

A regular meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Sweden was held at the Town Hall, 18 State Street, Brockport, New York, on Tuesday, October 28, 2025.

Town Board Members present were Supervisor Patricia Hayles, Councilperson Scott Maar, Councilperson Tyler Sharpe, Councilperson Adam Staskiewicz, and Councilperson Gary Sullivan. Also present were Finance Director Hiedi Librock, Superintendent of Highways Brian Ingraham, Deputy Superintendent of Highways Jacob Moore, Town Attorney Jim Bell, and Town Clerk Karen Sweeting.

Visitors present were Chris Hamlin, Sandra and John Cassin, Kris Sharpe, Michele Johnson, Russell Johnson, Cody Johnson, Holly and Kasey Stettner, Marla Dudley, and Steven Hall.

Supervisor Hayles called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. and asked everyone present to say the Pledge to the Flag and remain standing for a moment of silence for peace all over the world and for our first responders that keep us safe.

REPORTS OF BOARD AND DEPARTMENTS:

Reports will be given November 10, 2025.

CORRESPONDENCE:

Supervisor Hayles announced the Chick-fil-A ribbon cutting event. They are scheduled to open October 29, 2025 at 6:30 a.m. Supervisor Hayles encouraged everyone to avoid the intersection for the next few weeks until things calm down. NYS DOT signed off on that project saying there would be no impact on the traffic. Chick-fil-A will have the sheriff on scene to control traffic. They will bring a lot of business to the town and have 135 employees.

Supervisor Hayles reported that NYS DEC is mobilizing the site at the Ace Cleaner property, preparing for demolition. The Town must follow the condemnation process and the proposed local law on the agenda allows for that process.

PUBLIC HEARING

At 6:05 p.m. Supervisor Hayles called to order the public hearing. The purpose of the public hearing was to hear all persons for or against the adoption of Local Law 5 of 2025, the addition of Chapter 54 Buildings, Unsafe to the Sweden Town Code.

Supervisor Hayles waived the reading of the legal notice.

Supervisor Hayles explained the reason for the proposed law, prompted by the Ace Cleaner property. The Town would like a law in place to keep our town safe, discourage vagrancy and provide the legal steps to follow to remove such structures.

No comments. Public hearing closed at 6:07 p.m.

CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS:

Councilperson Sullivan made a motion that was seconded by Councilperson Sharpe to approve **all** Consent Agenda items as listed below:

VOTE BY ROLL CALL:

Councilperson Maar	<u>Aye</u>
Councilperson Sharpe	<u>Aye</u>
Councilperson Staskiewicz	<u>Aye</u>
Councilperson Sullivan	<u>Aye</u>
Supervisor Hayles	<u>Aye</u>

ADOPTED

- RESOLUTION NO. 131 Authorizing Purchase/Repairs of Gorman Rupp V6A60-B

WHEREAS, the Highway Superintendent has determined that the Gorman Rupp V6A60-B rotating assembly at a Town of Sweden sewer pump station requires repair and replacement to ensure continued proper operation; and

WHEREAS, the cost of said repair and replacement is \$13,025, as quoted by Siewert Equipment, 175 Akron Street, Rochester, NY 14609; and

WHEREAS, Siewert Equipment is the sole source provider for this equipment; and

WHEREAS, funds for this repair are available and budgeted in Sewer Funds SS.8120.400 and SS4.8120.400; and

WHEREAS, the Highway Superintendent recommends accepting the quote from Siewert Equipment for thirteen thousand and twenty-five dollars (\$13,025).

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

Sec. 1. That the Town Board of the Town of Sweden hereby authorizes the repair and replacement of the Gorman Rupp V6A60-B rotating assembly for the sewer pump station by Siewert Equipment at a cost of thirteen thousand and twenty-five dollars (\$13,025).

Sec. 2. That payment for said work shall be made from accounts SS.8120.400 and SS4.8120.400.

Sec. 3. That this resolution shall take effect immediately.

- RESOLUTION NO. 132 Call Special Town Board Meeting for Monday, November 3, 2025

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

Sec. 1. That the Town Board of the Town of Sweden hereby calls a Special Town Board Meeting to be held on Monday, November 3, 2025 at 6 pm at the Sweden Town Hall, 18 State Street, Brockport.

