

MINUTES
TOWN OF EAST FISHKILL
TOWN BOARD MEETING
MARCH 27, 2025
6:00 p.m.

REGULAR BOARD MEETING

The Town of East Fishkill's Town Board Meeting on March 27, 2025, was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Supervisor D'Alessandro with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Supervisor's Announcements:

Supervisor D'Alessandro announced that Town Clean Up is this Saturday. Registration is 8 AM at the Town Hall. If you are available, please come out to help. The Town Clerk, Peter Cassidy, actually started this 29 years ago. East Fishkill Provisions provides free breakfast and free lunch. It is a really nice day. The month started with the Dutchess County Supervisors and Mayors Association meeting. This month it was in the Town of Wappinger. This month there was no guest speaker so it was just a general discussion on what is going on in each community. He thanked everyone who makes this such a great community. The Dutchess County Economic Development Advisory Council met. This group is to help see how they can advance economic development within Dutchess County and then they present their ideas to the County Executive. This month was general reports and updates from each department. His discussion for the month for this department was for self-certification for towns that have their own engineers. They have hit roadblocks with this process for years. He did recommend the County replace their attorney. He also suggested they bring on somebody who could help each town individually with development. Supervisor D'Alessandro attended the Dutchess County Regional Chamber of Commerce Annual Black-Tie Gala. The Chamber helps all local businesses throughout the County. Two East Fishkill businesses were honored at this gala. One was for Staci Cussick from Comparison Insurance Agency for the Community Service Award and the Curry sisters from Curry Estate for the Community Spirit Award. He congratulated them both. Supervisor D'Alessandro had a meeting with the Dutchess County Association of Realtors. They discussed updates in Town and what incoming developments are. The first classical concert of the year was held at the East Fishkill Library. He thanked everyone who helped to coordinate this. The next one will be Friday, April 4 at the library at 6:30 PM. The East Fishkill Rotary had the raising of the new flag in front of the Acme Plaza. He thanked the Rotary for getting this 80 foot flag put up. There will be another ceremony for the plaque installation. There was a meeting with the Town Historian and the Supervisor about America

250 which is about next year's 250th anniversary of our great country. They are discussing the possibility of having a joint celebration with other towns and cities that are located in southern Dutchess. It will be a year of many celebrations. Supervisor D'Alessandro met with Congressman Michael Lawler and the Dutchess and Putnam County municipalities which he serves. He gave an update as to what is going on in Washington DC. Some projects that were awarded last year might not be funded for 2025. They are unsure what is going to happen with the Funding Bill at this point.

There was a quarterly department head meeting last week. This keeps all employees of the Town Hall informed on what other departments are doing. Supervisor D'Alessandro met with the Dutchess County Community Development Advisory Council. This committee awards grants that the County Executive gives out for the Community Development Block Grants, the Municipal Innovation Grants, and the Agency Partnership Grants. These grants are a tremendous help to the community to receive them.

There was a meeting with New York State Economic State Development. East Fishkill received a \$2 million grant from them for the water loop line project at iPark. East Fishkill also received another two million-dollar line item grant from Congressman Lawlor and Senator Schumer for this project. They are in the midst of the SEQRA for this project. The agency was quick to help with some issues and trying to find ways to work this out.

Supervisor D'Alessandro attended the Dutchess County Regional Chamber of Commerce monthly contact breakfast in Poughkeepsie. The guest speaker was the Assistant County Executive Ron Hicks. He is the one who heads the economic development. Dutchess County has one of the lowest unemployment rates in the state. They have one of the most industrial vacancy rates in the State, and the County has one of the lowest retail vacancy rates in the State. As East Fishkill has such strong economic development, their plan is being used by the County as a template.

Supervisor D'Alessandro attended the Dutchess County Transportation Council meeting. The committee reviews all transportation projects within the County. This group is very helpful with all different transportation projects and the funding for them.

Roll Call: Supervisor D'Alessandro asked the Town Clerk to call the rolls.

Board Members in attendance were:

Craig	Emmanuel	Tom	Marianne	Nicholas
Arco	Marinero	Franco	Flores	D'Alessandro

Also, in attendance were:

Thomas Wood, Attorney; Derrick Cuccia, Police Chief; Scott Bryant, Engineer; Matt Chan, Animal Control Officer.

Public Hearings:

- 1. Open Public Hearing with respect to proposed Amendments to Chapter 63 "Animals" of the Town Code**
 - a. Open Public Hearing**

Motion to open the Public Hearing with respect to proposed amendments to Chapter 63 "Animals" of the Code: Board Member Franco. Seconded: Board Member Arco. All voted in favor. Motion carried.

Supervisor D'Alessandro stated they are working to adopt the animals law. Most of the law refers to the dogs in Town. The intent of the Town Board was to make sure that they support responsible animal ownership. That is the whole intent of the law. They want to make sure there are proper safeguards for the health and safety and welfare of the entire community. There are a lot of dogs and animals in this community and with that comes a lot of problems. When there are problems sometimes these animals have to be seized. By law when these animals get seized, they have to be housed. The question comes down to who pays for that. The Town pays for that through tax dollars. Supervisor D'Alessandro has a big problem when there is an unresponsive dog owner who does not pay his bill. There is nothing in the law to allow for the Town to collect the money from that person. Why should everyone else's taxes have to pay for their animal. The main intent was to make sure that they can collect whatever the billing is from the dog owner. There have been bills that have been as high as \$30,000. This is due to New York State law saying that the Town has to house them in a responsible manner. They have to be checked by the veterinarian and treated. That does cost a lot of money. In the previous law there was a limit as to the number of dogs someone could have at their home. They are going to propose eliminating that. The public has called each one of the Board members to complain that they do not like that section of the law so they will do away with it. He stated everyone needs to be cognizant that if your neighbor has 20 dogs in their home and you called to complain, there is nothing the Town can do about it. The Town is not going house to house to check to see if your dogs are licensed. They are not going to take your dog away from you because then they have to pay for it to be put in a pound. The Board does not care how many dogs you have as long as you treat them well. If there is a problem with your animal you will have to pay your bill. This law will state that if you don't pay that bill, it will be attached to your tax bill. We don't want to take anybody's pets. A lot of homes have pets. We want to make sure that everybody pays their fair share if there is an issue with their pets.

Chief Cuccia stated the main issue as to why the Town has to step in and come up with the laws is because the Dutchess County SPCA is no longer taking in animals. When they were, the costs were very minimal. Now private dog shelters have to be paid for housing for these animals, they do not run free. The intake of these animals have skyrocketed which has caused the town to have to pay for that. There are very few that don't take care of their animals. This is not only just for dogs. They have run into several issues with people housing multiple animals and animals of every

variety basically in hoarding situations. They have been to multiple houses where it may have been cats or farm animals and these houses are inundated with animals. For a private shelter to take in these animals becomes very costly and that burden has been put on the Town several times over. The last thing the Police Department wants to do is come to someone's house and take away their dog. Those are the most emotional moments they have been dealing with over the past couple of years. They have only done that in the most dire of situations when the animal has physically attacked someone. They are not being proactive. They are not going to the park looking for dogs. The Dog Warden is not a full-time employee of the Town and he is not looking to go out and grab stray dogs. In order to guarantee this maintains being a great place to live, they need to do something about the 1% that are not good animal lovers so that it is not everyone else's cost to pay.

