

Mexico Town Board
Minutes of the Public Hearing for Local Law 1 of 2025
Held October 15, 2025, at McAuslan Hall, 3245 Main Street Mexico
Commencing at 7:00 P.M.

Present: Eric Behling, Supervisor
Russell Partrick, Councilor
Chad Bigelow, Councilor
Hadwin Fravor, Councilor
Jeanne Revette, Councilor
Graham Seiter, Town Attorney
Nicole Wild, Town Clerk

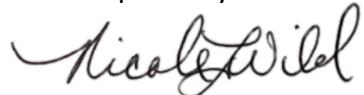
Absent:

And 15 in the audience.

Supervisor Behling opened the public hearing at 7:00pm and read the legal notice for the public hearing.

With no members of the public wishing to be heard, Supervisor Behling closed the public hearing at 7:05.

Respectfully submitted,



Nicole Wild
Town Clerk

Mexico Town Board
Minutes of the Regular Meeting
Held October 15, 2025, at McAuslan Hall, 3245 Main Street Mexico
Commencing at 7:00 P.M.

Present: Eric Behling, Supervisor
Russell Partrick, Councilor
Chad Bigelow, Councilor
Hadwin Fravor, Councilor
Jeanne Revette, Councilor
Graham Seiter, Town Attorney
Russ Marsden, Highway Superintendent
Susan Vaughn, Town Historian
Shannon Bigelow, Park Manager
Diane Chepko-Sade, Friends of Mexico Point Park
Nancy Weber, Planning Board Chairwoman
Ned Waterbury, ZBA Chairman
Terry Mayor Grimshawshaw, Water Commissioner
Marcia DeLong, Comprehensive Plan Committee & Ag/Mkt Committee
Heather Garner, Assessor
Sean Edwards, Mexico Volunteer Fire Department
Nicole Wild, Town Clerk

Absent: Jack Spriggs, Dog Control Officer
Ron Marsden, Code Enforcement Officer
Carrie Bond, Mexico Point Park
Mike Jantz, C2AE

And 4 in the audience.

Supervisor Behling opened the regular Town Board meeting at 7:05 pm with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of Minutes- A motion was made by Councilor Partrick and seconded by Councilor Fravor to accept the September 8, 2025, regular Town Board meeting minutes as presented. The motion was adopted by a vote of 5 ayes: Behling, Bigelow, Fravor, Partrick, Revette, 0 nays.

Wild said there are no minutes to the September 24th, 2025 Budget workshop because there was no quorum and Supervisor Behling did not call the meeting to order.

Communications

Oswego County Health Department Letter
Seiter Law – Letter for Mined Land Reclamation Permit E. Stone Rd (Floating Zone)
Ag & Markets Report
Open House Ag & Market Steering Committee

Nuggets and Nibbles

Public Comment

Concerns were: Karen Creamer thanked the board and brought questions regarding her property assessment at 91 Spring Street. Behling said he will speak with the town assessor and town attorney.

Reports

Town Clerk/Water Clerk/Tax Collector

September disbursements as follows:

Supervisor for General Fund - \$3,677.50

NYS Animal Population Control for Dog Licenses - \$68.00

NYS Health Dept for Marriage Licenses - \$0.00

Water Payment Collection Total: \$21,824.29

A motion was made by Councilor Bigelow and seconded by Councilor Revette to accept the September 2025 report as presented. The motion was adopted by a vote of 5 ayes: Behling, Partrick, Bigelow, Flavor, Revette, and 0 nays.

Dog Control- none

Zoning Officer/Building Inspector- Supervisor Behling read Officer Marsden's report: 12 building permits were issued for the month of September; 3 property violations; inspected a manufactured home in Central Square; sending expiration notices for permits.

Highway Superintendent- Superintendent Marsden read his report: Police report taken for vandalism on town water tower. Partrick asked if ladder can be adjusted; Marsden said to store the bottom section perhaps, but it is not in his wheelhouse.

Historian- Historian Vaughn read her report: The museum painting is done but the next project is the storm door project and all three doors need replacing; Vaughn supplied the board with two estimates: Overton Contracting (\$3,800) and Jacob Burke Custom Construction (\$4,425). Partrick said he would volunteer to take the old doors off to save the town some money. The board discussed potentially adding a Buildings and Grounds Maintenance position to the 2027 budget.

Resolution 2025-53 Museum Storm Door Replacement

A motion was made by Supervisor Behling and seconded by Councilor Partrick to accept the following resolution. The motion was adopted by a vote of 5 ayes: Behling, Partrick, Bigelow, Flavor, Revette, and 0 nays.