Sec. 2. That the Town Clerk is directed to publish a notice of the meeting in the official newspaper.

Sec. 3. That this resolution shall take effect immediately.

NON-CONSENT AGENDA:

- Approval of the minutes of the regular Town Board meeting held October 14, 2025

Councilperson Sharpe made a motion that was seconded by Councilperson Maar to approve the minutes of the regular Town Board meeting held on October 14, 2025.

VOTE BY ROLL CALL:

Councilperson Maar	<u>Aye</u>
Councilperson Sharpe	<u>Aye</u>
Councilperson Staskiewicz	<u>Abstain</u>
Councilperson Sullivan	<u>Aye</u>
Supervisor Hayles	<u>Abstain</u>

ADOPTED

- Approval for Payment of Bills

All the Board members reviewed the invoice audit journal. Councilperson Maar made a motion that was seconded by Councilperson Staskiewicz authorizing payment of the bills in Abstract 10 dated October 29, 2025 in the amount of \$208,436.02.

General Fund: In the amount of \$83,612.69 as set forth in Abstract 10 dated October 29, 2025.

Highway Fund: In the amount of \$74,112.93 as set forth in Abstract 10 dated October 29, 2025.

Special Fund: In the amount of \$13,485.10 as set forth in Abstract 10 dated October 29, 2025.

Capital Fund: In the amount of \$37,225.30 as set forth in Abstract 10 dated October 29, 2025.

VOTE BY ROLL CALL:

Councilperson Maar	<u>Aye</u>
Councilperson Sharpe	<u>Aye</u>
Councilperson Staskiewicz	<u>Aye</u>
Councilperson Sullivan	<u>Aye</u>
Supervisor Hayles	<u>Aye</u>

ADOPTED

PUBLIC HEARING

At 6:15 p.m. Supervisor Hayles called to order the public hearing. The purpose of the public hearing was to hear all persons interested in the budget, in favor of or against the Preliminary Budget for 2026, or any item therein to include the compensation to be paid to all elected Town Officials, pursuant to the requirements of Section 108 of the Town Law.

Supervisor Hayles waived the reading of the legal notice.

Supervisor Hayles presented the 2026 Budget and explained why it was necessary to go over the 2% tax cap. The town is funding the same services, those that attract residents to our community. The proposed budget total is \$6,968,406. The special district amounts are paid only by those within those districts. Supervisor Hayles explained the use of the unexpended fund balance. The auditors cautioned that our current unexpended fund balance is not sustainable.

Increasing costs for parts, fuel, utilities, supplies, insurance, retirement, and wage increases are some of the driving factors for this proposed budget. Supervisor Hayles detailed exemptions (approximately 36% of total value of property), the budget summary, tax rate history, the rates per thousand for special districts, elected official salaries (two board members are waiving their salary increase), and bonded indebtedness. The tax cap for 2026 is 2%; the Town of Sweden's proposed 2026 budget is \$240,947 above the tax cap. This budget anticipates reduced mortgage tax and increases in retirement contributions, minimum wages, and health insurance.

The Sweden Town Board amended the 2026 budget to reflect a revision on the Summary Page due to a mathematical error. It does not change the tax levy.

Resident John Cassin pointed out some items of concern. Elected officials raises should be eliminated; consider cancelling the July fireworks event or seek out sponsors to cover the costs; town should not be adding positions under this budget, referring to the Finance Department; implement a wage freeze; eliminate the Tax Receiver position and have the Town Clerk assume those duties; over estimation of community center fees and mortgage tax revenue; look into other options for Fire Marshal and safety inspections and central data processing; take additional steps to reduce overtime. Mr. Cassin asked the board to table the vote and go back and take another look.

Resident Sandra Cassin stated that before the board votes, there are many economic realities that need to be discussed and numerous questions that need to be answered on how this budget will impact the residents. Mrs. Cassin detailed several points – foreclosures, resident circumstances, assessments, and economic impacts, and urged the board to cut the budget down to absolute needs.

Resident Michele Johnson elaborated on Mr. Cassin's comments, adding concerns with the recreation department and justice court. Mrs. Johnson detailed expenses and personnel costs of the recreation department and felt it was a lot of money to run that building with revenues decreasing. She noted that fines have decreased in the Justice Court and suggested that the court raise fines. Mrs. Johnson noted increases in other areas and a few budget lines that have not been used in the past few years. She feels there are areas that can be cut before increasing the budget.

