

Town of North East
Town Board
Millerton, New York
May 14, 2026, at 7:00 P.M.

Call to Order, Pledge of Allegiance

Roll call

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

Attorney Warren Replansky was present at the table.

Acceptance of Agenda

Motion to approve the agenda was made by Councilperson Mayville and seconded by Councilperson Winkler. Votes taken.

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

The Agenda was approved.

Supervisor’s Comments

The Memorial Day Parade will start at 10 am and there will be a ceremony in Veterans Park around 11am. Organized by the American Legion, it is usually well attended.

Bulk Trash Day was a success. We broke all records and cleared our expenses.

NBT Bank is hosting a public shred day in Lakeville this Saturday and in Millerton on July 18th.

We are planning to dedicate the Highway Garage Building to Bob Stevens and will be coordinating a date with his son.

As President of the Dutchess County Supervisors and Mayors Association, I met with Bill Beale and Assistant County Executive Gregg Pulver earlier today to discuss EMS. We are working with some of the Towns around us on a new shared service contract with Empress. Looking to save money.

Note with sadness in the passing of Liane McGhee, wife of our Planning Board member, Bill McGhee.

County Legislator Chris Drago is invited to address the room. Drago reported that, as Vice Chair of the Public Safety Committee, he is working on longer-term plans for EMS in the County. He is heartened by Empress coming to the table and willing to discuss options to reduce costs. In addition, Northwell Health, the owners of Sharon Hospital and Vassar Hospital, seem eager to participate in the discussion and possibly expand their ambulance program in our area.

The County legislature has passed a resolution to cap sales tax on gasoline.

To cut down on landfill and incinerator waste, all county fast-food restaurants will have to stop automatically adding plastic utensils to every takeout order within the next eighteen months . You can still get utensils on request.

Child-care, especially after the NECC closure of their program, is a serious issue in our part of the County. He is looking for options, including working with Day One Early Learning in Poughkeepsie. A forum focused on parents of kids 0-3 was held at the Stissing Center in Pine Plains and he looks forward to talking again with parents at another forum at the end of June. Webutuck has space available right now in their PreK- 3 Early Child Care program. He thanked the Millerton News for getting the word out.

Drago emphasized that he would love feedback and is reachable through phone, email and social media.

He asked the Town Board if they had received any ADU funding and added that a Stanford resident succeeded in getting a grant. Councilperson Winkler said she would get back to him. Councilperson Cole asked if he knew of the “high-end Speeding Report” put out by the Transportation Council. She said that the Village and Town made the list. Drago said he would look into it.

Supervisor’s Report

- Monthly Bills: Budget Adjustment, Special Abstracts & Abstract

RESOLUTION # 322026
Budget Adjustment #2 of 2026

A Fund had an expense increase of \$52,362, less an expense decrease of \$179 and less a revenue increase of \$52,183 for a net of \$00.

Motion to accept the Budget Adjustment was made by Councilperson Morrison and seconded by Councilperson Mayville. Votes taken.

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

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NAYS- 0
The Budget Adjustment was accepted.

RESOLUTION # 332026
Special Abstract dated April 15, 2026, totaling \$315,355.67

Special Abstract dated April 15, 2026, totaling \$315,355.67 broken down as follows:

A Fund \$315,355.67

Motion to accept the Special Abstract was made by Councilperson Winkler and seconded by Councilperson Mayville. Votes taken.

AYES- 5 (Kennan, Mayville, Morrison, Winkler, Cole)
NAYS- 0
The Special Abstract was accepted.

RESOLUTION # 342026
Special Abstract dated April 21, 2026, totaling \$ 62,494.25

Special Abstract dated April 21, 2026, totaling \$ 62,494.25 broken down as follows:

A Fund \$51,382.99
Highway DB \$11,111.26

Motion to accept the Special Abstract was made by Councilperson Mayville and seconded by Councilperson Cole. Votes taken.

AYES- 5 (Kennan, Mayville, Morrison, Winkler, Cole)
NAYS- 0
The Special Abstract was accepted.

RESOLUTION # 352026
Abstract dated May 14, 2026, totaling \$141,985.69

Special Abstract dated May 14, 2026, totaling \$141,985.69 broken down as follows:

A Fund	\$ 92,495.71
B Fund	\$ 1708.43
DB Fund	\$ 17,798.68
Water District	\$ 29,772.50
Payroll T&A	\$ 210.37

Motion to accept the Special Abstract was made by Councilperson Winkler and seconded by Councilperson Morrison. Votes taken.

