

TOWN BOARD MEETING AND PUBLIC HEARING

May 27, 2026

6:45 PM

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
- Council Member Diffley: Present

Determination of Quorum: Yes X No

Pledge of Allegiance

All present stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

RESOLUTION TO ACCEPT 5/27/26 TOWN BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Supervisor Holdridge asked if everyone had reviewed the minutes from the May 27, 2026. With no questions or debate points raised, the Minutes were accepted.

MOTION by Council Member Courtenay, seconded by Council Member Cassara to accept the May 27, 2026 Meeting Minutes as presented by Town Clerk Zappala.

Motion carried unanimously .

VOTE: AYES(5): Holdridge, Becker, Cassara, Courtenay, Diffley

ADOPTED

SUMMARY OF BILLS

Supervisor Holdridge reported that the Town would be paying bills in the amount of \$454,591.68.

PUBLIC HEARING ON INTRODUCTORY LOCAL LAW 3 OF 2026 - COMMUNITY PRESERVATION FUND AND ADVISORY BOARD

The following is the notice as appeared in the Times Herald Record on May 22, 2026.

TOWN OF CHESTER
1786 KINGS HIGHWAY
CHESTER, NY 10918

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

**INTRODUCTORY LOCAL LAW 3 OF 2026
A LOCAL LAW TO ESTABLISH A COMMUNITY PRESERVATION FUND
PURSUANT TO TOWN LAW § 64-L**

Please take notice that the Town Board of the Town of Chester will hold a public hearing on Wednesday, June 10, 2026 at 6:45PM in the Town Hall Meeting Room, 1786 Kings Highway, Chester, NY. Said public hearing is to hear comments on the above captioned proposed local law.

A copy of the proposed local law is on file in the Town Clerk's Office and is available for inspection during normal business hours (Monday-Friday, 8 am to 5 pm).

Any person interested in the proposed local law may appear in person or by agent. All written communications should be addressed to the Town Clerk at the above address.

BY ORDER OF THE TOWN BOARD
TOWN OF CHESTER

LINDA A. ZAPPALA
TOWN CLERK

DATED: MAY 15, 2026

MOTION to open the public hearing on Introductory Local Law 3 of 2026 at 6:50pm was made by Council Member Courtenay and seconded by Council Member Diffley.

The motion carried unanimously.

VOTE: AYES(5): Holdridge, Becker, Cassara, Courtenay, Diffley

ADOPTED

Supervisor Holdridge provided context for the public hearing, reminding those in attendance that the Town had worked with Albany the previous year to finally secure passage of the Community Preservation Fund enabling legislation. He noted that the Town of Warwick had been utilizing a similar fund to protect open space for over 20 years, and that Chester was now positioned to build a comparable program. He emphasized that while the fund's creation could proceed through local law, the transfer tax component would require voter approval via referendum in November.

Council Member Becker asked whether the public hearing was solely to establish the advisory board, to which Supervisor Holdridge confirmed it was broader in scope—encompassing the creation of the fund itself.

Town Attorney Cassidy then provided a detailed three-phase explanation of the process. She described the first phase as the creation of the fund itself, noting that once established, the Town Board could make budget appropriations into the fund and could accept—though not solicit—donations. She clarified that this phase does not require the referendum. The second phase, she explained, would involve a local law adopting a preservation plan, which is currently being drafted with reference to the Comprehensive Plan Update. She noted that the plan must be finalized first. The third phase—the real estate transfer tax of three-quarters of one percent—is the component subject to a public referendum. Attorney Cassidy summarized by stating that the evening's action was limited to creating a fund line for the Finance Department and establishing the Advisory Board.

Council Member Becker thanked Attorney Cassidy for the clear explanation.

Supervisor Holdridge asked whether any members of the public had signed up to comment on the public hearing. No members of the public came forward, and no comments were received online.

MOTION to close the public hearing was made at 6:52pm by Council Member Courtenay and seconded by Council Member Diffley.

The motion carried unanimously.

