

Town of North East
Town Board
Millerton, New York
June 11, 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 at the table.

Acceptance of Agenda

The Supervisor requested additions of a Climate Smart Committee report of a new initiative, time for Board discussion, and Board committee reports on Communication and Housing. He also requested an executive session at the end of the meeting to discuss an Article 78 proceeding against the Town. Motion to approve the agenda was made by Councilperson Winkler and seconded by Councilperson Mayville. Votes taken.

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

The Agenda was approved.

Public Comment on Agenda Items Only- none

Supervisor’s Comments

We will pause hiring a new Highway Department MEO until after we get a posting for a Highway Superintendent.

There was a call between the County Executive and the Supervisors and Mayors Association which was focused on NYS Humane Law. This seems to be a significant problem in the western and southwestern parts of NY State. We are grateful to have Rich Prentiss as our DCO.

The HR changes to the Employee Handbook have been sent to consultants for entry into the employee manual. The Board will have another chance to proof the text before publication.

Past Councilman Ralph Fedeles has had a bad fall, with many broken bones, and is in the hospital. We will be checking in on him as he heals.

Millerton’s 175th anniversary is coming soon. There is a schedule of events posted and multiple opportunity for all to be involved. The celebration lasts over the period of a week and two weekends.

Supervisor’s Report

RESOLUTION # 412026
Special Abstract dated May 21, 2026, totaling \$1455.26

Special Abstract dated May 21, 2026, totaling \$1455.26 broken down as follows:

A Fund \$1455.26

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

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

The Special Abstract was accepted.

RESOLUTION # 422026
Abstract dated June 11, 2026, totaling \$159,507.81

Special Abstract dated June 11, 2026, totaling \$159,507.81 broken down as follows:

A Fund \$79,269.62

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B Fund	\$21,757.73
DB Fund	\$58,230.39
Payroll T&A	\$ 250.07

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

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

The Abstract was accepted.

Voucher Committee for July 2026: M. Winkler and R. Cole

Department and Committee Reports

- **Highway**- Joshua Schultz reports the crew is busy grading all the Town dirt roads and has completed the first round of roadside mowing. We are preparing for summer projects as well as helping with other towns. Recently we met with Dutchess County Soil and Water to discuss a couple of projects that will require oversight of the State and the County. One major project that we have begun is stabilization of the Morse Hill erosion issue. He explained the problem and how it evolved and plans to reroute the stream back to its original bed. He reminded the Board that there one only 3 crew members in the department, which limits what can get done.

- **Assessor**- Katherine Johnson reports that Grievance Day and the meeting of the Board of Assessment Review (BAR) met on May 27th. Two property owners showed up. Nine others mailed complaints. Fifteen others came to her office ahead of time and received settlements. By July 1st the new tax roll will be available.

She also reported that the State upgrading of the STAR program seems to be successfully handled.

Councilwoman Winkler asked about the firefighter’s exemption. Johnson said she would investigate the steps to prepare and move forward with it and report back to the Board at the next meeting. Supervisor Kennan asked about a possible Revaluation. Johnson replied that she would prefer to wait a couple years for the market to settle down.

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

-**Town Clerk and Tax Collector**: Tax collection has ended and after collecting 94%, the Warrant just today has been settled with the County. The Unpaid and Paid Official Tax Roll will be returned to Dutchess County Finance next week. A Collection Summary and Bank register were shared with the Board.

The Town Clerk has filed 3 complaints, dated May 24th, June 7th and June 8th, about noise from the Gun Club received from Mr. Dave Decker. She also received and shared with the Board a complaint from Brenda Fields about her neighbor’s constant noise harassment.

In addition, the Clerk shared the Town’s Dog Control Officer report.

Councilwoman Morrison said she would like to see the complaints regarding the Gun Club to be forwarded to Anthony Robert, and members of the Board agreed.

Councilwoman Winkler asked about the tax collection and credit card processing capabilities.

Town Board Committee Activity

-**Recreation**-Councilperson Mayville reported that we have signed the Recreation contract and it has been sent to the Mayor.

-**Buildings and Grounds**- Councilperson Winkler said they are following up with LAN Engineers regarding updates to the plans for the New Town Hall.

-**Highway**- No report. There will be an event held this summer at the Highway garage to dedicate the building in honor of Bob Stevens. We are working to coordinate a time and will report back soon.

-**Personnel Committee**- Discussion followed about posting salary and benefits for several positions to be filled. Questions arose about clarifying the residency requirement.

-**Communications**- Councilpersons Winkler and Cole have been meeting weekly with the Town Clerk to go over the website. They await updates for the Ethics page and for the web designer to execute

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requests, re: formatting. Councilperson Winkler drafted a letter from the Board to the Commercial District property owners to draw attention to the Town's new zoning law. The letter would direct the property owners to the Town website for updated information. Supervisor Kennan requested an attorney client meeting to discuss it further.

