

TOWN OF CLIFTON PARK TOWN BOARD
May 5, 2026

The meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Clifton Park was held in the Town Office Building at 7:05 p.m. Supervisor Barrett presiding.

Pledge of Allegiance

Present: Supervisor Barrett
Councilwoman Bellamy
Councilman Fantini
Councilman Manir
Councilwoman Reid
Town Clerk Fantini

Also Present: Town Attorney Dailey
Mark Heggen, Comptroller
Daniel Clemens, Director of Parks, Buildings & Recreation
John DeSimone Chief Bureau of Fire Prevention
Norah Hoefer, Communications and Technology Coordinator
Dahn Bull Superintendent of Highways
Megan Babendreier Director of Parks & Recreation
Michael O'Brien Collection System Manager
John Scavo Director of Planning & Zoning

MINUTES

MOTION by Councilwoman Reid seconded by Councilman Fantini to approve the Town Board minutes of the April 21, 2026 as presented.

ROLL CALL VOTE

Ayes: Councilwoman Bellamy, Councilman Fantini, Councilman Manir,
Councilwoman Reid, Supervisor Barrett

Abstain: None

Noes: None

MOTION CARRIED

ANNOUNCEMENTS & COMMUNICATIONS

Councilman Reid announced that the next stewardship hike will be held Wednesday, May 6th at the Dwaaskill Preserve, guided by the Open Space Coordinator and volunteers from the Open Space Trails and Riverfront Committee. She encouraged participation from all ages and welcomed public input. She also noted that registration for the half-day summer camp opens tomorrow and can be completed online or by visiting the Parks and Recreation office.

Councilman Fantini stated that June is Pride Month and referenced a request from a resident asking the Town to fly a Pride flag to demonstrate that it is a welcoming and inclusive community. He expressed support for the idea and spoke about the importance of inclusive leadership, sharing personal reflections on civil rights history and the progress made regarding interracial marriage and equality. He emphasized that past leaders' advocacy created opportunities for him and others and stated that it is now the Board's responsibility to continue supporting future generations. Councilman Fantini indicated that he is proposing a resolution on this matter and looked forward to public comment on it.

Councilman Manir announced that the Tree Committee will hold a training session on March 16 from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. He stated that approximately 19 people have already registered and encouraged additional participation for those interested. He noted that flyers with registration information were available and described it as a valuable opportunity for learning related to tree work and maintenance.

PRESENTATIONS

Supervisor Barrett introduced a presentation by Shenendehowa School District Superintendent Cecily Wilson-Turner. He noted that the school budget vote is upcoming and encouraged residents to participate and vote.

District Superintendent Cecily Wilson-Turner presented information on the upcoming Shenendehowa School District budget vote. She highlighted the district's theme, "Opening the Doors for Tomorrow's Opportunities," noting the opening of a new school building that will support full-day kindergarten for the first time in the district. She explained that the proposed budget aims to maintain consistent educational programming while managing growth and costs, and remains within the state tax cap with a proposed tax levy increase of 2.52%. She noted key additions and priorities including expanded special education and ENL supports, new enrichment opportunities at the elementary level using a LEGO-based STEM curriculum, and new high school courses such as a writing center and anatomy and physiology. She also discussed expanded athletics, including unified bocce and modified flag football supported by a New York Giants grant, as well as continued investment in mental health services following the expiration of a federal grant. Additional focus areas include cybersecurity, technology replacement cycles, and operational planning for the new kindergarten building, supported in part by \$3.1 million in state aid and staffing adjustments including retirements. The Superintendent stated the total proposed budget is approximately \$234 million, with an estimated \$4 annual tax impact on a \$300,000 home. She also outlined a proposed bus purchase resolution, Board of Education elections, candidate information sessions, and details regarding voting procedures at Gowana Middle School.

Supervisor Barrett stated that he was glad to hear the District is not purchasing electric buses at this time, citing concerns about cost. He referenced prior estimates provided by Superintendent Robinson indicating that converting to a fully electric bus fleet would require a substantial financial investment, including both the buses and the necessary supporting infrastructure.

District Superintendent Cecily Wilson-Turner agreed that transitioning to a fully electric bus fleet is extremely expensive. She noted ongoing discussions with NYSERDA and National Grid regarding available electrical capacity and infrastructure requirements for the district. She explained that multiple studies and design considerations have been completed, and that the district is delaying repaving the bus parking lot until charging infrastructure needs are fully determined, to avoid unnecessary rework. She added that several districts in the region are currently piloting electric buses and working through similar implementation challenges. Superintendent Cecily Wilson-Turner explained that the district's new website provides easier access to budget information. She noted that the full budget books, including line-by-line details, are available under the Budget and Finance section, along with a one-page summary. She also stated that a budget newsletter would be delivered to households within the next week and that additional printed one-page summaries were available for attendees.

PUBLIC PRIVILEGE 7:20 p.m.

Mark Burroughs of Holbrook Drive expressed concern regarding the proposed development item on the Agenda. He stated he observed some Board members at the site and expected full Board participation. He agreed the existing field is not playable and would require significant investment to bring it up to standard. He requested clarification on the type of fencing being considered and raised concerns about potential impacts on nearby property values, as well as safety and traffic issues for children in the surrounding neighborhood. He warned that increased vehicle access could create unsafe conditions and questioned whether planned parking would be sufficient. Mr. Burroughs emphasized the need for further study, including additional planning and environmental review, before any funding decisions are made. He also requested that residents be given opportunities to provide input on the project.

Supervisor Barrett stated that wetlands mapping and a number of other preliminary studies and planning tasks are needed before any money is spent. He emphasized that no funding should be committed to fencing or related improvements for a proposed 8–9 field sports complex in Rexford or elsewhere in the western part of the town without completing that due diligence.

Councilwoman Reid asked Mark Burroughs to clarify which four people he observed at the field, requesting specific identification.

Mark Burroughs responded that he saw Councilman Manir at the field and, to his knowledge, also observed Kevin Dailey and Councilwoman Bellamy present.

Councilman Fantini he was not there

Councilman Manir stated that he and Councilwoman Bellamy were present at the field site.

Supervisor Barrett asked for clarification on the identity of the fourth individual observed at the field site.

Mark Burroughs stated that he was observing from approximately 200 feet away and could not definitively identify the fourth individual present at the field site.

Councilwoman Bellamy stated that she was speaking with Mr. Tracy at the time referenced during the site visit.

Mark Burroughs disputed Councilwoman Bellamy's statement, saying Mr. Tracy was not present when he observed the group. He expressed concern that discussions were occurring at the site and stated his opinion that it was inappropriate for the item to appear on the Agenda without what he considered proper prior process.

Supervisor Barrett reiterated that there are currently no formal plan, renderings, public review process, or cost estimates associated with the proposal. He stated that moving forward with installing fencing without those elements in place doesn't make any sense.

Kevin Goggins of Thoroughbred Way addressed concerns about items appearing on the Agenda after previously being tabled, drawing comparisons to the discussion regarding the proposed playing fields. Referring to the Ethics Committee matter, he noted that it had previously received significant public input and questioned whether it would remain tabled or be reopened for further discussion. Mr. Goggins expressed concern that the matter could move forward without sufficient public discussion despite strong public interest and differing opinions. He also noted that while the item appeared on the Agenda, no additional supporting information had been provided when the Agenda was released the previous evening.

Councilman Manir asked to address the Ethics Committee matter, stating that the statute of limitations related to the previous tabling had expired and that the prior action was determined not to be valid under Town Law. He deferred to the Town Attorney for a legal explanation. Councilman Manir stated that he brought the matter forward because the Ethics Committee still requires appointments and the issue had remained unresolved for several months. He added that not every resolution must appear in advance on the agenda, noting that the meeting is an open public meeting and that the discussion concerns ethics matters.

Mr. Goggins expressed concerns regarding recent Board actions and fiscal oversight. He referenced the Board's appointment of a person to the Ethics Committee, noting there had been debate about whether the appointment complied with the required 90-day legal timeframe. He stated that, despite differing opinions on legality, the Board appeared prepared to move forward unanimously. He also raised concerns about budget management, questioning how the Town could support a reported \$19,000 pay increase and the hiring of additional personnel after the budget had already been approved. He asked where the funding would come from and cautioned against spending beyond the adopted budget. Mr. Goggins warned that unchecked spending could lead to significant tax increases, citing Niskayuna as an example where town taxes reportedly increased by 18%. He encouraged Board members and residents to carefully consider future votes and remain fiscally responsible.

Beverly Borgess of Sheridan Court stated that she is 88 years old and has owned her land for approximately 45 years following a house fire. She explained that she is now considering moving to a modular home and recently put three acres of her farmland up for sale, noting that farmland regulations require a minimum of three acres. After signing the contract, she learned that selling the three acres would place the remaining 17 acres into open space restrictions, limiting future development on approximately 50% of the land. Ms. Borgess said she believes the policy is unfair and argued that the restrictions significantly reduce the value of her property. She questioned why her taxes would not also be reduced if the land's usable and developable value is effectively decreased by half due to the open space limitations.

Supervisor Barrett responded that because Ms. Borgess owns more than 15 acres of land, she may qualify for a tax reduction or assessment decrease.

Ms. Borgess clarified that she originally owned 20 acres and would retain 17 acres after the sale of the three-acre parcel. She stated that she later learned she would be required to place 50% of the remaining land into open space, which would prohibit future building on that portion of the property. She reiterated her concern that these restrictions effectively reduce the value of her land by 50% because a significant portion could no longer be developed.

Supervisor Barrett stated that he would need to review Ms. Borgess's specific situation individually and said he would look into the matter and follow up with her.

Ms. Borgess reiterated that she has owned her property for 45 years and intended to sell three acres in order to place a modular home on the property. She stated that requiring 50% of the remaining land to be designated as open space unfairly reduces the value of her property. She expressed concern that similar restrictions are not applied equally in other parts of Clifton Park and felt that farmers are being disproportionately affected. Ms. Borgess argued that if the land's value is reduced due to development limitations, her property taxes should also be lowered accordingly.

Jim Viola of Holbrook Drive addressed concerns regarding the property at the north end of Windhover Farms, stating that the matter dates back to 2021. He explained that he previously came before the Board seeking clarification about rumors concerning the property and said that, at that time, the Board, Supervisor Barrett, and the administrative staff were transparent, professional, and informative in their communications. Mr. Viola referenced prior correspondence and statements indicating that the Town had no plans for the property at that time. He also cited prior assurances from Supervisor Barrett that any substantial changes to the parcel would require significant fiscal and personnel resources, Town Board approval, and public involvement in the planning process. He expressed frustration with the current handling of the issue, stating that residents had not been adequately informed or involved before recent discussions. Mr. Viola said he only learned of the matter shortly before the meeting and believed the process lacked transparency. Mr. Viola thanked Supervisor Barrett for tabling the item and urged the Board not to proceed with any fencing, tree removal, or other actions related to the property until further public discussion and resident involvement occur. He concluded by expressing appreciation for Supervisor Barrett's past responsiveness and stated that he and his neighbors trust his leadership on the matter.

Supervisor Barrett stated that the measure in question passed that evening despite opposition from himself and Councilwoman Reid. He explained that he first learned about the proposed sports complex from a Windhover resident late the previous week and noted that Board members receive meeting agendas only the night before meetings. He said his comments during the Agenda Session were consistent with his earlier communications, emphasizing that large-scale projects should undergo a thorough public review process. Supervisor Barrett stated that such projects should include a comprehensive plan, cost estimates, and detailed procedures, and noted that major planning initiatives can take a year or more to properly develop. He expressed concern that issuing requests related to tree removal, brush clearing, and fencing without a broader detailed plan did not constitute a sufficient planning process for a project of that scale.

