



Town of Beekman Town Board

Beekman Town Hall
4 Main Street
Poughquag, NY 12570

Regular Meeting of the Town Board

Tuesday, April 14th, 2026
7:00PM

Town Board Members

Laureen Abbatantuono, Supervisor

Kate Blake, Deputy Supervisor

Gina Ragusa, Councilwoman

Mersin Capollari, Councilman

Sharon Wohrman, Councilwoman

Alicia Turenchalk, Town Clerk

RULES FOR PUBLIC COMMENT:

1. Each presentation to the Board made by an individual shall be limited to three (3) minutes in duration, unless extended by agreement by the Town Supervisor/ designee
2. Comments should be directed to the Board. Comments should be made in a respectful manner to the Board and from the Board to the community.

The Town Supervisor or designee may:

- a. Interrupt, warn, or terminate an individual's comment when the comment is personally directed, abusive or obscene.
- b. Request that any individual leave the meeting when that individual fails to observe reasonable decorum.
- c. Call for a recess or an adjournment to another time.

The intent of these rules are:

1. To allow members of the public a fair and adequate opportunity to be heard.
2. To assure that the regular agenda of the Town Board is completed; and
3. To recognize the nature of the Board and community's time and to use that time effectively.

Meeting Agenda

- a. Roll Call of the Town Board
 - b. Pledge of Allegiance
 - c. Moment of Silence
 - d. Executive Session
 - e. Administrative Announcement
 - f. Acknowledgement of Minutes
 1. February 24, 2026
 - g. Public Comment on Agenda Items – please come up to the microphone and state your name and address
 - h. Resolutions
 - i. Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items
 - j. Adjournment
- The next Town Board meeting is Tuesday, April 28, 2026 at 7:00 p.m.

Resolutions

1. Salary and Wage Schedule for 2026
2. Standard Work Day & Reporting Resolution for Elected & Appointed Officials RS 2417-A
3. A Resolution Authorizing a Traffic Study for CR 55 at the Intersection of Clove Valley Road and Beekman Road
4. Authorizing Revised Bus Cost for Senior Bus Trips
5. Awarding the Bid for the Removal of Scrap Metal
6. Authorizing Termination of Contract with Neave Landscaping
7. Accepting Donation of Rocks/Boulders for Doherty Park
8. Replacement for Non-Compliant Pitney Bowes Postage Machine
9. Payment of Claims
10. Accepting the Resignation of Payroll Clerk
11. Approving the Transfer to the Doherty Park Capital Project
12. Energy Burden Resolution to Governor Hochul
13. Local Law No. 2 of 2026 – Amending Town Zoning Code to Regulate Battery Energy Storage Systems (BESS)

Resolutions

RESOLUTION 04:14:26-01

Salary and Wage Schedule for 2026

WHEREAS, the Town Board of the Town of Beekman is authorized to set salaries and wages for personnel not covered by a bargaining unit,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the salaries and wages for the employees of the Town for the year 2026 are as follows:

Deputy Town Clerk \$22.13 per hour

Building Inspector \$73,447 Annual

Secretary to the Superintendent of Highway \$19.38 per hour

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that these salaries shall be paid retroactively effective as of January 1, 2026.

Introduced: Supervisor Abbatantuono

Seconded: _____

ROLL CALL VOTE BY TOWN CLERK

Councilwoman Wohrman _____

Councilman Capollari _____

Councilwoman Ragusa _____

Councilwoman Blake _____

Supervisor Abbatantuono _____

CERTIFICATION OF THE TOWN CLERK

I, Alicia Turenchalk, Town Clerk of the Town of Beekman, do hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was duly adopted by the Town Board at a meeting held on April 14, 2026.

