

TOWN OF SARATOGA TOWN BOARD
DRAFT MEETING MINUTES
12 SPRING ST., SCHUYLERVILLE, NY
OCTOBER 8th, 2025
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, Councilwoman Maxine Lautenberg – present.

Also present: Deputy Town Clerk Emilee M. Jones, Building Inspector/Zoning Officer Gil Albert, Highway Superintendent Ryan Campbell, and other interested parties. (Sign in sheet on file in the Town Clerk's office).

Recognitions/Presentations/ Bid openings/Public Hearings:

Supervisor Murray advised that at our last meeting on September 8th, 2025 we conducted a Public Hearing for a Mass Gathering Permit for the Saratoga Rowing Association. The Town needed an updated certificate of insurance from Saratoga Rowing. The Town did receive the update COI and later in tonight's meeting there is a resolution for approval of the Mass Gathering Permit.

Supervisor Murray also stated at our last Meeting on September 8th, 2025 the Town also conducted a Public Hearing for the Mostly Modern Arts PUD application. Supervisor Murray advised that the Town received a letter from the applicant's council and asked to have the application pulled from the October meeting and future meetings at this time. A copy of the letter requesting adjournment is on file in the Town Clerks office. The Town will not be conducting any business or have any discussions on this PUD application tonight.

Approval of Minutes: A motion was made by Councilmember Michael McLoughlin and seconded by Councilmember Gary Squires, **to accept the minutes of the September 08th, 2025 Town Board meeting as written.** Supervisor Ian Murray- aye, Councilman Michael McLoughlin – aye, Councilwoman Ruth Drumm – aye Councilman Gary Squires - aye, Councilwoman Maxine Lautenberg - aye.

Carried 5-0

Town Clerk's report for September 2025: Fees paid to the NYS Dept. of Agriculture and Markets for the Animal Population Control Program \$38.00. Fees paid to New York D.E.C. for hunting and fishing licenses \$2,262.53. Fees paid to the New York State Health Department for Marriage licenses \$90.00 Dog license fees to Supervisor Ian Murray \$175.00. Clerk fees to Supervisor Ian Murray \$361.47. Total State and Local Revenues received were \$2,827.00.

Zoning Officer's report for September 2025: 7 Building Permits, 21 Building Inspections, 7 Certificates of Occupancy, 0 Junkyard Permits, 0 Complaint, 0 Fire Inspections, 0 Orders to Remedy, 13 misc., 7 Building Permit Renewals and 0 Property Maintenance Inspections. A check for \$8,452.00 was given to Supervisor Ian Murray.

Dog Control officer's report for September 2025: Ed Cross, Dog Control Officer answered 12 complaints, took 0 dogs to the shelter, 0 bite case, traveled 64 miles, issued 5 warning and 0 summons' were issued.

Town Court report for September 2025: 27 Traffic tickets closed, 6 Criminal/penal law cases closed, 1 Civil case closed, 1 Encon/DEC closed, 0 DWI case closed, 2 Town and Dog cases closed. Supervisor Ian Murray received a check from Justice John McCarron in the amount of \$1,760.00 a check from Justice Charles Sherman in the amount of \$380.00 for a total of \$2,140.00.

Tax Collector's report for September 2025: No Report.

Historians Report September 2025:

- ❖ The past month has been a whirlwind of activity, progress, and pride for Saratoga's history community. **Stewart's Shops** launched Knox Cannonball Crunch in Schuylerville — a commemorative ice cream celebrating the 250th anniversary of Henry Knox's "Noble Train." The press event brought local leaders, media, and families together to kick off the countdown to the Semiquincentennial in delicious style.
- ❖ Momentum continues to build around the **Saratoga Revolutionary Experience**, which is evolving into both a **physical heritage hub in downtown Schuylerville** at the visitors center and a **travel app** guiding visitors through our Revolutionary landscape. History is finding its way back into the heart of the village — and into visitors' hands. A major highlight was **Ken Burns' visit to Saratoga National Historical Park**, followed by an evening at the Palace Theatre in Albany for previews of his forthcoming PBS documentary The American Revolution. His recognition of Saratoga as America's Turning Point reinforces the national significance of our story.
- ❖ Since the launch of **Saratoga250** in July 2022, momentum has only accelerated. Park visitation has soared from **70,682 in 2021 to 117,000 in 2024** — a **65% increase** generating **\$10.4 million** in local economic impact. Heritage tourism is thriving, and Saratoga is leading the way.
- ❖ The Park's **Soldier Encampment at the Battlefield** drew strong public interest: **September 20 & 21** Visitors met Continental and British troops — Massachusetts regiments and the 24th and 62nd Regiments of Foot — in a vivid recreation of 1777. Our office helped promote and participate throughout the weekend.
- ❖ Digital engagement continues to rise. In September alone, Town of Saratoga Historian content reached **9,500 views** across **120 posts**, including **38 new content written for August 2025**. Facebook activity totaled **7,400 views**, reflecting growing public interest in both our digital storytelling and local events.
- ❖ Looking ahead to October, we're preparing for a full **Victory Season at Saratoga** — even amid the uncertainty of a federal shutdown. Highlights include **Siege Weekend**, **Surrender Day at Fort Hardy** (with over 250 students attending), and the **Surrender Day Bus Tour**, which I'll lead through the battlefields of 1777.
- ❖ Our work continues — connecting people, place, and purpose through history. Saratoga's story is reaching farther and resonating deeper every month.