Frank Berlin of Main Street spoke about national unity and equality, referencing his family's immigrant background. He stated that many different ethnic and cultural groups have contributed to the country and expressed concern about recognizing specific groups through symbolic displays such as flags. He emphasized the principle of "one nation under God, with liberty and

justice for all,” describing the United States as a melting pot. Mr. Berlin said he believes equality and inclusion should be recognized every day rather than through temporary displays or special observances for particular groups. He also commented that while societal disagreements still exist, people should strive to follow the values of unity and equality established by the nation’s founders. Mr. Berlin concluded by stating that he preferred leaving current practices unchanged and focusing on inclusion for everyone equally.

Supervisor Barrett agreed with Mr. Berlin’s comments about Clifton Park and the country being a “melting pot.” He shared a personal experience about living in a bilingual household, joking that he sometimes does not understand conversations taking place between his wife and children because they speak another language.

Cheryl Pollock of Pine Hill Bend spoke on Solar Array Environmental Concerns submitted a handout for the record. She read from the provided material during her remarks. Due to time limitations, she could not complete her comments and indicated she would continue them during the public hearing.

Ann Connolly of Valdepenas Lane expressed concerns regarding proposed changes to the Town Ethics Committee process, stating that the current Board majority is attempting to gain control over the Ethics Committee in a way she believes is unprecedented. She referenced the oath of office taken by Town Board members and raised concerns about adherence to Town laws and procedures. She cited a recent Town Board meeting in which proposed ethics law changes were introduced and voted on, stating that some members of the public had already left the meeting, which she felt limited public awareness and participation. She noted that several Board members voted in favor of the changes and described the situation as raising concerns about transparency and process. Ms. Connolly referenced provisions in Town law that assign responsibility to the County Ethics Committee if appointments are not resolved within 90 days, describing this as a safeguard intended to ensure accountability. She expressed the view that residents are held to strict compliance with Town Codes and questioned why elected officials should be treated differently. She also stated concerns that the Board majority may be bypassing established laws and procedures and suggested that residents are being excluded from decision-making. Ms. Connolly commented positively on Supervisor Barrett’s tenure but stated he may not be fully informed of developments until late in the process. She concluded by criticizing the Board majority’s actions and expressed frustration with perceived lack of resident involvement, at one point suggesting public demonstration before concluding her remarks.

Supervisor Barrett stated that the discussion relates to proposed changes to the Town Ethics law, which he said the Board majority has been working on since January. He referenced the Town Code established approximately 18–19 years ago, noting that it requires four out of five Board votes to amend the Ethics Code and requires unanimous appointments to the Ethics Board. He said that 90 days elapsed without resolving appointments, triggering the provision in Town code that allows the matter to be referred to the County Ethics Board. He stated that the County Ethics Board made appointments under this process and that the County Attorney confirmed those actions were valid and legal. Supervisor Barrett also referenced prior County appointments and noted differences in how individuals were selected or reappointed. He questioned the rationale behind certain appointment decisions and suggested they reflected a shift in control over the Ethics Board. He further stated that proposed resolutions to change the Ethics law were improper under existing Town Code, emphasizing that amendments require four votes and cannot be unilaterally declared invalid. He argued that any changes must follow proper legal procedures or be subject to judicial review. Supervisor Barrett concluded that the County appointments were made in accordance with Town law and reiterated concerns about efforts to change the Ethics process and appointments. He suggested that recent actions represented an attempt to consolidate control over the Ethics Board and criticized ongoing disputes over Ethics-related matters within the Town Board.

Alicia Jacobs of Stoney Creek Drive stated she has been a Clifton Park resident for over 13 years and serves on multiple Town committees. She expressed concern about recent actions and developments within the Town Board. She emphasized that she votes across party lines and considers herself supportive of all residents. Ms. Jacobs stated that elected officials represent the entire community and urged the Board to take public comments made during the meeting into consideration.

Penny Blaisdell of Wild Flower Way spoke in support of the resolution introduced by Councilman Fantini regarding the raising of the Pride flag. She stated that the Pride flag is a symbolic act that promotes inclusivity, solidarity, and safety for the LGBTQ+ community. She explained that the flag acknowledges historical and systemic discrimination, celebrates diversity, and affirms that LGBTQ+ individuals are welcomed, valued, and protected within the community. Ms. Blaisdell also stated that the flag serves as a visible signal of inclusion and safety and counters efforts she described as marginalizing or erasing LGBTQ+ individuals, particularly transgender people. She concluded that the Pride flag is not merely decorative, but an important tool for promoting a welcoming environment for all residents.

Svetlana of Rexford spoke regarding the Pride flag, sharing a personal family history of religious persecution in the Soviet Union, including the imprisonment and execution of her grandfather for being Christian. She stated that her family came to the United States as Christian refugees due to persecution. She expressed that Christianity is both her religion and identity, and stated opposition to the Pride flag being displayed on a government building, saying she believes government buildings should represent all people equally. She questioned why other groups, such as Christians or straight people, do not have similar flag displays, and raised concerns about how decisions are made regarding which groups are represented.

Gina Moran of Riverview Road stated she has lived in Clifton Park for over a decade, and her spouse has lived in the Town for more than 50 years. She clarified that her spouse is a woman. She questioned statements made by Supervisor Barrett regarding inclusivity in the Town, asking for clarification on how the Town demonstrates inclusivity. She requested specific examples or explanations of how inclusivity is shown to residents.

Supervisor Barrett responded to Ms. Moran by asking how the Town has shown that it is not inclusive.

Ms. Moran stated that she does not feel included in Town materials, noting that forms typically use “husband” and “wife” rather than more inclusive language such as “spouse.” She said this contributes to her feeling of exclusion within the Town. She also referenced Supervisor Barrett’s earlier response, characterizing it as sarcastic, and stated that she believes Board members should listen to residents’ comments and consider resolutions without predetermined conclusions.

Supervisor Barrett responded that if Ms. Moran has suggestions for improving inclusivity or changing Town paperwork, she is welcome to bring them forward to the Town for consideration.

Ms. Moran stated that she believes raising the Pride flag would help members of her community feel represented and safe, while acknowledging that not everyone in the community may feel the same. She referenced a previous speaker’s comments and stated that seeing the flag provides a sense of safety and support for LGBTQ+ individuals and allies. Ms. Moran urged the Town Board to consider flying the Pride flag, and suggested that if it cannot be flown on the main Town flagpole, it could potentially be displayed elsewhere in Town. She stated her belief that the LGBTQ+ community and supporters represent a significant portion of the Town’s population.

Supervisor Barrett responded to Ms. Moran by stating he is very aware of community.

Ms. Moran asked Supervisor Barrett what percentage of people in the room he believes identify as part of the LGBTQ+ community.

Supervisor Barrett stated that he does not know the exact percentage of LGBTQ+ individuals present in the room, but said he is aware that many people in the community.

Ms. Moran stated that she believes the issue is important and said that raising the Pride flag would be a progressive and inclusive action for the Town. She added that such a decision would make her feel prouder to be a resident of Clifton Park.

Pamela Koniszenski of Main Street stated that while she respects everyone’s right to feel safe, she believes that safety and rights are already protected under the United States flag and Constitution, and therefore additional symbolic flags are not necessary. She said she does not support the Pride flag being displayed at Town buildings or in schools, and emphasized that individuals are still free to live as they choose. She also noted concern that the Pride flag does

not represent all residents equally. Ms. Koniszenski suggested that the Town could consider updating official paperwork and forms to be more inclusive, describing some current documents as outdated. She concluded by expressing the view that, based on attendance at the meeting, a majority of residents present did not support adding the Pride flag or similar symbolic displays.

No one else wished to heard.

Public Privilege closed at 8:03 p.m.

PRESENTATIONS

Town Historian John Scherer announced the first order of business as the presentation of Historic Preservation awards. He stated that he and Linda Seymour, Chair of the Preservation Commission, would be presenting the awards together. He noted that he would display photos of the recognized locations and announced the first award recipient as John Davey and the Jonesville Cemetery Association.

Linda Seymour, Chair of the Preservation Commission stated that the award honored John Davy and the Jonesville Cemetery Association for their work in preserving and maintaining the Jonesville Cemetery. She read the official proclamation, which recognized Mr. Davey's long-term contributions since the 1960s, including cemetery maintenance, gravestone restoration, recordkeeping support through his wife Norma, and ongoing volunteer efforts with the cemetery association. The proclamation highlighted the cemetery's historical significance, its founding in 1864, and Mr. Davey's role in preserving its condition and promoting its historical importance within the community. Ms. Seymour concluded by congratulating Mr. Davey on receiving the 2026 Clifton Park Historic Preservation Award and noted that his name would be added to the Town's historic preservation plaque at Town Hall.

John Scherer noted that members of the Jonesville Cemetery Association were present and explained that the cemetery has been listed on the National Register of Historic Places. He stated that a historical marker was obtained through the Pomroy Foundation with assistance from the Preservation Commission. He described ongoing preservation work at the Jonesville Cemetery, noting its founding in 1864 and identifying it as Clifton Park's only rural cemetery. He also referenced its design by landscape architect Burton Arnold Thompson, who also designed other regional cemeteries including Bleeker Cemetery in Schenectady and contributed to work at Albany Rural Cemetery. Mr. Scherer concluded by stating that John Davey has played an important role in maintaining and preserving the cemetery. Mr. Scherer announced the second historic preservation award, which was presented to Craig Monroe for preserving the MacElroy Farm on MacElroy Road. He provided historical background on the property, noting that it was associated with Dr. McElroy, who served as Clifton Park's doctor from 1894 to 1954 and lived in the home from 1928 to 1949. He stated that the house was originally built in 1835 and that Dr. McElroy was also active in farming, including livestock breeding and participation in county fairs. Mr. Scherer highlighted Craig Monroe's efforts to preserve the property's original features and noted improvements and preservation work done since its acquisition.

Linda Seymour noted that the commission's responsibilities include recognizing individuals and business owners for their contributions to preserving local history, describing this as one of its most positive duties. She presented an award resolution honoring Craig Monroe for his preservation and restoration efforts at the McElroy Farm on McElroy Road in Jonesville, NY. The resolution stated that Craig Monroe is recognized for purchasing and preserving the 16-acre McElroy Farm, thereby protecting open farmland and wetlands from future development. It also highlighted his restoration of the 1835 farmhouse and associated farm buildings, originally owned by Dr. McElroy, a local doctor known for his horticultural and animal husbandry achievements. The commission emphasized that Mr. Monroe's work ensures the long-term preservation of the property for future generations. It also noted his status as a Clifton Park resident and business owner who has contributed his expertise to advise the Historic Preservation Commission on additional properties. The resolution concluded by formally thanking and congratulating Craig Monroe as a 2026 Clifton Park Historic Preservation Award recipient, with his name to be added to the historic preservation awards plaque in the Town Hall Woodroom.

Craig Monroe reflected on the extensive history and restoration work involved in the McElroy Farm house. He emphasized the presence of original historic materials, including old-growth

wood with tight grain and original trim elements, and described the project as an honor to restore while preserving its historic character. He noted efforts to maintain authenticity by recreating or preserving architectural details that could not be mass-produced, including custom-milled trim pieces and historically accurate paint colors. He highlighted the use of historic color schemes, such as historic blue shutters, and the effort to retain the original appearance of the structure, including cedar siding. Mr. Monroe also described structural restoration work, including repairing and reconstructing a chimney using original bricks that had fallen or been found within the structure. He explained that exposed interior wall materials revealed historic bricks, which were reinstalled to preserve the building's character. He concluded by noting the value of visible historic craftsmanship, such as hand-hewn beams and axe marks in the wood, emphasizing that these features are rare in modern construction and contributed to the significance and enjoyment of the restoration project.