AYES- 5 (Kennan, Mayville, Morrison, Winkler, Cole)
NAYS- 0
The Abstract was accepted.

- Voucher Committee for June 2026: L. Morrison and C. Mayville

Department and Committee Reports

- **Highway-** Joshua Schultz reports that the crew is working on spring cleanup. With a rented roller and grader, they are focused on dirt roads and making shoulder cuts this month. These are also “fix-it days”, especially the rainy ones, as they get equipment ready for the summer. The 2026 International is registered and fitted with a radio. It is effectively in service yet waiting for wood sideboards. The crew continues to navigate circumstances with the loss of Bob.
Schultz respectfully asked the Board for permission to list two vehicles for auction. The first is the 2006 International 7500 6-wheel dump truck with front and wing plows-it is 20 years old and has 99,000 miles on it. The second vehicle is a 2015 Chevy Silverado with 243,000 miles on it. Permission from the Board to declare them as surplus would allow listing in the May 26- June 9th Auction International.Com. The

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Supervisor asked the Board for a motion. Councilperson Mayville made a motion that was seconded by Councilperson Cole. Votes taken.

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

Supervisor Kennan thanked Schultz and said he appreciated how the Highway team is working as a unit, and pitching in, in a nice collaborative way. Schultz said they felt adept at challenges and thanked the Board, and Lorna Sherman, for her help keeping the operations upright and rolling smoothly. The Supervisor said he enjoyed his time up at the facility and floated the idea of hosting a future Town Board meeting at the garage.

- **Assessor-** Katherine Johnson reported that her new assessment letters were sent out, in which she strongly encouraged people to call her. She has gotten lots of calls. She feels the communication is good and understands that people are tired of 6 years of increases. Grievance day is May 27. The information has been posted on the website and in the Millerton newspaper. She shared a chart reviewing the categories and numbers of the last few years of Tax exemptions in the Town. Councilperson Winkler asked questions regarding the public response to 100% valuation and about the independent companies solicitating residents with offers to advocate and argue assessments.

-Planning Zoning, Building Department- Reports previously sent to the Board

-Town Clerk and Tax Collector: Tax collection is now at 93% with 106 parcels outstanding, which is comparable to last year. There are only 2 more weeks to pay at the Town Hall before the warrant is returned to the County. Because the month ends on a Sunday, we will collect payments through Monday, June 1. The Town Clerk has filed 3 complaints, from April 12, 26, and 28th about noise from the Gun Club received from Mr. Dave Decker.

Town Board Committee Activity

-Recreation-Councilperson Mayville said they had no additional information since the Town Board workshop meeting. The Village has the contract with our suggested revisions.

-Communications- Councilpersons Winkler and Cole have been meeting weekly with the Town Clerk to go over the website. They would like to send a notice to Boulevard residents with a summary of the new zoning changes for property owners. The supervisor requested they share the draft with him before it goes out. He wants to make sure the letter doesn't raise more confusion. Councilperson Cole said she hoped to drive people to the website, which now has a banner with timely information that is updated regularly. The new zoning map is on the pages, updating the previous one.

- Housing- Councilwoman Winkler reports that to maintain our Town's Pro-Housing certification, she will be working with our Building Department to update the new zoning information on the charts. We have a deadline of June 15th to get the information submitted.

-Personnel Committee- Supervisor Kennan reports that we have had verbiage in the Employee Handbook being worked on and expects a full report at the June meeting. He also asked the Board to accept the resignation of Jim Horton. A motion to accept the resignation was made by Councilperson Winkler and seconded by Councilperson Mayville. Votes taken.

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

We can now post the vacancy of the position at the Highway Garage.

Councilperson Cole said, despite not having a grants committee, she would like to report that a MIG grant was submitted to Dutchess County yesterday. She thanked Councilperson Winkler and the Supervisor for their participation and noted it is a competitive grant, but an "easy lift". The Supervisor said he was looking to work with the Village on NY Forward grant due in the fall.

Approval of Mobile Home and Junkyard Permits

The Town Clerk shared a report on the permitting process for Mobile Home Parks and Second-hand Junk Licensing with the Board members. The Building Department has issued inspection (zoning and safety) compliance reports for the file.