- Housing- Councilwoman Winkler reports that a Town of North East resident is getting a Plus-1 ADU grant. This is the last grant, as all the money has been allocated across 10 or 11 towns. Winkler has been working with Ann Deneen in the Building Department to submit the Pro-Housing re-certification paperwork.

Approval of the 284 Agreement on Highway Department Projects

This agreement is between the Highway Department and the Town Board. Not all the projects have been defined, and Josh Schultz is working on a schedule.

RESOLUTION #432026
The 284 Agreement Authorizes
the Superintendent of Highways to Spend Moneys
on General Road Repairs.

RESOLVED, to approve the 284 Highway Money Agreement.

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

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

The Motion passed 5-0 and the Resolution was adopted; the Agreement was signed by Board Members. The Town Clerk will file the agreement in her office and send a copy to the County Superintendent's office.

Acceptance of rejection of highway auction results

RESOLUTION #442026
Responding to Highway Equipment Auction Results

Josh Schultz presented the Board with the results of the Equipment Auction that ended Tuesday night June 9th at 6pm. Of the three items:

1. The 2006 International 6-wheel Dump Truck with Plow and Wing reached a bid of \$13,700.00

He said the Highway department recommends that the Board accept the bid.

2. Truck 1, Bob's truck, reached a bid of \$1525.00

The Highway Department recommends the Board accept the bid.

3. The 2006 Salsco Chipper reached a high bid of \$14600

Before placing it in auction he learned that the trade-in value is about \$21,000, and he firmly believes, after doing more research, it could bring in close to \$30,000. He recommends the Board rejects the bid and counter offer the highest bidder \$30,000.

RESOLVED to approve the auction results and respond to them as recommended by Josh Schultz. A motion was made by Councilperson Winkler and seconded by Councilperson Cole. Votes taken.

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

Climate Smart report and proposal- Chair of the Climate Smart Task Force, Kathy Chow shared background of Climate Smart. First project started in 2018 was brought to us by

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Housatonic Valley Association. Road stream crossing report and review of policies and procedures. We have been invited to participate in a project brought to us by CCEDC (Cornell Cooperative Extension Dutchess County) that is being funded by the Hudson River Estuary Program of NYDC. Helping us with climate resiliency planning and vulnerability is a timely update of the work we did in 2018-19. It is free for us and includes staff assistance. It will dovetail with our Emergency Preparedness and the with the new County Hazard Mitigation Plan. The Village and Town will do this separately and then both reports and recommendations will be brought together for one submission. There are August deadlines. A section that has never been addressed is a community focus on emergency preparedness. The County has a survey for the public to fill out. The survey will be dispersed and collected paper and online through public venues such as the Town and Village Halls, Library, Farmers Market, American Legion, and Village Events. It will be on the website and social media. There will be a public informational meeting at the Library Annex planned for the Fall. The Town Clerk office will be a collection site for the completed surveys.

Public Comment

Judge Dennis Johnson, Town Justice for the past 10 years, said he is disturbed about lack of consultation between the Judges and the Board regarding the idea of moving the court to the Amenia Town Hall. He felt the current draft floor plan had taken many months of planning and successfully considered issues such as public safety, security and ADA accessibility, while being responsive to NYS Office of Court Administration mandates. He reminded the Town Board that many laws govern how courts are established and there is one responsibility the Town has: which is to provide a courtroom.

Judge Casey McCabe, Town Justice for more than 15 years, said she was upset to hear about this through the Amenia Town YouTube link and not directly from the North East Supervisor. She brought up a burdensome need to transport the court clerk's office files, laptop, and payment system before each court session. She questioned taxpayer money being spent to rent another court. She requests open lines of communication before further investigation of this possibility.

Supervisor Kennan responded that his door is always open. He appreciated the Justices coming to speak to the Board and looks forward to meeting with them.

Acceptance of Minutes from Meetings of May 14, 2026

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

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

NAYS- 0

The minutes were approved.

Attorney Client Meeting

Attorney Client Meeting entered at 8:00pm.

Exited at 8:25pm.

Motion to enter Executive Session to discuss litigation against the Town.

Executive Session

Motion to go into Executive session to discuss an Article 78 proceeding against the Town was made by Councilperson Winkler and seconded by Councilperson Morrison. Votes taken.

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

NAYS- 0

The Board entered Executive Session at 8:47 pm.

Motion to exit Executive was made by Councilperson Winkler and seconded Councilperson Mayville. Votes taken.

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

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NAYS- 0

The Board exited Executive Session at 8:55 pm.

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn was made by Councilperson Mayville and seconded by Councilperson Winkler. Votes taken.

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

NAYS- 0

The Board adjourned at 8:55pm.

For verbatim information please refer to recorded video on the Town website.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/: Elizabeth Strauss, Town Clerk

DRAFT: 6-18-2026

APPROVED: 7-9-2026