

**TOWN BOARD MEETING**

**February 11, 2026**

**6:45pm**

**Call to Order**

Supervisor Holdridge called the Town Board meeting to order at 6:45pm.

**Attendance**

Town Clerk Zappala called the roll:

- Supervisor Holdridge: Present
- Council Member Becker: Present
- Council Member Cassara: Present
- Council Member Courtenay: Present

**Determination of Quorum:**      Yes   X      No     

Also Present: Attorney Cassidy

**Pledge of Allegiance**

All present stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

**RESOLUTION TO ACCEPT THE 1/14/26 MEETING MINUTES**

The Board discussed accepting both the January 14th and January 28th meeting minutes.

**MOTION BY** Council Member Courtenay, seconded by Council Member Cassara to accept the January 14, 2026 and January 28, 2026 Meeting Minutes.

Motion carried unanimously.

**VOTE: AYES(4): Holdridge, Becker, Cassara, Courtenay**

**ADOPTED**

**SUMMARY OF BILLS**

Supervisor Holdridge announced that the Town would be paying bills in the amount of \$4,021,919.57.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

There were no public comments.

## **REPORTS**

Council Member Cassara did not submit a report this evening.

Council Member Becker provided an extensive report about sewer issues at Airplane Park. He explained, every month, the Town receives a report from the county that gives us an engineering report on testing for hydrogen sulfide gas from manholes at Monroe's Airplane Park. He detailed how the testing was meant to try to curb odors that are emitted from airplane park because of the Town, Village, and Village of South Blooming Grove sewer effluent that travels through those manholes.

Council Member Becker described the ongoing solutions: Many things are taking place to correct the issue such as oxygenation system at sewer plant 3a at the Town of Chester, updating the seals on manhole lids, and the continuous monitoring of the gas. He noted that these efforts continue to be costly to the sewer district and, hopefully in the future, a solution to the issue can take place to everybody's satisfaction.

He also provided context about the broader infrastructure: the Town has 8 pump stations; the Village has 14 pump stations and; pump station 3a, the main pump facility where the treatment takes place. All of these pump stations at times have odor issues but do not receive any treatment.

Council Member Becker also reported on his attendance at the February 9th Village Board meeting, noting they held a public hearing on an updated property maintenance law and held the public hearing open until their next meeting. All departments were present to give reports to the Board and regular business for the rest of that meeting. He mentioned they would discuss cellular endpoints later in this meeting.

Council Member Courtenay did not have a report this evening.

Supervisor Holdridge then provided his reports, beginning with updates on interviews: On Monday they started interviews for the open Planning Board seat and open Town Board seat, hopefully finishing them tomorrow, expecting a decision to be made on the 25<sup>th</sup>

He asked the Board about ZBA candidates: The Board confirmed seeing the emails but noted the candidates hadn't responded. There was discussion about whether it was for an alternate position, which was confirmed by Town Clerk Zappala.

The Supervisor then thanked everyone involved in the January 29th rally: The rally between Rural Migrant Ministry and congressman Ryan's office, was very peaceful, orderly, and cold, but it was a success, in terms of safety, and lack of disruption. Council Member Becker added a thank you to the Town of Chester Police for all the extra work that they had to do to make this happen. The Supervisor agreed, noting the Town Police Department was incredible as well as the Highway Department who helped make sure everything was set up properly.

### **Town Historian**

Supervisor Holdridge presented the Town Historian's report. The Historian had assisted residents with specific issues, located information about a Japanese rifle from World War II, shared information about early 20th century Chester, responded to various inquiries, connected a Chester resident with the Sugar Loaf Historical Society regarding Pine Hill Farm, provided historical context for a hiking trail adjacent to the Monksville Reservoir (particularly its connection to Long Pond Iron Works and associated railroads), and met with the Chester Historical Society and a graduate student from SUNY Albany to discuss projects involving the creation of a small, unprocessed archival collection, which is a requirement for the student's master's degree. Full report online at [Chester-NY.gov](http://Chester-NY.gov)

### Empress EMS

Supervisor Holdridge reported that in January, there were 82 total dispatches, 80 total responses, 60 transports, and only 2 instances where no unit was available. The grand total dedicated Chester unit average response time was 9 minutes and 5 seconds. When factoring in the additional Empress units needed for instances when no dedicated units were available, the average response time was 19 minutes and 2 seconds, for a grand total average response time of 9 minutes and 21 seconds.

