

Westmoreland Town Board
Regular Meeting
February 9, 2026

Supervisor Charles Hebbard called this regular meeting to order at 6:00 pm on January 12, 2026. Present at this meeting were Councilpersons Burton Seymour Jr., Kirk Donley and Peter Smith. Also present were Highway Superintendent Russell Young, Sole Assessor Holly Osterhoudt, Codes Enforcement Officer Fred Fox, Jr., Attorney Mitchell Whittaker and three (3) audience members. Absent from this meeting was Councilperson Randy Rundle and Tax Collector Margaret Leone.

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

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

Resident Mike Smith asked the board if the historical society can use the town logo for America's 250th Birthday in July. The board agreed that would be fine. Most likely the town will combine 250th birthday celebrations with the Westmoreland Days.

The Hometown Heroes banners are discussed; ordering is now active but there is no final number yet. There may be a pre-hanging event in May.

There being no one else wishing to address the board at this time, Supervisor Hebbard reconvened to the regular session.

Supervisor Hebbard advises the board that the new loader is ready in Syracuse. Discussion takes place about truck maintenance and keeping older equipment for salt/sand use.

122 A motion is advanced by Councilperson Seymour to authorize a \$56,844.88 lease payment to John Deere Credit Inc. Councilperson Smith seconded the motion. All Board members present voted AYE and the motion was declared carried.

Highway Superintendent Russell Young submitted this report:

- New loader is in Syracuse
- Had salt and sand both hauled in
- One truck the sander floor wore out, had new floor put in

Sole Assessor Holly Osterhoudt submitted the following report:

Please fill out and submit to the assessment office any exemptions you Qualify for, signed with the requested documentation to the assessment office no later than March 1, 2026. Volunteer Firemen are no longer required to renew every year, so those renewal forms will not go out this year. If you have any questions or concerns, please call 315-853-8001 ext.8

Councilperson Smith asks Assessor Osterhoudt for an update on the new state law (HR1183) for 100% disabled veterans' property tax exemptions. Assessor Osterhoudt says that the eligibility criteria are restrictive, and the State Assessor's Association has advised to delay implementation until further guidance, likely effective 2027.

Codes Enforcement Office Fred Fox Jr. submitted this 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.

11-18-25 re-wrote son because new load of j/d on site. OTR 12-16-25. No progress.

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 clean up. On site inspection set for 9-3-24. Adjourned until 10-23-24. 10-23-24 Clean-up is done, adjourned until April 2025 to finish structural repairs on the building. 6-4-25 updated court owner has contractor and is should be starting repairs in June. Next court date 9-24-25. Court adjourned to 11-19-25. 11-19-25 Repairs have begun about 90% complete. Adjourned until 1-28-26 to have work complete and building permit closed out.

3-19-24 6645 Cooper St. Notice o- 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. 7-22-25 emailed violation notice with new violations to current property management company.

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.

4-22-25 7301 E Carter Rd (on County Seat Rd). Notice of violation written for junk and 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.

7-8-25 43 Martin Dr. Scalzo/Wuest. Notice of violation written for junk and debris with OTR set for 7-22-25. 7-22-25 No progress. 9-2-25 no progress. Start Court paperwork. Court date set for 10-8-25. 10-8-25 Defendant failed to show. Adjourned for 11-19-25. 11-19-25 Defendant's first appearance. Progress made on clean up. Adjourned until 12-17-25 to have clean up completed.

8-5-25 6215 Cooper St. Crane. Notice of violation written for demolition w/o permit and j/d. OTR set for 8-19-25.

9-2-25 6385 Rte. 26. Vacant House. Notice of violation written for roof damage from where a tree had previously fallen on house. OTR set for 10-7-25. 1-20-26 cited new owner of record with an OTR set for 5-31-26.

9-2-25 6036 Shed Rd. Ingram. Notice of violation written for high grass and broken garage door. OTR set for 10-7-25. 1-20-26 Abated.

9-23-25 5731 Eureka Rd. Perkosky. Notice of violation written for j/d, j/v and roof damage. OTR set for 11-4-25. 1-6-26 two of the three violations have been corrected. Extending until mid-June to finish roof.

11-18-25 5776 Rte. 26 Coteaux. Notice of violation written for j/d. OTR set for 12-16-25. No Progress.

11-18-25 5987 Rte. 26 Parker. Notice of violation written for j/d. OTR set for 12-16-25. No Progress.

11-25-25 28 Martin Dr. Nowakowski. Notice of violation written for j/d. OTR set for 12-8-25. 12-9-25 re-wrote under tenant's name OTR 12-23-2025. 12-23-25 No Progress. 1-20-26 ABATED.

1203 Fire Prevention Inspections:

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

8-19-25 7105 Norton Ave. Skenandoa Golf Club. Notice of violation written with OTR set for 9-16-25. 9-16-25 one violation has been abated, two remain.

