

Minutes August 12, 2025

Present:

Bob Palumbo	Dan Marshall	David Adam	Jared Simpson
Nick Baronowski	Marty Aman	Mike Gonzales	Dale Stell
Bill Namestnik			

Necessarily Absent: Art Rilands, John Cowley, Fred Stressing

Staff and Guests: Kevin Olvany, Lindsay McMillan

The meeting was called to order at 3:30 pm by Supervisor Simpson.

Privilege of the Floor

Dave Adam reported on a recent visit to Deuel Road, where he observed the impressive scope and quality of the recently completed project.

Approval of Minutes

Co-Chair Marshall asked if anyone had any questions or corrections for the June minutes. A motion was made by Supervisor Marshall to approve the June minutes, seconded by Mayor Palumbo. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report

Mayor Palumbo motioned to make an amendment to the 2025 budget to increase the "Supplies" line item by \$100 using funds from the "Conferences and Materials" line item. Supervisor Marshall seconded. Motion carried.

Total Bills:

- City account: \$104.14
- CNB: \$19,256.00
- Total Bills: \$19,360.14

The CNB account balance is \$107,628.65.

Supervisor Marshall inquired whether the CNB account was generating interest. Kevin explained that the CNB balance represents some funds payable to the Friends of Canandaigua Lake (FOCL) from income received from ticket sales from the July 8th kickoff event. FOCL did not have their 501c3 status finalized until July 8th so the ticket payments had to be made to the Watershed Council 501c3 account.

Once all payments are finalized the Watershed Council will need to authorize the transfer to Friends of Canandaigua Lake. Kevin stated that the funding has not been put into an interest bearing account.

Mayor Palumbo made the motion to approve the bills totaling \$19,360.14, Bill Namestik seconded. Motion carried.

2026 Fair Share Funding

Kevin Olvany reviewed the history of the Fair Share funding formula, which is based on a weighted combination of water usage (gallons), shoreline values, tourism dollars, watershed assessed values, and other factors.

Due to continued growth and increasing needs, the Council is proposing an increase in the total municipal contributions from \$165,000 to \$185,000 for 2026. Additional funding from private sources will support the expansion of the Council's work. FOCL has also been asked to contribute \$60,000/yr for project management and staff support.

Questions were raised about how water usage and tourism metrics are calculated. The formula gets updated each year for water use and assessed value. The tourism column has stayed the same since 1999 and was an estimate of the importance in each town. The weighing factors for each category have remained unchanged since 1999.

There was some discussion about smaller annual increases instead of one larger jump. Kevin emphasized that this funding increase is an investment in personnel, equipment, grant leveraging, and matching the public-private partnership development. Co-Chair Simpson encouraged the Watershed Council to make this collective jump in funding and then stabilize at smaller increases. Bill Namestik motioned to approve the increase from \$165,000 to \$185,000 for 2026, seconded by Dave Adam. Motion carries.

2026 Watershed Council Budget

Kevin presented the preliminary draft budget for 2026, which is a total of \$1,059,664.37. Fair share funding formula is approx. 18% of this overall budget.

Implementation items:

- Education
- Water quality cost share assistance: (with farmers and municipalities) – match with SFF/FOCL
- Watercraft Stewards program
- Sucker Brook projects
- Source water grant (Barnes gully, Gorham project)
- Monitoring program
- Staff – 2.5 positions
- Workers' comp

Revenue: Municipalities, Friends of Canandaigua Lake, grants (Source water, kayak launch, DOS grant for Gorham, DOS grant for Sucker brook, Ontario County WRC). This draft was presented for review. The final budget will be approved at the October meeting

Watershed Program Technician

Kevin announced that Sarah Reynolds, Development Director for the Town of Canandaigua, has applied and is being recommended for the Watershed Program Technician position. Her experience with the Town aligns well with the Council's needs. A motion to approve hiring Sarah Reynolds was made by Dan Marshall, seconded by Marty Aman. Motion carried.

July 31 CFA Proposals

Kevin reviewed the recent Consolidated Funding Application (CFA) proposals:

- Road Bank Stabilization: Use of Flexamat in road ditch design for erosion control.
- Wolfanger Road Improvements
- Cottage City Drive Culvert Replacement: Replace a 16 sq. ft. culvert with a 50 sq. ft. one to mitigate flooding.
- RSM Property Purchase (via Source Water Grant): \$2.8 million proposal to acquire 70 acres upland, plus a stretch of natural shoreline. The plan includes future DEC use as a public fishing access site.

Public / Private Partnership

Kevin shared a spreadsheet of proposed projects and grants, detailing lead agencies, local match requirements, and funding sources. The document highlights \$22 million in grants received and grant applications made. This demonstrates the strength of cost-sharing partnerships.

Manager / Technician Report was reviewed with additional current projects.

A motion to adjourn until October 1st, 2025 was made by Marty Aman, seconded by Dan Marshall. Motion carried.

Next Meeting: October 1, 2025

Location: Hurley Building