

**Eaton Town Council Regular Board Meeting Minutes,
Tuesday, March 11th, 2025 at 6:00 pm
Town of Eaton Office Building, 35 Cedar Street, Morrisville, New York, there were
present:**

Joseph Wicks, Supervisor
Jeff Golley, Councilmember
Dave Verne, Councilmember - Absent
Stephen Dickerson, Councilmember
Jean Hilts, Councilmember
Dean Curtis, Town Clerk
Larry Phillips, Highway Superintendent - Absent

Also present: Bill & Corinne Banker, Todd Szewczyk, Toby Szewczyk, Kathy Roher, Celeste Amaral, Donald Bigelow, Becky Rochin, Carol Borg, Jim Kallmerten, Ken Masker, Meg Lee and Julian Heffern

Call to order & Welcome: The Meeting opened at 6:00 pm with the Pledge of Allegiance.

PUBLIC COMMENT (5 min):

Kathy Roher - asked about the Easter Egg Hunt being held on April 20th and asked about the Memorial Day Parade being held within the Town of Eaton, Supervisor Wicks will meet with her on Friday to discuss further.

Becky Rochin – wanted an update on the speed sign on Wescott Rd closer to Shiloh

Carol Borg – mentioned the Beaver Dam near the Childrens Camp and inquired about DEC contact

Jim Kallmerten – wanted the Beavers left alone until decision was made on what to do with overflow of water from the Beaver Dam

Ken Masker – asked about the Solar and Wind moratorium for residential, discussed the sampling of both Hatch Lake and Bradley Brook and the increased phosphorus levels

Meg Lee and Julian Heffern gave update on the Liberty Renewals public hearing and open discussion being held at Madison Hall April 23rd at 6:00 pm

REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING:

CODES OFFICER REPORT:

Town of Eaton

Codes Officer Report

02/01/2025 - 02/28/2025

Type	Date	Comment	Name	Fee
Building Permit Ren	02/10/2025	#08-24 24x72 Pole Barn Addt	Phillips II, Larry	\$50.00
Building Permit Ren	02/18/2025	#61-22 3349 N Side Circle	Rhyde, David	\$50.00
		Total		\$100.00

February 28th both Larry Cesario and Dean Curtis attended CEO and BSI training at the Franklin in Rome

Sent out 53 Fire Safety Inspection Letters out and only 16 responded as of 3/6/2025

TOWN CLERKS REPORT:

- Work place violence & Harassment/Discrimination Training Mandate
- Memorial Day Parade
- .gov
- Phone bill from Madison County IT department changed to semi annually
- Local Law 1-2025 Senior Citizen exemption filed and received by DOS
- Taxes collected Year to Date - \$ 2,840,936.07 last year \$ 2,689,267.86
- Dog notices sent out for White Pines Trailer Park and other Notices to Comply
- Ran ad for Deputy Town Clerk – Interest but mostly from outside TOE

RESOLUTION 2025- 43 : Approval of Minutes – 02/11/2025

On a motion of Councilmember Dickerson, seconded by Councilmember Hilts, the following resolution was: ADOPTED: Ayes: 4, Nays: 0

Resolved that the minutes for February 11th, 2025 be approved

TOWN CLERK'S MONTHLY REPORT

TOWN OF EATON, NEW YORK

FEBRUARY, 2025

TO THE SUPERVISOR:

Pursuant to Section 27, Subd 1 of the Town Law, I hereby make the following statement of all fees and moneys received by me in connection with my office during the month stated above, excepting only such fees and moneys the application and payment of which are otherwise provided for by Law:

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A1255			
2	DECALS	1.66	
TOTAL TOWN CLERK FEES			1.66
A1603			
41	DEATH CERTIFIED COPIES	410.00	
TOTAL A1603			410.00
A2544			
6	DOG LICENSES	45.00	
TOTAL A2544			45.00
B2555			
2	BUILDING PERMIT RENEWAL	100.00	
TOTAL B2555			100.00

TOWN CLERK'S MONTHLY REPORT

FEBRUARY, 2025

DISBURSEMENTS

PAID TO SUPERVISOR FOR GENERAL FUND	<u>456.66</u>
PAID TO SUPERVISOR FOR PART TOWN FUND	<u>100.00</u>
PAID TO NYS DEC FOR DECALS	<u>28.34</u>
PAID TO NYS ANIMAL POPULATION CONTROL PROGRAM	<u>8.00</u>
TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS	593.00