Attorney Wood stated the Town Dog Ordinance has not been updated since 1985 so it became stale. This does enhance the maximum fines that the judge could impose. It is still the discretion of the judge depending on the circumstances. It does convert the penalties to civil penalties, so it is not a criminal action. That makes the collection of monies due easier. Under the Agricultural Markets Law, under dangerous animals, the burden is on the Town. There was a delivery person from Amazon severely attacked and mauled by two dogs. The dogs were seized and had to be held at the shelter. There are statutory time periods for hearings. There is also a right of appeal after the hearing for the owners. They did change the Agricultural Markets Law so that if the judge finds that it is a dangerous dog there has to be an evaluation performed by a dog behavioralist. All of these steps take more time. The current contract is \$75 per day to impound a dog at a duly certified shelter. Last year there were \$17,000 in bills. There are other agencies that are not charged with protecting the animals in inhumane situations. They are either understaffed or nonfunctioning in the area and the Town lacks the jurisdiction to enforce those laws. That was the genesis of a discussion that maybe they put the amount of dogs someone can own in there. They thought that might help alleviate some of the egregious situations with people having 17 or 18 dogs. It is not that they have that many dogs, it is if they are not treating them well. They cannot create a law that contradicts or conflicts with state law so they are not going to add that section in at this time. The Town usually only gets involved if there is a complaint or the police have to respond to a report of some sort of incident at the residence. Sometimes they discover hoarders who are very dangerous for fire situations. Now we are finding people hoarding animals. We do get social service agencies involved. This law states the ordinance and gives the Town where it is to collect the cost from the person who has caused this issue.

Supervisor D'Alessandro asked if there was anyone in the public to speak for or against the proposed dog law.

Resident Elaine stated that she agrees with some of the dog law, especially if someone is hoarding dogs. She herself owns two dogs and lives on under 1 acre. If her parents were to die, she would not put their dog into a shelter. She asked if

she would be told she could not have three dogs because she lives on less than an acre. Supervisor D'Alessandro stated they are removing that section of the law. She asked why they could not institute something like when CPS gets involved for bad parents. She stated if people are not paying their fines they should be arrested. Supervisor D'Alessandro stated it is not that easy. Police Chief Cuccia stated that some penalties that start off are basically having the Dog Warden, Matt Chan, chaperoning the dog and making sure that the dog is being treated well at that person's house.

Mr. Chan stated there are times when they seized the dog in place. They will have conversations with the DA's office if there is an ongoing investigation. They are not necessarily taking the dog away until it is determined that the situation has found its end, and they ultimately have to take the dog. Of the 19 dogs this one particular person had they only seized six and they were seized in place. There are a lot of things they try to do to mitigate having to seize a dog. They know it is a financial burden and they try to avoid it as much as possible. Depending on the dangerous level of the dog they have the ability to allow someone to quarantine it at their home. If it is more aggressive, they have to seize the dog for public safety. Resident Elaine stated with this being a growing concern they may need to consider more than just a part-time Dog Warden. Supervisor D'Alessandro stated they are trying their best to keep the taxes in check.

William Bracy stated he is confused about the Board eliminating the limit on how many dogs someone can have. He stated it is still on the agenda. Supervisor D'Alessandro stated it is marked for further discussion. They have all had so many residents call stating they do not want to limit on how many dogs they can have. Mr. Bracy feels that the dog owners are very outspoken and have gotten their way but the people who do not want the dogs don't get a say. He feels the dogs are like a plague. Everybody has multiple dogs since Covid, and it is too much. Board Member Franco stated he would certainly not describe them as a plague. A lot of people rely on their pets. He also stated that one of the things in the law is that people have to register their animals with the town and supply proof of all of their shots. That is because it is required by state law in order to get your animal back. Board Member Franco asked how many people had come in to register their dogs with the Town Clerk since they passed the first law. Town Clerk Cassidy said since November when they first discussed this law there have been approximately 300 dogs added to the Town. One family came in and registered 12 dogs and they were coming back because they did not have the paperwork for all 18 dogs that they own and they live on 1 acre. Attorney Wood stated the licensing requirement is by State Law. The Town has to administer it. A good part of the license fee goes to the State of New York for the support of the Department of Agriculture and Marketing. Board Member Franco stated it is a good thing that people have been able to come in and register their dogs. Police Chief Cuccia stated that the State does audits to make sure that no dog is released back to its owner without its shots and registration. Supervisor D'Alessandro stated there are more dogs unregistered than registered and the dog population outweighs the human population in this Town. Clerk Cassidy

stated one person had just adopted the dog and it ran away. It was going to cost him \$400 to get it back so he decided not to so it stayed at HVARs and cost the Town \$550 and then got adopted out to someone else.

Resident #3 stated she has a lot of land and one dog. She asked how having no limit on the amount of dogs ties into the noise ordinance. Attorney Wood stated the noise ordinance has a time limit for the dog barking. That is separate from this ordinance. There are also provisions in the noise ordinance for a kennel. Those have certain requirements under the zoning ordinance.

Board Member Marinaro stated residents expressed concerns regarding the section about being at the Town park with its owner. They were concerned about having someone else walk their dog who is not a local resident. Attorney Wood stated the Town parks are not paid for by anybody other than town residents. The Town has the right to limit the access to the to Town residents. There have been a lot of vandalism problems in the parks and they instituted a system where you are only allowed in if you are a town resident or are accompanied by a town resident, and this is an extension of that. Nonresidents will have to be accompanied by East Fishkill residents to walk in the parks. He stated if you have a dog sitter walking your dog while you were away the town will probably accept just a letter from the owner expressing permission. As the Chief of Police stated, no one is going around actively soliciting to take your dog. Chief Cuccia stated the officers and the Dog Warden all have common sense. They have never proactively gone after a dog and they won't. Attorney Wood stated if someone doesn't pay within the time limit, by civil penalty if it is not paid by the time the judge directs, it is converted into a judgment. That judgment gets filed with the county clerk and it becomes a lien on any property they own in Dutchess County. If we know where their employment is their wages can be garnished.

Board Member Arco stated they have not discussed the rabies issue. This year the CDC has been very involved because there is a rabies issue in the United States. You are not allowed to import puppies six months or younger into the country. If you take your puppy over the border like for a picnic in Canada you better be able to prove the puppy is six months old and has its rabies vaccination in order to bring it back into the United States. Mr. Chan stated that HVARs is willing to do a free rabies clinic later this year. It is a new initiative they are trying to get out. They are trying to find a place where they can conduct it and they will make it free to East Fishkill residents. Chief Cuccia stated HVARs is Hudson Valley Animal Rescue and Sanctuary, which is the facility they are using and they have been fantastic. They are a no kill organization. Attorney Wood stated there is a shortage of facilities that have space because of all the rescues going on from areas that have natural emergencies. Board Member Arco asked if they could put that information on the website so the residents can see it as well, and Supervisor D'Alessandro said yes.

Supervisor D'Alessandro asked if there was anyone else with any questions or comments. There was no one.

b. Close Public Hearing

Motion to close the public hearing with respect to proposed amendments to Chapter 63 "animals" of the Town Code: Board Member Franco. Seconded: Board Member Marinaro. All voted in favor. Motion carried.

c. Adopt Negative Declaration and Local Law

NEGATIVE DECLARATION

Notice of Determination of Non-Significance

Date: March 27, 2025

This notice is issued pursuant to Part 617 of the implementing regulation pertaining to Article 8 (State Environmental Quality Review Act) of the Environmental Conservation Law.

The Town of East Fishkill Town Board has determined that the proposed action described below will not have a significant effect on the environment and a Draft Environmental Impact Statement will not be prepared.

Name of Action: **Amendments to Chapter 63 (“Animals”) of the Town Code**

Description of Action:

The proposed action would result in revisions to Chapter 63 “Animals” of the Town Code. The revisions would result in improvements to public health and safety in regards to dog restrictions, licensing and procedures for seizures of dogs. The revisions will also result in penalties for offenses and limits to the number of dogs per property.