Town Clerk: _____ Date: April 14, 2026

RESOLUTION 04:14:26-2

Standard Work Day & Reporting Resolution for Elected & Appointed Officials RS 2417-A

WHEREAS, the Office of the New York State Comptroller requires municipalities to establish Standard Work Days for elected and appointed officials who participate in the New York State and Local Retirement System,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Beekman hereby establishes the following standard work days for elected and appointed officials and will report the following information for these officials to the New York State and Local Retirement System based on their record of activities:

ELECTED OFFICIAL	STANDARD WORK DAY (Hrs/Day)	NAME	CURRENT TERM BEGIN/END DATE	RECORD OF ACTIVITIES RESULT
Superintendent of Highways	8	Tony Coviello	01/01/2026-12/31/2028	28.98
Town Supervisor	7	Laureen Abbatantuono	01/01/2026-12/31/2026	23.34
Town Councilwoman	6	Kate Blake	01/01/2026-12/31/2028	13.89
Town Councilwoman	6	Gina Ragusa	01/01/2026-12/31/2028	13.89

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this Resolution with attachments with any social security numbers and retirement registration numbers redacted shall be prominently posted on the Town’s website and the Official Signboard of the Town for a period of not less than 30 days, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that within 15 days after the expiration of the posting period, the Town Clerk shall file the completed RS 2417-A form with the Office of the New York State Comptroller.

Introduced: Supervisor Abbatantuono

Seconded: _____

ROLL CALL VOTE BY TOWN CLERK

- Councilwoman Wohrman _____
- Councilman Capollari _____
- Councilwoman Ragusa _____
- Councilwoman Blake _____
- Supervisor Abbatantuono _____

CERTIFICATION OF THE TOWN CLERK

I, Alicia Turenchalk, Town Clerk of the Town of Beekman, do hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was duly adopted by the Town Board at a meeting held on April 14, 2026.

Town Clerk: _____ Date: April 14, 2026

RESOLUTION 04:14:26-3

**A Resolution Authorizing a Traffic Study for CR 55
at the Intersection of Clove Valley Road and Beekman Road**

WHEREAS, the Town of Beekman is committed to ensuring the safety, health, and welfare of its residents and visitors, and

WHEREAS, concerns have been raised regarding traffic conditions in the vicinity of CR 55 at the intersection of Clove Valley Road and Beekman Road, and

WHEREAS, such concerns include, but are not limited to, excessive vehicle speeds, increased traffic volume, unsafe pedestrian crossings, and/or a history of motor vehicle incidents, and

WHEREAS, the Town Board of the Town of Beekman recognizes the need for data-driven analysis to properly assess these concerns and determine appropriate corrective measures,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Beekman hereby authorizes the Department of Transportation Department/Planning Department to conduct a comprehensive traffic study of CR 55 at the intersection of Clove Valley Road and Beekman Road,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the traffic study shall include, at a minimum:

- Traffic volume counts and peak-hour analysis
- Vehicle speed data collection
- Crash history and safety analysis
- Evaluation of pedestrian and bicycle conditions
- Review of existing traffic control devices and signage
- Consideration of potential mitigation measures

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the responsible department is directed to report its findings and recommendations to the Town of Beekman Town Board within 60 days of initiation of the study,

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

Introduced: Supervisor Abbatantuono

Seconded: _____

ROLL CALL VOTE BY TOWN CLERK

- Councilwoman Wohrman _____
- Councilman Capollari _____
- Councilwoman Ragusa _____
- Councilwoman Blake _____
- Supervisor Abbatantuono _____

CERTIFICATION OF THE TOWN CLERK

I, Alicia Turenchalk, Town Clerk of the Town of Beekman, do hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was duly adopted by the Town Board at a meeting held on April 14, 2026.

Town Clerk: _____ Date: April 14, 2026

RESOLUTION 04:14:26-4

**Amendment to Resolution 01:27:26-12
Authorizing Senior Bus Costs for Senior Bus Trips**

WHEREAS, the 2026 Budget includes funding for the cost of a variety of bus trips and events for the Senior Citizens Program, and

WHEREAS, the Town Board of the Town of Beekman approved Resolution No. 01:27:26-12 authorizing payment for the charter bus for the 2026 Senior trips, and

WHEREAS, it has been determined that the increase in fuel necessitates an adjustment to previously authorized bus fees, and

WHEREAS, the additional expense shall be paid from the Recreation Fund,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the payment for the charter bus for the following trips is hereby authorized with an additional \$200.00 added to each previously approved bus cost:

<u>Date</u>	<u>Venue/Event</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Revised Bus Cost</u>
May 13	“Whitney Houston”/ Resorts World Casino	Monticello, NY	\$2,190.00
June 18	“Johnny Cash Tribute”/ Hunterdon Hills Playhouse	Hampton, NJ	\$2,190.00
July 9	“Crazy for You”/ Godspeed Opera House	East Haddam, CT	\$2,190.00
August 13	“Boardwalk”/ Casa Bianca	Oak Ridge, NJ	\$2,190.00
September 8	“Doo Wop Show”/ Aqua Turf	Plantsville, CT	\$2,190.00
October 15	Steam Boat, Train & Lunch/ Essex Steam Boat	Essex, CT	\$2,190.00

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that all other provisions of Resolution No. 01:27:26-12 shall remain in full effect.

Introduced: Supervisor Abbatantuono

Seconded: _____

ROLL CALL VOTE BY TOWN CLERK

Councilwoman Wohrman _____
Councilman Capollari _____
Councilwoman Ragusa _____
Councilwoman Blake _____
Supervisor Abbatantuono _____

CERTIFICATION OF THE TOWN CLERK

I, Alicia Turenchalk, Town Clerk of the Town of Beekman, do hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was duly adopted by the Town Board at a meeting held on April 14, 2026.

Town Clerk: _____ Date: April 14, 2026

DRAFT

RESOLUTION 04:14:26-5

Awarding the Bid for the Removal of Scrap Metal

WHEREAS, authorization was given for the Town Clerk to advertise for bids for the removal of scrap metal from the Highway Garage, and

WHEREAS, the bids for the removal of scrap metal were received, opened and read publicly on Thursday, April 2, 2026 at 10AM as published in the Poughkeepsie Journal,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the bid is hereby awarded to Baroni Recycling as recommended by the Highway Superintendent as attached hereto, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Supervisor be and hereby is authorized to execute any and all documents necessary to carry out the said services.

Introduced: Supervisor Abbatantuono

Seconded: _____

ROLL CALL VOTE BY TOWN CLERK

- Councilwoman Wohrman _____
- Councilman Capollari _____
- Councilwoman Ragusa _____
- Councilwoman Blake _____
- Supervisor Abbatantuono _____

CERTIFICATION OF THE TOWN CLERK

I, Alicia Turenchalk, Town Clerk of the Town of Beekman, do hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was duly adopted by the Town Board at a meeting held on April 14, 2026.

Town Clerk: _____ Date: April 14, 2026

RESOLUTION 04:14:26-6

**Authorizing Nunc Pro Tunc the Termination of
the Contract with Neave Landscaping**

WHEREAS, the Town of Beekman previously entered into a contract with Neave Landscaping for landscaping services, and

WHEREAS, the Town Supervisor and staff have determined that it is in the best interest of the Town to terminate the contract with Neave Landscaping due to performance issues and changes in service needs, and

WHEREAS, the Town Board has reviewed the contract terms, including any termination clauses, and finds that proper notice and procedures can be followed to effectuate the termination,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Beekman hereby authorizes the Town Supervisor to terminate the contract with Neave Landscaping, effective April 9, 2026 and take all necessary actions to ensure proper closure of the contractual relationship, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Beekman hereby authorizes and ratifies the Town Supervisor’s termination of the contract with Neave Landscaping, effective April 9, 2026, and all necessary actions to ensure proper closure of the contractual relationship and to handle any related administrative or financial matters arising therefrom the termination.

Introduced: Supervisor Abbatantuono

Seconded: _____

ROLL CALL VOTE BY TOWN CLERK

- Councilwoman Wohrman _____
- Councilman Capollari _____
- Councilwoman Ragusa _____
- Councilwoman Blake _____
- Supervisor Abbatantuono _____

CERTIFICATION OF THE TOWN CLERK

I, Alicia Turenchalk, Town Clerk of the Town of Beekman, do hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was duly adopted by the Town Board at a meeting held on April 14, 2026.