HIGHWAY REPORT: Nothing to Report - Absent**SUPERVISOR REPORT:**

- Received 60K Grant for Village of Morrisville/Town of Eaton Court Grant
- Received the Deed for the Park
- Meeting with Kathy Roher regarding Easter Egg Hunt and Memorial Day Parade
- Working on Vision Plan for Town of Eaton

RESOLUTION 2025- 44 : Approval of March 11th, 2025 Supervisor Report

On a motion of Councilmember Golley, seconded by Councilmember Dickerson, the following resolution was: ADOPTED: Ayes: 4, Nays: 0

Resolved that the Supervisor Report Submitted on March 11th, 2025 is accepted and approved

OLD BUSINESS: N/A

NEW BUSINESS:

- **Introduction of local law 2-2025** (“A Local Law Amending Chapter 170 of the Town of Eaton Code to Enact a Property Tax Exemption for Volunteer Firefighters and Ambulance Workers Pursuant to Real Property Tax Law §466-a”)

RESOLUTION 2025- 45 : Introduction of local law 2-2025 (“A Local Law Amending Chapter 170 of the Town of Eaton Code to Enact a Property Tax Exemption for Volunteer Firefighters and Ambulance Workers Pursuant to Real Property Tax Law §466-a”):

On a motion of Councilmember Golley, seconded by Councilmember Dickerson, the following resolution was: ADOPTED: Ayes: 4, Nays: 0

Resolved that (“A Local Law Amending Chapter 170 of the Town of Eaton Code to Enact a Property Tax Exemption for Volunteer Firefighters and Ambulance Workers Pursuant to Real Property Tax Law §466-a”): NY0140229 Ad #2700562 in Oneida Daily Dispatch 03/12/2025

TOWN OF EATON

TOWN BOARD RESOLUTION 45-2025

March 11, 2025

TOWN OF EATON LOCAL LAW NO. 2 OF 2025

(“A Local Law Amending Chapter 170 of the Town of Eaton Code to Enact a Property Tax Exemption for Volunteer Firefighters and Ambulance Workers Pursuant to Real Property Tax Law §466-a”)

Councilor Golley introduced proposed Local Law No. 2-2025, amending Chapter 170 of the Town of Eaton Code to enact a real property tax exemption for volunteer firefighters and ambulance workers in accordance with New York Real Property Tax Law § 466-a, and made the following motion, which was seconded by Councilor Dickerson:

WHEREAS, the Town Board of the Town of Eaton has traditionally recognized the role of volunteer firefighters and ambulance workers in assisting and securing the safety and wellbeing of the community and has found that it is in the best interests of the Town to encourage and support such volunteerism; and

WHEREAS, New York Real Property Tax Law § 466-a, as enacted by Chapter 670 of the Laws of 2022, provides that, to allow said exemption, the Town must adopt a local law conforming to the provisions of Real Property Tax Law § 466-a, and it is the desire of the Town Board to enact such an exemption and so conform; and

WHEREAS, Volume 6 N.Y.C.R.R., Section 617 of the Regulations relating to Article 8 of the New York State Environmental Conservation Law, requires that as early as possible an involved agency shall make a determination whether a given action is subject to the aforementioned law; and

WHEREAS, no other agency has the legal authority or jurisdiction to approve or directly undertake the enactment of a local law in the Town of Eaton, such that there are no other involved agencies within the meaning of the New York State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQRA) with respect to the proposed enactment of said Local Law, with the result that the Town Board shall act as lead agency in this matter; and

WHEREAS, the adoption of said Local Law is an unlisted action for purposes of environmental review under SEQRA; and

WHEREAS, the Town Board has determined that a short environmental assessment form (EAF) shall be required in connection with this matter; and

WHEREAS, said EAF has been prepared and has been reviewed by the Town Board; and

WHEREAS, the Town Board has considered the adoption of said Local Law, has considered the criteria contained in 6 N.Y.C.R.R. Part 617.7 and has compared the impacts which may be reasonably expected to result from the adoption of said Local Law against said criteria.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED AND DETERMINED that the Town Board, as Lead Agency, has determined this Unlisted action shall have no significant adverse impact on the environment; that, accordingly, an environmental impact statement (EIS) shall not be required; and that this resolution shall constitute a negative declaration under SEQRA; and it is further;

RESOLVED AND DETERMINED that the Town Board shall conduct a public hearing as to the enactment of proposed Local Law No. 2-2025 at the Town Hall located at 35 Cedar Street, Morrisville, New York 13408 on April 8, 2025, at 6:05 p.m., or as soon thereafter as the matter can be heard, at which time all persons interested in the subject shall be heard.

