

MINUTES
TOWN OF EAST FISHKILL
TOWN BOARD MEETING
FEBRUARY 12, 2026
6:00 p.m.

REGULAR BOARD MEETING

The Town of East Fishkill's Town Board Meeting on February 12, 2026, was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Supervisor D'Alessandro with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Supervisor's Presentation:

Supervisor's Announcements:

Supervisor D'Alessandro stated the month started with the monthly Dutchess County Supervisors and Mayors Association meeting. They were in Town of Wappingers. They have been discussing the countywide EMS services and the issues with that. This seems to be a problem east of the Mississippi. West of the Mississippi have mostly paid fire and EMS services and east of the Mississippi uses volunteer districts. He discussed the various levels of services and issues they face. They have discussed Dutchess County running the operation as a whole instead of 27 different municipalities running their own EMS services. They also believe they can get a better cost for this. The model has been run throughout the State, and it has proven to be much more efficient and gives better support and services.

Supervisor D'Alessandro had his quarterly call with US Congressman Michael Lawler. He tries to do this every three months with all of the mayors and supervisors in his district. He is very responsive to all of our needs. He has assisted with getting large grants as well.

The East Fishkill seniors had their annual New Year's celebration at the end of January this year. It was a great time.

The chief of police had his supervisors meeting with his department and Supervisor D'Alessandro and Councilman Arco. They discussed all of the different issues going on. The chief keeps them up to date on incoming projects or events that might affect them. Supervisor D'Alessandro thanked the Chief for keeping them the top department in the county.

There have been several weather events in the last month or so including that very large snowstorm. There have been several calls with the County Executive. This includes her senior staff, Department of Emergency Services, the Sheriff's Department, Health and Human services, public works, Central Hudson, and NYSEG so everyone can discuss any issues that they are having, and it is very helpful.

Supervisor D'Alessandro attended a meeting with Councilman Marinaro yesterday

at the Dutchess County Farm and Home Center with some neighboring representatives to discuss the New York State DEC MS4 new permit that is being rolled out. There are very stringent laws on the books that everyone needs to comply with for these laws and procedures. It is very costly. The new permit they are rolling out is even more so and everyone has to comply with it. This will be very time consuming and costly. The increased costs could be between \$300,000 and \$500,000 annually. These reports they have to generate never even get reviewed. The money would be better spent towards ambulance services. If we ever have to break the tax cap, it will be because of these state mandated expenses that we have no control over. He encouraged people to call their State representatives to voice their concerns over these mandated expenditures.

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

Board Members in attendance were:

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

Also, in attendance were:

Michael Cunningham, Attorney; Derrick Cuccia, Police Chief; Ken Williams, Highway Superintendent; Scott Bryant, Engineer; and Mark Pozniak, Comptroller.

Public Hearings:

None.

Approve Minutes:

January 15, 2026, Town Board Minutes

Motion to approve the minutes for the January 15, 2026, Town Board meeting minutes: Board Member Franco. Seconded: Board Member Marinero. All voted in favor. Motion carried.

Announcement of Additions to the Agenda:

Supervisor D'Alessandro said there are a few additions to the agenda. There are a few grants that they need to apply for. One of the engineers needs to attend a training class. There are two for a grant application and the last one will be for a culvert to be removed on Beekman Road.

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 there was nothing.

Resolutions:

1. Authorize Police Officers to Attend Training Program

RESOLUTION

(AUTHORIZING TRAVEL AND TRAINING FOR POLICE ASSISTANT)

WHEREAS, Chief Cuccia is requesting that Officer Bruce White and Officer Albert Taurone attend overnight trainings; and

WHEREAS, a training program is available for Officer Bruce White to attend an Active Shooter Training in Saratoga Springs, New York from February 17, 2026 through February 19, 2026; and

WHEREAS, a training program is available for Officer Albert Taurone to attend an Axon Conference/Records Training in Nashville, Tennessee from April 7, 2026 – April 10, 2026; and

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

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Supervisor be and hereby is authorized to send Officer White and Officer Taurone to attend the overnight trainings for the Active Shooter Training and Axon Conference/Records Training to be held out of the area requiring overnight stays; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that all reasonable and necessary expenses incurred may be approved by the Supervisor for reimbursement by the Town.

