the water fund instead. Supervisor Hebbard says it was place in general fund as it was for the whole water system, and they will split it up between the districts.

Supervisor Hebbard says he is still working on the issue in Spencer Settlement water district regarding the cost of the leak and differences between the billing and meter readings.

Councilperson Seymour clarifies that the room dividers were part of the justice court grant, and Supervisor Hebbard states that the grant money has been deposited and is being distributed.

Councilperson Seymour notes that the town paid for an individual to cover for Water Plant Operator Ted Flint's vacation time, although he does have an assistant, and Supervisor Hebbard stated that it was a family vacation and the assistant is his son-in-law.

Councilperson Donley asks Highway Superintendent Young if the shoulders get updated during paving, and Highway Superintendent Young says they do bring the shoulders up to the road.

Councilperson Donley tells the board that the town received recognition from the Little League for their contribution to the opening of the new field. Supervisor Hebbard acknowledges the efforts of Mike Kapps and Josh Hayes.

Councilperson Donley says the new website is ready, but we cannot launch until the .gov domain name is approved. Once the site is live, the company will work on switching our email server.

Supervisor Hebbard states that the historical society has been professionally cleaned, and now he is scheduling the carpet cleaning. The town hall will also have the floors cleaned and waxed.

Supervisor Hebbard says the new court doors should be in soon and ready to install, and hopefully the new windows will be put in as well by mid-June.

Councilperson Rundle has found an Eagle Scout that can install the Leonard Brown monument at the Wadas Fields, he will need to come up with a plan and meet with the scout master as well as the supervisor to discuss.

Supervisor Hebbard advises the board that we currently have two openings for employment in the highway department, and no applicants. Councilperson Seymour suggests offering to pay for applicants to earn their CDL. Discussion takes place regarding hiring options.

Supervisor Hebbard read the following budget modifications and called for a motion:

1. Move \$456.47 from A1990.400 (Contingent Account) to A1910.400 (Unallocated Insurance)
Reason: Insurance Cost Came in Higher then Budgeted For

2. Move \$1,689.42 from DA599 (Fund Balance) to DA5130.210 (Machinery Insurance)
Reason: Insurance Cost Came in Higher then Budgeted For

51 Councilperson Seymour advanced a motion to approve Budget Modification #1. Councilperson Rundle seconded the motion. All Board members voted AYE and the motion was declared carried.

52 Councilperson Seymour advanced a motion to approve Budget Modification #2. Councilperson Smith seconded the motion. All Board members voted AYE and the motion was declared carried.

53 Councilperson Rundle advanced a motion to approve and place on file the Supervisor, Town Clerk and Codes Reports for April 2025. Councilperson Seymour seconded the motion. All Board members voted AYE and the motion was declared carried.

54 Councilperson Smith advanced a motion to approve and place on file the minutes of the Regular Meeting April 14, 2025. Councilperson Donley seconded the motion. All Board members voted AYE and the motion was declared carried.

55 Councilperson Smith advanced a motion to approve and order paid the claims of the Highway fund, vouchers #79 through #107, which total \$67,698.01. Councilperson Seymour seconded the motion. All Board members voted AYE and the motion was declared carried.

56 Councilperson Rundle advanced a motion to approve and order paid the vouchers of the General fund, vouchers #122 through #155, which total \$34,239.74. Councilperson Donley seconded the motion. All Board members voted AYE and the motion was declared carried.

57 Councilperson Donley advanced a motion to approve and order paid the claims of the water districts as follows:

Tindall Water District	voucher #7-8	which totals	\$ 8,980.00
Westmoreland Water District	vouchers #29-35	which totals	\$ 2,134.14
Spencer Water District	vouchers #6-7	which totals	\$ 4,947.00

Councilperson Seymour seconded the motion. Four Board members voted AYE, one abstained, and the motion was declared carried.

Supervisor Hebbard stated the next Regular Meeting will be held Monday June 9, 2025 at 6:00pm.

Supervisor Hebbard paused the regular meeting to allow comments from the floor.

Resident Mike Smith asked if there was a donation made from the Little League, and Councilperson Rundle said donations were made to Westmoreland and Clark Mills Fire Departments, but both departments donated the money back to the association.

Supervisor Hebbard also relayed a positive message from Kara Smith regarding the organization of Westmoreland Days.

There being no one else wishing to address the Board, Supervisor Hebbard reconvened to the regular session and asked for a motion to adjourn.

58 Councilperson Seymour advanced a motion to adjourn this meeting. Councilperson Rundle seconded the motion. All Board members voted AYE. Supervisor Hebbard declared the motion carried and adjourned the meeting at 6:42pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Anna C. Storey
Town Clerk