

**DRAFT TOWN OF SARATOGA TOWN BOARD
MEETING MINUTES
12 SPRING ST., SCHUYLERVILLE, NY**

**June 8th, 2026
7:00 P.M.**

Supervisor Ian Murray opened the meeting with the pledge of allegiance at 7:00 p.m.

Roll call: Town Clerk Michelle Conover, called the roll: Supervisor Ian Murray - present, Councilman Michael McLoughlin – present, Councilwoman Ruth Drumm – present, Councilman Gary Squires – present, Councilman Andy Ellis - present.

Also present: Deputy Clerk Emilee Shevlin, Building Inspector/Zoning Officer Gil Albert, Highway Superintendent Ryan Campbell and other interested parties.

Posting Dates: Supervisor Murray read posting dates for the draft minutes, meeting notices and the draft agenda for this meeting.

Recognitions/Presentations/ Bid openings/Public Hearings: None.

Approval of Minutes: A motion was made by Councilmember Gary Squires and seconded by Councilmember Ruth Drumm, **to accept the minutes of the May 11th, 2026 Regular Town Board meeting as written.** Supervisor Ian Murray- aye, Councilman Michael McLoughlin – aye, Councilwoman Ruth Drumm – aye, Councilman Gary Squires - aye, Councilman Andy Ellis - aye.
Carried 5 –0

Town Clerk’s report for May 2026: Fees paid to the NYS Dept. of Agriculture and Markets for the Animal Population Control Program \$34.00. Fees paid to New York D.E.C. for hunting and fishing licenses \$201.23. Fees paid to the New York State Health Department for Marriage licenses \$22.50. Dog license fees to Supervisor Ian Murray \$155.00. Clerk fees to Supervisor Ian Murray \$119.27. Total State and Local Revenues received were \$532.00.

Zoning Officer’s report for May 2026: 12 Building Permits, 16 Building Inspections, 2 Certificates of Occupancy, 0 Junkyard Permits, 0 Complaints, 0 Fire Inspections, 0 Order to Remedy, 2 misc., 2 Building Permit Renewals and 0 Property Maintenance Inspections. A check for \$3,913.40 was given to Supervisor Ian Murray.

Dog Control officer’s report for May 2026: Ed Cross, Dog Control Officer answered 13 complaints, took 0 dogs to the shelter, 0 bite cases, 41 traveled miles, issued 11 warnings and 0 summons’ were issued.

Town Court report for May 2026: 20 Traffic tickets closed, 4 Criminal/penal law case closed, 3 civil cases closed, 3 Encon/DEC closed, 1 DWI cases closed, 0 Town and Dog cases closed. Supervisor Ian Murray received a check from Justice John McCarron in the amount of \$2,128.00, a check from Justice Charles Sherman in the amount of \$70.00, for a total of \$2,198.00.

Tax Collector’s report May 2026: No report.

Historians Report — May 2026

May marked another productive month, with continued momentum across digital outreach, public programming, and regional engagement. Efforts remain focused on connecting residents and visitors to the Town’s role in the American Revolution, particularly as preparations continue toward the 250th anniversary of the Battles of Saratoga.

Digital Metrics and Growth

Digital storytelling remains a central component of outreach, with strong and measurable engagement across platforms:

- ❖ Substack subscribers increased by approximately 9% over the previous month.
- ❖ A total of 30 original articles were published, generating 11,146 views.
- ❖ The Town Historian's WordPress site recorded 896 views.
- ❖ Facebook reach remained steady, with approximately 109,200 views.

In total, the Historian's digital platforms generated approximately 121,272 views in May. These figures reflect sustained audience interest and demonstrate the effectiveness of a consistent, place-based storytelling strategy centered on Saratoga County and the surrounding region.

Public Programs and Outreach

Public programming expanded during May, with four events reflecting strong community engagement:

- ❖ A 250th anniversary program at the Gateway Visitors Center in Schuylerville
- ❖ Keynote presentation in a Northeast regional conference in Lake George
- ❖ A film forum at Crandall Public Library in Lake George
- ❖ Participation in the Fort Plain 250 Conference alongside leading scholars

In addition, a presentation was delivered to the Quaker Springs Sunshiners Club focusing on the upcoming 250th anniversary and the Town of Saratoga's role in the commemoration. This program provided an opportunity to connect directly with local residents and community groups.

