State of New York
County of Lewis
Town of West Turin Board Meeting Minutes – September 8, 2025

Members Present:
Supervisor Edward Hayes; Councilmembers – Katrina Sullivan, Susan Smith, William McGovern, J. Scott Markham; Highway Superintendent Douglas Salmon; Tug Hill Commission Representative Christine Healt; Boonville Herald Writer MaryAnn Wilton;
Community Member – John McDonald

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. 1-2025 entitled "A Local Law Permitting the Town of West Turin to Exceed its 2% Tax Cap Levy Limit for Fiscal Year 2026". Supervisor Hayes read the local law. Supervisor Hayes opened the floor for questions or comments on the proposed local law.

Supervisor Hayes then gave the floor to John McDonald, resident of the Town of West Turin. Mr. McDonald attended the meeting to hear about the proposed local law. Supervisor Hayes explained the purpose of it. Mr. McDonald thanked the town board members for the good job they do and reiterated he would like to see the town avoid a large tax increase in the future.

Supervisor Hayes read the proposed 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." A motion was made by Councilmember Markham, seconded by Councilmember Smith to set the public hearing on proposed Local Law No. 2-2025 for Monday, October 13, 2025 at 7:00 p.m. at the Town of West Turin Highway Department.

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 August 11, 2025 town board meeting. The minutes were accepted on motion by Councilmember Sullivan, seconded by Councilmember Markham.; all ayes.

Superintendent Salmon presented Abstract No. 9-2025 (Vouchers 97-103) in the amount of $15,004.15. A motion to pay the abstract was made by Councilmember Markham, seconded by Councilmember McGovern; all ayes.

Supervisor Hayes opened the floor once again for questions or comments on the proposed Local Law No. 1-2025. There being no additional questions or comments, the public hearing was closed at 7:42 p.m. on motion by Councilmember Sullivan, seconded by Councilmember Markham. A motion to adopt Local Law No. 1-2025 entitled "A Local Law Permitting the Town of West Turin to Exceed its 2% Tax Cap Levy Limit for Fiscal Year 2026" was made on motion by Councilmember Smith, seconded by Councilmember Sullivan and adopted by a roll call vote as follows: Councilmember McGovern – nay; Councilmember Markham – aye; Supervisor Hayes – aye; Councilmember Smith – aye; Councilmember Sullivan – aye. Local Law was adopted by a majority vote.

West Turin Local Law No. 1-2025
A Local Law Permitting the Town of West Turin to
Exceed its 2% Tax Cap Levy Limit for Fiscal Year 2026

Be it enacted by the Town of West Turin as follows:

Section 1. Legislative Intent
It is the intent of this local law to allow the Town of West Turin to adopt a budget for the fiscal year commencing January 1, 2026 that requires a real property tax levy in excess of the "tax levy limit" as defined by General Municipal Law 3-c.

Section 2. Authority
This local law is adopted pursuant to subdivision 5 of General Municipal Law 3-c, which expressly authorizes a local government's governing body to override the property tax cap for the coming fiscal year by adoption of a local law approved by a vote of sixty percent (60%) of said governing body.

Section 3. Tax Levy Limit Override
The Board of the Town of West Turin, County of Lewis is hereby authorized to adopt a budget for the fiscal year commencing January 1, 2026 that requires a real property tax levy in excess of the amount otherwise prescribed in General Municipal Law 3-c.

Section 4. Severability
If a court determines that any clause, sentence, paragraph, subdivision, or part of this local law or the application thereof to any person, firm or corporation, or circumstance is invalid or unconstitutional, the court's order of judgment shall not affect, impair, or invalidate the remainder of this local law, but shall be confined in its operation to the clause, sentence, paragraph, subdivision, or part of this local law or in its application to the person, individual, firm or corporation or circumstance, directly involved in the controversy in which such judgment or order shall be rendered.

Section 5. Effective date

This local law shall take effect immediately upon filing with the Secretary of State

Superintendent Salmon presented the town board with information about the salt shed project from Hybrid Building Solutions. The town is fiscally responsible for 25% of the project. The total for installing the building is $491,989.00. The grant monies that have been awarded total $487,800.00. CHIPs funding may also be used toward this project. Superintendent Salmon has received two additional quotes from other companies. It was noted bids are not required as the grant money for this salt shed project is federally funded.

