

**TOWN OF PITTSFORD
ENVIRONMENTAL BOARD
JULY 7, 2025**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Steve Heinzelman, Jim Pippin, Caroline Kilmer, Jackie Ebner, Ethan Greene, Audrey Clignett, Jeremy Lorch, Kathryn Kosinski, Jeanne Powers

ABSENT: Jeanne Powers, Julie Marcellus

OTHERS PRESENT: Anna Piazza, Building Department Assistant; Stephanie Townsend, Town Board Liaison; Leixi Chen, Student Member

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC: 1

Chairman Heinzelman opened the meeting at 7:01PM.

ONGOING UPDATES:

Board Member Lorch stated that the social media posts have been going well. He stated that Holly Jennings, Communication Assistant, has asked the Board to submit posts for moth week this month. Board Member Lorch asked Board Members for volunteers to create additional posts. Board Member Clignett stated that she recently created a few posts, one of which discusses the benefits of produce grown locally. Board Member Lorch discussed the Facebook algorithm and explained that the more they engage with the posts, the more visibility the posts will have to the public. Chairman Heinzelman volunteered to create a post and will reach out to Board Member Lorch.

Board Member Greene discussed growing his own vegetables and stated that they will be ready late-July. Board Member Pippin discussed the benefits of growing produce at home and pointed out that planting seeds at home allows you to get a head start.

Board Member Ebner stated that there has not been an update surrounding the Board's previous discussion on creating a climate action plan for Pittsford. She discussed workshopping a plan, picking a theme, and splitting it up into sections. Board Member Ebner discussed the idea of building off Monroe County's plan and other neighboring plans, and then customizing it to Pittsford's needs.

TOWN BOARD UPDATES: Stephanie Townsend, Town Board Liaison

Town Board Member Townsend discussed various construction projects occurring in the Town this summer. She explained three substantial sidewalk projects beginning this summer which are: the project connecting Thornell Road and Mendon Road, the Tobey Road project, and the East Street project. She hopes the projects will be completed by the fall.

PLANNING BOARD/STAFF UPDATES:

The Board discussed the new landscaping plan submitted by Pittsford Oaks. Board Member Pippin stated that the applicant once again did not achieve consistency and match the Sycamore Trees as previously requested. Additionally, he raised concerns with the applicant proposing to place Swamp White Oak trees along Jefferson Road, stating that the species of tree will not do well with salt. He previously gave this comment to the applicant, but it was not changed. Board Member Kilmer stated that the Board had previously discussed Evergreen Trees instead of Swamp White Oak Trees. Board Member Pippin also mentioned Norway Spruce Trees as a potential replacement stating that although it is not native, the species grows tall and thick. White Spruce Trees are another potential option. Board Member Pippin discussed the project's stormwater management plan and could not find the location of

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the pond that was supposed to be added. Board Members were asked to email April Zurowski, Planning Assistant, with specific comments about changes they would like to see and why, and she will pass them along to the Planning Board.

The Board discussed the final report received with the results of Monroe County's Food Scraps Pilot Program in which the Town participated in. Board Member Kilmer stated that a repeating comment was a request for a place to clean out the buckets. She also noted that the program's popularity seemed to taper off with time. Board Member Clignett noted the discrepancy between the 16 staff hours that were budgeted for and the 100 staff hours that were required. Board Member Kilmer discussed the importance of the education aspect of the program in relation to the connection of food scraps being a large source of reducing greenhouse gas emissions. Town Board Member Townsend stated that options for a program in town are limited as there are limited places to take the scraps. She discussed issues with the data obtained such as not having a reliable way to figure out how many people are actually composting at home, and overreporting as not all totes were entirely full. She additionally requested for the final report to be uploaded to the Town's website. Board Member Ebner discussed the idea of wrapping a compost service in with the refuse districts, however Town Board Member Townsend stated that waste management companies could not accommodate the large number of houses in the past.

The Board briefly discussed potential impacts of streetlights on native wildlife and will discuss the topic in more detail at the next meeting.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: June 2, 2025

Board Member Kilmer motioned to approve the minutes of June 2, 2025, as submitted, seconded by Board Member Pippin. Following a unanimous voice vote, the minutes were approved. None opposed.

MEETING ADJOURNMENT: Steve Heinzelman, Chairman

Chairman Steve Heinzelman adjourned the meeting at 7:46 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Anna Piazza
Building Department Assistant