

6:30 PM Public Meeting with Javier Barrios on the Community Choice Aggregation Program

**TOWN OF NEW BALTIMORE, COUNTY OF GREENE
REGULAR TOWN BOARD MEETING**

**FEBRUARY 10, 2025
AGENDA**

Please silence cell phones while the meeting is in progress.

Pledge of Allegiance

Public Comment Period

New Business

- Resolution to Authorize the Town Supervisor to Sign a Contract with Willdan Energy
- Resolution to Authorize the Town Supervisor to Enter Into an Agreement for Photocopying/Printing Equipment at Town Hall
- Resolution to Authorize the Town Supervisor to Sign a Contract with Doyle Security

Upcoming Meetings

- February 17, 2025 Town Offices Closed for Presidents' Day
- February 23, 2025 Veterans Committee Luncheon at 12 Noon at Cornell Hook & Ladder Fire Company on Gill Road
- February 24, 2025 Town Board Work Meeting at 7 PM
- March 5, 2025 Zoning Board of Appeals Meeting at 7 PM
- March 10, 2025 Town Board Regular Meeting 7 PM
- March 13, 2025 Planning Board Meeting at 7 PM
- March 24 2024 Town Board Work Meeting at 7 PM

Community Events

Audit of Claims

Adjournment

***** Agenda Subject to Change*****

GUIDELINES FOR PUBLIC CONDUCT DURING TOWN BOARD MEETINGS

1. The Supervisor shall preside at the meetings of the Town Board. In the absence of the Supervisor, the Deputy Supervisor shall be the acting Supervisor. In the event both the Supervisor and the Deputy Supervisor are absent, the other members shall designate one of their members to act as temporary chairman. A majority of the Board shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business, but a lesser number may adjourn.
2. Town residents who wish to speak shall fill out a card at the entrance of the meeting room listing their name, contact information, and the subject matter in which they would like to speak. These cards will be collected prior to the beginning of the Town Board meeting and given to the Town Supervisor or Deputy Supervisor in the absence of the Supervisor.
3. Speakers must be recognized by the presiding officer and then proceed to the lectern and state their name and address. They must limit their remarks on official town business to up to three minutes. They must address their remarks to the Board as a body and not to any member thereof and not to other members of the audience in the form of a debate.
4. Speakers should present their remarks in a courteous manner and may not make disparaging remarks or personal comments about public officials, town residents, or others. All speakers and individuals attending the meeting will observe the commonly accepted rules of courtesy, decorum, dignity, and good taste with no cursing, swearing, clapping, booing, finger pointing, bullying, whispering, or talking that disrupts the proceedings of the business of the Town Board.
5. Any speaker who disregards the directives of the presiding officer in enforcing the rules, disturbs the peace at a meeting, makes impertinent or slanderous remarks, or generally conducts themselves in an inappropriate manner shall be barred from further participation and will forfeit any balance of time remaining for their comments.
6. After a final warning, if a speaker willfully refuses to step down, the Town Supervisor shall contact the appropriate authorities to remove the speaker from the meeting room and to restore order.
7. The Town Supervisor, or in their absence the Deputy Supervisor, shall ensure compliance with these rules.

This policy will be amended by Majority vote of the Town Board.

TOWN OF NEW BALTIMORE **Draft 2/21/2025**
COUNTY OF GREENE **Adopted 2/24/2025**
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Supervisor Ruso opened the meeting at 7:00 PM and the Pledge of Allegiance was said. Also attending Councilmembers Downes, Kash, Sottolano, VanEtten; Deputy Supervisor Dellisanti; Highway Superintendent VanWormer; and 8 members of the public who signed the attendance book. Absent: Town Clerk Finke

TOWN OF NEW BALTIMORE, COUNTY OF GREENE

RESOLUTION 50-2025
FEBRUARY 10, 2025

RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE THE TOWN SUPERVISOR TO SIGN A CONTRACT WITH WILLDAN ENERGY

WHEREAS the Willdan Energy is approved by Central Hudson as a Direct Install Program provider to perform energy audits in their service area, and,

WHEREAS the Town Supervisor reached out to Willdan Energy to perform an energy audit at the Town Hall, Highway Garage, and Wastewater Treatment Plant, and,

WHEREAS the attached proposal for conversion to LED lighting is attached which indicates costs and estimated savings of:

Highway Garage	Upgrade Cost- \$3,927.88 Central Hudson Incentive - \$2,353.17 Cost to the Town - \$1,574.81 Annual Estimated Energy Savings – \$1,121.31
Waste Water Treatment	Upgrade Cost- \$3,103.39 Central Hudson Incentive - \$1,145.11 Cost to the Town - \$1,958.28 Annual Estimated Energy Savings – \$502.77

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED the Town Board of the Town of New Baltimore authorizes the Town Supervisor to sign agreement with Willdan Energy to upgrade the Highway Garage and the Wastewater Treatment Plant.

