

**TOWN OF WINDHAM
TOWN BOARD MEETING
371 State Route 296, Hensonville, NY
Website: www.townofwindhamny.com**

OCTOBER 9, 2025

Present: Supervisor: Thomas F. Hoyt
Councilmen: Wayne Van Valin, Ian Peters, Stephen Walker & Kurt Goettsche
Town Clerk: Bonnie Poehmel

Also Present: Highway Superintendent Gary Thorington, Don Alberti, Deb Daily, Molly Hurst, Anita Buyers, Helen Exum, Connor Exum, Bob & Frosty Blakeslee, Ellen Schorsch, Nick Bove, Lori Torgersen, Jonathan & Lizzie Gross, Drew & Natasha Shuster, Maryann Brigham, John Zaccaria & Mike Ryan Mountain Eagle

The Supervisor called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and Mr. Don Alberti was asked to open with the Pledge of Allegiance.

THE MINUTES OF THE SEPTEMBER 24, 2025, TOWN BOARD MEETING were approved as typed on a motion by Councilman Walker, 2nd by Councilman Van Valin, with 3 in favor, Councilmen Goettsche and Peters abstained as they were absent.

1.WINDHAM PUBLIC LIBRARY requesting permission is use the Centre Property for a Halloween Workshop on October 22, 2025 @ 3:00-4:00 pm. A motion to approve was made by Councilman Van Valin and Councilman Peters, with all in favor.

2.WINDHAM ROTARY FOUNDATION requesting permission to hold a Tag Day/Coin Drop on Saturday, October 10, 2026 between the hours of 10:00 am -2:00 pm at the location of State Route 23 & 296; with a rain date of October 11, 2026. A motion to approve was made by Councilman Walker, 2nd by Councilman Goettsche, with all in favor.

3.REQUEST FOR OUTDOOR Fireworks Display Permit for a wedding at the Windham Manor on Saturday, October 25, 2025. Councilman Walker would like to make sure that all the neighbors are notified. A motion to approve was made by Councilman Peters, 2nd by Councilman Walker, with all in favor.

4.WINDHAM CHAMBER OF COMMERCE is requesting the use of CD Lane Park for “Music at the Park for 2026” . They would like to use the park for the following dates: June 5; July 3; August 7; and September 4, 2026 starting at 6:00 pm. A motion to approve the dates was made by Councilman Goettsche, 2nd by Councilman Peters, with all in favor.

5.TOWN BOARD RESOLUTION #126 OF 2025: “Support Of Congressman Nick Langworthy’s Energy Choice Act (H.R. 3699, S. 1945) And In Opposition To Government-Mandated Natural Gas Bans: **WHEREAS**, affordable and reliable energy is essential to the health, safety, and economic prosperity of New York families, businesses, and communities; and **WHEREAS**, natural gas remains a dependable, cost-effective, and clean-burning energy source used by millions of New Yorkers to heat their homes, cook their food, and power their businesses; and **WHEREAS**, in 2019, New York State enacted the **Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act (CLCPA)**, which mandates aggressive emissions reductions and serves as the foundation for sweeping energy restrictions, including efforts to phase out natural gas; and **WHEREAS**, building on the CLCPA, Governor Kathy Hochul and the New York State Legislature in 2023 enacted provisions in the state budget banning natural gas and other fossil fuel hookups in most new residential and commercial buildings, effective 2026 for smaller buildings, and 2029 for larger buildings, thereby eliminating consumer choice and limiting access to affordable energy; and... **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the **Town of Windham Town Board** strongly supports the Energy Choice Act as introduced by Congressman Langworthy (H.R. 3699) and Senator Justice (S. 1945) and stands firmly opposed to New York State’s natural gas bans, the CLCPA-driven restrictions, and other state energy mandates that eliminate consumer choice; and **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the **Town of Windham Town Board** urges Congress to pass the Energy Choice Act to defend consumer choice, protect energy affordability, and preserve reliable access to natural gas for New Yorkers; and **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that copies of this resolution be sent to Congressman Nick Langworthy, Senator Jim Justice, the New York Congressional delegation, Senators Chuck Schumer and Kirsten Gillibrand, Governor Kathy Hochul, and leadership of the New York State Legislature.” A motion to adopt this resolution was made by Councilman Goettsche, 2nd by Councilman Peters, with all in favor.

