

The Regular meeting of the Sidney Town Board was called to order by Eric Wilson Town Supervisor at 7:00 p.m. March 12, 2026, in the boardroom at 44 Grand Street, Sidney. Prior to the meeting, bills were audited by the Board.

Present were:

Eric Wilson	Supervisor
Codey Lambrecht	Highway Superintendent
Frank Selleck	Councilman
Kevin Greene	Councilman
Andrew Hinkley	Councilman
Paul Muratore	Councilman
Sheila R Paul	Clerk

PLEDGE TO THE FLAG

SILENT MOMENT OF REFLECTION/PRAYER

APPROVE TOWN BOARD MINUTES: Organization Meeting & Regular Meeting held on February 12, 2026. Motion to accepted minutes, by Mr. Muratore seconded by Mr. Selleck and carried.

AYES: E. Wilson, K. Greene, A. Hinkley **NAYES:** None

2026 APPROVE PAYMENT OF BILLS:

General A Fund: 26-59 thru 26-94: in the amount of \$ 70,933.20. Motion by Mr. Selleck and seconded by Mr. Hinkley and carried. **AYES:** E. Wilson, K. Greene, P. Muratore **NAYES:** None.

ESL: 26-5 thru 26-10 in the amount of \$ 13,542.21. Motion by Mr. Muratore and seconded by Mr. Selleck and carried. **AYES:** E. Wilson, K. Greene, A. Hinkley. **NAYES:** None.

SC Lighting: 26-3 in the amount of \$ 392.05 Motion by Mr. Muratore and seconded by Mr. Greene and carried. **AYES:** E. Wilson, F. Selleck, A. Hinkley. **NAYES:** None.

Total General Vouchers: \$ 84,867.46

Highway DA Fund: 26-18 thru 26-40 is the amount of \$ 27,998.56 Motion by Mr. Selleck and second by Mr. Muratore and carried. **AYES:** E. Wilson, K. Greene, A. Hinkley. **NAYES:** None

Highway DB Fund: 26-2 in the amount of \$ 6,679.20 Motion by Mr. Greene and seconded by Mr. Hinkley and carried. **AYES:** E. Wilson, F. Selleck, P. Muratore. **NAYES:** None

Total Highway Vouchers: \$ 34,677.76

CM Hospital Fund: 26-30 thru 26-49 in the amount of \$ 48,045.28 Motion by Mr. Muratore and seconded by Mr. Greene and carried. **AYES:** E. Wilson, F. Selleck, A. Hinkley. **NAYES:** None

Total Vouchers: \$ 162,590.50

CORRESPONDENCE:

REPORTS/DISTRIBUTED:

Monthly reports of Supervisor, Bookkeeper and Town Clerk. Clerk is submitting checks totaling in
\$ 1,253.00 fees collected during February 2026.

REPORTS/ORAL

HIGHWAY- Highway Superintendent Codey Lambrecht: We have been experiencing some issues with our front-end loader, so we are currently working through those repairs and troubleshooting to keep it operational.

In the shop, we are rebuilding one of the boxes on a dump truck to prolong the life of a truck until we can replace it.

With the weather starting to turn, we have started sweeping the roads around the town and are starting to gear up for spring operations.

I would like to request a motion from the Board to approve putting out the Town's mowing bid, as well as the Town annual supplies bids. The supplies bids include fuel, gasoline, propane, and heating fuel for the upcoming year. Motion to place Bids by Mr. Selleck, seconded by Mr. Hinkley, and carried. **AYES:** E.

Wilson, K. Greene, P. Muratore. **NAYES:** None

Supervisor Wilson asked if there was way to hold off with the fuel bids, seeing what is going on in the world today. Highway Superintendent Lambrecht stated that our contract runs out on May 1st.

Sealed bids are due into the Clerk's office by April 7th, and the bids will be opened with Mr. Wilson, Mr. Selleck and Mr. Lambrecht on April 8th at 8:00 a.m. at the Town Building.

SUPERVISOR- Eric Wilson: Nothing to report.

BOOKKEEPER- Karen Kropp: Nothing to report.

