

TOWN OF BEEKMAN TOWN BOARD
Minutes for SPECIAL TOWN BOARD meeting Friday March 17th, 2023

The Town of Beekman Board met for a SPECIAL TOWN BOARD meeting on Friday March 17th, 2023. The meeting was called to order by Supervisor Covucci at 4:04PM. The following members were present: Supervisor Mary Covucci, Councilman Stiegler, Councilman Battaglini, Councilman Lemak and Councilwoman Sharon Wohrman.

Also present were the Town Clerk – Laureen Abbatantuono

Supervisor Covucci led the Pledge of Allegiance. Supervisor Covucci pointed out the emergency exits and called for a moment of silence for all those who have served our Country.

Supervisor Covucci went over the agenda items.

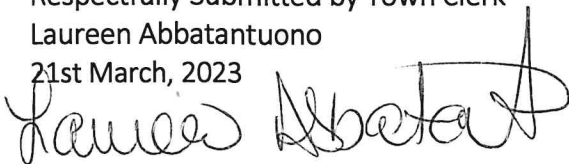
Public Comments on Agenda items Bill Craine, Gardner Hollow Rd is concerned that trucks from the logging company are still crossing the Gardner Hollow Bridge was inquiring if they were directed to exit through another location. Also, both Bill and several neighbors are concerned about the runoff through the Town of Beekman from the removal of the trees. Supervisor Covucci advised Bill that as per the Town Engineer from what they can tell the runoff will not be an issue. Bill thanked the Town Board for their efforts.

Public Comments Bill Craine, Gardner Hollow Rd, asked if the trucks are over the weight limit. Supervisor Covucci, yes they are.

Written Comments: NONE

Supervisor Covucci made a motion at 4:13PM to adjourn the Town Board meeting, seconded by Councilman Stiegler.

Respectfully Submitted by Town Clerk
Laureen Abbatantuono
21st March, 2023



**BEEKMAN TOWN BOARD
SPECIAL TOWN BOARD MEETING AGENDA
MARCH 17, 2023**

4:00 PM

- Meeting called to order
- Pledge of Allegiance
- Administrative Announcement--Fire Exits

TOWN BOARD MEETING

- Supervisor Comments
- Public comment on Agenda Items and Resolutions

RESOLUTIONS

1. Setting the Maximum Weight Capacity of the Gardner Hollow Road Bridge
- Other Town Board Business
 - General Board Comments
 - **Next Regular Town Board Meeting: Tuesday, March 28, 2023 at 7:00 PM**

***AGENDA SUBJECT TO CHANGE**

RESOLUTION NO.03:17:23-1
RE: A RESOLUTION SETTING THE MAXIMUM WEIGHT CAPACITY OF THE
GARDNER HOLLOW ROAD BRIDGE

WHEREAS, Vehicle and Traffic Law §385 sets the maximum gross vehicle weight for vehicles travelling on the highways of New York State; and

WHEREAS, Vehicle and Traffic Law §1660(a)(28) and § 1660(b) requires the Town to post the maximum weight capacity of a bridge that cannot support the maximum vehicle weights established under Vehicle and Traffic Law §385; and

WHEREAS, Highway Law §234(3)(a) requires that the load capacity of a town bridge be determined by a licensed professional engineer; and

WHEREAS, the Town is in the process of installing a prefabricated bridge on Gardner Hollow Road, a town road, to replace the structurally deficient bridge that previously existed at the location; and

WHEREAS, the Engineer to the Town has determined that said prefabricated bridge is not sufficient to carry vehicles having a maximum gross vehicle weight set forth in Vehicle and Traffic Law §385 and, therefore, a lower weight restriction must be posted; and

WHEREAS, the Engineer to the Town is a duly licensed professional engineer and has recommended that the Gardner Hollow Bridge be posted with a maximum gross vehicle weight of 20 tons; and

