# MINUTES TOWN OF EAST FISHKILL TOWN BOARD MEETING JUNE 26, 2025 6:00 p.m.

#### REGULAR BOARD MEETING

The Town of East Fishkill's Town Board Meeting on June 26, 2025, was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Supervisor D'Alessandro with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag led by the Manny Bacon American Legion Post.

#### **Supervisor's Presentation:**

Supervisor D'Alessandro presented a proclamation to Jim Reynolds for all of his years of military service and in service to the East Fishkill community as the Veteran of the Year. The Board all congratulated him. He was also presented with a certificate from Congressman Lawler's office. Mr. Reynolds thanked the support from the American Legion Manny Bacon Post.

#### **Supervisor's Announcements:**

Supervisor D'Alessandro stated there was a call this week with the County Executive and supervisors and mayors to set up cooling stations throughout the County during the last few very hot days.

Last month ended with the annual Memorial Day Ceremony at the East Fishkill War Memorial at Beekman Road and Route 82. It was well attended and he thanked everyone who attended.

Supervisor D'Alessandro thanked the residents of the Hopewell West Water District who came out for the meeting here last month and the staff that worked on the issues there. Hopefully this project will be done sooner rather than later. The East Fishkill Historical Society had their annual Strawberry Festival. It was a great event with many people attending. They all do an amazing job at this site. The monthly DC Supervisors and Mayors Association meeting was held at BOCES. The guest speakers were a panel to discuss power storage facilities, which are in high demand and how important they are. There will be an increased demand which will create a need for more of these facilities. There was also an expert from FDNY there as well, to discuss the legislation in place for these. There is a real concern regarding the increasing costs for power and this was a very informative meeting.

The Rotary had their Flag Day Ceremony at Rotary Park by the Acme shopping center. It was a very nice ceremony and the Manny Beacon Post was there as well.

The DC Community Development Advisory Council met to review all of the applications for the MIG Grants, which is the Municipal Innovation Grants, the

Community Development Block Grants, Home Grants, or Agency Partnership Grants, which all help local governments and nonprofits throughout the County. Supervisor D'Alessandro and County Legislator Steve Caswell attended the Dutchess County Jewish Federation Awards Dinner. This was a very well attended event. They gave out several awards to their members who go above and beyond in their community. They also gave out awards to every single Police Department in the County to show their appreciation for law enforcement. The Dutchess County Transportation Council voting meeting was yesterday at the FDR library in Hyde Park. This council is made up of the Dutchess County executive, New York State Department of Transportation Commissioner, the Chairman of Metro North, and the chief executives of several towns and villages. They all approve the Transportation Plan, the Capital Plan, and the Planning Program for the MPO, which is the Metropolitan Planning Organization. East Fishkill received additional funding for the Route 376/Route 82 Roundabout Project. That project is now fully funded. They received a New York State CMAC Grant for \$5 million for this project. The project will cost almost \$6.3 million so the Transportation Council was able to find an additional \$1.3 million to give towards this project.

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

Board Members in attendance were:

Craig	Emanuel	Tom	Marianne	Nicholas
Arco	Marinaro	Franco	Flores	D'Alessandro

Also, in attendance were:

Thomas Wood, Attorney; Derrick Cuccia, Police Chief; Scott Bryant, Engineer; Ken Williams, Highway Superintendent; Mark Pozniak, Comptroller.

#### **Public Hearings:**

None.

#### **Approve Minutes:**

May 8, 2025, Town Board Minutes May 22, 2025, Town Board Minutes

Motion to approve the May 8 and May 22, 2025 Town Board meeting minutes: Board Member Franco. Seconded: Board Member Flores. All voted in favor. Motion carried.

#### **Announcement of Additions to the Agenda:**

Supervisor D'Alessandro said there is one addition to the agenda. It is a hiring for a short term, seasonal inspector.

#### Courtesy of the Floor:

Supervisor D'Alessandro asked if there was anyone who wanted to speak about any general town issues. There was no one.

#### Receive and File:

Supervisor D'Alessandro stated the annual town audit was received from the CPA firm for the year 2023.

