

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE TOWN BOARD
TOWN OF STEPHENTOWN
26 GRANGE HALL ROAD,
STEPHENTOWN, NEW YORK 12168
OCTOBER 20, 2025**

The Regular meeting of the Town Board, Town of Stephentown was called to order by **Supervisor Philip (PJ) Roder** at **7:00PM** at the Town Hall.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

(X) Supervisor Philip (PJ) Roder

(X) Council Diana Clark

(X) Council Kyle Kidney

(X) Council John E. DeFreest Jr.

(X) Council Tammy Madden

(X) Town Clerk Stephanie Hoffman

(X) Alden Goodermote, Highway Superintendent

() Jennifer Van Deusen, Assessor

A quorum (X) was () wasn't established.
4 from the Public were present

AUDIT OF CLAIMS:

- Claim #217- 25 through #238-25 in the amount of **\$16,758.29 to be approved** from the **General Account**
- Claim #182-25 through #199-25 in the amount of **\$119,420.43 to be approved** from the **Highway Account**
- For a **Total of \$136,178.72** and approved by the Town Board.

MOTION BY: KIDNEY SECONDED BY: DEFREEST, JR.

VOTES OF: 5 AYE 0 NAY

Minutes of the **September 15, 2025, Regular Town Board Meeting** were approved by the Town Board as written.

MOTION BY: DEFREEST, JR. SECONDED BY: CLARK

VOTES OF: 4 AYE 0 NAY 1 ABSTAINED (MADDEN)

TOWN CLERKS REPORT: The Town Clerk turned over the sum of **\$1,298.07** to the Supervisor for the month of **SEPTEMBER 2025**.

JUSTICE COURT REPORT: The distribution from the Office of the State Comptroller, Justice Court Fund to the Town of Stephentown for the month of **June was \$814.00** and **July was \$0.00**.
The months of May, August & September 2025 have not yet been received.

TRANSFER STATION REPORT: The Transfer Station deposited a total of **\$17,411.00** for the month of **August 2025**.

Bags: **\$6,812**

C&D & Metal: **\$2,729**

Tires: **\$191**

Stickers: **\$7,609**

Propane Tanks: **\$0**

Appliances: **\$70**

The Transfer Station deposited a total of **\$10,074.00** for the month of **September 2025**.

Bags: **\$4,606**

C&D & Metal: **\$2,284**

Tires: **\$94**

Stickers: **\$3,020**

Propane Tanks: **\$5**

Appliances: **\$65**

ACCOUNT TOTALS:

GENERAL \$594,192.36

HIGHWAY \$1,027,817.48

GENERAL RESERVE FUND \$1,045,545.42

HIGHWAY RESERVE FUND \$753,664.36

BEACON ESCROW \$ 885.19

BEACON ESCROW FOR PLANT (BOND) \$5,000 & \$70,000.

T. Dormady inquired about the account totals and the differences from last month to this month.

Supervisor Roder reported that there had been some finance errors where the last 3 years a mortgage tax check was actually a CHIPS payment.

MEETING OPEN TO PUBLIC COMMENT:

Reminders to All Participants who would like to speak: (this meeting is on Live Stream and is being recorded)

- Raise your hand prior to speaking*
- Announce your name and the Town you reside in.*
- There is a 3-to-5-minute window for each speaker per Resolution 1 of the fiscal year*
- Any disruptive conduct will be addressed at any meeting if the Town Board is willfully disrupted by a person or by a group of persons so as to render the orderly conduct of the meeting impossible. The Chair (Town Supervisor) may recess the meeting or order the person, group or groups of persons willfully disrupting the meeting to leave the meeting or to be removed from the meeting. Disruptive conduct includes addressing the Board without first being recognized, not addressing the subject before the Board, repetitiously addressing the same subject, failing to relinquish the podium when requested to do so, or otherwise preventing the Board from conducting its business.*

Fire Department Report for	AUGUST 2025	SEPTEMBER 2025
<i>EMS with Transport</i>	<i>15</i>	<i>8</i>
<i>EMS without Transport</i>	<i>14</i>	<i>3</i>
<i>Extrication of any type</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>
<i>Motor Vehicle with injury</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>1</i>
<i>Motor Vehicle no injury</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>0</i>
<i>Search for lost person</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>0</i>
<i>EMS unable to respond</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>
<i>Mutual Aid given EMS</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>0</i>
<i>Fire Mutual Aid given</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>
<i>Fire Mutual Aid received</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>
<i>Structure Fire</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>1</i>
<i>Mobile Home Fire</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>
<i>Chimney Fire CONTAINED</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>
<i>Burner/Boiler Malfunction</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>
<i>Vehicle Fire</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>
<i>Outside Fire-trash, rubbish or other</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>
<i>Hazardous Condition</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>
<i>Carbon Monoxide activation</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>
<i>Cover Assignment/Standby</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>
<i>Good Intent</i>	<i>4</i>	<i>0</i>
<i>Call Cancelled</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>2</i>
<i>False Alarm MALICIOUS</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>
<i>False Alarm – system malfunction</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>
<i>Weather Wires Down</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>0</i>
<i>Special Incident - other</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>
Monthly Total:	42	15
<i>(JULY YTD 195)</i>		
YTD:	237	252

