

PRE-BOARD MEETING – FEBRUARY 11, 2026

The Pre-Board Meeting was held on Wednesday, February 11, 2026 at 6:47 p.m. at the Frank D. Greco Multi-Purpose Building located at the corner of Market and Robinson Streets in the Village of Saugerties with the following members present:

Councilmember Bill Barr
Councilmember Leeanne Thornton
Councilmember Mike Ivino
Councilmember Stephanie Bassler
Supervisor Fred Costello

Unanimously decided by board to remove four motions from the original agenda.

Town Clerk

TOWN BOARD MEETING – FEBRUARY 11, 2026

The Town Board Meeting was held on Wednesday, February 11, 2026 at 7:00 p.m. at the Frank D. Greco Multi-Purpose Building located at the corner of Market and Robinson Streets in the Village of Saugerties. The meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance with the following members present:

Councilmember Bill Barr
Councilmember Leeanne Thornton
Councilmember Mike Ivino
Councilmember Stephanie Bassler
Supervisor Fred Costello

PRIVILEGE OF FLOOR: none

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD:

Zachary Horton – on-going issue in residential areas, especially Barclay Heights, with people speeding. There is a tragedy waiting to happen, this issue has become out of control. Secondly, there was an incident at IXL and Officer Cioni handled the situation very well.

Catherine Rumble – parking near the library could be much better; leg was hurting and in pain and had to park farther away. Need better line spacing for parking.

Elizabeth Reece – communications needs to be better; community has a hard time understanding what is going on. No time to find out about issues coming up.

Jack Paparo – garbage cans are left out all the time on the streets, it’s a hazard and eyesore; a lot of STR’s in the neighborhood which accounts for some of them.

Mia Massbach – in relation to home rule, residents need to be listened to before decisions are made. The town board needs to fight for home rule, please represent us.

Taft Jordan – violators pass stopped school busses constantly, accident will happen if drivers don’t stop for red flashing lights.

Mary Pocsik – at night the whole top of The Mill is lit up, very bright and disturbing.

SUPERVISOR’S COMMENTS:

We will keep public comment to subjects other than battery storage for this meeting. Battery storage will be discussed at the informational meeting at the conclusion of the town board meeting.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Motion made by Supervisor Costello, seconded by Councilmember Thornton to approve the minutes of Public Hearing on January 21, 2026 regarding public hearing notice procedures; Pre-Board and Town Board Meeting on January 21, 2026, carried.

APPROVAL OF BILLS:

Motion made by Supervisor Costello, seconded by Councilmember Thornton to approve the bills as presented, carried.

General Fund	\$253,442.30
General Outside Village	974.62
Highway	116,371.92
Capital Projects	5,533.98
Ambulance District	142,137.76
Lighting District	33.51
Sewer O&M	5,482.92
Water O&M	8,052.70
Central Hudson	44,758.21

MOTIONS & RESOLUTIONS:

Motion made by Councilmember Ivino, seconded by Supervisor Costello to accept the resignation of part time Police Officer Jonathan O. Osborn, effective January 21, 2026.

Vote: Adopted – 5 Yes

Motion made by Councilmember Bassler, seconded by Supervisor Costello to accept the resignation of Doreen Meyer from the position of School Crossing Guard, effective February 2, 2026.

Vote: Adopted – 5 Yes

Motion made by Councilmember Barr, seconded by Councilmember Thornton to accept the resignation of Lighthouse TV Clerk Anastasia Redman, effective February 1, 2026.

Discussion: Councilmember Thornton expressed her gratitude for Anastasia's time, talent and commitment during the last 18 years. Anastasia's husband, Nigel was also very involved. This is a huge loss for the community.

Vote: Adopted – 5 Yes

Motion made by Councilmember Thornton, seconded by Supervisor Costello to approve the resolution, as on file, authorizing acceptance of late filed senior citizen exemption renewal applications.

Discussion: Supervisor Costello does not want anyone to lose out on the benefit, will extend deadline.

Vote: Adopted – 5 Yes

Motion made by Supervisor Costello, seconded by Councilmember Ivino to approve the resolution, as on file, adopting Local Law #1 of 2026 amending Chapter 245 Public Hearing Notice Procedures for the Zoning Law.

Discussion: Supervisor Costello explained that the second public hearing was held tonight.

Vote: Adopted – 5 Yes

Motion made by Councilmember Ivino, seconded by Councilmember Bassler to set a public hearing date of March 4, 2026 at 6:30 p.m. in regards to the installation and maintenance of knox boxes at all commercial, non-residential, and multi-family buildings and structures for emergency services.

Discussion: Councilmember Ivino added that this allows fire departments to access building without the owner, it's a secure system.

Vote: Adopted – 5 Yes

Motion made by Councilmember Bassler, seconded by Councilmember Ivino to approve the settlement of the civil lawsuit filed in the Supreme Court of the State of New York, Ulster County under Index Number EF2023-2821, in which the Town of Saugerties and the Town of Saugerties Police Department, as well as former Town of Saugerties Police Officer Dion Johnson and Ulster County, were named as defendants in accordance with the letter from the attorneys representing the Town of Saugerties defendants dated February 6, 2026, a copy of which is on file in the office of the Town Clerk.

Discussion: Supervisor Costello said that this is hopefully the end of this chapter.

Vote: Adopted – 5 Yes

Motion made by Councilmember Thornton, seconded by Councilmember Ivino to approve abolishing the Volunteer in Policing Program, effective February 28, 2026.

Discussion: Supervisor Costello said this is discontinuing because we hope to get back to full staffing the police department.

Vote: Adopted – 5 Yes

Motion made by Councilmember Barr, seconded by Supervisor Costello to move Ronald Stanfield from a part time Laborer position to full time Motor Equipment Operator to fill the vacancy for the Highway Department at a rate of pay of \$31.33, effective February 12, 2026 as per the recommendation of Raymond Mayone, Highway Superintendent.

Vote: Adopted – 5 Yes

Motion made by Supervisor Costello, seconded by Councilmember Thornton to adjourn Town Board Meeting at 7:37 p.m., carried.

NEXT SCHEDULED MEETINGS:

Wednesday, March 4, 2026	Budget Workshop	5:30 p.m.
	Public Hearing	6:30 p.m.
	Re: Knox Boxes	
	Pre-Board Meeting	following hearing
	Town Board Meeting	7:00 p.m.

The meeting was closed in memory of Joe Palumbo and Meg Rapp.

Town Clerk

The Board held an informational meeting immediately following regarding BESS, Battery Storage facility.