

April 21st, 2025

## **Kingsbury Town Board Meeting April 21st, 2025**

The Town Board meeting for the Town of Kingsbury was conducted on Monday April 21st, 2025, at the Kingsbury Town Hall, 6 Michigan Street, Hudson Falls.

Present: Dana Hogan, Supervisor  
Sean Akins, Councilman  
Bill Haessly, Councilman  
Jim Lindsay, Councilman  
Dan Washburn, Councilman

Others Present: Jeff Meyer, Town Attorney  
Mason Leonard, Highway Superintendent  
Todd Humiston, Dog and Code Enforcement  
Scott Lindsay  
Mike LaRose

The meeting was called to order by Supervisor Hogan at 6:30pm and opened for business with the Flag Salute by Councilman Haessly.

The minutes of April 7th, 2025, Town Board Meeting were accepted as submitted by the Town Clerk on April 17th. A motion by Councilman Washburn and seconded by Councilman Akins and carried by a vote of 5 ayes.

### **I. Moratorium for Battery Storage**

Town Attorney, Jeff Meyer, was asked at the last Town Board meeting to prepare a Moratorium for battery storage. If the Board agrees to it, then we can go forward and schedule a Public Hearing to introduce it. From there we can adopt it. A motion by Councilman Lindsay and seconded by Councilman Washburn and carried by a vote of 5 ayes to schedule a Public Hearing for Monday May 19<sup>th</sup>, 2025.

### **II. NYSLRS Record of Activities**

An email on April 17<sup>th</sup> was sent to the Board with the Record of Activities that the Comptroller was seeking approval for. Councilman Haessly would like to discuss it before approving. A motion by Councilman Washburn and seconded by Councilman Lindsay and carried by a vote of 5 ayes for the Board to discuss this. Councilman Haessly is concerned that the Standard Workday Reporting Resolution is going to harm future retirement for fulltime employees if they are not working at least 32 hours. He suggests we don't approve until we get something from the NYS Retirement Board indicating what level of hours worked is considered Part-Time and Full-Time. He doesn't want this to affect elected and appointed officials down the road. Councilman Haessly said the Standard Workday and Record of Activities should at least match each other. Councilman Washburn said the Records of Activities is just Town employees self-reporting what they've worked. Councilman Haessly said he sees it showing 6 hours. Code Officer Humiston said he's done

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it before but never accounted for overtime. Highway Superintendent Leonard said he just submitted to Rebecca the last three months of activity and he did not note the on-call days. Councilman Washburn asked Councilman Haessly if he was referring to the other attachment, the Resolution for the Standard Workday and the 6 hours on there. Councilman Haessly said the two go hand in hand. Councilman Washburn then asked if Councilman Haessly was trying to ask who indicated if a six-hour workday was a standard workday. Councilman Haessly said New York State Retirement Board is who indicates what a standard workday is and then asked if we could table this and investigate it. Supervisor Hogan agreed and told Councilman Haessly we could table this for two weeks while he gets answers.

### **III. NYSLRS Standard Workday and Reporting Resolution**

Supervisor Hogan and Councilman Haessly agreed this should also be tabled for two weeks.

### **Legal Update**

Attorney Jeff Meyer said Comptroller Rebecca asked if the Town Board would adopt two Resolutions establishing a Capital Reserve for Water and a Repair Reserve for Buildings. Supervisor Hogan would like the full Board to review these so he is going to forward both Resolutions so everyone can read them and then in two weeks they can come back to it. Jeff Meyer said for context at the Budget Board meeting in November it was discussed that we had \$400,000.00 in unexpended reserves for the Water district so we would essentially just be moving that money into an account dedicated for Water. We currently have one for highway equipment and we have one with \$200,000.00 for buildings. The auditors spoke to Rebecca and suggested doing it this way and having separate accounts for everything.

### **Reports**

Paige Zahaba, Town Clerk

1. The Town Clerks BAS system was down from April 9<sup>th</sup> to April 21<sup>st</sup>. They were called every day. Town Hall was still able to take in money and keep everything organized. It did come back up today at about 10:00am and everything caught up and entered into BAS. Deposits were all made as well. Because BAS was down for so long a report was made via Excel so deposits could still be made, and those reports matched the reports that were printed today on BAS.
2. Tax Collection is finished and the County said everything was good. The only adjustment Washington County made was a special franchise write off fee so those checks will be made for the County and Town. Other than that, it was to the penny.
3. Interviews have been conducted over the last two weeks and a Deputy Clerk should be starting May 5<sup>th</sup>.

Todd Humiston, Dog and Code Enforcement

1. Flood Plan Maps are currently from 1979, and FEMA is doing an update, and they are proposing changes. These changes will affect the County but won't affect us as badly as originally thought. It looks like there are five parcels that will be going into the flood plain,

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but 21 parcels will be coming off. He spoke with the Supervisor and thinks it would be a good idea to send notices to those five parcels offering the ability to come in for an educational meeting where we let them know what is going on and what they can expect. Todd reached out to the POC in DEC and is awaiting a response to see if this has already been done and if it hasn't been done if they had any literature, they would like us to use. Will update when he knows more. Supervisor Hogan said it's not a significant volume, but it is potentially very significant to those five parcels that get added. They are now being put into a new flood plan and now the mortgage company could force them to carry flood insurance. Todd said that's if FEMA doesn't grandfather them in and then they would have to retrofit their homes to meet the building standards. This could potentially be very expensive as well. Supervisor Hogan suggests we send letters to the 21 parcels coming off as well. Scott Lindsay questioned why it is changing now. Todd Humiston went on to explain why and Supervisor Hogan summarized it. Supervisor Hogan said with increasingly violent weather and more active weather FEMA said they are revising to ensure accurate information on flood risk which can change due to various factors including environmental changes, land alterations and climate impacts. Outdated maps can lead to misinformation about flood exposure and potentially inaccurate insurance rates impacting individuals and communities.

