

Town of Corning Town Council
Meeting Minutes
September 16th, 2025 @ 7pm [Teams Link](#)

Welcome

- 1) Call meeting to order at 1900 by Supervisor Mullen
- 2) Roll call of board members present: R. Michael Brenning, Lon Fiscus, Donna Gridley, Stuart Sammis, Jennifer L. Tuttle
- 3) Pledge of Allegiance led by Supervisor Tuttle

Host Community Agreement (HCA)

- 4) Motion to approve [Resolution 28 of 2025](#) for a [Host Community Agreement](#) (HCA) for Tier III Projects building in the Town of Corning which may include solar, windfarms, and other projects within that class by Councilman Sammis and seconded by Councilwoman Gridley

Roll call vote: aye_R. Michael Brenning _nay_Lon Fiscus _aye__Donna Gridley _aye__Stuart Sammis _aye__ Jennifer L. Tuttle

Restoration of Time

- 5) Motion to approve **Resolution 29 of 2025** to pay Ciara Force, Deputy Town Clerk for 7 hours of time by Lon Fiscus and seconded by Stuart Sammis.

Roll call vote: _aye__R. Michael Brenning _aye__Lon Fiscus __aye_Donna Gridley _aye__Stuart Sammis _aye__ Jennifer L. Tuttle

Budget Workshop

- 6) Motion to set next budget workshop by R. Michael Brenning and seconded by Donna Gridley. All in favor. September 30th, 2025 at 6:00pm.

Vouchers

- 7) Motion to allow Supervisor Tuttle to assist Town Clerk Olmstead with vouchers in an emergency/shut-off notices. [Town Law Section 125](#) allows for payment without prior audit by Councilman Fiscus and seconded by Councilman Sammis. All in favor. Motion carried.

Consent Agenda

- 8) Motion to approve the following consent agenda items by Councilman Sammis and seconded by Councilwoman Gridley. All in favor. Motion carried.
 - Town Clerk [August 2025](#) report
 - Town Highway [August 2025](#) report
 - Building and Grounds [August 2025](#) report
 - Town Council [July 29th, 2025](#) budget meeting minutes
 - Town Council [August 19th, 2025](#) budget meeting minutes
 - Town Council [August 19th, 2025](#) meeting minutes
 - Town Supervisor [August 19th, 2025](#) report
 - [Abstract 9 of 2025](#)

CDBG Resolutions

- 9) Motion to approve **Resolution 31 of 2025** designating a certifying officer for environmental review by Councilman Sammis and seconded by Councilman Brenning.

WHEREAS, the Town of Corning will conduct a single-family housing rehabilitation program to provide housing rehabilitation to low-to-moderate income qualifying residents of the Town (the "Project"); and

WHEREAS, as a grant applicant and potential recipient the Town is required to undertake and complete the environmental review process for the Project; and,

WHEREAS, the Office of Community Renewal requires that the Town designate an Environmental Review Certifying Officer,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Town Board of Corning hereby designates Code Enforcement Officer Bradley Laverty as the Town's Certifying Officer for the purposes of complying with the applicable environmental review requirements for the CDBG Community Planning grant through the Office of Community Renewal.

Roll call vote: aye R. Michael Brenning aye Lon Fiscus aye Donna Gridley aye Stuart Sammis aye Jenniffer L. Tuttle

- 10) Motion to approve **Resolution 32 of 2025 determining that proposed action is a type II action for purposes of the New York State Environmental Quality Review Act** by Councilman Sammis and seconded by Councilwoman Gridley:

WHEREAS, the Town of Corning will conduct a single-family housing rehabilitation program to provide housing rehabilitation to low-to-moderate income qualifying residents of the Town (the "Project"); and

WHEREAS, the Town of Corning desires to comply with the New York State Environmental Quality Review Act ("SEQR") and the regulations adopted pursuant thereto by the Department of Environmental Conservation of the State of New York, being 6 NYCRR Part 617, as amended (the "Regulations") with respect to the Project; and

WHEREAS, the Project is not subject to review under SEQRA since it involves maintenance or repair involving no substantial changes in an existing structure or facility and replacement, rehabilitation or reconstruction of a structure or facility, in kind, on the same site, including upgrading buildings to meet building, energy, or fire codes unless such action meets or exceeds any of the thresholds in section 617.4 of this Part; both of which are listed as a "Type II Action" under 6 NYCRR Section 617.5(c)(1)(2).