SEQR Status: Type I ☐ Conditioned Negative Declaration? ☐ Yes

Unlisted ☒ ☐ No

Location of Action: Town of East Fishkill, County of Dutchess

The following documentation was analyzed in making this negative declaration:

☒ Short Form EAF

☐ Supplemental Part III Information

_____ Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP)

_____ Other (Describe)

Name of Action: **Amendments to Chapter 63 (“Animals”) of the Town Code**

For Further Information:

Contact Person: Peter J. Cassidy, Town Clerk
Town Hall, 330 Route 376
Hopewell Junction, New York 12533
(845) 221-4303

REASONS SUPPORTING THIS DETERMINATION:

(See 617.7(c) for requirements of this determination; see 617.7(d) for conditioned Negative Declaration)

The proposed action would result in revisions to Chapter 63 “Animals” of the Town Code. The revisions would result in improvements to public health and safety in regards to dog restrictions, licensing and procedures for seizures of dogs. The revisions will also result in penalties for offenses and limits to the number of dogs per property. The proposed action would not result in any significant adverse impacts for the following reasons:

1. It will not result in any significant fiscal impacts.
2. It will not generate a significant number of additional vehicles, noise or emission levels.
3. It will not affect rare or endangered species of animal or plant, or habitat of such species.
4. It will not result in any impacts to historic or archeological resources.
5. It will not result in any impacts related to hazardous materials.
6. It will not result in a significant effect on air, water quality or ambient noise levels for adjoining areas.
7. It will not be subjected to unacceptable risk of flooding or major geological hazards.
8. It will not have a substantial aesthetic affect.
9. It will not involve adversely affect any surface water or groundwater.
10. It will not allow for improper uses within specified zoning districts.
11. It will not result in adverse cumulative impacts.
12. It will not result in adverse growth-inducing impacts.
13. It will not conflict with the Town’s Comprehensive Plan.

In conclusion, no significant potential impacts were identified as a result of the Proposed Action.

Based on a review of 6NYCRR 617.7, there appear to be no significant adverse environmental impacts.

If Conditioned Negative Declaration, provide on attachment the specific mitigation measures imposed.

THIS NEGATIVE DECLARATION WAS AUTHORIZED AT A MEETING OF THE TOWN BOARD OF THE TOWN OF EAST FISHKILL HELD ON MARCH 27, 2025.

Chairperson/Designee

Date

For Type I Actions and Conditioned Negative Declarations, a Copy of this Notice Sent to:

- Commissioner, Department of Environmental Conservation, 50 Wolf Road, Albany, New York 12233-0001
- Appropriate Regional Office of the Department of Environmental Conservation.
- Office of the Chief Executive Officer of the political subdivision in which the action will be principally located.
- Applicant (if any)
- Other involved agencies (if any)

Local Law No. 2 of 2025

(AMENDMENTS TO CHAPTER 63 (“ANIMALS”) OF THE TOWN CODE)

Section 1. Legislative Intent

The Supervisor and Town Board support responsible animal ownership. This Local Law seeks to ensure that there are proper safeguards in place to protect the health, safety, and welfare of the community.

Section 2. Amendments to Town Code Section 63-5: Restrictions

There shall be a new Section 63-5(H) of the Town Code to read as follows:

It shall be unlawful for any owner of any dog in the Town to permit or allow such dog to:

H. Be at any park on Town of East Fishkill property unless such owner is a resident or is accompanying a resident of the Town of East Fishkill and the dog has a valid license.

Section 3. Amendments to Section 63-6: Licensing Required; Fees

1. Section 63-6(C) shall be amended to read as follows:

Fees for licensing dogs. Licensing fees shall be set by resolution of the Town Board with such fees being reviewed by the Town Board periodically and may be changed by a resolution of the Town Board, if deemed necessary.

Section 4. Amendments to Section 63-7: Procedure for Seizure of Dogs

Section 63-7(A) shall be amended to read as follows:

A. Seizure, keeping, and disposal.

(1) The Dog Control Officer or any peace officer shall seize:

- (a) Any unlicensed dog, whether on or off the owner's premises;**
 - (b) Any dog not wearing a tag and not identified and which is not on the owner's premises; or**
 - (c) Any dog whose Defendant-Owner fails to appear for a scheduled Court Date provided that the Judge signs a written order of seizure**
- (2) Such seized dog shall be kept in accordance with the provisions of Article 7 of the Agriculture and Markets Law, and see that the order of the Town Justice of the Town of East Fishkill in such case is carried out.**

Section 5. Amendments to Section 63-8: Penalties for Offenses

Section 63-8 shall be amended to read as follows:

Any violation of this Chapter shall be punishable by a fine not to exceed \$350 for a first offense, \$700 for the second offense, and \$1,000 for each subsequent offense or by imprisonment not to exceed 15 days, or both such fine and imprisonment. Each day's continued violation shall constitute a separate additional violation. Any violation of this Chapter may also be filed as a civil matter.

Section 6. Severability

If any clause, sentence, paragraph, subdivision, or part of this Local Law or the application thereof to any person, firm or corporation, or circumstance, shall be adjudged by any court of competent jurisdiction to be invalid or unconstitutional, such order or judgment shall not affect, impair, or invalidate the remainder thereof, but shall be confined in its operation to the clause, sentence, paragraph, subdivision, or part of this Local Law or in its application to the person, individual, firm or corporation or circumstance, directly involved in the controversy in which such judgment or order shall be rendered.

Section 7. Effective date

This local law shall take effect immediately upon filing with the Secretary of State.

**BY ORDER OF THE TOWN BOARD
OF THE TOWN OF EAST FISHKILL
PETER CASSIDY, TOWN CLERK**

**Adopted March 27, 2025
At a Regular Board Meeting
Held at Town Hall**

Motion to adopt the Negative Declaration and Local Law as amended deleting section 6: Board Member Franco. Seconded: Board Member Arco. All voted in favor. Motion carried.

Supervisor D'Alessandro stated any local law can be revisited at any time so if there are issues or concerns, please call any Board member.

2. Open Public Hearing to Consider Extension to Moratorium on Building

a. Open Public Hearing

Motion to open the Public Hearing to consider extension to the moratorium on building: Board Member Franco. Seconded: Board Member Flores. All voted in favor. Motion carried.

Supervisor D'Alessandro stated that the Board adopted a moratorium on building with some exceptions. The idea was not to stop all building and construction. The idea was that the Town is in the midst of a Master Plan. He thanked everyone who has taken the time to work on or speak about the Master Plan. It is a wonderful document and they will have a presentation on it on April 10. Because they are not quite done with it yet, and they need to discuss zoning changes after they complete the Master Plan, they feel that they need to extend this moratorium through the end of the year. This way there is no pressure. They need to have the Public Hearings for the Master Plan and then the Planning Board has to review it. Dutchess County has to review it and submit back comments and the public also has a say. Then the final plan would be adopted. With that being said, they would like to expand the moratorium through the end of this year.

Attorney Wood stated that the proposal would be to not only extend it but to modify some of the restrictions to make it a little more restrictive. Under the current moratorium if there is a piece of industrial property that adjoins a previously approved site plan for industrial use, they would be allowed to proceed through for approvals. The amendment would delete that and would stop those applications until after the Master Plan is adopted and the Town Board decides if there are going to be any modifications made on land use in the Town.

Supervisor D'Alessandro asked if there were any questions from the Board. There were none.

Supervisor D'Alessandro asked if there was anyone from the public to speak for or against this.

