



CITY OF ONEIDA
MEETING OF THE COMMON COUNCIL
109 N. MAIN ST., ONEIDA, NY 13421

AGENDA

Date:	February 17, 2026	Presiding:	Rick Rossi, Mayor
Time:	6:30 p.m.	Clerk:	Sandy LaPera, City Clerk
Location:	Common Council Chambers	Meeting Type:	Regular <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Special <input type="checkbox"/>

Call to Order/Pledge of Allegiance/Roll Call

PROCLAMATION: Reverend Doctor Jack Fucci Day (Rescheduled from 2/3/26)

PUBLIC HEARING: proposed Local Law to amend the City Charter and Code of the City of Oneida to abolish the position of Commissioner of Public Safety and transfer the responsibilities of the Commissioner of Public Safety to the City Manager

PUBLIC COMMENT: Limited to 3 minutes

OLD BUSINESS:

SUPERVISOR'S REPORT:

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT:

MAYOR'S REMARKS:

Approval of the Minutes: February 3, 2026

Approval of Warrant: 4

Item	Title	Facilitator
1.	BOND RESOLUTION: authorize the issuance of an additional \$1,440,000 bonds in connection with the construction of improvements at the Glenmore Dam in and for said city (Roll Call Vote)	CITY MANAGER
2.	AGREEMENT: authorize the City Manager to sign an agreement with David Malbouf (Jake's Greenhouse) to supply and maintain hanging flower baskets for downtown Oneida from May through September, 2026	CITY MANAGER
3.	SOLE SOURCE: authorize Neptune Technology Group as the sole source for the purchase of Water Meters for 2026	CAMPANY

Item	Title	Facilitator
4.	MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT: authorize the Chief of Police to execute and sign updated agreements, amendments, extensions, or successor agreements with the Oneida City School District for the reimbursement of crossing guard services provided by the Police Department	LOWELL
5.	BUDGET TRANSFERS/AMENDMENTS: approve the budget transfers and amendments as outlined by the Comptroller or a third party duly retained to perform such services	WELLS
6.	AUTHORIZATION: authorize the Director of Planning and Development to execute documents related to Planning grants and associated projects	CITY MANAGER
7.	AUTHORIZE STIPEND: authorize a stipend for Steven Vonderweidt, Director of City Planning, for administrative and operational oversight of the Codes Department	CITY MANAGER
8.	LEASE AGREEMENTS/EXPENDITURES: authorize the City Manager and/or Police Chief to execute lease agreements for the replacement of designated police department vehicles and to approve associated expenditures for required emergency equipment installation (“upfit”), including but not limited to lighting, communications equipment, prisoner transport systems, and related public safety modifications.	LOWELL

NEW BUSINESS



CITY OF ONEIDA COMMON COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Date:	February 17, 2026	Presiding:	Rick Rossi, Mayor
Time:	6:30pm	Clerk:	Sandy LaPera, City Clerk
Location:	Common Council Chambers	Meeting Type:	Regular <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Special <input type="checkbox"/>

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Rick Rossi, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance and roll call.

<u>Attendees</u>	Present	Absent	Arrived Late
Mayor Rossi	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> : _____
City Manager Lovell	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> : _____
Councilor McHugh	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> : _____
Councilor Cimpi	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> : _____
Councilor Smith	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> : _____
Councilor Jones	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> : _____
Councilor Pagano	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> : _____
Councilor Simchik	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> : _____

Also Present

City Attorney Bell	<input type="checkbox"/>	Supervisor: _____	<input type="checkbox"/>
Attorney (Other)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Supervisor: _____	<input type="checkbox"/>
Fire Chief Jones	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other: _____	<input type="checkbox"/>
Police Chief Lowell	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other: _____	<input type="checkbox"/>

PROCLAMATION: Reverend Doctor Jack Fucci Day (Rescheduled from 2/3/26)

PUBLIC HEARING: Proposed Local Law to amend the City Charter and Code of the City of Oneida to abolish the position of Commissioner of Public Safety and transfer the responsibilities of the Commissioner of Public Safety to the City Manager

Proclamation

City of Oneida - Office of the Mayor

WHEREAS, Dr. Jack Fucci has served with dedication and distinction as City Chaplain for the City of Oneida for ten years, providing spiritual counsel and support to city leadership, employees, and the community; and

WHEREAS, Reverend Dr. Jack Fucci, Jr. has served the Oneida community since 1985, when he relocated to the City with his family and made it his home, where he and his wife raised five children grounded in faith, service, and commitment to others; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Fucci's pastoral ministry in Oneida began at Oneida Christian Assembly and continued through leadership at Abundant Life and Abounding Love Fellowship, and he currently serves as Co-Pastor of Oneida Full Gospel Assembly; and