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town of Corning declares that the Project constitutes a "Type II Action" under 6 NYCRR Section 617.5(c)(1)(2) and that no further action under the SEQR Act and the Regulations is required; and

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

Roll call vote: aye R. Michael Brenning aye Lon Fiscus aye Donna Gridley aye Stuart Sammis aye Jenniffer L. Tuttle

NY Bricks Grant – Lead Agency

- 11) Motion to approve **Resolution 33 of 2025 AUTHORIZING SUBMISSION OF NYS BRICKS GRANT APPLICATION, APPROVING LOCAL MATCH COMMITMENT, AND MAKING SEQR DETERMINATION FOR THE PROPOSED COMMUNITY CENTER PROJECT** by Councilman Sammis and seconded by Councilwoman Gridley.

WHEREAS, the Town of Corning (the "Town") has identified the need for a new community center facility to serve residents of all ages and abilities, providing dedicated space for public programs, recreational opportunities, and community gatherings; and

WHEREAS the Town is eligible to apply for funding under the New York State Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities through Knowledge and Skills (BRICKS) Grant Program to support construction of the proposed community center; and
WHEREAS, the Town Board intends to submit an application requesting \$3,959,956 in grant funding; and

WHEREAS the Town recognizes that it holds governmental immunity for community projects undertaken for public benefit on Town-owned land, and further acknowledges that the Town of Corning Zoning Law does not prohibit the construction or operation of a community center; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the New York State Environmental Quality Review Act ("SEQR"), the Town Board declares itself Lead Agency for the environmental review of the proposed project; and

WHEREAS, after due review and consideration, the Town Board finds that construction of the proposed community center, a non-residential structure of less than 4,000 square feet, constitutes a Type I Action under SEQR.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Corning hereby:

1. Authorizes submission of a grant application under the New York State BRICKS Program for the proposed community center project in the amount of \$3,959,956;
2. Commits to providing a local cash match of \$989,989 toward the project, if accepted, for a total project cost of \$4,949,945;
3. Confirms that the Town of Corning holds governmental immunity for community projects undertaken on public land for public use, and affirms that the project does not conflict with the Town's adopted Zoning Law;
4. Declares itself Lead Agency under SEQR for the proposed project; and
5. Determines that the proposed community center constitutes a Type I Action pursuant to SEQR regulations. Further environmental review will be completed in coming month.

Roll call vote: aye R. Michael Brenning aye Lon Fiscus aye Donna Gridley aye Stuart Sammis aye Jenniffer L. Tuttle

Updates

- Resolution passed at budget meeting on 9/4 for Glen Rose to purchase a snow plow from Auctions International (Sourcewell) not to exceed \$50,000.
- Weekly hours for employees will remain at 35 hours/week as email found by Councilman Fiscus noting that the board would work off from the 2021 employee handbook (last approved). This noted 35 hours/week.

Community Comment

- 12) Any comments by visitors/community not to exceed two minutes per person and ten minutes for all comments. No personnel issues to be discussed during this time.
 - Joan Rosen questioned if the Town would be more likely to be approved if we have the money secured for the NY Bricks grant.
 - Carol Faratella notes that the Big Beautiful Bill will have impact on discretionary planning and inflation.
 - Question from Carol Faratella regarding bus route CEATS cost. Costs given. Concerns with cost of this when not enough people ride. Steuben County will donate \$65,000 to the CEATS program per Scott VanEtten. Scott stated that they

cannot raise the rates without federal government approval. That is why the costs have not increased and the funding is being requested from the municipalities.

- Question regarding fall festival by Ruth Plaisted.
- Question regarding brush by Ruth Plaisted and opening on Saturday's. Glen Rose stated that only 1-2 people came on Saturday's and it was not effective for his budget to pay for 4 hours of overtime.

Adjournment

13) Motion to adjourn at 1958 by Councilman Sammis and seconded by Councilman Brenning. All in favor. Motion carried.

Upcoming Meetings and Events

September 17th, 2025 ZBA meeting 5:30pm

October 18th, 2025 Fall Festival at Clark Street Playground 1p - 4pm

October 21st, 2025 Town Council Meeting at 7pm