

TOWN OF BEEKMAN TOWN BOARD
Minutes for Tuesday April 22nd, 2025

The Town of Beekman Board met for a regular TOWN BOARD meeting on Tuesday April 22nd, 2025. The meeting was called to order by Supervisor Covucci at 6:02PM. The following members were present: Supervisor Mary Covucci, Councilman Capollari, Councilman Battaglini, and Councilwoman Wohrman.

Also present were the Town Clerk –Laureen Abbatantuono, and the Town Attorney, Craig Wallace.

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 invited the Recreation Director Dani Plastini up to present dates for upcoming events. (please refer to the video www.townofbeekman.gov) Also invited up was the CAC Chairwoman Suzette Lopane who gave a brief synopsis on “Climate Smart Communities” (please refer to the video)

Supervisor Covucci went over the agenda items

Public Comments on the agenda: Jayson Abbatantuono 20 Gabriels Path, Resolution # 10 “Approve Auditor For Auditing of 2024” expressed his concerns on repeated unreasonable actions of individuals or groups directed at an employee or a group of employees which is intended to intimidate. This creates a risk to the health and safety of the employees; workplace bullying often involves abuse of misuse of power. He addressed the Town Supervisor, Town Attorney and Town Board on the Resolution and the \$4500.00 per department that is being spent on an Audit for the Town Clerk/Tax Receivers office and does hope that it highlights the need for additional help in those departments to improve process. Bill Crane, 254 Gardener Hollow Road, Resolution #11, “Climate Smart Community” I just want to give my thanks and congratulations on putting this on the agenda. The “Climate Smart Community” can stimulate all kinds of exciting projects, new projects from recycling, to tree planting and tree preservation. It will put us in a position to be much more competitive with respect to grants and will be a great savings to the town. It's a really great and I am glad that Suzette has come forward and volunteered to be the interim chair of the CAC.

Town Board members read the Resolutions;

Public Comments: Bill Crane, 254 Gardener Hollow Road, acknowledged the passing of Pope Francis the Patron Saint of the animals and the environment. Bill said Earth Day, it makes him feel good to think about how much the earth gives us, the water we drink and all the plants, the food we eat and the air we breathe. Also he hopes that when it comes to cutting down trees that more people will think about how they absorb the carbon dioxide and assist in global

warming. **Kate Blake 231 Clap Hill Road**, at the last meeting the Town Board discussed re-upping the contract with logically for IT services and she had noted that it was going to be a pretty significant increase in monthly costs, she apologized that she didn't have the figures right now but she thinks it was somewhere between \$1,000 and \$1,500 a month. When I brought it up it was mentioned that it was a shared service. She just wanted to request that going forward maybe the Town Board could do a discussion on the topic so that the community can learn more about it.

General Board Comments: Town Attorney, Craig Wallace made a comment regarding statements or comments regarding certain types of investigations and should not be discussed by any audience member. **Town Clerk Laureen Abbatantuono** shared her experience while attending Honor Flight #35. It is a day that she will never forget, what an Honor it was to be chosen to chaperone a Combat Medic from the Vietnam War. Also, presented dates for the 2025 Property Taxes as well as a brief statement regarding the collection. She thanked Bill Crane for hosting his event at the Safe Haven Farm, it was a great day. The Memorial Day Parade/Ceremony will be held on Monday May 26th, if anyone would like to participate or help please reach out to the Town Clerks office.

Supervisor Covucci the Next Regular Town Board Meeting: Tuesday May 13th at 6:00pm.

Supervisor Covucci made a motion adjourn the Town Board meeting at 6:32PM, Seconded by Councilman Capollari, All in Favor, AYE.