Hugh O'Neill asked if he had a major manufacturer neighboring him who was not following town policies in getting building permits etc. and has expanded their business and he made a complaint, does that mean that there will be no action taken for a year. Attorney Wood said no. This would be if there is a vacant piece of land that was previously approved for industrial use and there were 10 acres next to it and someone wanting to get industrial use on that 10 acres they would have to wait until the Comprehensive Master Plan was complete. Attorney Wood stated the remedy for this gentleman's complaint would probably be to have the applicant come back before the Planning Board. Supervisor D'Alessandro stated the idea is to have some projects slowed down so that they can make sure it all falls within what they are doing for the Master Plan.

Resident #4 stated he read that they want to put 400 to 500 units across the street and he wondered what was going on with that. Supervisor D'Alessandro stated this applicant had approvals back in 1982 or 1984. Now they are before the Planning Board again to go through a new review. They have been required to do new studies and traffic studies and everything else. They are allowed to do that under the moratorium but they cannot get final approval. Resident #4 stated traffic has been terrible since the A&P went in. He questioned how long they would be able to have a volunteer fire department when there are 400 or 500 additional units coming in. Supervisor D'Alessandro stated he could not answer that but he could say when the Planning Board does its review of this project, they address the issues and ask how the applicant will mitigate them. If the applicant's mitigations are not enough the Planning Board can deny the project. Then the applicant can sue stating that the Town was not reasonable. Then it goes to court and the judge decides. Resident #4 stated that the Town is getting packed. Supervisor D'Alessandro stated he agrees and they have to weigh each project as an individual application. Property owners have rights and if they can meet the requirements, it is hard for the Town to deny them.

Supervisor D'Alessandro asked if there were any comments or questions regarding extending the moratorium. There were none

b. Close Public Hearing

Motion to close the Public Hearing to consider extension to the moratorium on building: Board Member Franco. Seconded: Board Member Flores. All voted in favor. Motion carried.

Attorney Wood stated they are waiting for Dutchess County comments. Supervisor D'Alessandro stated they will pass this law on to Dutchess County Planning for their review. It will be back on the agenda for resolution for approval or denial after they receive those comments back.

Dangerous Buildings Hearings:

- 1) Route 376 LLC 477 Route 376, Hopewell Junction, NY 12533
- 2) IRV Broadway LLC 469 Route 376, Hopewell Junction, NY 12533
- 3) David R, Koehler 483 Route 376, Hopewell Junction, NY 12533

Supervisor D'Alessandro stated there are three proposed dangerous buildings in Town. He stated the first two are the same owner. He asked if the owners were present. No one was present.

Engineer Bryant stated in July of last year they had identified several properties throughout the town that were in disrepair, abandoned, or deteriorating. They have notified the homeowners or building owners of the concerns and that they wanted the owner to provide an engineering assessment for architectural assessments as to the structural sufficiency of these buildings. They did get one person to respond with an architect assessment and they have been working with that owner with the new zoning that may be coming through on the Master Plan. He thanked them for their responsiveness. The owner has also secured the property. Another owner for a different parcel came into see the Building Department but they have not taken any action. A third owner has been completely nonresponsive for their request for an assessment.

Attorney Wood stated under the law they have been given notice and time to provide a plan to rehabilitate the structure and were able to secure it so that it is safe. They have failed to do that. They have been notified that they have the right to come before the Town Board tonight to make a statement or provide some evidence to the Board. At the conclusion of this proceeding, the Town Board can direct that the buildings be demolished. They will be given notice of that and they are given a certain number of days to comply. Under New York State law if they do not comply the Town can take steps to demolish the structure and charge the cost of it back to the property.

Engineer Bryant read the Town code for unsafe structures and what the definitions of them are.

Supervisor D'Alessandro stated the Chairperson of the Fire Advisory Board was present and asked Mr. Palin if you wanted to make any comments on the first two buildings.

Dave Palin stated he is Chairperson of the Fire Advisory Board and also a member of the East Fishkill Fire District. They have concerns because these buildings are in disrepair. Should a fire occur the fire chiefs will not be sending people in. This would be an exterior fire attack and the fire would finish what nature has really begun since they had been abandoned. He feels the bigger concern is the storage of equipment behind the one building all the way to the creek. Should a fire start in any of that equipment the fire district is unable to attack that fire and access it

because of the way the vehicles are parked. With all the hazardous materials that are or could be in those vehicles, it could contaminate the Whortlekill Creek, which flows into the Fishkill Creek, which flows into the Hudson River. He is glad to see that the Town is taking steps to control and correct that area.

Supervisor D'Alessandro stated they had tried to address this for several years and worked with the property owner. They are nonresponsive to any of the communication. Both of these properties also have several violations for all of the equipment and they are in violation of their site plan as well as multiple other violations. The Town is moving forward to bring them to justice court.

Fire District Chief John Jackson stated that he shares the same concerns that Mr. Palin mentioned. That would go for any unsafe buildings in the Town. He has not done any inspections but is aware of conditions that are present within the Town. He stated that Mr. Palin stated the fire district would not go into a structure like that but there is always the concern that people might go into a structure like that and you don't know whether or not they are there. Without reports of someone being in there we will not make a rescue attempt but you never know. Someone could go in those buildings and get hurt and then the fire district has to go and perform a rescue even if there is no fire. Certainly, dangerous buildings anywhere in the town are a concern. He did state that the property between the soccer fields in Wiccopee does have a tree down across the driveway that is larger than the Fire District would be able to move if there was an emergency there. He asked if there was any way the Town could help move that tree because if there is a fire the Fire District will need to access the area. Supervisor D'Alessandro stated it will be taken care of.

Supervisor D'Alessandro asked if there were any additional comments from the Board. There were none.

Supervisor D'Alessandro asked if the owner of the third property was present. He was not. Supervisor D'Alessandro stated they have received several letters from Mr. Koehler, the owner of the property asking the Town to postpone the Hearing so that he could be present. He asked the Town Engineer to discuss this property before the Board makes any decisions.

Engineer Bryant stated this particular structure is partially inhabited seasonally. However in the backside of the structure the roof is already collapsing. They have not been able to get inside the building to do any sort of assessment. He does believe that that particular building poses more of a serious problem as somebody could be in that building. The proximity of these structures to 376 would also close down the roadway if something were to happen. Supervisor D'Alessandro stated the last thing anyone wants is to send any of the volunteer fire people into these buildings, on the roof, and then it collapses and something happens to them. It is their main concern to make sure that the public and the volunteers are all protected. He asked if the Board was wishing to postpone moving forward with this. Board Member Flores stated Mr. Koehler is away for 30 days. Attorney Wood stated he is

asking for adjournment until after April 23. Board Member Marinaro stated this gentleman has been a longtime town resident and he would be in support of a 30 day extension. Supervisor D'Alessandro stated it would be until the May Town Board meeting because he will not be back in time for the April Town Board meeting.

Motion to adjourn the Hearing on 483 Route 376, Hopewell Junction, NY 12533 until the May 2025 Town Board Meeting to make sure that the owner is present: Board Member Marinaro. Seconded: Board Member Flores. All voted in favor. Motion carried.

Approve Minutes:

February 13, 2025, Town Board Minutes

Motion to approve the February 13, 2025, Town Board meeting minutes: Board Member Marinaro. Seconded: Board Member Arco. All voted in favor. Motion carried.

Announcement of Additions to the Agenda:

Supervisor D'Alessandro said there are no additions to the agenda.

Supervisor Proclamation:

Supervisor D'Alessandro stated they have a proclamation to declare May 2025 as Mental Health Awareness Month and he read the proclamation. He stated this is very worthwhile and they do it every year. Every municipality in the County is asked to take this into consideration and have this proclamation each year. He asked that the Town Clerk file this proclamation.

Courtesy of the Floor:

Supervisor D'Alessandro asked if there was anyone who wanted to speak about any general town issues.