Motion to authorize Police Officers to attend a training program: Board Member Arco. Seconded: Board Member Franco. All voted in favor. Motion carried.

2. Acknowledge the Hiring of Additional Seasonal Wingmen

RESOLUTION

(ACKNOWLEDGE THE HIRING OF SEASONAL WINGMEN)

WHEREAS, the Highway Department has a need for Seasonal Wingmen; and

WHEREAS, it is determined that the Seasonal Wingmen positions are limited and seasonal; and

WHEREAS, the Highway Superintendent has interviewed & hired Alison Gaston (Step 1) to be paid in accordance with the payroll schedule below; and

WINGMEN

<u>Step</u>	<u>2026</u>
1	18.00
2	18.50
3	19.00
4	19.50
5	20.00

WHEREAS, that it may be necessary for the Highway Superintendent to hire additional Seasonal Wingmen throughout the season and will notify the Town Board of such hiring; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Comptroller be authorized to place them on Town payroll as Seasonal Wingmen; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that said Highway Wingmen shall be seasonal employment and that upon completion of their task, they shall be removed from the payroll.

Motion to acknowledge the hiring of additional seasonal wingmen: Board Member Flores. Seconded: Board Member Franco. All voted in favor. Motion carried.

- 3. Authorize Promotions in the Highway Department

RESOLUTION

(AUTHORIZE PROMOTIONS AT HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT)

WHEREAS, the Highway Superintendent has requested promotions within the Highway Department for the following employees: Joseph Angot to Senior Auto Mechanic; Ryan Rennhack to Head Groundsman; and Daniel Knapp and Joseph Pennachio to Construction Equipment Operator 2 (CEO2); and

WHEREAS, the Highway Superintendent has submitted a memo to the Town

Board requesting these promotions; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board hereby authorizes the promotions of Joseph Angot to Senior Auto Mechanic, Ryan Rennhack to Head Groundsman, and Daniel Knapp and Joseph Pennachio to Construction Equipment Operator 2 (CEO2) in the Highway Department; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Joseph Angot, Daniel Knapp and Joseph Pennachio will be paid in accordance with the current CSEA contract, effective February 12, 2026 with said compensation retroactive to January 1, 2026; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Ryan Rennhack shall receive a stipend of \$2.00 per hour, effective February 12, 2026, retroactive to January 1, 2026.

Motion to authorize promotions in the Highway Department: Board Member Franco. Seconded: Board Member Flores. All voted in favor. Motion carried.

4. Authorize to Advertise Bid for Town Wide Paving

RESOLUTION

(AUTHORIZING ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS FOR BLACK TOPPING)

WHEREAS, if the paving is done by an independent contractor, the existing highway forces can work on extensive drainage improvements that are planned by the Town Highway Superintendent which are necessary throughout the Town; and

WHEREAS, the Town Engineer has met with the Highway Superintendent and they are developing bid documents and standards; and

WHEREAS, a list of the roads to be paved is being assembled by the Highway Superintendent for further review by the Town Board;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Engineer and Highway Superintendent are hereby authorized to prepare bid specifications with respect to obtaining a contractor for laid-in-place asphalt services; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that upon completion of said bid specifications and documents, that the Town Clerk be and hereby is authorized to advertise for the receipt of bids for these services with the advertisement for the bids taking place at least 21 days prior to the date set for the receipt of bids; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, upon the receipt of the opening of the bids by the Town Clerk, the Town Engineer and Highway Superintendent shall review the bids received and make further recommendation to this Board with respect to the award of the same.

Motion to authorize to advertise bidding for Town wide paving: Board Member Marinaro. Seconded: Board Member Arco. All voted in favor. Motion carried.