Resolved the Mexico Town Board accepts the quote from Mike Overton Construction to replace three storm doors at the museum for a cost not to exceed \$3,500 and authorizes Russell Partrick to remove the old storm doors at no cost to the town.

Community Park Manager- Superintendent Marsden read his report: shutting water off soon. Councilor Bigelow said football is still using the park.

Mexico Point Park- Chepko-Sade said they received the fireworks contract but it's for \$3000 and is supposed to be signed by the end of October. Councilor Partrick asked if it was the same rate as last year. Chepko-Sade said yes and she will get it to the Town Clerk as soon as she gets it from the company.

Resolution 2025-54 2026 Fireworks

A motion was made by Supervisor Behling and seconded by Councilor Revette to accept the following resolution. The motion was adopted by a vote of 5 ayes: Behling, Partrick, Bigelow, FAVOR, Revette, and 0 nays.

Resolved the Mexico Town Board agrees to accept the 2026 Fireworks contract from Young Explosives for an amount not to exceed \$3,200.

Planning Board- Chairwoman Weber said the planning board meets in the beginning of the month and they do run into holidays frequently so they would like to automatically schedule their meetings the first Monday of the month unless it falls on a federal holiday, it will automatically be moved to the following Wednesday. They also reviewed the local law with Graham's help regarding floating industrial zone.

Zoning Board of Appeals- Chairman Waterbury said it has been a slow year for applications and they meet next week.

Water Commissioner- Mayor Grimshaw said Layne submitted proposal for new replacement well for failed well #4; DPW crew repaired a hydrant damaged by motor vehicle; new services installed, leaky services repaired, replaced curb box, processed shut-offs for non-payment, cleared brush, and a new overhead door at pumphouse was installed for chlorine delivery. Mayor Grimshaw said a quote was included for painting for vandalism at the town water tower, they may be able to do it this year but may have to wait until next year but price will still be good next spring. Partrick asked about what an auto flusher is. Mayor Grimshaw said they automatically flush the ends of the lines to prevent stagnant water. Partrick asked who owns the building. Mayor Grimshaw said it's a grey area. Partrick said they do have building reserve money and that building might qualify for its use. Mayor Grimshaw said if both municipalities use it, they try to split it but more clarification is needed on all of this so everyone understands the relationship between the village and town. Mayor Grimshaw said they did what they thought was right at the time contract-wise but Partrick agreed it was a moving target and agreements need updating.

Supervisor's Report-

Supervisor Behling reported that September balances stand as follows:

General Expenses - \$101,263.40

Highway Expenses - \$277,708.09

General Balance - \$2,546,105.76

Highway Balance - \$1,307,715.36

A motion was made by Councilor and seconded by Councilor to accept the Supervisor's September report as presented. The motion was adopted by a vote of 5 ayes: Behling, Partrick, Bigelow, FAVOR, Revette, and 0 nays. FAVOR, Revette, all ayes.

Fire Department Update- Haynes asked the board to consider raising the tax rate for the fire department. Behling said possibly they can do an override for the 2027 budget. Edwards said the department has had 42 calls for the month of September, completed fire prevention talks at the elementary school, and visited West Monroe with ladder truck for fire prevention open house that they've been doing for 18 years as well as staffing home football games for medical standby.

Assessor- Assessor Garner distributed packets to the board members. Garner said she's been trying to clean up inventory and many assessment related issues that impact all other aspects of the town. Garner stresses the importance of trying to do an update, she submitted a budget

request with suggestions on line items and how to save up. Garner explained the chart of project breakdown, the reason for three assessment rolls as opposed to two, the process for property owners having opportunities for reviews with the town, explained the chart of expenses, explained basic office needs, explained examples for the need for an update due to inconsistencies in land details, EDUs, etc. Garner said she has done a revaluation every year since 2012. Garner said she's been reviewing sales and building permits because there were more increased assessments in houses that sold as opposed to houses that didn't sell, she's been doing an analysis with building permitted additions. Partrick said the town should do an RFP for a couple companies. Garner added they could get something started. Partrick said presenting this to the public is important. Garner said tax rates go down and tax rates go up. Partrick said the school needs to know. Garner said generally a third of residents will see taxes bills go up, a third go down, and a third stay level. Garner said we wouldn't do an update if it was already even and equitable. Garner said they are updating their office with furniture and they were using some that was in the building and would like to purchase a new desk and furniture but would rather buy used as opposed to brand new. Behling said he doesn't have a problem with it as long as a receipt is received.