WHEREAS, as a devoted husband, father, and grandfather, Dr. Fucci exemplifies strong family values, leadership, and community responsibility; and

WHEREAS, through nearly four decades of pastoral and public service, Dr. Fucci has demonstrated unwavering dedication to the people of Oneida, providing guidance, compassion, and leadership, including his role as City Police Chaplain supporting law enforcement and the community they serve; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Jack Fucci has been invited to offer prayer at the September 11 remembrance ceremony at City Hall, providing a meaningful moment of reflection and unity;

BE IT FURTHER PROCLAIMED, that the City of Oneida expresses its sincere appreciation for Dr. Fucci's spiritual leadership, compassion, and steadfast commitment to the well-being of its residents, and extends its best wishes for continued health and fulfillment in his ongoing service to the community.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of Oneida to be affixed this 17th day of February 2026.

Mayor Rick Rossi

OPEN PUBLIC HEARING

PROPOSED LOCAL LAW TO AMEND THE CITY CHARTER AND CODE OF THE CITY OF ONEIDA TO
ABOLISH THE POSITION OF COMMISSIONER OF PUBLIC SAFETY AND TRANSFER THE
RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE COMMISSIONER OF PUBLIC SAFETY TO THE CITY MANAGER

RESOLUTION 26-

Moved by Councilor
Seconded by Councilor

RESOLVED, that the Public Hearing on a proposed Local Law to amend the City Charter and Code of the City of Oneida to abolish the position of Commissioner of Public Safety and to transfer the responsibilities of the Commissioner of Public Safety to the City Manager is hereby opened at ____ p.m.

Ayes: _____

Nays: _____

Absent: _____

MOTION RESULT: Passed Failed

APPEARANCES

CLOSE PUBLIC HEARING

PROPOSED LOCAL LAW TO AMEND THE CITY CHARTER AND CODE OF THE CITY OF ONEIDA TO
ABOLISH THE POSITION OF COMMISSIONER OF PUBLIC SAFETY AND TRANSFER THE
RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE COMMISSIONER OF PUBLIC SAFETY TO THE CITY MANAGER

RESOLUTION 26-

Moved by Councilor
Seconded by Councilor

RESOLVED, that the Public Hearing on a proposed Local Law to amend the City Charter and Code of the City of Oneida to abolish the position of Commissioner of Public Safety and to transfer the responsibilities of the Commissioner of Public Safety to the City Manager is hereby closed at ____ p.m.

Ayes: _____

Nays: _____

Absent: _____

MOTION RESULT: Passed Failed

APPROVAL OF WARRANT

Motion by Councilor
Seconded by Councilor

RESOLVED, that Warrant No. 4, including checks and ACH payments totaling \$ _____, as audited by the Voucher Committee, is hereby approved for payment.

Ayes: _____

Nays: _____

Absent: _____

MOTION RESULT: Passed Failed

1. A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF AN ADDITIONAL \$1,440,000 BONDS OF THE CITY OF ONEIDA, MADISON COUNTY, NEW YORK, TO PAY COSTS IN CONNECTION WITH CONSTRUCTION OF IMPROVEMENTS AT THE GLENMORE DAM IN AND FOR SAID CITY

RESOLUTION 26-

Moved by Councilor
Seconded by Councilor

WHEREAS, the capital project hereinafter described has been determined to be a Type I Action pursuant to the regulations of the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation promulgated pursuant to the State Environmental Quality Review Act ("SEQRA"), the implementation of which as proposed, it has been determined will not result in any significant adverse environmental effects and SEQRA compliance materials are available in the office of the City Clerk where they may be inspected during regular business hours; **NOW, THEREFOR, BE IT**

RESOLVED by the affirmative vote of not less than two thirds of the total voting strength of the Common Council of the City of Oneida, Madison County, New York, as follows:

Section 1. For the specific object or purpose of paying costs for the construction of improvements at the Glenmore Dam, including incidental costs and expenses, in and for the City of Oneida, Madison County, New York, there are hereby authorized to be issued an additional \$1,440,000 bonds pursuant to the provisions of the Local Finance Law. Said object or purpose is hereby authorized at the new maximum estimated cost not to exceed \$22,000,000.