5. Fill Vacancies on Assessment Review Board

RESOLUTION

(APPOINTING MEMBERS TO THE BOARD OF ASSESSMENT REVIEW)

WHEREAS, under the NYS Real Property Tax Law, the Town Board designates and appoints all members of the Board of Review; and

WHEREAS, said Board of Review meets during the month of May and June to review assessment complaints filed with the board; and

WHEREAS, the Town Assessor has recommended Lisa Argyle be reappointed to the Board of Assessment review for a term of (5) five years and Trussie Taylor also be appointed with a term of (5) five years; and

WHEREAS, it is the desire of the Town Board to appoint said members;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that Lisa Argyle be and hereby is reappointed as the Chair of the Board of Assessment Review and Trussie Taylor will be appointed to a (5) five year term as members of the Board of Assessment Review; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Lisa Argyle’s term as Chair will expire on December 31, 2026 and term as member will expire on September 30, 2030. Trussie Taylor will expire on September 30, 2030.

Motion to fill vacancies on Assessment Review Board: Board Member Arco. Seconded: Board Member Flores. All voted in favor. Motion carried.

6. Award Bid for Bulk Storage Tank Registrations

RESOLUTION

AWARD BID FOR BULK STORAGE TANK REGISTRATIONS

WHEREAS, a NYSEDEC has requested that the Town update and make current the petroleum storage tank registrations for both the Highway Garage facility and the Town Hall facility; and

WHEREAS, the Town has performed initial efforts to register the tanks as well as establish a compliance schedule with the NYSDEC. Per NYSDEC, the Town will need assistance from a certified environmental consultant; and

WHEREAS, this project’s SEQR action is classified as a Type II action and requires no further action; and

WHEREAS, the Town solicited and received bids from three consultants; and

WHEREAS, the lowest, qualified bid was received by OPTIMA ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board hereby declares and Authorizes Nicholas D’Alessandro, Town Supervisor, be provided the authority to authorize a contract with Optima Environmental Services to perform PBS registrations not to exceed \$3,000.00.

Motion to award the bid for Bulk Storage Tank Registrations: Board Member Flores. Seconded: Board Member Franco. All voted in favor. Motion carried.

7. Refer a Request to the New York State Senator and Assemblyman to Designate a Portion of Route 376 as Veterans Memorial Highway

RESOLUTION

(A RESOLUTION REQUESTING CONSIDERATION TO DESIGNATE A PORTION OF ROUTE 376 TO VETERANS MEMORIAL HIGHWAY)

WHEREAS, the East Fishkill Veterans Committee has made a request to have a section of Route 376 between Route 82 and Route 52 designated as Veterans Memorial Highway; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town of East Fishkill hereby requests that the New York State Department of Transportation designate this section of Route 376 as Veterans Memorial Highway; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this request be referred to Senator Rolison and Assemblyman Beephan for their authorization to designate a portion of Route 376 between Route 82 and Route 52 as Veterans Memorial Highway; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that said change be made effective as soon as possible.

Motion to refer a request to the New York State Senator and Assemblyman to designate a portion of Route 376 as Veterans Memorial Highway: Board Member Franco. Seconded: Board Member Marinaro. All voted in favor. Motion carried.

8. Authorize Town Clerk to Attend Town Clerk’s Association Conference April 19-22, 2026

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 Albany April 19, 2026 to April 22, 2026; 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 Albany April 19, 2026 to April 22, 2026; 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 Town Clerk’s Association Conference April 19-22, 2026: Board Member Marinaro. Seconded: Board Member Arco. All voted in favor. Motion carried.

9. Set Dangerous Building Proceedings for March 26, 2026

RESOLUTION

(SETTING DANGEROUS PROPERTY OWNERS HEARING)

WHEREAS, the property located at 1486 Route 82 has been determined to be dangerous under NYS and Local Dangerous Buildings Law; and

WHEREAS, the property owner has the right to submit information to the Town Board before the Town Board orders demolition or other action with respect to the property; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board will hold a hearing for the owner of the above property to address the issues raised in the original Notice to them at the Town Board Hearing to be held on March 26, 2026 at 6:00PM;
and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this Notice be sent to the property owner listed on the assessment records by Certified Mail and that a copy be posted on the site.