RESOLUTION #43- 25

**RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN BOARD OF THE TOWN OF STEPHENTOWN
CALLING FOR A PUBLIC HEARING ON A PROPOSED LAW TO ALLOW THE
SENDING OF A DELINQUENT TAX NOTICE PER § 987, SUBDIVISION 1, OF
THE NEW YORK STATE REAL PROPERTY TAX LAW**

WHEREAS, the Town Board has commissioned the drafting of a local law to allow the establishment of a fee to be charged to send a delinquent tax notice;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Town Board hereby directs that a public hearing be held on November 17, 2025 at 7:00 p.m. at Town Hall, 26 Grange Hall Road, Stephentown, NY 12168, and the Town Clerk is hereby authorized to publish a notice of public hearing, to hear any and all persons either for or against a local law entitled: "A Local Law To Establish A Fee To Be Charged By The Town Of Stephentown to Send A Delinquent Tax Notice As Required By § 987, Subdivision 1, of The New York State Real Property Tax Law," which is set forth in Exhibit A hereto.

MOTION BY: MADDEN
VOTES OF: 5 AYE

SECONDED BY: KIDNEY
0 NAY

RESOLUTION #44 - 25

**RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN BOARD OF THE TOWN OF STEPHENTOWN
CALLING FOR A PUBLIC HEARING ON PROPOSED LAW TO ALLOW THE
INSERTION OF INFORMATIONAL MATERIALS IN CERTAIN TAX BILLS
MAILED BY THE TOWN OF STEPHENTOWN**

WHEREAS, the Town Board has commissioned the drafting of a local law to allow the insertion of informational materials in certain tax bills mailed by the Town of Stephentown;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT, the Town Board hereby directs that a public hearing be held on November 17, 2025 at 7:15 p.m. at Town Hall, 26 Grange Hall Road, Stephentown, NY 12168, and the Town Clerk is hereby authorized to publish a notice of public hearing, to hear any and all persons either for or against a local law entitled: "A Local Law to Allowing The Insertion of Informational Materials In Certain Tax Bills Mailed By The Town of Stephentown," which provides as set forth in Exhibit B hereto.

MOTION BY: DEFREEST, JR.
VOTES OF: 5 AYE

SECONDED BY: KIDNEY
0 NAY

Highway Superintendent and Supervisor Roder discuss the purchase of a new tractor with a mower arm, the current tractor (2008) is getting old and requiring a lot of maintenance. Company said that they can get us the older price if we act sooner rather than later.

B. McClave inquired about the solar panels when they are no longer functional. Supervisor Roder and Council Clark discussed the decommissioning plan that has been established to safeguard the town.

Council Clark expressed her gratitude toward all the help provided from the limited Clean up day. She addressed the complaints about people paying for materials and residents suggesting that the Town is profiting from the materials already. Signage will be coming to the Transfer Station. She reminded people of the signage that is currently posted "Illegal dumping is a crime and you will be prosecuted up to \$2,500." There was an incident recently where staff were verbally abused, we will not tolerate tis behavior.

M. Smith inquired about the vision the Board wants the Town to go in. Expressed concerns of the number of

vehicles sitting at the old Madden's Garage and wondered if there were any plans in the future to get it cleaned up. Requested to take back over the maintenance at the town park in the intersection. Council Madden reported that she had been adding dirt and compost there for the last two years.

Council DeFreest, Jr. announces that the Veterans Ceremony will be held on November 8th, there will be some political figures present, possibly our County Executive. We are still looking for folks to join.

Tentative Budget Workshops/Meetings

- Public Hearing for the 2026 Preliminary Budget will be held on 10/27/2025 at 7pm
- Budget approval and final budget vote is scheduled for the regular scheduled monthly meeting 11/17 at 7pm.

MOTION TO ADJOURN AT 8:04 PM

MOTION BY: KIDNEY SECONDED BY: CLARK

VOTES OF: 5 AYE 0 NAY

****The next Regular Meeting** of the Town Board, Town of Stephentown will be held on **Monday, November 17, 2025**, at **7:00 PM** at the Town Hall located at 26 Grange Hall Road, Stephentown, NY 12168.