Respectfully Submitted by Town Clerk
Laureen Abbatantuono

**BEEKMAN TOWN BOARD
REGULAR MEETING AGENDA
APRIL 22, 2025**

6:00 PM

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

TOWN BOARD MEETING

PRESENTATIONS

- Supervisor Comments
- Public Comment on Agenda Items and Resolutions (3-Minute Limit)

RESOLUTIONS

1. Accept October 8, 2024 Minutes-NO ACTION TAKEN
 2. Accept November 6, 2024 Minutes-NO ACTION TAKEN
 3. Accept November 19, 2024 Minutes-NO ACTION TAKEN
 4. Accept December 30, 2024 Minutes-NO ACTION TAKEN
 5. Accept January 8, 2025 Minutes-NO ACTION TAKEN
 6. Accept January 21, 2025 Minutes
 7. Accept April 8, 2025 Minutes-NO ACTION TAKEN
 8. Authorize Accepting the Changes to the Town Government Restricted Fund Equity Balances of December 31, 2024
 9. Approve Privacy Policy Disclaimer
 10. Approve Auditor for Additional Auditing for 2024
 11. Adopt Climate Smart Community
 12. Payment of Claims
- Other Town Board Business
 - General Town Board Comments
 - Public Comments (3-Minute Limit)
 - **Next Regular Town Board Meeting: Tuesday, May 13, 2025 at 6:00 PM**

ADJOURN

RESOLUTION NO. 04:22:25-1
RE: ACCEPTANCE OF PAST TOWN BOARD MINUTES

WHEREAS, Town Clerk Laureen Abbatantuono has provided copies of the minutes of the October 8, 2024 Regular Town Board Meeting to all members of the Beekman Town Board; and

WHEREAS, Town Board members have had the opportunity to review said minutes;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board hereby accepts the minutes of the October 8, 2024 Regular Town Board Meeting.

Introduced:

Seconded:

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Councilman Capollari

Councilman Battaglini

Councilman Lemak

Councilwoman Wohrman

Supervisor Covucci

Dated: April 22, 2025

RESOLUTION NO. 04:22:25-2
RE: ACCEPTANCE OF PAST TOWN BOARD MINUTES

WHEREAS, Town Clerk Laureen Abbatantuono has provided copies of the minutes of the November 6, 2024 Regular Town Board Meeting to all members of the Beekman Town Board; and

WHEREAS, Town Board members have had the opportunity to review said minutes;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board hereby accepts the minutes of the November 6, 2024 Regular Town Board Meeting.

Introduced:

Seconded:

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Councilman Capollari

Councilman Battaglini

Councilman Lemak

Councilwoman Wohrman

Supervisor Covucci

Dated: April 22, 2025

RESOLUTION NO. 04:22:25-3
RE: ACCEPTANCE OF PAST TOWN BOARD MINUTES

WHEREAS, Town Clerk Laureen Abbatantuono has provided copies of the minutes of the November 19, 2024 Regular Town Board Meeting to all members of the Beekman Town Board; and

WHEREAS, Town Board members have had the opportunity to review said minutes;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board hereby accepts the minutes of the November 19, 2024 Regular Town Board Meeting.

Introduced:

Seconded:

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Councilman Capollari

Councilman Battaglini

Councilman Lemak

Councilwoman Woehrman

Supervisor Covucci

Dated: April 22, 2025

RESOLUTION NO. 04:22:25-4
RE: ACCEPTANCE OF PAST TOWN BOARD MINUTES

WHEREAS, Town Clerk Laureen Abbatantuono has provided copies of the minutes of the December 30, 2024 Regular Town Board Meeting to all members of the Beekman Town Board; and

WHEREAS, Town Board members have had the opportunity to review said minutes;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board hereby accepts the minutes of the December 30, 2024 Regular Town Board Meeting.

Introduced:

Seconded:

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Councilman Capollari

Councilman Battaglini

Councilman Lemak

Councilwoman Woehrman

Supervisor Covucci

Dated: April 22, 2025

RESOLUTION NO. 04:22:25-5
RE: ACCEPTANCE OF PAST TOWN BOARD MINUTES

WHEREAS, Town Clerk Laureen Abbatantuono has provided copies of the minutes of the January 8, 2025 Regular Town Board Meeting to all members of the Beekman Town Board; and

WHEREAS, Town Board members have had the opportunity to review said minutes;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board hereby accepts the minutes of the January 8, 2025 Regular Town Board Meeting.