9-23-25 7314 E Main St. 4 fam Yong. OTR set for 1-12-25. Extend to end of Feb 2026

10-7-25 7286 W Main St. Westmoreland Methodist Church. Notice of violation written with OTR set for 11-18-25. Extended

1-27-26 6290 Rte 233 A B Auto Repair. No violations.

1-27-26 6201 Rte 233 Burdick Excavating. Notice of violation written with OTR set for 3-10-26.

2-3-26 7296 W Main St. Nice & Easy. Notice of violation written with OTR set for 3-9-26.

Building Inspections: By Pat Baron, Building Inspector

Month	Jan-26	Westmoreland Town Board: Building Permits/ Septic Systems Monthly Report					
Date	NO.	Last Name	First Name	Address	Tax Map ID #	Type Of Permit	Fee Paid
1/9/2026	2026-1	ANDREWS	SHANE	7687 EAST CARTER RD	303.000-1-7.5	OFFICE/SUNROOM	\$ 75.00
1/9/2026	2026-2	ACETO	JEREMEY	7295 W MAIN ST	302.004-1-11	SIGNS	\$ 120.00
1/9/2026	2026-3	ROYS	MELISSA	6506 NYS RTE 5	325.000-1-37.1	SIGNS	\$ 120.00
1/13/2026	2026-9999	ACETO	JEREMEY	7303 E MAIN ST	302.004-2-53	SITE PLAN	\$ 100.00
1/20/2026	2026-9998	OWEN	JAMIE	6714 FAIRWAY DR	326.000-1-54.1	VARIANCE	\$ 75.00
1/20/2026	2026-4	REAP	PATRICIA	5358 NYS RT 233	302.000-1-67.1	50X300 BLDG	\$ 3,000.00
1/27/2026	2026-5	ARMITAGE	THOMAS	6127 SKINNER RD	301.000-1-34	ADDITION/TRUSS ID	\$ 95.00
							\$ 3,585.00

Water Plant Operator Ted Flint submitted the following report:

Westmoreland Water District

- Completed monthly sampling requirements - no issues.
- Performed several UFPO dig requests
- Layne Christensen Company called me and said that they had a cancellation in January and asked if we wanted to have our wells rehabilitated early. It was originally scheduled for February but I was happy to get it completed early. They started with well #2 (our problem well) and also had to replace the 3" galvanized pipe that comes off the top of the pump – very corroded. Once that well was completed, they started on well #1. The pipe on this one was actually in worse shape and had 2 small leaks in it. All rehabilitation was completed on Tuesday January 20th. The pumps have almost doubled in performance and we should be good for another 5 years.

Tindall Corners Water District

- Completed monthly sampling requirements - no issues.
- Performed 1 UFPO dig request.

Spencer Settlement Water District

- Completed monthly sampling requirements - no issues.

Supervisor Hebbard states that recent frigid weather led to a water main break near West Main, Cooper Street, and Lowell Road; repairs scheduled for the next morning. Most issues have been on homeowner properties.

Reading Center Clerk Sarah Snyder submitted the following report:

- In the month of January The Reading Center welcomed 91 guests. We checked out 114 items within the library, filled 123 holds within the Mid-York Library System and loaned 35 e-books, 22 audio-books, 18 e-magazines for a total of 312 total items circulated from our library.
- We offered 2 take and make crafts
- We continue to offer checkouts of Snow Shoes during these winter months. We have 4 pairs, 2 adult sized and 2 youth sized.

Town Attorney Mitchell Whittaker submitted the following report:

During the month of January, I completed the following professional services for the town:

- Attended the regular Town Board meeting of the Town of Westmoreland
- Researched the New York State Paid Family Leave program
- Researched the NYS Zoning Board of Appeals Law regarding the rehearing procedure and reviewed old planning board determinations
- Attended Town Court for two codes matters that were adjourned

Councilperson Seymour inquires if legal fees for court adjournments can be recouped; currently, they cannot.

Town Clerk Anna C. Storey submitted the following report:

- In January, the Town Clerk's office sold eight (8) new dog licenses and renewed thirty-two (32) dog licenses, for \$314.00. Of that, \$52.00 was sent to the Department of Ag & Markets for New York State's Dog Population Control Program. The Town Supervisor received \$262.00.
- On January 28, 2026, renewal notices were sent out for forty-four (44) dog licenses due in February 2026. Late renewal notices were sent out for December's overdue licenses, totaling fifteen (15).
- There was one (1) fishing license sold in January. The Department of Environmental Conservation received \$4.72 and the town's commission was \$0.28.
- There were no marriage licenses sold in January. Fourteen (14) certified copies were issued for \$140.00.
- There were five (5) building permits issued in December for \$3,410.00 and two (2) ZBA Referrals for \$175.00. There were three (3) fire inspections totaling \$225.00.
- Eight (8) permanent accessible parking permits were issued or renewed during the month.

