

MINUTES
TOWN OF EAST FISHKILL
TOWN BOARD MEETING
DECEMBER 11, 2025
6:00 p.m.

REGULAR BOARD MEETING

The Town of East Fishkill's Town Board Meeting on December 11, 2025, was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Supervisor D'Alessandro with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Presentation:

None.

Supervisor's Announcements:

Supervisor D'Alessandro stated they held the annual Christmas Tree Lighting ceremony at the Community Center last week. It was a great event as always. Everyone who participated did a wonderful job.

This Wednesday at 5:30 PM is the first annual Hanukkah and Gelt Drop Celebration in front of the Town Hall where the Menorah is set up.

There was another Veteran's Council meeting at the end of last month. He and Board Member Franco were present. They are continuing planning on the new Veteran's Memorial Park. The new architect and Assistant Town Engineer have been a great help. There was a subsequent meeting with the Town Highway Superintendent to discuss additional help from the Highway Department. They hope to break ground in early 2026.

The Mayor's and Supervisor's meeting this month was cancelled due to the weather. He thanked everyone who participates in this monthly.

The Police Department held their annual Stuff a Cruiser this weekend and it was a big success.

There was a DOT meeting this week to discuss the plan to replace the superstructure of the bridge at Beekman Road. They discussed the staging plan and traffic flow. They are looking for this to take place in 2027.

There was another DOT event on Thursday, December 4th with Commissioner Dominguez to discuss the new building and yard constructed there. They discussed the incoming projects to the area as well.

The East Fishkill Fire District Commissioner elections were this week and he congratulated Commissioner Chris Jodlowski on his re-election. The Town Board and Fire District work very well together. He thanked all the volunteers as well.

The DC Water Wastewater Authority had a meeting with DC Emergency Response and BOH had a meeting with the joint water board for all the purchasers; Town and City of Poughkeepsie, Town of East Fishkill, OnSemi, and the Village of Rhinebeck for the purpose of keeping everyone informed of

previous water conditions, the measures taken, and the impacts and how to mitigate them moving forward.

Today was a meeting with the DC Water Wastewater Authority, Supervisor D'Alessandro, and Attorney Wood to discuss the new projects in East Fishkill and how the demand for water will be met. They will continue this open discussion moving forward.

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

Board Members in attendance were:

Emanuel Marinaro	Tom Franco	Marianne Flores	Nicholas D'Alessandro
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Also, in attendance were:

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

Supervisor D'Alessandro stated they were going to go out of order and do the first resolution first.

Public Hearings:

1. Open Public Hearing to Consider Battery Law Changes

a. Open Public Hearing

Motion to open the Public Hearing to consider Battery Law changes: Board Member Franco. Seconded: Board Member Flores. All voted in favor. Motion carried.

Supervisor D'Alessandro stated the Town of East Fishkill does have a battery law already, but felt it was time for it to be updated. There have been a lot of battery storage applications made throughout the County. This has been a large discussion with the Mayor's and Supervisors. There was a meeting that the NYSERTA attended and gave a presentation about battery storage and their benefits to the communities. There were also representatives from the Fire District and the FAB as well as Board Member Arco, who is very well versed in this area. This has caused angst among communities about the safety of these facilities. The facilities try to offset the load on the grid by having them placed in specific locations along the grid. The Hudson Valley area is one of the largest energy uses in the state as Western and Northern New York use hydro and nuclear power and this area uses natural gas, which is more expensive. One of the plans they were considering had to do with what the power needs in the Hudson Valley would be over the next few decades. They projected by 2035, the demand for power will double. That means

they will need more power stations, substations, and electric lines. That means costs will increase. One way they are trying to mitigate that is by using battery storage. There are many applications going in to the County. The Board decided to look at the existing laws to see where they can limit where they can be put to keep the residents and community as safe as possible. NYSERTA also mentions the safety issues with these units. They have upgraded NYS Laws for these registrations and now NYS has the most stringent laws for these facilities.

Attorney Wood stated they created this law in 2024 and they are further limiting where these facilities can be located. They must be immediately located adjacent to a power substation or utility high wires. Previously they could be placed in any Industrial District. This limits their locations greatly. They have included a requirement that the applicant must come back before the Planning Board every three years after their initial approval. One concern was what happens when the facility has reached its end of life and who will pay to clean it up. Every three years the Planning Board will be re-evaluating the amount posted to keep up with inflation costs for this. They will be sure it has fencing and setback requirements keeping with the State's level and the highest securities the Town can maintain.