Council Member Courtenay asked for clarification about the instances when no dedicated unit was available. It was confirmed that these were cases when Chester's unit was already out on a call. Supervisor Holdridge noted there was a discrepancy in the report showing 4 times that additional Empress units were required for second calls, which would need to be clarified with EMS. Full report online at [Chester-NY.gov](http://Chester-NY.gov)

### Police Department

Supervisor Holdridge reported there were two arrests in January: one for operating a motor vehicle with a suspended registration and one for operating a motor vehicle with a suspended driver's license. Non-criminal activity included 38 medical calls, 14 residential and commercial burglary or fire alarms, 8 reports of suspicious persons/vehicles/activities, 5 domestic disputes/disturbances/fights/other disputes, 2 motor vehicle crashes with injuries, 18 motor vehicle crashes without injuries, and 7 crashes involving deer. There were 30 uniform traffic tickets issued.

Community policing activities included 3 house security checks and 947 business security checks. Sergeants Dugan and Officers Bird, Weinstein, Stack, and Narain continued to complete child passenger safety seat checks and installations when needed, with 2 seat inspections completed in January. Officer Stack maintained contact with the Chester Golden Age Club, attending one of their weekly meetings to answer questions and interact with members. Full report online at [Chester-NY.gov](http://Chester-NY.gov)

### Animal Control

Supervisor Holdridge reported that Animal Control responded to 7 calls for loose, lost, or found dogs, 1 call for an injured goose, and 1 call for a dog hit by a car. Full report online at [Chester-NY.gov](http://Chester-NY.gov)

### Water Department

Supervisor Holdridge reported that the Water Department processed and distributed just over 6,000,000 gallons of water in January. He outlined the status of various water districts:

- Sugar Loaf was mostly quiet.
- Surrey Meadows was mostly quiet, with some endpoint installations.
- Well 6 stopped working and had a hole in the well pipe; Quackenbush came, pulled, and replaced the pipe and pump.
- Lake Hill Farms was mostly quiet; the condo well stopped working and needs to be replaced.
- Walton Lake Estates was mostly quiet with routine operations and maintenance; there was a water main break in front of 3 Maple Lane, which the highway department helped repair.
- Fieldcrest was quiet; replaced the water meter at the police station.

Full report online at [Chester-NY.gov](http://Chester-NY.gov)

### Building Department

Supervisor Holdridge reported there were 11 new building permits, 12 closed building permits, with 299 total open building permits. There were 21 total inspections, 1 total complaint, 5 total municipal searches, and 0 summons.

**RESOLUTION TO REDUCE WORK SCHEDULE OF THE SECRETARY TO THE PLANNING BOARD FROM A 35 HOUR WORKWEEK TO A 21 HOUR WORKWEEK**

---

The Board considered the resolution to reduce the work schedule of the Secretary to the Planning Board from a 35-hour workweek to a 21-hour workweek, effective February 26th.

**MOTION BY** Council Member Becker, seconded by Council Member Courtenay to reduce the work schedule of the Secretary to the Planning Board and Zoning Board from a 35-hour workweek to a 21-hour workweek effective February 26th.

Motion carried unanimously.

**VOTE: AYES(4): Holdridge, Becker, Cassara, Courtenay**

**ADOPTED**

**RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE ROAD CLOSURE ON KINGS HIGHWAY FOR THE SLCF 5K RACE**

---

The Board discussed authorizing the road closure on Kings Highway for the Sugar Loaf Community Foundation 5K race on October 3rd from 8 AM to 10 AM. Supervisor Holdridge noted this was the same arrangement as the previous year. Council Members discussed that the approval should be subject to insurance requirements and any other necessary conditions determined by the Town Attorney and Police Department. Supervisor Holdridge mentioned that the organizers had already reached out to the Police Department.

