

**Official -Town of Montezuma
Board Meeting Minutes
For May 22nd, 2025
6pm**

Supervisor David Corey opened the meeting led by a moment of silence for former Deputy Supervisor/Councilman Lee Brew, then the Pledge of Allegiance.

Members Present: Supervisor: David Corey
Councilman/Deputy Supervisor: Thomas Hitchcock Jr. (ABSENT)
Councilman: Christopher Howard
Councilman: Thomas Fitzsimmons
Councilman: Marvin King (ABSENT)

Other Members Present: Town Clerk: Marie L. Cronin
Deputy Town Clerk/ Water Clerk: Tiffini Sharp
Code Enforcement Officer: John Greer (ABSENT)
Historian: Cheryl Longyear
Highway Superintendent: Kenneth Cook
Deputy Highway Superintendent: David Ware
Water Operator: Stanley Longyear

Residents Present: Thomas Coleman, Ben Ware, Kathy & James Decker.

Code Enforcement Report: John Greer (ABSENT) Supervisor David Corey gave the report. 2 Permits issued for the month of April 2025. Ken Townsend to occupy a camper for 60 days (4/15/25 to 6/15/25. 8131 High Street. Adam Wiggins 7997 Mentz Church RD. 1,900 sq. ft. addition to existing home.

Historian Report: Cheryl Longyear gave report. Annual Canal Clean Sweep held on April 19th, 2025. Need more volunteers to help with trees and things that are blocking trails, weed eating. Plaque donated in honor of Bill Breen. Engraved Wind Chimes in gazebo for Mellony Carner. Headstone cleaning demonstration done by Mike Riley May 10th, 2025 at Mentz Church Cemetery. Church building cleaned for the 200th Commemorative program May 18th, 2025. Plans being made to schedule open hours for new location of the Old Mentz Heritage Center starting in June 2025. Clinton's Ditch play at the Samuel Center June 21st at 2pm & 7pm & June 27th 7pm & June 28th 2pm & 7pm, \$10 at the door for admission. Cheryl Longyear wrote and article and it was published in the Citizen paper on the Play. The Steering Committee has begun meeting & completing a required Assessment Review along the Empire State Trail to help our communities take stock of our Town's assets. Would like Town Boards input on allowing overnight parking, camping on Public Property for the bicyclists that travel through our Town.

Also would like some sort of water supply for them. May Town news letter produced & posted online, post office and town hall. Bees have returned to the Mentz Church building and we need to address this ASAP. Tiffini Sharp can girl scouts volunteer, per Cheryl yes , will speak to Sabrina Wellington girl scout leader.

Highway Superintendent Report: Kenneth Cook gave report, Still looking for truck box for 2016 Ford F-150. Kenneth has a new quote from MDI for the new Ford 550 truck & would like to sign off on the truck before prices go up. Highway staff has been out with the 2012 6 wheel dump truck and have been out paving and helping other towns, they also used the 2021 10 wheel dump truck & nothing to report on this truck. Cat Excavator Dug water pit on rt. 90 and waiting for contractor to hook up inside the home, then the water meter will be installed. Pit and installation needs to be paid for before the meter is installed. Brush hog on the John Deere 5065 and next week will start mowing road sides, but does need tires replaced. Asphalt prices have gone up so we will only be able to do another section of Wilsey rd this year. Fox ridge will have to wait until next year 2026. Mowers we've had problems with them this year and looking for another for the mowing season next year. Loader needs front tires before winter. Town Clean up went well. Looking for another driver/mower as Joel Glimpse resigned and Don Russell will be done soon. CHIPS paperwork emailed Friday May 16th, 2025 given copies to the Board. Cayuga County Highway Division – voucher \$47,917.83 check we will be receiving. Wilsey rd we are going to try and work on it first part of June Probably with Suitkote as they are cheaper, Seneca Stone are having issues. Christopher Howard asking about the new plow blades. Per Kenneth Cook he called Tim Snyder from Cayuga County water & soil but haven't been able to get any answers so far.