Motion to accept the annual town audit for 2023: Board Member Franco. Seconded: Board Member Marinaro, All voted in favor, Motion carried.

#### **Resolutions:**

1. Appoint Sergeant Promotion in the Police Department

### RESOLUTION (AUTHORIZE POLICE SERGEANT PROMOTION)

**WHEREAS**, there is a vacant Police Sergeant position in the Town of East Fishkill; and

**WHEREAS**, the Chief of Police is requesting the East Fishkill Town Board to appoint a Police Sergeant to the position; and

**WHEREAS**, the Town has requested and reviewed the Dutchess County Civil Service lists; and

**WHEREAS**, The Town Board has interviewed the candidate recommended by the Town Police Chief; and

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED,** that the Town Board appoints P.O. David Chiapperino to the position of East Fishkill Police Sergeant; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** the salary and benefits for the above position will be in accordance with the PBA contract, effective July 6, 2025.

Motion to appoint a Sergeant Promotion in the Police Department: Board Member Marinaro. Seconded: Board Member Franco. All voted in favor. Motion carried.

Sergeant David Chiapperino was issued his new badge and photos were taken with his family and the Board.

- 2. Addressing Dangerous Buildings
  - a. IRV Broadway LLC, 469 Route 376 Hopewell Junction, NY

### RESOLUTION (ADDRESSING DANGEROUS BUILDINGS)

**WHEREAS**, the Town Board Building Department initiated three dangerous building proceedings with respect to:

- 469 Route 376 (Grid# 6457-01-267699) IRV Broadway LLC (House)
- 477 Route 376 (Grid# 6457-01-315746) Rt 376 LLC
- 3. 483 Route 376 (Grid# 6457-01-326756) David Koehler, and

**WHEREAS,** following normal procedures each entity was given the opportunity to respond to the Building Department by disputing the findings and/or offering plans to resolve the property condition, and

**WHEREAS**, the owner of the properties listed in #1 above has submitted an architect's report for review; and

**WHEREAS**, based on the reports the property has/will be secured to prevent unauthorized entry; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** that the property will be secured to the satisfaction of the Town Engineer.

b. Rt 376 LLC, 477 Route 376, Hopewell Junction, NY

### RESOLUTION (ADDRESSING DANGEROUS BUILDINGS)

**WHEREAS**, the Town Board Building Department initiated three dangerous building proceedings with respect to:

- 1. 469 Route 376 (Grid# 6457-01-267699) IRV Broadway
- 2. 477 Route 376 (Grid# 6457-01-315746) Rt 376 LLC
- 3. 483 Route 376 (Grid# 6457-01-326756) David Koehler, and

**WHEREAS,** following normal procedures each entity was given the opportunity to respond to the Building Department by disputing the findings and/or offering plans to resolve the property condition, and

**WHEREAS**, the owner of the property listed as #2 above has submitted an architect's report for review; and

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED,** that the mixed use building is structurally sound but the lean-to needs to be demolished or rebuilt; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** that the Town Engineers report is accepted and the building should be demolished or a building permit issued within 45 days; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** that the Town Engineer is authorized to proceed in accordance with the Law and his recommendations upon 30 days notice to the owner of this directive, and the costs of demolition will be a lien on the premises and included on the next tax bill if necessary.

c. David Koehler, 483 Route 376, Hopewell Junction, NY

### RESOLUTION (ADDRESSING DANGEROUS BUILDINGS)

**WHEREAS,** the Town Board Building Department initiated three dangerous building proceedings with respect to:

- 1. 469 Route 376 (Grid# 6457-01-267699) IRV Broadway LLC
- 2. 477 Route 376 (Grid# 6457-01-315746) Rt 376 LLC
- 3. 483 Route 376 (Grid# 6457-01-326756) David Koehler, and

**WHEREAS,** following normal procedures each entity was given the opportunity to respond to the Building Department by disputing the findings and/or offering plans to resolve the property condition, and

**WHEREAS**, the owner of the property listed as #3 above has submitted an architect's report for review; and

**WHEREAS**, the owner of the property listed as #3 above appeared before the Town Board; and

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED,** that the owner has agreed to demolish approximately 1/3 of the structure and must apply for a permit within 30 days; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** that the Town Engineer is authorized to proceed in accordance with the Law and his recommendations upon 30 days notice to the owner of this directive, and have the building demolished upon the owners failure to do so and lien the cost against the property and add to the next a bill if needed.