Supervisor D'Alessandro asked if there were any questions from the Board. Board Member Marinaro asked if there has been any discussion regarding the availability to produce cheaper energy for the Hudson Valley. He asked if anything else was available and mentioned during their meetings. Attorney Wood stated that is an issue that was not addressed by these meetings. A battery storage facility will store the energy overnight and have it available for the peak load during the day. This will elevate the need to run additional wires at additional costs. There are many proposals to bring a DC wire down the Hudson River from areas that use nuclear power. There are at least three applications going in to the State for those. The projects are met with great resistance as there are concerns about the river, the environment around them, such as the "buzz" sometimes heard, etc.

Board Member Franco stated there is also discussion regarding micro-nuclear plants along the river.

Supervisor D'Alessandro stated all of these things take time. These can be done quicker and cheaper. We need to make sure our laws keep everyone as safe as possible. He thinks there may have been an application a few years ago, but it didn't move forward. It was for the iPark area, but the new laws will not allow them in that area.

Board Member Flores stated there is clearly a need for more power, and they are trying to make sure they continue to protect their residents moving forward.

Supervisor D'Alessandro asked if there were any questions or comments from the public. There were none. He stated they did not receive their comments back from Dutchess County yet, so the Hearing will be closed, but no additional actions taken

yet.

b. Close Public Hearing

Motion to close the Public Hearing to consider Battery Law changes: Board Member Flores. Seconded: Board Member Franco. All voted in favor. Motion carried.

Supervisor D'Alessandro stated this will be revisited in January to adopt the Negative Declaration and Local Law

Approve Minutes:

November 13, 2025, Town Board Minutes

Motion to approve the November 13, 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 which will be done at the end. It is for an efficiency grant application.

Courtesy of the Floor:

Supervisor D'Alessandro asked if there was anyone to speak regarding anything on the agenda or general town issues. There was no one.

Receive and File:

There was nothing.

Resolutions:

1. Authorize Promotion in the Police Department

RESOLUTION

(AUTHORIZE POLICE DETECTIVE PROMOTION)

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

WHEREAS, the Chief of Police has sent a letter to the Town Board recommending Police Officer Maria Amorim for the position; and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board does hereby appoint Police Officer Maria Amorim to the position of East Fishkill Police Detective; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the salary and benefits for the above position will be in accordance with the current PBA contract, effective December 22, 2025.

Motion to authorize a promotion in the Police Department: Board Member Marinaro. Seconded: Board Member Franco. All voted in favor. Motion carried.

2. Approve Water and Sewer Rates for 2026

RESOLUTION
(AUTHORIZE QUARTERLY RATES AND FEES FOR WATER AND SEWER)

WHEREAS, it is necessary for the Town Board to authorize the quarterly rates for the water and sewer districts; and

WHEREAS, the Town Board has received and reviewed the water and sewer rates; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Town Board does hereby authorize the water and sewer rates for 2026.

Motion to approve the Water and Sewer Rates for 2026: Board Member Flores. Seconded: Board Member Franco. All voted in favor. Motion carried.

3. Authorize the 2026 Dog Redemption Fee and Contract with Hudson Valley Animal Rescue and Sanctuary

RESOLUTION
(AUTHORIZING THE 2026 DOG REDEMPTION FEE AND CONTRACT WITH HUDSON VALLEY ANIMAL RESCUE AND SANCTUARY)

WHEREAS, the Town of East Fishkill is charged with animal control within its boundaries; and

WHEREAS, it is necessary for the Town to have a proper shelter for any dogs seized by it; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Supervisor be and hereby is authorized to execute a contract for calendar year 2026 with Hudson Valley Animal Rescue and Sanctuary providing for the care of seized dogs; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Town shall be reimbursed by any dog owner the sum of \$70.00 fee for the seizure of any unlicensed or stray dogs.

Motion to authorize the 2026 Dog Redemption Fee and Contract with Hudson Valley Animal Rescue and Sanctuary: Board Member Franco. Seconded: Board Member Flores. All voted in favor. Motion carried.