Checks Received:

1.	Bowers Attorney At Law	water search	\$20.00
2.	Westmoreland Justice Court	Dec. 2025 court funds	\$7,214.00
3.	COCVAC		\$3,303.08
4.	Stanwix Heights VFD Inc	Dec.	\$168.43
5.	Camelot Water District	Water Service 8/11/25-11/10/25	\$13,173.45
6.	Westmoreland Central School Dist.	December 25	\$8,925.26
7.	Clark Mills Fire Dist.		\$415.51
8.	County of Oneida	Mortgage Tax Distribution	\$49,869.49

Communications Received:

1.	MVEDD	Year in Review
2.	NYS DOT	Notice of Order
3.	The Authority	Notice of Budget
4.	Westmoreland United Methodist Church	Request for Bake Sale table

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

- Oriskany Creek watershed Commission (OCWC) kicked off the new year with its first monthly meeting, held on Tuesday, January 27th, 4:30pm, at the Oriskany Falls Town offices.
- A full quorum was present.
- Approval of October 2025 minutes was passed.
- Treasurer's report showed a fund balance of \$29,431.95. (see bank statement)
- All members, (with the exception of Sangerfield, which is processing their budgets requests) have paid in their 2026 dues. Oriskany Falls has joined the commission.
- Trout Unlimited representative (Stu Miller) reported that they continue to work with the NYSDEC on taking E-Coli test samples along the Oriskany Creek, and are looking to expand the quantity and frequency of sample taking. They are working to pin point the source(s) of fecal matter that is showing high values at the end of the creek in Oriskany. Testing upstream from there should allow detection of source(s). Additionally, they are looking an expansion of testing for salt infusion and agricultural chemical presence in the main creek. Trout Unlimited is working closely with the DEC on the salt presence issue, as that has become an area of increased focus by the DEC beginning in 2026. Expect much higher scrutiny by the state, on any areas where there could be water and wet lands contamination from the storing, transportation, or application of road conditioning salt.
- Trout Unlimited also reminded members that they have a program to assist or provide towns and private property owners (who grant permissions) with NYSDEC Nursery provided trees, shrubs and other vegetation, for planting along the Oriskany Creek and its tributaries, for wildlife habitat and bank erosion control.
- Commission is asking members to come forward with their most pressing needs and project requests, so the 2026 priority listings can be compiled.

Councilperson Donley states that the website has been updated to include fire department connection, water district maps, and hydrant locations.

Councilperson Smith raises a discussion about adding online tax payment portal, modeled after a nearby city's system; board supportive and will research solutions.

Councilperson Smith asks for clarification on accounting for building-related expenses (e.g., shop heater) under general fund and not highway department.

Supervisor Hebbard states that the annual mowing and ditching agreement is ready for approval since it has been reviewed by the attorney.

Supervisor Hebbard presents the board with Delta Engineering proposal regarding town barn and salt barn planning distributed; board to review before inviting consultant to present.

The board discusses adding Ryan Schreppel to fill a ZBA vacancy, with intent to interview him.

Supervisor Hebbard calls for a motion to appoint Charles Smith to the position of Planning/ZBA Chairman, as Joseph Malecki will be stepping down this month.

123 Councilperson Seymour advanced a motion to appoint Charles Smith as Planning Board/ZBA Chairman. Councilperson Donley seconded the motion. All Board members present voted AYE and the motion was declared carried.

124 Councilperson Donley advanced a motion to approve and place on file the Supervisor, Town Clerk and Codes Reports for January 2026. Councilperson Smith seconded the motion. All Board members present voted AYE and the motion was declared carried.

125 Councilperson Smith advanced a motion to approve and place on file the minutes of the Regular Meeting January 12, 2026 and Audit Meeting January 20, 2026. Councilperson Seymour seconded the motion. All Board members present voted AYE and the motion was declared carried.

126 Councilperson Donley advanced a motion to approve and order paid the vouchers of the General fund, vouchers #20 through #47, which total \$20,802.03. Councilperson Smith seconded the motion. All Board members present voted AYE and the motion was declared carried.

127 Councilperson Smith advanced a motion to approve and order paid the claims of the Highway fund, vouchers #16 through #39, which total \$86,802.23. Councilperson Seymour seconded the motion. All Board members present voted AYE and the motion was declared carried.

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

Tindall Water District	vouchers #1-2 which totals	\$155.00
Westmoreland Water District	vouchers #4-13 which totals	\$27,431.09
Spencer Settlement Water District	vouchers #1-2 which totals	\$155.00

Councilperson Donley seconded the motion. All Board members present voted AYE and the motion was declared carried.

Supervisor Hebbard stated the next Regular Meeting will be held Monday, March 9, 2026 at 6:00pm.

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

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

129 Councilperson Seymour advanced a motion to adjourn this meeting. Councilperson Donley seconded the motion. All Board members present voted AYE. Supervisor Hebbard declared the motion carried and adjourned the meeting at 6:46pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Anna C. Storey
Town Clerk