Resident Cody Johnson agrees with Michele Johnson's comments.

Resident Holly Stettner is concerned with who will be impacted by this increase. She shared statistics on the town's population – seniors, veterans, poverty rate, school budget increases. Mrs. Stettner added that families are struggling, agrees with all the previous comments and is concerned with some of the costs the town does cover, for example, the fireworks, the town should seek sponsors.

Supervisor Hayles responded to several comments. The Town of Clarkson contributes 1/3 of the budgeted expenses of the recreation program. We are mandated by the state to have a court and we cannot, as a Town Board, interfere with the fines that they set.

No other comments. The Public Hearing was closed at 7:02 p.m.

NON-CONSENT AGENDA:

- RESOLUTION NO. 133

Adopting Local Law 5 of 2025 - Adding Chapter 54 to the Sweden Town Code – Buildings, Unsafe

WHEREAS, the Sweden Town Board has determined it to be in the best interests of the the Town of Sweden for the addition of Chapter 54 to the Sweden Town Code concerning Buildings, Unsafe; and

WHEREAS, a duly advertised Public Hearing was held by the Town Board at the Town Hall, 18 State Street, Brockport, New York, on October 28, 2025; and

WHEREAS, all persons desiring to be heard were heard and due deliberation having been had thereon.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

Sec. 1. The Sweden Town Board hereby adopts Local Law 5 of 2025 adding Chapter 54 to the Sweden Town Code concerning Buildings, Unsafe.

Sec. 2. The Town Clerk is authorized and directed to file a complete copy of Local Law 5 of 2025 with the Secretary of State as required by law.

Sec. 3. This Resolution shall take effect immediately.

MOTION for adoption of this resolution by Councilperson Sharpe
Seconded by Councilperson Maar

Discussion:

VOTE BY ROLL CALL AND RECORD:

Councilperson Maar	<u>Aye</u>
Councilperson Sharpe	<u>Aye</u>
Councilperson Staskiewicz	<u>Aye</u>
Councilperson Sullivan	<u>Aye</u>
Supervisor Hayles	<u>Aye</u>

ADOPTED

- RESOLUTION NO. 134 Adopting 2026 Town of Sweden Budget

WHEREAS, the Tentative Budget for the Town of Sweden for the fiscal year beginning January 1, 2026, was duly prepared and submitted by the Chief Fiscal Officer; and

WHEREAS, the Town Board reviewed said Tentative Budget, made such revisions as deemed necessary, and adopted the Preliminary Budget on October 14, 2025; and

WHEREAS, a duly noticed public hearing on the Preliminary Budget was held on October 28, 2025 at 6:15 PM, and all persons interested were given an opportunity to be heard.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

- Sec 1. That the Town Board of the Town of Sweden does hereby adopt the Preliminary Budget as the Final Budget for the Town of Sweden for the fiscal year commencing January 1, 2026.
- Sec.2. That the Budget Officer is hereby directed to file said 2026 Final Budget with the Town Clerk in accordance with the provisions of Town Law.
- Sec. 3. That the Town Clerk is directed to publish notice that a summary of this enacted budget is available for public inspection on the Town's website and during normal business hours in the Town Clerk's Office.
- Sec. 4. That this resolution shall take effect immediately.

MOTION for adoption of this resolution by Councilperson Maar
Seconded by Councilperson Sullivan

Discussion:

VOTE BY ROLL CALL AND RECORD:

Councilperson Maar	<u>Aye</u>
Councilperson Sharpe	<u>Nay</u>
Councilperson Staskiewicz	<u>Aye</u>
Councilperson Sullivan	<u>Aye</u>
Supervisor Hayles	<u>Aye</u>

ADOPTED

ADDITIONAL BUSINESS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS:

No additional business or announcements.

ADJOURNMENT:

As there was no further business to come before the Board, Councilperson Maar moved to adjourn the October 28, 2025 meeting of the Sweden Town Board at 7:04 p.m. Councilperson Sharpe seconded the motion. All voted in favor of the motion. Motion adopted.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen M. Sweeting
Town Clerk