Stephanie M. Hoffman

Town Clerk

EXHIBIT A

A LOCAL LAW TO ESTABLISH A FEE TO BE CHARGED BY THE TOWN OF STEPHENTOWN TO SEND A DELINQUENT TAX NOTICE AS REQUIRED BY § 987, SUBDIVISION 1, OF THE NEW YORK STATE REAL PROPERTY TAX LAW.
LOCAL LAW NO. 1 OF THE YEAR 2025

Be It enacted by the Town Board of the Town of Stephentown as follows:

This Local Law Shall Be Known As "A Local Law to Establish A Fee to Be Charged By The Town of Stephentown To Send A Delinquent Tax Notice As Required By § 987, Subdivision 1, of The New York State Real Property Tax Law."

Section 1. **NOTICE REQUIRED; PRIOR MANDATORY FEE.**

Chapter 680 of the Real Property Tax Law requires that a delinquent tax notice be sent by the Receiver of Taxes to all property owners whose taxes are delinquent. Until recently, a charge of \$1 was mandatory. The Real Property Tax Law has been amended so that said charge may be as much as \$2 but is no longer mandatory.

Section 2. **DETERMINATION OF FEE ADEQUACY.**

The Receiver of Taxes has determined that a fee should be charged and that a fee of \$2 is adequate to compensate the Town for the cost of sending the notice.

Section 3. **DELINQUENCY TAX NOTICE FEE**

On or after the effective date of this article, there shall be a fee charged for the sending of the delinquent tax notice required by the New York State Real Property Tax Law in the amount of \$2.

Section 4. **ENACTMENT DATE**

This local law shall take effect immediately upon filing in the Office of the New York State Secretary of State.

EXHIBIT B

**A LOCAL LAW TO ALLOW THE INSERTION OF INFORMATIONAL MATERIALS IN CERTAIN TAX BILLS
MAILED BY THE TOWN OF STEPHENTOWN
LOCAL LAW NO. 2 OF THE YEAR 2025**

Be It enacted by the Town Board of the Town of Stephentown as follows:

**A LOCAL LAW TO ALLOW THE INSERTION OF INFORMATIONAL MATERIALS IN CERTAIN TAX BILLS
MAILED BY THE TOWN OF STEPHENTOWN**

Section 1. **TITLE**

This Local Law shall be referred to as “A Local Law to allow the insertion of informational materials in certain tax bills mailed by the Town of Stephentown.”

Section 2. **PURPOSE AND INTENT**

The Town Board of the Town of Stephentown find that section 1826 of the Tax Law of the State of New York generally forbids a municipality from mailing or delivering with tax bills any notice, circular, pamphlet, card or other printed materials unless the insertion of such material is authorized by local law. However, in no case, by local or by practice may a municipality include with a tax bill material that is commercial advertising, political in nature or propaganda. The Town Board wishes to utilize the opportunity to reach the many residents of the Town by inserting notices in tax bills but also wants to do so in a manner that does not violate section 1826 of the Tax Law. Pursuant to the power granted to Towns to adopt local laws pursuant to Section 10(a)(xii) and Section 22 of the Municipal Home Rule Law, it is the intent of the Town Board to authorize the town to include appropriate notices in mailings with tax bills.

Section 3. **ENACTMENT**

The Town of Stephentown does hereby enact the following Local Law:

A. **DEFINITIONS**

INSERTION – A notice, circular, pamphlet, card, handbill or other enclosure concerning a matter of public concern but excluding any and all material that is political in nature, is propaganda, or is any type of commercial advertising.

TAX BILLS- An annual Tax Bill of the Town of Stephentown or any Special District thereof, or notification of a tax to be levied or assessed by the Town of Stephentown, or any Special District thereof or any receipt from the payment of any tax or levy, but excluding the tax school bill of any School District located partly or wholly within the Town of Stephentown.

B. Insertions shall be included with the tax bill of the Town of Stephentown only if:

1. The type of insertion has been authorized by a resolution of the Town Board.
2. Any new type of insertion is approved by a separate resolution of the Town Board.
3. Any type of insertion approved by the Town Board may be subsequently

revoked by resolution of the Town Board.

- C. Severability – In the event any section, clause or provision of this local law or its application is adjudged invalid, the same shall be severed and separated from the remainder of the local law and shall not affect the remainder of said local law which shall remain in full force and effect.

Section 4. **ENACTMENT DATE**

This local law shall take effect immediately upon filing in the Office of the New York State Secretary of State.