Introduced:

Seconded:

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Councilman Capollari

Councilman Battaglini

Councilman Lemak

Councilwoman Wohrman

Supervisor Covucci

Dated: April 22, 2025

RESOLUTION NO. 04:22:25-6
RE: ACCEPTANCE OF PAST TOWN BOARD MINUTES

WHEREAS, Town Clerk Laureen Abbatantuono has provided copies of the minutes of the January 21, 2025 Regular Town Board Meeting to all members of the Beekman Town Board; and

WHEREAS, Town Board members have had the opportunity to review said minutes;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board hereby accepts the minutes of the January 21, 2025 Regular Town Board Meeting.

Introduced: COUNCILMAN CAPOLLARI

Seconded: COUNCILMAN BATTAGLINI

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Councilman Capollari	AYE
Councilman Battaglini	AYE
Councilman Lemak	ABSENT
Councilwoman Wohrman	AYE
Supervisor Covucci	AYE

Dated: April 22, 2025

RESOLUTION NO. 04:22:25-7
RE: ACCEPTANCE OF PAST TOWN BOARD MINUTES

WHEREAS, Town Clerk Laureen Abbatantuono has provided copies of the minutes of the April 8, 2025 Regular Town Board Meeting to all members of the Beekman Town Board; and

WHEREAS, Town Board members have had the opportunity to review said minutes;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board hereby accepts the minutes of the April 8, 2025 Regular Town Board Meeting.

Introduced:

Seconded:

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Councilman Capollari

Councilman Battaglini

Councilman Lemak

Councilwoman Wohrman

Supervisor Covucci

Dated: April 22, 2025

RESOLUTION NO. 04:22:25-8
RE: RESOLUTION ACCEPTING THE CHANGES TO THE TOWN GOVERNMENT’S RESTRICTED FUND
EQUITY BALANCES AS OF DECEMBER 31, 2024

WHEREAS, the Town Board approved the changes to the Government Fund Restricted Equity in Resolution 04:08:25-17; and

WHEREAS, a minor mathematical error was detected in the Resolution,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Beekman hereby approves the following corrected changes to the Government Funds Restricted Fund Equity Balances as of December 31, 2024.

Fund Equity Categories	Balances 12/31/2023	Increase	Decrease	Balances 12/31/2024
A Non Spendable	\$ 18,146		\$ 826	\$ 17,320
A Reserve for Comp Absences	43,400		3,700	39,700
A Reserve for Retirement	556,508		124,048	432,460
A Reserve for Claims	100,000	7,620		107,620
A Reserve for Repairs	188,564	14,000		202,564
A Held for Capital Use	1,216,663	1,675,853	1,162,500	1,730,016
DA Non Spendable	16,470	1,555		18,025
DA Reserve for Comp Absences	24,600			24,600
DA Reserve for Snow & Repairs	150,000	7,000		157,000
DA Reserve for Equipment	256,770	38,400	200,000	95,170
SS Reserve for Repairs	30,000	640		30,640
SW Reserve for Repairs	22,200	14,920		37,120

Introduced: SUPERVISOR COVUCCI

Seconded: COUNCILWOMAN WOHRMAN

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Councilman Capollari	AYE
Councilman Battaglini	AYE
Councilman Lemak	ABSENT
Councilwoman Wohrman	AYE
Supervisor Covucci	AYE

Dated: April 22, 2025

RESOLUTION NO. 04:22:25-9
RE: ADOPTING A WEBSITE TERMS OF USE AND PRIVACY POLICY

The following Resolution was introduced by COUNCILWOMAN WOHRMAN and seconded by COUNCILMAN BATTAGLINI.

WHEREAS, the Town of Beekman operates and administers the official town website at www.townofbeekman.gov which is designed to provide residents, visitors, businesses, and interested persons information regarding Town departments, services, programs, events, and activities; and

WHEREAS, the Terms of Use and Privacy Policy is intended to establish regulations for the development, operation, and administration of Town websites; ensure that Town websites remain non-public forums maintained for the exclusive use and control of the Town in communicating matters of general public interest; and provide privacy and security measures to protect information under the Town's control.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town of Beekman adopts the Town of Beekman Terms of Use and Privacy Policy to be displayed on the Town's website and is hereby attached as Exhibit "A".