**MOTION BY** Council Member Courtenay, seconded by Council Member Cassara to authorize road closure on Kings Highway for the Sugar Loaf Community Foundation 5K race on October 3rd from 8 AM to 10 AM, subject to insurance requirements.

Motion carried unanimously.

**VOTE: AYES(4): Holdridge, Becker, Cassara, Courtenay**

**ADOPTED**

**RESOLUTION TO CREATE TOWN HISTORIAN POSITION AND APPOINT CLIFTON PATRICK TO TOWN HISTORIAN**

---

Supervisor Holdridge clarified that Clifton Patrick was already serving as the Town Historian, and this resolution was not a reappointment but rather addressing an administrative issue with the County Civil Service System. He explained that the position comes with a stipend of a couple thousand dollars.

**MOTION BY** Council Member Becker, seconded by Council Member Courtenay to create the Town Historian position and appoint Clifton Patrick to Town Historian.

Motion carried unanimously.

**VOTE: AYES(4): Holdridge, Becker, Cassara, Courtenay**

**ADOPTED**

**SUGAR LOAF CHAMBER OF COMMERCE REQUEST FOR BILLBOARD ADVERTISEMENT**

---

The Board discussed the Sugar Loaf Chamber of Commerce's request to advertise their Spring Festival on the Town billboard starting in March leading up to the May festival.

Council Member Becker expressed concerns about the lack of a written policy for billboard advertisements and the fact that a non-Town employee (Diamond Great Media) handles the changes. He stated his opposition to having advertisements on the billboard and believed this could cause problems in the future, suggesting that a formal policy should be established.

Supervisor Holdridge acknowledged the need for something in writing but did not see an issue with continuing past practices regarding the billboard.

**MOTION BY** Council Member Courtenay, seconded by Council Member Cassara to approve the Sugar Loaf Chamber of Commerce's request for billboard advertisement for the Spring Festival graphic starting in March.

Motion carried.

**VOTE: AYES(3): Holdridge, Cassara, Courtenay, NAY(1) Becker**

**ADOPTED**

**RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE COMPTROLLER TO SETTLE THE 2019 BOND REDEMPTION**

Attorney Cassidy read the full resolution authorizing the redemption of the Town's \$1,550,000 Public Improvement Serial Bonds 2019 (federally taxable), which were used to purchase the SLPAC facility that has since been sold. The resolution appropriates an amount not to exceed \$665,000 for the bond redemption on March 16, 2026.

Meeting of the Town Board of the

Town of Chester, in the

County of Orange, New York

February 11, 2026

\* \* \*

A regular meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Chester, in the County of Orange, New York, was held at the Town Hall, 1786 Kings Highway, Chester, New York, on February 11, 2026.

There were present: Hon. Brandon Holdridge, Supervisor

Councilpersons: Tom Becker

Giuseppe Cassara

Robert Courtenay

There were absent: None

Also present: Linda Zappala, Town Clerk

\* \* \*

Council Member Becker offered the following ordinance and moved its adoption:

RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN OF CHESTER, ORANGE COUNTY, NEW YORK, ADOPTED FEBRUARY 11, 2026, AUTHORIZING THE REDEMPTION OF A PORTION OF THE TOWN'S \$1,515,000 PUBLIC IMPROVEMENT SERIAL BONDS-2019 (FEDERALLY TAXABLE) (THE "PRIOR BONDS"); APPROPRIATING AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$665,000 THEREFOR; DIRECTING THAT NOTICE OF SUCH REDEMPTION BE PROVIDED BY THE SUPERVISOR TO BONDHOLDERS OF THE PRIOR BONDS TO BE REDEEMED IN THE MANNER PRESCRIBED IN THE PRIOR BONDS AND MAKING CERTAIN OTHER DETERMINATIONS RELATIVE THERETO