John Scherer presented the next Historic Preservation Award to Brian McKee for the restoration of the Cornelius Visser House on Taylor Drive. Mr. Scherer explained that the house, originally built around 1830 by Cornelius Visser, was in a severely deteriorated condition and had previously been condemned, with some considering demolition for redevelopment. He noted that Mr. McKee acquired the property and successfully restored it, preserving the structure rather than allowing it to be torn down and subdivided. He highlighted the transformation of the building from its prior condition to its restored state, emphasizing key preserved architectural features. These included the original kitchen fireplace with bake oven, the living room fireplace and mantel, and the historic front doorway with its original brass lock. Mr. Scherer concluded by expressing appreciation for Mr. McKee's efforts in restoring and preserving the historic home, noting the value of maintaining its architectural integrity and historic character.

Linda Seymour presented the formal resolution honoring Brian McKee for his preservation and restoration of the 1830 Cornelius Visser House at 21 Taylor Drive, Rexford, NY, recognizing his efforts in saving the property and surrounding acreage from future development. The resolution noted that Mr. McKee engaged with the prior property owner and shared a vision to preserve the home, which was at risk of demolition. The house, associated with Cornelius Visser (1814–1886), was restored while retaining significant original features, including the brick bake oven, original moldings, fireplace mantel, doors, and interior layout. It was also noted that the home had historical ties to Charles Frier, a former superintendent of the Shenendehowa Central School District during the mid-20th century following the consolidation of one-room schoolhouses. The resolution emphasized Mr. McKee's careful balance of preserving historic character while adapting the home for modern use. It further recognized the combined enthusiasm and interest of Brian McKee and Jennifer McKee in Clifton Park's history, people, buildings, and sites, along with their restoration skills. The Historic Preservation Commission formally thanked Mr. McKee for his contributions and congratulated him as a 2026 Historic Preservation Award recipient. His name will be added to the Historic Preservation Awards plaque in the Town Hall Woodroom.

Brian McKee expressed appreciation to the Town Board, Historic Preservation Commission, Wade Schoenborn of the Building Department, and the Historic Society for their support during the restoration of the Cornelius Visser House. He noted that he and his partner purchased the property approximately 18 months prior and completed an 11-month restoration project, moving into the home in July. He acknowledged initial community concerns and rumors that the property would be demolished for redevelopment, but stated that those concerns had been resolved as the restoration progressed. Mr. McKee described the house as previously condemned and in poor condition, and characterized the restoration as a "labor of love." He also made light of the fact that raccoons had been displaced during the rehabilitation process. He emphasized his and his partner Jen's commitment to preserving the home and becoming part of the community, noting that they are new residents. He concluded by expressing gratitude and extending an open invitation for community members to visit and see the completed restoration.

John Scherer distributed the 2025 Historic Report and read it into the record. Please see attached report.

PUBLIC HEARING(S)

Proposed Local Law establishing a moratorium on Tier 2 and Tier 3 Solar Energy System Applications

Start 8:35 p.m.

Town Clerk Caitlin Fantini read the Public Hearing Notice advertised in the Times Union on April 30, 2026.

Cheryl Pollock of Pine Hill Bend finished her remarks on Solar Array Environmental Concerns submitted a handout for the record. She read from the provided material during her remarks. Please see attached.

Katelyn O’Leary of Clifton County Road stated that she has lived in Clifton Park since July 2020 and expressed opposition to a proposed moratorium on Tier 2 and Tier 3 solar projects. She urged the Town to avoid a blanket moratorium and instead evaluate solar proposals on a case-by-case basis, citing potential benefits such as increased Town revenue and expanded access to affordable, clean energy. She noted broader regional and national expectations for increased energy demand and argued that renewable energy projects could help address future supply needs. Ms. O’Leary addressed concerns about environmental impacts, stating that solar projects do not necessarily cause contamination and can be compatible with agricultural uses through agrivoltaics, such as grazing livestock or growing crops beneath solar arrays. She also suggested that solar development could help landowners maintain farmland within families rather than selling for subdivision. She further stated that project approvals typically include decommissioning requirements and financial assurances, such as prepaid funds to ensure removal of solar infrastructure at the end of its useful life. She concluded by encouraging the Town to remain open to solar development and to avoid a blanket moratorium, expressing support for a balanced and case-by-case review process.

Mike of McElroy Road spoke in formal opposition to a proposed solar farm project near 686 McElroy Road, stating that he lives at that address and is speaking on behalf of the Murphy family. He expressed support for renewable energy in principle but opposed the proposed project due to concerns about the loss of farmland and wetlands. He argued that such areas should be preserved and suggested that renewable energy development should instead prioritize alternative locations, such as landfills, brownfields, rooftops, and parking lots. He cited examples from Albany County, including solar installations on landfill sites, brownfield redevelopment, and urban-integrated solar projects, which he described as successful models that avoid impacts to undeveloped land while providing economic and energy benefits. Mike also referenced fiscal benefits from such projects, including potential cost savings and revenue generation, and urged the Town to consider a moratorium or study period. He suggested that the Town evaluate cumulative impacts of industrial-scale solar development and review whether existing environmental studies remain current. He further argued that the proposed project may be inconsistent with the Town’s agricultural and farmland preservation goals and referenced zoning and land-use planning concerns. He concluded by encouraging the Town to prioritize alternative solar siting strategies, such as rooftops, parking lots, and already-developed land, rather than farmland and open space.

Supervisor Barrett responded to comments regarding Solar Development and noted that the Town had previously installed a solar array on a portion of the Town landfill property. He stated that the project was funded through state-supported renewable energy programs and utility-related funding mechanisms rather than direct Town expenditures. He discussed how renewable energy subsidies are funded through charges associated with utility bills and administered through state energy and public service programs. Supervisor Barrett commented that significant public subsidies support green energy projects in New York State. Regarding the Clifton Park landfill solar project, Supervisor Barrett stated that the Town’s role was limited to entering into a lease agreement for the property. He recalled that a reporter had requested financial details about the project, but he indicated that the Town did not possess that information and suggested the reporter contact NYSERDA directly. Supervisor Barrett added that the reporter was unsuccessful in obtaining the requested information.

Francis Florio of Fairway Woods, Tipperary Way, presented a handout which he read off of, please see the attached.

Supervisor Barrett discussed economic factors influencing the siting of large-scale solar projects, stating that developers often seek less expensive rural properties rather than more commercially valuable land. He explained that large, relatively flat parcels allow for more cost-

effective installation of solar panels compared to smaller rooftop systems. He noted that rooftop solar is more commonly incorporated into new construction projects and is often supported through subsidies or incentives integrated into development financing. Supervisor Barrett also emphasized the Town's efforts to preserve open space, stating that approximately 2,000 acres had been permanently preserved during his tenure in Clifton Park. He described large-scale solar development as a growing competitor to open space preservation efforts because solar companies can offer landowners a simpler and more financially attractive process than conservation acquisitions. He contrasted the relative ease of entering into agreements with solar developers against the longer and more complex process involved in Town-led land preservation projects, which require grant applications, appraisals, funding allocations, and approvals. As an example, he referenced the recent preservation of property on Riverview Road, noting the extended timeline required to complete the acquisition. Supervisor Barrett concluded that the financial incentives and streamlined process offered by solar companies have created challenges for the Town's ongoing open space preservation initiatives.

Joanne Coons of Balsam Way spoke regarding the proposed Tier 1 and Tier 2 solar moratorium and stated that she had reviewed the meeting agenda materials and supporting references. She questioned the use of a 2024 New York ISO trends report in the agenda materials and suggested that the Town instead reference the more current 2025 "Gold Book" report issued by the New York ISO. She stated that both reports support the expansion of renewable energy to strengthen the electrical grid and reduce peak demand. Ms. Coons also expressed concerns about the credibility of certain sources cited in the agenda materials, including the "Authority Network of America," which she stated was not a recognized peer-reviewed authority on energy policy. She encouraged the Town to rely on research from institutions such as Cornell University when evaluating long-term policy decisions. She referenced the proposed McElroy Road solar project, stating that it would utilize approximately 19 acres of a 119-acre property while allowing continued agricultural use and preserving rural character. She argued that solar development could prevent more intensive residential development and associated traffic and disturbance.

Ms. Coons addressed concerns about solar farm impacts, stating that solar facilities are generally quiet, low-impact, and capable of supporting pollinators, wildlife habitat, and agricultural uses such as livestock grazing. She stated that agrivoltaics practices can help farmers reduce maintenance and fertilizer costs while maintaining financial stability. She further argued that solar development represents a small percentage of farmland use statewide and noted that residential and commercial development has had a greater long-term impact on farmland loss. She also highlighted community solar programs as a means of reducing energy costs for residents without requiring upfront investment. Ms. Coons concluded by urging the Town to reject the proposed moratorium and instead adopt a balanced, evidence-based approach that supports both agriculture and renewable energy development.

Frank Berlin of Main Street expressed support for solar energy in moderation but raised concerns about the loss of remaining farmland and open space for large-scale solar development. He questioned claims made by solar companies that only poor-quality or unused farmland is selected, citing examples in Town where productive farmland has reportedly been used. He suggested the Town explore alternative solar locations such as parking lots, rooftops, shopping centers, and covered parking structures rather than agricultural land. He referenced local examples of parking lot solar canopies that also provide shade and snow protection. Mr. Berlin also questioned the practicality of relying heavily or entirely on solar energy, noting concerns about energy reliability and the continued need for conventional power plants as backup when sunlight is unavailable. He emphasized the importance of considering future electricity demand, including electric vehicles and expanded residential/commercial usage. He advocated for a moratorium to allow additional study and discussion of solar development impacts, including farmland preservation, tree loss, wildlife impacts, and fencing around solar farms. He urged the Town to hear from multiple experts and perspectives before making further decisions.

Supervisor Barrett stated that substantial backup power generation is necessary to support solar energy when sunlight is unavailable. He emphasized the need for reliable, marketable energy systems that can financially sustain themselves while serving as a backup to renewable generation. He identified natural gas, fuel cell technology, hydropower, oil, and small-scale nuclear energy as key components of the future energy landscape. Mr. Barrett noted that private investment is actively supporting development in these sectors and described the technologies as promising solutions for meeting future energy demands. He encouraged residents to research

companies working in these energy fields and learn more about the emerging technologies being developed.

Nancy Tudor of Brittany Oaks and Chair of the Green Committee, spoke in opposition to the proposed moratorium on Tier 2 and Tier 3 solar energy systems. She stated that delaying renewable energy development would be inappropriate given the ongoing climate crisis and rising global temperatures. Ms. Tudor emphasized that communities, including Clifton Park, are already experiencing the impacts of climate change and argued that this is not the time to slow progress on renewable energy initiatives. Ms. Tudor cited existing local solar projects, including Hicks Farms and the 1-megawatt solar installation at the transfer station, as examples of responsible and effective solar development within the town. She encouraged the town to continue expanding renewable energy efforts, including solar and wind power, and stated that Clifton Park has an opportunity to be a leader in sustainable energy development. Ms. Tudor urged the Board to reject the proposed moratorium and instead focus on promoting and expanding renewable energy solutions to support a more resilient future.

