

September 15, 2026

Workshop Meeting

Minutes of a Workshop Meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Southport held at the Southport Town Hall, 1139 Pennsylvania Avenue on September 15, 2026.

Members Present: Supervisor Joseph Roman, Council Members Daniel Hurley, Daniel Williams, Richard Mathews, Timothy Steed

Others Present: Deputy Supervisor Kathleen Szerszen, Code Enforcement Officer Peter Rocchi, Town Clerk Carolyn Renko

The meeting was called to order by Supervisor Joseph Roman at 5:00 p.m., followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America and a moment of silence.

Items discussed include Elmer Goodwin Park Splash Pad – Testing was done on the soil with satisfactory results. Tim Steed recommended two (2) five-by-eight drywells for the area. The cost should not exceed \$20,000. Councilmember Steed will get with the Highway Superintendent to compile a list of materials needed to obtain quotes. Per the procurement policy this project will require two contractor proposals.

Community Center – the Town has one grant secured from the NYS Parks, Recreation & Historic Preservation in the amount of \$675,000 and approximately \$1 million in the building reserve fund. The cost of constructing a new building is estimated to be in the \$3.5 million dollar range. The Town previously applied for a NY Bricks Grant which provides funding for municipalities and nonprofits in New York State to build, renovate, and modernize community centers. The project was not funded. The Town is re-applying for this grant and considering the possibility of obtaining a bond for this project.

Fairway/Phoenix Sewer Project – The WQIP Grant awarded in 2022 for this project has been extended until November 2027. There continues to be delays that need to be resolved before this project can begin. The most current task is that the Town is required to form a Special Improvement District prior to moving forward. A letter was sent to the residents in the proposed expansion area in July of 2026, keeping them updated on the progress of this project.

Chapel Park Ditch – It was reiterated from the last workshop meeting that this ditch needs repair. Councilmember Steed commented that at this point it is up to the Town to the materials used to make these repairs. Conversation was had as to materials (concrete, asphalt) to make repairs and to address any critical sections of the ditch first.

It was mentioned that a retention pond would be effective to help with silt containment before the water reaches the ditch. Councilmembers Steed and Williams will reach out to Tom Farmer and evaluate the ditch.

Animal Control – The City of Elmira is reassessing costs for dog control for participating municipalities, with the proposed increase that the city is requesting it is necessary for the Town to explore other options. Town Board members were questioning the legal requirement for Article 7 of the NYS Ag & Markets and what the Towns' requirement for Article 26 of NYS Ag & Markets is, Cruelty. Councilmember Williams reached out to Joel Pearson, of Southern Tier Animal Control. Mr. Pearson responded that he was unable to take on additional municipalities at this time. Councilmember Williams will reach out to other municipalities and providers to try to obtain the required services.

ARPA – Supervisor Roman gave an update on the remaining ARPA projects. The re-pointing of the bricks at Town Hall has been completed. We are in the final stages of close out of the HVAC project with Kuehne Construction. We are awaiting the delivery of the lighting for the pickleball court and at that time we will order the additional supplies for installation.

Supervisor Roman commented on other subjects to be presented at the December workshop to include a look at medical insurance provider options and insurance buyouts.

Council Member Steed made a motion, Council Member Williams seconded to adjourn the meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 5:58 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Carolyn A. Renko, Town Clerk