

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

**OCTOBER 15, 2025  
AGENDA**

*Please turn off all cell phones and electronic devices.*

**Pledge of Allegiance**

**Approval of Minutes**

- September 22, 2025 Town Board Work Meeting

**Public Comment Period**

**New Business**

- 2026 Budget Presentation
- Resolution to Set Public Hearing for 2026 Preliminary Budget
- Discussion of Creation of a Water District
- Resolution Authorizing the Town Supervisor to Sign an Agreement with Delaware Engineering and Bellamy Construction for Installation of Water Line for Water District #2
- Agricultural District No. 123 Annual Review
- Resolution in Support of Congressman Nick Langworthy's Energy Choice Act (H.R. 3699) and in Opposition to Government-Mandated Natural Gas Bans
- Resolution to Approve Training for the Dog Control Officer
- Resolution to Update the Complaint Form
- Resolution to Approve Router & Core Switch Replacement at Town Hall
- Resolution to Advertise for the Position of Cemetery Sexton
- Hamlet Leaf Pickup Monday Mornings from October 20-November 24, Bagged Leaves Curbside by 7AM, Bagged or Loose Leaves can be Brought to the Highway Garage from Monday-Thursday 6AM-3:30 PM and Fridays 6-10 AM.
- No Parking on Town Roads, Streets, or Shoulders from November 15, 2025 until May 15, 2025

**Upcoming Meetings**

- October 27, 2025 Public Hearing on the 2026 Preliminary Budget
- October 27, 2025 Town Board Work Meeting at 7 PM
- October 29, 2025 Public Information Meeting for Water District 2 with Mary Beth Bianconi from Delaware Engineering at 6 PM
- November 5, 2025 Zoning Board of Appeals Meeting at 7 PM (If Needed)
- November 10, 2025 Town Board Regular Meeting at 7 PM
- November 13, 2025 Planning Board Meeting at 7:30 PM
- November 24, 2025 Town Board Work Meeting at 7 PM
- November 27, 2025 Happy Thanksgiving, Town Offices Closed

**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 entrances 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 and may not yield any remaining time to another speaker. 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 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 11/5/2025**  
**COUNTY OF GREENE**                              **Adopted 11//2025**  
**TOWN BOARD REGULAR MEETING**  
**TOWN HALL, 3809 COUNTY ROUTE 51, HANNACROIX, NY 12087**  
**OCTOBER 15, 2025 – Page 1**

**OPENING OF REGULAR MEETING**

Supervisor Ruso opened the meeting at 7:00 PM and the Pledge of Allegiance was said. Also attending Councilmembers Downes, Kash, Sottolano, and VanEtten; Michelle Storm, Esq.; Deputy Supervisor Dellisanti; Town Clerk Finke; Deputy Highway Superintendent VanWormer; and 16 members of the public who signed the attendance book.

**ADOPTION OF MINUTES**

The September 22, 2025 Town Board Regular Meeting submitted by Town Clerk Finke Moved by Supervisor Ruso and was seconded by Councilmember Sottolano. The adoption of the foregoing Motion was duly to a vote and the vote was as follows:

AYES: Ruso, Downes, Kash, Sottolano, VanEtten

NAYS:

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT:

**Motion Carried**

**Public Comment**

**Kathy Donovan**, Owner/Operator of Shady Harbor Marina and Boathouse Grille, requests the Town Board's support in pursuing the creation of a water district for the hamlet and surrounding areas, has reached out to property owners in and around the proposed water district to gauge support and opposition to a public water source and fire code service provided through a water main extension from the Village of Ravenna, received support from 50 property owners indicated on a map, proposed district lines were provided to their Engineer by Delaware Engineering, it has been 20 years since last contemplated and lost by only 1 or 2 votes. After receiving positive feedback from residents, she has requested that the Town begin the formal exploration of a water district and submitted to the Supervisor a map and other information from Delaware Engineering.

**2026 Budget Presentation**

Town Clerk Finke provided copies of the 2026 Budget to the Town Board.

**Supervisor Ruso** announced that total expenditures for the General Fund are \$1,903,762 with a difference of \$0.08 per thousand assessment. With a residence assessed for \$200,000, there will be a \$16 reduction in taxes, -\$0.082000. He explained how the budget is broken down by page with various separate categories and expenses, the first page is "Revenue" and revenue has to match expenses, and pages 2-5 are the expenses in every department. There are no major changes, the development of the budget is based upon experience and what revenue and costs are through certain dates this year as well as historical costs. Some columns speak to actual and what is anticipated, although nothing is finalized until the end of the year. There is a 2.5% increase in staff salaries built into this budget. There is much information that comes in, some tomorrow, and these numbers may need slight amendments. The Hospital and Medical Insurance quotes, they are slightly different and not as bad as in some prior years, were just received and will be on the next agenda. In the Highway Fund, the budget is \$1,006,445 for 2026 which includes an interfund transfer of \$40,000 from the General Fund. Highway expenses include Road Maintenance Personnel Services at \$320,000, last year's budget was \$312,000. This is built in with current staffing, divided by 1.025%, and there are Contractual Expenses, CHIPS, Machinery Contractual Expenses at \$75,000, Snow Removal \$25,000 which is overtime expenses, the other line above is for routine cost. The amount budgeted, as has been for the past number of years, is \$25,000, \$21,872 has been spent to date, and there is no idea what snow will be like between now and January 1. Snow Removal Contractual Expenses include salt, sand and fuel during the winter months, the Town uses a winter mix. Of the \$80,000 that was budgeted last year, we have already spent \$75,000 which is why it was bumped up another \$5,000 to \$85,000 in 2026. In 2025 it was \$75,000, in 2024 \$63,000 was spent, the year before \$80,476. It is difficult to budget due to the uncertainty of the weather. State Retirement, Social Security, Workers Comp. are automatic. The Sewer Plant Operations expenses are anticipated to be \$204,000, there are two sewer districts -- the major one in the hamlet and a very small one serves