Mary Lou Classen of Blue Spruce Lane spoke on behalf of the Saratoga County League of Women Voters in opposition to the proposed moratorium on solar energy systems. She explained that the League of Women Voters develops policy positions through national study and member consensus and has long recognized climate change as a serious threat. She stated that both the national and New York State League support the promotion of renewable energy and the transition to affordable clean energy consistent with the goals of New York's Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act. Ms. Classen argued that solar energy is currently one of the cheapest and fastest energy sources to develop and noted that solar generation helped reduce reliance on expensive natural gas plants during a recent summer heat wave, resulting in significant cost savings for New Yorkers. She also referenced a Cornell University study indicating that farmers receiving solar lease revenue were more likely to reinvest in their farms rather than leave agriculture. Additionally, she stated that less than 1% of farmland loss has been attributed to solar development. Ms. Classen concluded by emphasizing the need to obtain energy from clean, low-pollution, renewable sources and urged the Board to oppose the proposed moratorium.

Ann Flower-Stitt of Mac Elroy Road thanked the Board for considering the proposed moratorium and stated that supporters of the moratorium are not opposed to solar energy itself. She explained that the intent of the six-month pause is to allow the Town time to carefully evaluate how solar development should fit within the community. She expressed concern about pressure from large outside corporations promoting renewable energy projects on remaining prime farmland in Clifton Park. Ms. Flower-Stitt stated that while the Town's current solar law gives the Planning Board discretion in reviewing projects, it lacks clear guidance regarding where solar development should or should not be permitted. She urged the Town to use the moratorium period to engage residents, renewable energy advocates, neighboring property owners, and other stakeholders to develop clearer and more concrete regulations governing solar development. Ms. Flower-Stitt also warned that increasing state and federal pressure for renewable energy development could reduce local control if the Town does not proactively strengthen its laws. She concluded that a temporary pause would help protect the character of the community and provide clearer direction for future solar projects.

Supervisor Barrett referenced a recent Court of Appeals decision that he said significantly limits the ability of municipalities to challenge or oppose solar energy projects. He stated that the decision reflects broader efforts at the state level to streamline approval of renewable energy developments. Supervisor Barrett noted that while some related legislative proposals have not yet passed, he believes the court ruling has already reduced local authority over green energy siting decisions. He encouraged those present, including legal representatives, to review the decision and consider its implications for local control and future solar project approvals.

David Miller of Hidden Valley Lane spoke about his long involvement in Clifton Park and his work over the past 27 years helping preserve approximately 2,000 acres of land in partnership with Town officials from both political parties. He expressed concern that discussions during the meeting reflected people "talking past" one another rather than engaging in meaningful dialogue and encouraged the Board to pursue a more collaborative and facilitated approach to resolving differences. Mr. Miller stated that he supports solar energy and believes it is important for the future, but emphasized that solar development should occur only in appropriate locations that do

not negatively impact farmland, natural resources, historic properties, or other important land uses. He suggested that, rather than adopting a broad moratorium, the Town could focus additional review on the CR zoning district in the western part of Town, where most concerns have arisen. He also recommended conducting a broader study of CR zoning regulations, integrating solar considerations into the town's farmland preservation planning process, and developing a comprehensive solar siting and infrastructure plan identifying where solar projects are and are not appropriate. Mr. Miller referenced examples from nearby communities and noted that solar companies have at times competed with preservation efforts for key properties, including a historic property that was ultimately preserved through additional funding and coordination. He concluded by encouraging improved communication, long-term planning, and balanced decision-making that supports both renewable energy goals and land preservation priorities.

Kurt Swartz of Ashdown Road see attachment written and read by Mr. Swartz

Anne Dillenbeck of Droms Road read a letter from Clifton Park Open Space please see attached letter.

Mark Dale of Fairleigh Way referenced the Town's farmland preservation report, specifically noting a section discussing how Onondaga County modified its 360 regulations and opted out of tax exemptions for solar projects. He suggested the Town contact Onondaga County officials to learn more about their experience and evaluate whether similar measures could apply to Clifton Park. Mr. Dale stated that he opposes the proposed solar project on MacElroy Road, arguing that the location is inappropriate due to its proximity to Veterans Memorial Park, pickleball courts, softball fields, the Elks Club, nearby residential neighborhoods, and local golf courses. He also raised concerns about fire risk associated with solar arrays, particularly from dry brush and vegetation beneath panels during seasonal fire conditions. While acknowledging that solar fires are relatively rare, he cited a 2024 solar fire incident in Castleton, New York, which required response from 15 fire departments, as an example of the potential danger and challenges posed by electrical fires at solar facilities.

Beverly Borgess of Sheridan Court spoke about owning approximately 20 acres of land and stated that solar developers frequently approach her with offers to lease the property for solar development. She said she has been offered approximately \$75,000 per year in rental income but does not support solar development on her land. Ms. Borgess explained that when she first moved to the area about 45 years ago, she enrolled her property in an open space or land preservation program that restricted development for a 20-year period in exchange for tax benefits. She suggested the Town consider modifying such programs to allow shorter enrollment periods for older property owners while continuing to provide tax incentives for keeping land undeveloped and free from solar projects. Ms. Borgess stated that she would be willing to formally commit her property against solar development if similar tax relief or preservation incentives remained available. She also expressed concerns about the visual impact of solar installations and their potential effect on neighboring property values.

Supervisor Barrett clarified that the program being referenced is the Town's conservation easement program, which provides a temporary method of protecting open space. He distinguished this from the Town's open space planning process, which is intended to permanently preserve land within the community.

Ms. Borgess described her experience with the Town's land conservation process in relation to her 20-acre property. She stated that her home burned down approximately 25 years ago and that when she later attempted to rebuild, she was unable to construct a new house on the original home site due to restrictions related to the conservation/open space designation on her land. She explained that she was told portions of her property would be designated as open space, which affected where rebuilding could occur, even though existing structures such as a barn remained on the property. Ms. Borgess expressed frustration with the limitations placed on her ability to rebuild and questioned the fairness of the restrictions, stating that she would like to have been able to reconstruct her home on its original location.

No one else wished to be heard.

End 9:39 p.m.

Proposed Amendments to Town Code Chapters 73 and 208 regarding short-term rentals.

Start 9:40 p.m.

Town Clerk Caitlin Fantini read the Public Hearing Notice advertised in the Times Union on April 30, 2026.

Priscilla Kelly of Vischer Ferry Road described purchasing approximately 35 acres of land adjacent to her home after the neighboring property went up for sale, which she and her parents acquired. She explained that the property includes a large historic house, formerly the Robert Van Patten house, which is currently used as a short-term rental (Airbnb) that helps offset property taxes. Ms. Kelly stated that the property accommodates groups of up to 15 guests and has received positive reviews. She emphasized her support for short-term rentals as a way to provide unique lodging opportunities, including stays in historic homes and restored structures. She expressed concern that proposed regulations related to short-term rentals may be overly restrictive, particularly provisions limiting rentals based on primary residence status and restricting permits to one per person per parcel. Kelly stated that while she supports reasonable permitting and safety oversight, she believes the proposed rules could unnecessarily limit opportunities for property owners and reduce tourism and unique lodging options within the Town.

Joanne Coons of Balsam Way commented on a specific property situation discussed during the hearing. She expressed concern that the property owner may be unfairly penalized for actions taken in good faith. Ms. Coons suggested that the Town consider a grandfathering provision or similar exception to address situations where individuals began their use or investment without anticipating later regulatory changes. She stated that applying new rules in such cases may be unfair and urged the board to consider flexibility for residents in similar circumstances.

Supervisor Barrett responded that no final decision had been made regarding the issue being discussed. He noted that a resolution concerning short-term rentals was on the Agenda, which he stated he did not author or introduce. Supervisor Barrett clarified that he was unaware of how the resolution came to be listed with his name attached and emphasized that it was not his initiative.

Lisa Burkhammer of Knollwood Drive spoke about her neighborhood experience with a short-term rental operating within a small community of approximately 40 homes. She stated that a property owner independently began operating short-term rentals without what she described as adequate vetting or oversight of guests. Ms. Burkhammer reported that the neighborhood experienced frequent turnover of visitors, noise disturbances, parties, and other activities that she felt negatively impacted the community environment, particularly for families with children. She expressed concern that the situation led to safety and quality-of-life issues. While acknowledging that short-term rentals can function differently in other contexts, she urged the Board to consider the potential negative impacts on residential neighborhoods and to evaluate appropriate locations and regulatory safeguards to prevent similar issues in the future.

No one else wished to be heard.

End 9:45 p.m.

RESOLUTIONS

Resolution No. 149 of 2026, a resolution enacting a six-month moratorium on the review and approval of Tier 2 and Tier 3 Solar Energy System applications.

Introduced by Councilwoman Reid, who moved its adoption, seconded by Supervisor Barrett.

WHEREAS, Chapter 208 of the Town of Clifton Park Zoning Code establishes zoning regulations, including procedures for the review of special use permits (Article XIV) and site plan approval (Article XVI), which are applicable to Tier 2 and Tier 3 solar energy systems; and

WHEREAS, recent increases in the number and scale of Tier 2 and Tier 3 solar energy system proposals have raised concerns regarding the cumulative impact of continued solar

development on Clifton Park's agricultural lands, including prime farmland and farmland of statewide importance; and

WHEREAS, farmers and agricultural property owners in the Town have reported growing pressure from solar developers seeking long-term land leases for large-scale solar installations, which may accelerate the conversion of agricultural lands away from active production; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Clifton Park has prepared a draft Agriculture and Farmland Protection Plan, soon to be adopted and incorporated into the Town's Comprehensive Plan, which identifies farmland protection, preservation of agricultural viability, and the minimization of non-agricultural encroachment as core policy objectives; and

WHEREAS, the Town Board finds it necessary to temporarily pause the acceptance, review, and approval of all new Tier 2 and Tier 3 solar energy system applications in order to fully evaluate their potential impacts on agricultural resources, community character, land-use compatibility, and long-term capacity build-out; and

WHEREAS, this temporary moratorium will enable the Town to conduct a comprehensive review of existing zoning, siting criteria, screening standards, environmental review procedures, and farmland-protection measures applicable to Tier 2 and Tier 3 solar energy systems; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that Local Law No. __ of 2026 is hereby adopted by the Town of Clifton Park to enact a temporary six (6) month moratorium on the filing, acceptance, processing, review, or approval of any new applications for Tier 2 or Tier 3 solar energy systems, as defined in Chapter 208 of the Town Code; and

RESOLVED, that this moratorium shall apply to all applications requiring special use permits pursuant to § 208-79 and all applications requiring site plan approval pursuant to § 208-113, regardless of zoning district; and

RESOLVED, that during the moratorium period, no Board, Department, or official of the Town of Clifton Park shall accept, process, or take action on any application, petition, or request that would authorize or permit the establishment, expansion, or construction of a Tier 2 or Tier 3 solar energy system; and

RESOLVED, that the Town Board, Planning Board, and Planning Department shall use this moratorium period to undertake a comprehensive review of solar siting standards, agricultural protection measures, cumulative development thresholds, and alignment with the draft Agriculture and Farmland Protection Plan; and

RESOLVED, that the Town reserves the right to extend this moratorium for additional periods should further study be required; and

RESOLVED, that this resolution shall take effect immediately upon its adoption

MOTION to table the resolution by Councilwoman Bellamy, seconded by Councilman Fantini.

ROLL CALL VOTE ON THE MOTION TO TABLE

Ayes: Councilwoman Bellamy, Councilman Fantini, Councilman Manir

Noes: Councilwoman Reid, Supervisor Barrett

MOTION TABLED

Councilwoman Bellamy stated that there is a need for further consideration of the issue and suggested that the Town consult with other counties to learn from their experiences and approaches before moving forward with any decisions.