The question of the adoption of the foregoing resolution was duly put to a vote and upon roll call, the vote was as follows:

David Verne	Councilor	Voted	Absent
Jean Hilts	Councilor	Voted	Yes
Stephen Dickerson	Councilor	Voted	Yes
Jeff Golley	Councilor	Voted	Yes
Joseph Wicks	Supervisor	Voted	Yes

The foregoing resolution was thereupon declared duly adopted.

DATED: March 11, 2025

- **Bruce Ward Architect**

RESOLUTION 2025- 46 : Quote for new addition by Bruce Ward Architect:

On a motion of Councilmember Hilts, seconded by Councilmember Golley, the following resolution was: ADOPTED: Ayes: 4, Nays: 0

Resolve that the Board grant authorization for payment for voucher #47 on quote for new addition.

- **Cochran Advisors**

RESOLUTION 2025- 47 : Vision Plan for the Town of Eaton – Cochran Advisors:

On a motion of Councilmember Golley, seconded by Councilmember Dickerson, the following resolution was: ADOPTED: Ayes: 4, Nays: 0

Resolve that the Board grant authorization to pay Cochran Advisors for quote on the Town of Eaton Vision Plan

- **C & S Engineers**

RESOLUTION 2025- 48 : Approving C&S Engineers, Inc to provide Engineering Consulting Services for the Town of Eaton:

On a motion of Councilmember Golley, seconded by Councilmember Dickerson, the following resolution was: ADOPTED: Ayes: 4, Nays: 0

Resolve that the Town Board of the Town of Eaton does hereby approve the professional consulting agreement with C&S Engineers, Inc. and does further authorize the Supervisor to execute the aforementioned agreement

TOWN OF EATON

TOWN BOARD RESOLUTION 48-2025

March 11th, 2025

APPROVING C&S ENGINEERS, INC. TO PROVIDE ENGINEERING CONSULTING SERVICES
FOR THE TOWN OF EATON

PURSUANT TO NEW YORK STATE RENEWABLE ACTION THROUGH PROJECT
INTERCONNECTION AND DEPLOYMENT (RAPID) ACT IN THE STATE PERMITTING
PROCESS

FOR THE HOFFMAN FALLS WIND PROJECT.

The following resolution was offered by Councilperson Golley, who moved its adoption, and seconded by Councilperson Dickerson, to wit:

WHEREAS, Hoffman Falls Wind, LLC, a wholly-owned subsidiary of Liberty Renewables, Inc., filed an application with the Office of Renewable Energy Siting to build a utility-scale wind energy generation facility with up to 100 megawatts located within Towns of Nelson, Fenner, Eaton and Smithfield (the "Hoffman Falls Wind Project"), pursuant to New York State Executive Law § 94-c (Permit Application No. 23-00038), such process now being considered and treated as an application filed pursuant to the RAPID Act; and

WHEREAS, using the intervenor funds available through the permitting process, the Town of Eaton does desire to retain the professional consulting services of C&S Engineers, Inc., to assist the Town in its participation in and opposition to the State's permitting process of the Hoffman Falls Wind Project in accordance with the professional services agreement attached hereto.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board of the Town of Eaton does hereby approve the professional consulting agreement with C&S Engineers, Inc. and does further authorize the Supervisor to execute the aforementioned agreement.

The question of the adoption of the foregoing resolution was duly put to a vote and upon roll call, the vote was as follows:

David Verne	Councilor	Voted	Absent
Jean Hilts	Councilor	Voted	Yes
Stephen Dickerson	Councilor	Voted	Yes
Jeff Golley	Councilor	Voted	Yes
Joseph Wicks	Supervisor	Voted	Yes

- The foregoing resolution was thereupon declared duly adopted.
- **Dog Licensing Fees**

RESOLUTION 2025- 49 : Increase Dog Licensing Fees:

On a motion of Councilmember Hilts, seconded by Councilmember Dickerson, the following resolution was: ADOPTED: Ayes: 4, Nays: 0

Resolve that the Board authorize the increase of Dog Licensing Fees for Altered Dogs from \$7.50 to \$10.00 and Unaltered Dog Fees from \$15.50 to \$18.00, Late fee increased from \$2.50 to \$5.00 to align with neighboring towns.