Town Clerk: _____ Date: April 14, 2026

RESOLUTION 04:14:26-7

Accepting Donation of Rocks and Boulders

WHEREAS, there have been safety issues at Doherty Park with vehicles driving on and near the sports fields creating a danger to players and spectators, and

WHEREAS, the Recreation Director, in light of the potential danger to those using the sports fields, has decided it would be in the best interest to block the pathway for vehicles to be able to enter the fields, and

WHEREAS, Alaina Estates offered multiple rocks/boulders from the construction site to assist with blocking the path to the fields,

WHEREAS, the Town Board of the Town of Beekman wishes to authorize the donation of said rocks/boulders from Alaina Estates to remove the potentially dangerous situation,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Beekman hereby accepts the donation of rocks/boulders from Alaina Estates with appreciation.

Introduced: Supervisor Abbatantuono

Seconded: _____

ROLL CALL VOTE BY TOWN CLERK

- Councilwoman Wohrman _____
- Councilman Capollari _____
- Councilwoman Ragusa _____
- Councilwoman Blake _____
- Supervisor Abbatantuono _____

CERTIFICATION OF THE TOWN CLERK

I, Alicia Turenchalk, Town Clerk of the Town of Beekman, do hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was duly adopted by the Town Board at a meeting held on April 14, 2026.

Town Clerk: _____ Date: April 14, 2026

RESOLUTION 04:14:26-8

Replacement for Non-Compliant Pitney Bowes Postage Machine

WHEREAS, the current model of the Pitney Bowes postal machine is non-compliant and needs to be updated, and

WHEREAS, per the United States Postal Service (“USPS”) the new meter will be shipped and professionally installed, compliant with all applicable government regulations, and include training for staff,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Beekman hereby authorizes the Town Supervisor to enter into a renewal agreement with Pitney Bowes for a term of 60 months, with a cost of \$174.62 per month to be billed quarterly at \$523.86.

Introduced: Supervisor Abbatantuono

Seconded: _____

ROLL CALL VOTE BY TOWN CLERK

- Councilwoman Wohrman _____
- Councilman Capollari _____
- Councilwoman Ragusa _____
- Councilwoman Blake _____
- Supervisor Abbatantuono _____

CERTIFICATION OF THE TOWN CLERK

I, Alicia Turenchalk, Town Clerk of the Town of Beekman, do hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was duly adopted by the Town Board at a meeting held on April 14, 2026.

Town Clerk: _____ Date: April 14, 2026

RESOLUTION 04:14:26-9

Payment of Claims

WHEREAS, the Bookkeeper has audited and approved claims pursuant to Section 119 of Town Law as set forth in the attached abstracts,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the payment, therefore, is hereby authorized as follows:

Claims to be paid from the A-General Fund	\$69,223.29
Claims to be paid from the DA-Highway Fund	\$26,336.02
Claims to be paid from the SS-Dover Ridge Sewer	\$30,828.75
Claims to be paid from the T-Trust & Agency Fund	\$10,982.71
Claims to be paid from the H-Capital Fund	<u>\$856.75</u>
	\$147,878.69

Pay Period – 03/08/26-03/21/26	03/26/26 Payroll #6
General Fund	\$43,603.83
Highway Fund	<u>\$25,810.32</u>
	\$69,414.15

Pay Period – 03/22/26-04/04/26	04/09/26 Payroll #7
General Fund	\$36,803.64
Highway Fund	<u>\$25,601.98</u>
	\$62,405.62

Introduced: Supervisor Abbatantuono

Seconded: _____

ROLL CALL VOTE BY TOWN CLERK

- Councilwoman Wohrman _____
- Councilman Capollari _____
- Councilwoman Ragusa _____
- Councilwoman Blake _____
- Supervisor Abbatantuono _____

CERTIFICATION OF THE TOWN CLERK

I, Alicia Turenchalk, Town Clerk of the Town of Beekman, do hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was duly adopted by the Town Board at a meeting held on April 14, 2026.

Town Clerk: _____ Date: April 14, 2026

RESOLUTION 04:14:26-10

Accepting the Resignation of Payroll Clerk

WHEREAS, Nicole Klein submitted her resignation as Payroll Clerk for the Town of Beekman effective April 13, 2026,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Town Board of the Town of Beekman hereby accepts the resignation of Nicole Klein as a Payroll Clerk for the Town of Beekman.

