State of New York
County of Lewis
Town of West Turin Board Meeting Minutes – October 13, 2025

Members Present:
Supervisor Edward Hayes; Councilmembers – Katrina Sullivan, Susan Smith, William McGovern, Highway Superintendent Douglas Salmon; Tug Hill Commission Representative Christine Healt; Representatives from the Highmarket ATV Wheeler Club - DeForest Flansburg, President and Sue Bailey, Secretary; Tug Hill Commission Planning Director Matt Johnson; South Lewis Central School Student Landyn Salmon
Absent: Councilmember J. Scott Markham

Town Supervisor Edward Hayes, called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Supervisor Hayes opened the public hearing to consider Local Law No. 2-2025 entitled "A Local Law to adopt amendments to the Town of West Turin Zoning Law to include the regulation of battery energy storage systems and to make pertinent corrections to relevant sections throughout the text." Supervisor Hayes opened the floor to Tug Hill Commission Planning Director Matt Johnson who then gave a summary of the battery storage regulations and requirements and the changes to the zoning law.

There being no additional questions or comments on the proposed Local Law, the meeting continued with regular business.

Supervisor Hayes gave the floor to DeForest Flansburg and Sue Bailey of the Highmarket ATV Wheelers Club. They would like to see the Beecher Road opened to UTV travel along with several other connecting roads in the Town of West Turin. Supervisor Hayes recommended they speak with Jackie Mahoney, Director of Recreation, Forestry, and Parks. It was clarified the Town of West Turin must follow County and State guidelines to open roads to the trail system.

Christine Healt then gave an update from the Tug Hill Commission and the opportunities available. This information may be found on their website or in their newsletter.

Clerk Schindler read the minutes from the September 8, 2025 town board meeting. The minutes were accepted on motion by Councilmember Sullivan, seconded by Councilmember McGovern.; all ayes.

Supervisor Hayes opened the floor once again for questions or comments on the proposed Local Law No. 2-2025. There being no additional questions or comments, the public hearing closed at 7:29 p.m. on motion by Councilmember McGovern, seconded by Councilmember

Smith. A motion to adopt Local Law No. 2-2025 entitled “A Local Law to adopt amendments to the Town of West Turin Zoning Law to include the regulation of battery energy storage systems and to make pertinent corrections to relevant sections throughout the text” was made by Councilmember Sullivan, seconded by Councilmember Smith; all ayes.

Town of West Turin
Local Law No. 2 of the year 2025

A local law entitled "A local law to adopt amendments to the Town of West Turin Zoning Law to include the regulation of battery energy storage systems and to make pertinent corrections to relevant sections throughout the text".

Article 1. - Statement of Authority. The Town Board of the Town of West Turin, pursuant to the authority granted it under Article 16 of the Town Law and Section 10 and 20 of the Municipal Home Rule Law hereby enacts as follows:

Article 2. - Statement of Purpose and Findings. The Town Board of the Town of West Turin hereby finds that it is in the interest of public safety to adopt new provisions to the Town of West Turin Zoning Law by setting reasonable regulations for battery energy storage systems and making pertinent corrections to relevant sections throughout the text.

Article 3 - Enactment. The Town Board of the Town of West Turin amends and restates the Town of West Turin Zoning Law in its entirety as follows:

Superintendent Salmon presented Abstract No. 10-2025 (Vouchers 104-115) in the amount of $58,923.40. A motion to pay the abstract was made by Councilmember McGovern, seconded by Councilmember Sullivan; all ayes.

Supervisor Hayes reported he received a check from Town Justice Earl for September 2025 fines and penalties in the amount of $2,081.00. The paid state & county share for August 2025 fines and penalties was $1,152.00. He has not received a bill for September 2025 fines and penalties.

The draft inter-municipal agreement between the Town of West Turin Water District and the Village of Constableville was discussed. The town board was in agreement there needs to be clarification with some sections before it's adopted. Town Attorney Ian Gilbert will be consulted.

Supervisor Hayes read a letter from Jason Gilchrist requesting the Alguire Road to be officially abandoned and to officially remove public access to the road.

Supervisor Hayes read a letter from the NYS Department of Agriculture and Markets regarding the proposed advance of public funds for the Village of Constableville Water Distribution Improvements Project, within the Village of Constableville and the Town of West Turin, Lewis County Agricultural District No. 6.

Warrant No. 10-2025 (Claim Nos. 173-195) in the amount of $5,266.85 was presented for payment. A motion to pay the warrant was made by Councilmember Smith, seconded by Councilmember McGovern; all ayes.

Supervisor Hayes presented and reviewed the tentative budget for fiscal year 2026. A public hearing for the tentative budget is scheduled for Wednesday, November 5, 2025 at 7:00 p.m. This will also be the regular town monthly board meeting.

There is currently an audit for the local law filing to exceed the tax cap. Supervisor Hayes has submitted all necessary paperwork to Accountant Scott Lawrence.

RESOLUTION #35-2025
RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE BUDGET TRANSFER
TOWN OF WEST TURIN - GENERAL FUND TOWN WIDE

Account	Code	Increase	Increase
Payroll – Justice Court	A1110.1	541.00	
Contract – Legal Services	A1420.4	1,944.94	
Contract – Engineer	A1440.4	348.93	
Unclassed Exp. – Taxes	A1950.4	599.80	
Contract Town Garage	A5132.4		3,434.67

Approved on motion by Councilmember Smith, seconded by Councilmember Sullivan, and adopted.

Supervisor Hayes presented the September 2025 Supervisor's report.

A motion to enter executive session to discuss pending potential future litigation was made at 8:39 p.m. by Councilmember McGovern, seconded by Councilmember Sullivan.

A motion to return to regular session as made at 8:43 p.m. by Councilmember Sullivan, seconded by Councilmember McGovern.

There being no further business to come before the board, the meeting adjourned at 8:44 p.m. on motion by Councilmember Smith, seconded by Councilmember Sullivan.

Respectfully submitted,

Bethany L. Schindler, Clerk
Town of West Turin