6.TOWN BOARD RESOLUTION #127 OF 2025: “The Town Of Windham Authorizing Consent To Incorporate Sewage Works Corporation: **WHEREAS**, Windham Skye Acquisition Co., LLC (“Petitioner”) proposes to subdivide a 107.9 acre parcel located off County Route 10 into a thirty (30) lot residential subdivision, including single family homes, common areas, community pavilion, and internal trail system (the “Project”); and **WHEREAS**, the Project site is not located in an established water or sewer district and will be served by private wells and two (2) community on-site septic systems; and **WHEREAS**, the Planning Board of the Town of Windham (“Planning Board”) conducted an environmental review of the Project in accordance

with the State Environmental Quality Review Act and the Regulations promulgated thereunder (collectively "SEQRA") and issued a Negative Declaration for the Project on December 19, 2024; and...**WHEREAS**, Petitioner now seeks consent to form a sewage works corporation under the Transportation Corporation Law; and...**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT**: The Town Board of the Town of Windham hereby consents to the formation of the sewage works corporation with Sewer Service Area identified in Exhibit A under the provisions of Articles 1 and 10 of the Transportation Corporation Law of the State of New York and directs the Town Clerk to provide a certified copy of this resolution to the Petitioner for filing with a Certificate of Incorporation with the NYS Department of State." A motion to adopt this resolution was made by Councilman Van Valin, 2nd by Councilman Goettsche, with all in favor.

7.SHORT ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT FORM: Town of Windham Septage Receiving Station, WWTP @ 491 County Route 12 (aka South Street), Windham, NY 12496. "Construction of a septage receiving station housed in a new building, a 20,000-gallon septage holding tank, and a septage transfer pumping station to introduce septage into the WWTP. Minor upgrades to the hydraulics in the headworks and primary clarifiers." A motion to approve and allow the Supervisor to sign was made by Councilman Walker and Councilman Peters, with all in favor.

8.APPROVAL OF A NEW B.A.R. (Board of Assessment Review Member): Peter O'Brien has retired from his B.A.R. position. Mr. O'Brien has given the Town of Windham 34 years of service. The Town Board wishes him a happy and healthy retirement. Laura Chase has been appointed to fill the vacant position of Peter O'Brien. Mrs. Chase's new term will start immediately. Her term is for 5-years and will expire October 29, 2030. A motion to approve was made by Supervisor Hoyt, 2nd by Councilman Van Valin, with all in favor.

9.QUOTE FROM ALPINE FLOORING INC for blind window treatments to be installed at the Community Senior Center in the ambulance building. The quote received was for \$2,219.76. A motion to approve was made by Councilman Peters, 2nd by Councilman Goettsche, with all in favor.

10.TOWN BOARD RESOLUTION #128 OF 2025: the following resolution was proposed to transfer funds to balance the Streetlighting District accounts. A motion to adopt this resolution was made by Councilman Goettsche, 2nd by Councilman Peters, with all in favor. TOWN BOARD RESOLUTION #129 OF 2025: the following resolution was proposed to transfer funds to balance the Sewer District accounts. A motion to adopt this resolution was made by Councilman Peters, 2nd by Councilman Goettsche, with all in favor. TOWN BOARD RESOLUTION #130 OF 2025: to authorize the Supervisor to close the maturing CD regarding the sum of \$151,475.75 principal plus the interest earned of Highway Fund Money at the National Bank of Cossackie, Cossackie, New York. A motion to adopt this resolution was made by Councilman Van Valin, 2nd by Councilman Walker, with all in favor. GENERAL FUND RESOLUTION #21 OF 2025: the following resolution was proposed to transfer funds to balance the General Fund accounts. A motion to adopt this resolution was made by Councilman Goettsche, 2nd by Councilman Peters, with all in favor. AMBULANCE DISTRICT FUND RESOLUTION #15 OF 2025: the following resolution was proposed to transfer funds to balance the Ambulance Fund accounts. A motion to adopt this resolution was made by Councilman Peters, 2nd by Councilman Goettsche, with all in favor. TOWN OF WINDHAM RESOLUTION #131 OF 2025: "a group of 15 properties in the Town of Windham Sidewalk District are delinquent in sidewalk payments; and these properties are delinquent in the amount of \$2,312.64...these amounts are to be included in the Tax Rolls as a charge against the real properties concerned." A motion to adopt this resolution was made by Councilman Walker, 2nd by Councilman Van Valin, with all in favor. TOWN OF WINDHAM RESOLUTION #132 OF 2025: "a group of 116 properties in the Town of Windham Sewer District are delinquent in sewer payments; and these properties are delinquent in the amount of \$34,567.87...these amounts are to be included in the Tax Rolls as a charge against the real properties concerned." A motion to adopt this resolution was made by Councilman Walker, 2nd by Councilman Peters, with all in favor. WATER DISTRICT RESOLUTION #10 OF 2025: "a group of 77 properties in the Town of Windham Water District are delinquent in water payments; and these properties are delinquent in the amount of \$40,492.94...these amounts are to be included in the Tax Rolls as a charge