RESOLUTION #31-2025
RESOLUTION ACCEPTING PROPOSAL FROM HYBRID BUILDING SOLUTIONS FOR TOWN OF WEST TURIN HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT SALT STORAGE BUILDING

WHEREAS, the Town of West Turin Highway Department has a need for a salt storage building; and

WHEREAS, the Town of West Turin has procured a grant in the amount of $487,800.00 towards the construction of a salt storage building; and

WHEREAS, Hybrid Building Solutions has presented a proposal for the construction of a 72 feet wide by 120 feet long Calhoun Super Structures HT Series building in the amount of $491,989.00 plus an additional 25% which includes the prep work that the Town of West Turin is responsible for. The total amount approved is 614,986.25;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, as follows:

Section 1. The Town of West Turin town board accepts the proposal from Hybrid Building Solutions in the amount of $491,989.00 for the construction of a salt storage building with the understanding the Town of West Turin is responsible for an additional 25% for prep work. The total amount approved is $614,986.25.

Section 2. The within resolution shall take effect immediately.

Moved by Councilmember Markham; seconded by Supervisor Hayes; and adopted.

RESOLUTION #32-2025
RESOLUTION TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH BARTON & LOGUIDICE FOR ENGINEERING SERVICES FOR THE TOWN OF WEST TURIN HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT SALT STORAGE BUILDING

WHEREAS, the Town of West Turin town board accepted a proposal from Hybrid Building Solutions for the construction of a salt storage shed at the Highway Department; and

WHEREAS, the Town of West Turin is required to utilize an engineering firm for the construction of the salt storage building;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, as follows:

Section 1. The Town of West Turin town board approves engineering services with Barton & Loguidice not to exceed $10,000.00.

Section 2. The within resolution shall take effect immediately.

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

Supervisor Hayes reported he received a check from Town Justice Earl for August 2025 fines and penalties in the amount of $2,155.50. He has not received a bill for August 2025 fines and penalties.

Supervisor Hayes read Resolution No. 30-2205 entitled "Final Order of the Town Board of the Town of West Turin Creating the Town of West Turin Constableville Water District No. 1 a/k/a Constableville Water District No. 1". A motion to adopt Resolution No. 30-2025 was made by Councilmember Markham, seconded by Councilmember McGovern, and adopted by a roll call vote as follows – Supervisor Hayes – aye; Councilmember Smith - aye; Councilmember McGovern - aye; Councilmember Markham - aye; Councilmember Sullivan – aye.

RESOLUTION # 30-2025
FINAL ORDER OF THE TOWN BOARD
OF THE TOWN OF WEST TURIN
CREATING THE TOWN OF WEST TURIN CONSTABLEVILLE WATER DISTRICT NO. 1
a/k/a CONSTABLEVILLE WATER DISTRICT NO. 1

At meeting of the Town Board of the Town of West Turin, held at the Town of West Turin Highway Department located at 5968 James St., Constableville, NY 13325, on September 8, 2025 at 7:00 p.m., there were:

PRESENT:
Ed Hayes
Susan Smith
William McGovern
John (Scott) Markham
Katrina Sullivan

ABSENT:

_____

_____

WHEREAS, at a meeting of this Board held at the Town of West Turin Highway Department on June 9, 2025, an Order of this Board was duly adopted and entered in the minutes of the proceedings reciting in general terms the filing with the Town Clerk of the Town of West Turin of a Map, Plan and Report for the creation of the Town of West Turin Constableville Water District No. 1 a/k/a Constableville Water District No. 1 and specifying that a public hearing shall be held to hear all persons interested in the creation of the District at 7:00 p.m. on July 9, 2025; and

WHEREAS, a copy of the aforementioned Order of this Board was duly published in the official newspaper for the Town of West Turin and certified copies thereof were posted on the official sign board of the Town of West Turin as required by Article 12-A of the NY Town Law; and

WHEREAS, a public hearing was duly held pursuant to the aforesaid Order at the Town of West Turin Highway Department located at 5968 James Street, Constableville, NY 13325, New York on July 9, 2025, at 7:00 p.m. and at the public hearing this Board heard all evidence presented in connection with the proposed creation of the Town of West Turin Constableville Water District No. 1 a/k/a Constableville Water District No. 1, a copy of the Map, Plan and Report are filed with the Town Clerk; and

WHEREAS, support for the District exists and all property and owners to benefit by the proposed District are included within the limits of the proposed District; and

WHEREAS, all of the property owners and all of the property located within the proposed District are benefited thereby; and

WHEREAS, a Resolution establishing the District, subject to Permissive Referendum was adopted on July 9, 2025 and which was duly published; and

WHEREAS, no petition protesting against the district formation was submitted to the Town Clerk of the Town of West Turin and the Clerk has adopted a Certificate acknowledging the same on September 8, 2025; and

WHEREAS, the permission of the State Comptroller is not required pursuant to Section 209-f of the Town Law.