Motion to set Dangerous Building Proceedings for March 26, 2026: Board Member Arco. Seconded: Board Member Franco. All voted in favor. Motion carried.

10. Authorize Supervisor to Execute a Master Agreement with Energy Safety Response Group in Regard to Battery Storage

RESOLUTION

(DESIGNATING CONSULTANT FOR PLANNING BOARD, ETC.)

WHEREAS, in order to have professional guidance available for any possible Battery Storage application that may be filed; and

WHEREAS, it is appropriate to enter into a Master Agreement with Energy Safety Response Group at this time so as to prevent any conflicts developing; and

WHEREAS, if an application is filed a purchase order will then be entered into for the required service which is paid from any applicants escrow account; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Supervisor is authorize to execute a Master Agreement with Energy Safety Response Group.

Motion to authorize the Supervisor to execute a master agreement with Energy Safety Response Group in regard to battery storage: Board Member Flores. Seconded: Board Member Franco. All voted in favor. Motion carried.

11. Authorize Emergency Replacement of Generator for Hopewell Hamlet Sewer District

RESOLUTION

(DECLARE EMERGENCY GENERATOR REPLACEMENT)

WHEREAS, the Town operates the Hamlet Sewer District that supports the Town Center and some adjacent residences; and

WHEREAS, the Sewer District includes four (4) pump stations, each including a generator for emergency power during a power outage preventing effluent discharge onto the ground; and

WHEREAS, the generator located at the intersection of Rt 376 and Rt 82 (AKA East Fishkill Eye Care) has failed and is not repairable, causing the need for immediate replacement; and

WHEREAS, the Town sought three (3) proposals for the replacement of the generator and has identified Gentech LTD as the lowest, competent bidder with a fee of \$35,590; and

WHEREAS, the Central Hudson has offered to provide natural gas service at no charge. However, the Town must provide the excavation and restoration for the service line; and

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

NOW THEREFORE, IT IS RESOLVED, the Town authorizes funding from the Hamlet Sewer District in the amount of \$35,590 and \$15,000 allowance for the replacement of the failed generator; and

NOW THEREFORE, IT IS RESOLVED, that the Town Board hereby declares and authorizes Town Supervisor, Nicholas D'Alessandro, be provided the authority to authorize a contract with Gentech LTD for an amount not to exceed \$35,590.00.

Motion to authorize emergency replacement of a generator for Hopewell Hamlet Sewer District: Board Member Franco. Seconded: Board Member Arco. All voted in favor. Motion carried.

12. Authorize Hamlet Sanitary Sewer Engineering Study

RESOLUTION

(AUTHORIZE ENGINEERING STUDY FOR SANITARY SEWER)

WHEREAS, the Town operates the Hamlet Wastewater Treatment Plant that supports the Town Center and some adjacent residences, including the Hopewell Glen; and

WHEREAS, the WWTP has a permitted capacity of nearly 500,000 GPD and is currently receiving about 125,000 GPD of effluent; and

WHEREAS, it is unclear how the collection system could best support additional sanitary flow in order to maximize the available WWTP capacity, thus creating the need to perform an analysis of the collection system; and

WHEREAS, the Town sought four proposals of engineering services from four consultants previously identified via the 2024 Engineering RFQ, and has identified

MJ Engineering, Architecture, Landscape Architecture, and Land Surveying, PC to support this evaluation for a fee of \$17,800.00; and

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

NOW THEREFORE, IT IS RESOLVED, the Town allocates up to \$25,000.00 for professional engineering services for the initial evaluation and limited follow up 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 authorize a contract with MJ Engineering, Architecture, Landscape Architecture, DPC for an amount not to exceed \$17,800.00.