TOWN CLERK- Sheila Paul: Nothing to report.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Highway: Frank Selleck/ Eric Wilson: Mr. Selleck. I got a call from Cody last week, you know, and I was out and about and stopped in, see what we're doing. And he had one of the big dump trucks. It was amazing, this huge dump truck and they had a part bigger than me, which is not real big, but they were welding this part into a corner of the box of this dump truck, you know, and they're doing it, saving us a ton of money by doing stuff like that, you know, not a stainless steel box, but to see the guys, you know, do that, it was, you know, I put a sense of pride in watching them do that. You know, it's going to haul all summer long for maybe a couple years, whatever you get out of it. But it goes short their expertise and what they do in that highway department over there. I said to Cody, "Who else? He goes, they all, weld, and it was a big piece of metal, that's for sure. Probably in the corner that wide and about 5 foot tall. And put the corner out, put this corner in. But we have a new truck coming Sometimes.

Hospital: Andrew Hinkley / Eric Wilson: We do have a possible tenant here in the future, but nothing definitive yet. So, hopefully that comes to fruition, and we will certainly let everybody know as soon as we hear something.

Insurance: Kevin Greene/ Andrew Hinkley: Mr. Greene I spoke to Bill Van Gorder and there is a training coming up for. It's open to all the board members on April 8, so it starts at 10am and they'll be in the fire station located on River Street. They'll send a flyer out. Supervisor Wilson asked "So, is this sexual harassment? No, this is more like a general thing, specifically with NYMIR. They are going to do a sexual harassment and like workplace discrimination. That's going to be a little bit earlier, but didn't have that the info on that, but will send it to everybody once I have it. Supervisor Wilson ask, "everything else is running smoothly and everything's transitioned" Mr. Greene replied "yep".

Zoning & Planning: Paul Muratore/ Frank Selleck: Mr. Selleck. We did interviews with the ZBA. They were great. It was good. I'd like to make a motion to bring Greg McCann back on the ZBA. He's done it before. And when he got to be justice, he couldn't hold on because legally, I guess. And so, he volunteered to come back on and he interviewed. (Mr. Selleck) I'd like to make a motion that we bring him back on, Mr. Muratore seconded the motion to bring accepted Mr. McCann back on to the ZBA.

Mr., Muratore stated we had some phenomenal candidates. We were very fortunate to have that many people and glad to have everybody involved. That's great. But just for the record, those interviews don't go unnoticed. Frank and I are trying to figure out ways to incorporate them, insert the workers of the town so they can flourish and learn more what's going on in local politics. I thank everybody for coming in. I really do appreciate it.

Mr. Selleck motion to approve Greg McCann onto the ZBA Board and it was seconded by Mr. Muratore.

AYES: E. Wilson, A. Hinkley. **NAYES:** K. Greene.

Mr. Greene: I'd like to say something if I can. I mean, just so everybody else. I had no idea who was even interviewed or anything about it. I mean, it's kind of weird. Mr. Wilson started "You could have interviews if you would have liked to. **Mr. Greene:** I didn't even know Judge McCann even applied.

Mr. Muratore: Kevin, we could speak about it. **Mr. Greene:** Not about the Judge, **Mr. Muratore:** We spoke about all candidates. **Mr. Greene:** I know there were a few people that sent applications that I saw their names, but that's all I saw. **Mr. Muratore:** They were all interviewed except one and it was Rich De Cola came down with COVID I reached out to him a couple of times. I didn't receive a respond. **Mr. Greene:** I mean, there wasn't even like an email that said, hey, we interviewed these people and we like this candidate because of such and such. This is the first time I've heard about it. **Supervisor Wilson:** As I mentioned, it wasn't. I mean, I think it was just as Greg had stepped down, you know when he took the judge position there. And so, it's basically just. And you know, there was a lot of qualified candidates. So, it's. And maybe there'll be an opportunity for something else that, you know, comes down the pipe. **Mr. Selleck:** Five-year appointment. So, every five years there be more chances at that time.

Resident Colleen McKinney: How do you choose? I mean, this seat is open and the board is considering a people for the ZBA, I guess the board isn't. **Mr. Muratore:** I guess that's not true. We put in the paper.