**TOWN OF NEW BALTIMORE**                      **Draft 11/5/2025**  
**COUNTY OF GREENE**                              **Adopted 11//2025**  
**TOWN BOARD REGULAR MEETING**  
**TOWN HALL, 3809 COUNTY ROUTE 51, HANNACROIX, NY 12087**  
**OCTOBER 15, 2025 – Page 2**

just the Serta factory. There are three water districts. The first is on Route 9W with the supply coming from the Village of Ravena down to Kerslake's Motel, they bill directly with some General Fund charges, that's why the cost is only \$625. The cost of District 2 is \$47,190, that's with 40 parcels in the Scheller Park area. District 3 is also by Serta and has a couple homes and businesses, Coxsackie Antique Center, and an auto repair business over by IDA parcels. There is a reduction in the Lighting fund due to the upgrade about 1½ years ago. In 2024 the actual cost was \$26,778 and this year through September, the expenses were \$14,000. In 2024 the budget was \$31,000; now at \$25,000. It has now begun to pay off with savings to the residents in the district. The Ambulance Fund. District 1, served by Ravena Rescue Squad, is \$55,922. District 2, served by the Coxsackie Ambulance, is \$42,754. District 1 is the only district that gives the Town an insurance reimbursement. Ravena Rescue does bill for insurance, however, they share the income with the Town. There is a rough estimate of \$8,500 reduced from \$9,200. This is a formula of past expenses, known and things in the future. In 2023, the reimbursement was \$13,740, the next year the budget was increased to \$9,000, but the actual income was \$8,400. It was brought up to \$4,776 and there is a check coming at the end of the year. The budget this year is down to \$8,500 unsure of knowing where it will land. There are other income and expenses similar to that, some years higher, some lower, and it's trying to find the right place in between. There is an income line item in the first page called Mortgage Tax, A3005 and this year was budgeted \$80,000. It comes in two checks, we budgeted \$80,000 for 2025, first check came in at \$39,187, it's close and we have no idea what the next check will be when it comes in November. Unfortunately, we have to put forth a budget right now not knowing the trends, and continued with \$80,000. Other things that have changed greatly are the PILOT and Serta. Serta has challenged their assessment, they were successful, and the PILOT received in the past was \$29,000 and this year we are expecting an income of \$14,000. Fines and Forfeited Bail – we're not going to make \$80,000, \$37,000 has been received as of now, last year it was \$83,000. There are many unknowns putting together a budget, some is an educated guess. Supervisor Ruso asked Board Members for their thoughts or questions and thanked Councilperson Downes and Deputy Supervisor Dellisanti for assisting with the Budget. He reminded everyone that there are three budgets -- Tentative, Preliminary and Final. The next step is to set a Public Hearing on the Preliminary Budget.

**Councilmember Sottolano** wondered about the changes with the Greene County Ambulance and how that will affect the budget.

**Supervisor Ruso** doesn't see any changes until 2027, even that is uncertain, and it has been debated for awhile. He noted that it will change many things and doesn't know what share the County will take on. There has been discussions they will take on the whole thing and there won't be any ambulance charges.

**Ellie Alfred** asked the time for the Preliminary budget meeting.

**TOWN OF NEW BALTIMORE, COUNTY OF GREENE**

**RESOLUTION 129-2025**  
**OCTOBER 15, 2025**

**RESOLUTION TO SET PUBLIC HEARING FOR**  
**2026 PRELIMINARY BUDGET**

*WHEREAS* the Town Board has established the 2026 Preliminary Budget and the Town Law of the State of New York requires a Public Hearing be held regarding the Preliminary Budget.

*NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED* that the Town Board of the Town of New Baltimore will hold a Public Hearing on October 27, 2025 at 6:30 PM at the Town Hall, 3809

**TOWN OF NEW BALTIMORE**                      **Draft 11/5/2025**  
**COUNTY OF GREENE**                              **Adopted 11//2025**  
**TOWN BOARD REGULAR MEETING**  
**TOWN HALL, 3809 COUNTY ROUTE 51, HANNACROIX, NY 12087**  
**OCTOBER 15, 2025 – Page 3**

County Route 51, Hannacroix, NY 12087 to hear those members of the public who wish to be heard regarding the 2026 Preliminary Budget.

**TOWN OF NEW BALTIMORE**  
**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**

The Town Board of the Town of New Baltimore will hold a Public Hearing on October 27, 2025 at 6:30 PM at the Town Hall, 3809 County Route 51, Hannacroix, NY 12087 to hear those members of the public who wish to be heard regarding the 2026 Preliminary Budget.