I also coordinated some of the reenactors for the reinterment of smallpox victims from the American Revolution in Saratoga Springs and Lake George. This event generated significant regional and national media coverage, including features on National Public Radio and CNN.

Events and Community Engagement

Planning continues for the Turning Point Parade & Festival and the 2027 commemoration of the Battles of Saratoga. Coordination with regional partners remains ongoing to ensure these events reflect both historical accuracy and broad public engagement

Respectfully submitted,

Sean Kelleher

Town Historian, Town of Saratoga

Assessor's report May 2026: No report.

Highway Superintendent's report for May 2026:

- ❖ Cleared large branches, trees & brush from Highways & right of way
- ❖ Repaired/replaced damaged or missing road signs throughout Town
- ❖ Patched pot holes throughout Town
- ❖ Multiple repairs made to trucks & equipment
- ❖ Cleaned shop & equipment
- ❖ Repaired shoulders on Fitch Rd
- ❖ Installed 180' of underdrain on Fitch Rd
- ❖ Replaced multiple cross culverts on Fitch, Sweet & Condon
- ❖ Regraded dirt roads, added material to Swamp Rd
- ❖ Installed 250th and Veteran banners throughout both Villages & Town
- ❖ Mowed all trails, Built parking lot at south entrance of Siege Trail
- ❖ Completed resurfacing on Beaver St with Northumberland
- ❖ Assisted in road construction with Towns of Moreau, Greenfield & Northumberland

SUPERVISOR’S REPORT May 2026:

GENERAL FUND – TOWNWIDE (A FUND)

Balance on hand 5/1/2026	\$ 939,000.00
Revenues	+ 346,450.80
Disbursements	- (270,838.97)
Balance 5/31/2026	\$1,014,611.83

GENERAL FUND – OUTSIDE VILLAGE (B FUND)

Balance on hand 5/1/2026	\$2,422,400.50
Revenues	+ 2,968.69
Disbursements	- (11,382.75)
Balance 5/31/2026	\$2,413,986.44

HIGHWAY FUND – OUTSIDE VILLAGE (DB FUND)

Balance on hand 5/1/2026	\$ 180,534.51
Revenues	+ 189,433.40
Disbursements	- (55,800.56)
Balance 5/31/2026	\$ 314,167.35

SCHUYLER PARK 5/31/2026	\$ 102,883.66
YOUTH RECREATION & SERVICE 5/31/2026	\$ 8,673.85
HIGHWAY EQUIPMENT RESERVE 5/31/2026	\$ 245,038.96
BUILDING RESERVE 5/31/2026	\$ 484,579.69
CDPHP & HRA 5/31/2026	\$ 3,933.68
CDBG PROJECT 5/31/2026	\$ 16,533.20
SCENIC BY WAYS QRTLRY 5/31/2026	\$ 312.61
PARKS RESERVE 5/31/2026	\$ 376,956.55
GFNB Certificate of Deposit 5/31/2026	\$ 873,415.50
NYCLASS 5/31/2026	\$ 831,681.30
GFNB – ICS General Fund	\$1,001,576.23

Supervisor Ian Murray stated that our mid-year expenses are right on budget and revenues are little bit ahead.

Supervisor Murray advised that Supervisor Murray, Town Clerk Michelle Conover, Deputy Clerk Emilee Shevlin and Historian Sean Kelleher have been through our second and final day of training for the new Town of Saratoga website. We’ve had four and a half hours of training and we will be ready to launch the new website once the .gov website address is approved.

Mortgage Tax May 2026 Distribution - \$ 22,453.50

Sales Tax May 2026 Distribution - \$ 189,356.00

Quarterly Adult use Cannabis Tax Distribution - \$ 7,438.77

Public comments on agenda items: No one spoke.

Committee reports:

Landfill: Highway Superintendent Ryan Campbel advised they have brush hogged and reflagged the well sites in the landfill. Councilmember Gary Squires stated that he is meeting with the sampling company on Wednesday for testing.

Insurance: Supervisor Ian Murray stated he is working on the renewals for Schuyler Park and the general liability for the Towns insurance.

Youth: Councilmember Michael McLoughlin said that Schuylerville FFA members earned state honors and national qualifications at the 2026 convention including, individual state titles, team awards and national qualifications.

