

PRE-BOARD MEETING – JUNE 17, 2026

The Pre-Board Meeting was held on Wednesday, June 17, 2026 at 6:30 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

Chief Swart was questioned about the electronic cameras in school speed zones.

Councilmember Bassler questioned availability of having a workshop start at 6:00 p.m. before the July board meeting. All confirmed that they could make it. She also gave an update that the first step of letter of intent was received regarding the grant for Kalina Drive.

Request to move a motion forward to the agenda regarding Pro-Housing, all in agreement.

Town Clerk

TOWN BOARD MEETING – JUNE 17, 2026

The Town Board Meeting was held on Wednesday, June 17, 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:

Dia Mansbach – written comments on file regarding open meetings law and asked the town board for a response to her request.

Deborah Sanchez – talked about town seal and the words inscribed on it – man, earth, friendship, nation – and these things should be applied to our way of life in Saugerties. We have a responsibility to future generations.

Kathy Jordan – concerned about battery storage, just moved here and had questions for the board about what they have proactively done.

William Mahila – written comments on file regarding KCE project.

Steve Brady – moved here for beauty and environmental sensitive awareness, why do we need battery storage here.

Patrick Sheehan – opposes BESS project but we need to realize that NYS can simply take over and make the decision for us – fast track – well beyond a local issue.

Eileen Ryan – 70% of batteries are manufactured from China. Attackers can take control, disrupt battery storage facilities and hijack BMS.

Steven Coons – Mt. Marion Park is bombarded with off-road vehicles, 8 vehicles at a time being disrespectful, speeding, wheelies on Glasco Turnpike. We need help maybe with additional signage or police patrol.

Lou Skaar – KCE said schools would not be affected in case of emergency and would like verification on this also, who will clean up the mess after the storage unit is done.

Ted Skaar – questioned level of preparedness of firefighters out of concern; courses take time and planning and lithium will cause damage.

Elizabeth Reece – Councilmember Ivino directed personal comments at the last board meeting and community is disappointed; he should be talking to the public as fire chief about preparedness and including location, safety and environmental impact.

Bill Farrell – opposed to BESS and it is not a positive project, adding to toxic process and gives off a constant vibration.

Andre Whiddle – wrote a book about the Esopus Seal, maybe next year a Seal could be the street art instead of dogs.

SUPERVISOR'S COMMENTS:

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Motion made by Supervisor Costello, seconded by Councilmember Thornton to approve the minutes of Pre-Board and Town Board Meeting of May 6, 2026; Special Town Board Meeting of June 11, 2026 and Bid Opening of June 11, 2026 for Emergency Backup Power for the Ice Arena Chiller Generator, carried.

APPROVAL OF BILLS:

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

General Fund	\$143,939.98
General Outside Village	17,765.69
Highway	421,135.10
Capital Projects	255,320.23
Ambulance District	139,734.42
Sewer O&M	10,060.64
Water O&M	4,811.32
Central Hudson	40,723.48

DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS:

John Hanzl, Water & Sewer – flushed hydrants, replaced fire hydrant and valve – thank you to the Highway Department for help.

Chief Swart, Police – several disturbing incidents over the past few weeks. Thank you to several agencies for assistance. Comfort Inn is a significant burden on the police department but we are working with key agencies for solution.

Jon Lowrey, Highway – Town of Ulster assisted with paving and several more paving jobs lined up.

Greg Chorvas, Parks & Rec – basketball court asphalt at Jaycee Field is done but not satisfactorily; needs to be done over. A temporary fence will be installed around the new area to keep people out with security on duty. Mt. Marion has been an on-going problem and we are installing cameras. Ice Rink is now closed for the season. Thank you Ray and John for inter-departmental help. St. Mary's Bazaar is happening this weekend!

BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Councilmember Barr – library will meet with newly elected trustees; Hudson Valley regional committee will meet with CSTF; would also like to meet with department heads.

Councilmember Thornton – TV23 interviewed for new coordinator and is on the agenda tonight; lifespring wrapped up this semester last week; STAC met last week and on July 3 a Food Truck Festival will be held to benefit the Splashpad.

Councilmember Ivino – Building Department monthly report was given and is on file at the Town Clerk's Office.

Councilmember Bassler – HUD received half of regular amount which affects an already difficult housing issue. Audrey Klinkenburg gave a report on the Malden Presbyterian Church at Historic Preservation Committee meeting; Arts Commission has a monthly newsletter available; Housing Smart meeting working together with the County and Shout Out Saugerties will celebrate Augusta Savage this year.