VOTE: AYES(5): Holdridge, Becker, Cassara, Courtenay, Diffley

ADOPTED

ADOPTION OF LOCAL LAW 5 OF 2026 - A LOCAL LAW TO ESTABLISH A COMMUNITY PRESERVATION FUND PURSUANT TO TOWN LAW § 64-L.

Attorney Cassidy read the resolution into the record.

**RESOLUTION TO ADOPT INTRODUCTORY LOCAL LAW 3 OF 2026
A LOCAL LAW TO ESTABLISH A COMMUNITY PRESERVATION FUND PURSUANT TO TOWN
LAW § 64-L.**

WHEREAS, The Town of Chester possesses a rich heritage of scenic, agricultural and natural resources, the preservation of which is vital to the future economic success and quality of life of the community. To further the objective of preserving the natural, scenic and historical treasures, the Town Board of the Town of Chester finds it necessary to establish a dedicated fund for their conservation. Such fund has been authorized under Section 64-L of the New York Town Law. Under this statute the creation of this Fund is a prerequisite to the enactment of a three-quarter (3/4%) percent real estate transfer tax, which is also authorized by Town Law Section 64-L and Article 31-A-4 of the New York Tax Law. The purpose of this Local Law is to meet the requirements of Town Law Section 64-L and thereby set the stage to continue the Town's open space preservation plans.

WHEREAS, Introductory Local Law 3 of 2026, entitled A Local Law to Establish a Community Preservation Fund Pursuant to Town Law § 64-L was introduced on May 13, 2026 and a duly noticed public hearing was held on June 10, 2026; and

WHEREAS, the Town Board declared lead agency and further declared that this action is a “Type II” action under the State Environmental Quality Review Act and no further environmental review is required on May 13, 2026; and

WHEREAS, the matter was referred to the Orange County Department of Planning pursuant to GML 239-m and the Department responded by letter dated June 5, 2026 that the matter is one for local determination; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, having considered public comment, the comment of the Orange County Department of Planning and the comment of the Town’s consultants, Introductory Local Law 3 of 2026, entitled A Local Law to Establish a Community Preservation Fund Pursuant to Town Law § 64-L is hereby adopted as Local Law 5 of 2026.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Town Clerk shall cause said local law to be filed in the office of the Secretary of State.

Supervisor Holdridge invited questions and debate points. Council Member Becker offered a substantive comment, stating that while the legislation had cleared the appropriate governmental channels, he retained concerns about the practical impact on residents. Specifically, he noted that the three-quarters of one percent real estate transfer tax—paid by the buyer—would in practice be subject to negotiation and could end up being borne by sellers. He stated his view that this would increase the cost of homes that are already very high, and emphasized that the public needed to be informed of these implications when the referendum comes to the ballot in November. He acknowledged that as much as the fund may preserve open space, it is at a cost. No other board members raised additional debate points.

MOTION to adopt Local Law 5 of 2026 (Introductory Local Law 3 of 2026), A Local Law to Establish a Community Preservation Fund Pursuant to Town Law Section 64-L, was made by Council Member Courtenay and seconded by Council Member Diffley.

The motion carried, with one abstention.

VOTE: AYES(4): Holdridge, Cassara, Courtenay, Diffley, ABSTAINED(1): Becker

ADOPTED

Following the vote, Supervisor Holdridge acknowledged Council Member Becker's concern as valid, but offered his own view that the cost is the sacrifice we need to make for the open space. He reminded the public that a referendum will appear on the November ballot and urged residents to educate themselves on the matter, adding that the Town had been waiting a very long time for this opportunity.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Supervisor Holdridge opened the floor to public comment.

