



Town of Beekman Town Board

Beekman Town Hall
4 Main Street
Poughquag, NY 12570

Regular Meeting of the Town Board

Tuesday, May 12th, 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. Presentation: Carol Fortier, Beekman Library, Executive Director
 - f. Public Comment on Agenda Items – please come up to the microphone and state your name and address
 - g. Resolutions
 - h. Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items
 - i. Adjournment
- **The next Town Board meeting is Wednesday, May 27, 2026 at 7:00 p.m.**

Resolutions

1. Declaring Resolution No. 12:09:25-4 Invalid
2. Accepting the Resignation of Ethics Board Committee Member
3. Accepting the Resignation of Ethics Board Committee Member
4. Appointment of Building Inspector II
5. Amending the Duties and Salary of the Secretary to the Supervisor
6. Adopting Local Law No. 2 Regulating Battery Energy Storage Systems (BESS)
7. Approving Shared Service Contract for Animal Control Services
8. Authorizing Contracting of Lawn Maintenance
9. Payment of Claims

RESOLUTION 05:12:26-1**Resolution Declaring Resolution No. 12:09:25-4 Invalid**

WHEREAS, the Town Board of the Town of Beekman (the “Town Board”) previously adopted Resolution No. 12:09:25-4 on or about December 9, 2025 (the “Prior Resolution”), purporting to authorize (a) the establishment of a Contingency and Tax Stabilization Reserve Fund (the “Fund”) pursuant to New York State General Municipal Law (“GML”) Section 6-e and (b) the transfer of One Million Dollars and NO/100 (\$1,000,000.00) from the unrestricted unassigned fund balance to the Fund, and

WHEREAS, GML Section 6-e requires, among other things, that the establishment of a contingency and tax stabilization reserve fund by a town is subject to a permissive referendum, and further requires that such action be noticed in the manner prescribed for permissive referenda in Article 7 of the New York State Town Law, and

WHEREAS, the Town Board has determined, after reviewing the record and consultation with the Town’s officers, that the Town did not publish or otherwise provide the notice required for a permissive referendum in connection with the Prior Resolution, and no permissive referendum opportunity was afforded to the electors as required by law, and

WHEREAS, due to the failure to comply with the permissive referendum notice requirements applicable under GML Section 6-e, the Prior Resolution was not validly adopted and is of no legal force or effect, and

WHEREAS, it is in the best interests of the Town to formally declare the Prior Resolution invalid, to clarify the Town’s records, and to preserve the Town’s ability to take future action in compliance with applicable law,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, as follows:

1. Declaration of Invalidity. The Town Board hereby finds and determines that the Prior Resolution – Resolution No. 12:09:25-4, adopted on or about December 9, 2025, entitled “Resolution Establishing a Contingency and Tax Stabilization Reserve Fund”, which purported to establish a contingency and tax stabilization reserve fund pursuant to GML Section 6-e and to transfer one million dollars (\$1,000,000.00) thereto – is invalid and of no legal force or effect due to the failure to provide the notice and opportunity for a permissive referendum required by law.
2. Nullification; Records. The Prior Resolution is hereby declared null, void, and without effect ab initio. The Town Clerk is directed to annotate the Town’s official records to reflect the invalidity of the Prior Resolution and to maintain this Resolution and to maintain this Resolution in the official minute book.
3. Funds Handling. To the extent of any funds were transferred or otherwise designated pursuant to the Prior Resolution, such transfers or designations are hereby rescinded, and the Town Supervisor, Town Clerk, and Town Bookkeeper are authorized and directed to take all ministerial steps necessary to return or reclassify such funds to the applicable unassigned or otherwise appropriate fund balance or account as existed immediately prior to the purported transfer, without prejudice to any future lawful action by the Town Board.
4. No Ratification; Future Action Reserved. Nothing in this Resolution shall be construed as a ratification of the Prior Resolution or any action taken thereunder. The Town Board expressly reserves the right consider, at a future meeting, the establishment of a contingency and tax stabilization reserve fund and any related transfers in accordance with GML Section 6-e and all other applicable legal requirements, including but not limited to permissive referendum procedures and notices.

5. Severability. If any clause, sentence, paragraph, subdivision, or part of this Resolution or the application thereof to any person, firm, or corporation, or circumstance, shall be adjudged by a court of competent jurisdiction to be invalid or unconstitutional, such order or judgment shall not affect, impair, or invalidate the remainder thereof, but shall be confined in its operation to the clause, sentence, paragraph, subdivision, part, or application directly involved in the controversy in which such order or judgment shall have been rendered.

6. Effective Date. This Resolution shall take effect immediately.

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 May 12, 2026.

Town Clerk: _____ Date: May 12, 2026

RESOLUTION 05:12:26-2

Accepting the Resignation of Ethics Board Committee Member

WHEREAS, Carol Ewin has served on the Beekman Board of Ethics, and

WHEREAS, Carol Ewin has submitted a letter of resignation effective April 28, 2026,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Beekman hereby accepts the resignation of Carol Ewin from the Board of Ethics.

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 May 12, 2026.

Town Clerk: _____ Date: May 12, 2026

RESOLUTION 05:12:26-3

Accepting the Resignation of Ethics Board Committee

WHEREAS, Sheryl Puletz has served on the Beekman Board of Ethics, and

WHEREAS, Sheryl Puletz has submitted a letter of resignation effective April 28, 2026,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Beekman hereby accepts the resignation of Sheryl Puletz from the Board of Ethics.

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 May 12, 2026.