A copy of the proposed budget is available for public inspection in the Town Clerk's Office at the Town Hall, 3809 County Route 51, Hannacroix, NY 12087.

Proposed Salary Figures of Elected Officials are as Follows:

Town Council (4)	\$ 5,546.00
Town Justices (2)	\$13,310.00
Town Supervisor	\$13,310.00
Town Clerk	\$44,367.00
Superintendent of Highways	\$63,224.00

**By Order of the Town Board**

**Barbara M. Finke**  
**Town Clerk**

Motion by Supervisor Ruso seconded by Councilmember VanEtten

AYES: Ruso, Downes, Kash, Sottolano, VanEtten

NAYS:

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT:

**Motion Carried**

**Councilmember Kash** asked if the Preliminary Budget would be posted on the website.

**Town Clerk Finke** answered that it would.

**Supervisor Ruso** announced that late yesterday he received a petition from residents of the Town of New Baltimore regarding the Proposed New York Complete Streets Project. While it was identified as being sent to Jeff Ruso, Kelly Downes, Shelly VanEtten, Janet Kash, Debra Sottolano, and cc'd to Nick, he found out that he was the only one that received it. He will make sure everyone gets a copy. It is in opposition to the Complete Streets Project, 174 Town residents' signatures, has not been thoroughly reviewed, this represents the receipt of two petitions in opposition to each other, and read 'On behalf of the residents of the Town of New Baltimore, we would like to submit to the Town Board the Attached petition(s) residents have signed clearly stating their opposition to the above referenced project.' He spoke briefly with the Town Attorney, there's difficulty in having two groups of residents in opposition to each other, agreed that they both have validity, wants to hear both sides, would be more comfortable in following the will of the people in the Town of New Baltimore, and asked the Town Attorney if there a way that this can go to a referendum.

**Michelle Storm, Esq.** confirmed that that was a question he posed to her before the start of the meeting and she will look into it to see if that is the best approach.

**Supervisor Ruso** believed that to get a clear reflection of what the residents want, he thinks it would be a fair way to do that, he doesn't want to pick from one side or the other, whatever people want to do he would prefer to know. The petition that was submitted a year-and-a-half

**TOWN OF NEW BALTIMORE**                      **Draft 11/5/2025**  
**COUNTY OF GREENE**                              **Adopted 11//2025**  
**TOWN BOARD REGULAR MEETING**  
**TOWN HALL, 3809 COUNTY ROUTE 51, HANNACROIX, NY 12087**  
**OCTOBER 15, 2025 – Page 4**

ago isn't completely the same, they are not apples-to-apples, not all the information is 100% valid, on the other hand the original petition did not have all the information available when residents signed it. He asked the Town Attorney when there could be a referendum and would the Town have to wait until the next Townwide election.

**Michelle Storm, Esq.** answered not necessarily, but considering the next Town election is so soon, it's not likely.

**Supervisor Ruso** agreed that it's just not possible in time for this election, that he just received it yesterday.

**Councilmember Sottolano** mentioned that significant changes have been made since the last public meeting, the Town heard from the residents, they brought a lot of that back and made changes, and she thought that before a referendum, the Board would want to present what those changes are so people can digest them and see what they think.

**Councilmember Kash** thought that some clarification was needed, the Supervisor said there were two petitions, one with 174 signatures, and questioned what the other petition was for.

**Supervisor Ruso** answered the one that was received a year-and-a-half ago, in 2023.

**Councilmember Kash** noted that was the one in favor, this is in opposition.

**Supervisor Ruso** indicated that was on behalf of the Complete Streets project and this new one is in opposition to the project and are not exactly matching in their composition but is in contrast.

**Councilmember Kash** didn't see how they could match.

**Supervisor Ruso** pointed out that what was presented has been a genesis of that other petition back in 2023, that information did not exist back then as we have now. The last thing he wants to do is have neighbor against neighbor, the Board will need a simple referendum or some expression of the will of what the residents want. That will make him more comfortable.

Audience member indicated that in 2023 this proposal did not exist.

**Supervisor Ruso** agreed that what was presented was the genesis of that original petition in 2023 and the information did not exist as it exists now, doesn't want to have neighbor against neighbor, just a simple referendum or some expression of the will of the people would make him more comfortable.

**Councilmember Downes** thought that until the Attorney has the information together, she believes the Board should wait until everything is set and then look at the old, the new, and what the options are.

**Supervisor Ruso** mentioned that he was in yesterday morning and stopped back to drop off some paperwork and this petition was just in late yesterday.

**Councilmember Kash** questioned if they are petitioning against a project that is in no way complete to begin with, there is more that still needs to be done on the first proposals, and Councilmember Sottolano knows the most about it, and more public information is coming.

**Michelle Storm, Esq.** replied that it begs the question of where you are in the process and what's to come and if there's a resolution to come that might be subject to permissive referendum that might be the more appropriate time to receive petitions and go from there when there's actually a clear project.

