

TOWN OF CLIFTON PARK TOWN BOARD

September 2, 2025

The meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Clifton Park was held in the Town Office Building at 7:00 p.m. Supervisor Barrett presiding.

Pledge of Allegiance

Present: Supervisor Barrett
Councilman Morelli
Councilwoman Reid
Councilman Manir
Town Clerk Ranze

Absent: Councilwoman Walowit

Also Present: Paul Pelagalli, Attorney
Mark Heggen, Comptroller
Michael Woerner, Director of Parks & Recreation
Daniel Clemens, Director of Buildings, Parks & Recreation

MINUTES

MOTION by Councilwoman Reid, seconded by Councilman Manir, to approve the Town Board minutes of August 18, 2025, as presented.

ROLL CALL VOTE

Ayes: Councilman Morelli, Councilwoman Reid, Councilman Manir,
Supervisor Barrett

Absent: Councilwoman Walowit

Noes: None

MOTION CARRIED

COMMUNICATIONS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

Supervisor Barrett – The town had a successful summer, with camps, pools, shows, and programs serving thousands of families. The pools stayed open an extra week, and thanks were given to everyone who helped make the season safe, fun, and enjoyable.

Councilwoman Reid – The photo contest received over one hundred submissions, with first-round Facebook voting starting next week. Top-voted photos move to the final round at Canal Fest, with winners in minors, amateurs, and professional's category. Also, the Harvest Moon Full Moon Hike is on Friday, September 5, at 7 p.m. at Hayes Nature Park, with pre-registration required. It is a free hike.

Councilman Morelli – Tomorrow's stewardship hike will take place at 1 p.m. at Kinns Road Park. These hikes have been informative and well-attended since they began, and organizers hope participation will continue to grow as cooler months approach.

Supervisor Barrett – Over time, as programs like the stewardship hikes become more widely known, participation is expected to grow. They offer a great way to explore the town's many parks in a group setting and enjoy local outdoor spaces close to home.

RESOLUTIONS

Resolution No. 196 of 2025, a resolution rescheduling a public hearing regarding capital improvements to the Longkill #1 Park District.

Introduced by Councilwoman Reid, who moved its adoption, seconded by Councilman Morelli.

WHEREAS, at the request of the Longkill Park District #1, the Department of Building and Grounds solicited bids for capital improvements to the Longkill #1 Park District, which include a new playground, basketball court, and rebuilding of a parking lot, and

WHEREAS, bids for capital improvements to the Longkill #1 Park District, which include a new playground, basketball court, and rebuilding of a parking lot, were received, and

WHEREAS, the project will include the supply and installation of a new playground, basketball court, and rebuilding of a parking lot, and

WHEREAS, Edward & Thomas O'Connor Inc. of Glens Falls, New York submitted the lowest responsive quote to supply and install the equipment in an amount not to exceed \$505,000, and

WHEREAS, the total maximum cost of the project of \$505,000 will be funded through the proceeds of obligations issued by the town, the debt service on which will be paid from assessments levied on properties within the Longkill #1 Park District, and

WHEREAS, the Town Board desires to call a public hearing regarding the project, as required by N.Y.S. Town Law §202-b; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Town Board will hold a public hearing to hear all persons interested in the project, which public hearing shall be held on September 15, 2025, at 7:05 p.m. in the Wood Memorial Meeting Room, One Town Hall Plaza, Clifton Park, New York; and be it further

RESOLVED, and ordered that the Town Clerk give notice of such hearing by publishing in the official town newspaper the Notice of Public Hearing in substantially the form attached hereto and by posting the Notice of Public Hearing on the Town's official website not less than ten (10) nor more than twenty (20) days before such hearing.

ROLL CALL VOTE

Ayes: Councilman Morelli, Councilwoman Reid, Councilman Manir,
Supervisor Barrett

Noes: None

Absent: Councilwoman Walowit

DECLARED ADOPTED

Supervisor Barrett – Public Hearing will be September 15, 2025. The Longkill Park playground project will bring major upgrades, including new equipment, improved parking, and enhancements to nearby courts, while leaving the baseball fields untouched. It is the first significant investment in years and will create a better recreational space for families, with more details to be discussed on September 15.

Resolution No. 197 of 2025, a resolution awarding a contract for landscape work for the Stony Creek II Park District.

Introduced by Councilman Morelli, who moved its adoption, seconded by Councilwoman Reid.