Submitted,
Sean Kelleher
Historian, Town of Saratoga

Assessor's Report September 2025: No Report.

Highway Superintendent's report for September 2025:

- ❖ Cleared large branches, trees & brush from Highways & right of way
- ❖ Mowed & trimmed Town properties & right of ways
- ❖ Cleared low hanging branches & hung new flag Schuyler Park
- ❖ Repaired/replaced damaged or missing road signs throughout Town
- ❖ Replaced driveway culvert 161 Casey Road
- ❖ Hauled in shoulder material for upcoming projects
- ❖ Ditched & hydro seeded Condon Road
- ❖ Crack sealed River Rd, Hayes Rd, Ironwood Dr, Anothny Ln - In House
- ❖ Shimmed & Resurfaced Wagmans Ridge Rd - In House

- ❖ Rented paver from Town of Providence
- ❖ Assisted with paving projects in the Towns of Easton, Halfmoon & Northumberland
- ❖ PM service completed on Highway garage overhead doors
- ❖ Paving completed for 2025 season total of twelve (12) lane miles paved

Supervisor's report:

SUPERVISOR'S REPORT SEPTEMBER 2025

GENERAL FUND – TOWNWIDE (A FUND)

Balance on hand 9/1/2025	\$ 481,703.20
Revenues	+ 292,684.63
Disbursements	- (180,617.37)
Balance 9/30/25	\$ 593,770.46

GENERAL FUND – OUTSIDE VILLAGE (B FUND)

Balance on hand 9/1/2025	\$2,313,456.00
Revenues	+ 37,160.30
Disbursements	- (88,036.89)
Balance 9/30/2025	\$ 2,262,579.41

HIGHWAY FUND – OUTSIDE VILLAGE (DB FUND)

Balance on hand 9/1/2025	\$ 469,526.19
Revenues	+ 58,879.00
Disbursements	- (81,190.17)
Balance 9/30/2025	\$ 447,215.02

SCHUYLER PARK 9/30/2025	\$ 74,848.55
YOUTH RECREATION & SERVICE 9/30/2025	\$ 8,673.85
HIGHWAY EQUIPMENT RESERVE 9/30/2025	\$ 244,897.45
BUILDING RESERVE 9/30/2025	\$ 484,278.40
CDPHP & HRA 9/30/2025	\$ 5,653.73
AHC HOME IMPROVEMENT 9/30/2025	\$ 41,101.00
CDBG PROJECT 9/30/25	\$ 37,940.20
SCENIC BY WAYS QTRRLY 9/30/2025	\$ 312.49
PARKS RESERVE 9/30/2025	\$ 376,956.55
GFNB Certificate of Deposit 9/30/2025	\$ 848,314.69
NYCLASS 9/30/2025	\$ 809,016.96

August 2025 Distribution - Sales Tax Received - \$ 192,557.00

September 2025 Distribution- Mortgage Tax Received - \$11,849.00

Supervisor Murray communicated to the Town Board that a copy of the tentative 2026 budget is included in their packet this evening. Supervisor Murray advised he would like to schedule a 2026 budget workshop. It was decided the workshop will take place on Thursday, October 23rd, 2025 at 9:00 a.m. in the upstairs glass-room meeting area.

Public comments on agenda items: None

Committee reports:

Landfill: No report.

Insurance: No report

Youth: No report

Park Committee: Councilmember Gary Squires stated The Schuyler Park Committee did not have a formal in person meeting this past month, but there are Schuyler Park updates:

Financial

- ❖ Annual contributions from both the Towns of Saratoga and Northumberland, as well as the Schuylerville School have been received.