**TOWN OF NEW BALTIMORE**                      **Draft 11/5/2025**  
**COUNTY OF GREENE**                              **Adopted 11//2025**  
**TOWN BOARD REGULAR MEETING**  
**TOWN HALL, 3809 COUNTY ROUTE 51, HANNACROIX, NY 12087**  
**OCTOBER 15, 2025 – Page 5**

**Supervisor Ruso** pointed out that this petition needs to be acknowledged, 174 residents, he didn't want to be dismissive of it and thinks it needs to be brought forward, and read 'On behalf of residents of the Town of New Baltimore, we would like to submit to the Town Board the Attached petition(s) residents have signed clearly stating their opposition to the above referenced project. Until such time that the public is advised by the Town Board that this proposal is no longer being considered, information will continue to be distributed to ensure residents are made aware of this proposal. All community members when approached to sign the petition advised that they were UNAWARE of this proposal (those who signed as well as those who did not sign petitions). Many of the residents in the Hamlet that signed the original petitions(s) to request action be taken to slow increased traffic passing through the Hamlet advised that they were not informed of this proposal and that it certainly did not address nor resolve their original concerns. Residents questioned how this proposal reached the current phase of development without the community being informed. This proposal is not fiscally viable nor does it address any reasonable issue/need. But most importantly, residents DONOT SUPPORT THE UNWISE, MISUSE OF TAX DOLLARS—NO MATTER SOURCE OF FUNDING AND ALL CERTAINLY AGREE IT IS NOT THE TOWN OF NEW BALTIMORE'S RESPONSIBILITY TO PAY FOR THIS PROJECT. Based on presentations made by Town Board Member Sottolano and the DOT Consultants it is clear that this proposal appears to have support from a select few; this proposal DOES NOT represent NOR HAS THE SUPPORT OF the members of this community, including those in the Hamlet. Attached are petitions signed by 174+/- members of this community. We would like to request that the Town Board advise community members through several public forums (Board Meetings, internet, newspaper) of the current status of this project within the next 30 days to eliminate any further misinformation or lack of information. If this project is to be pursued, there is no doubt that residents will continue to join together to prevent further development.' Supervisor noted that there have been public hearings, a couple in the meeting room, one at the Fire House, many conversations at the Town Board meetings, he knew that Councilmember Sottolano tried to get the message out, there is a website dedicated to the MJ Engineering project, not the Town of New Baltimore website. He is aware that there has been much efforts to get the information out.

**Town Clerk Finke** added it was in newsletters.

**Supervisor Ruso** observed that the Board has used the mail, the internet, public meetings and other means, the OWL on YouTube. Signatures will be checked to make sure they are residents, but one or two non-residents won't make a big difference.

**Discussion of Creation of a Water District**

**Supervisor Ruso** indicated that he had correspondence from Mr. Michael Bisone in relation to the Shady Harbor project. Supervisor Ruso read 'Mrs. Donovan has now dropped off her check to the Village Office for reimbursement of my fees incurred to date. She is however still refusing to sign any Indemnification Agreement and has advised the Village that she has an alternate method to pursue her request for water to the Marina. Please advise the Town of New Baltimore Town Board that the Village does not intend to proceed on this request in any manner unless and until an Indemnification Agreement is signed by the appropriate parties. As such, no further action will be taken on this file. Please feel free to distribute this correspondence to the Town Board for the October 15, 2025 meeting.'

**Supervisor Ruso** pointed out that last week after seeing a Facebook post he was advised of that other people had asked about creating a Water District in Town and he come up with a draft copy of a statement from the Office of the Supervisor, gave to Delaware Engineering to make sure it was sound, gave it to our Attorney who responded yesterday. The letter will be posted on the Town's web page and this was put together earlier today with the final comments from our Attorney yesterday. He read 'Creating a Water District in the Town A series of formal steps are required for the creation of a water district in a Town in New York State. They are: 1) Residents of a new special district (i.e., water) are the ONLY residents who pay the debt for the new district. 2) The creation of a water district can be done in two different ways: a. The first is

**TOWN OF NEW BALTIMORE**                      **Draft 11/5/2025**  
**COUNTY OF GREENE**                              **Adopted 11//2025**  
**TOWN BOARD REGULAR MEETING**  
**TOWN HALL, 3809 COUNTY ROUTE 51, HANNACROIX, NY 12087**  
**OCTOBER 15, 2025 – Page 6**

by **resident request** and serves only those residents in the specified geographic area. A formal petition of those residents should be provided to the Town Board for their review and approval. Given the scope and costs of the proposed project, this petition should be legally sound and be able to withstand review. If this proceeds with a petition being prepared and presented, the petitioners are responsible for the expense of any study. b. The Town Board could act on the creation of a Water District without the submission of a petition. If the board proceeds without a petition, the Town General Fund would pay for the study, however those costs are subject to potential permissive referendum. 3) A study will need to be initiated with the hiring of an engineer and the agreement with the Village of Ravena. 4) During the study phase, all NYS standards MUST be satisfied. The establishment of the water district may require the approval of the State Comptroller, particularly if the new district would require significant financial obligations. 5) As of this date, there has been no petition presented to the Town Board expressing interest in the creation of a Water District.’