WHEREAS, quotes were received by the Town Board as Commissioners of the Stony Creek II Park District for seasonal landscape work, as per the attached, including the Parklane Estates entrances and medians, and Honey Hollow, and

WHEREAS, the lowest conforming quote for the landscaping services was submitted by Greg’s Seasonal Services, 25 Lape Road, Waterford, NY, and

WHEREAS, Daniel Clemens, Director of Buildings, Parks & Recreation, has reviewed the quotes and recommends accepting the lowest quote from Greg’s Seasonal Services; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Town Board as Commissioners of the Stony Creek II Park District, hereby awards the contract to Greg’s Seasonal Services for landscape services in the Stony Creek II Park District, at a cost not to exceed \$14,500 per year through the 2027 season, with the option to extend the contract for an additional year, to be charged from SP-07120-24 (Stony Creek II Park District-Maintenance); and be it further

RESOLVED, that the sum of \$3,150 be encumbered for the remainder of the 2025 calendar year, and that the succeeding years shall be included in each subsequent year’s budget.

ROLL CALL VOTE

Ayes: Councilman Morelli, Councilwoman Reid, Councilman Manir, Supervisor Barrett

Noes: None

Absent: Councilwoman Walowit

DECLARED ADOPTED

Resolution No. 198 of 2025, a resolution authorizing Town Historian John Scherer to attend the Association of Public Historians of New York State (APHNYS) 2025 Annual Conference.

Introduced by Councilman Manir, who moved its adoption, seconded Councilwoman Reid.

WHEREAS, Procurement Policy #10 states that all requests to attend classes, seminars or professional conferences involving overnight stays must be approved by the Town Board, and

WHEREAS, Anthony Morelli, Town Board Liaison to the Historic Preservation Commission, recommends that Town Historian John Scherer be authorized to attend the APHNYS 2025 Conference in Cazenovia, NY, October 6-8, at a cost not to exceed \$607, with an additional \$200 to cover mileage and tolls, and

WHEREAS, John Scherer's attendance at the APHNYS Conference would confer a benefit to the town; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that John Scherer is authorized to attend the Association of Public Historians Conference in Cazenovia, NY, October 6-8, 2025, at a total cost not to exceed \$807 including registration, meals, lodging and transportation, to be paid from A- 7510-001 (General Fund-Historian-Training/Conferences).

ROLL CALL VOTE

Ayes: Councilman Morelli, Councilwoman Reid, Councilman Manir, Supervisor Barrett

Noes: None

Absent: Councilwoman Walowit

DECLARED ADOPTED

Councilman Morelli – Town Historian John Scherer plays a key role in preserving and sharing local history. Attending the conference helps him collaborate with other historians and bring

valuable knowledge back to the board, residents, and Historic Preservation Commission, making it a worthwhile investment.

Supervisor Barrett – John Shearer’s long-standing dedication as Town Historian is recognized and appreciated.

Resolution No. 199 of 2025, a resolution scheduling continuation of a public hearing to consider amendments to the Town Code to add Chapter 93, Animals.

Introduced by Councilwoman Reid, who moved its adoption, seconded by Councilman Morelli.

WHEREAS, the Town of Clifton Park Animal Control Officers have responded to several occurrences of people leaving their pets in unattended vehicles under extreme heat; and

WHEREAS, while the Agriculture and Markets Law §353-d authorizes law enforcement to address such circumstances Town Animal Control Officers are not authorized to address these situations under the Agriculture and Markets Law; and

WHEREAS, authorizing the Town of Clifton Park Animal Control Officers to address situations where animals are locked in unattended vehicles at extreme temperatures will provide a necessary enforcement provision in addition to the Agriculture and Markets Law provisions; and

WHEREAS, the Town Board of the Town of Clifton Park wishes to add Chapter 93. Animals to the Town Code which will authorize both Town Animal Control Officers and law enforcement to issue citations with appropriate penalties for animal owners and custodians who leave animals unattended in motor vehicles at extreme temperatures; and

WHEREAS, a public hearing commenced on August 18, 2025, in order to obtain comments from the public; and

WHEREAS, the Town Board wishes to provide an additional opportunity to obtain public comment regarding the proposed Clifton Park Town Code amendments to add Chapter 93, Animals; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that a public hearing to consider amendments to the Clifton Park Town Code to add Chapter 93, Animals, will be held on September 15, 2025, at 7:02 p.m., in the Wood Memorial Room, One Town Hall Plaza, Clifton Park, New York; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Town Clerk is directed to publish appropriate notice of same.