Discussion of new Truck Purchase Proposal: David Corey Supervisor stated that we do have the money for the new truck and the other new truck won't be here until April 2026 so we could do this, so if the Board would like to make a decision to purchase it we could. Motion made by Christopher Howard second by David Corey to purchase the new truck 2025 F-550 xl cab 4x4 as stated on the quote from Van Bortel Ford \$109,336.02 Should be here in October 2025. Motion carried 3/0.

Discussion on the proposed Junkyard Law: Motion made by Christopher Howard second by Thomas Fitzsimmons to send the new Junkyard laws as rewritten to Cayuga County and to the Planning Board. Motion carried 3/0.

Budget Modification: Increase A2706 (Gants) by \$1,475.00 to receive grant money by Cayuga County for Mentz Church & increase A7989.4 (Events) by \$1,475.00 to expend grant money. Motion made by Thomas Fitzsimmons second by David Corey to approve the Budget Modification. Motion carried 3/0.

Approval of Bills: Motion made by Thomas Fitzsimmons second by Christopher Howard to approve the bills as amended (per Cheryl Longyear voucher #112 Farmboy Graphics from

A7989.4c to A7989.4). Motion carried 3/0. Christopher Howard asking Marie Cronin Clerk if bulk stamps any decision made. Per Tiffini Sharp we are still working on this.

Approval of the Supervisors Report: First page Water Maintenance increase, where is the increase coming from (Tiffini Sharp said maybe it is what we take in for water payments). Federal aid is -0.07 and also Last month passed a resolution to transfer ARPA money to A7140.4 (Playgrounds & recreations centers- contractual) and it wasn't increased, A71310.1 Youth programs-personnel services -\$119.00 and thought we put money into it for her salary. David Corey to speak with Bookkeeper on all the above accounts. Motion made by Thomas Fitzsimmons second by Christopher Howard to approve the Supervisors report as amended. Motion carried 3/0.

Approval of the April 15th, 2025 Minutes: Motion made by Thomas Fitzsimmons second by Christopher Howard to approve the minutes as amended. Motion carried 3/0.

Supervisors News & Public comments & concerns: Assessor term runs out this fall 2025 and it's a 6 year term & we can reappoint Jeff Lowe tonight if the Board agrees. Motion made by David Corey second by Christopher Howard to reappoint Jeff Lowe as the Town of Montezuma Assessor. Motion carried 3/0. Barton & Logudice paperwork on the preliminary stuff on the water project. David received a phone call the end of last week from Bill Stewart, by the next board meeting we will have a packet that the ball is rolling on this project. Resolution also given to the Board on an independent Audit of NYSEG & RG&E billing practices (David Corey received an email today from NYSEG justifying themselves saying how much money they're spending. Tiffini Sharp for the Easter Egg Hunt and has \$85.52 left, do you want her to write the Town a check or keep it in the safe for future programs they will do for the Towns children. The Town Board is okay with Tiffini keeping it in the safe for future things. Not sure how the money is to flow for this. Maybe a couple field trips this year and try to go bigger next year. Wegmans gave a \$500 gift card donation possibly a BBQ. Check into Seabreeze trips and apply to the County for funding. 37 kids came to the Easter Egg Hunt and was thanked by parents for the great job they did. Christopher Howard and Thomas Fitzsimmons along with David Corey states to roll it over for future events. Per Tiffini Sharp Tuesday May 27th,2025 the new playground equipment should be delivered to the HWY garage. Little league wants to know if they can practice at stop 69 field, and maybe games next year. They will add it to their insurance. Has to be on the NCLL insurance. Tim Marks is Port Byron President. May need portable toilet next year for public. Thomas Coleman no ball field here at town hall anymore. It's too wet here for that. Tiffini is asking if possible to do the water bills on paper instead of postcards as the postcards are getting destroyed at the post offices and people aren't getting the bill. Could also include the Town Newsletter in it. Public loves the idea of emailing and the credit cards.

Adjourn Meeting: Motion made by David Corey second by Thomas Fitzsimmons to adjourn meeting. Motion carried 3/0.

Minutes submitted by Town of Montezuma Clerk Marie L. Cronin