4. Set Public Hearing for January 15, 2026 to Extend Moratorium for Building

RESOLUTION

(SETTING PUBLIC HEARING FOR TOWN-WIDE MORATORIUM)

WHEREAS, the Town Board adopted the Town Master Plan in October, 2025; and

WHEREAS, the Town Board is concerned applications may be filed ahead of implementation of the new plan that could be inconsistent; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board will hold a Public Hearing on January 15, 2026 at 6:00 PM to consider extending a Moratorium on certain development within the Town for an additional 9 month period.

Motion to set a Public Hearing for January 15, 2026 to Extend Moratorium for Building: Board Member Marinaro. Seconded: Board Member Flores. All voted in favor. Motion carried.

5. Approve 2026 Salary Schedule

RESOLUTION

(SETTING SALARIES FOR TOWN EMPLOYEES)

WHEREAS, it is the role of the Town Board to fix all compensation for Town employees and officials; and

WHEREAS, the Town Board has received rates for all of the Officials, Seasonal and Part-time positions for 2026; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the elected officials of the Town shall be paid in accordance with the amounts set forth in the 2026 adopted budget; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the salaries as provided for in the contractual agreement between the Town and the East Fishkill Police Benevolent Association shall be paid in accordance therewith; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the salaries as provided for in the contractual agreement between the Town and the CSEA shall be paid in accordance therewith; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that all other Officials, Seasonal and Part-time employees of the Town shall be paid in accordance with the schedule attached hereto.

Motion to approve the 2026 Salary Schedule: Board Member Flores. Seconded: Board Member Franco. All voted in favor. Motion carried.

6. Authorize Promoting a Laborer to MEO – Highway Department

RESOLUTION
(ACKNOWLEDGE PROMOTION AT HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT)

WHEREAS, the Highway Superintendent has promoted Michael Cicero to Motor Equipment Operator (MEO), 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 promotion of Michael Cicero to Motor Equipment Operator (MEO) in the Highway Department; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Michael Cicero will be paid in accordance with the current CSEA contract, effective December 21st, 2025.

Motion to authorize promoting a Laborer to MEO in the Highway Department: Board Member Franco. Seconded: Board Member Marinaro. All voted in favor. Motion carried.

7. Authorize Hiring of Intern for Winter Break

RESOLUTION
(APPOINTING TEMPORARY SEASONAL INTERN)

WHEREAS, the Town is looking to hire back a seasonal intern to assist in town offices; and

WHEREAS, Sebastian Kaldor has worked as an intern for the Town in the past; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board does hereby appoint Sebastian Kaldor paid \$16.50 per hour as a Temporary Part-Time Seasonal Intern; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that said Internship position shall work at the pleasure of the Town Supervisor and will be removed from the payroll upon completion of their task.

Motion to authorize hiring of interns for Winter Break: Board Member Flores. Seconded: Board Member Marinaro. All voted in favor. Motion carried.

8. Approval of Permanent Appointment – Deputy Town Comptroller

RESOLUTION
(APPOINTING PERMANENT DEPUTY COMPTROLLER)

WHEREAS, the Town Board has previously appointed Danielle Carney on a provisional basis, in the role of Deputy Comptroller for the Town of East Fishkill; and

WHEREAS, said Danielle Carney has satisfied all Civil Service rules & regulations and has, in fact, been certified to the Town as number one (1) on the Deputy Comptroller Civil Service Exam List; and

WHEREAS, it is the desire of the Town Board to make a permanent appointment to this position;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board does hereby appoint Danielle Carney to the permanent title of Deputy Comptroller for the Town of East Fishkill, from certified exam number 60018680.

Motion to approval of Permanent Appointment of the Deputy Town Comptroller: Board Member Franco. Seconded: Board Member Flores. All voted in favor. Motion carried.

9. Authorize Request for NYSDOT Permit for the Loop Trail along Rt 376

RESOLUTION
(AUTHORIZE NYSDOT APPLICATION FOR SHARED TRAIL)

WHEREAS, the Town of East Fishkill continues to create and construct a shared bicycle and pedestrian path that traverses through the Hopewell Hamlet area, acting as a feeder to the Hamlet Area and the County and State Rail Trail systems;

WHEREAS, the NYS Route 376 road section that runs from the *Hopewell Hose Company Fire House* to the intersection of NYS Route 82/NYS Route 376 does not include a continuous sidewalk or other non-vehicular corridor for pedestrians and bicycle users;

WHEREAS, the Town has identified a section of said state roadway that would benefit with the construction of a shared path to alleviate the risk of pedestrians and bicycle users from possible unsafe conditions by establishing an alignment that would be offset from the edge of Route 376 pavement;

WHEREAS, the Town recognizes that the Shared Path will require construction and ongoing maintenance;

WHEREAS, the New York State Department of Transportation would like to see the Town approve a resolution for the construction and maintenance of the shared trail; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town of East Fishkill Town Board supports the application to the NYSDOT for the construction and maintenance of a Shared Path along NYS Rt 376;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Town of East Fishkill agrees to enter into an agreement with the NYSDOT for the occupation and maintenance of said path;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Town Supervisor is authorized to enter into agreement(s) with the NYSDOT.

