

Westmoreland Town Board
Regular Meeting
August 10, 2026

Supervisor Charles Hebbard called this regular meeting to order at 6:00 pm on August 10, 2026. Present at this meeting were Councilpersons Burton Seymour, Jr., Randy Rundle, Kirk Donley, and Peter Smith. Also present were Highway Superintendent Russell Young, Sole Assessor Holly Osterhoudt, Tax Collector Margaret Leone, and four (4) audience members.

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 Steve Potocki of Acee Ln. addressed the board about the noise disturbance of an air cannon being used on Tassleberry Farm. Supervisor Hebbard notes that he had previously discussed this topic with Mr. Potocki. Mr. Potocki noted that there has been no improvement in the frequency of detonation, and it has in fact become even more frequent. Mr. Potocki did approach the farm owner who was not willing to compromise, and stated there are no laws preventing the use of air cannons for wildlife deterrent. The NYS Department of Agriculture and Markets merely has recommendations of guidelines for the time of day and amount of detonations. A local municipality would have to enact their own law, which Westmoreland does not have at this time.

Resident Lou Fedor spoke to the board about a large fire that has been burning in Creaser Rd, causing poor air quality and a significant amount of falling ash in the surrounding area. A lengthy discussion took place about if a fire like this is permissible in a residential area, and what department is responsible for making this determination. The Westmoreland Fire Department has been to the site multiple times. The NYS DEC was also notified and spoke to Supervisor Hebbard, who plans to contact them again following this meeting.

At this time, Supervisor Hebbard resumed the regular meeting.

Highway Superintendent Russell Young submitted the following report:

- The crew has shouldered and ditched about half of Skinner Rd they have also been replacing driveway pipes.
- Seneca Pavement Marking striped 18.1 miles of roads
- The crew took down the old fence at the pool area
- The roadside mower is out for the second time this summer, will be done soon
- New York State received and approved all payment submissions, the town will get payment of \$294,182.22 from the CHIPS program sometime in September

Highway Superintendent Young stated that striping is now done, and paving will be done after Labor Day. There is no news on repair for the Ram truck. Councilperson Seymour questions if at some point we should just consider replacing the Ram, but Highway Superintendent Young feels this is too expensive.

Sole Assessor Holly Osterhoudt reported:

I am currently adjusting assessments for 2027 according to values added or reductions made in value due to changes in properties per building permits and/or physical changes made for the 2027 assessment roll. If you have any questions or concerns, please call 315-853-8001 ext.8.

Assessor Osterhoudt is now entering building permits for 2027. Councilperson Smith asks if there is an update on the new Veteran's Exemption, and Assessor Osterhoudt says the state has not finalized anything at this time.

Codes Enforcement Office Fred Fox Jr. submitted the following report:

4-15-19 5845 Scadden Rd. Violation notice sent for junk and debris on the entire property (scrape metal, demolished trailer ect...) 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.

4-28-26 Some improvement not substantial. I will be drafting court paperwork. 5-12-26 Court paperwork mailed out. 5-13-26 Appearance Ticket issue to defendant. Court date set for 7-1-26. 7-1-26 Defendant Failed to appear, called court with transportation issue. Adjourned to 8-12-26.

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. 5-19-26 Notice of violation written for high grass. OTR set for 6-2-26. 6-2-26 Front mowed Rear not. Called left message with new management company, waiting on call back. 6-8-26 spoke with new owner, mowing scheduled for 6-11-26. 6-8-26 Spoke with new owner. Mowing should be complete 6-11-26.

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.

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. 6-2-26 Spoke with new owner, plans to repair or demolish house starting end of summer. 7-21-26 Notice of violation for high grass with OTR set for 8-4-26. 8-4-26 High Grass violation is abated. Owner indicated interest in demolition of the house.

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 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.

4-14-26 5781 Rte. 233. Richard Storey. Notice of violation written for house unfit/unsafe. OTR set for 6-2-26 to have plan (repair or demolish) and permit obtained. 4-21-26 Placard affixed to the property. 6-2-26 no contact with owner to date. 7-14-26 observed the start of demolition.

5-26-26 Skinner Rd Tax ID 301.000-2-51. Notice of violation written for multiple inoperable vehicles with OTR set for 6-16-26. 6-16-26 Progress made down to one more to be registered or removed.

6-2-26 36 Martin Dr. White. Notice of violation written for high grass. OTR set for 6-9-26. No Progress. Owner deceased.

6-2-26 43 Martin Dr. Wuest. Notice of violation written for high grass. OTR set for 6-9-26. No progress.