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

3. Declare Personal Property Surplus and Authorize Auction of Same

#### **RESOLUTION**

#### (DECLARING PROPERTY TO BE SURPLUS)

**WHEREAS**, the Highway Department has property that is requested to be declared surplus; and

WHEREAS, said property consists of the following; and

2004 Ford F550 Dump Plow and Sander	1FDAF57S94EC69528	
Bucket Truck Body	8' x 16.6' steel flat bed	
Truck Cap	Fits 2020 6' Dodge	
(9) Light Bars		
(2) Crates – Misc. Parts	Ford, GM, and International	
Bucket Hi-Ranger 6H65	Serial No. 1990809560	

WHEREAS, the Town Board concurs; and

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,** that said property is hereby declared surplus and is to be disposed of by participating in an auction process held by Absolute Auctions & Realty without cost to the Town.

Motion to declare personal property as surplus and authorize an auction of the same: Board Member Arco. Seconded: Board Member Marinaro. All voted in favor. Motion carried.

4. Award Laura Lane Emergency Culvert Replacement Bid

### <u>RESOLUTION</u> (AWARD LAURA LANE EMERGENCY CULVERT REPLACEMENT BID)

**WHEREAS**, the Town Engineer is in receipt of bids for the Laura Lane Emergency Culvert Replacement; and

**WHEREAS**, it was determined that B&K Excavating, Inc. was the lowest responsible bidder with a bid sum of \$75,330: and

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,** that the bid be and hereby is awarded to B&K Excavating, Inc.; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Supervisor be and hereby is authorized to execute the contract in regards hereto.

Motion to award Laura Lane Emergency Culvert Replacement Bid: Board Member Flores. Seconded: Board Member Marinaro. All voted in favor. Motion carried.

5. Authorize Hiring Intern

#### RESOLUTION

#### (AUTHORIZING THE HIRING OF AN INTERN)

**WHEREAS**, the Town Board has previously authorized Interns to assist in clerical functions for Town Departments; and

**WHEREAS**, the Town, at the discretion of the Town Supervisor, may hire Student Workers (Interns) for the 2025 summer season; and

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,** that the Town Board hereby acknowledges the hiring of Alex Zhu; and

**BE IT RESOLVED,** that Alex Zhu is hereby appointed as a Student Worker in the

Town, he will be paid an hourly rate of \$16.50; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** that said Intern shall work at the pleasure of the Town Supervisor in accordance with all the previously established rules and regulations and will be removed from the payroll upon completion of his task.

Motion to authorize hiring an intern: Board Member Marinaro. Seconded: Board Member Franco. All voted in favor. Motion carried.

6. Recognize Summer Seasonal Hiring at Highway

### RESOLUTION (ACKNOWLEDGE SEASONAL LABORER)

WHEREAS, the Highway Superintendent has interviewed Vincent Angioletti; and

**WHEREAS**, the Highway Superintendent is requesting the Town Board acknowledge the hiring of Vincent Angioletti as a Seasonal Laborer; and

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Town Board does hereby acknowledge the hiring of Vincent Angioletti in the Highway Department; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that Vincent Angioletti will be paid at an hourly rate of \$17.00.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that upon completion of their seasonal tasks, they shall be removed from the payroll.

Motion to recognize Summer Seasonal hiring at Highway: Board Member Arco. Seconded: Board Member Franco. All voted in favor. Motion carried.