Section 2. The plan for the financing of such \$22,000,000 maximum estimated cost is as follows:

- a) By the issuance of the \$8,000,000 bonds of said City heretofore authorized to be issued therefor pursuant to a bond resolution dated September 18, 2018;
- b) By the issuance of the \$5,940,000 bonds of said City heretofore authorized to be issued therefor pursuant to a bond resolution dated August 1, 2023;

- c) By the issuance of the \$6,620,000 bonds of said City heretofore authorized to be issued therefor pursuant to a bond resolution dated October 15, 2024; and
 - d) By the issuance of the additional \$1,440,000 bonds of said City herein authorized;
- provided however, that the amount of bonds to be issued shall be reduced to the extent of grants received in connection therewith.

Section 3. It is hereby determined that the period of probable usefulness of the aforesaid specific object or purpose is thirty years, pursuant to subdivision 3 of paragraph a of Section 11.00 of the Local Finance Law.

Section 4. The faith and credit of said City of Oneida, Madison County, New York, are hereby irrevocably pledged for the payment of the principal of and interest on such obligations as the same respectively become due and payable. An annual appropriation shall be made in each year sufficient to pay the principal of and interest on such obligations becoming due and payable in such year. There shall annually be levied on all the taxable real property of said City, a tax sufficient to pay the principal of and interest on such obligations as the same become due and payable.

Section 5. Subject to the provisions of the Local Finance Law, the power to authorize the issuance of and to sell bond anticipation notes in anticipation of the issuance and sale of the bonds herein authorized, including renewals of such notes, is hereby delegated to the City Comptroller, the chief fiscal officer. Such notes shall be of such terms, form and contents, and shall be sold in such manner, as may be prescribed by said City Comptroller, consistent with the provisions of the Local Finance Law.

Section 6. All other matters, except as provided herein relating to such bonds, including the date, denominations, maturities and interest payment dates, place or places of payment, and also including the consolidation with other issues, shall be determined by the City

Comptroller. Such bonds shall contain substantially the recital of validity clause provided for in Section 52.00 of the Local Finance Law and shall otherwise be in such form and contain such recitals in addition to those required by Section 52.00 of the Local Finance Law, as the City Comptroller shall determine.

Section 7. The City Comptroller is hereby further authorized, at her sole discretion, to execute a project finance and/or loan agreement, and any other agreements with the New York State Environmental Facilities Corporation, including amendments thereto, and including any instruments (or amendments thereto) in the effectuation thereof, in order to effect the financing or refinancing of the object or purpose described in Section 1 hereof, or a portion thereof, by a bond or note issue of said City in the event of the sale of same to the New York State Environmental Facilities Corporation.

Section 8. This resolution shall constitute a statement of official intent for purposes of Treasury Regulations Section 1.150-2. Other than as specified in this resolution, no monies are, or are reasonably expected to be, reserved, allocated on a long-term basis, or otherwise set aside with respect to the permanent funding of the object or purpose described herein.

Section 9. The validity of such bonds and bond anticipation notes may be contested only if:

- 1) Such obligations are authorized for an object or purpose for which said City is not authorized to expend money, or
- 2) The provisions of law which should be complied with at the date of publication of this resolution are not substantially complied with,

and an action, suit or proceeding contesting such validity is commenced within twenty days after the date of such publication, or

- 3) Such obligations are authorized in violation of the provisions of the Constitution.

Section 10. The proceeds of the bonds herein authorized and any bond anticipation notes issued in anticipation of said bonds may be applied to reimburse the City for expenditures made after the effective date of this resolution for the purpose for which said bonds are authorized. The foregoing statement of intent with respect to reimbursement is made in conformity with Treasury Regulation Section 1.150-2 of the United States Treasury Department.

Section 11. This resolution is effective immediately based on an Order on Consent with the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation. This resolution, which takes effect immediately, shall be published in summary form in The Star Gazette, the official newspaper of said City hereby designated for such purpose, together with a notice of the City Clerk in substantially the form set forth in paragraph a of Section 81.00 of the Local Finance Law.

The question of the adoption of the foregoing resolution was duly put to a vote on roll call, which resulted as follows:

Councilor McHugh	_____
Councilor Cimpi	_____
Councilor Smith	_____
Councilor Jones	_____
Councilor Pagano	_____
Councilor Simchik	_____
Mayor Rossi	_____

The Resolution was thereupon declared duly adopted.