against the real properties concerned.” A motion to adopt this resolution was made by Councilman Goettsche, 2nd by Councilman Peters, with all in favor.

11.TOWN CLERK’S REPORT FOR SEPTEMBER 2025: \$6,608.30. A motion to approve was made by Councilman Van Valin, 2nd by Councilman Goettsche, with all in favor.

12.AMBULANCE REPORT: The ambulance department will soon be hiring a new EMT trainee. The Ambulance staff will be at the Autumn Affair. Please stop by their rig to say hello.

13.HIGHWAY REPORT: Highway Superintendent Gary Thorington was present. The new highway plow truck has been ordered and is in the process of being assembled as ordered by the town. It will be awhile before the town takes delivery. The highway dept currently has two new employees that are working towards their CDL Licenses. One has already completed and passed; and the other will have a road test in November. Everyone will be ready for the winter season. Greene County Highway hosted its first safety workshop, 5-stations from medical attention to commercial. The highway crew attended. It was a good workshop for all.

14.POLICE REPORT: No report was given.

15.COMMITTEE REPORT: **Councilman Walker** will be attending the CWT meeting on October 20, 2025 and the SWAC meeting on October 29, 2025 here at the WWTP building. **Councilman Van Valin** has nothing at this time to report on. **Councilman Goettsche** is working on the computers testing and inventory to get the new employees email .GOV up and running on time. **Councilman Peters** has been working with Joe @ ITS and on the town’s budget. **Supervisor Hoyt** has the park pavilion and restrooms closed and drained for the winter. The head lifeguard has been painting the outside ramp and front stairs and outside entry doors of the town hall.

GENERAL FUND WARRANT #19-G contained vouchers #608-647, totaling \$24,752.84 was audited and approved for payment on a motion by Councilman Van Valin, 2nd by Councilman Goettsche, with all in favor.

HIGHWAY FUND WARRANT #19 contained vouchers #174-187, totaling \$14,286.24 was audited and approved for payment on a motion by Councilman Goettsche, 2nd by Councilman Van Valin, with all in favor.

SEWER DISTRICT FUND WARRANT #19 contained vouchers #258-272, totaling \$23,732.64 was audited and approved on a motion by Councilman Goettsche, 2nd by Councilman Van Valin, with all in favor.

STREETLIGHTING FUND WARRANT #10 contained vouchers #79-86, totaling \$2,068.25 was audited and approved for payment on a motion by Councilman Van Valin, 2nd by Councilman Goettsche, with all in favor.

AMBULANCE FUND WARRANT #19 contained vouchers #201-209, totaling \$7,589.62 was audited and approved for payment on a motion by Councilman Goettsche, 2nd by Councilman Van Valin, with all in favor.

GENERAL FUND PAYROLL WARRANT #19-P for **General** contained 11 claims, totaling \$13,287.75 was audited and approved for payment on a motion by Councilman Van Valin, 2nd by Councilman Goettsche, with all in favor. **Ambulance** payroll contained 17 claims, totaling \$21,070.49 was audited and approved for payment on a motion by Councilman Van Valin, 2nd by Councilman Goettsche, with all in favor. **Police** payroll contained 8 claims, totaling \$14,364.00 was audited and approved for payment on a motion by Councilman Van Valin, 2nd by Councilman Goettsche, with all in favor.