Councilwoman Reid clarified that the discussion is not intended to restrict small residential solar installations but rather focuses on medium- to large-scale ground-mounted solar projects. She stated that the proposed moratorium is temporary and is intended to ensure that solar development proceeds in a responsible manner rather than halting progress. Councilwoman Reid explained that the purpose of the moratorium would be to provide time to address community concerns, evaluate environmental impacts, and update zoning regulations so that future projects align with long-term Town planning goals. She noted that this approach would help the Town move away from evaluating projects on a case-by-case basis. She concluded that a temporary pause would allow the Town to take a more balanced, evidence-based approach and reassess how large-scale solar development should be managed moving forward.

Councilman Manir stated that, in his view, decisions following public hearings should not be made the same day, as hearings often involve a large amount of information that requires further review and consideration. He recommended delaying any final decision until at least the following week to allow time to process and evaluate the testimony presented. He added that he is not opposed to solar energy but believes additional study is necessary before moving forward, in order to ensure informed decision-making.

Councilwoman Bellamy noted that the Board has received several written letters regarding the matter that could be included as part of the record for consideration.

Town Clerk Fantini acknowledged an oversight and stated that there were three emails submitted in opposition to the proposed moratorium. She confirmed that these emails were distributed to the Board and will be included in the official meeting minutes for the record. See attached.

Resolution No. 150 of 2026, a resolution adopting a local law to amend Town Code Chapters 73 and 208 regarding short-term rentals.

WHEREAS, the Town Board is aware that short-term rentals have become prevalent in Clifton Park and other communities, and

WHEREAS, short-term rentals are not currently regulated by the Town of Clifton Park, and

WHEREAS, on May 5, 2026, the Town Board conducted a public hearing on the proposed regulation of short-term rentals, and members of the public were provided an opportunity to speak in favor or against the proposal; now; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that Local Law No. ___ of 2026, a local law to amend Town Code Chapters 73 and 208 is hereby adopted; and be it further

RESOLVED, that this local law shall take effect immediately upon its adoption.

MOTION to table the resolution by Councilman Fantini, seconded by Councilwomen Bellamy.

ROLL CALL VOTE

Ayes: Councilwoman Bellamy, Councilman Fantini, Councilman Manir, Councilwoman Reid, Supervisor Barrett

Noes: None

MOTION TABLED

Supervisor Barrett stated that, before any discussion, he wanted to clarify that the resolution placed on the agenda with his name attached was not his idea and was not his resolution. He further stated that, if it was his responsibility to keep the item on the agenda, he did not want it to remain on the agenda.

Councilwoman Bellamy recalled past concerns raised by Mr. Moony regarding townhouses on Tallowood. She stated that a business on Providence Avenue in Niskayuna had purchased several townhouses and was using them to house families of patients, which resulted in excessive street parking and confusion in the area. She noted that these experiences demonstrate the many different ways buildings can be utilized that may not always be immediately apparent.

Resolution No. 151 of 2026, a resolution authorizing the re-naming of the Friends of Grooms Tavern to be Friends of Heritage Square at Grooms Corners.

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

WHEREAS, by Resolution No. 273 of 2025, the Town Board authorized a name change for the three (3) parcels at the intersection of Grooms Road and Sugar Hill Road to be Heritage Square at Grooms Corners, and

WHEREAS, Deputy Supervisor Agatha Reid met with the Friends of Grooms Tavern, and submits the name change, at the group's request, to coincide with the name change for the three (3) parcel area; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Friends of Grooms Tavern will be renamed to be Friends of Heritage Square at Grooms Corners; and be it further

RESOLVED, that Town Code §35-3 B(3) be amended to reflect this name change.

ROLL CALL VOTE

Ayes: Councilwoman Bellamy, Councilman Fantini, Councilman Manir, Councilwoman Reid, Supervisor Barrett

Noes: None

DECLARED ADOPTED

Supervisor Barrett stated that the matter had previously been discussed with the Historic Preservation Committee and the Celebrations Committee during the prior year. He explained that the designation had been informally used for some time and that the purpose of bringing it forward was to make it official.

Resolution No. 152 of 2026, a resolution authorizing the Supervisor to sign a Lease Agreement with Fruitful Vine Christian Church, for rental of the top floor of the Burning Bush Clubhouse.

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

WHEREAS, pursuant to Town Law 64 2 (a) the Town Board is authorized to lease Town- owned property; and

WHEREAS, Fruitful Vine Christian Church wishes to rent the top floor of the Burning Bush Clubhouse for a term of twelve (12) months, lease to expire on May 19, 2027, at an annual rent of \$21,600; and

WHEREAS, the Tenant may elect to remain in possession of the property after May 19, 2027, as a month-to-month Tenant for up to twelve (12) consecutive months; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Supervisor is hereby authorized to sign the attached Lease Agreement with Fruitful Vine Christian Church for rental of the top floor of the Burning Bush Clubhouse, pending the Town Attorney's review of a Certificate of Insurance naming the Town of Clifton Park as certificate holder.

ROLL CALL VOTE

Ayes: Councilwoman Bellamy, Councilman Fantini, Councilman Manir, Councilwoman Reid, Supervisor Barrett

Noes: None

DECLARED ADOPTED

Supervisor Barrett stated that the tenant has been excellent and that the Town is very pleased to have them at the location for many years.

Resolution No. 153 of 2026, a resolution to amend Resolution No. 2 of 2026.

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

WHEREAS, the Clifton Park Town Board desires to amend an appointment included in the Organizational Resolution, Resolution No. 2 of 2026, heretofore adopted on January 6, 2026, to extend the appointment of Sheryl Reed; now therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that Sheryl Reed's appointment as a part-time Building Inspector is hereby extended, at a salary as budgeted, to December 31, 2026.

ROLL CALL VOTE

Ayes: Councilwoman Bellamy, Councilman Fantini, Councilman Manir, Councilwoman Reid, Supervisor Barrett

Noes: None

DECLARED ADOPTED

Supervisor Barrett stated that Sheryl has been a tremendous asset to the Town of Clifton Park for decades and noted that the Town will continue to benefit from her expertise.

Resolution No. 154 of 2026, a resolution authorizing the raising of the Pride flag on a Town flagpole during the month of June in recognition of Pride Month.

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

WHEREAS, the Town of Clifton Park is home to a diverse population, including many LGBTQ+ individuals and families who contribute meaningfully to the social, cultural, and economic life of our community; and

WHEREAS, raising the Pride flag during the month of June would serve as a visible symbol of inclusion, respect, and support for LGBTQ+ residents and families; and

WHEREAS, Pride Month offers an important opportunity to celebrate diversity and affirm the importance of equality, belonging, safety, and acceptance for all members of our community; and

WHEREAS, many municipalities across New York State recognize Pride Month by flying the Pride flag; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Clifton Park hereby authorizes the raising of the Pride flag on a Town flagpole during the month of June in recognition of Pride Month and in support of the Town's commitment to being a welcoming and inclusive community for all.

MOTION to Amend the resolution to be a proclamation for Pride Month in lieu of flag made by Councilman Fantini, seconded by Councilwoman Bellamy.

ROLL CALL VOTE ON AMENDMENT

Ayes: Councilwoman Bellamy, Councilman Fantini, Councilman Manir, Councilwoman Reid, Supervisor Barrett

Noes: None

DECLARED ADOPTED

Councilman Manir stated that he is not against minorities and expressed his belief in “one flag” and “one nation under God.” He stated that he could not support the resolution as presented. However, he proposed that he could support the matter if it were modified to a proclamation to be read by the Supervisor or Deputy Supervisor.

Supervisor Barrett stated that, as he had mentioned previously, he has issued proclamations when requested by individuals or groups seeking Town support for causes, events, or other community-related initiatives.

Councilman Manir stated that support for a group or cause can be shown through a proclamation without raising a flag. He expressed concern that approving one group’s flag request could lead to similar requests from additional groups in the future.

Councilman Manir asked Councilman Fantini whether he would be willing to modify the request accordingly.

Councilman Fantini asked Supervisor Barrett whether he would be willing to proceed with a proclamation instead.

Supervisor Barrett stated that he has done this in the past.

Councilman Fantini stated that if other Board members prefer a proclamation rather than a flag display, he would modify his resolution so that the Town issues a proclamation recognizing Pride Month and affirming inclusivity.

Supervisor Barrett stated that he agrees with Mr. Berlin that a flag display is not necessary to demonstrate inclusivity. He noted that the Town of Clifton Park is diverse and welcoming to people from around the world, including members of the LGBTQ community, and that this has been his experience. He emphasized that both he and the Town have been committed to inclusivity and welcoming people of all backgrounds, heritages, and walks of life, and expressed confidence that this approach will continue beyond his tenure.

Resolution No. 155 of 2026, a resolution appointing two members to the Town of Clifton Park Ethics Board.

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

WHEREAS, the town board adopted Local Law No 16 of 1989 on August 21, 1989, by resolution 357 of 1989 titled the “Town of Clifton Park Disclosure and Ethics Law”; and

WHEREAS, Local Law No. 16 of 1989 included section 17 subdivision 5 which purported to allow amendments to the Town of Clifton Park Disclosure and Ethics law only by a supermajority of four out of five town board member votes; and

WHEREAS, Local Law no. 16 of 1989 included section 13 subdivision 5 which purports to require a supermajority of unanimous consent of the Town Board to appoint members to the Town Ethics Board; and

WHEREAS, Municipal Home Rule law section 23(2)(f) states that “Except as otherwise provided by or under authority of a state statute, a local law shall be subject to mandatory referendum if it ... [a]bolishes, transfers or curtails any power of an elective officer.”; and

WHEREAS, in 2007, the New York State Court of Appeals decided in the case of Mayor of New York v. Council of New York, 2007 Lexis 1564 at page 11 that “a law curtails the power of an elected officer if it impairs a power conferred on the officer within the framework of local government” ; and

WHEREAS, on August 28, 2007, the New York State Attorney General determined that any local law that requires a supermajority in order to be amended curtails the power of local government and may be made effective only upon submission to the electorate and approval by a public referendum; and

WHEREAS, the provision at paragraph 17 subdivision 5 of Local Law no. 16 of 1989 that purported to require a supermajority in order to amend Local Law No. 16 of 1989 was not presented to the electorate for approval by mandatory referendum; and

WHEREAS, therefore, the provision at paragraph 17 subdivision 5 of Local Law No 16 1989 of the Town of Clifton Park Ethics Law requiring a supermajority to amend the local law is null and void and of no effect; and

WHEREAS, the provision at paragraph 13 subdivision 5 of Local Law no. 16 of 1989 that purported to adopt the requirement of unanimous approval in order to appoint any members to the Town of Clifton Park Ethics Board was not presented to the electorate for approval by mandatory referendum; and

WHEREAS, further therefore, section 13 subdivision 5 of Local Law No. 16 of 1989 that requires unanimous approval in order to appoint any members to the Town of Clifton Park Ethics Board is null and void and of no effect; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Clifton Park Disclosure and Ethics Law may and shall be amended by the Town Board by normal order, specifically majority vote of the Town Board; and

WHEREAS, the members of the Town of Clifton Park Ethics Board may and shall be appointed by normal order, specifically by majority vote of the Town Board; now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Town Board hereby appoints Marvin LeRoy and Julia Luning Tristan as members of the Town of Clifton Park Ethics Board effective immediately and for terms that expire December 31, 2028.