Mr. O'Neil stated he lives in Stormville. He spoke about speeding issues near Leetown Park. He voiced a complaint he made regarding the excessive amount of cars at the two businesses near the end of Leetown Road. Supervisor D'Alessandro stated they are in the process of reviewing the complaints with the Zoning Administrator, who has reached out several times to the owner of the property. The property owner has stated that they will be making an amended site plan application. With respect to Package Pavement, part of that plan is pre-existing, nonconforming. The Planner did reach out to New York State DEC and they are in compliance with the DEC permit. She has reached out to New York City DEP because part of that property is in the New York City watershed. DEC will help

address the water flow issues with respect to the catch basin that is there. It is complicated because it is an industrial business with a lot agencies involved. Mr. Rickett will accompany the fire inspector to do an inspection on site and through that they will be able to document if there were other issues in regard to what was approved and what was not. Attorney Wood explained that a business is not assessed the same a residence is assessed. It is based on revenue and expenses, and items that are movable like equipment are not assessable. The Town Board will be authorizing lawsuits against several properties that are out of compliance. Businesses are given the chance to make corrections and work with the Town and when they don't repeatedly, the Town can get the court involved and stop the business from using their property without completing the approval process through the Town. If they violate that order, the owner of the property can go to jail. According to state law they cannot go back and collect back taxes. Mr. O'Neil asked who monitors environmental reviews for this. Supervisor D'Alessandro stated DEC is the full authority. Attorney Wood stated they are working with DEC on this. The Planner has FOILed information already. Mr. O'Neil stated he is also concerned about cancer clusters. Supervisor D'Alessandro stated they are in the process of reviewing all of their site plans for this applicant and then they will meet with them to discuss what is or isn't approved. They will have to go before the Planning Board to make any changes on their site plans. He stated that they are keeping up with this and they will give him updates as they get them. Board Member Flores stated she appreciates him bringing these concerns forward and stated she will continue to bring updates forward for him.

Receive and File:

Supervisor D'Alessandro stated they had nothing additional.

Resolutions:

1. Resolution Addressing Dangerous Buildings

Motion regarding a resolution to adjourn the addressing three dangerous buildings until the May 2025 voting meeting: Board Member Marinaro. Seconded: Board Member Franco. All voted in favor. Motion carried.

2. Award Spring Highway Materials and Equipment Bids

RESOLUTION (AWARDING CERTAIN HIGHWAY BIDS)

WHEREAS, the Town Board previously authorized the advertisement of bids for various materials and equipment utilized by the Highway Department; and

WHEREAS, the bids have been received by the Town Clerk and a summary has been prepared; and

WHEREAS, it is the desire of the Town Board to award said bids to the lowest responsible bidders first; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the bids for materials and equipment for the Highway Department as set forth in the attached schedule are accepted and the Highway Department will utilize the lowest responsible bidder in each category first; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Town Clerk shall notify all bidders of said award.

Motion to award Spring Highway Materials and Equipment Bids: Board Member Marinaro. Seconded: Board Member Franco. All voted in favor. Motion carried.

3. Award Brush Drop Off Bid

RESOLUTION
(AWARD BRUSH DROP LOCATION)

WHEREAS, the Town of East Fishkill has requested proposals for the 2025 Brush Drop location for the Town; and

WHEREAS, the proposals have been received and reviewed by the Town Clerk; and

WHEREAS, the Highway Superintendent has made a recommendation to the Town Board as set forth in the attached schedule; and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the following be and hereby are awarded the contract for the brush drop location; and

Lime Kiln Road, LLC

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Brush Drop Program will run from May 21, 2025 until June 14, 2025 and in the fall from September 24, 2025 until October 18, 2025.

Motion to award Brush Drop Off Bid: Board Member Arco. Seconded: Board Member Franco. All voted in favor. Motion carried.

4. Reject all Bids for Town Buildings Cleaning Services

RESOLUTION
(REJECTING BIDS RECEIVED WITH RESPECT TO

PROPOSALS FOR CLEANING SERVICES)

WHEREAS, the Town Recreation Director previously advertised for bids with respect to the Cleaning Services for Municipal Buildings Contract RD-2025-01; and

WHEREAS, the Town Clerk received said bids and opened the same; and

WHEREAS, upon a review of said bids, the Town Board has decided to reject all bids and modify the bid specifications in an attempt to lower costs when rebid; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Clerk be and hereby is authorized to notify all bidders that said bids have been rejected.

Motion to reject all bids for Town Buildings Cleaning Services: Board Member Flores. Seconded: Board Member Franco. All voted in favor. Motion carried.

5. Authorize Sons of Italy Fireworks Permit and Grant Permission to Use Hopewell Recreation Field May 22 – 25, 2025

RESOLUTION

(AUTHORIZE FIREWORKS PERMIT AND GRANT PERMISSION TO USE HOPEWELL RECREATION FIELD MAY 22-25, 2025)

WHEREAS, the Sons of Italy conduct their annual event to provide entertainment and fireworks to the community; and

WHEREAS, the Town has traditionally allowed them the use of the Hopewell Recreation Field for this purpose; and

WHEREAS, the Sons of Italy is requesting the Town Board approve the use of the Hopewell Recreation Field from Thursday, May 22, 2025 through Sunday, May 25, 2025; and,

WHEREAS, the Sons of Italy is requesting the Town Board approve the fireworks display for Sunday, May 25, 2025; and

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Sons of Italy is authorized to use the Recreation Field and have the fireworks display on the date requested; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Town Police, Town Recreation Department and all other agencies of the Town are authorized and directed to allow the use of the Hopewell Recreation Field by the Sons of Italy for the firework display; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this consent is subject to the receipt of a Certificate of Insurance from the Sons of Italy indemnifying the Town for any liability arising out of their use of the fields.

Motion to authorize the Sons of Italy Fireworks Permit and grant permission to use the Hopewell Recreation Field May 22 – 25, 2025: Board Member Franco.

Seconded: Board Member Arco. All voted in favor. Motion carried.

6. Authorize Town Clerk to Attend Town Clerk's Association Conference
April 27 – 30, 2025

RESOLUTION

**(AUTHORIZE ATTENDANCE AT THE NEW YORK STATE TOWN CLERKS
ASSOCIATION)**

WHEREAS, the New York State Town Clerks Association Conference conducts their annual meeting and training sessions in Downtown Syracuse April 27, 2025 to April 30, 2025; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Town Board does hereby authorize the Town Clerk, approved by the Town Supervisor, to attend the New York State Clerks Association Conference held in Downtown Syracuse April 27, 2025 to April 30, 2025; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the expenses to the Town will be for the registration, lodging, meals, and tolls.

Motion to authorize the Town Clerk to attend the Town Clerk's Association Conference April 27 – 30, 2025: Board Member Marinaro. Seconded: Board Member Franco. Supervisor D'Allesandro voted nay. All others voted in favor. Motion carried.

7. Acknowledge Hiring Seasonal Laborers for Highway

RESOLUTION

(APPOINT SEASONAL LABORERS)

WHEREAS, the Highway Superintendent and Foreman Michael Cicero, has interviewed Trevor Devine, Keshawn Latimore & Dylan Magnotta; and

WHEREAS, the Town is requesting the hiring of Trevor Devine, Keshawn Latimore and the re-hiring of Dylan Magnotta as Seasonal Laborers; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board does hereby authorize the hiring of Trevor Devine, Keshawn Latimore and the re-hiring on Dylan Magnotta in the Highway Department; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Trevor Devine & Keshawn Latimore will be paid at an hourly rate of \$17.00, and Dylan Magnotta will be paid at \$19.00 per hour; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that their effective date will be March 24th, and that upon completion of their seasonal tasks, they shall be removed from the payroll.

