

Westmoreland Town Board
Regular Meeting
April 13, 2026

Supervisor Charles Hebbard called this regular meeting to order at 6:00 pm on April 13, 2026. Present at this meeting were Councilpersons Burton Seymour Jr., Kirk Donley, Randy Rundle, and Peter Smith. Also present were Sole Assessor Holly Osterhoudt, Codes Enforcement Officer Fred Fox, Jr., Attorney Mitchell Whittaker, Tax Collector Margaret Leone, and four (4) audience members. Absent from this meeting was Highway Superintendent Russell Young.

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

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

Mike Smith from the historical society asked where the plan stood on replacing/changing the floor. Supervisor Hebbard said a quote had been received from Snyder's Flooring, but the work was tabled due to needed water-pipe work and floor fill; Snyder's is now out of business, so the process would need to restart. It was decided to keep the floor project tabled for now and revisit closer to fall and/or after expansion plans are clearer. Supervisor Hebbard noted that prior rough quote was \$1,100-\$1,200; could be higher now (possibly ~\$2,000); would likely need to become a budget line item next year.

Historical Society noted they're moving forward on finding a grant writer for the expansion to understand what local funds would be needed.

Highway Superintendent Russell Young is absent. Supervisor Hebbard states that the town will likely need to finance two boxes and plows for two trucks in late May/early June; then decide about selling one truck and what financing is required (or if purchases will be staggered).

Sole Assessor Holly Osterhoudt submitted the following report:

I have submitted the tentative assessment roll to Oneida County and printed assessment change notices to all property owners who had an assessment change, whether an increase or decrease. I will no longer make value changes to the 2026 assessment roll unless court ordered or approved by the Board of Assessment Review. If you feel your ASSESSMENT is too high, you may file a grievance. The Grievance paperwork is available at the Town Hall or on the Oneida County or New York State website. If you feel your taxes are too high, but your assessment is correct, please address your concerns to the taxing jurisdiction as the assessment office has no ability to change taxes. I will continue to add sales and make address changes until the final assessment roll is submitted in June. If you have any questions or concerns, please call 315-853-8001 ext.8

Codes Enforcement Officer 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.

3-10-26 Spoke with Brian Grant at the property. He was working on clean up when I arrived. I advised Grant that he has until end of April to show a substantial improvement or we are sending him to court.

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. Adjourned to resolve contractor error.

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. Adjourned has contract with garbage company now. 2-25-26 Defendant has dumpster on site now with contract in hand. Adjourned until 4-1-26. 3-31-26 Violation Abated. I advised Town Attorney.

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.

9-23-25 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 Corteaux. Notice of violation written for j/d. OTR set for 12-16-25. No Progress. 4-7-26 No Progress.

11-18-25 5987 Rte. 26 Parker. Notice of violation written for j/d. OTR set for 12-16-25. No Progress. 4-7-26 No Progress.

2-17-26 4611 Rte. 233 Reece. Fire to detached garage. Letter sent to contact Pat with plan and to apply for applicable permits.

3-17-26 5279 Furnace St. Alvarez. Notice of violation written for j/d. OTR set for 3-24-26. No progress. 3-31-26 Violation 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. Extend to end of April.

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

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

3-9-26. Extended to 3-24-26. All violation abated except Suppression system. Waiting on 3rd party agency to inspect. 3-31-26 All violations ABATED.

2-17-26 6247 Rte. 233 MSI. Notice of violation written with OTR set for 3-10-26. 3-10-26 Abated.

2-17-26 6273 Rte. 233 RTD. Notice of violation written with OTR set for 3-10-26. 3-10-26 Abated.

4-7-26 6154 Dewey Rd. Specialty Auto. Notice of violation written with OTR set for 4-28-26.

4-7-26 6333 Rte. 233. Patrick Heating. Notice of violation written with OTR set for 4-28-26.