Motion to authorize Hamlet Sanitary Sewer Engineering Study: Board Member Marinaro. Seconded: Board Member Arco. All voted in favor. Motion carried.

13. Authorize Solicitation for the Construction of the FEMA Woodmont Culvert Replacement Project

RESOLUTION

(ADVERTISE FOR FEMA WOODMONT CULVERT REPLACEMENT)

WHEREAS, a flooding event occurred in the Summer of 2023 that caused deterioration of the Woodmont Road 5 Ft diameter metal culvert located near the intersection of Woodmont Rd and Miller Hill Rd.; and

WHEREAS, the Town Staff has consulted with FEMA to determine the extents of storm damage, eligible project costs, and additional paperwork needed to reimburse 75% of the project costs and further consulted with New York State to receive an additional 12.5% project cost reimbursement; and

WHEREAS, FEMA has authorized the replacement and upgrade of the culvert with a cost not to exceed up to \$840,713.00. Of which, the Town is to provide 12.5% (\$105,089.13). The Town’s portion can be provided in payment to consultants/contractors and/or in-kind services; and

WHEREAS, this project’s SEQR action is classified as a Type II action and requires no further action; and

WHEREAS, the Town will need to follow New York State Procurement Laws and publicly advertise and solicit bids for the construction of the culvert replacement.; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Supervisor and Town Clerk be and hereby are authorized to advertise for CULVERT REPLACEMENT; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that said responses shall be received and evaluated by the Supervisor and Town Engineer so that a recommendation be provided to the Town Board for authorization at a future meeting.

Motion to authorize solicitation for the construction of the FEMA Woodmont Culvert Replacement Project: Board Member Arco. Seconded: Board Member Franco. All voted in favor. Motion carried.

Additions to the Agenda (If any):

1. Authorize the Engineer and Planning Department to Apply for a Grant Through the Transportation Alternatives Program for Hopewell Junction Pedestrian Connections

RESOLUTION

(RE: AUTHORIZE THE ENGINEERING AND PLANNING DEPARTMENT TO APPLY FOR A GRANT THROUGH THE NYSDOT TRANSPORTATION ALTERNATIVES PROGRAM (TAP) FOR HOPEWELL JUNCTION PEDESTRIAN CONNECTIONS

WHEREAS, the Town of East Fishkill is seeking funding for construction of sidewalk along Route 82 (Main Street) that would extend from approximately Palen Road and the new senior housing project to Route 376 and The Mews Development at Cannon Lane. The project will support economic development and revitalization within the Hopewell Junction Hamlet by improving walkability and connecting two multifamily housing developments to the Hamlet Center improving pedestrian safety and enhancing pedestrian accessibility and mobility; and

WHEREAS, the Town of East Fishkill is eligible to apply for funding through the Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) for sidewalks extending from approximately Palen Road and Route 82 through the center of the Hopewell Junction Hamlet to Route 376 and Cannon Lane; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Supervisor is hereby authorizing Town staff to submit a grant application to the Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) in an amount not to exceed \$7,000,000 including a local match of 20 percent to construct sidewalk connections along Route 82 and Route 376 in the Hopewell Hamlet.

Motion to authorize the Engineer and Planning Department to apply for a grant through the Transportation Alternatives Program for Hopewell Junction pedestrian connections: Board Member Flores. Seconded: Board Member Franco. All voted in favor. Motion carried.

2. Authorized Attendance at the Capitol District’s 46 celebration of National Engineers Week

RESOLUTION

(AUTHORIZE ATTENDANCE AT THE CAPITAL DISTRICT’S 46TH CELEBRATION OF NATIONAL ENGINEERS WEEK)

WHEREAS, the Capital District’s 46th Celebration of National Engineers Week is conducting their training sessions in Albany February 12, 2026 – February 13, 2026; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Town Board does hereby authorize the George Cronk, approved by the Town Supervisor, to attend the Capital District’s 46th Celebration of National Engineers Week held in Albany February 12, 2026 to February 13, 2026; and

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

Motion to authorized attendance at the Capitol District’s 46 celebration of National Engineers Week: Board Member Franco. Seconded: Board Member Marinaro. All voted in favor. Motion carried.