WHEREAS, Vehicle and Traffic Law §1660(b) authorizes the Town Board to set the maximum weight limit for the bridges under its jurisdiction and to cause signs to be posted alerting the public of said weight limit.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Beekman hereby determines that the maximum load capacity for the Gardner Hollow Bridge be established at a gross vehicle weight of 20 tons upon the report of Daniel Koehler, P.E.; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Superintendent of Town Highways cause signs reciting the weight restrictions complying with the NYS Manual of Uniform Traffic Control Devices (“MUTCD”) be posted to notify the travelling public of such weight restrictions at such locations required by the MUTCD; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Engineer to the Town file his report of the weight limit with the NYS Department of Transportation as required by Highway Law §234(3)(a); and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this resolution shall take effect immediately.

Introduced: COUNCILMAN WERNER STIEGLER

Seconded: COUNCILWOMAN WOHRMAN

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Councilman Stiegler	AYE
Councilman Battaglini	AYE
Councilman Lemak	AYE
Councilwoman Wohrman	AYE
Supervisor Covucci	AYE

Dated: March 17, 2023

Supervisor

From: Daniel G. Koehler, P.E. <dkoehler@hudsonlanddesign.com>
Sent: Thursday, March 16, 2023 4:21 PM
To: Supervisor; Anthony Coviello; Sharon Wohrman; Werner Stiegler; Ezio Battaglini; Frank Lemak
Cc: James P. Horan; Sandra Oakley; Craig Wallace
Subject: Gardner Hollow Bridge weight limits

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

All,

I understand that the Town Board will be considering a resolution to restrict weight on the Gardner Hollow Road Bridge. I have thoroughly reviewed the Vehicle and Traffic Law, Title 3, Article 10, Section 385, Paragraphs 5-13, in concert with James P. Horan, Esq. as Town Attorney, all of which concern the weight limits on bridges. Based on our review of documents provided by the various engineering team members for the Gardner Hollow Road Bridge, the bridge is not designed to support all vehicle loads, particularly referencing those denoted within paragraph 10. In cases where maximum vehicle weights established under Vehicle and Traffic Law §385 cannot be met, Vehicle and Traffic Law §1660(a)(28)(b) requires the Town to post the maximum weight capacity of the bridge.

Therefore, we are suggesting that the bridge be rated for 20 Tons Gross Vehicle Weight, as denoted in paragraph 9 of the aforementioned Vehicle and Traffic Law. This, basically, limits the bridge to two-axle vehicles with pneumatic tires with a maximum axle spacing of 10 feet and maximum overall weight of 40,000 pounds. Below is the reference to paragraph 9:

9. The weight on any two consecutive axles of a single vehicle or a combination of vehicles, equipped with pneumatic tires, when loaded, and when such axles are spaced less than eight feet from center to center, shall be not more than thirty-six thousand pounds, except where axles are spaced eight feet or greater, but less than ten feet, the weight on those two axles shall not exceed that permitted by paragraph (b) of subdivision ten of this section and, in addition, shall not exceed forty thousand pounds. Axles to be counted as provided in subdivision five of this section.

This will accommodate the various vehicles identified in the Town Highway Superintendent's memorandum of March 16, 2023.

Please feel free to call or email me with any questions.

Dan



Daniel G. Koehler, P.E.

Hudson Land Design

Professional Engineering, P.C.

174 Main Street, Beacon, NY 12508

13 Chambers Street, Newburgh, NY 12550

Phone: 845.440.6926



TOWN OF BEEKMAN

4 Main St.
Poughquag, New York 12570-9601

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Anthony Coviello Highway Superintendent

To: Mary Covucci
CC: Town Board Members
Date: March 16, 2023
From: Tony Coviello Town of Beekman Highway Superintendent
Subject: Gardner Hollow Road Bridge Weight Limits

As you all know, Gardner Hollow Road has a 25' steel deck "Rapid Bridge" with an anti-skid surface manufactured by Mabey Inc. The original engineered plans including GA Drawing, Geometry Drawing and calculations for the bridge have been submitted to the Town's Engineering Firm back in 2017. With this being said I do not know the official weight limit capacity of this "Rapid Bridge" manufactured by Mabey.

