Town Gov't - TOWN OF FRANKLINVILLE

Minutes/Resolutions/Agenda - TOWN OF FRANKLINVILLE

As we begin a new year…

January is one of the busiest and most important months of the year for Town government. Much of the foundational work that guides Town operations for the year ahead takes place during this time.

Early in January, the Town Board holds its annual Reorganizational Meeting. At this meeting, the Town Board:

- Sets the regular meeting schedule for the year
- Makes required appointments and reappointments to boards, committees, and positions
- Designates the Town's official newspaper, banks, and legal counsel
- Establishes policies, authorizations, and procedures needed for daily operations

These actions ensure the Town is properly organized and legally prepared to conduct business for the year.

January is also when the Town conducts its annual audit of Town officials. This review provides transparency and accountability by confirming that public funds were handled appropriately during the prior year.

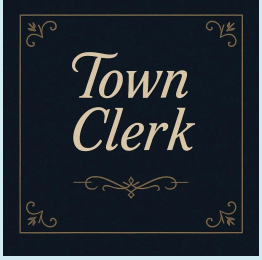
Town and County tax bills are mailed in January. The Town Tax Collector collects these taxes on behalf of Cattaraugus County during the designated collection period. After that period ends, unpaid taxes are returned to the County for enforcement.

Any vacant board or committee positions are typically filled in January, either through appointment or reappointment at the Reorganizational Meeting. Residents interested in serving on a Town board or committee are encouraged to submit applications when openings are announced.

January sets the tone for the months ahead and helps ensure that the Town operates efficiently, transparently, and in compliance with New York State law.

UPCOMING FRANKLINVILLE TOWN & COUNTY TAX BILLS 2026

Town and County tax bills will be mailed shortly. Residents are encouraged to review their bills carefully upon receipt and to contact the appropriate office with any questions. Below you will find information on how to submit your payments.



MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: Andrea Stanbro Tax Collector
Please include your Bill # on check

TO PAY IN PERSON: Collecting at the Town Hall can be accepted January, February and March. as of April 1, 2026, in accordance with New York State law the taxes are sent to the County for collection.

Town Clerk Hours:
Monday +Thursday 8am-12:30pm & 1:30-3:30pm,
Tue 8am-12:30pm & 1:30 - 5pm
Fri 8am-12pm & 12:30pm - 2pm

Extra Hours:
Jan 30 4-7pm
Feb 27 4-7pm
Mar 31 6-8pm

TO SUBMIT BY MAIL, PLEASE MAIL TO:
PO Box 146,
11 Park Square Franklinville, NY 14737

January 2026 Calendar of Events
Town of Franklinville

Meetings & Appointments

Date	Time	Event
Mon, Jan 5	7:00 PM	Criminal Court
Mon, Jan 12	7:00 PM	Annual Audit of Town Officials
Tue, Jan 13	6:30 PM	Audit of Bills
Tue, Jan 13	7:00 PM	Town Board & Reorganizational Meeting
Tue, Jan 20	1:30–4:00 PM	VA Services (By Appointment Only)

Regular Office Hours

Assessor: Wednesdays, 12:30 PM – 3:00 PM (except holidays)
Code Enforcement: Saturdays, 8:00 AM – 10:00 AM

Office Closures

Thursday, January 1, 2026 — New Year's Day
Monday, January 19, 2026 — Martin Luther King Jr. Day

WINTER SAFETY & HIGHWAY REMINDERS

PROHIBITED DEPOSIT OF SNOW INTO TOWN ROADWAYS

The Town of Franklinville reminds all residents, property owners, and contractors that plowing, shoveling, blowing, or otherwise depositing snow into a public roadway is strictly prohibited under New York State law.

New York State Vehicle and Traffic Law §1219 states that:

“No person shall throw or deposit snow or ice from private property into the traveled portion of any highway.” A “highway” under New York State law includes Town roads, shoulders, and rights-of-way.

Why this matters

Plowing snow into the roadway creates serious and unnecessary hazards, including:

- Traffic safety risks, such as icy ridges, reduced traction, and impaired visibility
- Increased danger to plow operators and emergency responders
- Damage to Town equipment and interference with lawful snow removal operations
- Refreezing and uneven surfaces that persist long after a storm event

Town snowplows are designed to clear snow from the roadway, not to repeatedly remove snow pushed back into it from private driveways or parking areas.

Violations may result in enforcement action, which can include:

- Traffic citations and fines
- Liability for damages caused to Town equipment or to other vehicles
- Responsibility for costs associated with corrective snow removal if Town crews must address unsafe conditions created by improper plowing

Property owners are also reminded that hiring a contractor does not relieve the owner of responsibility. Contractors and property owners may both be held accountable for violations.

Proper snow placement

Snow must be deposited entirely on private property, in a manner that:

- Does not enter the roadway, shoulder, or ditch line
- Does not obstruct visibility, drainage, fire hydrants, or traffic control devices

If you are uncertain where the road right-of-way begins, err on the side of keeping snow well back from the traveled surface.

The Town appreciates residents’ cooperation in maintaining safe roads for everyone. Compliance with State law helps ensure efficient snow removal and protects public safety.

The Town understands that dog-related incidents can be concerning and frustrating. This article is intended to explain how dog control works under New York State law, why some situations take time to resolve, and who residents should contact for emergencies and non-emergencies.

Dog control is governed by New York State Ag & Market Law and enforced locally by the Town’s Dog Control Officer (DCO). While the Town responds to reports and takes concerns seriously, certain actions—such as long-term removal of a dog—require court involvement.

While the Town's Dog Control Officer (DCO) handles many dog-related issues, there are some situations that do not fall under Dog Control authority or require other agencies to be involved.