Motion by Supervisor Ruso seconded by Councilmember VanEtten and Downes

Supervisor Ruso mentioned that Town Hall has already been converted to LED no so action was necessary; items were found at the Highway Garage and Supervisor Ruso thanked Highway Superintendent VanWormer for taking them around the Highway Garage and bringing to the Waste Water Treatment Plant. He felt these measures were consistent with energy measures the Town took in 2023 with installation of LED streetlights in 2024. The Town is already realized savings, energy consumption is projected to be less for 2025. The benefit at the Highway Garage will be realized rather quickly, cost \$1,500 to save \$1,100 in the first year. The Waste Water Treatment Plant will see three and one-half years before a savings is realized.

Councilmember Downes asked if we know why the incentive is so much less at the Waste Water Treatment Plant.

Supervisor Ruso suggested it was with the devices already in place, an amendment could be made to the resolution to accomplish one and not both projects and that one project does not rely on the other.

Councilmember Downes stated that it was four years at the Waste Water Treatment Plant and less than two at the Highway Garage.

Councilmember Sottolano asked how long it would take to make the changes.

Supervisor Ruso answered that the contractor said it would be 30-60 days that he was trying to save money in the future, so it was a future investment.

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Ellie Alfeld questioned if we knew who these people are and if the Supervisor ever heard of them.

Supervisor Ruso confirmed that they never met before and he called Central Hudson and they are authorized by Central Hudson.

Highway Superintendent VanWormer confirmed he was very knowledgeable and knew what he was talking about.

AYES: Ruso, Downes, Kash, Sottolano, VanEtten

NAYS:

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT:

Motion Carried

TOWN OF NEW BALTIMORE, COUNTY OF GREENE

RESOLUTION 51-2025
FEBRUARY 10, 2025

RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE THE TOWN SUPERVISOR TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT FOR PHOTOCOPYING/PRINTING EQUIPMENT AT TOWN HALL

WHEREAS the current lease has expired and a replacement copier/printer and lease is necessary for the continued operation of Town business.

WHEREAS the Procurement Policy adopted by the Town Board on January 1, 2025 requires two quotes for equipment and two were secured.

RESOLVED that the Supervisor is authorized to enter into an Agreement with Repeat Business Systems, the lowest responsible bidder, for monthly service and a five-year lease of equipment.

Motion by Supervisor Ruso and seconded by Councilmember VanEtten.

AYES: Ruso, Downes, Kash, Sottolano, VanEtten

NAYS:

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT:

Motion Carried

TOWN OF NEW BALTIMORE, COUNTY OF GREENE

RESOLUTION 52-2025
FEBRUARY 10, 2025

RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE THE TOWN SUPERVISOR TO SIGN A CONTRACT WITH DOYLE SECURITY

WHEREAS Doyle Security has contracted with the Town of New Baltimore for burglar and fire alarm systems and monitoring for many years, and

WHEREAS the installation of all monitoring devices has been done by Doyle Security,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED the Town Board of the Town of New Baltimore authorizes the Town Supervisor to sign a renewal agreement with Doyle Security to provide the following:

1. Highway Garage. Increase monitoring fee from \$25.88 monthly to \$26.00 monthly
2. Town Hall – Increase monitoring fee from \$25.88 monthly to \$33.00 monthly

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AND, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Town Board of the Town of New Baltimore authorizes the Town Supervisor to sign the agreement with Doyle Security to install a Cell communicator for panel installation at the Waste Water Treatment Plant at a cost of \$495 for initial installation and a monthly fee of \$75.00.

Motion by Supervisor Ruso seconded by Councilmember VanEtten.

Councilmember Sottolano asked about the Cell communicator.

Supervisor Ruso described that when the generator starts and there is an issue at the Plant, the Plant Operator needs to be notified and there is an alarm system that will communicate to the Operator via cell phone that there is an electrical problem at the Waste Water Treatment Plant. In addition, there have been issues in the past and the Operator was not aware, but could be a disaster in the future without this form of notification. That is a new addition, the Town has never had that before.

Councilmember Downes asked about the increase in monitoring at Town Hall over the Highway Garage.

Supervisor Ruso was unsure, but the cost is \$7 a month and the biggest difference is the monitoring system at the Waste Water Treatment Plant.

Deputy Supervisor Dellisanti answered that it depends on the number of areas that have sensors, there are no sensors at the Highway Garage.

Councilmember Downes stated that before there was a flat monthly fee and now it is determined by sensors.

AYES: Ruso, Downes, Kash, Sottolano, VanEtten

NAYS:

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT:

Motion Carried

Supervisor Ruso mentioned the letter dated January 31 from the New York State Department of Transportation regarding his request in March of 2023, two years ago, they have determined that there is no reason to reduce the speed limit. The bulk of the sections are 35 miles per hour from Cedar Lane to the turn at the Church by Route 61 and the request for 30 miles per hour or 25 miles per hour was rejected. Additionally, this decision took two years.

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Supervisor Ruso announced that he had asked the Highway Superintendent to attend the meeting to answer questions and circumstances.

Highway Superintendent VanWormer spoke about the possibility of the Highway snow removal including salt and fuel going over budget due to the recent back-to-back snow and ice storms and the need to juggle numbers later on and take from one account and then the other to cover the costs. They just hauled in 100 tons of salt to be used for a couple or three storms. There is 200 tons of salt on hold for the Town that was not used from 2024 and had 365 tons left in 2024 at Apalachee in Coeymans at the 2024 price.

