State of New York
County of Lewis
Town of West Turin Board Meeting Minutes – August 10, 2026

Members Present:
Supervisor Edward Hayes; Town Board Members – William McGovern, Katrina Sullivan
Tug Hill Commission Representative Christine Healt, Highway Superintendent Douglas Salmon;
Boonville Herald Writer Mary Ann Wilton
Absent: Councilmember Susan Smith, 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 at 7:01 p.m. for the contract renewal for fire and ambulance protection between Lyons Falls Fire Department and the Town of West Turin. The proposed contract will be renewed with a 5% increase each year as follows – 2027-$3,579.00; 2028-$3,758.00; and 2029-$3,946.00.

Supervisor Hayes then opened the floor to Christine Healt 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 July 13, 2026 town board meeting. The minutes were approved on motion by Councilmember McGovern, seconded by Councilmember Sullivan; all ayes.

Supervisor Hayes reported a correction to the Highway Abstract from last month. There was a duplicate payment to Steel Sales in the amount of $440.71. There were also approved payments to V.S. Virkler & Son, Inc. in the amount of $38,085.76 and to Suite-Kote in the amount of $127,768.62 in order to receive CHIPs reimbursement. The corrected total to the June 2026 Highway Abstract is $233,211.60 and the additional voucher number are 74 & 75.

Supervisor Hayes reported there are four invoices that will be paid from the Salt Shed Bond as follows: Three invoices from V.S. Virkler & Son, Inc in the amounts of $2,864.78; $348.33; and $5,540.75 and one invoice from Jefferson Concrete in the amount of $1,708.00.

Superintendent Salmon presented Abstract No. 8-2026 (Vouchers 76-86) in the amount of $29,179.05. A motion to pay the abstract was made by Councilmember Sullivan, seconded by Councilmember McGovern; all ayes.

There being no further discussion on the public hearing for the renewal of the Lyons Falls Fire and Ambulance contract with the Town of West Turin, Supervisor Hayes closed the public hearing at 7:45 p.m. on motion by Councilmember McGovern, seconded by Councilmember Sullivan. A motion was made by Councilmember Sullivan, seconded by Councilmember McGovern to approve the contract between the Town of West Turin and the Village of Lyons Falls for fire and ambulance service with the Lyons Falls Fire Department with a 5% increase each year. All ayes.

RESOLUTION NO. 34-2026
RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE TOWN OF WEST TURIN TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH THE VILLAGE OF LYONS FALLS FOR FIRE AND AMBULANCE SERVICES PROVIDED BY THE LYONS FALLS FIRE DEPARTMENT

WHEREAS, the Town of West Turin recognizes the importance of providing reliable fire protection and emergency medical services to safeguard the health, safety, and welfare of its residents; and

WHEREAS, the Town of West Turin has determined that it is in the public interest to enter into an agreement with the Village of Lyons Falls and the Lyons Falls Fire Department for the provision of fire suppression, rescue, and ambulance services; and

WHEREAS, the agreement is effective January 1, 2027 for a three-year term expiring on December 31, 2029 for the amounts as follows – 2027-$3,579.00; 2028-$3,758.00; and 2029-$3,946.00.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, as follows:

Section 1. The Town of West Turin approves the three-year agreement with the Village of Lyons Falls and the Lyons Falls Fire Department to provide fire and ambulance services.

Section 2. That this resolution shall take effect immediately upon adoption.

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

Supervisor Hayes reported he received a check from Town Justice Earl for July 2026 fines and penalties in the amount of 1,280.00. He has not received a bill for July 2026 fines and penalties.

Supervisor Hayes read Local Law No. 1-2026 entitled "A Local Law Permitting the Town of West Turin to Exceed its 2% Tax Cap Levy Limit for Fiscal Year 2027." A public hearing for this local law has been scheduled for September 14, 2026 at 7:00 p.m.

West Turin Local Law No. 1-2026
A Local Law Permitting the Town of West Turin to
Exceed its 2% Tax Cap Levy Limit for Fiscal Year 2027

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, 2027 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, 2027 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 said the Town of Lyonsdale would like to purchase the 2015 Harder Dump Box Spreader from the Town of West Turin for the amount of $2,500.00 A motion to approve this sale was made by Councilmember McGovern, seconded by Councilmember Sullivan. All ayes.

RESOLUTION NO. 35-2026
RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE SALE OF
THE 2015 HARDER DUMP BOX SPREADER TO THE TOWN OF LYONSDALE

WHEREAS, the Town of West Turin owns certain equipment described as one 2015 Harder Dump Box Spreader which is no longer required for municipal purposes; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to applicable laws and regulations, the Town of West Turin may dispose of surplus property in a manner that serves the public interest; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Lyonsdale has expressed interest in purchasing said equipment for municipal purposes; and

WHEREAS, the sale of this equipment will promote intergovernmental cooperation and efficient use of public resources;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED as follows:

Section 1. The Town of West Turin does hereby sell to the Town of Lyonsdale one 2015 Harder Dump Box Spreader for the amount of $2,500.

Section 2. The Town of West Turin Highway Superintendent is authorized to sell the above listed equipment to the Town of Lyonsdale for the amount of $2,500.

Section 3. That this resolution shall take effect immediately upon adoption.

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

Supervisor Hayes reported the Town of West Turin Tax Collector's audit was found to be satisfactory. The Town of West Turin Tax Collector's audit was approved on motion by Councilmember Sullivan, seconded by Supervisor Hayes, and approved. Councilmember McGovern abstained.

Warrant No. 8 (Claim Nos. 136-151) in the amount of $3,299.19 was presented for payment. A motion to pay the warrant was made by Councilmember McGovern, seconded by Councilmember Sullivan; all ayes.

A budget workshop has been scheduled for September 22, 2026 at 1:00 p.m. at the office of Lawrence & Phillippe in Lowville to meet with the town accountant Scott Lawrence.

Supervisor Hayes reported receiving a check for CHIPs in the amount of $123,122.53.

Supervisor Hayes reported receiving a check from the Village of Constableville for snow removal in the amount of $12,474.00.

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

There being no further business to come before the board, the meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m. on motion by Councilmember Sullivan, seconded by Councilmember McGovern.

Respectfully submitted,

Bethany L. Schindler, Clerk
Town of West Turin