HIGHWAY PAYROLL WARRANT #19-P contained 4 claims, totaling \$6,970.76 was audited and approved for payment on a motion by Councilman Goettsche, 2nd by Councilman Van Valin, with all in favor.

SEWER DISTRICT FUND PAYROLL WARRANT #19-P contained 3 claims, totaling \$501.56 was audited and approved for payment on a motion by Councilman Van Valin, 2nd by Councilman Goettsche, with all in favor.

THE FOLLOWING PEOPLE HAVE ASKED TO BE ON THE AGENDA:

WINDHAM PATH-MAINTENANCE DISCUSSION: **Nick Bove, Lori Torgersen, Natasha & Drew Shuster** attended on behalf of the Windham Area Recreation Foundation (WARF) to express their opinion that the Windham Path is in need of additional attention. They presented photographs for the Town Board's review. Highway Superintendent Gary Thorington reported that the Highway Department routinely inspects and maintains the Path, and that any safety issues identified have already been addressed. He noted that he has recent photographs documenting the work completed and offered to meet on-site with WARF representatives to discuss any remaining concerns. Councilman Peters stated that the Town regularly works with many local organizations for a variety of community functions. He further noted that the Town assumed responsibility for maintenance of the Windham Path several years ago after WARF did not fulfill its prior maintenance commitment. Councilman Peters added that WARF is welcome to donate funds to support the continued upkeep of the Path. Councilman Goettsche asked why, if WARF knew they were on the agenda, they had not prepared or submitted their presentation materials to the Town Board prior to the meeting for review. Mr. Bove suggested that the Town consider allowing WARF to assist with future maintenance efforts, stating that the group has volunteers and funding available. The Town Board will receive an update from the Highway Superintendent following his site walk with WARF at the next meeting. 79 SIAM ROAD has had continuous years of rock problems on his property whereas the water is the least of his problems right now. **John Zaccaria** was present. Highway Superintendent Gary Thorington is well aware of his problem. Gary has been at the property in past years and will meet again with John to try to resolve the problem.

16.COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC: Supervisor Hoyt will go around the room to ask each person if they have an issue with town business only. **Helen Exum** asked about the "Native Trees of the Windham Path" An Interactive Map by Victoria Shuster. Helen would like to see if this map could be displayed in the kiosk entrances as well as a map to take as visitors are walking. Supervisor Hoyt asked Natasha Shuster if Victoria would be interested. **Connor Exum**, Democratic candidate for Town Supervisor, requested use of the Community Senior Center on October 22, 2025, for a Mountaintop Issues Coalition meeting to discuss "Windham 2050," stating he believes it is non-political. Councilman Goettsche declined the request, citing that the event appeared political in nature. The Town Board maintains that Town facilities are reserved for civic and community purposes, not activities that may be construed as political or campaign-related. **Ellen Schorsch** there used to be laminated signs on the path about the plants where has that gone? Councilman Peters' Great-Aunt Barbara Tolley had made that her project in years past. She is not able to get to the path as much as she would like too. **Anita Buyers** has a question about County Route 56 in Maplecrest. Supervisor Hoyt this is a county highway not a town road. Ms. Buyers will need to get in touch with Mr. Templeton of the Greene County Highway with any issues concerning the road. There is so much damage done to the back of her property with the knotweed. Supervisor Hoyt this is a question for Greene County Soil & Water. **Young Lady** in the audience has a question about "Dent Loop". Supervisor Hoyt 4-entrance signs have been replaced to the newly added nature trail off the Windham Path. Ryan Penny does the trail system in Hunter; there will soon be a new phone app with all the state trails listed. **Jonathan Gross** is showing support for Nick Bove and Lori Torgersen. The community group has the money and expertise. WARF and the Town of Windham should partnership.

The meeting adjourned at 8:12 p.m. on a motion by Councilman Goettsche, 2nd by Councilman Peters, with all in favor.

SUPERVISOR

COUNCILMAN

COUNCILMAN

COUNCILMAN

COUNCILMAN

TOWN CLERK