Brian Ross, Resident, Ridgefield Drive, addressed the Board on several issues. He began by acknowledging Supervisor Holdridge's preemptive remark that the Town is currently working with the Police Department and Fire Department on updated language and possible changes to the penalty structure for false alarms. He expressed appreciation that the matter is under review. Mr. Ross then raised a concern about grass maintenance along the roadway leading into Ashford Estates. He stated that while he had previously complimented the Highway Department for cutting the grass in the area, it had only been done once, and the vegetation was now growing higher, creating what he described as a hazard due to bugs, fleas, and ticks. Supervisor Holdridge explained that the Highway Department operates on a scheduled rotation and that the mowing would be addressed in due course. Supervisor Holdridge confirmed that Mr. Ross could contact the Highway Department directly to inquire about the schedule. Mr. Ross next raised concerns about the solar farm located near Ashford Estates, noting that several homes—some as close as ten yards from the facility—are in proximity to it and that the situation raised safety concerns similar to those previously associated with battery storage units. He asked whether any board member had done follow-up on the safety profile of the installation. Supervisor Holdridge clarified that the solar farm is a project approved by the Town of Goshen, not the Town of Chester, and that—given the project is already completed—there would be very little that the Town of Chester could do to alter its approval. He noted that the property line between Ashford Estates and the Town of Goshen is extremely close, roughly one hundred yards from the nearest home. Mr. Ross indicated he was unaware of this jurisdictional boundary. Supervisor Holdridge encouraged Mr. Ross to contact the Goshen Building Department directly with his safety concerns and offered to assist in facilitating that outreach if needed. Mr. Ross then raised a traffic safety concern at the intersection of Academy Avenue and State Route 94, noting that there is no stop sign for traffic traveling on Route 94 approaching Academy Avenue, while traffic exiting Academy Avenue does face a stop sign. He described drivers making turns at that intersection at excessive speeds and stated that local business owners had expressed interest in signing a petition for a stop sign or other traffic control measure. Council Member Becker provided historical context, noting that years ago the State had conducted drainage work and repaving through the Village of Chester and had at that time planned to make the intersection a three-way stop, but that the installation of required traffic islands was opposed by residents and business owners who did not want to lose parking. He confirmed that the matter is a state issue and has been reviewed before without resolution. Supervisor Holdridge directed Mr. Ross to bring his petition or letter first to the Village Board and stated that the Town Board could also advocate on his behalf. He clarified that the matter is within the Village of Chester's jurisdiction, and that the Village Board would be the appropriate body to engage the New York State Department of Transportation.

Robert Winter, Ridge Road, addressed the Board regarding traffic speed and visibility concerns on Ridge Road. He explained that their family has lived at the location for approximately 25 years and that increased development and traffic over that time have made conditions along the road more hazardous. He described a blind spot near his driveway, just past Neal Road and West Meadow Way, where a one-to-two-second window exists in which an oncoming vehicle cannot be seen by a driver backing out. He noted that his neighbor at 126 Ridge Road is in an even more precarious position relative to the blind spot. He specifically recalled that on a recent Saturday when Kings Highway was closed due to an accident near Airport Road, Ridge Road experienced dramatically increased traffic volume and speed, with vehicles traveling at excessive rates while he was having his driveway blacktopped. Mr. Winter was not requesting that the Town reengineer the road or remove the dip that causes the sight-line obstruction. Rather, he proposed that a sign indicating "limited sight distance" or "hidden driveways" be installed at the location, in addition to the existing pedestrian and cyclist warning signs already present on either side of the road. He noted that the road also sees significant weekend traffic associated with the local winery. Supervisor Holdridge indicated he would coordinate with the Highway Department to meet Mr. Winter at the site to assess the situation firsthand and requested that Mr. Winter provide his contact information on the sign-in sheet. Attorney Cassidy noted that any new signage would need to comply with applicable sign standards.

David Toretsky, Kings Highway, asked the Board whether it would be possible to relocate the surveillance cameras currently positioned directly in front of Town Hall, describing their placement as very unwelcoming and noting that members of the public passing by are unsettled by the fact that their movements are being recorded by an unknown party. Supervisor Holdridge indicated he was personally receptive to the idea but acknowledged it would require discussion with the full Board and the Police Department to determine feasibility.