Ms. McKinney: No, no. What I'm saying is the whole board doesn't discuss it, that's what I'm understanding here, it's just two people on board. **Mr. Muratore** stated that Supervisor Wilson was at some of the interviews, **Supervisor Wilson** stated he was, but not to all of them.

Mr Selleck replied there was a quorum to which **Mr Greene** replied that "that's even worse."

Mr. Muratore: The Planning and Zoning Committee are responsible for bringing on somebody for the ZBA Committee, we had our candidates and we interviewed everybody and we made a decision as a plan, and the committee picked Greg McCann, and we brought it to the board seven minutes ago and we voted on it. We had three votes and it became the majority rule. **Ms.**

McKinney, I guess I'm not understanding. Supervisor Wilson says that they were actually

voting right now, I mean there were plenty of candidates that were capable of doing this job. **Ms. McKinney:** I understand that there were good candidates, which you stated a few times, I'm just trying to understand who on board is involved. **Supervisor Wilson:** We're voting right now. **Ms. McKinney,** what I think I heard you say is that there is a committee. **Mr. Muratore:** The Planning and Zoning Committee consists of myself and Frank Selleck. **Mr. Muratore** stated the process that as ad was placed in paper and that we received a bunch of resumes and we sat down with all of them, again all of them were great, I liked every one of them, Greg had the experience as he was previously on the ZBA. **Ms. McKinney:** who on the board decides which of those candidates becomes the member of the Zoning Board of Appeals? **Supervisor Wilson and Mr. Muratore** "we all are" Resident Giffen Otto: The committee nominates somebody and the board votes on it.

Supervisor Wilson: To be honest with you, I mean, as far back from 15 years ago, you have a little bit of controversy. Unfortunately, we've had good candidates. Not just this year. I mean, in prior years as well. **Ms. McKinney:** I am not trying to attach anyone, just looking for clarification, because Kevin said this is strange that he hadn't heard anything about it. **Mr. Muratore:** we spoke about this. **Mr. Greene,** I'm on the Town Board and so they should let me know maybe a little bit ahead of time or tell me about the candidates in some sort of report or say we recommend this person. **Supervisor Wilson:** Kevin, you're the last person that should be saying this to seeing you go out and do Grants without permission. **Mr. Muratore:** Kevin, prior to the interviews, every session of the Planning and Zoning committee discussed, we said that we were interviewing individuals, you had the opportunity to ask who was running for the nomination. **Mr. Otto,** I think outside of the specific sense, I think that the greater question is, it comes to a vote and the vote is, do you like this thing that we say you should do? There's no information. How are we to know in every situation or is this just how this goes. Are other decisions made in the say way in terms of like a committee or do we buy into the committee thing? I think that's what's kind of being asked about right now, because it seems as though if you're voting on something, you would hope that you have some sort of information other than, here's a guy. **Supervisor Wilson:** It's no different at the County level, you have individual committee there as well, if the committee votes on it and deems that it goes to a full board vote, then they do, but it's got to get out to the committee first. But in this case, we all voted, they didn't make the final decision, yes, they recommended. **Mr. Otto:** Has nothing to do with this particular instance, I think you would hope that there's a little more information before a vote if there are others that are voting on something beyond simply committee that do this thing. **Ms. McKinney:** For example, I'm on the library board and there are people who will research something and make a proposal that we go with one vendor or another vendor, and they explain why they say why they're choosing one vendor over the other vendor. They don't just say, and I think we should choose B and then let's vote all in favor of B with no background information. It doesn't work that way, so that's the point I think Kevin was making and I don't think it's a bad point to make and I think it is just something to consider. Communication is a great thing. **Supervisor Wilson:** It certainly is and we could go on forever on it. I mean, like I said, fortunately, we're in a position that we had plenty of candidates to choose from, and as Frank said, there will be an opening next year. And hopefully, if any of the parties are still interested. **Ms. McKinney** is having a general discussion about general practice. **Mr. Hinkley:** You did say there were a lot of quality candidates, and you chose one as a committee you didn't agree with, and you said NAYE that's how the system works move on. **Mr. Otto,** just because the system works, that doesn't mean it couldn't work better and get a little bit of transparency, we can go on forever about everything, but you could also go on a little bit and that would be informative, not going at all. I think that is focused just so we can stay educated and address the decision making that's going on with the board, regardless of, nothing to do with the ZBA, but decision far and wide. **Supervisor Wilson:** It's challenging, also mentioned that committees make their recommendations similar to the way it is done at the county, state and federal levels. We voted the same way as it has always been done when appointing members to the planning board. It's been this way and whether you agree with it or not, it's kinda doing what everybody else has done for years.