**Town of Eaton Town Board
Resolution No 49-2025
Increase Dog License Fees**

The following resolution was offered by Councilperson Hilts, who moved its adoption, and seconded by Councilperson Dickerson, to wit:

WHEREAS, Chapter 55 of the Code of the Town of Eaton establishes a regimen for the regulation of dogs within the Town; and

WHEREAS, Section 55-14 provides for the licensing of dogs and within such section in paragraph A provides for a fee structure for licensing dogs; and

WHEREAS, Section 55-14, paragraph A provides that the Town Board may from time to time review and revise such fees by resolution; and

WHEREAS, the Town Board has reviewed the fees for dog licensing and upon the recommendation of the town clerk; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that Section 55-14, is revised to the extent that the fee for licensing a spayed or neutered dog shall be Ten dollars (\$10.00) which includes the assessment of a one dollar (\$1.00) surcharge for the purpose of carrying out animal population control; and the fee for licensing an unspayed or unneutered dog will be Eighteen dollars (\$18.00) (which includes the assessment of a three dollar (\$3.00) surcharge for the purpose of carrying out animal population control). Furthermore, in addition to the fees set forth herein there shall be a five dollar (\$5.00) late fee imposed for any license renewal which shall be more than ten (10) business days late after June 30th each year., Be it further

RESOLVED that the Town Board of the Town of Eaton does hereby approve the dog license fee increases Adopted this 11th day of March 2025

- **Building Custodian Position**

RESOLUTION 2025- 50 : Appoint Dean Curtis as Building Custodian:

On a motion of Councilmember Golley, seconded by Councilmember Dickerson, the following resolution was: ADOPTED: Ayes: 4, Nays: 0

Resolved that the Town Board appoint Dean Curtis as Building Custodian to fill vacancy of Pam Locke resignation April 4th 2025.

- **Reimbursement to Johannes Schokker**

RESOLUTION 2025- 51 : Reimbursement for Retirement Contributions:

On a motion of Councilmember Hilts, seconded by Councilmember Dickerson, the following resolution was: ADOPTED: Ayes: 4, Nays: 0

Resolved that the Board grant authorization to reimburse Johannes Schokker in the amount of \$30.18, representing an overpayment of retirement contributions for the month of January 2025

- **2012 Chevrolet 2500 Pickup Truck**

RESOLUTION 2025- 52 : 2012 Chevrolet 2500 Pickup Truck as Surplus:

On a motion of Councilmember Golley, seconded by Councilmember Dickerson, the following resolution was: ADOPTED: Ayes: 4, Nays: 0

Resolved that Town of Eaton Town Board declare the 2012 Chevrolet 2500 pickup truck surplus with authorization for the Highway Superintendent to sell the truck for scrap due to repairs in excess of the vehicle's value

- **PAY THE BILLS:**

RESOLUTION 2025- 53 : Audit of Claims for Abstract 3 for 2025 dates.

On a motion of Councilmember Hilts, seconded by Councilmember Golley, the following resolution was: ADOPTED: Ayes: 4, Nays: 0

Resolved that the bills contained on Abstract #3-2025 have been reviewed by the Town Board and are authorized for payment in the following amounts:

Abstract 3 – 2025

General A Fund	No.	32	through	47	\$ 7,919.57
General B Fund Part Town	No.	11	Through	14	\$389.27
General H – Capital Machine	No.		Through		
Street Lighting SL	No.	3	through	3	\$ 655.63
Highway Fund Townwide DA	No.	21	through	33	\$15,591.85
Highway Fund Part Town DB	No.		Through		
			Total		\$ 24,556.32

ADJOURNMENT:

With no further business, on a motion of Councilmember Dickerson, seconded by Councilmember Golley, the meeting was adjourned at 7:00 p.m. Carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted, Dean Curtis, Town Clerk/Tax Collector