Town Clerk: _____ Date: May 12, 2026

RESOLUTION 05:12:26-4

Appointment of Building Inspector II

WHEREAS, the Town Board is desirous in filling the established position of Building Inspector II as of May 18, 2026, and

WHEREAS, the Town Board is authorized under Town Law to make appointments and set salaries, and

WHEREAS, interviews with interested candidates were held, and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that Janet Forsyth is hereby appointed as Building Inspector II provisionally, performing all the duties and with the authority conferred or imposed by law at a salary of \$63,000.00 annually.

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 May 12, 2026.

Town Clerk: _____ Date: May 12, 2026

RESOLUTION 05:12:26-5

Amending the Duties and Salary of the Secretary to the Supervisor

WHEREAS, the Town Board of the Town of Beekman has the authority to establish duties and compensation for appointed positions, and

WHEREAS, the resignation of Nicole Klein, Payroll Clerk, has created a vacancy in the Town’s bi-weekly payroll processing, and

WHEREAS, Secretary to the Supervisor, Stephanie Giordano has prior experience with payroll submission and the payroll service company Paychex, and

WHEREAS, the Town Board has determined that it is in the best interest of the Town to assign the additional payroll-related responsibilities to the Secretary to the Supervisor, Stephanie Giordano, including but not limited to processing payroll, maintaining payroll records, and coordinating with applicable departments and agencies, and

WHEREAS, an additional Four Thousand Dollars (\$4,000.00) annually will be added to the salary of Stephanie Giordano for compensation of additional duties,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Beekman hereby amends the duties of the Secretary to the Supervisor to include payroll administration responsibilities as outlined above, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the annual salary for the position of Secretary to the Supervisor shall be increased by Four Thousand Dollars (\$4,000.00) to reflect these additional duties, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that such salary adjustment shall take effect on May 18, 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 May 12, 2026.

Town Clerk:_____ Date: May 12, 2026

WHEREAS, the Town Board of the Town of Beekman is desirous of passing a local law amending the town zoning code to regulation Battery Energy Storage Systems (“BESS”), and

WHEREAS, New York State Law provides that a public hearing must be conducted prior to the passage of such a local law, and

WHEREAS, the Town Board of the Town of Beekman duly called and held a public hearing at Beekman Town Hall, 4 Main Street, Poughquag, New York 12570 on the 28th day of April, 2026 upon the question of the enactment of Local Law No. 2 of 2026 of the Town of Beekman, Dutchess County, New York, being such a local law,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Beekman hereby adopts Local Law 2 of 2026 of the Town of Beekman, Dutchess County, New York, regulating Battery Energy Storage Systems ("BESS"), and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that such local law shall take effect immediately upon filing with the New York State Department of State.

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 May 12, 2026.

Town Clerk: _____ Date: May 12, 2026

RESOLUTION 05:12:26-7

Approve Shared Service Contract for Animal Control

WHEREAS, the Town of Beekman is required, pursuant to the New York State Agricultural and Markets Law, to employ an animal control officer, and

WHEREAS, in the absence of an animal control officer, the Town is permitted to contract for the required services, and

WHEREAS, the Dutchess County SPCA no longer offers this service, and

WHEREAS, in order to comply with the Agricultural and Markets Law, the Town would like to renew its Municipal Cooperation Agreement Animal Control Officer with the Towns of LaGrange, Hyde Park, Beekman, Pleasant Valley, Poughkeepsie and Clinton for Animal Control Services for the calendar year 2026,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Beekman approves and consents to the contracting of animal control services thru the Municipal Cooperation Agreement Animal Control Officer and authorizes the Supervisor to sign the agreement for this service for the calendar year 2026 in form and substance as attached hereto and made a part hereof.

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 May 12, 2026.

Town Clerk: _____ Date: May 12, 2026

RESOLUTION 05:12:26-8

Resolution Authorizing Contracting of Lawn Maintenance Services for Town Properties

WHEREAS, the Town Board of the Town of Beekman (the “Town Board”) published a Request for Proposals for landscaping services, dated April 20, 2026, in order to adequately maintain several Town owned properties, and

WHEREAS, the Town Board received five (5) proposals, including those from AMJ Landscaping, ABA Land Management, Neave Landscaping, Coupe’s Cuts and Perillo Lawns, and

WHEREAS, the Town Board has determined that the quote from ABA Land Management, Inc. is in the best interest of the Town, and

WHEREAS, ABA Land Management, Inc. provided a draft agreement outlining the terms of the landscaping services and that agreement has been reviewed, revised, and approved by the Town Attorney, and

WHEREAS, monies for this purpose include the 2026 Landscaping Budget along with the Doherty Park Capital Project Fund:

A.7110.0494 Parks Mowing Expense	\$10,408.00
Doherty Park Capital Project Fund	\$18,300.00
Total	\$28,708.00

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Beekman does hereby accept the quote from ABA Land Management, Inc. for weekly landscaping services pursuant to an agreement during the 20-week period commencing on May 12, 2026 and ending on September 29, 2026 for a total of \$28,300.00.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Town Board hereby authorizes the Supervisor to execute the agreement with ABA Land Management.

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 May 12, 2026.

Town Clerk: _____ Date: May 12, 2026

RESOLUTION 05:12:26-9

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	\$24,134.03
Claims to be paid from the DA-Highway Fund	\$17,993.31
Claims to be paid from the SS-Dover Ridge Sewer District Fund	\$4,860.73
Claims to be paid from the SW-Dover Ridge Water District Fund	\$936.30
Claims to be paid from the T-Trust & Agency Fund	\$1,800.00
Claims to be paid from the H-Capital Fund	<u>\$160.00</u>
	\$49,884.37

Pay Period – 04/19/26-05/07/26	Payroll #9
General Fund	\$41,031.41
Highway Fund	<u>\$25,406.29</u>
	\$66,437.70

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 May 12, 2026.

Town Clerk: _____ Date: May 12, 2026

