

TOWN BOARD MEETING – SEPTEMBER 16, 2026

The Town Board Meeting was held on Wednesday, September 16, 2026 at 7:00 p.m. at the Frank D. Greco Multi-Purpose Building located on 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:

Catherine Rumble – please don't bring battery storage to us. We don't want to be China.
Dia Mansbach – meeting notes from August 12 are not posted yet. NYS is pushing megawatts.
Eric Delmar – thankful not AI hot spot and becoming more capable. BESS is remote managed.
Josepha Gutelis – echoes what others have said, dangers are unprecedented, please don't downplay those dangers.
Stephen Shafer – HF monitoring by EPA were not above critical level, not in danger to the public. Chief of Hazmat would rather attend BESS fire than any other type of fire.
Nicole Roskos – feels people are not looking at all facts; if you care about the future and environment, batteries are the reason why we can have solar and wind. Go and do research.

SUPERVISOR'S COMMENTS:

A fundraiser is being held for Diaz Ambulance on September 19 with music from Billy Joel and Elton John. Thank you to all fire departments and personnel for participating in the 911 Ceremony, 25th Anniversary.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Motion made by Supervisor Costello, seconded by Councilmember Thornton to approve the minutes of Public Hearing of September 2, 2026, Pre-Board and Town Board Meeting of September 2, 2026, carried.

APPROVAL OF BILLS:

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

General Fund	\$56,429.18
General Outside Village	6,611.76
Highway	50,023.04
Capital Projects	65,745.00
Lighting District	7,386.14
Sewer O&M	91,499.83
Water O&M	246,732.32
Malden Sewer	338,232.15
Central Hudson	44,406.22

DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS:

Chief Swart – we are three positions shy of full staff; discussion of truck traffic, awarded some grants for safety. Town of Saugerties and NYS Police involved in a car chase last night, damage to couple cars, charges were made with no injuries.

Jon Lowrey, Deputy for Highway – working on one of our bigger projects, catch basins. Dutchtown Road (1.5 mile) prepped and paved. Highway department has 19 full time employees and we are getting ready for the winter. Ray Mayone added that the cost of salt has gone up from \$70/ton last year to \$110/ton this year, hoping for a mild winter.

BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Councilmember Barr – water stakeholders meeting will be held on Tuesday

Councilmember Thornton – TV23 held a meeting last week and they also have a new cooking show; Touch-a-Truck will be held October 25 from 12-3 at Cantine; Splashpad committee meets to work through next steps.

Councilmember Ivino – nothing to report

Councilmember Bassler – parks department is seeking funds for the tennis courts with an application underway; Housing Action Plan – work is starting up centering on public participation; HUD office has deficit of available properties. Historic Preservation Commission is restoring blue and yellow markers; check out the website for Arts Commission.

MOTIONS & RESOLUTIONS:

Motion made by Councilmember Ivino, seconded by Supervisor Costello to hire Joshua M. Kurz as a part time Police Officer at the rate of \$25.00 per hour, effective September 17, 2026.

Vote: Adopted – 5 Yes

Motion made by Councilmember Bassler, seconded by Councilmember Barr to authorize Town Engineer Brinnier and Larios to proceed with generating bid specifications, along with a site plan, for the reconstruction of the tennis courts, at the Cantine Complex, for the USTA Tennis Venue Services (TVS) Grant, as per the recommendation of the Parks & Buildings Superintendent.

Discussion: Councilmember Bassler added that this is the grant mentioned earlier.

Vote: Adopted – 5 Yes

Motion made by Supervisor Costello, seconded by Councilmember Thornton to adjourn Town Board Meeting at 7:45 p.m., carried.

NEXT SCHEDULED MEETINGS:

Wednesday, October 7, 2026	Budget Workshop	5:00 p.m.
	Public Hearing	6:00 p.m.
	RE: proposed Local Law Amending	
	Chapter 245, Zoning	
	Pre-Board Meeting	6:30 p.m.
	Town Board Meeting	7:00 p.m.

Meeting closed in memory of Ellsworth Dunn.

Town Clerk