Jeff Zahn, Sugar Loaf Mountain Road, raised three items. First, he noted that the solar speed indicator lights in Sugar Loaf and on Pine Hill Road had not been active for a couple of weeks since installation and asked for a

status update. Supervisor Holdridge confirmed that the matter is being troubleshot by the engineer and the installation company. On the subject of the reduced speed limit on Sugar Loaf Mountain Road, Supervisor Holdridge noted that the corresponding signs had just been delivered that day and would be installed as soon as the Highway Department had availability. Second, Mr. Zahn inquired about the process for submitting a public assembly permit for the community's upcoming 250th anniversary celebration, and was directed to submit the documentation to the Town Clerk that evening. Third, a brief discussion occurred regarding a solar project above Vivian Lane, which Supervisor Holdridge clarified is located in the Town of Goshen, with only the connection infrastructure running to the Chester side of the boundary, making the situation jurisdictionally complex.

REPORTS – BUILDING DEPT., EMPRESS EMS, HIGHWAY DEPT., WATER DEPT., PLANNING & ZONING BOARDS, POLICE DEPT., ANIMAL CONTROL

Deputy Supervisor Becker

Deputy Supervisor Becker opened his report by recognizing Water Department employee John Mardula, who climbed the million-gallon water tank at the Village of Chester to reattach a vent cap that had blown off. Deputy Supervisor Becker noted that the task involved climbing the tank—something several other employees were not comfortable doing—and commended Mr. Mardula for stepping up in the absence of Gary, who was not feeling well.

Regarding the Sugar Loaf Water District, Deputy Supervisor Becker reported that the well siting has been completed by the engineer and resubmitted to Orange County for review. He noted that the Water Department's Chris Cocks, has obtained three price quotes for the work but may update those quotes to reflect the revised site. He is awaiting final approval before submitting them to the Board.

At Walton Lake Estates, Deputy Supervisor Becker reported that the new control panel has been installed and the switchover unit is pending, but that operations are otherwise running well. Regarding the aeration basin, the air-step system is expected to be operational by the end of the month, pending receipt of remaining parts.

On the Greens of Chester water connection, Deputy Supervisor Becker reported that water from the Village into the pump station has been activated. Bacteria samples came back clean, and a second sampling was conducted that day on an internal main. He anticipated that within the following week, the building department would likely be receiving requests for Certificates of Occupancy from units in that area.

Deputy Supervisor Becker also reported that he attended the Planning Board meeting the prior week and specifically thanked the Planning Board for its thorough red-line review of the draft master plan. He noted that the board had done an excellent job discussing proposed changes and would be submitting comments to the Town.

Council Member Diffley

Council Member Diffley raised the matter of a sewer pump in King's Tract that needs replacement and requested that it be considered for inclusion in the upcoming budget so the Town could address it in the next fiscal year. Deputy Supervisor Becker confirmed that the budget process typically begins in August and that the item could be taken up at that time.

Council Members Cassara and Courtenay did not submit a report.

Supervisor Holdridge

Supervisor Holdridge presented departmental reports as follows:

Building Department (Month of May): 48 new building permits issued; 22 building permits closed; 319 total open building permits; 43 inspections conducted; 7 quality-of-life violations; 6 complaints received; 8 municipal searches; 0 summons issued.

Empress EMS (Month of May): 81 total responses; 2 instances of no units available; 83 total dispatches; 58 transports. The dedicated Chester unit recorded an average response time of 8 minutes and 13 seconds. Three additional Empress units averaged 15 minutes and 6 seconds. The overall grand total average response time

across all units was 8 minutes and 40 seconds. There were 33 ALS calls and 38 BLS calls. Supervisor Holdridge thanked all EMTs for their service. Full report online at chester-ny.gov.

Water Department (Month of May): Just under 7,000,000 gallons of water were processed and distributed. Distribution and random sampling by Orange County Department of Health confirmed adequate disinfection levels and tested negative for bacteria. Highlights by district included: routine operations in Sugar Loaf; replacement of a shutoff key and riser on 10 Wright Road with Highway Department assistance; continued installation of endpoints in Surrey Meadows; hydrant maintenance at Lake Hill Farms; setup of a new chlorine monitor system at the Windridge plant; installation of a new Tiger Flow booster pump system at Walton Lake Estates, including construction of a temporary system to facilitate removal of the old one; and no activity to report in Fieldcrest. Full report online at chester-ny.gov.