Introduced: Supervisor Abbatantuono

Seconded: _____

ROLL CALL VOTE BY TOWN CLERK

- Councilwoman Wohrman _____
- Councilman Capollari _____
- Councilwoman Ragusa _____
- Councilwoman Blake _____
- Supervisor Abbatantuono _____

CERTIFICATION OF THE TOWN CLERK

I, Alicia Turenchalk, Town Clerk of the Town of Beekman, do hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was duly adopted by the Town Board at a meeting held on April 14, 2026.

Town Clerk: _____ Date: April 14, 2026

RESOLUTION 04:14:26-11

Approving the Transfer to Doherty Park Capital Project

WHEREAS, the Town Board of the Town of Beekman wants to increase the remaining balance in the Doherty Park Capital Project Fund for some pending final expenses, and

WHEREAS, the balance in the Doherty Park Capital Project \$7,293.00 is not sufficient for these final expenses, and

WHEREAS, there is \$39,136.00 remaining in ARPA funds comprising accumulated interest earnings as of December 31, 2025,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Beekman hereby approves the transfer of \$39,136.00 from the ARPA account to the Doherty Park Capital Project Fund, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the ARPA bank account be closed with any minimal interest earnings from 2026 be credited to the General Fund account.

Introduced: Supervisor Abbatantuono

Seconded: _____

ROLL CALL VOTE BY TOWN CLERK

- Councilwoman Wohrman _____
- Councilman Capollari _____
- Councilwoman Ragusa _____
- Councilwoman Blake _____
- Supervisor Abbatantuono _____

CERTIFICATION OF THE TOWN CLERK

I, Alicia Turenchalk, Town Clerk of the Town of Beekman, do hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was duly adopted by the Town Board at a meeting held on April 14, 2026.

Town Clerk: _____ Date: April 14, 2026

RESOLUTION 04:14:26-12

Calling on Governor Hochul to Declare an “Energy State of Emergency” Related to Escalating Energy Costs

WHEREAS, New York State’s energy costs are among the highest in the country, and

WHEREAS, New York State residents have been facing an escalating energy burden this winter due to escalating supply costs and government mandates contributing to all-time high and unsustainable energy costs causing financial hardship for our residents, businesses, farmers, and manufacturers, and

WHEREAS, delivery rates have increased, however they are set by the Public Service Commission and can only increase with its approval and on a schedule prescribed by such authorization. This authorization does not include sudden spikes in energy commodity costs which are market driven, and

WHEREAS, due to several factors including a colder than average winter, New York State’s lack of adequate energy supply has been a significant contributing factor to increased supply costs, and the strained supply has placed an undue burden on customers, and

WHEREAS, the New York Independent System Operator (NYISO) administers the markets under regulation by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) to ensure transparent price signals for all market participants, including utility companies who purchase supply on the market and then pass-through that supply charge to customers, and

WHEREAS, the Public Service Commission in October, 2025 noted, “a residential electric customer using 600 kWh per month is expected to pay about \$60 per month for supply this winter, and an average residential customer using 719 therms of natural gas can expect to pay an estimated \$224 per month, up 1.4% and 8% respectively, and

WHEREAS, during the months of January 2026, a typical NYSEG or RG&E residential customer saw supply costs increase 39% from this same period in 2025, and

WHEREAS, a typical NYSEG natural gas customer experienced a 72% increase in supply costs in February, 2026 as compared to February, 2025, and

WHEREAS, supply costs were significantly higher among time-of-use customers, which experienced a 75% increase in daytime supply costs and 87% increase in nighttime supply costs as compared to 2025, and

WHEREAS, New York State’s lack of energy generation regulation is placing a hardship on residents across the state which will only continue without change, and

WHEREAS, the need to make investments in our electric grid, increase supply for new economic development, and pay for new state mandated programs have been the primary drivers of increased delivery costs, and

WHEREAS, in addition to declaring an “Energy State of Emergency” the state should also require the Department of Public Service to produce a study analyzing cost growth from delivery and supply charges including evaluating the numerous state programs that are funded by ratepayers through their utility bills, and

WHEREAS, the Town of Beekman request to declare an “Energy State of Emergency” would allow immediate action to lower bills, place safeguards on utility bills to protect our consumers from extreme price spikes,

initiate suspension of taxes, fees, and surcharges on energy bills, and expedite the construction of base load generation,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town of Beekman urges the Governor to declare an “Energy State of Emergency” to protect the Town of Beekman residents and all New York State ratepayers from extreme and unsustainable price spikes, promote stabilization of the power grid, and to promote affordable energy, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Clerk of the Legislature will forward certified copies of this resolution to Governor Hochul, and any other party deemed necessary and proper.

