

**PRE-BOARD MEETING – APRIL 1, 2026**

The Pre-Board Meeting was held on Wednesday, April 1, 2026 at 6:30 p.m. at the Frank D. Greco Multi-Purpose Building located on 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

Discussion regarding cemeteries with up-keep and maintenance; title searches would need to be done. Gravestone Guardians have been wonderful stewards.

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Town Clerk

**TOWN BOARD MEETING – APRIL 1, 2026**

The Town Board Meeting was held on Wednesday, April 1, 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 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:**

Eileen Ryan – wondered if insurance is required for battery storage; concerned about cyber-attacks and stability in the grid.

Elizabeth Reece – Town of Saugerties is not compliant with open meetings law and posting all resolutions with all committees. FOIL appeal procedure is not the correct procedure.

Eric Delmar – cell phone lithium batteries lose energy, produce higher noise level. Battery storage will not be able to guarantee noise will not be greater as time goes on.

Dia Mansbach – BESS talked about at CPC meeting and CAC and now there is a separate working group. Is the same objective being exercised throughout different projects?

Lauren Piperno – how many units/batteries would BESS contain and would we have to use electricity to store batteries? The noise level will be great – 85 decibels for an 8 hour work shift – it would be like listening to a diesel truck running.

Tim Scott – supports Robert Langdon to be appointed to the Arts Commission – he will be a wonderful addition.

**SUPERVISOR’S COMMENTS:**

Robust early involvement with Green & Clean Days, see Town Clerk’s Office for sign up and bags. April 20 and 27 are pick up days by the Transfer Station. MS4 Annual report is on file, Sean Weaver does an outstanding job.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

Motion made by Supervisor Costello, seconded by Councilmember Thornton to approve the minutes of Pre-Board and Town Board Meeting on March 18, 2026, carried.

**APPROVAL OF BILLS:**

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

|                         |              |
|-------------------------|--------------|
| General Fund            | \$422,600.43 |
| General Outside Village | 39,155.81    |
| Highway                 | 182,965.27   |
| Capital Projects        | 168,020.62   |
| Ambulance District      | 139,734.42   |
| Lighting District       | 7,483.42     |
| Sewer O&M               | 19,382.71    |
| Water O&M               | 203,620.35   |
| Central Hudson          | 64,848.72    |

**DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS:**

Greg Chorvas – all facilities are open; docks and fishing piers have been repaired. SPUD pole at Terpening Park took a beating and have made attempts to try and straighten it. Mid May we will start the basketball court at Jaycee Field. The Dog Park is closed when Verizon contractors are working there.

Chief Swart – planning for special events and congratulations to Alexandra Rutkowski and good luck to Travis.

Jon Lowrey, Deputy Superintendent of Highway – cleaning up from old fashioned winter. Blacktop plant will open in a couple weeks. Platte Clove work will start later in the month.

### **BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

Councilmember Barr – see the library for a free home energy analysis kit and on April 17<sup>th</sup> will be appreciation day. Ethics committee met and will update by-laws.

Councilmember Thornton – Lifespring is winding down; TV23 has job posting up and will meet April 9; STAC meets in two weeks; fundraisers for Splashpad will be held on May 21 and July 3 with food trucks and craft vendors. Boys & Girls Club fundraiser will be June 12.

Councilmember Bassler – CPC met March 26 and is working on a updating the mission statement; HPC met March 16 making plans celebrating 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary with Historical Society and Saugerties Arts Commission is looking forward to 2026 with 2025 being successful.

### **MOTIONS & RESOLUTIONS:**

Motion made by Councilmember Bassler, seconded by Supervisor Costello to set a public hearing on April 15, 2026 at 6:30 p.m. regarding amending Chapter 190 of the Municipal Code – Sewer Use Law.

Discussion: Supervisor Costello said that this was recommended by DEC.

Vote: Adopted – 4 Yes (Councilmember Ivino absent)

Motion made by Councilmember Barr, seconded by Councilmember Thornton to hire Alexandra J. Rutkowski as a permanent full time Police Officer at the rate of \$28.26 an hour, effective April 6, 2026.

Discussion: Supervisor Costello added that we are excited to have her.