Motion to authorize a request for NYSDOT Permit for the Loop Trail along Route 376: Board Member Marinaro. Seconded: Board Member Franco. All voted in favor. Motion carried.

10. Authorize Request for NYSDOT Permit for the Pedestrian Crosswalk at Unity Street

RESOLUTION
(AUTHORIZE NYSDOT APPLICATION FOR CROSSWALK)

WHEREAS, the Town of East Fishkill maintains a series of sidewalks located along NYS Rt 82 in the Hopewell Hamlet area;

WHEREAS, most of the travel lane pedestrian crossings already include crosswalks. However, the Unity Plaza entrance and Rt 82 does not have a crosswalk, but does have ADA ramps;

WHEREAS, the Town recognizes that pedestrians are crossing the Plaza Entrance and would like to improve the site conditions and is able to construct the crosswalk markings;

WHEREAS, the New York State Department of Transportation operates NYS Route 82 and will need to authorize the addition of a crosswalk;

WHEREAS, the NEW York State Department of Transportation would like to see the Town approve a resolution for the installation of a crosswalk; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town of East Fishkill Town Board supports the application to the NYSDOT for the construction of the Unity Plaza crosswalk on NYS Rt 82;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Town Supervisor is authorized to enter into agreement(s), should it be necessary, with the NYSDOT.

Motion to authorize a request for NYSDOT Permit for the Pedestrian Crosswalk at Unity Street: Board Member Flores. Seconded: Board Member Franco. All voted in favor. Motion carried.

11. Award Pinewood Knolls Water Main Interconnection Electrical Services Bid

RESOLUTION

**(AUTHORIZE AWARD FOR ELETICAL SERVICES OF
DWSRF 19146 PHASE 1 PINEWOOD KNOLLS WATERMAIN INTERCONNECTION)**

WHEREAS, the Town previously sought and has been awarded funding for the mitigation of PFAS and other various interconnections and water supply projects for several water districts, via the USEPA and NYSEFC; and

WHEREAS, the Town's Water and Sewer Department prepared plans and specifications for electrical work associated with Phase 1 of the Pinewood Knolls Water District improvements, including power disconnection and electrical services related to the razing of the Pinewood Knolls Water Treatment Plant, as well as installing a new electrical service to the proposed meter building; and

WHEREAS, the New York State Department of Health, Dutchess County Department of Health, NYSEFC, NYSDOT, DCDPW, and USEPA have reviewed and approved the plans and specifications describing the proposed construction work; and

WHEREAS, the Town publicly re-advertised the bid package on BIDNET and Southern Dutchess news starting on November 05, 2025, followed by receiving bids on December 03, 2025; and

WHEREAS, the Town received three (3) bid responses and has determined that HEWITT YOUNG ELECTRIC, LLC located in Rochester, NY is the lowest cost, qualified, responsive bidder that agrees to comply with New York State Environmental Facilities Corporation requirements include M/WBE goals, use of American Steel, USEPA Requirements, etc.; and

WHEREAS, the previously approved project funding via USEPA grant sponsored by US Congressman Mike Lawler in the amount of \$2,000,000 is to be applied towards Phase 1 and Phase 2.

NOW THEREFORE, IT IS RESOLVED, that the Town Board hereby declares and Authorizes Nicholas D'Alessandro, Town Supervisor, be provided the authority to negotiate and authorize a contract with HEWITT YOUNG ELECTRIC, LLC for services described in 2025-WS-003 CONTRACT 2 ELECTRICAL CONSTRUCTION PHASE 1 – PINEWOOD KNOULLS INTERCONNECTION DWSRF#19146 in an amount not to exceed \$112,000.00.

Motion to award Pinewood Knolls Water Main Interconnection Electrical Services Bid: Board Member Franco. Seconded: Board Member Marinaro. All voted in favor. Motion carried.