Recitals

WHEREAS, the Town of Chester, Orange County, New York (herein called the "Town"), has heretofore issued its \$1,515,000 Public Improvement Serial Bonds-2019 (Federally Taxable) (herein referred to as the "Prior Bonds"), pursuant to various bond resolutions adopted on their respective dates; and

WHEREAS, the Prior Bonds maturing on March 1, 2027 and thereafter are subject to redemption prior to maturity at the option of the Town, in whole or in part, at par, plus accrued interest to the date of redemption on any date on or after March 1, 2026 after the mailing of notice to the registered holders of the Prior Bonds at least 30 days prior to the date set for redemption; and

WHEREAS, the Town has sold a facility that was purchased with the proceeds of a portion of the Prior Bonds and, pursuant to applicable law it is appropriate to use the proceeds of said sale to redeem prior to maturity a portion of the outstanding Prior Bonds, and the Town Board hereby adopts this resolution to effectuate such redemption;

NOW, THEREFORE,

THE TOWN BOARD OF THE TOWN OF CHESTER, ORANGE COUNTY, NEW YORK, HEREBY RESOLVES AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. The Town Board of the Town of Chester hereby authorizes the redemption of a portion of the Prior Bonds of the Town maturing in the years 2027 through 2034 (said portion to be redeemed being referred to herein as the "Redeemed Bonds"), which are subject to prior redemption according to their terms, as more particularly described and referred to in the Notice of Redemption attached hereto.

Section 2. In accordance with the provisions of Section 53.00 of the Local Finance Law, constituting Chapter 33-a of the Consolidated Laws of the State of New York, the Town hereby elects to call in and redeem the Redeemed Bonds on March 16, 2026 (the "Redemption Date"). The sum to be paid on the Redemption Date shall be \$665,000, consisting

of a portion of the outstanding principal amount of the Redeemed Bonds, plus accrued interest, if any, to the Redemption Date and said amount is hereby appropriated therefor to accomplish the redemption of the Redeemed Bonds.

Section 3. The Town Supervisor, acting as the chief fiscal officer of the Town, is hereby:

(a) authorized to approve all details of the redemption of the Redeemed Bonds, and

(b) directed to cause irrevocable notice, in the form set forth in **Exhibit A**, of such call for redemption, to be given in the name of the Town in accordance with the terms appearing in the Redeemed Bonds, to the registered holders of such Redeemed Bonds, and

(c) authorized to do all things, to take all actions, and to execute and deliver all agreements, certificates, instruments and other documents necessary or desirable in connection with the matters described herein, without the need for further action by the Town Board.

Section 4. The election to call in and redeem such Redeemed Bonds and the notice thereof given as provided in Section 3 shall become irrevocable and shall constitute a covenant with the holders of such Redeemed Bonds.

Section 5. This resolution shall take effect immediately.

\* \* \*

The adoption of the foregoing resolution was seconded by Council Member Cassara and duly put to a vote, which resulted as follows:

AYES: 4

NOES: 0

The resolution was declared adopted.

**ACCOUNTING DEPARTMENT REQUEST FOR COMPTROLLER MEYER TO ATTEND FOUNDATIONS OF BUDGETING WEBINAR AND FOUNDATIONS OF INTERNAL CONTROLS WEBINAR**

The Board discussed authorizing Comptroller Meyer to attend the Foundations of Budgeting webinar (\$170 through GFOA on February 25th) and the Foundations of Internal Controls webinar (\$170 through GFOA on March 19th).

**MOTION BY** Council Member Cassara, seconded by Council Member Courtenay to approve Comptroller Meyer's attendance at the Foundations of Budgeting webinar and the Foundations of Internal Controls webinar.

Motion carried unanimously.

**VOTE: AYES(4): Holdridge, Becker, Cassara, Courtenay**

**ADOPTED**

**ACCOUNTING DEPARTMENT REQUEST FOR DEPUTY COMPTROLLER MCPHEE TO ATTEND THE GFOA ANNUAL CONFERENCE**

The Board considered authorizing Deputy Comptroller McPhee to attend the GFOA Annual Conference from April 16th to 17th at a cost of \$975.