Vote: Adopted – 4 Yes (Councilmember Ivino absent)

Motion made by Councilmember Thornton, seconded by Supervisor Costello to appoint Robert Langdon to the Saugerties Arts Commission for the remainder of 2026.

Vote: Adopted – 4 Yes (Councilmember Ivino absent)

Motion made by Supervisor Costello, seconded by Councilmember Thornton to hire, on a part time seasonal basis, Anders Forrest at a rate of \$18.00/hour, as per the recommendation of the Parks & Buildings Superintendent.

Vote: Adopted – 4 Yes (Councilmember Ivino absent)

Motion made by Councilmember Bassler, seconded by Supervisor Costello to hire, on a part time seasonal basis, Donald “Gus” Minkler at a rate of \$19.50/hour, as per the recommendation of the Parks & Buildings Superintendent.

Vote: Adopted – 4 Yes (Councilmember Ivino absent)

Motion made by Councilmember Bassler, seconded by Supervisor Costello to hire, on a part time basis, Matthew Cole at a rate of \$19.50/hour, as per the recommendation of the Parks & Buildings Superintendent.

Vote: Adopted – 4 Yes (Councilmember Ivino absent)

Motion made by Councilmember Thornton, seconded by Supervisor Costello to award to Pettinelli & Associates (NYS DOS # 5384987) one new fully ADA Compliant Playground Assembly at JayCee Field, as per Sourcewell Government Cooperative Purchasing Contract # 010521-LTS in the amount of \$141,931.51, (in reference to the JayCee Field Senate and Assembly Grants), as per the recommendation of the Parks & Buildings Superintendent.

Discussion: Greg Chorvas confirmed that three other bids were received. Supervisor Costello added thanks to Sarahana Shrestha and Michelle Hinchey for their support with this project.

Vote: Adopted – 4 Yes (Councilmember Ivino absent)

Motion made by Supervisor Costello, seconded by Councilmember Thornton to approve the schedule of participant registration fees for the 2026 Summer Youth Recreation Program (on file) as per the recommendation of the Summer Youth Recreation Director and the Parks & Buildings Superintendent.

Vote: Adopted – 4 Yes (Councilmember Ivino absent)

Motion made by Councilmember Bassler, seconded by Councilmember Barr to appoint William Shields as first alternate to the Historic Preservation Commission with a four year term to expire on March 31, 2030.

Discussion: Councilmember Bassler said he is very enthusiastic and a big supporter, we welcome him.

Vote: Adopted – 4 Yes (Councilmember Ivino absent)

Motion made by Councilmember Barr, seconded by Supervisor Costello to appoint Jesse Angelino as second alternate to the Historic Preservation Commission with a four year term to expire on March 31, 2030.

Discussion: Councilmember Bassler is impressed with his incredible resume of regional history.

Vote: Adopted – 4 Yes (Councilmember Ivino absent)

Motion made by Councilmember Thornton, seconded by Councilmember Bassler to appoint Jesse Angelino as the secretary to the Historic Preservation for 2026 at a pay rate of \$25.00 per hour.

Discussion: Councilmember said that this will be a significant amount of work.

Vote: Adopted – 4 Yes (Councilmember Ivino absent)

Motion made by Supervisor Costello, seconded by Councilmember Barr to accept the retirement of Officer Travis Winchell, effective March 31, 2026.

Discussion: Chief Swart said he had 20+ years with the village and town police departments and leaves a positive impact. Supervisor Costello wishes him good luck.

Vote: Adopted – 4 Yes (Councilmember Ivino absent)

Motion made by Supervisor Costello, seconded by Councilmember Bassler to enter into Executive Session at 8:00 p.m. regarding a subject that may disclose identity of a police officer or informant, carried.

Motion made by Supervisor Costello, seconded by Councilmember Thornton to exit Executive Session and adjourn Town Board Meeting at 8:48 p.m., carried.

**NEXT SCHEDULED MEETINGS:**

**Wednesday, April 15, 2026**

**Public Hearing  
Amending Chapter 190  
Sewer Use Law**

**6:30 p.m.**

**Pre-Board Meeting  
Town Board Meeting**

**following hearing  
7:00 p.m.**

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Town Clerk