Introduced: Supervisor Abbatantuono

Seconded: _____

ROLL CALL VOTE BY TOWN CLERK

Councilwoman Wohrman _____
Councilman Capollari _____
Councilwoman Ragusa _____
Councilwoman Blake _____
Supervisor Abbatantuono _____

CERTIFICATION OF THE TOWN CLERK

I, Alicia Turenchalk, Town Clerk of the Town of Beekman, do hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was duly adopted by the Town Board at a meeting held on April 14, 2026.

Town Clerk: _____ Date: April 14, 2026

WHEREAS, the Town Board considers the use of Battery Energy Storage Systems (BESS) to be an emerging technology with known and reasonably anticipated unknown, risks to resident health, safety and welfare; and

WHEREAS, the Town Board of the Town of Beekman is charged with protecting the health, safety, and welfare of its residents and ensuring orderly development in accordance with the Town Comprehensive Plan and its ten enumerated land goals; and

WHEREAS, the Town Board finds that consideration of an amendment to the Zoning Code of the Town of Beekman addressing the placement and regulation of BESS within the Town is a necessary and prudent action (the “Action”); and

WHEREAS, the Town Board finds that the proposed amendment to the Town Zoning Code to regulate Battery Energy Storage Systems (BESS) is in conformance with the Town Comprehensive Plan; and

WHEREAS, the Town Board finds that the proposed amendment is compatible with the existing land use pattern within the Town, as outlined in Comprehensive Plan Land Use Goal #5, which encourages future development that minimizes negative impacts on natural resources, infrastructure, and neighboring uses in order to safeguard the health, safety, and welfare of the community; and

WHEREAS, the Town Board finds that the proposed amendment will prevent uses in certain districts that could create conditions inconsistent with adjacent and nearby districts and with the Town’s stated land use and community character goals; and;

WHEREAS, the Town Board finds that the proposed amendment will help avoid potential increases in demand on public facilities, including utilities, streets, and emergency services, such as impacts related to construction vehicles and fire protection services; and;

WHEREAS, the Town Board finds that the proposed amendment supports consistency with existing district boundaries and property conditions; and

WHEREAS, the Town Board finds that the proposed amendment is warranted by changes in battery storage and energy technology and the need to ensure public safety; and

WHEREAS, the Town Board finds that the proposed amendment will help maintain safe and appropriate living conditions in neighborhoods and the community by mitigating potential fire, traffic, and other environmental hazard risk associated with BESS facilities; and

WHEREAS, the Town Board finds that the proposed amendment will protect surface and subsurface water resources and reduce the risk of drainage issues; and

WHEREAS, the Town Board finds that the proposed amendment will maintain adequate light, air, and general environmental quality for adjacent properties; and

WHEREAS, the Town Board finds that the proposed amendment will help preserve property values and neighborhood character, and will support orderly development and prevent uses that could hinder improvements on adjacent properties; and

WHEREAS, the Town Board finds that the proposed amendment will ensure that no individual property owner receives special privileges inconsistent with the public welfare; and

WHEREAS, the Town Board finds that the proposed amendment addresses circumstances where certain BESS installations may not be appropriate for particular properties under existing zoning; and

WHEREAS, the Town Board finds that the proposed amendment is proportionate in scale to the needs of the neighborhood and the Town; and

WHEREAS, the passage of a local law amending the Zoning Code is to be referred to the Town Planning Board for a public hearing and comment within 60 days as well as to Dutchess County Planning for review and comment within 30 days; and

