



Board of Ethics

Gina L. Merlo, Chairperson

4160 Upper Mountain Road • Sanborn, NY 14132-9416
716-433-7664 • Fax: 716-433-7164 • www.townofcambria.com

Board of Ethics Meeting Minutes

Date: January 5, 2026

Time: 4:30 p.m.

Location: Cambria Town Hall

1. Call to Order

- The meeting was called to order at 4:35 p.m. by Gina L. Merlo.

2. Roll Call / Attendance

- Members present: Linda Hardt, Gina L. Merlo, and Ruth Pattison
- Also present was Abraham J. Platt, Esq., Attorney for the Town of Cambria.

3. Approval Meeting minutes dated December 11, 2025

- Gina L. Merlo moved to approve the minutes of the Town of Cambria Board of Ethics meeting held on December 11, 2025. Linda Hardt seconded the motion.
- Action Taken: Motion approved
- Roll Call: Linda Hardt voting AYE, Gina L. Merlo voting AYE, and Ruth Pattison voting AYE.

4. Concerns of the Citizen

- No citizens attendance; no concerns raised.

5. New Business

a. Ethics Violation Complaint Form

- Gina L. Merlo formally moved to approve the revised form. Ruth Pattison seconded the motion.
- Action Taken: Motion approved
- Roll Call: Linda Hardt voting AYE, Gina L. Merlo voting AYE, and Ruth Pattison voting AYE.



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Upon motion by Ruth Pattison, seconded by Gina L. Merlo, the meeting entered closed session to address complaints. Gina L. Merlo seconded the motion.

- Action Taken: Motion approved
- Roll Call: Linda Hardt voting AYE, Gina L. Merlo voting AYE, and Ruth Pattison voting AYE.

b. Complaint Number 2025-1

1. Initial Review of Complaint

- Gina L. Merlo made the motion to accept completeness of complaint. Ruth Pattison seconded the motion.
- Action Taken: Motion approved.
- Roll Call: Linda Hardt voting AYE, Gina L. Merlo voting AYE, and Ruth Pattison voting AYE.

2. Informal Complaint Review

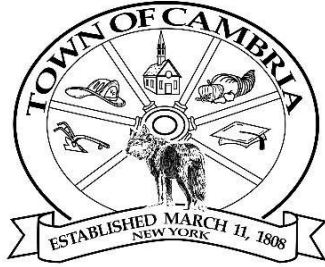
- Gina L. Merlo made a motion that the Board of Ethics will conduct a jurisdictional review of accepted complaint to determine whether it warrants further investigation. The motion was seconded by Linda Hardt,
 - Action Taken: Motion approved
 - Roll Call: Linda Hardt voting AYE, Gina L. Merlo voting AYE, and Ruth Pattison voting AYE.

3. Formal Complaint Review

- Gina L. Merlo made a motion that the Board of Ethics investigate the complaint and provide a written confidential advisory opinion to the Town Board reporting the determination. Linda Hardt seconded the motion.
- Action Taken: Motion approved.
- Roll Call: Linda Hardt voting AYE, Gina L. Merlo voting AYE, and Ruth Pattison voting AYE.

c. Complaint Number 2025-2

1. Initial Review of Complaint



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- Gina L. Merlo made a motion to accept completeness of complaint. Ruth Pattison seconded the motion.
- Action Taken: Motion approved.
- Roll Call: Linda Hardt voting AYE, Gina L. Merlo voting AYE, and Ruth Pattison voting AYE.

2. Informal Complaint Review

- Gina L. Merlo made a motion that the Board of Ethics will conduct a jurisdictional review of accepted complaint to determine whether it warrants further investigation. The motion was seconded by Linda Hardt.
 - Action Taken: Motion approved
 - Roll Call: Linda Hardt voting AYE, Gina L. Merlo voting AYE, and Ruth Pattison voting AYE.

3. Formal Complaint Review

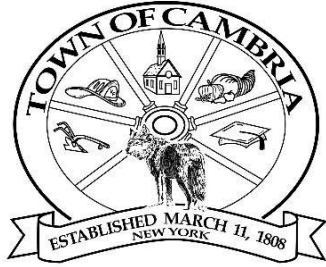
- Gina L. Merlo made a motion that the Board of Ethics investigates the complaint and provides a written confidential advisory opinion to the Town Board reporting the determination. Linda Hardt seconded the motion.
- Action Taken: Motion approved.
- Roll Call: Linda Hardt voting AYE, Gina L. Merlo voting AYE, and Ruth Pattison voting AYE.

6. Announcements

- Gina L. Merlo proposed that the next Board of Ethics meeting be held on January 28, 2026, at 4:30 p.m. Linda Hardt seconded the motion.
 - Action Taken: Motion approved
 - Roll Call: Roll Call: Linda Hardt voting AYE, Gina Merlo voting AYE, and Ruth Pattison voting AYE.

7. Adjournment

- At 6:25 p.m., Gina L. Merlo made a motion to adjourn the meeting, which was seconded by Linda Hardt.



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- Action Taken: Motion approved
- Roll Call: Linda Hardt voting AYE, Gina Merlo voting AYE, and Ruth Pattison voting AYE.

Respectively submitted for the record,

Ruth Pattison
Town of Cambria Board of Ethics Secretary