A motion was made by Councilor Partrick and seconded by Councilor Bigelow to develop an RFP to get proposals for a re-evaluation within the parameters the assessor helps set. The motion was adopted by a vote of 5 ayes: Behling, Partrick, Bigelow, FAVOR, Revette, and 0 nays.

Garner left the meeting at 8:15.

Well #4 BCA- A representative from BCA said that a replacement well can be done faster, a new permit with DEC is open, the DOH is happy, there is an application submitted for a grant through USDA-ECWAG and the town is eligible for up to \$1M; well replacement cost is less because the quality of our aquifer is very good resulting in a significantly reduced cost; there was hardly any sediment in the village tank when it was taken down. The rep said current cost is right around \$710K, and so they are requesting less in grant application but with the government shutdown, the application is considered rolling. The rep said we are hitting the window of opportunity to get it done this fall and thinks we should use both sources of funding including insurance in order to replace it as quickly as possible.

Fire department members left the meeting at 8:22pm.

Partrick said the contract with Layne is \$208K and asked if that brings the well back online. The rep said they may never spend the contingency portion of the money. Mayor Grimshaw said they attempted to eliminate some infrastructure but discussed casing within casing to prevent the same situation we have now. The rep said a double pack design reduces/eliminates this from entering causing well failure; the failed well was 15 years but the others are far older. The rep said the goal is to reduce the cost as we move along as we receive updated information. Mayor Grimshaw said he doesn't want to have another year where they don't have backup if something happens to one of the other wells. The rep said drilling wells is not an exact science and you won't know the exact cost until they do the work. Behling said the town is working with their insurance.

Water District Update- Wild said WSA #6 is out to bid and the bid opening is November 12 at 2pm.

McAuslan Hall Update- none

Comprehensive Plan- Toth said they've had a couple good weeks of work with meetings and input from the community with questions, answers, discussions, and able to pass along the information to the committee. Toth said they are hoping for something for the board to see early 2026. Toth said they have members of the planning and zoning boards to help review the land use map for any potential updates.

Ag/Mkt Committee- Behling said that Delong is having a public meeting here tomorrow for the general public and farmers. Toth said the meeting is tomorrow for the steering committee with a public session from 3-5pm and a farmland owner meeting from 6-8pm.

Resolution 2025-55 Payroll

A motion was made by Councilor Revette and seconded by Supervisor Behling to accept the following resolution. The motion was adopted by a vote of 5 ayes: Behling, Partrick, Bigelow, Flavor, Revette, and 0 nays. Jeanne, Behling, all ayes.

Resolved the Mexico Town Board approves the September payroll.

Resolution 2025-56 Local Law 1 of 2025: Temporary Renewable Energy Moratorium

A motion was made by Councilor Partrick and seconded by Councilor Flavor to accept the following resolution. The motion was adopted by a vote of 5 ayes: Behling, Partrick, Bigelow, Flavor, Revette, and 0 nays. Partrick, Flavor, all ayes.

Resolved the Mexico Town Board adopts Local Law 1 of 2025: Temporary Renewable Energy Moratorium.

Resolution 2025-57 Schedule Public Hearing for Cable Franchise Agreement

A motion was made by Councilor Bigelow and seconded by Supervisor Behling to approve the following resolution. The motion was adopted by a vote of 5 ayes: Behling, Bigelow, Flavor, Partrick, and Revette, and 0 nays.

Resolved the Mexico Town Board sets a Public Hearing to be held Monday, November 10, 2025 at 7:00pm or as soon thereafter as possible, at the Town Hall 64 S Jefferson Street regarding the Spectrum Cable Franchise Agreement.

Resolution 2025-58 Schedule Public Hearing for Budget

A motion was made by Councilor Revette and seconded by Councilor Flavor to approve the following resolution. The motion was adopted by a vote of 5 ayes: Behling, Bigelow, Flavor, Partrick, and Revette, and 0 nays.

Resolved the Mexico Town Board sets a Public Hearing to be held Thursday, November 6, 2025 at 7:00pm or as soon thereafter as possible, at the Town Hall 64 S Jefferson Street regarding the 2026 town budget.

Resolution 2025-59 Schedule Public Hearing for Fire Contract

A motion was made by Councilor Revette and seconded by Councilor Flavor to approve the following resolution. The motion was adopted by a vote of 5 ayes: Behling, Bigelow, Flavor, Partrick, and Revette, and 0 nays.

