August 20, 2026 TOWN BOARD REGULAR MEETING

This board meeting has been recorded and posted on Town of Cape Vincent's website, as approved by Resolution #25.

Present: Supervisor Christine Stark, Councilman Dan Wiley, Councilman Bill Gould, Councilman Ron Jacobs, Councilwoman Mary Farrell, Highway Superintendent Bill Pond, and 7 visitors. Water Superintendent Keith Brass and Deputy Supervisor Patty Bach excused.

Supervisor Stark opened the meeting at 6:00pm with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Public Comment/Privilege of the Floor – None

Councilman Gould made a motion to accept the minutes of the July 16, 2026 meeting, seconded by Councilman Jacobs. There was no discussion. All members voted AYE.

Councilwoman Farrell made a motion to accept the Supervisor's Monthly Financial Report, seconded by Councilman Gould. There was no discussion. All members voted AYE.

Highway Superintendent Report- Bill Pond reported the highway department received three quotes for tree and brush debris removal at the Transfer Site. The Town Board has reviewed the quotes and will pass Resolution #58. Bill reported that sand has been purchased for the upcoming winter. Bill reported that the highway department has been helping other Towns with work needed.

Town Board Members report/comment

Councilwoman Farrell: LDC report – Jefferson County put in grant proposal for a smart growth grant to update our Comprehensive Plan and was submitted within the window. The second round of micro grants for local economic development happened and two were selected but they have not been notified yet so Councilwoman Farrell will follow-up with the Board on the winners. From Pro-housing designation, this affects both village and town, previous grant writer submitted items but we have been notified by NYS that there is more data needed so a spreadsheet was given to Cody Higgins to complete past building permits from 2021-2024 to show trend line (2025 was submitted). LWRP – Jefferson County has assisted us with updating the maps. Village now has their updated map to review. Town is still waiting to hear from them. As far as project goes, committee continues to meet and have tentatively scheduled a public review of and public input on strategic projects on 9/16/26. More information to come.

Councilman Gould: Zoning Board - Nothing to report. Fire Department – Little Giant is back. Joe has been working on getting that all dialed up in the fire hall inside the glass doors plus a couple other antiques.

Councilman Jacobs: Ambulance Report – Nothing to report. Planning Board Report – 2 Minor Subdivision approved.

Councilman Wiley: School Board – Nothing to report.

Supervisor Stark: Waterfront update – There was a pre-construction meeting with Seaway Marine and they are ready to get started as soon as the water level drops to a workable point. Right now, they are working on bids for the dockage but the best provider of docks for our area is Canadian and right now

subject to 50% tariff (import tax) which is going to put them well outside our ability to pay. More to follow on this as things happen with the two governments. Upland Park under New York Forward at 100% design phase and Councilman Wiley and Supervisor Stark received briefing on the water feature and the revised estimate. Previously, there was $200,000 for play equipment and $400,000 for water feature. Those amounts have been reduced drastically. Now, $30,000 for play equipment and $180,000-$200,000 for water feature which puts the town well within the limits of the budget. Hope to go final on the construction package and go to bid on project this fall. Supervisor Stark reported that Congresswoman Tenney made a visit to Cape Vincent on 8/11/26 as a follow-up to see where the $850,000 will be spent as allocated in her discretionary funding bill for Water District # 7. This $850,000 should bring down the user costs to the residents of the water district once received. No updates on Tibbetts Point Lighthouse becoming part of NYS. Town is entering the final design on the NY Forward project and plan for public meeting on 9/10/26 to give the public the opportunity to walk through and take a look at the drawings and site furnishings.

Motions

Councilman Bill Gould made a motion to approve the expenditure of $68,736.00 for water meters for Water District #7 install project (this amount will be paid by Water District #7), seconded by Councilwoman Mary Farrell. All members voted AYE.

Resolutions

Resolution #54 - CHAMBER (MOU)

Moved by Councilman Ron Jacobs
Seconded by Councilman Bill Gould

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Cape Vincent hereby authorize the Town Supervisor to sign a Memorandum of Understanding with the Cape Vincent Chamber of Commerce outlining the policies and procedures for proper stewardship of public funds. There was no discussion. All members voted AYE.