Additions to the Agenda (If any):

Supervisor D'Alessandro stated there is one from the floor. It is for an efficiency grant for automated metering infrastructure for the 16 Town water districts. It would provide approximately \$250,000 of the \$540,000 this project will cost. Homeowners will be able to use an app to check their water usage.

RESOLUTION
(AUTHORIZE EFFICIENCY GRANT APPLICATION)

WHEREAS, the Town of East Fishkill has previously identified the need for better operational methods that support water efficiency through reduced water use, water production, and water distribution measures that will reduce potential waste for the sixteen (16) Town Water Districts; and

WHEREAS, the Town of East Fishkill has previously identified the use of an Automated Metering Infrastructure (AMI) program that will reduce water loss (and revenue) by committing to the water district upgrades via the previous purchased of hardware (remote radios); and

WHEREAS, the Town of East Fishkill recommends that we apply for a 2025-26 Local Government Efficiency Grant as offered by the New York State Department of State that will support the AMI program, allowing the infrastructure to be implemented in a much shorter time duration; and

WHEREAS, the Town estimates that the installation of the AMI system could cost up to \$540,000 and believes that an Efficiency Grant would provide funding up to \$250,000, greatly reducing the financial obligation of the users; and

WHEREAS, the Grant Agency requires a supporting resolution for the application of the grant; 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 Supervisor, Nicholas D' Alessandro, and Town Staff, be provided the authority to submit the grant application and accompanying supporting documents, as well as, and follow up requests associated with the Efficiency Grant.

Motion to apply for a grant for an automated metering infrastructure: Board Member Franco. Seconded: Board Member Flores. All voted in favor. Motion carried.

Budget Transfer:

Supervisor D'Alessandro stated there were no budget transfers.

Comments from Town Board Members:

Police Chief Cuccia thanked the Board for the promotion. He thanked the Town Clerk for the grant for the record keeping process. It has been so very helpful. He thanked his department for their assistance over the last two months with all of the charity work and donated time. He thanked the Board liaison for all his help this year.

Board Member Marinaro thanked the PBA and Police Department for all their activities. They were all a success. There is still a need for the food banks, especially during the holidays. They had a great representation with the Lunch with the Seniors where the K9 unit was there and they also discussed the newest fraud scams out there. There was another lunch with the Seniors today that was a great success. He wished everyone a happy and safe Christmas and New Year's.

Board Member Franco stated the Recreation and Highway Departments came together with the Grinch Tree in memory of Butch Kidney and they wished everyone happy holidays. The Christmas event over the weekend was great. Christine Selback sent her thanks to everyone who assisted. Board Member Franco thanked Christine for all her hard work. He wished everyone happy holidays and safe New Year.

Board Member Flores offered apologies from the Highway Superintendent, who supplied the following comments: They have taken down the Hometown Hero banners and all the wreaths are up in their place. They are doing preventative maintenance tree work. He would like to remind everyone that the winter snow ordinance is in effect until April 15th. That means there is no parking on Town roads. Be sure your garbage cans are off of the road. He would also like to reiterate that as per NYS Law, the Highway Department is not responsible for damages done to mailboxes during storm events. They do everything they can to avoid damages, but sometimes it's an unfortunate consequence. It is not intentional. Finally, the Highway Department has been making great progress with the implementation of the iWork program and getting all the data entered. All the vehicles are entered and now they are working on inventory. Board Member Flores thanked Chief Cuccia for the department's quick response to a concern mentioned at the last meeting regarding traffic on Leetown Road. She wished everyone Merry Christmas and Happy Hanukkah.

Clerk Cassidy wished everyone Happy Holidays and safe New Year.

Supervisor D'Alessandro wished everyone happy holidays and a safe New Year. He did want to inform everyone of the passing of Lori Gee. She has been a Planning Board member for 22 years. She exemplified public service and will be truly missed. Please keep all those who have lost someone in their thoughts and prayers. He asked for all to rise for a moment of silence.

Motion for Adjournment: Time: Motion to adjourn the regular meeting at 6:59 PM: Board Member Franco Seconded: Board Member Marinaro. All voted in favor. Motion carried.

Town Board Meetings:

Regular Meeting:
Regular Meeting:

January 15, 2026
February 12, 2026

Respectfully submitted by Julie J. Beyer on behalf of Town Clerk Peter Cassidy – December 20, 2025