Moodna (Sewer Agency): The AirSep system and air tank compressor have been installed. New wiring was run from the panel to the pump at 1396 Kings Highway. Work was performed at Town pump stations. A site meeting was held with Keith, John Queenan, and Andrew regarding 5 Wood Road's connection to sewer. Several floats that had failed were repaired, and the header piping and a broken valve at Station 3A were addressed. Routine maintenance across the Town continues on a regular schedule, including weekly cleaning of Surrey, weekly inspection of floats and transducers, monthly greasing of Walton Lake pump station motors, monthly on-site flow readings, and monthly greasing of King Tract. Generators are tested every Tuesday.

Highway Department: Eleven miles of oil and chip were completed in May at a cost of \$277,000. Supervisor Holdridge noted, for public context, that milling and paving three-quarters of a mile on Pine Hill Road cost \$190,000 by comparison, illustrating why the Town prioritizes oil and chip over mill-and-pave in most areas. Supervisor Holdridge thanked Chris Cox and Joe Janots for assisting with traffic control. Sweeping of residual stone is ongoing. The Johnson Road grant project is being prepared for resurfacing; the start date is not yet confirmed. The grant, in the amount of approximately \$115,000, was awarded prior to 2024, and Supervisor Holdridge noted with some humor that it had taken several years to complete the paperwork and receive the funds. He thanked Senator Skoufis for awarding the town this valuable grant. Catch basin repair and maintenance is ongoing. Roadside mowing and weed-whacking have commenced, including retaining ponds and special districts. The hamlet was swept for the Spring Festival and Chester Academy was swept for the mock DWI exercise. Mechanics continue their annual inspection and service schedule for town vehicles.

Planning and Zoning Boards: The Planning Board's next meeting is scheduled for July 1st, at which time interviews for the remaining vacant seat and the alternate seat are expected to be conducted. Supervisor Holdridge noted that collaboration between MuniLab and the Town's Planning and Zoning Boards of Appeals is progressing well, with all applications fully implemented and final refinements underway ahead of the next Zoning Board meeting on June 16th at 1:30 PM. The CBA's next meeting is June 11th (a typographical error in the report had listed July 11th).

Police Department (Month of May): 18 arrests; 448 incidents reported; 15,681 miles driven. Non-criminal activity included: 36 medical calls; 12 reports of suspicious persons, vehicles, or activity; 11 residential and commercial burglary and fire false alarms; 11 welfare checks; 1 fatal motorcycle crash; 4 motor vehicle crashes with injuries; 9 motor vehicle crashes without injuries. Officers completed 7 house checks and 933 business security checks. Officer Perez coordinated with the Sugar Loaf Chamber of Commerce for the annual Spring Festival on May 23rd and 24th, including foot patrol and barricade assistance. Sergeant Dugan and Officers Bird, Weinstein, Stack, and Narain continue to conduct child passenger safety seat checks; 2 seats were installed in May. Annual taser recertification training was held on May 12th, and semi-annual firearms qualifications began in May. Supervisor Holdridge remarked with good humor that he had asked the Chief whether he had served as the test dummy for the taser recertification, to which the Chief declined. Full report online at chester-ny.gov.

Animal Control (Month of May): 3 calls for loose, lost, or found dogs; 2 calls for injured or deceased deer; 1 call for possibly orphaned kittens; 1 call for a possibly abandoned fawn. Full report online at chester-ny.gov.

Town Clerk Zappala

Town Clerk Zappala reported the mortgage tax receipt summary from Orange County for May reflected receipts of \$16,431.06. She provided several community announcements. An important blood drive is scheduled at the Sugar Loaf Volunteer Fire Company on Thursday, June 11th from 1:00pm to 7:00pm, with a Girl Scout cookie promotion tied to participation, and the Clerk urged community members to donate given the ongoing shortage. The Bellvale Community will be hosting a performance by soprano Saira Peter entitled "A Song for All Nations" on July 11th at 7:00pm. The Clerk also announced that the Saturday brush disposal event scheduled for

the coming weekend had been canceled due to staffing conflicts and would not be rescheduled until November. Finally, the Clerk announced "Voices of Sugar Loaf," an evening of storytelling by residents of the, hosted at the Sugar Loaf Methodist Church on Friday, June 19th at 7:00 PM, featuring music by Margie DeRosso. The event is free and first-come, first-served.