A resident asked: Would it be possible to share with us why this candidate was chosen? Like was there any background experience. **Mr. Muratore** Greg McCann stepped down from the ZBA , he's already trained as a ZBA member, he stepped down when he became the Judge, when he walked away from the Judge position and Judge Ruling took over that position, he went back on the ZBA, and he's very qualified and he's a judge and that the ZBA has judicial status, so he's a great candidate for the ZBA.

There is a ZBA meeting scheduled for March 30, 2026, to discuss an issue with a property located at Greve Rd in the town of Sidney.

The Assessor Office have asked the board to appoint Jane Morenus to the Board of Assessment Review. We advertised this position; this position is that we have a grievance day and she will come in and sit on the grievance board and hear complaints and help make a decision on taxes. We have had a hard time finding people and I personally know Jane, and she will be great on the BAR. Council member Mr. Selleck has motion to approve Jane Morenus to the BAR, and it was seconded by Mr. Wilson and carried. AYES: A. Hinkley, P. Muratore. NAYES: None. Mr. Greene abstained.

Deputy Code Officer Dan Wilber stated that the Flood Manager Program audit was all good.

East Sidney Lake: Heath/ Selleck: Getting ready for opening day. 70 plus dead trees down, cleaning up around playground. Twelve electrical panels have been installed. Working on the water lines and pump houses. Getting prices on replacing a dock that has been damaged.

Mr. Muratore stated we are in the process of upgrading the access point from Unifi 6 to Unifi 7 and will get a quote submitted to Julie. The water line is 32 feet above the normal pool in the summertime which is above the lower parking lot and very little grass is showing. When the water drops, John will fell the rest of the dead ash trees.

Also, the ESL committee commended John Nolan for the work he is doing for the campground with such a short window.

Finance: Paul Muratore/ Eric Wilson: T-bills will expire at the end of the month. Will be looking into rolling them over.

IT: Eric Wilson / Paul Muratore: The phone is here and needs to be installed in the elevator also have equipment for Nate at the hospital able to see cameras on phone. Have not heard any more regarding DMV fax machine, so should be working.

Grant: Kevin Greene/ Andrew Hinkley: Mr. Greene met with Scott LaMountain from the NYS Homes and Community Renewal agency (HCR) and Delaware Opportunities Housing Director Charles Bariley regarding the town's Community Development Block Grant application that was not approved. Greene stated that there were trivial things that caused the grant application to be denied, and the HCR tightened up their requirements. Town will be able to apply again this year, and Mr. Greene stated that he will be going over application with HCR before submitting this year.

Justice: Kevin Greene/ Andrew Hinkley: Mr. Greene met with Judge Ruling to do the Court audit. The books were the previous Judge's, but they were all good. Judge Ruling is going to contact JCAP about the grant that was submitted by the previous Judge and see if she will be able to change the request.

DCO liaison: Kevin Greene: Was busy with calls, but nothing urgent.

PRESENTATION: Dawn William President of the Prospect Cemetery came to speak on the plans of doing more sidewalk project that was done last year and hoping that the Town Board would be willing to help financially, as they did with the first section of 230 feet and there is about 400 plus feet left to be replace and they are getting quotes. They are also looking at updating the Chapel that was built in 1893. In May they will be partnering with the Sidney Rotary, Sidney Historical Society to paint the iron fence. All help is welcome.

NEW BUSINESS: Council member Greene presented a proposed resolution for council members to consider, to have accountability from NYSE&G for price gouging its customer.

