

PRE-BOARD MEETING – OCTOBER 7, 2026

The Pre-Board Meeting was held on Wednesday, October 7, 2026 at 6:40 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 Stephanie Bassler
Supervisor Fred Costello
Absent: Councilmember Mike Ivino

Supervisor Costello is concerned with stormwater motion on agenda, there are four residential projects which have not been taken over; maintenance should be done. Stone Creek responsibility will remain with the owner. Seems we are preventing progress over perfection. We need to reach consensus with ones in the neighborhoods. Councilmember Barr is wondering if this has been reviewed by the town attorney. All members are in agreement to pull the motion from the agenda.

Supervisor Costello said that Marshall & Sterling, NYMIR and Reis will be gathering quotes for town insurance.

Town Clerk

TOWN BOARD MEETING – OCTOBER 7, 2026

The Town Board Meeting was held on Wednesday, October 7, 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 opened with the Pledge of Allegiance with the following members present:

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

PRIVILEGE OF FLOOR: none

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD:

Susan Puretz – why is anyone getting worked up about BESS? Tomsons Road enhances Central Hudson – a storage site. The facility will deliver clean, safe option.

Beth Murphy – enlightening speaker at The Local recently regarding solar, batteries and the grid. Support this in the Industrial Zone.

Richard Azoff – supports BESS project; several states are adopting BESS and with good outcomes. Solar and wind require battery storage.

Elizabeth Strum – important adaptive measure to strengthen the grid. Thank you for continuing to look into this.

Kate McCann – support Key Capture and there is more support; let the Planning Board do their job. We all deserve clean, affordable energy.

Melissa Iachetta – BESS part of vital part of reliable energy – a win for locals. Committed to educate people.

Skip Arthur – Chief of Hazmat in Orange County spoke regarding actually being at a battery fire which was one of the more manageable fires to contain, believes in safety of battery storage.

Dan McCarthy – with Malden bridge out, there has been more traffic on Lauren Tice Road with tractor trailers; needs support to enforce signs that were put on the road. The town board needs to create a resolution to enforce because the state relinquishes decision.

SUPERVISOR'S COMMENTS:**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

Motion made by Supervisor Costello, second by Councilmember Thornton to approve the minutes of Pre-Board and Town Board Meeting of September 16, 2026, carried.

APPROVAL OF BILLS:

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

General Fund	\$26,178.08
General Outside Village	1,987.06
Highway	45,700.21
Capital Projects	1,245.00
Ambulance District	139,734.42
Lighting District	35.65
Sewer O&M	2,936.64
Water O&M	4,095.68

DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS:

John Hanzl, Water & Sewer – water main break, thank you to highway department; new rings have been ordered for man-hole covers.

Chief Swart – nothing to report

Jon Lowrey, Highway – moving forward with Malden project, 2200' of blacktop and trying to finish up 2700' on Blue Mtn. Road. Sanders are ready to go for the winter.

BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Councilmember Barr – attended cyber security seminar; asked about BESS concerns with security and given information which has been passed on to the town board. Our town had the best participation in Ulster County regarding the survey. On September 25 visited a BESS in Bronx, which is right across from a middle school. Repair Café was held on October 3rd with great success.

Councilmember Thornton – TV23 meets October 8; transportation meets October 13; Boys & Girls Club raffle on November 15 and Touch-a-Truck will be held on October 25 to benefit the Animal Shelter.

Councilmember Bassler – Peggy Mullen is giving a presentation on one room schoolhouse at the library and HPC is restoring the blue and gold historic markers.

MOTIONS & RESOLUTIONS:

Motion made by Councilmember Bassler, seconded by Supervisor Costello to approve the revised/amended Procurement Policy, as on file.

Discussion: Councilmember Bassler feels verbal quotes should be documented.

Motion to amend made by Supervisor Costello, seconded by Councilmember Barr to strike verbal quote on \$1,000 to \$3,499 on Public Works Contract.

Vote on amendment: Fail – 0 Yes

Motion to table original motion made by Councilmember Barr, seconded by Councilmember Bassler.

Vote: Adopted – 4 Yes (Councilmember Ivino absent)

Motion made by Councilmember Barr, seconded by Supervisor Costello to approve a curfew of 8:00 p.m. for Halloween, October 31, 2026 for the Town of Saugerties.

Vote: Adopted – 4 Yes (Councilmember Ivino absent)

Motion made by Councilmember Thornton, seconded by Supervisor Costello to approve setting a public hearing date of November 4, 2026 at 6:00 p.m. pertaining to exceeding the 2% tax cap.
Discussion: Supervisor Costello added that the budget is within the cap as of now.
Vote: Adopted – 4 Yes (Councilmember Ivino absent)

Motion made by Supervisor Costello, seconded by Councilmember Thornton to approve setting a public hearing date of November 4, 2026 at 6:30 p.m. pertaining to the 2027 Budget.
Vote: Adopted – 4 Yes (Councilmember Ivino absent)

Motion made by Councilmember Bassler, seconded by Supervisor Costello to accept the resignation of Sasha Sittner as the Special Operations Coordinator/Grant Writer, effective October 16, 2026.
Vote: Adopted – 4 Yes (Councilmember Ivino absent)

Motion made by Councilmember Barr, seconded by Supervisor Costello to approve a refund of \$266.00 to Michael Phelan of 3747 Route 32, owner of MAP Construction, for building permit fees paid on receipt #B25713 for Barclay Lane, Saugerties, NY 12477 (SBL 29.9-7-18) because homeowner backed out of the contract for construction.
Vote: Adopted – 4 Yes (Councilmember Ivino absent)

Motion made by Councilmember Thornton, seconded by Supervisor Costello to approve a refund of \$125.00 to Hot Water Solutions of 40 Industrial Drive for building permit fees paid on receipt #B25647 for 77 Aurora View Road, Saugerties, NY 12477 (SBL 7.4-1-2.200) because the contractor Constant Van Hoeven pulled the permit for the wrong town, effective September 21, 2026.
Vote: Adopted – 4 Yes (Councilmember Ivino absent)

Motion made by Supervisor Costello, seconded by Councilmember Bassler to approve the resolution, as on file, in regards to the Bluestone Park Water District.
Vote: Adopted – 4 Yes (Councilmember Ivino absent)

Motion made by Supervisor Costello, seconded by Councilmember Barr to adjourn Town Board Meeting at 8:12 p.m., carried.

NEXT SCHEDULED MEETINGS:

Wednesday, October 21, 2026	Pre-Board Meeting	6:30 p.m.
	Town Board Meeting	7:00 p.m.
Wednesday, November 4, 2026	Public Hearing	6:00 p.m.
	Exceed the 2% Tax Cap	

**Public Hearing
2027 Budget
Pre-Board Meeting
Town Board Meeting**

**6:30 p.m.
following hearings
7:00 p.m.**

Meeting closed in memory of Beverly Andrew and Linda Jackson.

Town Clerk