Park Committee: No report.

Office of Emergency Management (OEM): No report.

Old / Other Business: None

New Business:

On a motion by Councilmember Michael McLoughlin and seconded by Councilmember Andy Ellis the following **Resolution #26-44 Fund Transfers** was adopted by vote: Supervisor Ian Murray- aye, Councilman Michael McLoughlin – aye, Councilwoman Ruth Drumm – aye, Councilman Gary Squires - aye, Councilman Andy Ellis – aye.

Carried 5 – 0

FROM	TO	AMOUNT	DESCRIPTION
A1990.4 Contingency	A1460.4 Records Management Contractual	\$500	To cover additional expenses used
B1990.4 Contingency	B4020.4 Registrar Contractual	\$100	To cover additional expenses used
B1990.4 Contingency	B3620.4 Safety Inspection Contractual	\$1000	To cover additional expenses used
B1990.4 Contingency	B7997.2 Culture & Rec Outlay	\$5000	To cover additional appropriations for Hudson River Partnership
DB5110.4 General Repairs Contractual	DB1989.4 Other General Govt Support Contractual	\$1000	To cover additional expenses used

Communications: Follow-up concerning TE 9 Application for Speed Reduction on Cedar Bluff Rd (County Road 71). We received a follow-up letter from resident John Cashin regarding the TE 9 speed reduction request on May 21st, 2026 stating that he contacted the County and State and the request had not been received by either agency.

Supervisor Ian Murray stated at the November 6th, 2025 meeting last year the Town Board approved by formal motion the authorization to send in the TE 9 request to the County. Supervisor Ian Murray filled out the draft request and gave it to the Town Clerk Michelle Conover to sign and email the request to Chad Cooke at the County on November 20th, 2025. Supervisor Murray explained that these requests have to go to the County first then it will be forwarded to NYSDOT. Upon receiving John’s follow up letter on the 21st of May, it was discovered that Town Clerk Michelle Conover had Chad Cooke’s email address incorrect, the email didn’t get bounced back to her to indicate it wasn’t delivered.

On May 26th, 2026 the Town Clerk resent the request to Chad Cooke and he forwarded it to NYSDOT. Supervisor Ian Murray talked to Chad and he advised that he got a response back from NYSDOT and they received the request, so now it will go through the process, it may take several months. Supervisor Murray stated we did our due diligence but we had a hiccup in the process.

Supervisor Ian Murray stated we received an email from resident Mike Faye wondering if the Town would have a bulk waste pick up for its residents. Supervisor Ian Murray, Town Board members and Highway Superintendent Ryan Campbell discussed options that might be possible. Supervisor Murray stated the money is not in this year's budget, we will pick it up for discussion at the upcoming budget cycle for next year.

Privilege of the floor: None.

Upcoming meetings:

- ❖ Regular Town Board meeting – Monday, July 13th, 2026 at 7:00 p.m.

Audit the Bills: On a motion by Councilmember Ruth Drumm and seconded by Councilmember Gary Squires, the following **Resolution #26-45 Approving the Payment of Bills in Abstract 6G of 2026**, was adopted by vote: Supervisor Ian Murray- aye, Councilman Michael McLoughlin – aye, Councilwoman Ruth Drumm – aye, Councilman Gary Squires - aye, Councilman Andy Ellis - aye.

Carried 5 – 0

RESOLVED, by the Town Board of the Town of Saratoga to authorize payment of the bills listed in **Abstract 6G of 2026 in the following amounts:**

General Fund DB	No. 325-339	\$ 13,663.75
General Fund A	No. 301-305, 309, 320-321, 324, 340-356	\$ 27,612.37
General Fund B	No. 310, 322-323, 357-359	\$ 13,949.02
General Fund H	No. 306, 360-361	<u>\$ 3,597.22</u>
Grand Total		\$ 58,822.36

A motion was made by Councilmember Andy Ellis and seconded by Councilmember Michael McLoughlin to adjourn the meeting at 7:27 p.m. Supervisor Ian Murray - aye, Councilmember Michael McLoughlin – aye, Councilmember Ruth Drumm – aye, Councilmember Gary Squires - aye, Councilmember Andy Ellis - aye.

Carried 5 – 0

Meeting Adjourned

Respectfully Submitted,

Michelle Conover
Town Clerk