Within the last few weeks there have been reports as well as I personally witnessing semi tractor trailer "log trucks with 40' trailers" utilizing the, Gardner Hollow Road / Bridge for passage carrying loads of felled trees, that in my opinion are in excess of 80,000 Lbs. Please note that NYS law allows semi tractor trailers "tri-axle's" a maximum of 80,000 lbs.

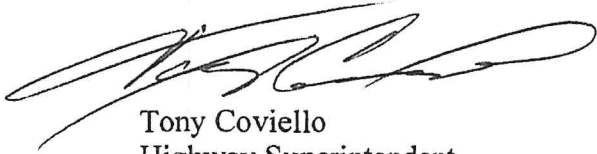
Gardner Hollow Road is a quiet country type road that does not need commercial traffic of 80,000 lbs on it. The footings "head walls" that were installed for this Rapid Bridge may very well be able to handle this weight capacity, but the steel deck of the Maybe bridge is questionable in my opinion. I have voiced my opinion and have been against the allowable headwall weight limit capacity since 2017.

A breakdown of trucks / heavy equipment and weight capacities.

- Highway Department Trucks Empty (two axle) 23,000 lbs. Loaded 33,000 lbs.
- Average Sanitation Truck Empty (two axle) 13,600 lbs. Loaded average 30,000 lbs.
- Home Heating Oil Delivery Truck (Tri Axle) Average 3000 Gallons Empty 15,000 lbs. Loaded 33,000 lbs
- Home Delivery 20 foot Box Truck (two axle) Empty Average 10,000 lbs. Empty 26,000 lbs. Loaded
- Type 5 Average Fire (ladder) Truck 26,000 lbs. / Type 6 Average Fire Engine 19,500 lbs.

With all of the above information there is no need or reason for 5 axle tractor trailers with weight capacities of 80,000 lbs. to be on Gardner Hollow Road without special permits. My suggestion is to make this Mabey Rapid Bridge a max limit of 17 Tons.

The only way to enforce this weight limit in my opinion, would be to call Troop K State Troopers and ask for DOT Enforcement Division to set-up scales on surprise inspections, this is a common practice for DOT inspections. They would need to be informed of the situation and the new weight limits and I am sure they would be happy to set-up scales / inspections.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Tony Coviello', with a large, sweeping flourish extending to the left.

Tony Coviello
Highway Superintendent

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Introduced: COUNCILMAN STIEGLER

Seconded: COUNCILWOMAN WOHRMAN

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Councilman Stiegler	AYE
Councilman Battaglini	AYE
Councilman Lemak	AYE
Councilwoman Wohrman	AYE
Supervisor Covucci	AYE

LAUREEN ABBATANTUONO, TOWN CLERK

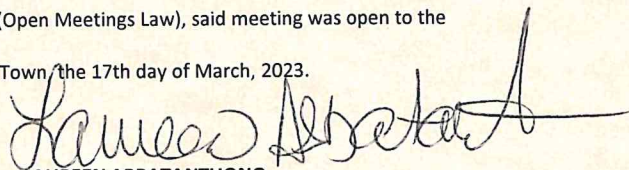
DATED: March 17, 2023
BEEKMAN, NY

CERTIFICATION

I, LAUREEN ABBATANTUONO, the duly qualified and acting Clerk for the Town of Beekman Town Board, Dutchess County, State of New York, do hereby certify that attached hereto is a true and correct copy of an extract from the minutes of a regular/adjourned meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Beekman, held on the 17TH March, 2023 and that the Resolution set forth herein is a true and correct copy of the of the Town Board of said Town adopted at said meeting.

I FURTHER CERTIFY that, pursuant to Section 103 of the Public Officers Law (Open Meetings Law), said meeting was open to the general public.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and the seal of the said Town, the 17th day of March, 2023.


LAUREEN ABBATANTUONO
TOWN CLERK