RESOLUTION TO APPROVE \$2.0512/HOUR PAY INCREASE FOR RECREATION COORDINATOR MICHELLE DESHLER

Supervisor Holdridge presented the resolution to approve a \$2.0512 per hour pay increase for Recreation Coordinator Michelle Deshler, bringing her hourly rate to \$36.00 per hour. He noted that the coordinator has taken on significantly expanded responsibilities in leading the Parks and Recreation Department this year and that the Board was in agreement that the increase was well-deserved. No questions or debate points were raised.

MOTION to approve the \$2.0512/hour pay increase for Recreation Coordinator Michelle Deshler, bringing her total pay to \$36.00/hour, was made by Council Member Becker and seconded by Council Member Courtenay.

The motion carried unanimously.

VOTE: AYES(5): Holdridge, Becker, Cassara, Courtenay, Diffley

ADOPTED

THEATER AND FILM SUMMER CAMPS MOU WITH ORANGE COUNTY

Supervisor Holdridge described the Memoranda of Understanding with Orange County for theater and film summer camps as a formality, noting that advertising for the camps had already begun and that the MOUs were necessary to properly authorize use of the facility. No questions or debate points were raised.

MOTION to approve the Theater and Film Summer Camps MOUs with Orange County was made by Council Member Courtenay and seconded by Council Member Diffley.

The motion carried unanimously.

VOTE: AYES(5): Holdridge, Becker, Cassara, Courtenay, Diffley

ADOPTED

COMMUNITY PRESERVATION FUND ADVISORY BOARD APPOINTMENTS – TRACY SCHUH, DAVID STEVENSON, MICHAELA HAYES-HODGE, IVAN BONET, SIMON ZIEGLER

Supervisor Holdridge introduced the five nominees for the Community Preservation Fund Advisory Board. He described each candidate's qualifications: Tracy Schuh, a longtime advocate for preservation in Chester through her Preservation Collective and a former member of the Comprehensive Plan committee; David Stevenson, also a former Comprehensive Plan committee member and a ZBA member in the Village of Chester; Michaela Hayes-Hodge, a farmer from the Black Dirt region of Chester, fulfilling the statutory requirement of at least one farmer on the advisory board; Ivan Bonet, an attorney specializing in municipal law, land use, zoning, municipal code, litigation, and administrative law; and Simon Ziegler, a farmer who also serves on the Village Planning Board. Supervisor Holdridge remarked that the group constituted a strong team.

Council Member Cassara raised a procedural concern, stating that while he knew Tracy Schuh through community involvement, he had not had an opportunity to speak with the other four nominees. He requested either that the item be tabled to the next meeting so that he could conduct brief individual conversations, or that the vote proceed with his abstention.

Attorney Cassidy cautioned the Board about timing, explaining that if the Board's intent is to place the transfer tax on the November ballot, the preservation plan would need to be introduced as a local law no later than July 22nd for adoption in August, which requires the advisory board members to be appointed as soon as possible so they can review and weigh in on the draft plan being prepared by Town Planner Kristin O'Donnell.

Council Member Courtenay expressed that he had no concerns about the nominated individuals. Deputy Supervisor Becker stated that he personally knows three of the five nominees and that all resumes appeared strong to him. He acknowledged that some time pressure exists and expressed comfort with moving forward.

Supervisor Holdridge expressed that he had shared contact information for the nominees in advance. He offered that the Board could table the item to the June 24th meeting, but noted that this would give the newly appointed members two fewer weeks to complete their review of the draft plan.

MOTION to appoint Tracy Schuh, David Stevenson, Michaela Hayes-Hodge, Ivan Bonet, and Simon Ziegler to the Community Preservation Fund Advisory Board was made by Council Member Courtenay and seconded by Supervisor Holdridge.