NOW, THEREFORE, upon a motion duly made, and seconded, this Board hereby makes the following Final Order:

1. **ORDERED** that the aforesaid recitations are incorporated herein as if fully set forth hereafter, and it is further

2. **ORDERED** that both the formation and creation of the Town of West Turin Constableville Water District No. 1 a/k/a Constableville Water District No. 1, as described in the Map, Plan and Report and providing of the service as described therein is hereby authorized, and it is further

3. **ORDERED** that the Town Clerk of the Town of West Turin shall cause a certified copy of this Final Order of the Town Board to be duly recorded in the Town Clerk's Office, the Lewis County Clerk's Office, and the NYS Department of Audit and Control in Albany, NY within ten (10) days after its adoption.

The foregoing Final Order was offered by Councilmember Markham, and seconded by Councilmember McGovern, and upon roll call vote of the Board was duly adopted as follows:

	YES	NO
Ed Hayes, Supervisor	X	_____
Susan Smith	X	_____
William McGovern	X	_____
John (Scott) Markham	X	_____
Katrina Sullivan	X	_____

Dated: September 8, 2025

_____
Bethany Schindler, Town Clerk
Town of West Turin

Warrant No. 9-2025 (Claim Nos. 155-172) in the amount of $3,686.06 was presented for payment. A motion to pay the warrant was made by Councilmember Sullivan, seconded by Councilmember Smith; all ayes.

Supervisor Hayes reviewed a few budget items – health insurance rates have increased 6-8%, auto and liability insurance has increased by $3,000 from 2025, the 2026 workers' compensation rate is $6,397.00, and the highway department employees are requesting an increase in wage. Supervisor Hayes read a letter that will be considered during the budget process.

The budget workshop with Accountant Scott Lawrence will be rescheduled for September 22nd at 1:00 p.m.

The current Tax Assessor Karen Shaw was re-appointed to a 6-year term on motion by councilmember Sullivan; seconded by Councilmember Smith; all ayes.

RESOLUTION #33-2025
RESOLUTION RE-APPOINTING KAREN SHAW AS THE SOLE ASSESSOR FOR THE TOWN OF WEST TURIN

BE IT SO RESOLVED; the Town Board of the Town of West Turin does hereby authorize the re-appointment of Karen Shaw as Sole Assessor for the Town of West Turin effective October 1, 2025, for a 6-year term, ending on September 30, 2031. Approved on motion by Councilmember Sullivan, seconded by Councilmember Smith; all ayes.

RESOLUTION #34-2025
RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE BUDGET TRANSFER
TOWN OF WEST TURIN

Account	Code	Increase	Increase
Legal Services – Contractual	1420.4	1,158.44	
Town Garage – Contractual	5132.4		1,158.44

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

Supervisor Hayes reviewed the January – July 2025 financial statement.

Supervisor Hayes asked Clerk Schindler to read an email that was sent to the Tug Hill Commission from Karen Hill regarding the Hoskins Road.

Supervisor Hayes read a letter from Kevin Waterman regarding a speed limit reduction on the stretch of Cherry Street from the village limits at Belmont Street to NYS Route 12. This had been requested previously and was denied by NYS DOT. Clerk Schindler was directed to contact Mr. Waterman.

Supervisor Hayes submitted the August 2025 Supervisor's report.

A motion to enter executive session to discuss pending potential future litigation was made at 8:56 p.m. on motion by Councilmember McGovern, seconded by Councilmember Markham.

A motion to return to regular session as made at 9:06 p.m. on motion by Councilmember Smith, seconded by Councilmember Sullivan.

There being no further business to come before the board, the meeting adjourned at 9:08 p.m. on motion by Councilmember Smith, seconded by Councilmember Markham.

Respectfully submitted,

Bethany L. Schindler, Clerk
Town of West Turin