**MOTION BY** Council Member Becker, seconded by Council Member Courtenay to approve Deputy Comptroller McPhee's attendance at the GFOA Annual Conference.

Motion carried unanimously.

**VOTE: AYES(4): Holdridge, Becker, Cassara, Courtenay**

**ADOPTED**

**BUILDING INSPECTOR REQUEST TO ATTEND ROCKLAND NYSBOC SEMINAR**

The Board discussed the Building Inspector's request to attend the Rockland NYSBOC seminar from May 5th to May 7th at a cost of \$300, which is necessary for retaining the Code Enforcement certificate.

**MOTION BY** Council Member Cassara, seconded by Council Member Courtenay to approve the Building Inspector's request to attend the Rockland NYSBOC seminar.

Motion carried unanimously.

**VOTE: AYES(4): Holdridge, Becker, Cassara, Courtenay**

**ADOPTED**

**SENIOR BUS TRIP REFUND REQUEST FOR SEVEN CHESTER RESIDENTS**

The Board discussed a refund request for seven Chester residents whose senior bus trip had to be rescheduled when the bus broke down. The refund amount is \$79 per resident.

**MOTION BY** Council Member Courtenay, seconded by Council Member Cassara to approve the refund request for seven Chester residents at \$79 per person.

Motion carried unanimously.

**VOTE: AYES(4): Holdridge, Becker, Cassara, Courtenay**

**ADOPTED**

**ACCOUNTING DEPARTMENT REQUEST FOR 2025 BUDGET MODIFICATIONS**

Supervisor Holdridge explained that these were standard end-of-year budget modifications to close out the 2025 fiscal year and ensure that the Town's books properly balance.

**It is hereby resolved**, that the Town Board hereby authorizes and directs the Town Comptroller to make the following budget modifications for the 2025 Town Budget as follows:

Description	Account	Increase/Decrease	Amount G
<u>General Fund</u>			
Town Board Personal Services	A1010.1	Increase	965.00
Town Board Education & Training	A1010.472	Decrease	(965.00)
Supervisors Personal Services	A1220.1	Increase	960.00

Supervisors Consulting	A1220.441	Decrease	(960.00)
Tax Collector Personal Services	A1330.1	Increase	2,398.00
Tax Collector Postage	A1330.473	Increase	3,073.00
Tax Collector Supplies	A1330.411	Decrease	(4,289.00)
Town Clerk Personal Services	A1410.1	Increase	2,641.00
Town Clerk Legal Publications	A1410.461	Decrease	(2,641.00)
General Town Attorney	A1420.441	Increase	2,030.00
Code Enforcement	A1420.443	Decrease	(2,030.00)
Engineering	A1440.4	Increase	13,368.00
Buildings Software	A1620.424	Increase	961.00
Town Hall Utilities	A1620.421	Decrease	(25,270.00)
Senior Center Utilities	A1621.421	Increase	473.00
Senior Center Safety Services	A1621.441	Increase	2,960.00
Senior Center Building Repairs	A1621.461	Increase	4,536.00
SLPAC Cleaning	A1622.443	Increase	5,300.00
Town Hall Supplies	A1620.412	Decrease	(3,510.00)
Supt Highways Pers Services	A5010.1	Increase	402.00
Supt Highways Miscellaneous	A5010.470	Decrease	(402.00)
Highway Garage Utilities	A5132.421	Increase	2,946.00
Highway Garage	A5132.450	Decrease	(2,946.00)
Telecommunication			
Program for the aging	A6772.4	Increase	870.00
Parks Port-a-john rental	A7110.451	Decrease	(870.00)
Parks Equipment	A7110.2	Increase	1.00
Parks Telephone	A7110.421	Increase	8.00
Parks Gas	A7110.422	Increase	430.00
Parks Uniforms	A7110.471	Increase	312.00
Parks Electric	A7110.424	Decrease	(751.00)
Recreation Miscellaneous	A7140.471	Increase	87.00
Performing Arts Personal Service	A7230.1	Increase	14,777.00
Recreation Bus Trips	A7140.448	Decrease	(14,864.00)