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. **8-4-26 Inspection.** All violations abated at this time.

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.

4-7-26 6333 Rte. 233. Patrick Heating. Notice of violation written with OTR set for 4-28-26. 4-28-26 one violation abated, one not complete.

6-23-26 5353 Rte. 233 Five Star Landscaping. Notice of violation written with OTR set for 7-13-26. 7-14-26 ABATED.

6-23-26 5211 Rte. 233. Hot off the Brick. Notice of violation written with OTR set for 7-13-26. 7-13-26 No Progress. 7-28-26 one violation abated.

6-30-26 5540 Rte. 233 Dan Spaven Woodworks. Notice of violation written with OTR set for 7-13-26. 7-13-26 Extinguisher inspection set for next week. 7-21-26 ABATED.

6-30-26 5319 Rte. 233 Stewart's Shops. Notice of violation written with OTR set for 7-13-26. 7-13-26 ABATED.

8-4-26 6906 Fairway Dr. Westmoreland Golf Club. No violations at this time.

Building Inspections: By Pat Baron, Building Inspector

Month	Jul-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
7/14/2026	2026-9991	PRO TRADE	GARAGES	5358 Rte 233	302.000-1-67.1	AREA VARIANCE	\$ 100.00
7/21/2026	2026-65	MASI	CARLO	7525 CREEKSIDE DR	303.003-1-16	DEMO GARAGE	\$ 75.00
7/21/2026	2026-66	PARDA	SANDRA	4 CARMEL DR	274.000-1-21.3	STORAGE SHED	\$ 40.00
7/21/2026	2026-67	POTOCKI	MICHAEL	7197 W. SOUTH ST	314.000-2-30.1	POLE BARN	\$ 120.00
7/22/2026	2026-68	SILCHUK	SVITLANA	6347 COOPER ST	313.000-1-33	PORCH-FENCE-POLE BARN	\$ 460.00
7/22/2026	2026-69	PEEK	WILLIAM	6899 O'BRIEN RD	209.000-1-48	PORCH INT CEILING	\$ 75.00
7/28/2026	2026-70	BARONOWSKI	TODD	5937 SPRINGHOUSE RD	300.000-1-20.1	DECK	\$ 75.00
7/28/2026	2026-71	THOMAS	JUSTIN	7289 W MAIN ST	302.004-1-2	DEMO & POLE BARN	\$ 203.00
7/28/2026	2026-72	STAYTON	LLC	6411 STATE RT 233	240.000-1-21.4	FENCE	\$ 30.00
							\$ 1,178.00

A discussion takes place between the board members and Codes Enforcement Officer Fox about heavy equipment, trucks and machinery parked at Masi Sand & Gravel on Creekside Dr and whether or not this violates any town codes.

Water Plant Operator Ted Flint submitted the following report:

Westmoreland Water District

- Completed monthly sampling requirements - no issues.
- Performed several UFPO dig requests.
- Worked with Dodson & Associates in getting our Emergency valves repaired at the corner of Rt. 233 & South St. We are all set now in case of a water emergency.
- Hydrant flushing will be scheduled for August/September and notices will be sent out.
- Had to repair a broken shut-off at the old Kernan residence on Rt. 233. Water was flooding the basement. There were "Squatters" in the house that had to be removed.

Tindall Corners Water District

- Completed monthly sampling requirements - no issues.
- Performed several UFPO dig request.
- North Star Orchards hooked up to the water main at the corner of Rt. 233 & South St.
- Hydrant flushing will be scheduled for August/September and notices will be sent out.

Spencer Settlement Water District

- Completed monthly sampling requirements - no issues.
- Hydrant flushing will be scheduled for August/September and notices will be sent out.

Reading Center Clerk Sarah Snyder submitted the following report:

- In the month of July, The Reading Center welcomed 116 visitors.
- We checked out 157 items within the library, filled 84 holds within the Mid-York Library System, and loaned 33 e-books, 27 audiobooks, and 17 e-magazines for a total of 318 items circulated from our library.
- We are offering checkouts of summer items using your library card that include a brand new badminton set and disc golf set, along with our summer park passes.
- The Mid-York Library system will be transitioning to a new catalog system in 2027. We are receiving information from them regarding this and will be setting up training sessions through them for this transition.

There was no Town Attorney report for the month of July. The new Town Attorney will be in place by the September meeting.