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Supervisor Ruso brought up the ice storm where there was an accident between a Town Highway snowplow hit the side of a neighboring Town resident's car.

Highway Superintendent VanWormer confirmed that was the accident. He further advised they were in good shape for two or three small storms. Salt prices, gas, diesel fuel have gone up.

Supervisor Ruso described that monies are appropriated to the Highway for whichever account, must be spent on Highway purchases within all those subaccounts whether for equipment, or other things. He suggested sticking with the budget but can be allocated from one account to the other.

Highway Superintendent VanWormer asked about the procedure for coding the vouchers for salt.

Supervisor Ruso advised to keep where the costs actually are and be very careful with the expenditure of salt and the number of private individuals who take salt from the Garage,

Highway Superintendent VanWormer mentioned someone who took half a 55 gallon barrel, said he wanted sand, but actually took salt. He put lumpy sand outside so if a resident wants sand for their driveway, that is where they can get it.

Supervisor Ruso and Deputy Supervisor Dellisanti suggested we need to be vigilant going forward. It was mentioned a 55 gallon container plus 3 five gallons, 60 pounds per bucket, equivalent of 14 buckets, the equivalent of \$35 and was concerned about the availability.

Councilmember Downes asked how long the 200 tons would be accessible to the Town even if the Town waits until the fall to pick it up.

Highway Superintendent VanWormer confirmed until we need it, that is the Town's salt, and the cost is \$60.79 per ton. He spoke about the Buy American Salt Act, we had to buy our salt through American Rock Salt, only one who mines American salt, could have purchased cheaper through Aalachee, but it is not mined in the United States, to get through State contract.

Supervisor Ruso suggested that although he agrees with State contracts, they do their due diligence, but the Town is not restrictive to State contracts and can ask for bidding on their own with the various companies that exist regardless of where the salt comes from.

Highway Superintendent VanWormer indicated the salt that is coming out of Coeymans is perfect and he had to send two loads back due to the lumps that they couldn't use it. They came, picked it up, and brought two loads because of the poor quality.

Deputy Supervisor Dellisanti questioned the cost of the salt at \$18,000 and overtime regarding snow removal.

Highway Superintendent VanWormer stated that it was just under that amount for 200 tons.

Supervisor Ruso stated the financials were not yet up to date. He described the accident that was in the Town of Coeymans where the road was icy and one of our drivers stopped to help out a motorist.

Highway Superintendent VanWormer explained that one of our Highway employees got out of the truck, went over to make sure he was okay, said he was fine, got back in the truck and instead of going forward he slid sideways.

Supervisor Ruso was worried about salting in the Town of Coeymans and would rather go New Baltimore first, he's not a fan of plowing other roads unless there is an emergency in Town.

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Highway Superintendent VanWormer stated that Shady Lane turns into Ringwald Road which intersects with Alcove Road, the Highway employee has to drive that section of road to Alcove Road.

Supervisor Ruso asked if they do something for our Town.

Highway Superintendent VanWormer pointed out they do Acquetuck Road now from 143 to Acquetuck intersection, they turn left to 143.

Supervisor Ruso agreed that the Town has intermunicipal agreements but he didn't know the situation. If someone is in need of half a bucket of salt or sand, again a pickup truck load is a different story.

Highway Superintendent VanWormer would like to get quotes for new energy efficient garage doors to save heating costs.

Councilmember VanEtten asked if the Highway Superintendent knew the costs.

Supervisor Ruso added that he had worked at places that had those types of doors and as soon as they are opened, the heat is gone, especially with three doors.

TOWN OF NEW BALTIMORE, COUNTY OF GREENE

RESOLUTION 53-2025

FEBRUARY 10, 2025

RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE SUPERVISOR TO PAY AUDITED CLAIMS

WHEREAS the Town Clerk has presented claims to the Town Board for audit and review, and

WHEREAS the Town Board has audited claims 2025-02-01 to 2025-02-36, it is

RESOLVED that the Supervisor is hereby authorized to pay claims 2025-02-01 to 2025-02-36.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Town Clerk will prepare an abstract and hold it for public review until March 31, 2025.

Motion by Supervisor Ruso seconded by Councilmember VanEtten

AYES: Ruso, Downes, Kash, Sottolano, VanEtten

NAYS:

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT:

Motion Carried

General: \$313,348.17, Highway \$23,999.99, Sewer 1 \$2,254.04, Sewer 2 \$533.68, Total \$340,135.88.

Supervisor Ruso stated he held back one voucher that has been signed by all members of the Board relating the bidding out of the Town's insurance. The new policy expires the first week in March and there is no final decision which insurance company it will be with because it is being bid out.

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Adjournment

Motion by Councilmember Downes seconded by Councilmember VanEtten, the meeting was adjourned at 7:30 PM

AYES: Ruso, Downes, Kash, Sottolano, VanEtten

NAYS:

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT:

Motion Carried

Respectfully Submitted,

Barbara M. Finke RMC CTO
Town Clerk