7. Authorize Contract with Pavement Management Group for Roads Condition Management

## RESOLUTION (AUTHORIZING A 2 YEAR CONTRACT WITH PAVEMENT MANAGEMENT GROUP)

**WHEREAS**, the Highway Superintendent and Town Supervisor have participated in a presentation from Pavement Management Group; and

WHEREAS, they will video and inventory all Town Roads and rate their condition and pavement needs pursuant to their rating system; and

WHEREAS, this evaluation will assist the Highway Superintendent and this Board in making decisions as to the paving and road maintenance needs for both safety and budgeting purposes; and

WHEREAS, Pavement Management Group has been the successful bidder for this service in other Counties and Towns thus enabling the Town Board to "Piggyback" on those contracts for this service in compliance with all NYS Bidding Laws; and

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,** that the Supervisor is authorized to engage the services of Pavement Management Group for the term of two years for a total cost not to exceed \$67,000.00 total for the two year agreement.

Motion to authorize a contract with Pavement Management Group for roads condition management: Board Member Flores. Seconded: Board Member Franco. All voted in favor. Motion carried.

8. Authorize Town Engineer to Prepare a Map, Plan & Report for Old Hopewell Water Sewer District

### RESOLUTION (AUTHORIZE OLD HOPEWELL MPR)

**WHEREAS**, the Town wished to investigate the potential water and sewer infrastructure needs for the Old Hopewell area and is seeking a grant to support these efforts; and

**WHEREAS**, the Town has communicated with the New York State Environmental Facilities Corporation the Town's intent and have been advised that a grant can only be considered for award if the subject area is part of a Special District, as described by Town Law Section 209.

**WHEREAS**, required by New York State Laws, Chapter 62, Article 12-A, the Town will need to authorize the preparation of a Map, Plan, and Report (MPR), prior to establishing a Special District; 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 the Town Engineer to prepare Map, Plan, and Reports for both a Water Special District and a Sewer Special District.

Motion to authorize the Town Engineer to prepare a map, plan and report for Old Hopewell Water Sewer District: Board Member Franco. Seconded: Board Member Marinaro. All voted in favor. Motion carried.

#### Additions to the Agenda (If any):

Supervisor D'Alessandro stated there was one. There was an engineer memo sent by George Cronk explaining this to the Board. This inspector will be used on the Hopewell West Water District Improvements Project.

9. Authorize Hiring for Short-Term Seasonal Inspector

### <u>RESOLUTION</u> (AUTHORIZE HIRING FOR SHORT-TERM SEASONAL INSPECTOR)

**WHEREAS**, the Town has previously utilized inspection services for the Hopewell West Water District Improvements Project; and

**WHEREAS**, the Town has identified a need for additional construction inspection services related to the project; and

**WHEREAS**, the Water & Sewer department is requesting the hiring of Seasonal Inspector Mike Brown to fulfill these obligations; and

**WHEREAS,** Mike Brown's employment shall be contingent upon the completion of pre-employment requirements for the Town; and

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Town Board does hereby authorize the hiring of Mike Brown as a Seasonal Inspector under the Water & Sewer department at a rate of \$60.00 per hour, effective July 6, 2025; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** that the employment of Mike Brown shall conclude upon the earlier of either six (6) months from the date of hire or the completion of his assigned project responsibilities, at which point he shall be removed from the Town's payroll.

Motion to authorize a short-term seasonal inspector: Board Member Franco. Seconded: Board Member Arco. All voted in favor. Motion carried.

#### **Budget Transfer:**

Supervisor D'Alessandro stated there are two budget transfers as presented by the Comptroller. One is for a new building project they are doing behind the Town Hall to house the Water and Sewer Department. This will give more room in the building as they are bursting at the seams. This will provide significant office space without incurring a large debt. This will also replace some carpet and convert two other office spaces within the main building. They are planning to move the Tax Receiver back to the main building. Comptroller Pozniak stated that there are very high price estimates which is why they need to do the budget transfer. Supervisor D'Alessandro stated that the Highway Superintendent's team is helping wherever they can, which is appreciated.

Motion to approve a budget transfer of \$350,000 from Capital Equipment to Buildings as presented: Board Member Franco. Seconded: Board Member Flores. All voted in favor. Motion carried.