Building Inspections: By Pat Baron, Building Inspector

Month	Mar-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
3/3/2026	2026-12	BORZA	TIM	SEYMOUR LN	314.000-1-58.15	COMMERCIAL	\$ 1,900.00
3/3/2026	2026-13	HULSER	RICH	8179 BARTLETT RD	274.000-2-12	MUD ROOM	\$ 75.00
3/4/2026	2026-14	ACETO	JEREMEY	7303 E MAIN ST	302.004-2-53	SIGN-LIQUOR STORE	\$ 100.00
3/4/2026	2026-15	38 WEAVER	ST. PROPERTIES	5354 NYS RT 233	302.000-1-67.4	ROOF SOLAR	\$ 300.00
3/4/2026	2026-16	LENHART	JOSEPH	4274 SKYLINE DR	325.000-1-44	ROOF SOLAR	\$ 300.00
3/10/2026	2026-17	DYKSTRA	RICHARD	4609 STATION HILL RD	326.000-1-26	RENEWAL PERMIT	\$ 20.00
3/24/2026	2026-18	CRARY	ROGER	5065 JENKINS RD	313.000-1-2.2	SEPTIC	\$ 75.00
3/24/2026	2026-19	HAGGERTY	SUE	6416 COOPER ST	313.000-1-12	FENCE	\$ 30.00
3/24/2026	2026-20	THOMAS	JUSTIN	7289 W MAIN ST	302.004-1-2	LEAN-TO ADDITION	\$ 290.00
							\$ 3,090.00

Codes Enforcement Officer Fox updates the board that a relative is arranging clean-out crews to remove junk/debris/vehicles, fix up, and sell the Cooper St property, with a goal to complete this summer.

Scadden Road property: site visit found many vehicles (15+). Codes officer previously gave “drop-dead” date of the 28th for significant improvement; expectation is it will proceed to court. Ownership is tied to deceased father; son claims control; taxes may be behind.

Water Plant Operator Ted Flint did not submit a formal report this month, but he did review and approve all bills in the water accounts.

Reading Center Clerk Sarah Snyder submitted the following report:

- In the month of March (2026) The Reading Center had 84 visitors.
- The reading center loaned out 100 items to visiting patrons, 26 e-books, 20 audio books, 8 e-magazines, and filled 141 holds within the Mid-York Library system, for a total of 295 items circulated by us.
- We offered 2 free crafts.
- We have been continuing our weeding project within the library. We will be expanding the children’s area of the reading center and have also been re-labeling and re-organizing our items.
- We are looking into providing another visit from the Zoo-mobile this spring, and are awaiting the available dates from the Utica Zoo.

Town Attorney Mitchell Whittaker submitted the following report:

During March, I completed the following professional services on behalf of the Town of Westmoreland:

- Reviewed our agreement with Digital Towpath which we have since terminated
- Attended the regular monthly meeting of the Town Board
- Spoke with the Supervisor on several items of Town business,
- Reviewed Site Plan Determinations and associated information from two solar farms in the Town, and
- Drafted a letter highlighting the Eureka Road Solar Farm's obligations to the Town re: maintenance and upkeep.

Town Clerk Anna C. Storey submitted the following report:

- In March, the Town Clerk’s office sold five (5) new dog licenses and renewed fifty (50) dog licenses, for \$402.00. Of that, \$67.00 was sent to the Department of Ag & Markets for New York State’s Dog Population Control Program. The Town Supervisor received \$335.00.
- On March 28, 2026, renewal notices were sent out for fifty-three (53) dog licenses due in April 2026. Late renewal notices were sent out for February’s overdue licenses, totaling twelve (12).
- There were three (3) fishing licenses sold in March totaling \$35.00. The supervisor received \$1.94 and \$33.06 was sent to the NYS DEC.

- There was one marriage license sold in March for \$40.00. The supervisor received \$17.50 and \$22.50 was sent to the NYS Health Department. Ten (10) certified copies were issued for \$100.00.
- There were eight (8) building permits issued in March for \$3,015.00, and one (1) septic permit for \$75.00. There were two (2) fire inspections totaling \$150.00.
- Thirteen (13) permanent and temporary accessible parking permits were issued or renewed during the month.

Checks Received:

1. Westmoreland Central School District	Feb Bill	\$10,729.37
2. COCVAC	Feb 2026	\$2,627.40
3. Westmoreland Town Clerk	March Funds	\$3,694.44
4. Westmoreland Justice Court	Feb Court Funds	\$11,566.00
5. Jennings	Pavilion Rental	\$75.00
6. Bank of Utica	Certificate Interest Check	\$2,430.00
7. Burr	Pavilion Rental	\$75.00
8. Dick	Pavilion Rental	\$125.00
9. Clark Mills Fire District		\$244.91
10. Wright Risk Management	Loyalty Award	\$1,257.00
11. Golden	Pavilion Rental	\$75.00
12. Westmoreland Fire District	Jan 2026	\$695.24

Communications Received:

1. Oneida County Sheriff Dept.	Yellow Dot Program
2. Comp Alliance	Newsletter
3. MVEDD	postcard
4. NYAOT	2026 Legislative Priorities
5. OC Dept of Finance	Auction Properties List

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

- Oriskany Creek watershed Commission (OCWC) held its monthly meeting on Tuesday, March 24th, 4:30pm, at the Waterville Town offices.
- A full quorum was present.
- Approval of the January and February 2026 minutes was passed.
- Treasurer's report showed a fund balance of \$43,421.51.
- Opened with a roundtable discussion of the recent high water/flooding events. Specific problem areas from the recent wet weather centered on the Rt 5 portion of Kirkland, and some drainage piping in the town of Clinton. All continued to stress the need to control development, and/or the impact of designs of any projects that could add to water issues. Recognizing the needs for local regulations and diligence of planning and zoning boards
- EEMA is beginning to re-release its BRIC grant funding. Various actions by elected representatives in Washington had held up the programs.
- Local projects that will become active include;
 - Valley Road bank stabilization (Whitestown)
 - Wastewater plant access bridge (Waterville)
 - Reservoir dam (Waterville)
 - Sanford Ave storm basin (Clinton)
- Commission is still asking members to come forward with their most pressing needs and project requests, so the 2026 priority listings can be compiled.

Next meeting scheduled for April 28th, 4:30pm at the Oriskany Falls town offices.

Councilperson Seymour suggested purchasing a mower fro the Lowell baseball field. Supervisor Hebbard says supervisor will clarify with Josh Hayes on his availability/extent of mowing.

Councilperson Rundle reminds the board that the fence at the old pool property still needs to be removed.

Councilperson Rundle reiterates the need for a single accurate, consolidated hydrant map (including Tindall and Route 26 hydrants). Existing online/water-district map is undetailed and has incorrect hydrant locations. Suggestions included using GIS-type tools, checking county filings, and possibly contacting Delta Engineering for direction.

Councilperson Rundle advises the poor of poor condition at Bartlett Cemetery: reported in rough shape with dead trees and a dangerous “widow-maker”; may require hiring a tree service; discussion touched on possible state cemetery association funds/grants but unclear if town has ever received such funds.

Councilperson Smith asks the board and the town attorney about the status of the Lewis Solar Project Phase 2. Concern raised whether “phase two” is truly an extension or a new project potentially impacted by newer town law (distance from existing solar farms). Attorney Whittaker explained town board cannot override planning board/site plan approval; a rehearing would rest with the joint planning/ZBA board under town law (rehearing requires unanimous vote of members present). Joint board is considering a rehearing and bringing back the engineering firm to explain why it’s framed as an expansion when original paperwork indicated no multi-phase construction. A decommission plan was a condition of approval; board members indicated it has not been provided to the town board/planning materials, and applicants were told purchases would be at their own risk until decommissioning was received. A motion to rehear could occur at the May meeting; public hearing would likely be June due to notice/timeframes.

Supervisor Hebbard would like to look into other energy providers as National Grid has become so high and Councilperson Smith offers to research this.

Supervisor Hebbard mentions the HVAC project, Delta is reviewing options and believes controls pricing is far out of line; exploring alternate vendor/value engineering. Collis believes we could add two controllers (copy/records room and meeting room) to avoid major hallway ceiling/line work.

Supervisor Hebbard says that the state budget has not yet passed, so he is still awaiting grant information toward a materials storage building.

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

139 Councilperson Donley advanced a motion to approve and place on file the minutes of the Regular Meeting March 9, 2026. Councilperson Seymour seconded the motion. All Board members voted AYE and the motion was declared carried.

140 Councilperson Smith advanced a motion to approve and order paid the vouchers of the General fund, vouchers #86 through #115, which total \$35,096.62. Councilperson Rundle seconded the motion. All Board members voted AYE and the motion was declared carried.

141 Councilperson Seymour advanced a motion to approve and order paid the claims of the Highway fund, vouchers #59 through #78, which total \$67,072.67. Councilperson Donley seconded the motion. All Board members voted AYE and the motion was declared carried.

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

Tindall Water District	vouchers #4-5	which totals	\$14,497.51
Camelot Water District	voucher #6	which totals	\$13,718.25
Westmoreland Water District	vouchers #25-31	which totals	\$4,606.54
Spencer Settlement Water District	vouchers #4-5	which totals	\$824.35

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

Supervisor Hebbard stated the next Regular Meeting will be held Monday, May 11, 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.

143 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 6:58pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Anna C. Storey
Town Clerk