3. Authorize an Income Survey

RESOLUTION

(AUTHORIZE INCOME SURVEY)

WHEREAS, the Town has been approached by several residences to investigate the possibility of installing water and/or sanitary sewer utilities in the Old Hopewell and Bridge Street areas of our downtown; and

WHEREAS, the initial analysis completed for each utility indicates that the cost of construction will exceed the average special district rates set by New York State, as such, creating a hardship and the need for grant type funding support; and

WHEREAS, grant applications that can demonstrate project financial needs will allow for higher project application scores and possibly low or no interest loans. Therefore, an income survey will need to be performed to identify possible income eligibility; and

WHEREAS, the Town is looking to partner with RCAP Solutions to complete the income survey of roughly 100 residences, where RCAP services are no fee to the Town; and

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

NOW THEREFORE, IT IS RESOLVED, the Town authorizes the Income Survey to be performed; and

NOW THEREFORE, IT IS RESOLVED, that the Town Board hereby declares and authorizes Town Supervisor, Nicholas D'Alessandro, be provided the authority to authorize a contract with RCAP Solutions.

Motion to authorize an income survey: Board Member Marinaro. Seconded: Board Member Arco. All voted in favor. Motion carried.

4. Advertise for a FEMA Beekman Culvert Removal

RESOLUTION

(ADVERTISE FOR FEMA BEEKMAN CULVERT REMOVAL)

WHEREAS, a flooding event occurred in the Summer of 2023 that caused deterioration of the Beekman Sanitary Sewer District 8-inch pipe where the sanitary sewer bisects a drainage ditch that receives runoff from the Ridgemont Rd area. The project proposes to armor the drainage channel and eliminate the damaged culvert.; and

WHEREAS, the Town Staff has consulted with FEMA to determine the extents of storm damage, eligible project costs, and additional paperwork needed to reimburse 75% of the project costs and further consulted with New York State to receive an additional 12.5% project cost reimbursement; and

WHEREAS, FEMA has authorized the replacement and upgrade of the drainage ditch with a cost not to exceed up to \$146,576.50. Of which, the Town is to provide 12.5% (\$18,322.06). The Town's portion will be provided via the Special District; and

WHEREAS, this project's SEQR action is classified as a Type II action and requires no further action; and

WHEREAS, the Town will need to follow New York State Procurement Laws and publicly advertise and solicit bids for the construction of the culvert removal.; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Supervisor and Town Clerk be and hereby are authorized to advertise for BEEKMAN CULVERT REMOVAL; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that said responses shall be received and evaluated by the Supervisor and Town Engineer so that a recommendation be provided to the Town Board for authorization at a future meeting.

Motion to advertise for a FEMA Beekman culvert removal: Board Member Arco.
Seconded: Board Member Marinaro. All voted in favor. Motion carried.

Budget Transfer:

Supervisor D'Alessandro stated there are no budget transfers.

Comments from Town Board Members:

Highway Superintendent Williams stated they have been ploughing snow, hauling snow, loading snow, and removing snow. They are trying to keep the potholes at bay. They are doing emergency tree work only. It takes a team to keep all of the equipment maintained and he thanked everyone for working together so well. He has spoken with all of the board members about the contractors and homeowners putting snow on the roads. It is a big problem. He read a prepared statement regarding pushing snow across publicly owned roadways. He has tried to speak to homeowners and contractors about plowing across the roadways and leaving snow on the roads. Some have been very amenable, and some have not been. He has spoken with the chief of police and several of the board members. Supervisor D'Alessandro asked if it was residents or snow removal professionals and Superintendent Williams stated it is both. It is also town wide. It is commercial and residential areas. Board Member Arco stated in some areas of town the contractors are blocking almost 50% of the roadway and it is dangerous. Highway Superintendent Williams stated they are moving and hauling away as much snow as they can but there are cases with people with long driveways pushing it all out into the road making it take even longer. Supervisor D'Alessandro stated they need to do better about getting this information out to people and if it's not complied with they will have to start ticketing people. This is costing the taxpayers more money to send additional equipment out to clear the roads a second or third time and it is a very dangerous situation. Board Member Marinaro stated he was snow plowing and did observe a lot of residential people plowing across the roadways. Board Member Marinaro asked if there was any way to address the State on the state highways when people clear their driveways and the state plows come back and block them back in. Superintendent Williams stated unfortunately everybody gets an equal amount unless you live on a corner and then you will get a little bit more. Board Member Arco stated there is a way you can clean your own driveway to keep it from getting plowed back in. Community is supposed to help each other. Chief Cuccia stated after the last snowstorm and

seeing how many neighbor complaints they got from people who pushed all of their snow out in the road or onto someone else's property it is going to come down to enforcement. Board Member Flores stated she believes the same thing will have to apply to people who leave their cars parked out on the road. Superintendent Williams stated there is a snow ordinance in effect and that will come down to enforcement as well. The Town Attorney stated the law does allow them to tow any car that is parked in the roadway during a snow emergency.

Chief Cuccia thanked Supervisor D'Alessandro for the comment about them being the top department in the County. He wanted to give the behavioral specialist report for the month. He plans to do this quarterly. For the last quarter of last year, from October to December, he responded to 32 calls involving 55 follow-ups. Most calls equate to two incidents because they usually stem from something else. He did assist with getting 22 individuals some form of help and linked them with various agencies throughout the county. The officers will be doing something with the seniors tomorrow for Valentine's Day. It was supposed to be a surprise, but he probably just ruined that. They have a graduation of their newest soon to be officer. At the end of this month Nicholas Deacon will be graduating from the Dutchess Police Academy and they are very excited to have him and get him out on the roadways. Board Member Franco asked if there was any update on McGrath field. Chief Cuccia stated the investigation is coming to an end. They have several suspects and that is all he can disclose about the case right now. The officers are trained from day one that the recreation park is looked upon as the crown jewel of East Fishkill. They do not take any sort of crime in that area lightly.

Board Member Arco thanked Superintendent Williams for bringing up the concern regarding the plowing across the roads. It has been a busy month. He hopes everyone fared well during the snowstorm and recent extreme cold. He has met with several of his liaison posts for the year and looks forward to supporting each of them with their projects and goals. He attended the East Fishkill Police Department State of the Department meeting. It was great to see and speak with so many officers. East Fishkill truly does have an outstanding Police Department. In each of his liaison positions as Police and School District Liaison, he will be scheduling half-day sessions to shadow each of the School Resource Officers throughout the district. The Battery Energy Storage Systems (BESS) discussion that has been drawing significant attention, he has spent the past two-plus years furthering his education in the construction, operation, and preventive maintenance of BESS facilities through his company. Many people may not realize that similar technology exists in a smaller form within their own homes, such as computer UPS systems. While similar in concept, BESS facilities operate at a much larger scale and often utilize different battery technologies compared to a typical data center UPS systems. He is working toward scheduling a workshop to provide more detailed information and education to both the Board and the community. BESS facilities are increasingly viewed as part of the solution to address infrastructure limitations and growing energy demand across the state.

He looks forward to sharing what he has learned. To better serve our community and fully understand the responsibilities our first responders would face, he recently completed a BESS Firefighter training course through Dutchess County 911. He thanked Commissioner Beal and Deputy Commissioner Scofield for their leadership and support. He also thanked the Supervisor and the Board for supporting a proactive approach. Taking these steps now will help ensure we make informed, responsible decisions that prioritize the safety and well-being of our community.