Supervisors D'Alessandro stated the second transfer is to transfer funds to different Highway lines. \$300,000 to Capital Equipment Line for Machinery taken from Snow Removal, Materials, Contractual Expenses, and Personal Services. Comptroller Pozniak stated that, based on the results of the past year, there is extra funds available to be transferred and still leave sufficient funds for November and December. Board Member Marinaro stated he is disappointed in the way this transfer is being conducted. He does not know if it is an emergency to purchase the equipment. Superintendent Williams stated some of it is. He stated to buy at the right times when you can get the machinery available is also important. Board Member Marinaro stated if we have a harsh winter are we going to be short funded since money is being transferred out of those lines. Superintendent Williams stated they only have to get it to January 1 and they have full salt and sand sheds at this time. They also received surplus sand from another town that has donated approximately 300 yards of sand. Board Member Marinaro stated buying equipment is something they normally plan for in the budget. Superintendent Williams stated that he spoke to his current liaison and past liaison about this well beforehand. Board Member Marinaro stated he did not hear about it until yesterday. Superintendent Williams stated the costs continue to rise and they took the opportunity to act on this when they could. Board Member Marinaro stated he feels this is something that the whole Board should have had a discussion on. Board member Marinaro stated his point is that they need to live within their means and this Department has a history of purchasing things without them being budgeted. Superintendent Williams stated the bucket truck goes up 75 feet in the air every day and it was a 1999 model and the crews were not comfortable with it. He stated they have needed to do upgrades to the fleet because it was in very bad shape. He stated they have done tree work on Inky Lane, the Community Center, Oak Drive, Radcliffe, Saddle Ridge, Homestead, Broadway, Sandy Pines, Ringham Lane, Cary Road, West Hook Road. This truck is out every day. They would not rent a piece of equipment that they need to

purchase. The 1999 truck is too old to get the boom inspected anymore. That is why they surplused it to go out to auction. Supervisor D'Alessandro stated he does not believe the Councilman is questioning the need for the vehicle. He believes it is an issue of staying within the budget. Sometimes there is extra surplus in lines and they are able to do an intra Department transfer. For the future they would like to make those decisions collectively. When this was brought to his attention the purchase order had to be signed right then and there because it could not be ordered without it. There was not even time to have a discussion with the Board to discuss if those funds could be better spent somewhere else. He's not saying that the bucket truck is not needed, because he believes 100% it is needed. He just believes that they would like to see surplus funds in the Highway funds be used for paving. They are always looking for more money for paving. He believes they need to have more discussion the next time something like this happens. Superintendent Williams stated what caused this was that the bucket truck would not pass inspection. This was not something that was planned. Board Member Flores stated she does understand the points that Board Member Marinaro and Supervisor D'Alessandro are making. She stated that in the future she and the Highway Superintendent will work together to make sure the entire Board is fully informed.

Motion to approve the budget transfer of \$300,000 as presented by the Comptroller: Board Member Flores. Seconded: Board Member Arco. Board Member Marinaro voted Nay. All others voted aye. Motion carried.

#### **Comments from Town Board Members:**

Highway Superintendent Williams stated they have paved Cary Road and Montford. Warren Farm Drive will be paved on Monday. They are getting ready for some of the other roads to be done. Pipework has been done on Old Sylvan Lake Road, Harrigan Road, Inky Lane, and Old State Road. Catch basin repairs have been done at Covered Bridge, Rodeo, Innsbruck, Shepards Way, Sandy Pines, Country Club, Valley Mead, Spyglass, Aspen, and Honeysuckle. They are all over town fixing potholes wherever they are found. They have done grade all work on James Dorland. They have been assisting with recreation at the parks as well.

Police Chief Cuccia thanked the Board for the new sergeant. He is asking anyone listening to please speak to your elderly family and neighbors to keep them advised of the fraud scams that are going around whether it be through texting, phone calls, or home visits. He wants to make sure everyone is on high alert because it is happening frequently. August 5 is National Night Out. They are doing baton training in July. In August they will participate during active shooter training with the help of the school. He will be speaking with the Town Board liaison regarding approval to have other agencies participate with them. This has been very successful in the past whether it be their own volunteer fire department and some outside agencies who want to take part as well.