Resolved the Mexico Town Board sets a Public Hearing to be held Thursday, November 6, 2025 at 7:00pm or as soon thereafter as possible, at the Town Hall 64 S Jefferson Street regarding the 2026 Fire Contract.

Resolution 2025-60 Schedule Public Hearing for Ambulance Contract

A motion was made by Councilor Revette and seconded by Councilor Flavor to approve the following resolution. The motion was adopted by a vote of 5 ayes: Behling, Bigelow, Flavor, Partrick, and Revette, and 0 nays.

Resolved the Mexico Town Board sets a Public Hearing to be held Thursday, November 6, 2025 at 7:00pm or as soon thereafter as possible, at the Town Hall 64 S Jefferson Street regarding the 2026 Ambulance Contract.

Resolution 2025-61 Operation Reindeer Proclamation

A motion was made by Councilor Partrick seconded by Councilor Revette to accept the following proclamation. The motion was adopted by a vote of 5 ayes: Behling, Bigelow, Flavor, Partrick, and Revette, and 0 nays.

Resolved the Mexico Town Board approves the following proclamation:

Whereas, Christmas is a time for our community to show a spirit of caring for all citizens, and

Whereas, Operation Reindeer has displayed this spirit of giving by distributing toys to children in need, and

Whereas, The spirit of giving by Operation Reindeer is an important part of our holiday season,

Now Therefore, I, Eric Behling, Supervisor of the Town of Mexico, do hereby declare that November and December shall be proclaimed as Operation Reindeer Months in the Town of Mexico and do hereby urge all our citizens to participate in this most worthwhile endeavor by making donations to this worthy cause.

Resolution 2025-62 Accept Resignation of Kathleen Barber

A motion was made with regret by Councilor Partrick and seconded with regret by Supervisor Behling to approve the following resolution. The motion was adopted by a vote of 5 ayes: Behling, Bigelow, Flavor, Partrick, and Revette, and 0 nays.

Resolved the Mexico Town Board regretfully accepts the resignation of Kathleen Barber, Clerk to the Supervisor, effective March 11, 2025.

Grant Writer Proposal

Behling said this is the same individual the village of Mexico uses as their grant writer. Bigelow asked if the fire department pays quite a bit for a grant writer and wonders if we could work together with them. Partrick said he didn't think the town budgeted for this but talking to Delong he said there is money that can cover the cost in some of the grants. Behling suggested to table the matter.

A motion was made by Councilor Partrick and second by Councilor Bigelow to table the Grant Writer Proposal until the next meeting. The motion was adopted by a vote of 5 ayes: Behling, Partrick, Bigelow, Flavor, Revette, and 0 nays.

Behling said he will try to get a meeting with the fire department to discuss grant possibilities.

Town/Village Climate Smart Community Pledge

Behling said this matter was already discussed and resolution made at the September regular board meeting.

Resolution 2025-63 Allow Oswego County Sheriff's Deputies to Use McAuslan Hall

Seiter said the county attorney gave the notion that an intermunicipal agreement regarding use of McAuslan Hall by deputies is not a high priority for them. Behling said it's a higher priority for us and it would add a substantial presence for the town. Seiter suggested putting together more information about what the town wants to offer and see if they want to take advantage of it. Revette suggested a "terms-of-use" agreement. Bigelow suggested just

having individual officers who wish to use the building sign something. Seiter suggested a memorandum of understanding.

A motion was made by Supervisor Behling and seconded by Councilor Bigelow to approve the following resolution. The motion was adopted by a vote of 5 ayes: Behling, Bigelow, Flavor, Partrick, and Revette, and 0 nays.

WHEREAS, the Town Board of the Town of Mexico recognizes the importance of fostering positive and cooperative relationships with local law enforcement agencies; and

WHEREAS, the Oswego County Sheriff's Department provides law enforcement services throughout Oswego County, including within the Town of Mexico; and

WHEREAS, the Town Board wishes to support these officers by designating McAuslan Hall, located at 3245 Main Street, Mexico, NY 13114, as a rest stop for law enforcement personnel while on patrol; and

WHEREAS, McAuslan Hall provides restroom facilities, a small kitchenette, and office workspace suitable for temporary use by law enforcement officers; and

WHEREAS, the Town Board believes that offering a clean, quiet, and comfortable rest area will promote goodwill and strengthen the relationship between the Town of Mexico and the Oswego County Sheriff's Department;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board of the Town of Mexico hereby authorizes interested law enforcement officers from the Oswego County Sheriff's Department to access and utilize McAuslan Hall for the purpose of rest, use of restroom facilities, and light office work while on patrol duty; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Town Clerk is hereby directed to provide a copy of this resolution to the Oswego County Sheriff's Department for their information and coordination.