**Councilmember Sottolano** questioned if the permissive referendum was Townwide or to the district?

**Supervisor Ruso** answered that if it’s Townwide funds, it’s for Townwide.

**Councilmember VanEtten** suggested that the Village of Ravena doesn’t seem to be interested.

**Supervisor Ruso** added they suggested in their letter an appropriate party to sign so the Town of New Baltimore, whether the district is made beforehand or after the fact, would be that party satisfying what was identified in Mr. Biscone’s letter. He believes that it is a very important point that it needs to be legally sound because all it takes is one person in the district to file a suit and it will stop all measures from moving forward and he’d like to cut that off before it gets to such a point. He found things in the NYS Code, what other people were doing, and then passed to the other parties.

**TOWN OF NEW BALTIMORE, COUNTY OF GREENE**

**RESOLUTION 130-2025**  
**OCTOBER 15, 2025**

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE TOWN SUPERVISOR TO SIGN AN AGREEMENT WITH DELAWARE ENGINEERING AND BELLAMY CONTRUCTION FOR INSTALLATION OF WATER LINE FOR WATER DISTRICT #2**

*WHEREAS* Delaware Engineering and Bellamy Construction have submitted to the Town their revised cost estimates for replacing the water main on the east side of Route 9W, and

*WHEREAS* the updated cost estimate for the entire project is \$334,554.92

*RESOLVED* that the Town Board authorizes the Town Supervisor to sign the agreement with Delaware Engineering and Bellamy Construction.

Motion by Supervisor Ruso seconded by Councilmember Downes

**Councilmember Kash** heard that this is \$35,000 more than the original proposal which would have required the cooperation of Mr. Slater and Diederich’s to go through their property and she was told that would have been \$10,000 dollars plus the cost of a fire hydrant and wondered if that was true.

**Supervisor Ruso** responded that the dollar figures were not, the original rate was \$370,000 and he was able to reduce some of the cost by elimination of those fire hydrants.

**TOWN OF NEW BALTIMORE**                      **Draft 11/5/2025**  
**COUNTY OF GREENE**                              **Adopted 11//2025**  
**TOWN BOARD REGULAR MEETING**  
**TOWN HALL, 3809 COUNTY ROUTE 51, HANNACROIX, NY 12087**  
**OCTOBER 15, 2025 – Page 7**

**Councilmember Kash** stated that her concern is that as Chair of the Water District Committee she didn't think she was getting the information she wanted when she asked for it, agreed that the Board should move forward with this so the people in Scheller Park can get this project completed, but suggested that in the future as Chair of the Water District Committee she should get more notice of the negotiations and discussions prior to having to vote on it at a Board meeting.

**Supervisor Ruso** pointed out that she could see on the document it is dated 10/14/25. He didn't have advance notice, it was sent to him this morning, Bellamy signed on 10/15/25.

**Councilmember Kash** mentioned that she also got something from him awhile ago.

**Supervisor Ruso** reiterated that he didn't have this awhile ago, it was sent this morning and it wasn't signed until 10-15-25.

**Councilmember Kash** understood but she asked questions about it a couple weeks ago and didn't hear back, she doesn't object to this at all, and wished she had more information ahead of time.

**Supervisor Ruso** indicated that he wished he had information to pass off before today, but didn't get anything until today.

AYES: Ruso, Downes, Kash, Sottolano, VanEtten

NAYS:

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT:

**Motion Carried**

**Agriculture District 124 Annual Review**

'NOTICE OF A 30-DAY PERIOD FOR PUBLIC REQUEST FOR INCLUSION IN AGRICULTURAL DISTRICT NO. 124 PLEASE TAKE NOTICE, that Agricultural District No. 124 encompassing 841 Parcels and 42,242.64 acres within the County of Greene, in the Towns of Ashland, Athens, Cairo, Catskill, Coxsackie, Durham, Halcott, Hunter, Greenville, Jewett, New Baltimore, Prattsville, Lexington, Windham and the Villages of Athens, Catskill, Coxsackie, Hunter, and Tannersville (entire County of Greene), was established pursuant to Article 25-AA of the Agriculture and Markets Law. PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE, that under Section 303 of the Agriculture and Markets Law, the County is required to allow landowners an opportunity to submit a request for inclusion of land which is predominantly viable agricultural land within a certified agricultural district prior to the county established eight-year review period. PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE, that the County will conduct a thirty-day request for inclusion period which will begin November 1, 2025 and end on November 30, 2025. PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE, that during this 30-day period, any municipality whose territory encompassed the above Agricultural District, any State Agency or any landowner within or adjacent to the district may propose an addition to the district. PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE, that any proposed addition must be filed with Greene County Economic Development, Tourism & Planning, 411 Main Street, Suite 419, Catskill, N.Y. 12414 within the thirty (30) days specified. PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE, that a fillable PDF of the 'Request for Inclusion' form can be accessed at <https://greenecountyny.gov/departments/planning/agriculture/district124/> PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE, that a paper copy of the 'Request for Inclusion' form can be obtained from Greene County Economic Development, Tourism & Planning (518)719-3290. PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE, that at the termination of the thirty (30) day period, the proposed additions will be submitted to the Greene County Agricultural and Farmland Protection Board and that thereafter a public hearing will be held on the District, proposed additions, and recommendations of said board.'