Town Clerk Anna C. Storey submitted the following report:

- In July, the Town Clerk's office sold three (3) new dog licenses and renewed thirty-three (33) dog licenses, for \$230.00.
- On July 27, 2026, renewal notices were sent out for forty (40) dog licenses due in August 2026. Late renewal notices were sent out for June's overdue licenses, totaling nine (9).
- There was one (1) fishing license, one (1) replacement license, and one (1) lifetime license sold in July totaling \$390.00.
- There were two (2) marriage licenses sold in July for \$80.00.
- There were eight (8) building permits issued in July for \$1,078.00, and one (1) ZBA referral for \$100.00. One (1) fire inspection was conducted, totaling \$75.00. Fifteen (15) certified copies were requested for \$150.00.
- Fourteen (14) permanent and temporary accessible parking permits were issued or renewed during the month.
- Total disbursements from the Town Clerk, Codes and Building Departments were as follows:
 - PAID TO SUPERVISOR FOR GENERAL FUND \$1,674.74
 - PAID TO NYS DEC FOR DECALS \$385.26
 - PAID TO NYS ANIMAL POPULATION CONTROL PROGRAM \$46.00
 - PAID TO NYS HEALTH DEPT FOR MARRIAGE LICENSES \$45.00

Checks Received:

1. Clark Mills Fire District		\$538.07
2. Corporate Billing	Allegiance Trucks	\$97.18
3. Schaller	Culvert	\$500.00
4. Westmoreland Central School District	June 2026	\$12,300.33
5. Town Clerk	June Funds	\$3,899.88
6. Westmoreland Town Justices	June Court Funds	\$8,498.00
7. County of Oneida	Mortgage Tax Distribution	\$139,509.36
8. Stanwix Heights VFD Inc	fuel June	\$44.24
9. Town of Westmoreland Fire Dist.	May 2026 fuel	\$1,651.88
10. Town Clerk	July Funds	\$1,674.74
11. fnbo	credit balance	\$702.72
12. Flaherty	pavilion	\$75.00

Communications Received:

- | | |
|---|-----------------------------|
| 1. Williamson Law Book | price increase notification |
| 2. MVEDD | BESS assistance |
| 3. Pipeline Safety Resources | |
| 4. cardualgibbons0@gmail.com | personnel complaint |
| 5. Matt Ambrose | Noise Complaint |

Oriskany Creek Watershed Committee Representative Roger Potenski reported that The OCWC does not meet in June, July or August.

Board Comments:

- **North Star Water Hookup:** Councilpersons Rundle & Seymour both bring up questions and concerns about the contractors allowed to work on the town water system, and whether or not the language of the town codes needs to be updated to reflect the restrictions.
- **Power Outages:** Councilperson Seymour addresses the power and internet outages that have disrupted the whole town in various ways this month
- **Home Businesses:** Councilperson Donley broaches the topic of home businesses, and possible updating town codes to reflect the growing number of these businesses
- **Trail Maintenance:** multiple hanging branches on the walking trail have been cleared
- **HVAC:** work is slated to commence on 9/14, and expected completion is 10/30
- **Animal Control:** Mike Smith was hired as Dog Control Officer, effective 8/1

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

171 Councilperson Seymour advanced a motion to approve and place on file the minutes of the Regular Meeting July 13, 2026. Councilperson Donley seconded the motion. All Board members voted AYE and the motion was declared carried.

172 Councilperson Rundle advanced a motion to approve and order paid the vouchers of the General fund, vouchers #226 through #256, which total \$70,503.62. Councilperson Seymour seconded the motion. All Board members voted AYE and the motion was declared carried.

173 Councilperson Donley advanced a motion to approve and order paid the claims of the Highway fund, vouchers #153 through #175, which total \$81,828.17. Councilperson Smith seconded the motion. All Board members voted AYE and the motion was declared carried.

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

Tindall Water District	vouchers #12-13 which totals	\$695.502
Westmoreland Water District	vouchers #55-63 which totals	\$12,962.22
Spencer Settlement Water District	vouchers #11 which totals	\$36.00

Councilperson Rundle 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, September 14, 2026 at 6:00pm.

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

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

175 Councilperson Seymour advanced a motion to recess the meeting and enter into executive session regarding a personnel matter. Councilperson Rundle seconded the motion. All Board members voted AYE. Supervisor Hebbard declared the motion carried and entered into executive session at 6:42pm.

The board came out of executive session at 6:58 pm.

Stephanie DiGiorgio, Esq. was hired as town attorney.,.

176 Councilperson Seymour advanced a motion to adjourn. Councilperson Smith seconded the motion. All Board members voted AYE and the motion was declared carried.

Respectfully submitted,
Anna C. Storey
Town Clerk