

At the workshop of the Town Board of the Town of Elmira, Chemung County, New York held Monday May 11, 2026 at 7:00pm at 1255 West Water Street, Elmira, NY, there were present:

Supervisor Ann Gerould  
Deputy Supervisor Scott Bush  
Councilmember Thomas Milliken  
Councilmember: John LeValley  
Councilmember: Albert Lucarelli

Others present  
Town Clerk- Tammy Stein  
Attorney- Scott Moore

Supervisor Gerould called the workshop to order at 7:00pm and lead attendees in the Pledge of Allegiance

**Discussion**

Town Clerk Stein spoke to the board regarding legislations S1394/A4910, mandating that licensing forms provide an option to persons applying for or renewing a dog license to make a contribution to their local animal shelter.

The Town Board discussed the legislation and donation options.

Supervisor Gerould spoke about a letter the Town received from Town Clerk Dawn Rose from Van Etten urging Municipalities to pass a resolution regarding the review of NYSEG charges.

Supervisor Gerould spoke about openings on the Planning and Zoning board.

Supervisor Gerould informed the board that a budget adjustment needs to be done in order to correct an entry regarding ARPA funds.

The Town Board discussed the Town’s PTO policy. It was decided that Supervisor Gerould make an addition to the proposed amendment and Attorney Moore will research the legality of the amendment.

**Resolution #83-26**

**Appoint Buildings and Grounds Keeper**

**By Mr. LeValley**

**Seconded by Mr. Lucarelli**

Motion was made to appoint Shawn Cowles as Buildings and Ground keeper effective June 8, 2026 with a rate of \$27.00 per hour plus benefits.

Aye- Gerould, Levalley, Milliken, Lucarelli, Bush

No- None

**Resolution #84-26**

**Approve surplus of highway vehicles**

**By Mr. Milliken**

**Seconded by Mr. Bush**

Motion was made to approve the 2011 International Dump Truck and 2013 Ford Pickup Truck to be put on surplus using Auction International.

Aye- Gerould, Levalley, Milliken, Lucarelli, Bush

No- None

**Resolution #85-26**

**Approve Elmira City Animal Shelter as contribution agency**

**By Mr. Bush**

**Seconded by Mr. Lucarelli**

Whereas legislation S1394/A4910 mandating that licensing forms provide an option to persons applying for or renewing a dog license to make a contribution to their local animal shelter, and

Whereas this legislation was effective December 2025, and

Whereas the Town contracts with Elmira City Animal Control, and

Resolved, the Town approves the dog licensing to have the contribution option, and

Further resolved the Town approves Elmira City Animal Control to be the shelter that the contributions will be dispersed to.

Aye- Gerould, Levalley, Milliken, Lucarelli, Bush

No- None

**Resolution #86-26**

**Approve letter 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**

**By Mr. Bush**

**Seconded by Mr. Lucarelli**

WHEREAS, residents and businesses in the Town of Elmira 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 Elmira 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 Elmira 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 of the Town of Elmira 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 Elmira 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 of the Town of Elmira 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 of the Town of Elmira 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 of the Town of Elmira 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 of the Town of Elmira 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, our representative members of the New York State Legislature and adjoining 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.

Aye- Gerould, Levalley, Milliken, Lucarelli, Bush

No- None

**Resolution #87-26**

**Approve Budget Adjustments**

**By Mr. Lucarelli**

**Seconded by Mr. LeValley**

**Motion was made to approve a budget adjustment to correct an entry as follows:**

Category	To/From	Fund	Dept	Acct. no.	Account	To	From
Transfer	TO	DB	5130	5200	Equipment	119,592.16	
Transfer	TO	DB	5112	5400	Contractual Expenses		119,592.16

Aye- Gerould, Levalley, Milliken, Lucarelli, Bush

No- None

**Resolution #88-26**

**Amend PTO policy- TABLED**

**By Mr. Bush**

**Seconded by Mr. LeValley**

Aye- Gerould, Levalley, Milliken, Lucarelli, Bush

No- None

Motion was made by Councilmember Bush at 8:08pm and seconded by Councilmember LeValley to adjourn the workshop. All in favor, Motion Carried

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Tammy Stein, Town Clerk