**TOWN OF NEW BALTIMORE**                      **Draft 11/5/2025**  
**COUNTY OF GREENE**                              **Adopted 11//2025**  
**TOWN BOARD REGULAR MEETING**  
**TOWN HALL, 3809 COUNTY ROUTE 51, HANNACROIX, NY 12087**  
**OCTOBER 15, 2025 – Page 8**

**TOWN OF NEW BALTIMORE, COUNTY OF GREENE**

**RESOLUTION 131-2025**  
**OCTOBER 15, 2025**

**RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF CONGRESSMAN NICK LANGWORTHY’S ENERGY CHOICE ACT (H.R. 3699, S. 1945) AND IN OPPOSITION TO GOVERNMENT-MANDATED NATURAL GAS BANS**

WHEREAS, affordable and reliable energy is essential to the health, safety, and economic prosperity of New York families, businesses, and communities; and

WHEREAS, natural gas remains a dependable, cost-effective, and clean-burning energy source used by millions of New Yorkers to heat their homes, cook their food, and power their businesses; and

WHEREAS, in 2019, New York State enacted the **Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act (CLCPA)**, which mandates aggressive emissions reductions and serves as the foundation for sweeping energy restrictions, including efforts to phase out natural gas; and

WHEREAS, building on the CLCPA, Governor Kathy Hochul and the New York State Legislature in 2023 enacted provisions in the state budget banning natural gas and other fossil fuel hookups in most new residential and commercial buildings, effective 2026 for smaller buildings, and 2029 for larger buildings, thereby eliminating consumer choice and limiting access to affordable energy; and

WHEREAS, Governor Hochul has publicly supported these bans and related measures as part of her administration’s climate and energy agenda, despite widespread concerns that such mandates will increase costs, strain grid reliability, and restrict energy diversity; and

WHEREAS, these top-down policies undermine affordability, threaten reliability during peak demand, and strip away the freedom of consumers and businesses to choose the energy sources that best meet their needs; and

WHEREAS, Congressman Nick Langworthy of New York and Senator Jim Justice of West Virginia introduced the **Energy Choice Act (H.R. 3699, S. 1945)**, federal legislation that ensures state and local governments cannot restrict consumer access to natural gas and other affordable energy sources, thereby protecting freedom of choice for New Yorkers and all Americans; and

WHEREAS, the Energy Choice Act would safeguard households, small businesses, hospitals, farmers, and manufacturers from harmful government overreach and preserve access to an “all-of-the-above” energy strategy that strengthens reliability and affordability;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of New Baltimore strongly supports the Energy Choice Act as introduced by Congressman Langworthy (H.R. 3699) and Senator Justice (S. 1945) and stands firmly opposed to New York State’s natural gas bans, the CLCPA-driven restrictions, and other state energy mandates that eliminate consumer choice; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of New Baltimore urges Congress to pass the Energy Choice Act to defend consumer choice, protect energy affordability, and preserve reliable access to natural gas for New Yorkers; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that copies of this resolution be transmitted to Congressman Nick Langworthy.

**TOWN OF NEW BALTIMORE**                      **Draft 11/5/2025**  
**COUNTY OF GREENE**                              **Adopted 11//2025**  
**TOWN BOARD REGULAR MEETING**  
**TOWN HALL, 3809 COUNTY ROUTE 51, HANNACROIX, NY 12087**  
**OCTOBER 15, 2025 – Page 9**

Motion by Supervisor Ruso seconded by Councilmember Downes and VanEtten

**Supervisor Ruso** explained for those who are unaware, as of the first of the year, residents with new construction cannot have an oil burning, propane fueled heat source, or gas stove. The Town doesn't have natural gas.

AYES: Ruso, Downes, Sottolano, VanEtten

NAYS:

**Councilmember Kash** noted that she would like to Abstain from the vote, she likes her gas stove and would have to give it up, but as an elected Councilmember in New Baltimore she is not an expert on state or national energy policy and is not going to take a position on a piece of legislation that she hasn't seen and doesn't understand that is being proposed by someone from Niagara Falls and West Virginia. She doesn't know if this is a good or a bad idea, but here in New Baltimore she is not an expert on state and national energy policy, and will Abstain.

ABSTAIN: Kash

ABSENT:

**Motion Carried**

**TOWN OF NEW BALTIMORE, COUNTY OF GREENE**

**RESOLUTION 132-2025**  
**OCTOBER 15, 2025**

**RESOLUTION TO APPROVE TRAINING FOR THE DOG CONTROL OFFICER**

**WHEREAS** the Town of Guilderland is holding the 13<sup>th</sup> Annual Dog Control Officer/Animal Control Officer Conference from Wednesday, November 12 to Thursday, November 13

**RESOLVED** Sherry Vieta is authorized to attend at a cost of \$125 registration split between the Town of Athens, Town and Village of Coxsackie, and the Town of New Baltimore at \$31.25 each.

Motion by Supervisor Ruso seconded by Councilmember Downes and Kash

**Councilmember Kash** pointed out that this will be a great opportunity for Sherry because she is going to learn more about changes that have been made to the Agriculture and Markets Laws in terms of dog control, she will get a better understanding of the dangerous dog laws as there have been a number of incidents in New Baltimore where dangerous dogs have been an issue, and it will be valuable to her to get this information.

