

## DRAFT Report From Highway Advisory Committee

Meeting of Wednesday, APRIL 15, 2026, 1 PM

Committee Members Present: Bill Hribar, Sr., Bill Hribar, Jr., Mike Thayer,  
Pat Kennedy, Karl Steere, Jay Bosley, Ted Feury

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### Purchasing/Procurement issues:

- Financial Importance of arranging for standing account with Harbor Freight. *KS to follow up*
- RFPs for gas prices: *Join with County Contract beginning August. Set up system for discussion for other bid processes at next meeting. See if we can get better price now based on County price.*  
Other regular vendors. *Include in review with Steve Cembrinski for audit info process. Clarify which "exemption" categories apply to our regular vendors, if any? Review procurement rules discussed at the meeting last week by Dan from OSC and Katie from AOT at May meeting. Discussion of info from Highway Superintendent meeting.*

### Update Status:

- Highway Employee health insurance. **Working ok.**
- .GOV email for highway? *working*
- Results of IT security training: *All employees required to take the training before end of the year. A second training is being offered. Tylar Thayer and Mike Rhyde attended. They will be making several suggestions for highway IT equipment security. The first one, buying a back-up hard drive, has occurred.*

### Tasks & Reminders:

- Mid-month Town Board working meeting to occur on 4/22. *No more mid-month bills. Appear to be caught up. Auction sale authorization of Mack Truck on agenda,*
- This Committee: *Several names mentioned as people with expertise or interest.*

### Training & Education

- June at IC in Ithaca? *Mike Thayer wants to go this year. Town will pursue a scholarship offered by AOT/CLRP, but will find money in any case. To be put on Town Board working meeting agenda for 4/22.*

### Equipment, Work Plans, Purchases & Budget.

- Implications of potential rise in gas/diesel/ paving. *Discussed – revisit as work progresses for possible alteration of 284. No word yet on state Budget. Last rumors on CHIPs – not less than last year. Maybe 10% more.*
- Bridges: Possible work to be done on Fork Shop, Phoenix Mills, Mill Street. *Deb Dalton reported on neighborhood survey from Fork Shop. Also how Toddsville bridge is being handled by community group for walking biking. Research needed: Who owns Toddsville? Ownership of Phoenix Mills (Otsego Only or also Middlefield?). Updates on Mill Street. Call to Ron Morgan? Can we afford to have closed bridges evaluated by engineers for reconstruction as walking/biking bridges. Grants?*
- Dave Orr has asked we respond his students' "steep hill" engineering proposals: We should write back on each and continue *efforts to contact hillside property owners to see if they have interest in implementation of any.*
- Comp Plan impacts on road work. *Tabled for discussion later.*
- Questions re: difficult problems encountered by road crew, especially during summer months. *Suggestions from invited visitor Mike Stalter.*

### Highway Road Show Open House – For Spring 2026

- New\_date: *May 16 at 5 pm*

**CSEA Contract for Crew will end Dec 2027.** This is a continuing issue. **Salary decisions will not impact till 2028 budget.** However, discussion on this and other terms will continue during 2026 and 2027. **Goals: keep our crew and get others to join – living wages for families.**