Board Member Marinaro stated yesterday they attended the MS4 meeting. He is happy to see the Supervisor has taken a stand on this issue. He totally agrees about the fact that many of these mandates are handed down with no concern about the cost. There is no relief coming to the taxpayers on these costs. Many of these mandates are supported by people who live in New York City. They're the ones that benefit mostly from the quality of good water that is supplied to them. The taxpayers of these communities pay for all the improvements to that quality water. These seven counties have to comply with all of these catch basin laws and rules but yet when you drive into New York City you see that they don't have to. They are not doing anything to improve their quality of water themselves. This is the problem. The other thing that he is working on is the cost of electricity to the taxpayers in East Fishkill and the rest of Dutchess County. It has been an ongoing problem but lately the delivery charges are astronomical. Every bill most likely reflects a 50 to 100% of what the actual usage is, these costs are unbearable. He is working with our assemblyman to find out why. His opinion is that a lot of the money that is collected is going to the governor's coffers. It is mostly regarding green energy development and subsidies. It is impossible to believe that all of the millions of dollars that are collected from the taxpayers are actually going to improvement for services. He attended a meeting a few weeks ago in Albany and a lot of the northern senators are of the same opinion that the hidden costs are for the purpose of green energy. It is good to do those programs but at the end of the day they need to create a good source of energy supply for everyone. Seniors are suffering, businesses are suffering, and residents are suffering. The surcharges are twice what the electric use is. He has spoken to the Town Supervisor, and they hope to have the local electrical company in, and he has extended an invitation to the governor's office to have a representative come to the town and face the questions. He will keep everyone updated. There is a lot of resistance in getting the information put out. Board Member Franco stated Central Hudson put out a YouTube explaining the cost but not the service fee or the delivery fee. Those are the costs that have gone up an enormous amount. Board member Marinaro stated in the northern area they have been mandated to buy electric school buses for the schools. One community bought 8 buses, and it cost them approximately \$9 million and they haven't been able to use them because it has to be certain temperature to plug them in. Wappingers is facing the same issues. The first issue is there is not enough supply and the second is that it is extremely expensive. Supervisor D'Alessandro stated Wappingers Superintendent, Dr. Bonk, has resisted buying those buses. There was a failure upstate with those electric buses because they weren't operating in the cold weather.

Board Member Franco stated The East Fishkill Recreation Guide should be out by the end of February. The recreation department is still hiring for summer seasonal work for summer camp and for Red Wing Lake, and is the start of summer camp registration and all of the information is on the recreation website. Tickets are on sale to the Doo-Wop Project on Saturday April 25th. This is at Paramount Theatre and tickets are \$85 for residents, \$100 for nonresidents. Keep checking the recreation website for upcoming trips, concerts, and programs.

Board Member Flores thanked the Highway Department for their work. She has an appreciation for the hours they put in after spending some time with them. They work in treacherous conditions, and it is exhausting and they are very appreciative when some of the residents stop by with treats or simply say thank you. As she travels other towns she always thinks our roads look the best. In her new role as liaison to the assessor's office, she had a good discussion with the assessor. She does look forward to working together with her. She was asked to remind the residents that real property tax exemption renewal notices were sent in January and are due March 1st. If you have any questions there is information on the town website or you can call the assessor's office. They are seeking volunteers to serve on the master plan implementation committee. They did pass the updated comprehensive master plan last year and now they are moving into the implementation phase. They are looking for volunteers to represent the community to provide feedback. If you are interested, please send your resume and letter of intent to the Supervisor's office. Something will be posted on the Town website with more information. There will probably be quarterly meetings.

Supervisor D'Alessandro thanked the Police and Highway departments and staff for working in the treacherous conditions.

Motion for Adjournment: Time: Motion to adjourn the regular meeting at 7:04 PM: Board Member Arco. Seconded: Board Member Flores. All voted in favor. Motion carried.

Town Board Meetings:

Workshop Meeting:	March 12, 2026
Regular Meeting:	March 26, 2026

Respectfully submitted by Julie J. Beyer on behalf of Town Clerk Peter Cassidy –
February 24, 2026