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RESOLUTION #362026

**Approval of Benwood Knolls and Scenic View Mobile Home Park Permits
and the Second-hand Junk and Auto Parts License for Thomsen & Graham Metals, Inc**

RESOLVED, to approve Benwood Knolls and Scenic View Mobile Home Park Permits and Second-hand Junk and Auto Parts License for Thomson & Graham Metals, Inc.

Motion by Councilperson Cole and seconded by Councilperson Mayville. Votes taken.

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

NAYS – 0

The Resolution was adopted.

Approval for the Supervisor to sign an Inter-Municipal Agreement with Dutchess County for Shared Services

This a new IMA that permits the Town to collaborate with the County on equipment or services, as needed, per agreement. Attorney Replansky skimmed through it and approved the signing.

RESOLUTION #372026

Inter-Municipal Agreement with Dutchess County for Shared Services

RESOLVED, to approve the Supervisor signing a 5-year Intermunicipal Agreement with Dutchess County for Shared Services

Motion by Councilperson Mayville and seconded by Councilperson Morrison. Votes taken.

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

NAYS – 0

The Resolution was adopted.

Re-appointment of members of Climate Smart Community Task Force: Rich Stalzer, Kathy Chow and Kak Weathers

Motion to re-appoint the CSC Task Force members was made by Councilperson Winkler and seconded by Councilperson Cole. Votes taken.

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

NAYS – 0

The re-appointments were approved.

New Town Hall update

Supervisor Kennan reported that the collaboration with Amenia is still very much in the air. Attorney Replansky said he is convinced that the law allows us to use a courtroom in an adjacent town. He has contacted the Amenia Town attorney to see if he agreed. If Amenia is interested, it would take an Inter-Municipal Agreement.

Councilperson Winkler asked if there was a deadline to this process because she noted that it is holding up significant changes in the floorplan.

Town Attorney Report on Altice Franchise Agreement

Replansky said there is a contractual issue with 4-5 points to discuss in a future Executive session. After which the Town Board will need to schedule a Public Hearing.

Resolution Authorizing Town to Contract with credit card payment service processor for Property Tax Collection.

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RESOLUTION #382026
AUTHORIZING TOWN TO CONTRACT WITH
CREDIT CARD PAYMENT SERVICE PROCESSOR FOR PROPERTY
TAX COLLECTION

WHEREAS, the Town Clerk has requested that the Town of North East enter into an agreement with a credit card processor for implementation of a credit card payment service for residents for payment of taxes; and

WHEREAS, with this service, residents will be able to make payments at the Town Clerk's Office using their credit card, at no cost to the Town; or through an online portal on the Town website.

WHEREAS, approval of this service will provide residents with another payment method.

NOW, THEREFORE, be it

RESOLVED, that the Town Board hereby finds that it is in the public interest, and hereby authorizes the Supervisor and the Town Clerk to enter into an agreement with Edmunds Tech for the purpose of allowing residents to make payments to the Town of North East using a credit card; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Town Clerk is authorized to sign the agreement with Edmunds Tech, and said service will only be available in the Town Clerk's Office and will be administered by the Town Clerk; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the taxpayer/payor shall be responsible for payment of any and all fees charged by the credit card processor/vendor for such payment

This motion was offered by Town Board member Winkler and was seconded by Town Board member Cole. Roll call.

SUPERVISOR KENNAN	Voted Aye
COUNCILWOMAN COLE	Voted Aye
COUNCILMAN MAYVILLE	Voted Aye
COUNCILWOMAN MORRISON	Voted Aye
COUNCILWOMAN WINKLER	Voted Aye

The Resolution was carried by a 5-0 vote of the Town Board members on May 14, 2026.

Public Comment Period

Bill Kish said that while the Town cannot regulate the Gun Club, he thinks it should regulate the noise. He spoke of a disturbing incident with a neighbor and said that noise regulation would not impact anyone's 2nd Amendment rights.

Leslie Farhangi shared an opportunity of the Hudson Highlands Land Conservancy that would help land conservation and increase access to federal money available to purchase development rights. She left documents and a sample resolution to pass with the Board.

Acceptance of Minutes from Meetings of April 9 and May 6, 2026

A motion was made to approve the minutes by Councilperson Winkler and Councilperson Mayville seconded. Votes taken.

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

NAYS- 0

The minutes were approved.

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn was made by Councilperson Morrison and seconded by Councilperson Cole. Votes taken.

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

NAYS- 0

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The Board adjourned at 8:00pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Elizabeth Strauss, Town Clerk

APPROVED: 6/11/2026