



Town of Beekman Town Board

Beekman Town Hall
4 Main Street
Poughquag, NY 12570

Regular Meeting of the Town Board

Tuesday, February 24th, 2026
7:00PM

Town Board Members

Lauren 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. Administrative Announcement
- e. Public Comment on Agenda Items – please come up to the microphone and state your name and address
- f. Resolutions
- g. Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items
- h. Adjournment

- The next Town Board meeting is Tuesday, March 10, 2026 at 7:00 p.m.

Resolutions

1. Appointment of Engineering Services
2. Approve Contract for the Housing of Animals
3. Appointment to Conservation Advisory Council
4. Appointment to Conservation Advisory Council
5. Temporary Hire to Building Department
6. Approve Dutchess County Sheriff's Office Contract for 2026
7. Approving Nunc Pro Tunct the Emergency Repair of the Community Center Waste Pump and Related Raw Sewage Crisis
8. Payment of Claims

Resolutions

RESOLUTION 02:24:26-1

Appointment of Engineering Services for the Town of Beekman

WHEREAS, the Town of Beekman is presented with important issues respecting future development and long-range planning requiring comprehensive analysis and coordination, and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the firm of Hudson Land Design, Civil & Environmental Engineering Consultants, 174 Main Street, Beacon, NY, represented by Daniel Koehler, P.E., be retained on a contractual basis to provide Engineering, Planning, and Zoning services to the Town of Beekman for all matters, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Hudson Land Design will also provide administrative services for the Town's Building, Planning, and Zoning Department, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Town Board hereby continues to retain Hudson Land Design, represented by Daniel Koehler, P.E., as attached hereto effective January 2, 2026 through December 31, 2026.

Introduced: Supervisor Abbatantuono

Seconded: Councilwoman Ragusa

ROLL CALL VOTE BY TOWN CLERK

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

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 February 24, 2026.

Town Clerk: *Alicia Turenchalk* Date: February 24, 2026

RESOLUTION 02:24:26-2

Approve Contract Renewal for Animal Housing for the Year 2026

WHEREAS, the Town of Beekman is required, pursuant to the New York State Agricultural and Markets law, to house, shelter, and care for stray and lost dogs, and

WHEREAS, Mutts Mansion has submitted a contract for renewal deemed effective as of January 1, 2026 and shall continue until January 1, 2027, and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Beekman hereby authorizes the Supervisor to enter into an agreement, as attached, with Mutts Mansion to house, shelter, and care for stray dogs in the Town of Beekman at an amount of \$50.00 per day.

Introduced: Supervisor Abbatantuono

Seconded: Councilman Capollari

ROLL CALL VOTE BY TOWN CLERK

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

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 February 24, 2026.

Town Clerk: *Alicia Turenchalk* Date: February 24, 2026

RESOLUTION 02:24:26-3

Appointment to the Conservation Advisory Council

WHEREAS, the Town Board of the Town of Beekman will make appointments to the various boards, and

WHEREAS, a vacancy currently exists on the Conservation Advisory Council,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Beekman hereby appoints Bill Crane to the Conservation Advisory Council with a term to expire on December 31, 2026, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the appointee shall file their Oath of Office with the Town Clerk of the Town of Beekman.

Introduced: Supervisor Abbatantuono

Seconded: Councilman Capollari

ROLL CALL VOTE BY TOWN CLERK

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

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 February 24, 2026.

Town Clerk: *Alicia Turenchalk* Date: February 24, 2026

RESOLUTION 02:24:26-4

Appointment to the Conservation Advisory Council

WHEREAS, the Town Board of the Town of Beekman will make appointments to the various boards, and

WHEREAS, a vacancy currently exists on the Conservation Advisory Council,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Beekman hereby appoints Ken Follett to the Conservation Advisory Council with a term to expire on December 31, 2026, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the appointee shall file their Oath of Office with the Town Clerk of the Town of Beekman.

Introduced: Supervisor Abbatantuono

Seconded: Councilwoman Ragusa

ROLL CALL VOTE BY TOWN CLERK

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

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 February 24, 2026.

Town Clerk: *Alicia Turenchalk* Date: February 24, 2026

RESOLUTION 02:24:26-5

**Approving the Temporary Hire of Colleen Hayes
to the Building Department Office**

WHEREAS, the Senior Clerk in the Building Department has requested a leave of absence pursuant to the Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA), and

WHEREAS, the Building Inspector has requested approval to temporarily fill the position during the Senior Clerk's absence, and

WHEREAS, Colleen Hayes, former Clerk in the Building Department, has agreed to serve in the temporary position until the return of the Senior Clerk,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Beekman hereby approves the temporary hire of Colleen Hayes to the Building Department, to be compensated at an hourly rate of \$28.00, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that said temporary employment shall remain in effect until the return of the Senior Clerk or until further action of the Town Board.

Introduced: Supervisor Abbatantuono

Seconded: Councilwoman Wohrman

ROLL CALL VOTE BY TOWN CLERK

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

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 February 24, 2026.

Town Clerk: *Alicia Turenchalk* Date: February 24, 2026

RESOLUTION 02:24:26-6

**Approve Renewal of the Contract with
the Dutchess County Sheriff's Office**

WHEREAS, the agreement between the Dutchess County Sheriff's Office and the Town of Beekman expired on December 31, 2025, and

WHEREAS, the Town Board is desirous in continuing the Contract with the Dutchess County Sheriff's Office for the term of January 1, 2026 thru December 31, 2026 to provide police protection over and above the police protection budgeted and allocated for the Town, including security services at Town Court, and

WHEREAS, the Dutchess County Sheriff's Office has proposed amendments as per the attached 2026 Administrative Fee Schedule,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Beekman authorizes the proposed amendments between the Dutchess County Sheriff's Office and the Town of Beekman as per the attachments.