Motion to acknowledge hiring seasonal laborers for the Highway Dept.: Board Member Arco. Seconded: Board Member Flores. All voted in favor. Motion carried.

8. Authorize Supervisor to sign a New Collective Bargaining Agreement with the EFPBA Covering 2024 – 2027

RESOLUTION
(AUTHORIZING A COLLECTIVE
BARGAINING AGREEMENT WITH THE EAST FISHKILL POLICE
BENEVOLENT ASSOCIATION FOR 2024, 2025, 2026 & 2027)

WHEREAS, the Town Attorney and Comptroller have been negotiating with the attorneys and representatives of the East Fishkill Police Benevolent Association, and

WHEREAS, as a result of these negotiations the Supervisor has submitted the attached term sheet for consideration by the Town Board, and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board accepts the attached terms and authorizes the Supervisor to execute an extension of the current Collective Bargaining Agreement as modified by the attached.

Motion to authorize the Supervisor to sign a new Collective Bargaining Agreement with the EFPBA covering 2024 - 2027: Board Member Flores. Seconded: Board Member Franco. All voted in favor. Motion carried.

9. Authorize Design for Upgrades to John Jay Lift Station

RESOLUTION
(AUTHORIZE JOHN JAY LIFT STATION UPGRADE DESIGN)

WHEREAS, the Town previously constructed the John Jay Sewer Pump Station with a flow capacity of 50,000 gallons per day; and

WHEREAS, the pump station sewer capacity is nearing its limit, previously prompting an evaluation of the pump station to determine the feasibility of increasing the capacity to 100,000 gallons per day; and

WHEREAS, the Town requested that Barton and Loguidice Engineering DPC, who performed the feasibility analysis, provide a change order for the design of Pump Station upgrades that will achieve the desired 100,000 GPD capacity; and

WHEREAS, this is a Type II SEQR Classification and no further SEQR action is needed; and

NOW THEREFORE, IT IS RESOLVED, that the Town Board hereby declares and authorizes Town Supervisor, Nicholas D'Alessandro, be provided the authority to negotiate and authorize a change order with Barton and Loguidice Engineering DPC for design of the pump station upgrades for an amount not to exceed \$85,300.00.

Motion to authorize design for upgrades to John Jay Lift Station: Board Member Franco. Seconded: Board Member Marinaro. All voted in favor. Motion carried.

10. Authorize Out of District Hopewell North Water User

RESOLUTION

(AUTHORIZE OUT OF DISTRICT WATER USER AND WATER FOUNTAIN)

WHEREAS, the Town been working with Dutchess County (Rail Trail) and the Hopewell Depot Museum for the purpose of installing a seasonal drinking water fountain in the vicinity of the Hopewell Depot Museum. The drinking water fountain will need easements, water supply, equipment, and agreements; and

WHEREAS, the Town will need to allocate water for the Hopewell Depot Museum to supply the drinking fountain; and

WHEREAS, the water source is the Hopewell North WD via the water transmission line; and

WHEREAS, an out of district user agreement with no water source fee, no connection fee, and no out-of-district adjustment fee will be needed; and

WHEREAS, Dutchess County Department of Health will require periodic water quality sampling and a licensed water operator to oversee the water system; and

WHEREAS, the Town will need to provide operational and maintenance support to ensure the cleanliness of the public area; and

WHEREAS, the Town is seeking grant support for the purchase of some or all of the equipment and materials needed for the installation of the drinking water fountain, and which, the Town would provide funding not received through a grant award; and

WHEREAS, the Water and Sewer Department has confirmed adequate available domestic water capacity is available from the Hopewell North Water District; and

WHEREAS, this is a Type II SEQR Classification and no further SEQR action is needed; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board authorizes the Depot Museum parcel be provided water, with no water source fee and no Out Of District User surcharge; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Town is authorized to provide periodic water testing and water operator services as required by the Health Department; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Town authorizes the Water and Sewer Department to prepare an Out Of District Will Serve Letter; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Town is authorized to provide the annual water usage fee for the water fountain; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Town is authorized to provide in-kind services for the installation of the water service and fountain; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Town Attorney is authorized to prepare easements and agreements with the Hopewell Museum Depot, Metro Transportation Authority (MTA), Dutchess County, and the Town; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, where the Supervisor in hereby authorized to sign easements and/or agreements for the water service and water fountain.

Motion to authorize an out of district Hopewell North Water user: Board Member Marinaro. Seconded: Board Member Arco. All voted in favor. Motion carried.

11. Authorize License Agreement Between Town of East Fishkill and Legends Property Owner

RESOLUTION
**(AUTHORIZING A LICENSE AGREEMENT WITH BRUCE KEHR FOR
PROPERTY AT COUNTRY CLUB RD)**

WHEREAS, Bruce Kehr, is the owner of property in The Legends on Country Club Rd, and

WHEREAS, the property owner has built an ornamental wall that encroaches on Town Property as well as a building that encroaches into a Town easement, and

WHEREAS, the property owner has agreed to sign a license agreement allowing the encroachments to continue as long as they don't interfere with the Town's use and agreeing to remove the structures if needed by the Town, and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Supervisor is authorized to execute a license agreement as prepared by the Town Attorney reflecting the above.

Motion to authorize a license agreement between the Town of East Fishkill and the Legends Property Owner: Board Member Arco. Seconded: Board Member Franco. All voted in favor. Motion carried.

12. Confirm Grant Application for Red Dot Grant (Replacement of Police Guns) and authorize Supervisor to Accept Same if Awarded

RESOLUTION

(AUTHORIZING APPLICATION AND ACCEPTING OF NYS DEPARTMENT OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE SERVICES FUNDING)

WHEREAS, the Chief of Police is requesting the Town Board to authorize an application to be submitted for the New York State Department of Criminal Justice Services Program Development Funding for improvements to Law Enforcement; and

WHEREAS, the East Fishkill Police Department would like to upgrade their sidearms to utilize Red Dot sight technology in order to improve safety, and adapt to evolving operational demands. Current sidearms will be replaced with new sidearms including updated technology; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board does hereby authorize the Chief of Police to submit such application and also authorizes the Town Supervisor to accept such funding

Motion to confirm the grant application for the Red Dot Grant (Replacement of Police Guns) and authorize the Supervisor to accept same if awarded: Board Member Flores. Seconded: Board Member Marinaro. All voted in favor. Motion carried.

13. Confirm Authorization for Town Attorney to Prosecute Traffic Violations and Violations of Local Law

RESOLUTION
(CONFIRMING THE DESIGNATION OF THE TOWN ATTORNEY AS TOWN PROSECUTOR)

WHEREAS, the Town Attorney was previously designated as the Town Prosecutor for traffic tickets and Local Law violations, and

WHEREAS, the prior District Attorney issued a letter authorizing the same, and

WHEREAS, the newly elected District Attorney wishes confirmation from the Town as to this designation; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board confirms the designation of the Town Attorney as Town Prosecutor and authorizes him to allow an attorney designated by him and approved by the Supervisor to assist, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Town Clerk shall forward a certified copy of this resolution to the District Attorney and request confirmation of same.

Motion to confirm authorization for the Town Attorney to prosecute traffic violations and violations of the Local Law: Board Member Franco. Seconded: Board Member Marinaro. All voted in favor. Motion carried.