Board Member Arco stated he attended a few meetings with the Fire Chief and the Supervisor this past month to further discuss the industrial properties and how the Town can assist in any of the district's issues. He wanted to give a shout out thank you to all of the members of the fire Department and rescue squad. Total calls for the month were 280. 73% of those are rescue calls. On June 10 in a single 24-hour period the district responded to 23 calls. The minimum calls are an hour door-to-door and some EMS calls are 2 to 3 hours with many overlapping each other. This is a community of 30,000 people with over 500 businesses. The fire department is comprised of approximately 250 members. That is less than 1% of the community that is providing this invaluable service. There are many positions that can be filled if you can. They really can use the help. A fully paid fire department would equate to huge tax increases. Go check them out on Monday night.

Board Member Marinaro said he has been working with the Police Chief on a few different projects. They have discussed a few things that might be happening in the near future. He did meet with a small group of seniors to discuss any issues they might be having. The local police department does a great job keeping in touch with the seniors and making sure they are well taken care of. Chief Cuccia stated they did set up a pancake breakfast with them that they will be doing soon.

Board Member Franco reported today the recreation department took part in the Dutchess County Think Differently Field Day. They had a great time providing recreation activities for all of the attendees. This is the fourth year they have done it. East Fishkill's Think Differently Day will be in August on either the third or the 10th. That is always a great event as well. Summer concerts started this past Friday at the Hopewell Recreational Park. The concerts are free and there are now food trucks attending the concerts each week. This will be advertised. The Fourth of July concert weekend lineup will be as follows: on the 4th will be the band The Crew from 7 to 9. Saturday, July 5 will be Adam and the Newhart's with food trucks Hooked Events, Thailicious, Cartwright Ice Cream from 7 to 9. Fireworks will be on the 5th at 9:15 PM. Saturday, July 6 will be the Bob Martinson Band at Red Wing Park. He asked everyone to visit Red Wing Lake. It is open and it is something they are very proud of. This year they are up to 300 campers for summer camp. If you still need to register please contact the Recreation Department, Sales are online or at the recreation office for the Full Monty at Forestburg Play House on July 19. Those tickets are \$112.00, which includes lunch. The trip to City Field to see the Mets against the Angels is July 23 and those seats are on the third-base foul line and cost \$100. The Saratoga trip is full. He congratulated Sergeant Chiapperino and Commander Jim Reynolds.

Board Member Flores started by thanking all of the Highway Department for their work in the heat this week. They were out filling in potholes in 100° weather. Everyone appreciates the work that they do out there. She stated she has been working with the Highway Superintendent on a number of projects to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the Highway Department. This does include the

use of technology. They did discuss the Pavement Management System that they will be implementing. They're looking at various tools to help manage the fleet and the work orders to effectively manage and support that as well. They are also scoping and prioritizing other projects including a salt shed, tank removal, and a truck wash. She appreciates all of the work that his team has been doing. In regard to the Master Plan they had a workshop on June 11 with the residents to answer any questions and get feedback. There were only approximately 14 residents that attended and they had some very good dialogue. They discussed the Route 82 bridge and traffic circles, pedestrian safety, sidewalks, and support for the local businesses. She is excited to say they are sending out a survey that will take place through July 17 to the residents and business owners to solicit feedback on the Master Plan. They're using a new survey tool. They hope to get a lot of engagement and feedback.

Clerk Cassidy stated happy birthday America.

Supervisor D'Alessandro wished everyone a happy and safe Fourth of July.

<u>Motion for Adjournment: Time:</u> Motion to adjourn the regular meeting at 6:57 PM: Board Member Arco. Seconded: Board Member Flores. All voted in favor. Motion carried.

#### **Town Board Meetings:**

**Workshop/Voting Meeting:** 

July 24, 2025

Respectfully submitted by Julie J. Beyer on behalf of Town Clerk Peter Cassidy – July 7, 2025