WHEREAS, the Action is deemed an Unlisted Action under SEQRA and appropriate for a Coordinated Review, with respect to which the Town Board intends to act as Lead Agency;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that an introductory Local Law amending the Town Code as set forth in the attached proposed Local Law be and is hereby introduced for consideration by the Town Board; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that copies of the aforesaid proposed local law be and are laid upon the desk of each member of the Town Board; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Town Board shall hold a public hearing on said proposed local law to receive comment from the public on [at least 11 days after this resolution is adopted] _____, at 7:00 pm or as soon thereafter as the agenda permits, in the Beekman Town Hall at 4 Main St. Poughquag, NY 12570;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Clerk publish or cause to be published a public notice in the official newspaper of the Town of Beekman of said public hearing at least five (5) days prior thereto; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Town Clerk shall deliver a copy of the proposed local law to County Planning for review and to the Town of Beekman Planning Board for its review and recommendation; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that The Town Board authorizes its Town Engineer to prepare an appropriate Environmental Assessment Form (EAF) as soon as feasible and submit it to the Town Clerk for inclusion in all referrals; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Town Board declares its intent to act as Lead Agency; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Town Clerk is directed to file this resolution and update the Town Zoning Code accordingly.

Introduced: Supervisor Abbatantuono

Seconded: _____

ROLL CALL VOTE BY TOWN CLERK

Councilwoman Wohrman _____
Councilman Capollari _____
Councilwoman Ragusa _____
Councilwoman Blake _____
Supervisor Abbatantuono _____

CERTIFICATION OF THE TOWN CLERK

I, Alicia Turenchalk, Town Clerk of the Town of Beekman, do hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was duly adopted by the Town Board at a meeting held on April 14, 2026.

Town Clerk: _____ Date: April 14, 2026

DRAFT

TOWN OF BEEKMAN
Local Law No. 2 of 2026
A Local Law to Amend the Zoning Code of the Town of Beekman to Prohibit Certain
Battery Energy Storage Systems

Section 1. Legislative Intent

The Town Board of the Town of Beekman finds that:

- Battery energy storage systems (BESS) can present significant risks related to fire safety, emergency response capacity, environmental impact, and impacts on neighborhoods.
- The Town's existing zoning law does not adequately address the siting, installation, and operation of medium and large BESS.
- A prohibition of medium and large BESS as specified is necessary to protect the public health, safety, and welfare of the residents of Beekman.
- Providing for zoning regulation of BESS technology is in the best interest of the health, safety and welfare of the residents of Beekman and is consistent with the powers granted to the Town by New York State Town Law and Municipal Home Rule Law.

Section 2. Amendments to Zoning Code §155.

Amend §155-4, to include:

Definitions

Battery Energy Storage System (BESS):

- 1) A system of batteries or other energy storage media and associated equipment that: a. stores electrical energy;
- 2) designed for grid support, utility usage, or commercial energy management, including but not limited to lithium-ion battery installations.

This definition does not include small residential systems serving a single dwelling with a capacity of 50 kWh or less.

BESS Tier Classifications:

- 1) Small BESS. Any battery energy storage system with an aggregate rated energy capacity ≤ 50 kWh used for commercial, residential or accessory purposes.
- 2) Medium BESS. Any battery energy storage system with an aggregate rated energy capacity > 50 kWh to $\leq 2,000$ kWh.

3) Large BESS. Any battery energy storage system with an aggregate rated energy capacity > 2,000 kWh or primarily serving commercial/utility purposes---

A new Section 155-13 shall be added as follows:

BESS Accessory Uses

A. Prohibited BESS Uses Battery Energy Storage Systems (BESS) classified as Tier 2 or Tier 3, including their construction, installation, operation, and expansion are prohibited in all zoning districts of the Town of Beekman. This prohibition applies to the placement of new BESS facilities and any increase in capacity of existing facilities above Tier 1 thresholds.

B. Permitted BESS Accessory Uses.

1) Tier 1 BESS may be permitted as an accessory use to residential or commercial structures in any zoning district and shall be for on-site energy use only. Tier 1 systems are not permitted to serve off-site properties or to provide energy for sale or distribution, and are subject to the following provisions:

2) Tier 1 BESS shall not be installed in any area designated as a 100-year or 500-year floodplain on FEMA maps or any other flood hazard area designated by the Town;

3) Compliance with all applicable provisions of the New York State Uniform Fire Prevention and Building Code and the New York State Fire Code, NFPA 855: Standard for the Installation of Stationary Energy Storage Systems, as amended;

4) Battery energy storage systems shall be commercially manufactured, listed and labeled in accordance with UL 9540.