AYES: Ruso, Downes, Kash, Sottolano, VanEtten

NAYS:

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT:

**Motion Carried**

**TOWN OF NEW BALTIMORE, COUNTY OF GREENE**

**RESOLUTION 133-2025**  
**OCTOBER 15, 2025**

**RESOLUTION TO UPDATE COMPLAINT FORM**

**TOWN OF NEW BALTIMORE**                      **Draft 11/5/2025**  
**COUNTY OF GREENE**                                      **Adopted 11//2025**  
**TOWN BOARD REGULAR MEETING**  
**TOWN HALL, 3809 COUNTY ROUTE 51, HANNACROIX, NY 12087**  
**OCTOBER 15, 2025 – Page 10**

**WHEREAS** the Town of New Baltimore adopted a Complaint Policy and Complaint form by Resolution 163-2015 on November 23, 2015.

**WHEREAS** the Building Department requested an updated form to include contact information including telephone number, email, and parcel identification.

**RESOLVED** the Town Board of the Town of New Baltimore approves the changes to the Complaint Form.

Motion by Supervisor Ruso seconded by Councilmember Downes and VanEtten


AYES: Ruso, Downes, Kash, Sottolano, VanEtten

NAYS:

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT:

**Motion Carried**



**TOWN OF NEW BALTIMORE**  
County of Greene  
3809 County Rte. 51  
Hannacroix, N.Y. 12087  
Telephone: (518) 756-6671  
TDD/TTY: (800) 662-1220  
Fax: (518) 756-8880  
Web: www.townofnewbaltimore.org  
Email: hpzclerk@townofnewbaltimore.org

**COMPLAINT FORM**  
(Please Complete this form in its Entirety)

Case # \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Parcel # \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_ Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

Location of Complaint \_\_\_\_\_ Parcel # \_\_\_\_\_

Property Owner of Complaint \_\_\_\_\_

Description of Complaint (Be Specific) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Complainant \_\_\_\_\_

Office Use Only		
Complaint Received By: _____	Date _____	Via: _____
Complaint Forwarded To: _____	Date _____	Via: _____
Investigation Finding: _____		
_____		
Remedy Required: _____		
_____		
_____		

The Town of New Baltimore is an equal opportunity provider and employer. Discrimination is prohibited by Federal Law. Complaints of discrimination may be filed with USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20250-9410, or call (800) 795-3272 (voice) or (202) 720-6832 (TDD)

**TOWN OF NEW BALTIMORE, COUNTY OF GREENE**

**RESOLUTION 134-2025**  
**OCTOBER 15, 2025**

**RESOLUTION TO APPROVE ROUTER & CORE SWITCH  
REPLACEMENT AT TOWN HALL**

**WHEREAS** it has been recommended that the Core Router & Switch which been in production since December 19, 2019 is nearing the end of life as of December 31, 2025.

**RESOLVED** the Town Board of the Town of New Baltimore approves Quote #JW006887 v1 from Intelligent Technology Solutions, Inc. for new units and a five-year

**TOWN OF NEW BALTIMORE**                      **Draft 11/5/2025**  
**COUNTY OF GREENE**                              **Adopted 11//2025**  
**TOWN BOARD REGULAR MEETING**  
**TOWN HALL, 3809 COUNTY ROUTE 51, HANNACROIX, NY 12087**  
**OCTOBER 15, 2025 – Page 11**

manufacturer's warranty for \$4,233 for Hardware, \$750 for Services, \$941.60 for UPS, Network Controller, Temp/Humidity Sensor & Patch Cables, for a total cost of \$5,924.60.

Motion by Supervisor Ruso seconded by Councilmember Downes

**Councilmember Sottolano** pointed out that in his email that was attached to the Agenda, it sounded like Mr. Wolodkevich indicated that if the Town would approve the quote for that network attached supply (NAS), the UPS accessories would not be needed, but he didn't give the cost one way or the other, she thought that NAS might have some savings, and if he could tell that it might make a difference.

**Supervisor Ruso** added that he would ask.

**Councilmember Sottolano** thought the Supervisor could ask if that will have some savings and if it is a better way of doing things.

**Supervisor Ruso** discussed the listed options in the quote.

**Councilmember Sottolano** agreed that the options were listed but he didn't explain the differences and that she wants to know more information.

**Councilmember Downes** agreed to contact the vendor for more information.

Motion to Table the Resolution by Supervisor Ruso seconded by Councilmember Sottolano

AYES: Ruso, Downes, Kash, Sottolano, VanEtten

NAYS:

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT:

**Motion Tabled**

**TOWN OF NEW BALTIMORE, COUNTY OF GREENE**

**RESOLUTION 135-2025**

**OCTOBER 15, 2025**

**RESOLUTION TO ADVERTISE FOR THE POSITION OF CEMETERY SEXTON**

**RESOLVED** the position of Cemetery Sexton was created to manage the operations of Town Cemeteries and the Town of New Baltimore hereby authorizes the advertisement.