Part-Town Fund Police

Building Utilities	B1620.421	Increase	1,031.00
Police Building Fiber	B162.423	Increase	28.00
Police Building Repairs	B1620.461	Increase	770.00
Police Building Water	B1620.462	Increase	327.00
Police Building Equipment	B1620.2	Decrease	(2,156.00)
Police Personal Services	B3120.1	Increase	128,472.00
Police Gasoline	B3120.415	Increase	402.00
Police Criminal Investigations	B3120.462	Increase	12.00
Police Car Washes	B3120.474	Increase	20.00
Registrar Fees	B4020.4	Increase	58.00

Street Lighting	B5182.4	Increase	842.00
Planning Board IT Services	B8020.442	Increase	86.00
Medicare	B9035.8	Increase	412.00
Appropriated Fund Balance	B0599	Increase	(130,304.00) *Credit Balance

Highway Townwide

Highway Machinery Equipment	DA5130.2	Increase	5,414.00
Highway Supplies	DA5130.411	Decrease	(5,414.00)

Highway Part-Town

Union Contractual	DB5110.48	Increase	446.00
Medicare	DB9035.8	Increase	496.00
Supplies	DB5110.411	Decrease	(942.00)

Walton Lake

Water Purification Equipment	SW1.8330.2	Increase	762.00
Chemicals	SW1.8330.412	Decrease	(762.00)

Surrey Meadows

SM Personal Services	SW2.8310.1	Increase	5,637.00
Medicare	SW2.9035.8	Increase	69.00
Appropriated Fund Balance	SW2.0599	Increase	(5,706.00) *Credit Balance

Lake Hill

LH Personal Services	SW3.8310.1	Increase	4,384.00
Phones	SW3.8320.421	Increase	280.00
Medicare	SW3.9035.8	Increase	224.00
Pump Repairs	SW3.8320.434	Decrease	(4,888.00)

Sugar Loaf

Electric	SW4.8320.411	Increase	815.00
Water Repairs	SW4.8320.432	Decrease	(815.00)

Fieldcrest

Phones	SW5.8320.421	Increase	6.00
Electric	SW5.8320.411	Decrease	(6.00)

**MOTION BY** Council Member Becker, seconded by Council Member Courtenay to approve the 2025 budget modifications.

Motion carried unanimously.

**VOTE: AYES(4): Holdridge, Becker, Cassara, Courtenay**

**ADOPTED**

The Board also approved a 2026 budget modification for Surrey Meadows, allocating \$2,310 for pump repairs and water repairs, and increasing meters and parts by \$450, to be funded from the appropriated fund balance.

**It is hereby resolved,** that the Town Board hereby authorizes and directs the Town Comptroller to make the following budget modifications for the 2026 Town Budget as follows:

Description	Account	Increase/Decrease	Amount
<u>General Fund</u>			
<u>Part-Town Fund</u>			
<u>Highway Townwide</u>			
<u>Highway Part-Town</u>			
<u>Walton Lake</u>			
<u>Surrey Meadows</u>			
Pump Repairs	SW2.8320.434	Increase	2,310.00
Water Repairs	SW2.8320.432	Decrease	2,310.00
<u>Lake Hill</u>			
<u>Sugar Loaf</u>			
<u>Fieldcrest</u>			
Meters & Parts	SW5.8340.411	Increase	450.00
Appropriated Fund Balance	SW5.0599	Increase	(450.00) *Credit Balance

**MOTION BY** Council Member Courtenay, seconded by Council Member Becker to approve the 2026 budget modifications.

Motion carried unanimously.

**VOTE: AYES(4): Holdridge, Becker, Cassara, Courtenay**

**ADOPTED**

**DISCUSSION ON CELLULAR ENDPOINT OPT-OUT FEE**

Council Member Becker provided information regarding the cellular endpoints being installed on water meters throughout Town water districts. He explained that while the Board had already approved an opt-out option for residents, they had not yet established any associated fees.

