State of New York
County of Lewis
Town of West Turin Board Meeting Minutes – March 9, 2026

Members Present:
Supervisor Edward Hayes; Town Board Members – Katrina Sullivan, Susan Smith, William McGovern, and J. Scott Markham, Tug Hill Commission Representative Denali Dietrich, Highway Superintendent Douglas Salmon, Legislator Larry Dolhof

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

Supervisor Hayes opened the floor to Legislator Larry Dolhof. Legislator Dolhof summarized the EMS study that Lewis County is undertaking. The intent was never to displace the volunteers. Currently Search & Rescue cannot meet their transfer needs and are relying on ambulance services out of Syracuse to help with transfers. Lewis County is doing a gap analysis study to locate where the gaps are and figure out what to do to close those gaps.

Supervisor Hayes opened the floor to Denali Dietrich who 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 February 9, 2026 town board meeting. The minutes were accepted on motion by Councilmember Markham, seconded by Councilmember Smith; all ayes.

Superintendent Salmon presented Abstract No. 3-2026 (Vouchers 20-30) in the amount of $17,111.29. A motion to pay the abstract was made by Councilmember Sullivan, seconded by Councilmember McGovern; all ayes.

The town board members discussed the purchase of a 2026 pick-up truck with a plow. Superintendent Salmon presented state contract prices of $73,607.50 for a GMC, $65,651.20 for a Dodge, and $67,897.99 for a Ford. After discussion a motion was made by Councilmember Markham to purchase the Ford pick-up truck from VanBortel and the plow from Whitesboro Plow in a total amount of $67,897.99. The motion was seconded by Councilmember McGovern; all ayes.

RESOLUTION NO. 18-2026
TOWN OF WEST TURIN
RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE PURCHASE OF A
2026 FORD F250 TRUCK AND FISHER PLOW

WHEREAS, the Town Board of the Town of West Turin deems it necessary and in the best interest of the Town of West Turin to purchase a pick-up truck with a plow for highway business.

BE IT SO RESOLVED as follows:

Section 1. The Town Board of the Town of West Turin does hereby authorize Highway Superintendent Douglas Salmon to order and purchase a 2026 Ford F250 truck in the amount of $59,247.99 from Van Bortel Ford, 71 Marsh Rd, East Rochester, NY 14445.

Section 2. The Town Board of the Town of West Turin does hereby authorize Highway Superintendent Douglas Salmon to order and purchase a Fisher 9'6" XV2 S/S Plow from Whitesboro Plow Shops Inc., 18230 US Route 11, Watertown, NY 13601 in the amount of $8,650.00 which is the installed price (to be installed on the 2026 Ford F250).

Section 2. That the within resolution shall take effect immediately.

Moved by Councilmember Markham, seconded by Councilman McGovern, and adopted on March 9, 2026.

Supervisor Hayes reported he received a check from Town Justice Earl for February 2026 fines and penalties in the amount of $2,128.00. He has not received a bill for February 2026 fines and penalties. The paid fines and penalties for January 2026 is $2,270.00.

Clerk Schindler discussed DocuPet. It is an online dog licensing and pet registration system. The town clerks met to discuss this at the request of the Lewis County Humane Society. At this time, the town clerks are not opting to participate in this program.

Supervisor Hayes reported Justice Earl was awarded the JCAP grant in the amount of $850.00 which will be used to upgrade the security cameras in the parking lot at the court office.

The audit of the records for the 2025 fiscal year for the Town Supervisor and the Town Clerk will be held on Monday, March 23, 2026 at 7:00 p.m. at the Town Clerk office.

Supervisor Hayes read Resolution No. 61-2026 from the Lewis County Board of Legislators entitled "Resolution in Opposition to NYS Renewable Action Through Project Interconnection

and Deployment (RAPID) Act Regulations." A motion to submit the same resolution from the Town of West Turin was made by Councilmember Markham, seconded by Councilmember Sullivan; all ayes

RESOLUTION NO. 19-2026
TOWN OF WEST TURIN, LEWIS COUNTY, NEW YORK
RESOLUTION IN OPPOSITION TO NYS RENEWABLE ACTION THROUGH PROJECT INTERCONNECTION AND DEPLOYMENT (RAPID) ACT REGULATIONS

WHEREAS, the Town of West Turin, Lewis County, New York supports responsible renewable energy development and the transition to clean energy while preserving the authority of local governments to regulate land use, zoning, and community character; and

WHEREAS, the Renewable Action Through Project Interconnection and Deployment ("RAPID") Act and related regulations significantly limit municipal authority over the siting and approval of large-scale renewable energy and electric transmission projects; and

WHEREAS, these measures undermine the principle of Home Rule guaranteed by the New York State Constitution by centralizing decision-making authority at the State level and reducing meaningful local oversight, by giving ORES (the Office of Renewable Energy Siting) responsibility for project approvals; and

WHEREAS, the RAPID Act regulations impose expedited permitting timelines that risk inadequate environmental review and community input, and allow automatic approval of projects if deadlines are not met; and

WHEREAS, the Act expands eminent domain authority and permits the extinguishment of conservation easements, threatening private property rights and natural resource protections, including lands within the Adirondack and Catskill Parks; and

WHEREAS, local governments, emergency services, and residents have expressed concerns that these regulations compromise public safety, infrastructure capacity, and the economic well-being of communities; and

WHEREAS, statewide policy goals should be advanced through local government collaboration and incentives rather than mandates that preempt local authority and override comprehensive planning;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, as follows:

Section 1. The Town of West Turin hereby expresses its strong opposition to the RAPID ACT regulations and process based upon their significant limitation of local municipal authority

over siting and approval, and the State's undermining of Home Rule authority guaranteed by the NYS Constitution.

Section 2. The Town of West Turin calls upon NYS to develop and advance statewide policy goals only when serious local collaboration and incentives have been undertaken so that local authority and comprehensive planning are not preempted.

Section 3. Copies of this resolution shall be forwarded to Governor Kathy Hochul, NYS Department of Public Services (ORES), the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA), NYS Senator Mark Walczyk, and NYS Assemblyman Ken Blankenbush.

Section 4. This resolution is effective immediately.

Moved by Councilmember Markham, seconded by Councilmember Sullivan, and adopted.

Warrant No. 3-2026 (Claim Nos. 36-54) in the amount of $10,684.78 was presented for payment. A motion to pay the warrant was made by Councilmember McGovern, seconded by Councilmember Markham; all ayes.

RESOLUTION NO. 20-2026
TOWN OF WEST TURIN RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE BUDGET TRANSFER
GENERAL FUND TOWN WIDE

Account	Code	Increase	Decrease
Unallocated Ins	A1910.4	30.00	
Unclass Exp Taxes	A4950.4	772.33	
Contingent	A1990.4		802.33

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

Supervisor Hayes presented the January-February 2026 financial reports as well as the February 2026 Supervisor's Report.

There being no further business to come before the board, the meeting adjourned at 8:39 p.m. on motion by Councilmember Sullivan, seconded by Councilmember Smith.

Respectfully submitted,

Bethany L. Schindler, Clerk
Town of West Turin