

## “HIGHWAY ADVISORY” COMMITTEE REPORT

From Wednesday, March 18, 2026, 1 PM

Present: Bill Hribar, Sr., Bill Hribar, Jr., Mike Thayer, Pat Kennedy, Karl Steere, Jay Bosley, Deb Dalton, Ted Feury (absent)

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Pizza was served

### Update Status:

- DEC requires underground fuel storage plans. **BH sent email to Abigail confirming the town's understanding that we have till Hans de Waal gets back from Florida to produce the distance info she asked for.**
- Highway Employee health insurance. **All but one have received cards. One spouse was charged a \$50 deductible. When this happens, employees to follow up with our insurance agent Kevin. Want update at next meeting.**
- .GOV email for highway? **Still waiting for email address and how to access it**
- Cybersecurity training: **Tylar Thayer and Mike Rhyde attended. The back up hard drive they recommended has been purchased. Reminder – all employees must take this training A second training is being offered.**

### Tasks & Reminders:

- Mid-month billing **in time for 3/25** working meeting.
- Informed staff CPA Steve Cembrinski has been hired to help the town improve finance practices. He will come to highway to discuss billing soon.
- This Committee: *Pat continues to ask others to help find another community member.*

### Training & Education

- Discussed Upcoming programs? Several will attend program at W. Winfield in April. 2 board members can go.
- Pat suggests Bill or Billy attend CLAP in June at IC in Ithaca.

### Equipment, Work Plans, Purchases & Budget

- Two Big trucks. In order to buy them, we need to bond or lease or pay on time. Discussed essential need for that info from Will and Ted and trucking Cos. Need to vote at 3/25 meeting!
- Implications of potential rise in gas/diesel/ paving.
- Bridges: Fork Shop, Toddsville, Phoenix Mills, Mill Street and possible work to be done, DD presented results of her survey of Fork Shop neighborhood. They WANT walking bridge. She also talked with Marcy Birch about Toddsville became a walking bridge. Bill, Jr. Provided picture of conditions of Fork Shop. Not just a wood problem. **Action items: Q: should we seek eng. advice and grants for walking bridge or are there things that Hgwy dept could do? is there still \$40K in budget for bridge? Ask Village re: who authorized cutting pavement on downside of Mill Street bridge. Follow up with Middlefield on Mill street. Confirm Phoenixville is completely in town of Otsego.**
- Opinions of CLP Tripp Hill suggestions: **Tabled to next meeting, but generally, get opinion from homeowner re: cutting into bank. Ask Dave Orr in what way he wants reply.**
- Comp Plan impacts on road work: Action item: Bring copies of Low maintenance ordinance and legality of same and capital improvement plan methods to next meeting. The idea being that homeowners are on notice we can't get to their roads quickly.

### Highway Education Open House – For Spring 2026

**Rescheduled: Thursday - April 16. Early evening.**

*What to include? Pat's suggestions. She will contact Tylar and Mike and Bill, Jr to help with presentation slides. Who we are: Big picture of road, Roads we "plan" to work on during season 2026 (284 plan Roads, plus trees and ditches), Stages we build roads? Advice for property owners? Something about equipment road sharing safety? Spoils policy. Other suggestions.*

### Roadwork" presentation suitable to entice BOCES students to consider Highway. Dept?

*Still something we are considering. Jay and/or Karl to meet with BOCES superintendent for best approaches. Deb provided name of Superintendent of BOCES.*

**CSEA Contract for Crew will end Dec 2027.** Ongoing. 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.