14. Authorize Change Order Hopewell West Water District

RESOLUTION
(AUTHORIZE INSPECTION SERVICES HOPEWELL WEST WD)

WHEREAS, the Town is constructed the last phase of the DWSRF 18090 project with the replacement of watermain in Hopewell West Water District; and

WHEREAS, the initial Engineering agreement included 10 weeks of construction inspection and construction administration; and

WHEREAS, the Town extended the waterline replacements in the roadways of to include 100% of the pipes under the roads. The Contractor was previously awarded the change order. The Engineer of Record, Barton and Loguidice, must expand the engineering plans to include the additional watermain replacement work; and

WHEREAS, these additional services included herein are included in the project budget; and

WHEREAS, the remaining inspection services will be time and material compensation services; and

NOW THEREFORE, IT IS RESOLVED, that the Town Board hereby declares and authorizes Town Supervisor, Nicholas D'Alessandro, be provided the authority to negotiate and authorize a change order with Barton and Loguidice Engineering DPC for additional design and inspection services for an amount not to exceed \$183,500.00.

Motion to authorize a change order for Hopewell West Water District: Board Member Marinaro. Seconded: Board Member Arco. All voted in favor. Motion carried.

15. Appoint After Camp Director for Recreation

RESOLUTION
(APPOINT AFTER CAMP DIRECTOR FOR RECREATION)

WHEREAS, the Recreation Director has interviewed Jacob Rynn; and

WHEREAS, the Recreation Director is requesting the re-hiring of Jacob Rynn as After Camp Director for East Fishkill Summer Camp; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board does hereby authorize the re-hiring of Jacob Rynn; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Jacob Rynn will be paid an hourly rate of \$18.00.

Motion to appoint an after camp director for Recreation: Board Member Arco. Seconded: Board Member Franco. All voted in favor. Motion carried.

16. Receive and File the Comprehensive Plan Draft and refer to all Town Boards and Committees

RESOLUTION
(RECEIVE AND FILE THE FINAL DRAFT COMPREHENSIVE PLAN AND REFER TO DUTCHESS COUNTY, EAST FISHKILL MUNICIPAL BOARDS, TOWN DEPARTMENTS, AND THE ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW COUNCIL)

WHEREAS, in 2023, the Town initiated a comprehensive planning process led by a volunteer Comprehensive Plan Committee (CPC) committee appointed by the Town Board to prepare a new Comprehensive Plan; and

WHEREAS, starting in November 2023, the committee met monthly with a planning consultant to develop the comprehensive plan; and

WHEREAS, a dedicated website was created to keep the public informed about comprehensive plan meetings, presentations, and relevant documents; and

WHEREAS, a public survey was conducted and two public planning charettes were held along with a community day event, three focus group forums, and two community tours to support public participation in the development of the comprehensive plan; and

WHEREAS, a final draft of the comprehensive plan is being submitted to the Town Board for review and comment; and

WHEREAS, the Town Board will be the Lead Agency for the Comprehensive Plan SEQR review; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Town Board does acknowledge the receipt of the Final Draft Comprehensive Plan and hereby declares its intent to be Lead Agency and refers the final draft comprehensive plan to Dutchess County, the other East Fishkill Municipal Boards, town departments, and Architectural review Council; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Town Board will review and comment on the Final Draft Comprehensive Plan at the April 10, 2025 Workshop Meeting at 6:00 PM; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Town Clerk be and hereby is authorized and directed to refer a copy of the final draft comprehensive plan to Dutchess County, the other East Fishkill Municipal Boards, town departments, and Architectural review Council.

**BY ORDER OF THE TOWN BOARD
PETER J. CASSIDY, TOWN CLERK**

**DATED: MARCH 27, 2025
EAST FISHKILL, NY**

Motion to receive and file the Comprehensive Plan Draft and refer to all Town Boards and Committees: Board Member Flores. Seconded: Board Member Franco. All voted in favor. Motion carried.

17. Authorize the Applications for 2025 Grants

RESOLUTION

(AUTHORIZING GRANT APPLICATIONS 2025)

WHEREAS, the Town's grant writer continually reviews grant opportunities to assist the Town with needed projects and programs; and

WHEREAS, it would be more efficient to allow the applications to be made within stated deadlines without individual authorizations from the Town Board; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town's grant writer with the approval of the Supervisor may make applications for grants that will assist the Town, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Town Board will be given notice of the applications and nothing herein will be deemed to waive the Town Boards obligation to accept a grant if it is awarded to the Town.

Motion to authorize the applications for 2025 grants: Board Member Franco.

Seconded: Board Member Arco. All voted in favor. Motion carried.

18. Authorize Attendance for National Police Week

RESOLUTION

(AUTHORIZING ATTENDANCE FOR NATIONAL POLICE WEEK)

WHEREAS, the Police Chief, Derrick Cuccia, has indicated his desire to attend the National Police Week along with Lieutenant Gregory Stanis. The National Police Week will be honoring our fallen Sergeant, Daniel Didato. The program is from May 11, 2025 – May 17, 2025 in Washington, D.C. They are requesting their stay to be from May 12, 2025 – May 14, 2025; and

WHEREAS, additional expenses to the Town will be for tolls and meals; and

WHEREAS, it is the desire of the Town Board to authorize the Supervisor to approve said travel;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board does hereby authorize Chief Derrick Cuccia and Lieutenant Gregory Stanis to attend the National Police Week being held in Washington, D.C to include the overnight stay and expenses for tolls and meals from May 12, 2025 through May 14, 2025; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that in addition to the cost of tolls and meals they shall be paid their normal salary during said period.

Motion to authorize Attendance for National Police Week: Board Member

Marinero. Seconded: Board Member Franco. All voted in favor. Motion carried.

19. Acknowledge Promotion in the Highway Department

RESOLUTION
**(AUTHORIZE FOREMAN
PROMOTION)**

WHEREAS, the Highway Superintendent has requested that the Town Board acknowledges the promotion of Michael Cicero to Foreman; and

WHEREAS, it is the desire of the Town Board to confirm the Highway Superintendent's appointment; and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board appoints Michael Cicero – Laborer to the position of Highway Foreman; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Michael Cicero shall receive the same salary and benefits as the other General Foreman as this is a non-union position.

Motion to acknowledge a promotion in the Highway Department: Board Member Arco. Seconded: Board Member Flores. All voted in favor. Motion carried.

20. Authorize Attendance to the 2025 Hudson Valley CEO Educational Conference

RESOLUTION
(AUTHORIZING ATTENDANCE TO A TRAINING CONFERENCE)

WHEREAS, the Town Engineer has indicated his desire to send three Town employees to the 2025 Hudson Valley CEO Educational Conference being held in New Paltz, NY from April 22, 2025 through April 24, 2025; and

WHEREAS, the expenses to the Town will be for the registration fee \$385/per person; and

WHEREAS, it is the desire of the Town Board to authorize the Supervisor to approve said training; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board does hereby authorize the Building Department Manager, Code Enforcement & Zoning Administrator, and Deputy Building Inspector to attend the 2025 Hudson Valley CEO Educational Conference being held in New Paltz, NY from April 22 - 24, 2025; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that in addition to the cost of registration they shall be paid their normal salary during said period.

Motion to authorize attendance to the 2025 Hudson Valley CEO Educational Conference: Board Member Flores. Seconded: Board Member Franco. All voted in favor. Motion carried.

21. Set Fees for Farmers Market at 2670 Route 52 Site

RESOLUTION
(AUTHORIZING FARMERS MARKET)

WHEREAS, the Town Board has been interested in having a Farmer's Market on the property at 2670 Route 52; and

WHEREAS, a vendor is interested in coordinating a Farmer's Market without Food Trucks (Separately Permitted) for other items; and

WHEREAS, certain wine and/or craft beer products may be sold by licensed and insured vendors; and

WHEREAS, this is a trial basis; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Clerk may authorize a Farmers Market weekly permit for a fee of \$150.00 on a trial basis to be reviewed by this board in 60-90 days.