The motion carried, with one abstention.

VOTE: AYES(4): Holdridge, Becker, Courtenay, Diffley, ABSTAINED(1): Cassara **ADOPTED**

Attorney Cassidy indicated she would notify Town Planner Kristin O'Donnell first thing the following morning, and requested that the Town Clerk coordinate the sharing of contact information for the newly appointed members so that the planning process could commence promptly.

REVISED LOCAL LAW 284

Supervisor Holdridge described Revised Local Law 284 as a formality—an agreement between the Highway Department and the Town Board outlining a road paving plan in the amount of \$1,330,848.18. No questions or debate points were raised.

MOTION to approve Revised Local Law 284 was made by Council Member Becker and seconded by Council Member Courtenay.

The motion carried unanimously.

VOTE: AYES(5): Holdridge, Becker, Cassara, Courtenay, Diffley **ADOPTED**

HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT REQUEST TO APPROVE REPAIR EXPENDITURE UP TO \$30,000 FOR TANDEM TRUCK #7

Supervisor Holdridge explained that Tandem Truck #7 has an exhaust leak that has caused a cascading breakdown throughout the exhaust system. He noted that the repair is not a simple parts swap but requires the system to be fully disassembled, resulting in a significant cost of up to \$30,000. He expressed hope that the final bill would come in below the authorized amount.

Deputy Supervisor Becker acknowledged that it was unfortunate the truck was no longer under warranty, though he noted it remains an older vehicle in otherwise good condition. He pointed out that a new comparable truck would cost between \$300,000 and \$400,000, making the repair a sound investment. Conversations had already begun with the Town Comptroller about potentially budgeting for a future truck replacement, though that decision was well into the future.

MOTION to approve the repair expenditure of up to \$30,000 for Tandem Truck #7 was made by Council Member Becker and seconded by Council Member Cassara.

The motion carried unanimously.

VOTE: AYES(5): Holdridge, Becker, Cassara, Courtenay, Diffley **ADOPTED**

RESOLUTION TO EXTEND BUILDING MORATORIUM THREE MONTHS

Supervisor Holdridge explained that the existing building moratorium is set to expire on June 22nd, but that the updated Comprehensive Plan and Zoning Amendments are not expected to be formally adopted until July 8th, following a public hearing scheduled for June 24th. He noted that the Board does not want to leave any gap between June 22nd and July 8th during which a party might submit an application to the Planning Board under the prior zoning framework. The moratorium extension would therefore serve as a bridge, and Supervisor

Holdridge confirmed that it would be automatically lifted upon adoption of the Comprehensive Plan and Zoning Amendments on July 8th. He also noted that this is the final extension permissible by resolution under statute. No questions or debate points were raised.

MOTION to extend the building moratorium for three months was made by Council Member Diffley and seconded by Council Member Courtenay.

The motion carried unanimously.

VOTE: AYES(5): Holdridge, Becker, Cassara, Courtenay, Diffley

ADOPTED

EXECUTIVE SESSION – PERSONNEL

MOTION to enter Executive Session for the purpose of discussing personnel matters was made at 7:45pm by Council Member Becker and seconded by Council Member Courtenay.

The motion carried unanimously.

VOTE: AYES(5): Holdridge, Becker, Cassara, Courtenay, Diffley

ADOPTED

MOTION to adjourn the Executive Session at 8:15pm was made by Council Member Courtenay and seconded by Council Member Becker.

The motion carried unanimously.

VOTE: AYES(5): Holdridge, Becker, Cassara, Courtenay, Diffley

ADOPTED

NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Supervisor Holdridge opened the floor for public comment. No members of the public came forward, and no comments were received online.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION by Council Member Courtenay, and second by Council Member Diffley to adjourn the meeting at 8:17pm there being no additional business brought before the Board.

VOTE: AYES(5): Holdridge, Becker, Cassara, Courtenay, Diffley

ADOPTED

Respectfully submitted,

Linda A. Zappala, RMC
Town Clerk
2026-6-10