

Town of North East
Town Board Workshop Meeting
Millerton, New York
Wednesday, May 6, 2026 at 5:30 PM

Pledge Allegiance to the Flag

Roll Call:

SUPERVISOR KENNAN	HERE
COUNCILMAN MAYVILLE	HERE
COUNCILWOMAN MORRISON	HERE
COUNCILWOMAN WINKLER	HERE
COUNCILWOMAN COLE	HERE

Warren Replansky, Town Attorney, attended via Zoom.

Agenda:

Motion to accept the agenda was made by Councilperson Mayville and seconded by Councilperson Winkler. Votes taken.
AYES- 5 (Kennan, Mayville, Morrison, Winkler, Cole)
NAYS- 0

Supervisor Comments

Last Friday there was an event sponsored by the Highway Superintendents of Dutchess County at our new Highway Garage in honor of Bob Stevens. Lots of trucks from around the county showed up for a moving and wonderful tribute. The Board has bounced around an informal idea of a plaque being added to the building. A sample text for a plaque design was shared with the Board.

Kennan suggested that the building itself be dedicated to Bob. He has messaged Bob’s son and hopes he will agree. The dedication would be a public event held sometime in June. Councilwoman Winkler said it would be nice to offer remote access to the event, if the son can’t travel to the area to attend.

Dutchess County MIG & NY Forward grant opportunities

Councilperson Cole has been working on a grant application for infrastructure/safety/security that is due next week, May 13th. It is a 25K plus equal matching opportunity. The Board discussed possible portions of the renovation of the new Town Hall. There were two ideas everyone agreed on: demolition and plumbing of the bathrooms to make them ADA accessible, and a generator that would guarantee the building as use for warming or cooling center for the Town in cases of emergency.

The Supervisor said he would help Councilperson Cole with log-in credentials. Councilperson Winkler said she would contact LAN for specifics about the proposed generator. Attorney Replansky was asked about the legality of using neighboring towns, such as the Town of Amenia’s Courtroom. It affects the design of the Town Hall. Replansky said he consulted with the Association of Towns and contacted the Amenia Town Attorney and gave him a citation of the statute. We would need an Intermunicipal Agreement.

The Supervisor has spoken to the Amenia Town Supervisor, and she is waiting for confirmation of legality and then will bring the subject to her Town Board.

Councilperson Cole spoke about a meeting she plans with Paul Bengsten, formerly of the NECC and now with the NY Department of State. He is focused on the revitalization of communities, cleaning Brownfield land, and Smart growth planning grants. Discussion followed. Councilperson Cole sees several opportunities for a grant application for the Town.

Resolution in support of Application for Greenway grant

Supervisor Kennan thanked Councilperson Cole and ZBA Chair Edie Greenwood for help with this grant application. This will help the Town with hiring a consultant for the next phase of the ZRC.

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RESOLUTION #312026

Approve an Application for a Hudson Valley Greenway Planning Grant

WHEREAS, the Town of North East is applying to the Hudson River Valley Greenway for a grant under the Hudson River Valley Greenway McHenry Planning Grant Program for a project entitled Town of North East Zoning Phase II to be located in the Town of North East, Dutchess County NY, and

WHEREAS, the Town of North East requests \$40,000 and agrees to provide funding match in the amount of \$40,000 equal to or greater than the amount requested,

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved that the governing board of the Town of North East hereby does approve and endorse the application for a grant under the Hudson River Valley Greenway McHenry Planning Grant Program, for a project known as Town of North East Zoning Phase II and located within this community.

Motion to approve the application for the Hudson Valley Greenway Planning Grant was made by Councilperson Winkler and seconded by Councilperson Cole. Votes taken.

AYES- 5 (Kennan, Mayville, Morrison, Winkler, Cole)
NAYS- 0

The Resolution passed by a 5-0 vote on May 6, 2026.

Discussion of Recreation contract

The Recreation Committee (Councilpersons Mayville and Morrison) presented a copy of the Village of Millerton recreation contract. Historically, the contract primarily covered the Youth Program. However, there has been no Youth Program during the past year, and none is anticipated for this year. As a result, the title of the contract has been revised to reflect park maintenance responsibilities in addition to the recreation budget.

Councilperson Winkler requested clarification of the wording in the contract, specifically recommending the use of the term “parks” rather than “recreation” where appropriate. She also noted that the contract language and the Town’s general fund budget categories should be more closely aligned. Discussion also acknowledged that the Village fiscal year runs from June through May, while the Town fiscal year runs from January through December, which can create confusion during budgeting and accounting discussions.

Councilperson Mayville will revise the contract language and send a draft back to the Village for further review.

Additional Board Discussion

Town Clerk, Tilly Strauss shared a memo recommending that the Town Board approve online credit card payments for tax collection. Issues included multiple taxpayer checks lost in the mail and convenience for the taxpayer.

Councilperson Cole asked about listing a Highway Superintendent vacancy.

Councilperson Winkler would like to continue discussion about the new Town Hall renovation at the next meeting.

Meeting with Counsel

Supervisor Kennan asked for an executive session with Attorney Replansky to discuss the employment of a particular person.

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A motion was made by Councilperson Mayville and seconded by Councilperson Winkler to enter executive session. Votes taken.

AYES- 5 (Kennan, Mayville, Morrison, Winkler, Cole)

NAYS- 0

A motion was made by Councilperson Mayville and seconded by Councilperson Morrison to exit executive session. Votes taken.

AYES- 5 (Kennan, Mayville, Morrison, Winkler, Cole)

NAYS- 0

Exited the Executive session at 7:27PM

Adjournment

A motion was made by Councilperson Winkler and seconded by Councilperson Morrison to adjourn. Votes taken.

AYES- 5 (Kennan, Mayville, Morrison, Winkler, Cole)

NAYS- 0

The meeting was adjourned at 7:28PM.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/: Elizabeth Strauss, Town Clerk

DRAFT: 5-7-2026

APPROVED: 5-14-2026