Motion to set fees for Farmers Market at 2670 Route 52 site: Board Member Franco. Seconded: Board Member Arco. All voted in favor. Motion carried.

22. Authorize Change of April Town Board Meeting Date

RESOLUTION
(AUTHORIZE CHANGE OF APRIL TOWN BOARD MEETING)

WHEREAS, due to conflicting schedules the Supervisor is requesting to change the April 24 Town Board meeting at 6:00pm to April 17 at 6:00pm; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board shall set April 17, 2025 at 6:00PM as its regularly scheduled Town Board meeting; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Town Clerk shall duly advertise said meeting date change.

Motion to authorize a change of the April Town Board meeting date: Board Member Marinaro. Seconded: Board Member Franco. All voted in favor. Motion carried.

23. Declare Certain Property to be Surplus

RESOLUTION
(DECLARING SURPLUS)

WHEREAS, the Town has an old laptop that does not work and thus, should be considered surplus; and

WHEREAS, the Town Board does deem this equipment surplus; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the laptop Dell Service Tag number 5Z6DQK1 asset tag number 5426 is hereby declared to be surplus and is to be disposed of in a proper manner.

Motion to declare certain property to be surplus: Board Member Arco. Seconded: Board Member Franco. All voted in favor. Motion carried.

24. Appropriate Rec Development Funds for a Red Wing Park Fence

RESOLUTION
(AUTHORIZE FUNDING TO INSTALL A NEW FENCE AT RED WING PARK FROM REC DEVELOPMENT FUNDS)

WHEREAS, the Director of Recreation is requesting authorization to receive funding to purchase new fencing for Red Wing Park from Rec Development Funds; and

WHEREAS, the cost will not exceed \$20,000 from the Recreation Development fund; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Town Board does hereby authorize funding for new fencing for Red Wing Park not to exceed \$20,000 from the Recreation Development Funds

Motion to appropriate Rec Development Funds for a Red Wing Park fence: Board Member Flores. Seconded: Board Member Franco. All voted in favor. Motion carried.

25. Authorize the Hiring of a Permanent Full-time Laborer for the Highway Department

RESOLUTION
(ACKNOWLEDGE HIRING OF FULL-TIME LABORER)

WHEREAS, the Highway Superintendent, Councilwoman Marianne Flores & Councilman Thomas Franco have interviewed Charles McLeod; and

WHEREAS, the Highway Superintendent has hired Charles McLeod to fill the Full-Time Laborer vacancy; and

WHEREAS, the Highway Superintendent has submitted a memo to the Town Board; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board does hereby acknowledge the hiring of Charles McLeod as Full-Time Laborer; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Full-Time Laborer Charles McLeod will be paid in accordance with the 2025 CSEA contract.

Motion to authorize the hiring of a permanent full-time laborer for the Highway Department: Board Member Franco. Seconded: Board Member Flores. All voted in favor. Motion carried.

Additions to the Agenda (If any):

Supervisor D'Alessandro stated there were none.

Budget Transfer:

Supervisor D'Alessandro stated there are no budget transfers.

Comments from Town Board Members:

Board Member Flores stated that the Highway Superintendent apologized for not being present. In his absence she reported they are gearing up for spring. They have completed demolition of the old pole barn in at the rear of the Town Hall. They also indicate that there has been a great deal of garbage and litter dumped throughout the Town. They did a large garbage cleanup on Townsend Road and Montfort Road. They are asking the town residents to be responsible and dispose of their trash appropriately. Town Cleanup is this Saturday. The crews have been

doing a lot of work at the Hopewell recreation park replacing the dugout roofs on dugouts two, three, and four, as well as the snack shack and trimming trees. They will also be replacing the roof on the dugout at the Brettview field. They have a crew out every day trimming back and removing hazardous trees. The vacuum has been out on the road cleaning out all the catch basins. They have begun repairing damaged catch basins as well as rotted pipes in those basins. They are preparing to start replacing rotted metal drainage pipes on the roads they plan to pave this year. They have started hanging the Hometown Hero Banners and hopefully in 2 to 3 weeks, weather depending, all of the flags and banners will be up. The street sweepers will begin removing the materials left on the streets. As a reminder they would appreciate if residents could be mindful of street parking and garbage can placement during the month of April and early May. If the sweepers encounter cars or garbage cans they will go around them, leaving the area unswept.

Board member Flores wanted to congratulate the John Jay High School Robotics Team. They have earned an invitation to the first Tech challenge world championship in Houston, Texas in April. They are the first Dutchess County school to do so. They will be one of 256 teams from more than 30 countries representing the top 2.5% of all teams worldwide. This is a great achievement. Planning on getting there in less than six weeks is a huge task so if anyone would like to find out how they may help or more information about the team they can go to the website, www.Jaybots.org.

Board Member Franco said that the annual Easter egg hunt is April 6 cohosted with the East Fishkill PBA from 12:30 PM to 2:30 PM at the East Fishkill Community Center. Residents can register at EastFishkillrecreation.com. There will be a DJ dance party, snacks, a petting zoo, balloon animals, goody bags, pictures with the Easter Bunny and Paw Patrol. April 12 is opening day for the fields. April 26 will be the opening day parade in the Park with East Fishkill Softball, East Fishkill Baseball, and Wappinger Warriors Lacrosse. The parade will start at 9 AM. Women's basketball is for ages 18 and up and registration can be done online or in the rec office. Games will start on June 3 and will be held on Mondays at the Hopewell recreation park. Summer camp registration is still open. He thanked Tommy from Highway for all that he does. Special congratulations to retiring Police Sgt. Paul Gaston.

Board Member Marinaro reported he met with the Police Chief in February and they had a nice discussion regarding department status and workforce needs and addressing community safety needs. They also discussed upgrades for the future for the building and grounds. Two weeks ago he met with Wappinger's School District Superintendent Dr. Bonk. The discussion was based mostly on the 2025 proposed capital improvement projects. They discussed enrollment and upgrades of some of the aging buildings. The total cost for upgrades to these buildings is between \$155 to \$160 million. This will be on the voters referendum this May. The

information is available on their website for everyone to read and make their own opinions as to whether or not they would like to support this program. Sgt. Paul Gaston is retiring. He is a great person and has been with the department for 23 years and has served the community well. He is wished great success in his future and whatever he would like to do with his career.

Board Member Arco congratulated Detective Sgt. Paul Gaston. He has done some work with him and it has been great. Board Member Arco met with the Fire Commissioners this month. They also met with the iPark Fire Department to review the site and how it is evolving. They also discussed what would be needed from them. The Supervisor will also be meeting with iPark in the next few weeks.

Police Chief Cuccia wants everyone to know that they are losing one of the hardest working police officers he has been around. Officer Gaston has 23 years of dedicated service. He did this Town a great service and he wishes him much luck.

Supervisor D'Alessandro wished Detective Sgt. Gaston much luck on his retirement and lots of health & success. He thanked him for his service to the Town. East Fishkill Town Cleanup Day is Saturday starting at 8 AM at Town Hall. They also have the East Fishkill Business Milestone Awards Program through the Rotary. If you have a business that has been here 20 years or more and you would like to see them, get an award, please put their name in on the East Fishkill town website. This is a great program.

Motion for Adjournment: Time: Motion to adjourn the regular meeting at 7:55 PM: Board Member Franco. Seconded: Board Member Arco. All voted in favor. Motion carried.

Town Board Meetings:

Workshop Meeting:
Regular Meeting:

April 10, 2025
April 17, 2025

Respectfully submitted by Julie J. Beyer on behalf of Town Clerk Peter Cassidy –
January 25, 2025