He noted that factors to consider included the approximately \$2,000 annual software cost for reading meters that opt out of the cellular system, plus the travel costs and manpower required for manual readings. Council Member Becker suggested that after all endpoints are installed, potentially in about two years, the Board could establish a fee based on the number of customers who opt out, ensuring that other water customers are not subsidizing these costs.

Supervisor Holdridge agreed this approach seemed reasonable and fair to all residents.

Council Member Becker also addressed health concerns about the cellular endpoints, explaining that they operate in the 900 MHz range, transmitting for only a few seconds to minutes per day with RF energy considered low. He cited the American Cancer Society's position that it is highly unlikely these devices increase cancer risk due to their extremely low RF levels, which are less than those of a cell phone. He likened the transmissions to sending about four text messages per day.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION – PERSONNEL**

The Board considered an executive session and then rescinded their vote to take up a new business item first.

**MOTION BY** Council Member Courtenay and second by Council Member Becker to enter into Executive Session at 7:20pm on a matter of personnel.

**VOTE: AYES(4): Holdridge, Becker, Cassara, Courtenay**

**ADOPTED**

**MOTION BY** Council Member Courtenay and second by Council Member Becker to rescind the motion to enter into Executive Session at 7:20pm.

**VOTE: AYES(4): Holdridge, Becker, Cassara, Courtenay**

**ADOPTED**

New Business

Town Attorney Cassidy requested authorization for herself and Town Clerk Zappala to solicit proposals for a planner to update the Community Preservation Plan. She explained that now that the Community Preservation Fund state authorizing legislation has been signed by Governor Hochul, the Town needs to implement it by adopting three local laws: one establishing the fund, one adopting the preservation plan, and one implementing the tax. The current draft plan from 2019 needs updating.

**MOTION BY** Supervisor Holdridge, seconded by Council Member Courtenay to authorize Town Attorney Cassidy and Town Clerk Zappala to request proposals for a planner to update the Community Preservation Plan.

Motion carried unanimously.

**VOTE: AYES(4): Holdridge, Becker, Cassara, Courtenay**

**ADOPTED**

**EXECUTIVE SESSION – PERSONNEL**

The Board entered into executive session to discuss a personnel matter and later returned to open session.

**MOTION BY** Council Member Becker and second by Council Member Courtenay to enter into Executive Session at 7:25pm on a matter of personnel.

**VOTE: AYES(4): Holdridge, Becker, Cassara, Courtenay**

**ADOPTED**

**MOTION BY** Council Member Courtenay and second by Council Member Cassara to adjourn the Executive Session at 8:00pm.

**VOTE: AYES(4): Holdridge, Becker, Cassara, Courtenay**

**ADOPTED**

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Lydia Cuadros, via online, asked for clarification of the SLPAC Bond redemption. Supervisor Holdridge explained it was paying off the existing bond.

Chris Maurer, Creamery Pond Road, expressed her opposition to any future opt-out fee for cellular water meters. She asked several questions about the costs associated with the cellular endpoints, including the \$200 per unit cost, installation labor costs, and the \$1 per month Wi-Fi fee per household. She argued that if those opting out might be charged in the future for manual meter reading, consideration should also be given to the costs being imposed on those who opt out but must pay for others to receive the new technology. She also expressed privacy concerns, noting that water usage data could potentially be accessed by law enforcement.

Council Member Becker responded that infrastructure security measures are in place, with secure private networks rather than public internet being used to minimize the risk of data breaches.

**ADJOURNMENT**

**MOTION TO** by Council Member Courtenay, and second by Council Member Becker to adjourn the meeting at 8:05pm there being no additional business brought before the Board.

**VOTE: AYES(4): Holdridge, Becker, Cassara, Courtenay**

**ADOPTED**

Respectfully submitted,

Linda A. Zappala, RMC  
Town Clerk  
2026-2-11