ROLL CALL VOTE

Ayes: Councilwoman Bellamy, Councilman Fantini, Councilman Manir

Noes: Councilwoman Reid, Supervisor Barrett

DECLARED ADOPTED

Supervisor Barrett expressed strong opposition to the resolution, describing it as the result of an extended, multi-month process related to ethics law and the Ethics Committee appointments. He referenced legal materials and a letter from the County attorney, noting that the County had provided two names for consideration for the Ethics Committee following a vacancy exceeding 90 days, in accordance with Town Code. He identified the two individuals as James Clark (previously serving with a term ending in 2025 and not reappointed by the Board) and Julia Tristan. He stated that the County’s actions were consistent with the Town Code and that the Town had followed proper procedure. Supervisor Barrett further criticized the resolution as unnecessary and inconsistent with the Town’s code, asserting that the matter had already been handled appropriately. He stated that, in his view, James Clark should be reappointed and Julia Tristan appointed to the Ethics Board in accordance with the Town Code.

Attorney Dailey informed Supervisor Barrett that he wanted to provide him with a copy of the letter he had sent to the County attorney.

Supervisor Barrett acknowledged that he had already received the letter.

Attorney Dailey stated that the Town of Clifton Park and the Town Board do not recognize Saratoga County’s authority to make the referenced appointments. He further stated that, in his view, the appointments are null and will not be recognized.

Councilman Fantini asked Attorney Dailey to explain the resolution so that all attendees could better understand it.

Attorney Dailey explained that when a New York State local law requires a supermajority or unanimous vote, it may be subject to a mandatory referendum. If not properly referred, such a law could be considered null and void. He stated that in this case, the local law included a “saving provision” specifying that if any portion of the law is found invalid, only that specific provision is void rather than the entire law. He explained that, as a result, the provisions requiring a supermajority to amend and a unanimous vote for appointments are considered void. Attorney Dailey concluded that, therefore, a simple majority vote of the Town Board applies, which he stated is consistent with general practice and supported by legal interpretations, including those of the Court of Appeals and the Attorney General.

Supervisor Barrett stated that neither the Attorney General nor the Court of Appeals has reviewed the Town’s code.

Several members of the audience spoke out at the same time, with overlapping comments that were not individually distinguishable.

Councilwoman Reid stated that a public hearing had been held on the matter and that no residents present supported the proposed change. She noted that approximately 12 people spoke in opposition and emphasized that this did not reflect low public engagement. She expressed her view that the existing law serves as an important safeguard against corruption and questioned the motives behind the proposed change, particularly in light of ethics complaints involving certain Board members. Councilwoman Reid also raised concern about the timing and notice of the resolution, stating it was provided only 24 hours prior to the meeting and questioning how a unanimous vote could reasonably be expected under those circumstances. She concluded that the proposal was unnecessary and a waste of time.

Supervisor Barrett stated that he considered the matter to be “completely foolish,” and added that if the resolution is passed, the process will continue going forward for some time.

Councilman Fantini called for the vote on the matter.

Councilwoman Reid questioned why discussion was being curtailed, stating that the Councilman Fantini has repeatedly attempted to limit discussion and move directly to a vote during meetings. She expressed concern about restricting deliberation on agenda items.

Councilman Fantini, addressing Councilwoman Reid, stated that she consistently opposes his resolutions and questioned why she challenges his proposals so frequently. He referenced the meeting record and asserted that he has not similarly opposed other members’ actions.

Councilwoman Reid responded that Councilman Fantini does not need to “fight back” because he relies on majority votes to advance measures. She stated that at nearly every meeting she attempts to ask questions, discussion is moved to be ended, limiting transparency. She emphasized that this pattern prevents open deliberation and requested that discussion be allowed rather than moving immediately to a vote.

Councilman Fantini responded that Councilwoman Reid’s comments were her opinion.

Councilwoman Reid stated that her prior comments were factual and could be verified in meeting minutes. She explained that when she has opposed Councilman Fantini’s appointments, she has provided specific reasons, including concerns that they may violate the CSEA contract or Town Code. She added that these concerns reflect broader issues with how certain actions are being handled.

Supervisor Barrett stated that ongoing disagreements and actions of this nature are contributing to increasing lawsuits and Union grievances.

Councilman Fantini referenced a former councilmember filing a lawsuit against the Town.

Anthony Morelli of Gloucester Street stated that the Town Board does not have the authority to unilaterally declare a law null and void. He said that such actions must be taken either through amendment of the law or judicial intervention. He further stated that the Town Attorney should be aware of this and criticized the legal guidance being provided, characterizing it as inappropriate or potentially improper. Anthony Morelli further questioned the application of the mandatory referendum requirement, asking why it was applied in 1989 but not in the current matter, noting that both situations involve limiting the powers of the Town Board. He requested clarification from the Town Attorney.

Attorney Dailey stated that the requirement has consistently applied to the 1989 law.

Anthony Morelli stated that the mandatory referendum requirement does apply to the current matter, as it applied in 1989. He argued that a mandatory referendum would therefore be required for the proposed action, and asserted that the matter cannot be decided solely by a Town Board vote.

Attorney Dailey stated that, while he respects the opposing view expressed, he disagrees with that legal interpretation.

Anthony Morelli stated that the issue is not a matter of opinion and argued that the proposed action mirrors what occurred in 1989. He contended that the change effectively alters the powers of the Town Board by shifting the requirement to a majority vote. He reiterated his position that if a referendum was required in 1989, it should also be required in 2026.

Attorney Dailey reiterated that there is a disagreement on the legal interpretation of the issue. He stated that he respects Mr. Morelli's opinion and welcomes his comments, but maintained that they disagree on the matter.

Supervisor Barrett submitted the letter from Anthony Morelli and the County Attorney for the record. Please see attached.

Resolution No. 156 of 2026, a resolution adopting a local law to amend Town Code Chapter 17, Code of Ethics.

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

WHEREAS, Local Law No. 16 of 1989 (the Town of Clifton Park Disclosure and Ethics Law), paragraph 13 subdivision 5, as adopted, requires unanimous approval of the Town Board to appoint members to the Town of Clifton Park Ethics Board, and

WHEREAS, this provision of the Local Law, by operation of Municipal Home Rule Law, Section 23 (2) (f) is null and void and of no effect, and

WHEREAS, Local Law No. 16 of 1989, paragraph 17 subdivision 5, as adopted, allows amendments to the Town of Clifton Park Disclosure and Ethics Law only by a supermajority of four (4) out of five (5) Town Board members, and

WHEREAS, this provision of the Local Law, by operation of Municipal Home Rule Law, Section 23 (2) (f) is null and void and of no effect, and

WHEREAS, if the Town Board of the Town of Clifton Park cannot agree on new members by unanimous consent by Local Law No. 16 of 1989, as adopted, it requires new members to be appointed by the Saratoga County Ethics Board, as set forth in Chapter 17, Ethics code, §17-13, and

WHEREAS, the County Ethics Board lacks the authority and should have no authority to appoint members of a Town of Clifton Park Disclosure and Ethics Board, and

WHEREAS, it is appropriate that the power to appoint members and the chairperson of the Town of Clifton Park Disclosure and Ethics Board be appointed by a majority vote of the Town Board, and

WHEREAS, on February 24, 2026, the Town Board held a public hearing on a proposal to consider these amendments to Town Code Chapter 17, Code of Ethics; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that Local Law No. __5__ of 2026, a local law to allow the appointment of members to the Clifton Park Disclosure and Ethics Board, by a majority vote of the Town Board, to allow amendments to the Clifton Park Disclosure and Ethics Law by majority vote of the Town Board, to delete any reference or referral to the Saratoga County Ethics Board and to have the chairperson of the Clifton Park Disclosure and Ethics Board appointed by a majority vote of the Town Board, as detailed in the attached, is adopted; and be it further

RESOLVED, that this local law shall take effect immediately.

ROLL CALL VOTE

Ayes: Councilwoman Bellamy, Councilman Fantini, Councilman Manir

Noes: Councilwoman Reid, Supervisor Barrett

DECLARED ADOPTED

Attorney Dailey explained that the matter relates back to a February meeting at which a public hearing was held and a resolution was introduced but later tabled. He stated that the resolution has remained tabled for too long and is now considered stale. As a result, he explained that a new resolution must be introduced if the local law that was the subject of the public hearing is to be adopted.

Councilwoman Reid stated that during the public hearing, 12 individuals spoke in strong opposition to the proposed change and no one spoke in support of it. She questioned the purpose of holding public hearings if constituent feedback is not taken into consideration.

Supervisor Barrett stated that, in his view, the proposed action is not lawful, is contrary to the Town Code, and cannot be carried out.

Councilwoman Reid questioned why the Town Board holds public hearings if it proceeds in a manner contrary to the views expressed by constituents during those hearings.

Supervisor Barrett stated that the effort to declare portions of the law null and void requires revisiting actions dating back to 1989 and is contrary to the Town Code. He noted that when the ethics code was updated approximately 19 years earlier, it was widely praised statewide as a strong ethics code and stated that, in his view, it had remained effective until the current dispute in 2026.

Councilwoman Reid reminded the Board that its members took an oath to represent and serve their constituents.

Supervisor Barrett stated that he believes the Town's ethics code will continue to endure despite the ongoing dispute regarding proposed changes to the code and the Ethics Committee. He criticized the Board majority for pursuing actions related to the ethics process rather than initiatives to advance the Town, and stated that the matter has continued for more than four months. He further stated that the situation has resulted in increasing legal complications and potential liability for the Town. Supervisor Barrett added that residents are closely following the issue and expressed concern that he does not currently see an end to the dispute.

Councilman Fantini began to state that he disagreed with Supervisor Barrett.

Supervisor Barrett asserted that the Board should follow the law, Town Code, proper procedures, public vetting, and transparency standards moving forward in 2026. He criticized what he described as a lack of notice and transparency regarding certain recent proposals,

including plans related to fencing and sports fields in the western part of Town. He stated that concerns regarding process and transparency continue to grow and then invited Councilman Fantini to respond.

Councilman Fantini responded to Supervisor Barrett by referencing prior disputes involving the Town, including a disagreement involving Dahn Bull that resulted in litigation and additional taxpayer costs. He further alleged that certain personnel-related decisions involving union matters have contributed to additional lawsuits. Councilman Fantini also referenced a lawsuit brought by Anthony Morelli regarding the appointment of the Town Attorney. He stated that these matters have resulted in multiple legal actions involving the Town.

Anthony Morelli stated that the Town did not prevail in the referenced lawsuit because the Town Attorney did not wish to remain in that role, and he characterized the outcome as resulting in temporary relief. He added that he would respond when his name is mentioned during discussion.

Supervisor Barrett stated that a prior lawsuit settlement related to alleged noncompliance with a 284 Agreement and state law was improperly resolved, characterizing it as an attempt to conceal or minimize the issue. He asserted that the settlement was structured in a way that avoided further scrutiny and referenced repeated alleged noncompliance over a two-year period. Supervisor Barrett stated that certain personnel-related actions involving union membership were properly executed through a memorandum of agreement with CSEA and were vetted and approved by both the Town Board and CSEA. He asserted that attempts to reverse or nullify those actions by resolution were improper and contrary to Town Code, comparing them to what he described as incorrect efforts to reinterpret or invalidate longstanding ethics provisions dating back to 1989. Supervisor Barrett further stated that such changes cannot be made by resolution and reiterated that, in his view, these actions are inconsistent with proper procedure and Town Code.

Resolution No. 157 of 2026, a resolution approving the provisional appointment of Donovan Ryan as Senior Center Program Coordinator, per civil service classification, in the Clifton Park Senior Community Center.

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

WHEREAS, an opening exists at the Senior Community Center for a Program Coordinator and the position was advertised on April 9, 2026, and

WHEREAS, after interviewing Mr. Ryan, Sue Leonard, Director of Clifton Park Senior Community Center, has recommended that Mr. Ryan fill the position of Senior Center Program Coordinator, and

WHEREAS, the appointment is provisional pending the next sitting for the civil service testing for this position; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Town Board, hereby authorizes the provisional hiring of Donovan Ryan, pending civil service examination, to fill the position of Senior Center Program Coordinator Grade 4, Step 2, Year 1 (\$30.17/hour - \$55,121/year), effective May 18, 2026, and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Comptroller is authorized to transfer according to the attached Schedule A.