Eagle Scout Project

- ❖ Ethan Lavendar is working to replace the existing Girls Softball Dugout with one identical to the one used by the Boys teams.
- ❖ He marked out his proposed dugout site which showed a conflict with an existing irrigation box. That irrigation box has been moved by the irrigation company.

Other Updates

- ❖ New soccer nets have been procured.
- ❖ New chain has been installed on the east entrance gate that will prevent the gate from accidentally swinging into a car.
- ❖ Town of Saratoga Highway Department has been requested to replace the Park Flag, and trim the branches on the west side that hang over the roadway.
- ❖ New signs have been ordered to replace the existing sign at the road side and the double sided “Welcome / Thank You” sign at the entrance.
- ❖ Irrigation Zones have been adjusted and in conjunction with the efforts to limit access to the system, are working as they should.
- ❖ Overall, fields look great and should be able to handle Fall soccer without a problem.

Office of Emergency Management (OEM): No report.

WEMS: No report.

Old Business: None.

New Business:

Resolution : On a motion by Councilmember Maxine Lautenberg and seconded by Councilmember Michael McLoughlin, the following **Resolution #25-52 Mass Gathering Permit 2025 Saratoga Rowing Association, Rowing Regatta**, was adopted by vote: Supervisor Ian Murray- aye, Councilman Michael McLoughlin – aye, Councilwoman Ruth Drumm – aye, Councilman Gary Squires - aye, Councilwoman Maxine Lautenberg - aye.

Carried 5 – 0

WHEREAS, the Town Board of the Town of Saratoga has received and reviewed the application for a Mass Gathering Permit by the Saratoga Rowing Association for the following Regatta:

Saratoga Rowing Association
543 Union Avenue
P.O. Box 750
Saratoga Springs, NY 12866
Contact: Caitlin Alaynick, Regatta Director

Rowing Regatta to be held Saturday, October 25th and Sunday, October 26th at Fish Creek, Saratoga Lake, with approximately 6,000+ people attending over the two-day event; and

WHEREAS, the required information has been submitted, as required by Local Law #2 of 2006, and

WHEREAS, the Town Board of the Town of Saratoga has held a public hearing on September 8, 2025 for input by interested persons, and

WHEREAS, the event is desirable for the town, therefore be it,

RESOLVED, by the Town Board of the Town of Saratoga that the permits be granted conditional upon the Town of Saratoga receiving a Certificate of Insurance for the above event naming the Town of Saratoga as additional insured in the amount of \$2 million, at least 5 business days prior to the event; that the event is found to be in compliance with the NYS Department of Health regulations of Chapter 1, Title 10, Part 18 by the NYS DOH when required; and that the review of the information required by Local Law #2 of 2006, Section 3 is found to be adequate.

Communications: None

Privilege of the floor: No one addressed the Board

Upcoming meetings:

- ❖ Budget Workshop Thursday, October 23rd, 2025 at 9:00 a.m.
- ❖ Regular Town Board meeting – THURSDAY, November 6th, 2025 at 7:00 p.m.

Audit the Bills: On a motion by Councilmember Maxine Lautenberg and seconded by Councilmember Michael McLoughlin, the following **Resolution #25-54 Approving the Payment of Bills in Abstract 10G of 2025**, was adopted by vote: Supervisor Ian Murray- aye, Councilman Michael McLoughlin – aye, Councilwoman Ruth Drumm – aye, Councilman Gary Squires - aye, Councilwoman Maxine Lautenberg - aye.

Carried 5 – 0

RESOLVED, by the Town Board of the Town of Saratoga to authorize payment of the bills listed in **Abstract 10G of 2025 in the following amounts:**

General Fund DB	No. 596, 608-628	\$125,093.24
General Fund A	No. 578-582, 590, 593-595, 606, 629-646	\$ 40,460.54
General Fund B	No. 591, 647-649	\$ 2,294.07
General Fund H	No. 583-584, 592, 607, 650-651	\$ 5,915.75
General Fund CDBG	No. 652-654	<u>\$ 49,353.00</u>
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Grand Total		<u>\$223,368.60</u>

A motion was made by Councilmember Gary Squires and seconded by Councilmember Michael McLoughlin to adjourn the meeting at 7:18 p.m. Supervisor Ian Murray - aye, Councilmember Michael McLoughlin – aye, Councilmember Ruth Drumm – aye, Councilmember Gary Squires - aye, Councilmember Maxine Lautenberg - aye.

Carried 5– 0

Meeting Adjourned

Respectfully Submitted,

Michelle Conover
Town Clerk