

A Special Meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Collins, County of Erie, State of New York was held at the Town Hall, 14093 Mill Street, Collins, NY on Monday the 3rd day of March 2025.

Present: Kenneth Martin, Supervisor Jane Sion, Councilmember
Jacquelyn McLean, Councilmember Becky Jo Summers, Town Clerk
James Hotnich, Councilmember

Also Present: Thomas & Sherry Siegle, Rob Gaylord, Colleen Kinnaird, Mathias Arbeiter VI and
Candee Termer

Absent: Robert O'Connor, Councilmember

Supervisor Martin called the meeting to order at 7:03 PM with the pledge to the Flag.

RESOLUTION #82: AGENDA APPROVAL

Motion made by Supervisor Martin and seconded by Councilmember Sion that the agenda be accepted as presented.

ADOPTED Aye 4 Sion, McLean, Hotnich, Martin
Nay 0

New Business

1. Resolution needed calling for the repeal of the New York State HALT Act

RESOLUTION #83: REPEAL OF THE NEW YORK STATE HALT ACT

Motion by Councilmember Hotnich, seconded by Councilmember McLean, that the following resolution is:

ADOPTED Aye 4 Sion, McLean, Hotnich, Martin
Nay 0

WHEREAS, the Town of Collins is requesting a home rule resolution, calling on the NYS Legislature to REPEAL the New York State HALT Act.

WHEREAS, while the New York State HALT Act may have been written with good intentions, its application has created a hazardous and unlawful environment which jeopardizes both staff and incarcerated individuals alike; and

WHEREAS, Correction Officers work in facilities to maintain good working order to keep incarcerated individuals, staff and the community safe by communicating well, remaining disciplined all while handling extremely dangerous situations inside the facility; and

WHEREAS, working in correctional facilities takes a physical and mental toll on Corrections Officers and their Families, especially while being mandated to work shifts 24 hours or more at one time; and

WHEREAS, with the implementation of the New York State HALT Act, Corrections Officers are not permitted to utilize SHU for long term disciplinary and have no recourse for violence toward other incarcerated individuals or staff, causing the rate of violent assaults to nearly double.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Town of Collins is demanding the full repeal of the New York State HALT Act until it can be researched and revised with Input from Correctional staff.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a certified copy of this resolution be forwarded to Honorable Governor Kathy Hochul, Honorable Speaker of the Assembly Carl E. Heastie, Honorable Senate Majority Leader Andrea Stewart-Cousins, Honorable Republican Senate Minority Leader Robert G. Ort, Honorable Majority Leader of the Assembly Crystal D. Peoples-Stokes, Honorable Minority Leader of

the Assembly William A. Barclay, and the Western New York Delegation and Erie County Executive Mark Poloncarz and the Erie County Legislature.

New Topics – Discussion and comments

Rob Gaylord spoke about keeping the focus on the Collins Correctional Facility to have our case be heard, to let our representatives know of the situation here in Southern Erie County and that a lot of the employees are not local.

With no further business, on a motion by Supervisor Martin seconded by Councilmember Hotnich the meeting was adjourned at 7:18 PM.

Becky Jo Summers, Town Clerk