Introduced: Supervisor Abbatantuono

Seconded: Councilwoman Ragusa

ROLL CALL VOTE BY TOWN CLERK

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

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 February 24, 2026.

Town Clerk: *Alicia Turenchalk* Date: February 24, 2026

RESOLUTION 02:24:26-7

**Approving Nunc Pro Tunct the Emergency Repair of
the Community Center Waste Pump
and Related Raw Sewage Crisis**

WHEREAS, on December 23, 2025 the sewage pumps at the Recreation Park Community Center failed to operate correctly, resulting in potential health risks to the public, and

WHEREAS, the event required immediate emergency intervention and repair in order to protect the health, safety and welfare of the residents of the Town of Beekman, and failure to act would have amplified the risk and potentially caused irreparable harm, and

WHEREAS, in response to the emergency, Herrington Sanitation Service, Inc. 146 Old Route 9, Fishkill, NY 12524 was requested by Dani Plastini, Recreation Director, to respond to the emergency and was directed to do the necessary repair, and

WHEREAS, the total cost of the repair was \$29,882.50, and

WHEREAS, the Town Board finds that the repair was necessary and constituted an emergency, and that appropriate due diligence in accordance with the Procurement Policy was performed by the Recreation Department and Dani Plastini, Recreation Director, who responded to the emergency and directed the work prior to authorizing the repair, and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Town Board of the Town of Beekman hereby approves *nunc pro tunct* the expenditure of \$29,882.50, necessary for the repair from the special reserve repair fund and all Town officers and employees are authorized to arrange for and pay such item.

Introduced: Supervisor Abbatantuono

Seconded: Councilwoman Wohrman

ROLL CALL VOTE BY TOWN CLERK

Councilwoman Wohrman	Abstained
Councilman Capollari	Y
Councilwoman Ragusa	Y
Councilwoman Blake	Y
Supervisor Abbatantuono	Y

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 February 24, 2026.

Town Clerk: *Alicia Turenchalk* Date: February 24, 2026

RESOLUTION 02:24:26-8

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	\$120,259.47
Claims to be paid from the DA-Highway Fund	\$28,579.62
Claims to be paid from the SS-Dover Ridge Sewer	\$838.69
Claims to be paid from the SW-Dover Ridge Water	\$1,654.45
Claims to be paid from the T-Trust & Agency Fund	\$4,453.00
Claims to be paid from the H-Capital Fund	<u>\$78,651.94</u>
	\$234,437.17

Payroll #3	
General Fund	\$38,528.03
Highway Fund	<u>\$49,380.88</u>
	\$87,908.91

Introduced: Supervisor Abbatantuono

Seconded: Councilman Capollari

ROLL CALL VOTE BY TOWN CLERK

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

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 February 24, 2026.

Town Clerk: *Alicia Turenchalk* Date: February 24, 2026

RESOLUTION 02:24:26-9 A Resolution Urging Immediate Review of Electric Delivery Charges, Demanding Improved Cost Controls and Transparency, and Authorizing Formal Complaints to the New York State Public Service Commission Regarding the Escalating Cost of Electricity

WHEREAS, the Town Board finds that residents, seniors, and small businesses in the Town of Beekman are experiencing unsustainable, repeated, and compounding increases in electric bills that are placing a growing financial strain on households and the local economy; and

WHEREAS, a substantial portion of these increases is attributable not to increased energy consumption, but to escalating delivery charges, fees, and approved rate adjustments imposed by NYSEG; and

WHEREAS, electric delivery charges and rate structures are regulated and approved by the New York State Public Service Commission, which is statutorily charged with ensuring that utility rates are just, reasonable, and affordable for ratepayers; and

WHEREAS, rural and low-density communities such as the Town of Beekman are disproportionately impacted by delivery charge increases and cost-recovery mechanisms that fail to adequately account for affordability, equity, and the cumulative burden placed on ratepayers; and

WHEREAS, the Town Board finds that continued approval of rate increases without stronger cost controls, greater transparency, and meaningful affordability protections is contrary to the public interest;

WHEREAS, the Town Board is aware of other likewise impacted communities adopting resolutions such as this to urge review and control of these increases and wishes to join with them in opposition to same; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Beekman formally calls upon and urges the New York State Public Service Commission to conduct a thorough and immediate review of electric delivery charges, rate increases, and cost-recovery practices applicable to NYSEG customers; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Town Board calls upon the Public Service Commission to prioritize ratepayer affordability, demand greater transparency from NYSEG, and require demonstrable cost-containment and operational efficiency measures before approving any future rate increases; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Town Board expressly opposes continued or automatic rate increases that shift rising operational, infrastructure, and administrative costs onto ratepayers without clear justification or adequate protection for rural communities; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Town Supervisor is hereby authorized and directed to submit formal complaints, written comments, and supporting documentation to the New York State Public Service Commission on behalf of the Town and its residents, objecting to excessive electric costs and requesting regulatory intervention; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Town Clerk is directed to transmit copies of this resolution to the New York State Public Service Commission, NYSEG, the Governor of the State of New York, members of the New York State Legislature, and neighboring municipalities served by NYSEG, and to encourage coordinated action among affected towns; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this resolution shall take effect immediately upon adoption. Adopted this _____ day of _____ 2026, by the Town Board of the Town of Beekman.

Introduced: Supervisor Abbatantuono

Seconded: Councilman Capollari

ROLL CALL VOTE BY TOWN CLERK

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

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 February 24, 2026.

Town Clerk: *Alicia Turenchalk* Date: February 24, 2026