Todd Humiston and Supervisor Hogan joined Tetra Tech and gentleman from Homeland Security for a meeting and they got on the subject on Flood Plans. Supervisor Hogan was asked if he'd object to their Flood Plan Maps. Supervisor Hogan let her know that we do not have the technical expertise to object to this and questioned why anyone would do that. She answered that it would benefit the community. He then asked what would happen if we did object and pull a parcel out of the Flood Plane and a day later, we had a flood, and they lost their home. The Town of Kingsbury would be in trouble.

2. Water Update. Todd spoke with Highway Superintendent Mason Leonard and our Water person for the Town John Rosati. There is an old spring fed water sight on Burgoyne that the Village owns and are possibly selling off that piece of land. John Rosati and Todd Humiston would like to have the company doing our current water study look and see if it's even worth anything. Supervisor Hogan thinks it wouldn't hurt to have that conversation with Kathleen Suozzo to see if it were something she would look at and give a quote for. If a reasonable number is given, we can move forward. If the Board doesn't like the quote and doesn't find it worth it or if she isn't able to uncover giving a proper quote, then we don't go any further. The Board had no objection to Mason Leonard seeing if the Village would sell and for how much and then Todd or John Rosati reaching out to Kathleen.

Highway Superintendent, Mason Leonard

1. Mason is looking for the Board to accept a GovDeals winning bid 1995 Ford Single plow truck for \$3150.00. It was listed for 7 days. A motion by Councilman Washburn and seconded by Councilman Akins and carried by a vote of 5 ayes to accept this surplus.
2. Mason is looking to deem a 2004 Volvo Dump Truck surplus. We originally obtained by trading a skid steerer. The Town of Fort Ann would like to purchase it

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for \$8000.00. It is currently our spare but when we get our new truck this fall it will become our spare. If for whatever reason our truck doesn't come in this fall we have TK 6 which is a single axel that we can use like we did a couple times this year. It will be used as a spare truck for Fort Ann but if anything happened we would be allowed to use it. Councilman Washburn did want to confirm the Town is allowed to sell a truck we got as part of a trade and Attorney Jeff Meyer confirmed it was okay. A motion by Councilman Washburn and seconded by Councilman Lindsay and carried by a vote of 5 ayes to deem the truck as surplus.

3. Mason updated the Board that the highway department is a week into screening sand and making progress. The highway department will then start mowing. Their analyzers purchase was supposed to be put in tomorrow, but they needed to reschedule. Supervisor Hogan asked what we were doing with our old mower since we got the new John Deere mower in. He said it is still being used and he plans to use it as long as he can.
4. Lastly the auditors had asked Mason to put together a 5-year plan for purchasing and projects. He created a 5-year plan and will be forwarding it to the Board.

#### Supervisor Report

1. Supervisor Hogan wanted to update that we will be hearing them talk more about the budget earlier this year at Washington County. They are already discussing significant tax increases. Sales tax is trending down and DSS costs are rising fast. Unfunded mandates are getting worse as the years go by.

#### Written Reports for March 2025

A motion by Councilman Washburn and seconded by Councilman Lindsay and carried by a vote of 5 ayes to accept the written reports for the Town Clerk, Comptroller and Code Enforcement/DCO as submitted:

#### **Code Enforcement Officer:**

**No. Permits-11**

**Fire Inspections-10**

**Research Fees-\$25.00**

**Building Inspections-5**

**Total Fees-\$1540.40**

#### **Dog Control Officer:**

**Complaints-6**

**Seizures-4**

**Written Warning-1**

**Verbal Warning-1**

**Mileage-61491**

#### **Town Clerk:**

**Paid to Encon-\$47.23**

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**Paid to Supervisor-\$4,795.67**  
**State Share of Games of Chance-\$15.00**  
**Paid to the Village of Hudson Falls -\$60.00**  
**Paid to Ag & Markets for Population Control-\$105.00**  
**Paid to Department of Health-\$45.00**

**Town Comptroller:**  
**Receipts-\$154,796.07**  
**Disbursements-\$940,892.38**

Supervisor Hogan opened public comment.

A motion by Councilman Washburn and seconded by Councilman Akins and carried by a vote of 5 ayes at 7:07pm to enter Executive session for a quick discussion.

No action is expected to be taken in Executive session.

A motion by Councilman Washburn and seconded by Councilman Haessly and carried by a vote of 5 ayes at 7:09pm to exit Executive session. No action was taken.

A motion by Councilman Washburn and seconded by Councilman Haessly and carried by a vote of 5 ayes at 7:09pm to adjourn.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Paige Zahaba". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Paige Zahaba, Town Clerk