ROLL CALL VOTE

Ayes: Councilwoman Bellamy, Councilman Fantini, Councilman Manir, Councilwoman Reid, Supervisor Barrett

Noes: None

DECLARED ADOPTED

No one wished to heard.

Resolution No. 158 of 2026, a resolution increasing General Fund Trips & Tours – Senior Center revenues and expenditures by \$22,300 for a multi-day trip to the Mirror Lake Inn, Lake Placid, NY, September 9-10, 2026.

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

WHEREAS, the Clifton Park Senior Community Center has offered a multi-day trip/tour to the Mirror Lake Inn in Lake Placid, NY, September 9-10, 2026, and

WHEREAS, the Senior Community Center will collect fees from participants for the 2-day/1-night trip; now, therefore, be it,

RESOLVED, that 2026 (General Fund - Trips & Tours), revenues account A-2031 is hereby increased by \$22,300 and expenditures account A.

ROLL CALL VOTE

Ayes: Councilwoman Bellamy, Councilman Fantini, Councilman Manir, Councilwoman Reid, Supervisor Barrett

Noes: None

DECLARED ADOPTED

No one wished to heard.

Resolution No. 159 of 2026, a resolution authorizing the purchase of a new sewer inspection camera system for the Highway Department from Elxsi dba CUES, pursuant to a H-GAC (Houston-Galveston Area Council) Contract.

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

WHEREAS, Highway Superintendent Dahn Bull, has requested authorization to purchase a new storm water sewer inspection camera system from Elxsi dba CUES, pursuant to a competitive procurement process through the H-GAC, for use by the Highway Department, and

WHEREAS, pursuant to General Municipal Law §103(16), and the Town's Procurement Policy, municipalities are authorized to purchase materials, equipment or supplies through publicly bid contracts of another state or political subdivision, thereof, and

WHEREAS, H-GAC has a nationwide, government procurement service cooperative known as HGACBuy, and was established pursuant to Texas Interlocal Cooperation Act [Texas Local Government Code, Title 7, Chapter 791], and

WHEREAS, Mr. Bull advises that the storm water sewer inspection camera system available through HGACBuy Contract #SC06-24, will best meet the needs of the department; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Highway Department is authorized to purchase the C550 Large Standard Package TV Inspection System referenced above, pursuant to HGACBuy contract #SC06-24, in an amount not to exceed \$78,774, to be paid from DA-5130-219 (Highway Fund – Vehicle – Equipment).

ROLL CALL VOTE

Ayes: Councilwoman Bellamy, Councilman Fantini, Councilman Manir, Councilwoman Reid, Supervisor Barrett

Noes: None

DECLARED ADOPTED

No one wished to heard.

Resolution No. 160 of 2026, a resolution authorizing the sale of equipment declared surplus by the Town Board and Highway Department to sell the surplus equipment at public auction.

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

WHEREAS, Dahn Bull, Highway Superintendent, has identified vehicles/equipment per the below list, as surplus property:

Unit	Year	Make	Model	VIN/Info	
#9	2003	Freightliner	FL80	1FVABXAKX3BK47320	
#62	2000	International	257	1HTGEAHRTYH250456	
#24	2003	Ford	F350	3FTSF31603MB28516	
#73	2008	Chevrolet	3500	1GCHK241(78E10166	
Mower	1987	Ford	540A	BB27263	
Trailer	1997	Howe	513T	1H9421F12V0194256	
Chipper		2003	Morbark	SP111HP3	Serial#176819
Snowblower		2006	Erskine	ES2400	72" Snowblower
Snowblower		2010	Erskine	T2010X60	60" Snowblower
Various Vehicle Parts — Distributor caps, rotors, spark plugs, breaks, bearings, etc.					
, and					

WHEREAS, based upon the recommendation of Mr. Bull, the Town Board declares the items on the above list as surplus: now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Town Board authorizes the Highway Department to sell the surplus equipment listed above, as is, through an upcoming online public auction.

ROLL CALL VOTE

Ayes: Councilwoman Bellamy, Councilman Fantini, Councilman Manir, Councilwoman Reid, Supervisor Barrett

Noes: None

DECLARED ADOPTED

No one wished to heard.

Resolution No. 161 of 2026, a resolution contracting for paving services and paving related materials for the Town’s Highway Department.

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

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 103 (16) of the General Municipal Law, municipalities in New York may acquire services through contracts let by the State, or another political subdivision of the State, through a public bidding process which was held in compliance with the statute, and

WHEREAS, the Highway Department has requested authorization to enter into contracts with Evolution Construction Services, Mechanicville, NY, to establish services rates for equipment and labor associated with paving services based on bids awarded by the County of Saratoga after a competitive process, in compliance with GML 103, and

WHEREAS, the unaudited assigned Fund balance for the Highway Fund as of 12/31/2025 was \$1,181,043 and based on the 2026 budget amounts, an additional \$760,000 is required to balance the budget; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Highway Superintendent is authorized to enter a pavement services contract with Evolution Construction Services, Mechanicville, NY, per Saratoga County Contract 24-PWPSR-46R, and to obtain paving related materials, in an amount up to \$2,410,000, with invoices to be paid from DA-5110-030 (Highway Fund – Highway Construction – Paving & Blacktop), \$1,000,000 and \$650,000 from DA-05112-00015 (Highway Fund – Permanent Improvements – Other Contractual), with an additional \$760,000 transferred from DA-915 (Highway Fund – Assigned Fund Balance) to DA-5110-00030 (Highway Fund – Highway Construction – Paving).

ROLL CALL VOTE

Ayes: Councilwoman Bellamy, Councilman Fantini, Councilman Manir, Councilwoman Reid, Supervisor Barrett

Noes: None

DECLARED ADOPTED

Supervisor Barrett referenced the unaudited assigned fund balance for the highway fund, stating it was approximately \$1.181 million. He asked whether unspent funds from last year's paving budget were returned to the assigned fund balance.

Mark Heggen stated that the unspent paving funds are included in the overall assigned fund balance. He confirmed that any funds not spent were incorporated into that reported total.

Resolution No. 162 of 2026, a resolution authorizing the Town to execute an Empire State Development (ESD) Grant Disbursement Agreement (GDA) for the completed Clifton Common Playground Project, with the state funding valued at \$200,000.

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

WHEREAS, by Resolution No. 118 of 2023, the Town Board authorized installation of playground equipment and engagement of related design and construction services for the Clifton Common Playground project, and it was noted that an ESD reimbursement grant of \$200,000 was awarded to the Town to be used toward the cost of the project, and

WHEREAS, the Town is authorized and directed to accept these grant funds in an amount not to exceed \$200,000 for the project described in the grant application, and

WHEREAS, the Town is authorized and directed to agree to the terms and conditions of the ESD GDA for such project; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Town Board authorizes the Supervisor to execute the attached GDA to receive funds not to exceed \$200,000, to be used toward the cost of the completed Clifton Common Playground Project.

ROLL CALL VOTE

Ayes: Councilwoman Bellamy, Councilman Fantini, Councilman Manir, Councilwoman Reid, Supervisor Barrett

Noes: None

DECLARED ADOPTED

Supervisor Barrett thanked Senator Tedisco for assistance with a grant and noted that the resulting park exceeded expectations. He added that the park is well used and very active, which he viewed positively.

Councilwoman Reid stated that she recently visited the park with her son and noted that he enjoyed the experience.

Supervisor Barrett stated that the project has been completed for a couple of years, noting that the state grant process can move slowly.

Resolution No. 163 of 2026, a resolution authorizing the purchase of Spedsta Cloud-Based Transportation Management Software for the Senior Van Department, and to authorize a transfer from Contingency.

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

WHEREAS, the Town of Clifton Park operates a Senior Transportation Program that provides essential transportation services to senior residents of the Town; and

WHEREAS, the current system used for scheduling and managing senior transportation services relies primarily on a manual process utilizing the Microsoft Outlook calendar, which limits efficiency, coordination, reporting, route optimization, and scalability as service demand increases; and

WHEREAS, Town staff have evaluated alternative transportation management systems and identified Spedsta, a cloud-based transportation management software platform specifically designed to manage transportation services for senior, elderly, special needs, and disabled populations; and

WHEREAS, Spedsta provides an integrated platform that offers automated scheduling, dispatcher and driver coordination, passenger management, reporting, data security, and optional automatic route planning, thereby improving operational efficiency, service reliability, and customer service for the Senior Transportation Program; and

WHEREAS, Spedsta, Inc. has submitted a written proposal dated March 24, 2026, along with a Service Level Agreement, to provide cloud-based software services, system setup, training, and support for the Town's Senior Van Department; and

WHEREAS, the total cost for calendar year 2026 is \$6,371.00, which includes a one time account setup fee of \$995.00, a twelve-month software subscription, and a twelve-month add-on option for the Automatic Route Planning Platform in the amount of \$1,788.00; and

WHEREAS, the Director of Planning and Zoning has reviewed the proposal, agreement, and references, and recommends approval of the Spedsta software as a cost effective and operationally beneficial upgrade to the Town's current transportation scheduling practices; and

WHEREAS, there is currently \$5,000 allocated in the 2026 budget line item A- 6772- 4 (General Fund-Senior Services- Software) to cover the one-time setup costs and the annual purchase agreement for calendar year 2026; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Clifton Park hereby authorizes the purchase and implementation of the Spedsta cloud-based transportation management software for use by the Town's Senior Van Department; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Town Board approves the one-time software account setup fee, the annual subscription, and the twelve-month Automatic Route Planning Platform add-on option at a total cost to Spedsta not to exceed \$6,371.00; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Supervisor is hereby authorized to execute all necessary agreements, service level documents, and related purchase instruments with Spedsta, Inc., consistent with the approved proposal and agreement on file; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Comptroller is authorized to transfer \$1,371 from Contingency (A-01990-00015) to A-06772-0004 (General Fund – Senior Services – Computer).

ROLL CALL VOTE

Ayes: Councilwoman Bellamy, Councilman Fantini, Councilman Manir, Councilwoman Reid, Supervisor Barrett

Noes: None

DECLARED ADOPTED

Supervisor Barrett stated that the Town has been working on the initiative for some time and thanked those involved in researching various programs and participating in meetings with vendors. He noted that the effort is intended to improve or enhance management software for the Town's senior van service.

Resolution No. 164 of 2026 a resolution authorizing the hiring of five (5) part-time seasonal laborers and one (1) full-time laborer for the Buildings and Grounds Department.

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

WHEREAS, openings exist for part-time seasonal laborers and a full-time laborer in the Buildings and Grounds Department; and

WHEREAS, Daniel Clemens, Director of Buildings, Parks and Recreation, has recommended that the five (5) individuals detailed on the attached Schedule A be hired to fill the part-time seasonal positions, and

WHEREAS, Mr. Clemens also recommends hiring Korri Brady for the full-time laborer position; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the five individuals listed on the attached Schedule A, be hired as part-time seasonal laborers for the Buildings and Grounds Department, to be paid as detailed on the attached Schedule, effective immediately; and be it further

RESOLVED, that Korri Brady be hired as a full-time Laborer for the Buildings and Grounds Department, to be paid at Grade 3, Step 1, \$23.43/hr, \$48,922 annually, to be allocated based on the attached Schedule A-1.