The Town of New Baltimore is currently seeking a Sexton to manage the routine operations of cemeteries owned by the Town of New Baltimore to be paid \$125 per grave opening, \$125 cremains interment, and \$25 Monument Permit Review per standard graves. The successful candidate shall be responsible for compliance with all laws, rules and regulations involving labor, hours of labor, health and safety, and working conditions and shall be solely responsible for payment of all federal, state, and local taxes

Motion by Supervisor Ruso seconded by Councilmember VanEtten

AYES: Ruso, Downes, Kash, Sottolano, VanEtten

NAYS:

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT:

**Motion Carried**

**TOWN OF NEW BALTIMORE**                      **Draft 11/5/2025**  
**COUNTY OF GREENE**                              **Adopted 11//2025**  
**TOWN BOARD REGULAR MEETING**  
**TOWN HALL, 3809 COUNTY ROUTE 51, HANNACROIX, NY 12087**  
**OCTOBER 15, 2025 – Page 12**

**Supervisor Ruso** or suggested that for next year, there should be a new subcommittee created, he asked if there was anyone who has any expertise in cemetery oversight, and if there is such a person, he would like them to step forward and let the Board know.

Hamlet Leaf Pickup Monday Mornings from October 20-November 24, Bagged Leaves Curbside by 7AM, Bagged or Loose Leaves can be Brought to the Highway Garage from Monday-Thursday 6AM-3:30 PM and Fridays 6-10 AM.

There will be no parking permitted on any Town roads, streets, or shoulders from November 15, 2025 to March 15, 2026 to allow for safe and efficient removal of snow from such roads, streets, and shoulders. Please be advised that the Town Highway Superintendent has the authority to have vehicles in violation of this notice towed at the vehicle owner's expense, please let's work together to make this winter manageable for everyone. Furthermore it is illegal to plow, blow, or otherwise deposit snow from personal property into, onto, or across a public highway, this causes an unsafe situation for those traveling our Town roads. Lastly please keep trash containers a safe distance from the roadside so they do not get tipped over by the plow as it passes. If we all work together we can make this a safe winter season for everyone. Thank You Alan VanWormer  
Highway Superintendent

**Upcoming Meetings**

- October 27, 2025 Public Hearing on the 2026 Preliminary Budget at 6:30 PM
- October 27, 2025 Town Board Work Meeting at 7 PM
- October 29, 2025 Public Information Meeting for Water District 2 with Mary Beth Bianconi from Delaware Engineering at 6 PM
- November 4, 2025 Election Day, Town Offices Closed
- November 5, 2025 Zoning Board of Appeals Meeting at 7 PM (If Needed)
- November 10, 2025 Town Board Regular Meeting at 7 PM
- November 13, 2025 Planning Board Meeting at 7:30 PM
- November 24, 2025 Town Board Work Meeting at 7 PM
- November 27, 2025 Happy Thanksgiving, Town Offices Closed

**Community Events**

**Councilmember Downes** mentioned there is a rumor circulating that the Medway Congregational Church has closed its doors which is not true, it remains open and is one of the longest lasting Churches and she doesn't want to see it closed.

**TOWN OF NEW BALTIMORE, COUNTY OF GREENE**

**RESOLUTION 136-2025**  
**OCTOBER 15, 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 2025-10-01 to 2025-10-48, it is

**RESOLVED** that the Supervisor is hereby authorized to pay claims 2025-10-01 to 2025-10-48.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Town Clerk will prepare an abstract and hold it for public review until November 30, 2025.

**TOWN OF NEW BALTIMORE**                      **Draft 11/5/2025**  
**COUNTY OF GREENE**                              **Adopted 11//2025**  
**TOWN BOARD REGULAR MEETING**  
**TOWN HALL, 3809 COUNTY ROUTE 51, HANNACROIX, NY 12087**  
**OCTOBER 15, 2025 – Page 13**

Motion by Supervisor Ruso seconded by Councilmember Downes

AYES: Ruso, Downes, Kash, Sottolano, VanEtten

NAYS:

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT:

**Motion Carried**

General \$39,965.20, Highway \$29,110.47, Sewer 1 \$484.99, Sewer 2 \$940.75, Water 2 \$13,627.06, Water 3 \$1,056.57, Street Lighting 1 \$1,890.52, Street Lighting 2 \$229.93, Total \$87,305.54

**Councilmember Sottolano** clarified that the ban on fossil fuels and gas is for new construction and small installations after 2026 and larger construction after 2029. If you have something prior to 2026 or 2029, that's not going to be taken away. I think what the resolution is really addressing is the State overarching personal rights, like the 14<sup>th</sup> amendment, that's what that resolution was really about, and we did not want to let that happen.

**Supervisor Ruso** announced that the Greene County Veteran of the Year Ceremony for Willie (Mack) Jackson will take place on November 1 at 10 AM at the Historic Catskill Point Warehouse. Mr. Jackson was born in Warrenton, George on February 1, 1940 and moved to Catskill shortly thereafter where he has lived for over 85 years. He attended Irving Elementary School and Catskill High School, graduating with the Class of 1958. He served in the U.S. Army with the 4<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division at Fort Lewis, Washington from 1960-1962.

**Ellie Alfeld** announced she has attended the ceremony three years ago, it is really something to see, and at that event, a small ship was sent to the proceedings because it was a Navy man being recognized.

**Adjournment**

Motion by Councilmember Downes seconded by Councilmember VanEtten, the meeting was adjourned at 8:04 PM

AYES: Ruso, Downes, Kash, Sottolano, VanEtten

NAYS:

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT:

**Motion Carried**

Respectfully Submitted,

Barbara M. Finke RMC CTO  
Town Clerk