2. AGREEMENT-JAKE'S GREENHOUSE (HANGING FLOWER BASKETS)

RESOLUTION 26-

Moved by Councilor

Seconded by Councilor

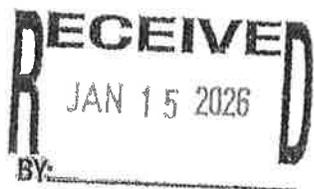
RESOLVED, that the City Manager is hereby authorized to execute an agreement with David Malbouf d/b/a Jake's Greenhouse, 3210 Genesee Street, Canastota, NY 13032, to supply and install seventy-two (72) 14-inch hanging flower baskets on designated poles in the City of Oneida from May through September 2026, and to provide maintenance for the same.

Ayes: _____

Nays: _____

Absent: _____

MOTION RESULT: Passed Failed



January 15,2026

**Jake's Greenhouse
3210 Genesee St.
Canastota, NY 13032
315-877-2499**

**City of Oneida
109 N. Main St.
Oneida, NY 13421**

I agree to supply and install 72-14 inch hanging baskets. The baskets will have Begonias or Pansies. I will hang baskets on poles where discussed. I will water baskets as needed starting the day of installation until September 30, 2026.

Hanging basket cost- \$39.99 each @ 72 baskets =\$2,879.28

Watering cost- \$8,400.00

Total:\$11,279.28

KYLE LOVELL, CITY MANAGER

DATED: _____

3. SOLE SOURCE-NEPTUNE WATER METERS

RESOLUTION 26-

Moved by Councilor

Seconded by Councilor

RESOLVED, to authorize Neptune Technology Group, 1600 Alabama Highway 229, Tallassee, AL 36078 as the sole source for Water Meters for 2026.

Ayes: _____

Nays: _____

Absent: _____

MOTION RESULT: Passed Failed



February 9th, 2026

City of Oneida
Drew Company
Water Superintendent
109 North Main Street
Oneida, NY 13421

Subject: TI-SALES LLC - Sole Authorized Distributor – State of NY

To whom it may concern:

Neptune Technology Group Inc is pleased to affirm that **TI-SALES LLC**, is the sole authorized distributor for Upstate State of NY for Neptune RF meter reading equipment and software, Neptune water meters and Neptune parts.

TI – SALES LLC is authorized by Neptune to submit an offer for Neptune water meters and related products.

Thank you for your interest in Neptune products. If you have any questions, please contact your local Ti – SALES LLC representative, Jim Pierce at (315)345-1169, or your local Neptune representative, Zach Mendes at (585) 557-0226. Sincerely,

Zachary Mendes
Neptune Technology Group Inc.

4. MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT-ONEIDA CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

RESOLUTION 26-

Moved by Councilor

Seconded by Councilor

RESOLVED, to authorize the Chief of Police to execute and sign updated agreements, amendments, extensions, or successor agreements with the Oneida City School District for the reimbursement of crossing guard services provided by the Police Department.

Ayes: _____

Nays: _____

Absent: _____

MOTION RESULT: Passed Failed

5. BUDGET TRANSFERS/AMENDMENTS

RESOLUTION 26-

Moved by Councilor
Seconded by Councilor

RESOLVED, to approve the budget transfers and amendments as outlined by the Comptroller or a third party duly retained by the City of Oneida to perform such services.

	<u>To</u>	<u>From</u>
2026 Budget Adjustments		
\$ 131,650.00	002.8300.0324.0000 Water Meters & Parts	002.0002.0912.0000 Water Fund Balance
<i>To allocate funds to cover the meter bid expenses</i>		
\$ 20,000.00	001.5110.0102.0000 Street Maintenance Overtime	001.0001.0912.0000 General Fund Balance
<i>To allocate funds for the overtime expenses due to the impact of unexpected weather conditions</i>		

Ayes: _____
Nays: _____
Absent: _____

MOTION RESULT: Passed Failed

6. AUTHORIZING THE DIRECTOR OF PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT TO EXECUTE DOCUMENTS RELATED TO PLANNING GRANTS AND ASSOCIATED PROJECTS

RESOLUTION 26-

Moved by Councilor

Seconded by Councilor

WHEREAS, the City of Oneida regularly applies for and receives planning-related grants and funding from federal, state, county, and other sources to support community development, infrastructure, housing, economic development, and related initiatives; and

WHEREAS, the administration of such grants often requires the timely execution of applications, certifications, reimbursement requests, claims vouchers, amendments, and related documents in order to ensure compliance with grant requirements and to maintain project schedules; and

WHEREAS, the Director of Planning and Codes serves as the City's lead staff person for the coordination, administration, and oversight of planning-related grants and associated projects, working in collaboration with consultants, contractors, and City staff; and

WHEREAS, the Common Council desires to promote efficient grant administration while retaining appropriate Council oversight over the acceptance of grant awards and any associated policy, budgetary, staffing, or organizational impacts;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Common Council of the City of Oneida hereby authorizes the Director of Planning and Codes, or their designee, to:

1. Execute and submit grant applications; and
2. Execute agreements, certifications, reimbursement requests, claims vouchers, amendments, and other related administrative documents necessary to administer planning grants and associated projects on behalf of the City of Oneida;

provided that such authority is limited to actions that are administrative in nature and to grants, projects, contracts, and expenditures that have been previously approved by the Common Council; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that acceptance of any grant award that:

- Creates new positions or staffing obligations; or
- Requires new or increased appropriations or matching funds; or
- Creates ongoing operational or financial obligations; or

- Results in material changes to City facilities, equipment needs, or organizational structure shall require separate approval by the Common Council prior to acceptance and implementation; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that all actions taken pursuant to this authorization shall be subject to the availability of appropriated funds, where required, and shall be carried out in accordance with applicable federal, state, and local laws, policies, and established financial and claims audit procedures; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Director of Planning and Codes shall keep the City Manager and Common Council reasonably informed of grant applications, awards, project status, and actions taken under this authorization.

Ayes: _____

Nays: _____

Absent: _____

MOTION RESULT: Passed Failed

7. A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING A STIPEND FOR STEVEN VONDERWEIDT, DIRECTOR OF CITY PLANNING, FOR ADMINISTRATIVE AND OPERATIONAL OVERSIGHT OF THE CODES DEPARTMENT

RESOLUTION 26-

Moved by Councilor

Seconded by Councilor

WHEREAS, the City of Oneida operates a Codes Department that requires consistent administrative and operational oversight to ensure effective enforcement, efficient service delivery, coordination with development activity, and compliance with applicable laws and regulations; and

WHEREAS, the City has not filled the position of Director of Codes and has instead adopted a management approach that leverages existing professional leadership to promote efficiency, coordination, and fiscal responsibility; and

WHEREAS, Steven Vonderweidt, Director of City Planning, has assumed, and will continue to assume, significant additional responsibilities related to the administrative and operational oversight of the Codes Department, including staff coordination, workflow management, policy and procedure alignment, interdepartmental coordination, and support of development and redevelopment initiatives within the City; and

WHEREAS, this organizational structure creates strong operational synergy between the Planning and Codes functions, improves coordination and customer service, strengthens development review and code enforcement alignment, and avoids the higher cost associated with staffing a separate department head position, thereby achieving meaningful cost effectiveness for the City and its taxpayers; and

WHEREAS, the Common Council recognizes that this expanded scope of responsibility represents a substantial and ongoing undertaking beyond the normal duties of the Director of City Planning, and that this added workload and accountability should be recognized and compensated in a fair, transparent, and professional manner; and

WHEREAS, the City Manager has recommended the payment of an annual stipend in the amount of Eighteen Thousand Dollars (\$18,000) to Steven Vonderweidt, Director of City Planning, in recognition of these significant additional duties and responsibilities;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Common Council of the City of Oneida, New York, that:

1. Steven Vonderweidt, Director of City Planning, is hereby authorized to receive an annual stipend in the amount of Eighteen Thousand Dollars (\$18,000) for administrative and operational oversight of the Codes Department.
2. This stipend shall be paid in accordance with the City's regular payroll practices and shall be in addition to his base salary.

3. This stipend recognizes the expanded scope of responsibility, the operational efficiencies achieved through this organizational structure, and the positive impact of integrated Planning and Codes oversight on City operations and service delivery.

4. The City Manager and City Comptroller are hereby authorized and directed to take any and all actions necessary to implement this resolution.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this resolution shall take effect immediately.

Ayes: _____

Nays: _____

Absent: _____

MOTION RESULT: Passed Failed

8. LEASE AGREEMENTS/EXPENDITURES-POLICE DEPARTMENT VEHICLES

RESOLUTION 26-

Moved by Councilor

Seconded by Councilor

RESOLVED, to authorize the City Manager and/or Police Chief to execute lease agreements for the replacement of designated police department vehicles and to approve associated expenditures for required emergency equipment installation (“upfit”), including but not limited to lighting, communications equipment, prisoner transport systems, and related public safety modifications.

Ayes: _____

Nays: _____

Absent: _____

MOTION RESULT: Passed Failed

NEW BUSINESS:

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn by Councilor
Seconded by Councilor

Ayes: _____

Nays: _____

Absent: _____

MOTION RESULT: Passed Failed

The meeting adjourned at _____ p.m.

CITY OF ONEIDA

Sandra LaPera, City Clerk