C. Administrative BESS Permits. Tier 1 projects require an administrative permit from the Building Department, and applicants shall provide:

1) An Amended Site Plan reflecting the installation and the surveyed property as well as identifying neighboring properties; and

2) No Administrative Permit shall be issued by the Building Inspector without proof of a third-party electrical inspection for all electrical work.

3) If the Building Inspector deems the application eligible for an Administrative BESS Permit, the Building Inspector shall refer the permit to the Planning Board for the limited purpose of confirming that the Amended Site Plan meets the requirements for approved Amended Site Plans in the Town of Beekman. The application for Amended Site Plan approval shall be so limited and shall follow the typical Planning Board procedure for consideration of an Amended Site Plan review and approval, except that no public hearing shall be required under this sub-section.

D. Notwithstanding the foregoing, if in the discretion of the Building Inspector, any Tier 1 project has special circumstances related to the installation or the site upon which it is proposed which pose any heightened threat to the health, safety and welfare of residents which render it inappropriate for the expedited Administrative Permit, the Building Inspector shall refer the project to the Planning Board in writing providing the Building Inspector's specific concerns.

1) Upon a referral application for Amended Site Plan approval to the Planning Board, the application shall be referred to the Town of Beekman Town Board and the Town of Beekman Fire Department.

2) The Planning Board shall notify the Town Board and Fire Department of the date of any public hearing or continued public hearing on the Amended Site Plan application.

3) The Town Board and Fire Department shall have 45 days from the close of the Public hearing to provide its recommendation or comments on the application. If either the Town Board or Fire Department shall fail to provide such comment or recommendation within that time frame, the Planning Board may take action on the Amended Site Plan according.

to its discretion. If the Planning Board receives comment or recommendations from the Town Board and/or Fire Department in a timely manner and fails to adopt any comment or recommendation in an approval resolution, it must make express written findings as to why in its discretion such non-inclusion was appropriate.

4) The Planning Board shall review and consider the application for Amended Site Plan and BESS approval by conducting a review limited to the specific concerns identified by the Building Inspector in such referral.

5) No Amended Site Plan approval or BESS permit shall be granted unless and until the Town Board and Fire Department shall have either provided its recommendation or comment to the Planning Board or failed to do so within the prescribed timeframe.

E. Decommissioning and Removal

1) Any Battery Energy Storage System shall be removed from the property when it has reached the end of its useful life, has been abandoned, or has not been in active use for a period of twelve (12) consecutive months.

2) Removal shall include all batteries, cabinets, mounting systems, electrical equipment, foundations, and associated infrastructure, and the restoration of the site to its pre-existing condition, reasonable wear and tear excepted.

3) The property owner and system owner, jointly and severally, shall be responsible for all costs associated with decommissioning and removal.

4) If the property owner or system owner fails to complete removal within ninety (90) days of written notice by the Town, the Town may cause such removal to be completed and assess all costs against the property as a lien and/or special assessment.

E. Enforcement.

1) Violations of this local law shall be subject to enforcement as provided in the Town of Beekman zoning code, including fines, stop-work orders, and injunctions.

2) Any BESS project that is not fully installed, inspected and operational as of the effective date of this law must comply with this law.

Amendment to Attachment 155 Attachment 3 as follows:

Attachment 155 Attachment 3 shall be amended to set forth one new row and all columns now set forth, with that new row under the heading “Tier 1 BESS”, followed by a “P” in every district.

*It is the express intent of this local law that the notation now set forth at the top of Attachment 155 Attachment 3 saying: “No entry means that the use is not permitted” shall apply to Tier 2 and Tier 3 BESS.

Section 7. Severability

If any provision of this law is held invalid by a court of competent jurisdiction, such invalidity shall not affect the validity of the remaining provisions.

Section 8. Effective Date

This Local Law shall take effect immediately upon filing with the New York State Department of State.

DRAFT