ROLL CALL VOTE

Ayes: Councilwoman Bellamy, Councilman Fantini, Councilman Manir, Councilwoman Reid, Supervisor Barrett

Noes: None

DECLARED ADOPTED

No one wished to heard.

Resolution No. 165 of 2026, a resolution authorizing the establishment of an internal Geographic Information System (GIS) database to support infrastructure management for the Sewer Department.

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

WHEREAS, Michael O'Brien, Collection Systems Manager, advises that his department's current system maps and data are maintained by outside engineering firms, which

limit his department's ability to efficiently update records, track asset conditions and manage work orders, and

WHEREAS, Mr. O'Brien recommends implementing an in-house GIS platform to improve infrastructure management, and

WHEREAS, Mr. O'Brien further recommends subscribing annually to the Environmental Systems Research Institute, Inc (ESRI) ArcGIS Online platform, in a total amount not to exceed \$1,725, pursuant to NYS Contract # 00044013.6; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Town Board hereby accepts the recommendation of Collection Systems Manager, Michael O'Brien, to subscribe annually to the ESRI ArcGIS Online platform to improve infrastructure management for the Sewer Department, in a total amount not to exceed \$1,725, pursuant to NYS Contract #00044013.6, to be split with \$863 from G7-8111-004 (CP Sewer District #1 – Computer), and \$862 from G11-8111-200 (CP Sewer District #2 – Equipment).

ROLL CALL VOTE

Ayes: Councilwoman Bellamy, Councilman Fantini, Councilman Manir, Councilwoman Reid, Supervisor Barrett

Noes: None

DECLARED ADOPTED

No one wished to heard.

Resolution No. 166 of 2026, a resolution declaring a public emergency retroactive to April 24, 2026, pursuant to General Municipal Law Section 103(4) within Clifton Park Sewer District #2.

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

WHEREAS, Clifton Park Sewer District #2 has suffered multiple pump failures and is non-operational, requiring the Sewer Department to set up an emergency bypass of the pump station while necessary equipment and repairs are acquired and installed, and

WHEREAS, Section 103(4) of the NYS General Municipal Law provides that in cases of an emergency situation arising from unforeseen circumstances affecting public buildings or the health or safety of its inhabitants, the Town Board may authorize the purchase of service, material and equipment without competitive bids, now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Town Board determines that the multiple sewer pump failures retroactive to April, 24, 2026 at Clifton Park Sewer District #2, constitute an emergency for procurement purposes under Section 103(4) of General Municipal Law, and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Town Board authorizes Michael O'Brien, Collection Systems Manager, to engage emergency contractors and/or subcontractors to repair the Clifton Park Sewer District #2 sewer system and surrounding public and/or private property affected by the collapse, and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Comptroller is authorized to charge G11-8111-21 (Clifton Park Sewer District #2 – Sewer Contractual – Emergency Repairs) for the expenditures on this project.

ROLL CALL VOTE

Ayes: Councilwoman Bellamy, Councilman Fantini, Councilman Manir, Councilwoman Reid, Supervisor Barrett

Noes: None

DECLARED ADOPTED

No one wished to heard.

Resolution No. 167 of 2026, a resolution hiring seasonal staff for the 2026 Parks & Recreation Programs.

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

WHEREAS, the Town Board wishes to retain new and returning seasonal staff members for operation of the Locust Land Pool and the 2026 Summer Camps, and

WHEREAS, Megan Babendrier, Director of Parks and Recreation, has recommended that John McQuade be hired as Pool Manager at the Locust Lane Pool, and the hiring of the individuals listed in the attached Schedules A and B; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that John McQuade be hired as the Locust Lane Pool Manager, to be paid at Step 1, \$25.55/hr from A-7152-E4680, (General Fund – Locust Lane Pool – Pool Manager), effective immediately, and the individuals listed in the attached Schedules A and B be accepted as staff for the Town’s 2026 Day Camp Programs and the Town’s three pools, respectively, to be paid as indicated on the schedules through the end of the respective seasons.

ROLL CALL VOTE

Ayes: Councilwoman Bellamy, Councilman Fantini, Councilman Manir, Councilwoman Reid, Supervisor Barrett

Noes: None

DECLARED ADOPTED

Supervisor Barrett stated that Mr. McQuade has been a member of the Town’s pool staff for a number of years and described him as a capable and valued employee. He added that the Town is pleased to have him serving as a manager.

Resolution No. 168 of 2026, a resolution authorizing tent rentals for the 2026 summer season.

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

WHEREAS, quotes were received, per the attached Schedule A, for renting tents for the July 4th Celebration, and for seasonal rentals for the Full Day Camp at Clifton Common, and Locust Lane Pool, and

WHEREAS, Whalen Tents, Inc. submitted the lowest quote in an amount not to exceed \$8,030, and

WHEREAS, Megan Babendreier, Director of Parks and Recreation, recommends accepting the quote from Whalen Tents, Inc as lowest conforming quote; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Director of Parks and Recreation is authorized to accept the quote from Whalen Tents, Inc., in an amount not to exceed \$8,030, to be paid with \$1,873 from A-7550-052 (General Fund – Festivals – July 4th Fest), \$5,202 from A-7320-09 (General Fund – Full Day Camp – Leases & Rentals) and \$955 from A-7152-9 (General Fund – Locust Lane Pool – Leases & Rentals); and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Comptroller is authorized to transfer \$1,202 from A-07320-00099 (General Fund – Full Day Camp – Day Camp Expense) to A-07320-00009 (General Fund – Full Day Camp – Leases & Rentals).

ROLL CALL VOTE

Ayes: Councilwoman Bellamy, Councilman Fantini, Councilman Manir, Councilwoman Reid, Supervisor Barrett

Noes: None

DECLARED ADOPTED

No one wished to heard.

New Business

Councilwoman Reid expressed concerns regarding Resolution 54 of 2026 and the newly adopted hiring procedure, which she stated was intended to promote clarity, preparedness, inclusivity, and orderly administration but is not functioning as intended. She stated that she has been excluded from aspects of the hiring process on multiple occasions and raised concerns about communication issues, including interview scheduling conflicts, lack of responses to staff and Board members, and confusion among department heads regarding hiring responsibilities and procedures. Councilwoman Reid also expressed concern that résumé materials were being compiled into spreadsheets rather than fully distributed to Board members, and stated she had to specifically request access to certain documents. She further raised concerns about access to materials related to Ethics Board applicants. She stated that the procedure is creating confusion among employees, reducing transparency, and contributing to a negative work environment. She characterized the process as disorganized and ineffective and stated that it should be improved.

Supervisor Barrett made a remark questioning whether it was expected that the newly adopted procedures would actually be followed as passed by the Board. Supervisor Barrett stated that if he is not provided with all applications and résumés for Town positions, he will take action. He emphasized that he expects full access to all applicant materials for publicly funded positions. He also noted that there are upcoming openings and interviews and reiterated that he should receive every application and résumé submitted.

PUBLIC PRIVILEGE 10:51 P.M.

Julia Luning Tristan of Barney Road stated that she was somewhat confused by the events of the evening but believed she had been appointed by the Town Board. She thanked the Board for their support and confidence in her ability to perform the role successfully and serve the community.

Supervisor Barrett stated that Julia Luning Tristan was appointed properly by the County but improperly by the Town Board. He added that, in his view, the outcome was unanimous and demonstrated that the system works when not influenced by what he characterized as unnecessary attempts to change legislation or address issues that he believes do not exist. He concluded that the process resulted in a valid appointment and referenced Ms. Tristan as an example of the system functioning as intended.

Stephanie Ranze of Fairleigh Way stated that she found the proceedings and comments made during the meeting disheartening and criticized the lack of collaboration and transparency. She expressed disagreement with actions taken by the Board majority and alleged a pattern of improper or unethical behavior. She urged residents to pay attention to the Board's actions and characterized the situation as concerning. She concluded by encouraging reflection on the comments and decisions made during the meeting and suggested that they could have future consequences.

Mike Sposili of Jamison Drive a Clifton Park resident since 1998, spoke in support of strengthening the Town's ordinances regarding dogs deemed dangerous. He proposed the creation of a centralized, publicly accessible dangerous dog registry on the Town's website to improve community safety and transparency. He stated that such a registry would help authorities and

residents track animals with documented aggressive behavior and encourage responsible ownership measures, referencing similar systems in other jurisdictions, including Westchester County, Washington, D.C., and Fort Worth, Texas. Mr. Sposili cited his personal experience as motivation for the proposal and stated that greater public access to information could help prevent future incidents. He thanked Supervisor Barrett and the Town's animal control officer for their efforts and support in bringing the proposal forward for consideration.

Councilwoman Bellamy asked Mr. Sposili whether his dog was okay following the incidents he described.

Mr. Sposili responded that his dog has physically recovered from the incidents described. He concluded his comments by noting that while there has been disagreement and dysfunction during the meeting, he hopes the Town Board will come together to support the proposal he presented and thanked the Board for its consideration.

Supervisor Barrett thanked Mr. Sposili for his comments and stated that he had spoken with him previously and reviewed options related to the issue. He noted that dangerous dog designations involve a formal process and are not made informally. He stated that, given recent cases, a dangerous dog registry is a reasonable concept and indicated he would bring forward a proposal to establish such a registry, including specific information to be maintained. Supervisor Barrett referenced his prior work supporting the creation of an animal abuser registry in Saratoga County and stated that similar measures could help deter future incidents. He expressed hope that the Board could reach consensus on the proposal and noted that the issue appears to be increasingly important.

Councilman Manir asked whether the Town could develop its own database and inquired about potential partners or resources the Town could work with to implement and design the system.

Supervisor Barrett stated that the Town would first need to establish the governing principles of the proposed legislation and follow the appropriate process before any such system or database could be approved.

Councilman Manir clarified that he was referring to the initial phase of developing the proposed system, stating that the Town would need to consult with an expert to determine what information should be included. He noted that once that input is obtained, it could be brought forward for consideration, and indicated that Supervisor Barrett would be bringing the matter forward.

Mr. Sposili added that the relevant information already exists within Town records, noting that dogs deemed dangerous are already documented and that such information is required by law to be provided to first responders.

Councilwoman Bellamy asked for clarification, stating that if an ambulance driver responds to a residence, they would already be informed if there is a potentially dangerous dog present.

Mr. Sposili stated that, under New York State law, animal control is required to provide information about designated dangerous dogs to the Town Clerk's office, which then makes it available to first responders. He clarified that his proposal is to extend access to this information to the public. He stated that this change would enhance safety and transparency and suggested it should be a straightforward measure for the Town to support.

Lynn Dilger of Maureen Court expressed concern about how information and discussions are being shared among Town Board members, stating that when some members are excluded from key conversations, it creates an uneven process and limits informed decision-making. She emphasized the importance of open communication, mutual respect, and collaboration to strengthen governance and public trust. She also urged the Board to ensure inclusive dialogue and full participation among members, particularly regarding significant matters such as the Ethics Board. Ms. Dilger stated that ethics oversight should reflect unity and shared confidence of the entire Board. She expressed concern that changing appointment requirements from a consensus-based process to a simple majority vote could undermine the independence and credibility of the Ethics Board and potentially erode public trust, and she urged the Board to reconsider.

Michael Grimmer Grievance Coordinator stated that he previously spoke at an earlier meeting regarding obtaining audio/video through CAPTAIN and that he had contacted Fern Hurley, who indicated she would follow up with him. He noted he is awaiting a response. He also stated that he was informed the high school may no longer have a video program, making the request less likely to proceed. He concluded by stating he is available to assist with any questions regarding grievances.

No one else wished to be heard.

Public Privilege closed at 11:06 P.M.

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

Motion carried at 11:06 P.M.

Caitlin Fantini
Town Clerk