

MINUTES OF THE DECEMBER 2, 2025 MEETING OF THE TOWN BOARD OF THE TOWN OF POUND RIDGE HELD AT 179 WESTCHESTER AVENUE, POUND RIDGE, NEW YORK, AND VIA ZOOM VIDEOCONFERENCE, COMMENCING AT 7:30 PM

PRESENT: SUPERVISOR KEVIN HANSAN
DEPUTY SUPERVISOR/COUNCILPERSON DIANE BRIGGS
COUNCILPERSON ALISON BOAK
COUNCILPERSON DANIEL PASCHKES

ALSO

PRESENT: DEPUTY TOWN ATTORNEY JOHN LOVELESS
TOWN CLERK ERIN TROSTLE

NOT

PRESENT: COUNCILPERSON NAMASHA SCHELLING
TOWN ATTORNEY WILLIAM HARRINGTON

I. CALL TO ORDER OF REGULAR MEETING

Supervisor Hansan called the meeting to order at 7:33 pm.

II. ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Thank you to the Garden Club for the swags and wreaths on street signs and other locations around town.
- Thanks as well to Dave Anderson Landscaping and the Pound Ridge Business Association (PRBA) for the lights and wreaths in Scotts Corners.
- The north lot in the Scotts Corners Parking District is being paved this week.
- The PRBA Holiday Market will be at the Village Green from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm on December 6.
- The Recreation Department will host its annual holiday luncheon for seniors on December 11.
- The Recreation Department, Fire Department, Police Department, and Pound Ridge Community Church will host a Candy Cane Drive-Around on December 13, starting at the elementary school and proceeding through various stops around town to the Village Green.
- Existing dog licenses can now be renewed online via the Town Clerk page of the website if the dog has current rabies vaccine information on file.
- Please note that the town website is now located at townofpoundridge.gov and that all town email addresses have been updated to include that domain name.

III. PUBLIC COMMENT I

There were no comments from members of the public.

IV. PUBLIC HEARING – 2026 Preliminary Budget

Board Action: Motion by Councilperson Boak, seconded by Councilperson Briggs, all voting aye, to open the public hearing.

Director of Finance Steven Conti presented the 2026 Preliminary Budget, which proposed a tax increase of 1.9%, which is under the 2.6% increase that would be allowed by the state-mandated cap. This will be the ninth year in a row that the budget has been under the cap. The 1.9% increase would have an average cost of approximately \$54 per household.

Resident John McCown, of 25 Miller Road, said it would be helpful if the budget could include full-year estimates rather than partial year-to-date figures that sometimes cover different periods.

Resident John Nathan, of 155 Upper Shad Road, questioned the amount allocated for legal expenses.

Mr. McCown also said that the budget should specify medical insurance costs by department.

Board Action: Motion by Councilperson Paschkes, seconded by Councilperson Briggs, all voting aye, to close the public hearing.

RESOLUTION 248-25

Board Action: Motion by Councilperson Paschkes, seconded by Councilperson Briggs, all voting aye on the following:

RESOLVED, that the Town Board hereby approves the 2026 Preliminary Budget as presented in its entirety.

V. NEW BUSINESS

A. Town Board – Formation of Trails Working Group

RESOLUTION 249-25

Board Action: Motion by Councilperson Boak, seconded by Councilperson Briggs, all voting aye on the following:

RESOLVED, that the Town Board hereby approves the formation of the Ad Hoc Trails Working Group as described below:

Charge:

The Trails Working Group is an ad-hoc sub-committee of the Sustainability Committee. The sub-committee is established to advise, support, and collaborate with the Town of Pound Ridge in the planning, stewardship, and promotion of a safe, accessible, and well-maintained trail network for public use and enjoyment. The committee is committed to enhancing community wellness, outdoor recreation, environmental awareness, and conservation.

Committee Structure & Operation:

The Trails Working Group shall be composed of (10) members, each appointed to a one-year term:

- A chairperson shall be selected annually by Sustainability Committee members by a majority vote
- 2 additional members of the Sustainability Committee
- 2 appointed by Old Pound Road Committee
- 1 appointed by the Conservation Board
- 1 appointed by Recreation Committee
- 1 appointed by Pound Ridge Land Conservancy
- 1 appointed by Pound Ridge Partnership
- 1 at-large member, preferably with relevant experience in trail development, conservation, recreation, fundraising, etc.

Meetings:

Meeting frequency will be determined by the chair depending upon the workload. Meetings will be publicly noticed and conducted in accordance with the New York State Open Meetings Law. Minutes shall be recorded and made available to the public and to the Town Board.

Responsibilities:

1. The Trails Working Group will coordinate and advance efforts related to the planning, development, maintenance, and promotion of an expanded trail system within the Town of Pound Ridge. The group will act as a collaborative advisory body to ensure trail initiatives align with conservation, recreation, and land-use goals of the town.
2. Work collaboratively to bring the Trails Grant Project to fruition.

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3. Identify and prioritize future trail projects, including new trails, trail improvements, and connectivity enhancements.
4. Identify and support funding opportunities, including grants, donations, or partnerships to support trail planning and maintenance.
5. Ensure trail-related activities are consistent with environmental conservation and sustainability and walkability goals.
6. Provide annual updates to the Town Board, including accomplishments, priorities, and long-term goals.

B. Town Clerk – Acknowledgment of flower basket quote

The Town Clerk indicated that a second bid, from Perennial Gardens, was omitted from the November 18, 2025 meeting packet. No action on this matter was required, and none was taken.

C. Police Department – Resignation of Officer Felix Corona

RESOLUTION 250-25

Board Action: Motion by Councilperson Briggs, seconded by Councilperson Paschkes, all voting aye on the following:

RESOLVED, that the Town Board hereby accepts the resignation of Police Officer Felix Corona.

D. Water Control Commission – Bond release

RESOLUTION 251-25

Board Action: Motion by Councilperson Briggs, seconded by Councilperson Paschkes, all voting aye on the following:

RESOLVED, that the Town Board authorizes the release of Water Control Commission Bond #2023-67 in the amount of \$2,000.00 to Richard Sarkis of 6 Samuel Dann Way.

E. New Dawn – Payment for facility rental

RESOLUTION 252-25

Board Action: Motion by Councilperson Briggs, seconded by Councilperson Boak, all voting aye on the following:

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RESOLVED, that the Town Board hereby authorizes the payment of \$6,000.00 to New Dawn Family Resource Center for the rental of a facility at 62 June Road in North Salem.

IV. PUBLIC COMMENT II

Mr. Nathan asked whether costs associated with lawsuits brought by himself, SMMB Inc., Donna Simons, and Marc de la Bruyère will be paid by the town's insurance company. Mr. Conti responded that the town's insurance does not cover those legal fees.

V. FINANCIAL MATTERS – Pay bills

Because Councilwoman Schelling was unable to attend the meeting, the bills will be paid at a special meeting of the Town Board on a date to be determined.

VI. ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business to come before the Town Board, Supervisor Hansan adjourned the meeting at 8:21 pm.

Erin Trostle, Town Clerk
Dated at Pound Ridge, New York
December 10, 2025