MOTIONS & RESOLUTIONS:

Motion made by Councilmember Ivino, seconded by Supervisor Costello to authorize Choice Words LLC to proceed with filing a Consolidated Funding Application (CFA) for the Splashpad Project, Cantine Trails Rehabilitation/Upgrades and Tennis Courts Re-Construction at a total cost of \$8,000.00 for all three components of the CFA submission as per the recommendation of the Parks & Buildings Superintendent.

Discussion: Greg Chorvas added that they are updating supporting letters and documentation.

Vote: Adopted – 5 Yes

Motion made by Councilmember Bassler, seconded by Councilmember Thornton to approve the 2026 Summer Youth Recreation Program Waiting List (on file) as per the recommendation of the Summer Youth Recreation Director.

Vote: Adopted – 5 Yes

Motion made by Councilmember Barr, seconded by Supervisor Costello to correct Myles Gordon's rate of pay from \$18.00 which was approved at the May 6, 2026 Town Board Meeting to \$18.50 as per the recommendation of the Parks & Buildings Superintendent.

Vote: Adopted – 5 Yes

Motion made by Councilmember Thornton, seconded by Supervisor Costello to add to the Summer Youth Recreation Program and Parks & Buildings Call Out Lists Olivia Dean at a rate of \$17.50/hour as per the recommendation of the Summer Youth Recreation Director and the Parks & Buildings Superintendent.

Vote: Adopted – 5 Yes

Motion made by Supervisor Costello, seconded by Councilmember Ivino to add to the Parks & Buildings Summer Call Out List Michael J. Cuello at a rate of \$18.50/hour as per the recommendation of the Parks & Buildings Superintendent.

Vote: Adopted – 5 Yes

Motion made by Councilmember Ivino, seconded by Councilmember Bassler to approve hiring Bronwyn Maloney as the TV23 Public Access Program Specialist at a pay rate of \$26.00 per hour with a work schedule not to exceed 30 hours per week, effective immediately per the recommendation of the TV23 Liaison.

Vote: Adopted – 5 Yes

Motion made by Councilmember Bassler, seconded by Supervisor Costello to accept the resignation of Haley Whalen, effective June 3, 2026.

Vote: Adopted – 5 Yes

Motion made by Councilmember Barr, seconded by Supervisor Costello to approve the retirement of Alvah Weeks, Department Head for the Town of Saugerties Building Department, effective June 20, 2026.

Discussion: Supervisor Costello added that Alvie always put residents first, thankful for his dedication and years of service. We wish him all the best! Councilmember Thornton said that Alvie was a tremendous help with CPC, he will be missed.

Vote: Adopted – 5 Yes

Motion made by Councilmember Thornton, seconded by Councilmember Ivino to approve moving Building Department employee Sean Weaver from the position of Municipal Code Officer/Building Inspector 1 to the position of Department Head for the Town of Saugerties Building Department for the remainder of 2026 at an annual salary of \$86,840.00, effective June 22, 2026.

Discussion: Supervisor Costello added that Sean has embraced the position and Councilmember Ivino said that he will make a good department head.

Vote: Adopted – 5 Yes

Motion made by Supervisor Costello, seconded by Councilmember Barr to accept the resignation of Kathleen Gray Assistant Special Operations Coordinator/Grant Writer, effective July 31, 2026.

Vote: Adopted – 5 Yes

Motion made by Councilmember Ivino, seconded by Supervisor Costello to accept the resignation of Deputy Town Clerk Sasha Sittner, effective July 3, 2026.

Discussion: Town Clerk Stanley said that Sasha was a tremendous asset to the Clerk's Office and thankful she will not be leaving completely.

Vote: Adopted – 5 Yes

Motion made by Councilmember Bassler, seconded by Councilmember Thornton to approve hiring Kim Smith as the Deputy Town Clerk at a pay rate of \$27.00 per hour, effective June 22, 2026 per the recommendation of the Town Clerk.

Vote: Adopted – 5 Yes

Motion made by Councilmember Barr, seconded by Councilmember Thornton to approve hiring Sasha Sittner as a part time Clerk on an as needed basis at a pay rate of \$27.00 per hour, effective July 6, 2026.

Vote: Adopted – 5 Yes

Motion made by Councilmember Thornton, seconded by Supervisor Costello to approve hiring Sasha Sittner as the Special Operations Coordinator/Grant Writer at a pay rate of \$27.00 per hour, effective August 3, 2026.