ROLL CALL VOTE:	<u>AYE</u>	<u>NAY</u>
Councilman Capollari	<u>X</u>	_____
Councilman Battaglini	<u>X</u>	_____
Councilman Lemak	<u>ABSENT</u>	_____
Councilwoman Wohrman	<u>X</u>	_____
Supervisor Covucci	<u>X</u>	_____

Dated: April 22, 2025

RESOLUTION NO. 04:22:25-10
RE: APPROVE AUDITOR FOR AUDITING OF 2024

WHEREAS, the services of an independent auditor is required to audit the Town of Beekman's financial records for the Office of Receiver of Taxes and the Office of Town Clerk for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2024; and

WHEREAS, the Financial Advisor Tom Carey and the Town Board are desirous to continue the auditing services for this year with EFPR;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that EFPR Group, CPAs, 6390 Main Street, Suite 200, Williamsville, NY 14221 is hereby appointed to perform the year-end audits at a fee not to exceed \$9,000.00 for both Offices.

Introduced: COUNCILMAN CAPOLLARI

Seconded: COUNCILMAN BATTAGLINI

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Councilman Capollari	NAY
Councilman Battaglini	AYE
Councilman Lemak	ABSENT
Councilwoman Wohrman	AYE
Supervisor Covucci	AYE

Dated: April 22, 2025

RESOLUTION 04:22:25-11
RE: CLIMATE SMART COMMUNITY

WHEREAS, the Town of Beekman (hereinafter “local government”) believes that creating a Climate Smart Community will benefit the residents; and

WHEREAS, we believe that our response to Climate Smart Communities provides us with an unprecedented opportunity to save money, and to build livable, energy-independent and secure communities, vibrant innovation economies, healthy and safe schools, and resilient infrastructures; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Beekman wishes to protect the rural nature of our community and provide actions that will assist in having the Town of Beekman address issues and create solutions in moving forward in the future with the best interest of the community always at the forefront of decision making.

IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED that Town of Beekman, in order to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and adapt to a changing climate, adopts the New York State Climate Smart Communities Pledge, which comprises the following ten elements:

1. Pledge to be a Climate Smart Community.
2. Set goals, inventory emissions, plan for climate action.
3. Decrease community energy use.
4. Increase community use of renewable energy.
5. Realize benefits of recycling and other climate-smart solid waste management practices.
6. Reduce greenhouse gas emissions through use of climate-smart land-use tools.
7. Enhance community resilience and prepare for the effects of climate change.
8. Support development of a green innovation economy.
9. Inform and inspire the public.
10. Commit to an evolving process of climate action.

Introduced: COUNCILMAN BATTAGLINI

Seconded: COUNCILWOMAN WOHRMAN

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Councilman Capollari	AYE
Councilman Battaglini	AYE
Councilman Lemak	ABSENT
Councilwoman Wohrman	AYE
Supervisor Covucci	AYE

Dated: April 22, 2025

RESOLUTION NO. 04:22:25-12
RE: PAYMENT OF CLAIMS

WHEREAS, the Bookkeeper has audited and approved claims pursuant to Sect. 119 of Town Law as set forth in the attached abstracts; be it

RESOLVED, that the payment, therefore, is hereby authorized as follows:

Claims to be paid from the A-General Fund	\$ 308,794.27
Claims to be paid from the DA-Highway Fund	\$ 87,994.53
Claims to be paid from the SS-Dover Ridge Sewer	\$ 27,411.95
Claims to be paid from the SW-Dover Ridge Water	\$ 112.00
Claims to be paid from the T-Trust & Agency Fund	\$ 4,952.58
Claims to be paid from the H-Capital Fund	\$ 368.96
	<u>\$ 429,634.29</u>

04/10/2025 Payroll #9

General Fund	\$ 38,451.68
Highway Fund	\$ 23,331.59
	<u>\$ 61,783.27</u>

Introduced: SUPERVISOR COVUCCI

Seconded: COUNCILMAN CAPOLLARI

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Councilman Capollari	AYE
Councilman Battaglini	AYE
Councilman Lemak	ABSENT
Councilwoman Woehrman	AYE
Supervisor Covucci	AYE

Dated: April 22, 2025