

**TOWN OF PITTSFORD
ENVIRONMENTAL BOARD
OCTOBER 6, 2025**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Steve Heinzelman, Caroline Kilmer, Ethan Greene, Kathryn Kosinski, Julie Marcellus, Jeanne Powers, Jeremy Lorch

ABSENT: Jim Pippin, Jackie Ebner, Audrey Clignett

OTHERS PRESENT: Patricia Keating, Building Department Assistant; April Zurowski, Planning Assistant; Stephanie Townsend, Town Board Liaison; Leixi Chen, Student Member

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC: 14

Chairman Heinzelman opened the meeting at 7:00PM.

ONGOING UPDATES:

Ms. Zurowski reported for Board Member Lorch regarding social media posts. Student Member, Lexi Chen's Lighting information was posted on September 14 and Board Member Heinzelman's information regarding Energy Audits was posted on September 19. Topics for fall posts were suggested: environmentally caring for fall leaves, how/when to cut back gardens, not covering storm drains with yard debris. Board Member Marcellus volunteered to provide a post about "Leaving the Leaves."

Board Member Kilmer provided an update regarding the Environmental Management Council (EMC). She shared information from the Town of Pittsford with the members of the EMC, including the Organics Management Pilot Program, the use of refuse districts within the town and she shared details regarding the update of our town codes. Board Member Kilmer asked for volunteers to present to the EMC regarding topics pertinent to the Town of Pittsford. Town Board Member Townsend suggested having Supervisor Smith and someone from the Environmental Board (EB) present to the EMC. Board Member Kilmer also provided a list of speakers scheduled at the EMC meetings from October 2025 through January 2026. She reported that the EMC discussed starting a Youth Environmental Management Council (a sub-committee working under the EMC). This new group would be open to juniors and seniors from High Schools throughout the county. The EMC has begun the process of creating such a group. Board Member Kilmer reported that fourteen different county schools and a total of twenty-four students have shown interest so far. Moving forward, the Executive Committee of the EMC will be updating the Mission and Vision statements for the group.

Student Member Chen shared information regarding street lighting technology to reduce the environmental impact of streetlights on the environment. Ms. Zurowski stated that few streetlights are owned and maintained by the Town of Pittsford. Most streetlights in the area are owned and maintained by RG&E. The group discussed ways to share information with residents regarding the impacts of street lighting on the environment. Town Board Member Townsend stated that the Town Board would like the Environmental Board to provide written comments regarding this topic. Chairman Heinzelman and Student Member Chen will work together to generate written comments for the Town Board.

TOWN BOARD UPDATES: Stephanie Townsend, Town Board Liaison

Town Board Member Townsend provided updates regarding Casella taking over the contract for Town Refuse Districts. Residents have shared concerns regarding Casella's business practices. The most common complaint is that the company is mixing refuse and recyclables when servicing neighborhoods. Town Board Member Townsend stated that residents should be encouraged to call the

Town Hall with complaints regarding Casella. She stated that residents should include the date, time and location of the pickup in question.

PLANNING BOARD/STAFF UPDATES:

Ms. Zurowski updated plans for Pittsford Oaks. Demolition began and should last another two weeks or so. The contractor is working to finalize plans and site work could begin by the end of the year.

Monroe Golf Club is working to complete several new parking lot islands. They will be planting new trees for screening purposes and are replacing some trees that have died.

COMMUNITY CLIMATE ACTION PLAN UPDATE:

Board Member Kosinski stated that she generated a spreadsheet in a shared Google folder for the group to read regarding the Town of Pittsford Climate Action Plan (CAP) Section 1-Transportation. She listed four strategy areas that the Town of Pittsford has already begun to address, including Electrification, Active Transportation (e.g. walking, biking), Public Transportation (e.g. ride sharing) and Other. Board Member Kosinski will share the spreadsheet with board members, and she asked that members review the information and rank strategies listed in order of importance, keeping in mind cost, priority, impact level and who is responsible for implementing the strategies, with special focus on cost and impact level. Board Member Kosinski also requested that all board members note anything that they feel is missing from the spreadsheet and be ready to share ideas and comments during a full discussion of the topic at November's Environmental Board meeting.

MEETING ADJOURNMENT: Steve Heinzelman, Chairman

Chairman Steve Heinzelman adjourned the meeting at 7:39PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia Keating
Building Department Assistant