ROLL CALL VOTE

Ayes: Councilman Morelli, Councilwoman Reid, Councilman Manir, Supervisor Barrett

Noes: None

Absent: Councilwoman Walowit

DECLARED ADOPTED

Supervisor Barrett – A public hearing on September 15, 2025, will address granting animal control officers expanded authority to manage urgent situations, such as pets left in hot cars, which currently require law enforcement. The change aims to allow quicker response times in serious cases.

Resolution No. 200 of 2025, a resolution to schedule a public hearing to consider amendments to §156-8 of the Town Code.

Introduced by Councilman Morelli, who moved its adoption, seconded by Councilman Manir.

WHEREAS, pursuant to N.Y.S. Town Law §137, a Town Board may, after a hearing, revoke a license issued to a vendor, hawker, peddler, or solicitor, and

WHEREAS, Town officers and employees have received numerous complaints from residents regarding aggressive and harassing behavior of vendors, hawkers, peddlers, and solicitors through their agents and/or employees in violation of Town Code §156-9, and

WHEREAS, vendors, hawkers, peddlers, and solicitors fail to obtain licenses, and

WHEREAS, the Town Clerk is authorized pursuant to N.Y.S. Town Law §136 to issue or refuse to issue licenses for peddling and solicitation, and

WHEREAS, the Town Board is authorized pursuant to N.Y.S. Town Law §137 to revoke such a license after a hearing, and

WHEREAS, the hearing and revocation process can be lengthy in duration, and

WHEREAS, it is necessary that there be a mechanism to suspend such licenses pending Town Board proceedings in order to address the concerns raised by residents regarding vendors, hawkers, peddlers, and solicitors aggressive and harassing behavior, and

WHEREAS, §156-12 of the Town Code provides for a fine of \$250 and/or a finding that a violator of the Town Code is a disorderly person, and

WHEREAS, the finding that a violator is a disorderly person does not serve as an effective deterrent; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Town Board will conduct a public hearing to hear all persons interested in the proposed amendment to the Town Code to authorize the Town Clerk to suspend licenses issued to vendors, hawkers, peddlers, and solicitors, and to amend the penalties for violation of Chapter 156 of the Town Code at Town of Clifton Park Town Hall, One Town Hall Plaza, Clifton Park, New York, on September 15, 2025 at 7:08 p.m.; and be it further

RESOLVED, and ordered that the Town Clerk give Notice of the Public Hearing in the official Town newspaper in substantially the form attached hereto and by posting the Notice of Public Hearing on the Town's official signboard.

ROLL CALL VOTE

Ayes: Councilman Morelli, Councilwoman Reid, Councilman Manir,
Supervisor Barrett

Noes: None

Absent: Councilwoman Walowit

DECLARED ADOPTED

Supervisor Barrett – A September 15, 2025, public hearing will consider giving the Town Clerk's office more discretion to address resident concerns about aggressive peddling and soliciting, including the ability to revoke permits when warranted.

Town Clerk Stephanie Ranze – Residents have reported aggressive and deceptive tactics by some peddlers, including harassment, ignoring "no solicitation" signs, repeated visits, and misleading contracts targeting seniors. Some solicitors are also by-passing background checks, prompting the town to seek stronger controls to protect residents.

Councilman Morelli – Thanked the Town Clerk for addressing aggressive peddling concerns, with emphasis on protecting elderly residents who are often more trusting and vulnerable. The board aims to do everything possible to safeguard the community and support residents through this proposal.

Resolution No. 201 of 2025, a resolution authorizing the Town Attorney to execute a three-year contract with LexisNexis, a global legal and news database.

Introduced by Councilman Manir, who moved its adoption, seconded by Councilwoman Reid.

WHEREAS, Paul Pelagalli, Town Attorney, wishes to renew an agreement with LexisNexis to continue to access its comprehensive suite of online services that offer access to an extensive database of legal and business information, and

WHEREAS, this new agreement will cover a three (3) year term, commencing on October 1, 2025, and terminating on September 30, 2028, and

WHEREAS, a three (3) year contract provides reduced annual fees as opposed to one (1) year renewals based upon LexisNexis’ anticipated rate increases over the next three (3) years; now therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that Town Attorney is authorized to execute the attached contract with LexisNexis, for the three-year term of 10/01/2025-09/30/2028, and be it further

RESOLVED, that the 2025 funds to pay the October, November and December 2025 monthly invoices from LexisNexis, will be charged to A-1420-004 (General Fund – Legal - Computer); and be it further

RESOLVED, that the succeeding years shall have the appropriate funds included in each subsequent years’ budget.