Vote: Adopted – 5 Yes

Motion made by Supervisor Costello, seconded by Councilmember Ivino to approve the proposed budget amendments, as on file, per the recommendation of the Town Accountant. Discussion: Supervisor Costello clarified that because of additional cost of insurance, Boys & Girls Club, overtime with highway department because of bad winter and computer maintenance we have had to move money around.

Vote: Adopted – 5 Yes

Motion made by Councilmember Ivino, seconded by Supervisor Costello authorizing Highway Superintendent Raymond Mayone to enter into a contract agreement with Greenman-Pedersen, Inc. of 80 Wolf Road, Suite 600, Albany, NY 12205 for Design, Right of Way & Construction Services for the Drummond Falls Road over Kaaterskill Creek Bridge Replacement Project being funded through the Bridge NY Grant Program as per the Scope of Services Agreement dated May 28, 2026.

Discussion: Ray added that this is a good project to do and is definitely necessary. It is also the first phase to get the grant.

Vote: Adopted – 5 Yes

Motion made by Councilmember Bassler, seconded by Supervisor Costello to accept the resignation/retirement of Nicholas Ivino from full time employment at the Highway Department, effective July 4, 2026.

Discussion: Ray Mayone added that Nick is very talented and wish him luck. John Hanzl said that he has helped us out in many ways.

Vote: Adopted – 5 Yes

Motion made by Councilmember Barr, seconded by Councilmember Thornton to move Nicholas Ivino from a full time Motor Equipment Operator position to a part time Seasonal Laborer position, effective July 6, 2026.

Vote: Adopted – 5 Yes

Motion made by Councilmember Thornton, seconded by Councilmember Barr authorizing Highway Superintendent Raymond Mayone to extend the offer of providing training for Highway Department employees to attain their Commercial Driver's License 3 employees not covered in the Teamsters Local 445 contract note. 1 Laborer will get his Class B license and two Motor Equipment Operators will complete the training to move from Class B to Class A allowing them to drive the tractor trailer.

Vote: Adopted – 5 Yes

Motion made by Supervisor Costello, seconded by Councilmember Ivino authorizing Highway Superintendent Raymond Mayone to declare surplus and no longer of use to the Town of Saugerties one 2007 International Dump Truck with plow and sander, VIN #1HTWDAZRX7J460622 and to dispose of it via Auctions International.

Vote: Adopted – 5 Yes

Motion made by Councilmember Ivino, seconded by Supervisor Costello to allow the supervisor to sign a letter of support in regards to implementing electronic school speed zone cameras within the Town of Saugerties.

Vote: Adopted – 5 Yes

Motion made by Councilmember Bassler, seconded by Supervisor Costello to hire Brian Levy as a Permanent full time Police Officer at Step II, with the rate of \$33.76 an hour, effective June 22, 2026.

Vote: Adopted – 5 Yes

Motion made by Councilmember Barr, seconded by Supervisor Costello to hire Jason Stocklas as a part time Police Officer at the rate of \$30.00 an hour, effective July 1, 2026.

Vote: Adopted – 5 Yes

Motion made by Councilmember Thornton, seconded by Councilmember Ivino to hire Adrienne M. Pontecorvo as a permanent part time Dispatcher at the rate of \$27.00 an hour, effective June 22, 2026.

Vote: Adopted – 5 Yes

Motion made by Supervisor Costello, seconded by Councilmember Ivino to hire Thomas Bollenbach as a Water & Sewer Operator Trainee at the rate of \$24.50 an hour, effective June 22, 2026.

Vote: Adopted – 5 Yes

Motion made by Councilmember Ivino, seconded by Councilmember Barr to approve moving the following Building Department employee James Bruno part time Building Inspector 1 to full time Building Inspector 1, effective June 22, 2026.

Vote: Adopted – 5 Yes

Motion made by Councilmember Bassler, seconded by Councilmember Ivino to authorize Supervisor Costello to sign, pending review by Town Attorney, the Grant Agreement for Technical Assistance to grow Pro-Housing Communities, prepared by co-signer Housing Trust Fund Corporation.

Vote: Adopted – 5 Yes

Motion made by Supervisor Costello, seconded by Councilmember Ivino to adjourn Town Board Meeting at 8:55, carried.

Meeting closed in memory of Elena Bonjolo, Gabe DePaola, Lauren Legg, Sue LeBlanc and Vincent Kelder.

NEXT SCHEDULED MEETINGS:

Wednesday, July 15, 2026

Pre-Board Meeting

6:30 p.m.

Town Board Meeting

7:00 p.m.

Town Clerk