Transfer Funds to Capital Reserve

Partrick suggests waiting until we know more about well four because if we put it in the reserve fund, we need to only use it on municipal buildings. Seiter said he would need to research this before giving an answer. Partrick said it's subject to permissive referendum.

A motion was made by Partrick and seconded by Bigelow to table the matter until the next board meeting. The motion was adopted by a vote of 5 ayes: Behling, Partrick, Bigelow, Flavor, Revette, and 0 nays.

Resolution 2025-64 Add \$25 Water Maintenance Fee to Quarterly Water Bills

Councilor Partrick said that the town could add a water maintenance fee to each quarterly bill as a means to generate enough revenue to maintain the existing water infrastructure. Behling said he has no problem with this and it's a fair and equitable way of raising the fund, otherwise the town may need to charge higher fees in water rents. Flavor asked if it goes into a specific fund. Partrick said the money would flow into different water district accounts. Seiter said the money would have to go into different districts based on where it's collected. Mayor Grimshaw said he thinks the town should do it because you can't keep up for cost of providing service. Seiter said the well reparation service would be divided percentage-based on EDU. Wild explained how EDUs are applied through each district and the accounts the town has established for each district. Bigelow would like people to know one billing cycle ahead that a fee will be added. Behling asked Grimshaw about public response to

increased water bills. Mayor Grimshaw said they had issues when they billed initially according to usage but the town shouldn't have as many issues. Partrick suggested \$25 per quarter.

A motion was made by Councilor Partrick and seconded by Supervisor Behling to approve the following resolution.

The motion was adopted by a vote of 5 ayes: Behling, Partrick, Bigelow, Flavor, Revette, and 0 nays.

WHEREAS, the Town Board of the Town of Mexico recognizes the importance of maintaining the Town's water infrastructure, including but not limited to water lines, wells, pumps, and water towers; and

WHEREAS, the Board seeks to ensure the continued reliability and quality of the Town's water system through proactive maintenance and infrastructure improvements; and

WHEREAS, the Board finds it necessary to establish a dedicated source of funding for such maintenance;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board of the Town of Mexico hereby authorizes the addition of a \$25.00 Water Line Maintenance Fee to all quarterly water bills, effective with the billing cycle beginning February 1, 2026; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that all funds collected from this fee shall be used exclusively for the maintenance, repair, and improvement of existing water infrastructure within the Town of Mexico, including but not limited to water lines, wells, pumps, and towers.

Other business

Behling said Mayor Grimshaw brought in a quote for the cost of taking graffiti off the water tower. Grimshaw said it's so expensive because they have to bring a man lift in. Behling said he will discuss it up at next meeting.

Partrick said he wants to start tracking building expenses so that we can make better use of funds. Revette asked if capital reserve money can be used to fix Well 4. Behling said he will check with the attorney to see if money from the reserve can be used on the well.

Bigelow asked to discuss where money is kept in reserves and suggests NYCLASS; Bigelow will send information to the Clerk to the Supervisor. Seiter said Volney is raving about it at each meeting.

Toth & Mayor Grimshaw left the meeting at 9:06.

Resolution 2025-65 Audit Claims

A motion was made by Councilor Revette and seconded by Councilor Flavor to approve the following resolution. The motion was adopted by a vote of 5 ayes: Behling, Partrick, Bigelow, Flavor, Revette, and 0 nays. Partrick, Revette, all ayes.

Resolved the bills for Abstract 10 have been reviewed by the Town Board and are authorized for payment in the following amounts:

General A Fund	voucher # 246-271	\$	42,708.70
General B Fund	voucher # 78-88	\$	50,962.34
Highway Fund	voucher # 185-206	\$	44,575.71
Water Fund	voucher # 41-42	\$	40,997.88
Special Districts Fund	voucher # 16	\$	566.62

A motion was made by Councilor Fravor and seconded by Councilor Revette to adjourn at 9:09pm. The motion was adopted by a vote of 5 ayes: Behling, Partrick, Bigelow, Fravor, Revette, and 0 nays.

Respectfully submitted,



Nicole Wild, Town Clerk