ROLL CALL VOTE

- Ayes: Councilman Morelli, Councilwoman Reid, Councilman Manir, Supervisor Barrett
- Noes: None
- Absent: Councilwoman Walowit

DECLARED ADOPTED

Supervisor Barrett – The town is approving a three-year agreement for a widely used legal research tool relied on daily by the town attorney. This replaces the previous annual agreements and provides some cost savings while maintaining an essential resource for the legal team.

PUBLIC PRIVILAGE

Chad Gregory – Discussed three topics.

E-Bide Regulations & Safety – Proposed adopting rules to limit Class 3 e-bikes and suggested creating an educational program to teach kids e-bike safety.

Senior Transportation Coordination – Recommended implementing shared software to improve communication between Care Links, the Town, and Captain’s Human Services to reduce overlapping trips.

London Square Fire Relief – Reported on a successful donation drive organized by himself and his staff. An upcoming mobile furniture drive where he and his staff will take furniture donations and deliver to the families, and praised the quick placement of displaced families, with nearly all already rehoused.

Supervisor Barrett – Expressed gratitude to Chad for quickly organizing the donation drive for London Square fire victims. The overwhelming response for Clifton Park residents was highlighted – with massive amounts of clothing and supplies donated within the first hours, demonstrating the community’s generosity and strong support when needs arise.

Chad Gregory – The successful donation drive highlighted Clifton Park’s strong community spirit, showing how residents, leaders, businesses, and positive use of social media can quickly unite to support those in need.

Supervisor Barrett – Commended Chad and his staff for organizing the donation drive and his ongoing philanthropy. The strong community response highlights Clifton Park residents’ generosity and willingness to help those in need.

E-bikes pose greater safety risks than traditional bicycles due to their speed and technology. With increasing incidents of dangerous behavior, there is emphasis on the importance of enhanced bicycle safety education and expressed interest in partnering to develop additional safety courses for the community.

Chad Gregory – Working on creating an education and safety plan focused on teaching children and teens how to ride e-bikes responsibly. The goal is to ensure they understand road safety while still being able to enjoy themselves in safer, low-traffic areas.

Supervisor Barrett – Interested in further discussion on senior transportation coordination to better align resources and improve efficiency. Open to exploring ideas and potential software solutions to integrate services and streamline efforts among different providers.

Chad Gregory – Exploring a potential software solution to integrate senior transportation services, making coordination easier and more efficient without creating financial burdens for users or requiring seniors to manage complex technology.

Emphasized that community engagement is a core pillar of their organization. Having benefited from local services as a child, they now prioritize giving back and staying actively involved, especially in Clifton Park, while also supporting broader community efforts.

Councilman Morelli – Praised Chad for his quick leadership in organizing a successful relief effort for London Square fire victims. Within hours, he coordinated donations, mobilized the community, and generated widespread support. Thanking Chad, his team, and his family for their dedication and efforts over the holiday weekend.

Councilman Manir – Thanked Chad for his humanitarian work and setting an example for all. The other two ideas that were brought up are great ideas. Really appreciate your efforts and look forward to working together.

Patrick Long – Raised concerns about Crescent Woods, where a conservation buffer between existing neighborhoods and new development was clear-cut despite planning documents specifying it should remain untouched. Because there is no enforceable town resolution, affected homeowners – must pursue private legal action to protect their property. The resident requested that future planning documents include enforceable language to prevent similar situations.

Supervisor Barrett – Agreed to review the issue and follow up.

Supervisor Barrett MOVED for the Town Board, and Town Attorney, Town Clerk, to go into Executive Session to discuss a legal matter, and contract negotiations seconded by Councilman Morelli. All yes. MOTION CARRIED 7:45 p.m.

Councilman Morelli MOVED to return to the regular Town Board meeting, seconded by Councilwoman Reid, All yes. MOTION CARRIED. The Town Board returned to the regular Town Board meeting at 8:23 p.m.

MOTION BY Councilman Morelli, seconded by Councilwoman Reid, to adjourn the meeting to the next regular meeting or any other meeting necessary for the conduct of Town business.

Motion carried at 8:26 PM

Stephanie Ranze
Town Clerk