Resolution #57 - Speed Limit Reduction County Rt 7

Moved by Councilwoman Mary Farrell
Seconded by Councilman Bill Gould

WHEREAS, a petition requesting that the speed limit on Old County Route 7 be reduced from fifty-five (55) miles per hour to thirty-five (35) miles per hour was properly filed with the Town of Cape Vincent; and

WHEREAS, said petition contained the signatures of more than sixty (60) residents and was accepted by the Town Board of the Town of Cape Vincent on August 21, 2025; and

WHEREAS, although the petition was accepted by the Town Board, the resolution necessary to formally advance the request was not completed or filed; and

WHEREAS, the Town Board now desires to complete the process and formally request that the speed limit on Old County Route 7 be reviewed for reduction from fifty-five (55) miles per hour to thirty-five (35) miles per hour; and

WHEREAS, the Town Board finds that such request is warranted based upon the narrow width of the roadway, pedestrian foot traffic, the close proximity and density of residences along the roadway, and the existence of two approximately seventy-five-degree (75°) turns located at either end of the road;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Cape Vincent hereby requests that the speed limit on Old County Route 7 be reduced from fifty-five (55) miles per hour to thirty-five (35) miles per hour; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Town Board requests the Jefferson County Highway Department to review and support this request and, together with the Town of Cape Vincent, initiate the appropriate process with the New York State Department of Transportation for consideration and establishment of a thirty-five (35) mile-per-hour speed limit on Old County Route 7; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Town Clerk is hereby directed to forward a certified copy of this resolution, together with the petition and any supporting documentation, to the Jefferson County Highway Department and any other appropriate agency as necessary to begin the speed limit review process.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Cape Vincent hereby authorize the Town Supervisor to pursue the requested speed limit reduction that was petitioned in August 2025. Lowering the current speed limit from 55 miles per hour to 35 miles per hour. There was no discussion. All members voted AYE.

Resolution #58 - Brush removal at Transfer Site

Moved by Councilman Bill Gould
Seconded by Councilman Ron Jacobs

WHEREAS, the Highway Superintendent received three quotes for grinding brush and tree debris removal at the Town Transfer Site for continued safe and efficient operations, AND,

WHEREAS, The Town Board of the Town of Cape Vincent has reviewed these quotes, NOW THERFOR BE IT

RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Cape Vincent hereby authorize the Highway Superintendent to accept the lowest bid from Brushcutters, for grinding brush and tree debris brush in the amount of $21,200; which needs a Budget Amendment of $6,200 from Fund Balance to account A8160.42. There was no discussion. All members voted AYE.

Resolution #59 - Adopting NY Association of Towns Bill of Rights

Moved by Councilwoman Mary Farrell
Seconded by Councilman Ron Jacobs

WHEREAS, town government provides services essential to the vitality of New York State, including but not limited to maintaining and repairing roads, protecting neighborhoods and businesses, guiding economic development, and serving as the first line of defense, communication, and safety for residents every day of the year; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Cape Vincent hereby endorses and adopts the New York Association of Towns Bill of Rights and affirms its commitment to the principles set forth therein; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Cape Vincent calls upon the Governor and the New York State Legislature to respect and uphold these principles in the enactment of legislation and the administration of State programs affecting towns; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Town Clerk is hereby directed to transmit certified copies of this resolution to the Governor of the State of New York, the Temporary President of the Senate, the Speaker of the Assembly, the State Senator and Assembly Member representing the Town of Cape Vincent, and the New York Association of Towns; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this resolution shall take effect immediately. There was no discussion. All members voted AYE.

Resolution #60 – Set Dates/Times/Place for 2027 Budget Review

Moved by Councilman Bill Gould
Seconded by Councilman Dan Wiley

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Cape Vincent hereby schedule the dates for 2027 Budget review to be held at the Town Office in the Court Room on Wednesdays; September 2nd at 5:30pm, September 9th at 6:00pm, September 16th at 5:30pm, September 23rd at 5:30pm, and September 30th at 5:30pm. There was no discussion. All members voted AYE.

Resolution #61 - Water Plant

Moved by Councilman Dan Wiley
Seconded by Councilman Bill Gould

WHEREAS, the Water Superintendent received three quotes to repair electrical issues at the Water Plant for efficient operations, AND,

WHEREAS, the Town Board of the Town of Cape Vincent has reviewed these quotes; and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Cape Vincent hereby authorize the Water Superintendent to accept the lowest bid from Blackstone Electric in the amount of $31,950; Town of Cape Vincent to pay $15,975 and DANC to pay $15,975, a 50-50 split. There was no discussion. All members voted AYE.

Bills:

General Fund – Voucher #305-352, $60,605.39
Highway – Voucher #166-195, $222,109.41
Water Districts – Voucher #124-142, $80,230.50
Capital Projects – Voucher #28-30, $29,426.45
Councilwoman Farrell made a motion to approve payment of the vouchers, seconded by Councilman Gould. There was no discussion. All members voted AYE.

Public Comment/Privilege of the Floor – None

Councilman Ron Jacobs made a motion to enter into Executive Session at 6:39pm to discuss legal issue regarding an individual/employee having an exparte communication regarding a pending decision before a board and Water District #7 legal considerations for additional users, seconded by Councilman Dan Wiley. All members voted AYE. Councilman Dan Wiley made a motion to come out of Executive Session at 7 :15pm, seconded by Supervisor Christine Stark. All members voted AYE.

Councilman Gould made a motion to adjourn the regular meeting at 7:18pm, seconded by Councilman Wiley. All members voted AYE.