Dog Control does not handle:

- Property line disputes
- Ongoing neighbor disagreements
- Claims for property damage or personal injury
- Animal Cruelty or Neglect
- Wild Animals, such as raccoons, deer, foxes, skunks or coyotes
- Noise Complaints Alone - Dog Control generally does not respond to barking complaints without additional violations - noise issues fall under local noise ordinance

How to Report Dog Concerns

Step 1: Contact the Dog Control Officer (DCO)
For all dog-related concerns, residents should first contact the Town's Dog Control Officer. This includes dogs running at large, aggressive behavior, repeated nuisance issues, or other dog control concerns.
Dog Control Officer - Sam Smith- 716-364-4427

Step 2: If You Do Not Receive a Response
• For **non-emergency issues**, if you do not receive a response within **24 hours**, please contact the Town Supervisor or Town Clerk.
• For **public safety concerns**, contact the Town Supervisor or Town Clerk immediately.

Town Supervisor - Catie Campbell - 716-701-4760
Town Clerk - Andrea Stanbro - 716-676-3077

Prompt follow-up allows the Town to step in and take appropriate action.
Step 3: Town Intervention
Once notified, the Town Supervisor may intervene with the Dog Control Officer or take appropriate administrative action to help move the issue forward.

*****Immediate Public Safety Situation*****

If there is an **immediate threat to public safety**, such as a dog actively attacking, chasing people, or creating a dangerous situation:
• Call the **Police – 911**
The Police may secure the scene and document the incident
• **Enforcement authority remains with the Town**, and follow-up action will be handled through the Dog Control Officer and, when necessary, the court system

Why This Process Matters

Dog control cases must follow New York State law. While some situations feel urgent, proper reporting and documentation are required to ensure enforcement actions are effective and legally sound.
If incidents are not reported, they cannot be addressed. Following this process helps protect residents and ensures the issue can be handled appropriately.

The Town remains committed to public safety and to using all legal tools available to address dog control concerns.

Dog Control FAQ

Looking Back on 2025: A Year in Review

As we welcome 2026, it is a good time to reflect on the many activities and accomplishments of the Town of Franklinville over the past year.

Governance, Planning, and Policy

In 2025, the Town Board adopted a local law prohibiting the installation, construction, operation, or expansion of Tier 2 Battery Energy Storage Systems, while establishing regulations for Tier 1 energy storage systems within the Town. The Town also amended its Zoning Law to formally include Event Venues, providing clearer guidance for residents and property owners. In addition, work is currently underway on a proposed local law addressing Short-Term Rentals.

Traffic Safety and Infrastructure Planning

The Town Board requested traffic speed studies on Weller Road, Kingsbury Road, and Cadiz Road. These studies have been completed, approved, and updated. Additional speed study requests are currently under consideration for Hillibrant Road, Rushford Road, and Pine Street Extension.

The Town has also begun gathering cost estimates from the Village of Franklinville for potential updates to water lines on Bakerstand Road and Cadiz Road.

Highway and Property Improvements

The Highway Department completed chip sealing on Bryant Hill, Saunders, Bennett, Weller, Green, Fay, and Holland Roads, along with repairs and paving at Case Lake. The department continues to do an excellent job maintaining Town roads and responding to weather-related and emergency situations.

Several improvements were made at the Town Cemetery this year, including replacement of the garage roofs and one set of stairs.

Code Enforcement reported that 57 permits and 11 violations were issued and addressed during 2025, reflecting continued development and property improvements throughout the Town.

Town Services and Communications

Communication efforts expanded in 2025 with increased use of Constant Contact and Facebook to keep residents informed.

The annual Dog Census is currently underway, and we appreciate residents' cooperation in keeping dog licensing up to date.

The Town Court resumed in-person traffic court sessions in September. Traffic court is held on the third Monday of each month.

Environmental Challenges

This year also brought a significant environmental challenge, as the Town of Franklinville endured a devastating fish kill event that required extensive coordination and response.

Boards, Appointments, and Service

Mike Forward was appointed to fill a vacancy on the Town Board and has since been elected to the position. The Town is currently accepting applications for a vacancy on the Zoning Board of Appeals through December 31, 2025. An appointment will be made at the Town's reorganizational meeting.

We look forward to another productive year ahead!

Thank You and Recognition

The Town of Franklinville extends its sincere appreciation to the many individuals who dedicate their time and effort to serving our community.

We are thankful for all of our Town employees and officials, including the Town Clerk's Office, Highway Department, Code Enforcement, Dog Control, Court personnel, cemetery staff, and all appointed board and committee members, for their continued commitment to the residents of Franklinville. Their work—often behind the scenes—helps ensure the Town operates safely, efficiently, and in compliance with New York State law.

We also recognize and thank Heather Stevens for her service on the Town Board and Jennifer Tinelli for her service on the Zoning Board of Appeals. We appreciate the time, professionalism, and dedication they brought to these roles and wish them well in their future endeavors.

We also recognize and thank the volunteers and first responders whose dedication and service play an essential role in supporting our community and enhancing the quality of life in the Town of Franklinville.

As we begin a new year, the Town of Franklinville extends best wishes to all residents for a happy, healthy, and successful year ahead. We appreciate your continued engagement and look forward to working together in the months to come.

TO RECEIVE WEATHER ALERTS

If you haven't already, NOW is the time to sign up to receive weather and emergency alerts on your cell phone.

📱 Text your county to 333111 for real-time weather and emergency alerts in your area.

For Cattaraugus County, text just the word Cattaraugus to 333111.

Would you like to receive emergency alerts from Cattaraugus County? Sign up to receive alerts online at: **https://www.cattco.gov/oes/notify**

How did you like this email?

Town of Franklinville | 11 Park Square | Franklinville, NY 14737 US

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Constant Contact

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