TOWN OF SIDNEY RESOLUTION NO.1 OF 2026

A RESOLUTION STRONGLY URGING IMMEDIATE REVIEW OF ELECTRIC DELIVERY CHARGES, DEMANDING IMPROVED COST CONTROLS AND TRANSPARENCY, AND AUTHORIZING FORMAL COMPLAINTS TO THE NEW YORK STATE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION REGARDING THE ESCALATING COST OF ELECTRICITY.

WHEREAS, residents, seniors, and small businesses in the Town of Sidney are experiencing unsustainable, repeated, and compounding increases in electric bills that are placing a growing financial strain on households and the local economy; and

WHEREAS, a substantial portion of these increases is attributable not to increased energy consumption, but to escalating delivery charges, fees, and approved rate adjustments imposed by NYSEG; and

WHEREAS, electric delivery charges and rate structures are regulated and approved by the New York State Public Service Commission, which is statutorily charged with ensuring that utility rates are just, reasonable, and affordable for ratepayers; and

WHEREAS, the Town Board has received numerous complaints from residents who are struggling to afford basic electric service and who have expressed serious concern regarding the frequency, magnitude, and lack of transparency surrounding recent and ongoing rate increases; and

WHEREAS, rural and low-density communities such as the Town of Sidney are disproportionately impacted by delivery charge increases and cost-recovery mechanisms that fail to adequately account for affordability, equity, and the cumulative burden placed on ratepayers; and

WHEREAS, the Town Board finds that continued approval of rate increases without stronger cost controls, greater transparency, and meaningful affordability protections is unacceptable and contrary to the public interest;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Sidney formally and strongly urges the New York State Public Service Commission to conduct a thorough and immediate review of electric delivery charges, rate increases, and cost-recovery practices applicable to NYSEG customers; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Town Board calls upon the Public Service Commission to prioritize ratepayer affordability, demand greater transparency from NYSEG, and require demonstrable cost-containment and operational efficiency measures before approving any future rate increases; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Town Board expressly opposes continued or automatic rate increases that shift rising operational, infrastructure, and administrative costs onto ratepayers without clear justification or adequate protection for rural communities; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Town Supervisor is hereby authorized and directed to submit formal complaints, written comments, and supporting documentation to the New York State Public Service Commission on behalf of the Town and its residents, objecting to excessive electric costs and requesting regulatory intervention; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Town Clerk is directed to transmit copies of this resolution to the New York State Public Service Commission, NYSEG, the Governor of the State of New York, members of the New York State Legislature, and neighboring municipalities served by NYSEG, and to encourage coordinated action among affected towns; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this resolution shall take effect immediately upon adoption.

Adopted this 12th day of March 2026, by the Town Board of the Town of Sidney.

MOVED BY: **Kevin Greene**

SECONDED BY: **Eric Wilson**

VOTE: Supervisor **Wilson- AYE**

Councilperson **Selleck- AYE**

Councilperson **Greene- AYE**

Councilperson **Hinkley-AYE**

Councilperson **Muratore-AYE**

CERTIFICATION OF THE TOWN CLERK

I, **Sheila R Paul**, Town Clerk of the Town of Sidney, do hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was duly adopted by the Town Board at a regular meeting held March 12, 2026.

Town Clerk Date: March 18th, 2026

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

COMMENTS FROM THE FLOOR Town Resident that was attending meeting by Zoom comment on the possibility of having a cell tower built on the old school property that is in Sidney Center, which was mentioned at the Board Meeting on February 12th. She stated that it would be a bad idea because of the negative impact it would have on the surrounding neighborhood. A second Resident, who previously brought up the subject, stated that there were no new developments. Seven famers that he knows received letters and have heard nothing more regarding cell phone tower.

Resident Colleen McKinney Announced the 2nd Brew to Brew 5k race which is scheduled for September 19, 2026. Last year the event raised \$ 5,000 which was donated to Delaware Valley Humane Society and The Uplift Collective (formerly the Sidney Center Improvement Group)

Adjourn:

At 8:14 p.m. Mr. Wilson motioned to adjourn the meeting, and it was seconded by Mr. Hinkley and carried.

The next Regular Board Meeting will on April 9th, 2026, at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sheila R Paul, Town Clerk