Town of Woodstock, NY
Town Board Meeting
Tuesday, October 6, 2026
Meeting held at 45 Comeau Dr. and broadcast on YouTube Live
MEETING MINUTES

MEMBERS PRESENT

- Supervisor Anula Courtis
- Councilperson Reginald Earls
- Councilperson Laura Ricci

MEMBERS ABSENT

- Councilperson Lily Korolkoff
- Councilperson Laurie Osmond

Recording Secretary: Rebekah Brooks, Acting Town Clerk

Members of the Press
- Isabella Schoonover (Overlook)

CALL TO ORDER

Supervisor Courtis called the meeting to order at 7:00pm. She explained that members of the Board had already attended hours of budget workshop meetings over the last two days and two Board members were unable to attend tonight's meeting.

RESOLUTIONS

- 229-2026: Resolution Waiving Fees for Woodstock Film Festival
- 230-2026: Resolution Waiving Fees for Christmas Day Community Meal
- 231-2026: Resolution Amending Voucher Total Approved at September 22, 2026 Town Board Meeting
- 232-2026: Resolution Appointing Special Tax Counsel

RESOLUTION 229-2026

Resolution Waiving Fees for Woodstock Film Festival

WHEREAS, the Woodstock Film Festival provides cultural, educational, and economic benefits to the Town and its residents; and

WHEREAS, the Woodstock Film Festival has requested use of the Woodstock Community Center for festival-related programming and activities; and

WHEREAS, the Town Board supports community events that enhance arts, culture, and public engagement;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board hereby authorizes the waiver of applicable Woodstock Community Center rental fees for the Woodstock Film Festival's use of the facility October 12 – 19, 2026.

MOTION: Supervisor Courtis
SECOND: Councilperson Ricci

DRAFT

VOTE
Supervisor Courtis - Aye
Councilperson Earls - Aye
Councilperson Ricci - Aye

Resolution adopted 3-0

RESOLUTION 230-2026

Resolution Waiving Fees for Christmas Day Community Meal

WHEREAS, a Christmas Day Community Meal is planned to provide food, fellowship, and support to residents and visitors during the holiday season; and

WHEREAS, the organizers have requested use of the Woodstock Community Center for this community service event; and

WHEREAS, the Town Board recognizes the public benefit of providing a welcoming holiday meal to members of the community;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board hereby authorizes the waiver of applicable Woodstock Community Center rental fees for the Christmas Day Community Meal to be held on December 25, 2026.

MOTION: Supervisor Courtis
SECOND: Councilperson Earls

VOTE
Supervisor Courtis - Aye
Councilperson Earls - Aye
Councilperson Ricci - Aye

Resolution adopted 3-0

RESOLUTION 231-2026

Resolution Amending Voucher Total Approved at September 22, 2026 Town Board Meeting

WHEREAS, the Town Board previously approved the abstract of vouchers at its meeting held on September 22, 2026 in the amount of $313,066.82; and

WHEREAS, it has been determined that the approved voucher amount should be reduced by $2,638.20;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board hereby amends the total voucher amount approved at its meeting on September 22, 2026 from **$313,066.82** to **$310,428.62**, reflecting a decrease of $2,638.20; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Town Clerk is authorized and directed to amend the official records accordingly.

MOTION: Supervisor Courtis
SECOND: Councilperson Ricci

VOTE
Supervisor Courtis - Aye
Councilperson Earls - Aye

DRAFT

Councilperson Ricci - Aye

Resolution adopted 3-0

RESOLUTION 232-2026

Resolution Appointing Special Tax Counsel

WHEREAS, the Town Board finds it necessary to obtain legal services for tax-related matters; and

WHEREAS, VanDeWater & VanDeWater, LLP is qualified to provide such services;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board hereby appoints VanDeWater & VanDeWater, LLP as Special Legal Counsel for tax matters; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Town Supervisor is authorized to execute any necessary engagement documents and that payment for such services shall be made from the appropriate budget line.

MOTION: Supervisor Courtis
SECOND: Councilperson Earls

VOTE
Supervisor Courtis - Aye
Councilperson Earls - Aye
Councilperson Ricci - Aye

Resolution adopted 3-0

UPDATES

DOG PARK

Supervisor Courtis said that the Rotary Club is bringing improvements to the dog park all at their own expense and with volunteer time. Town maintenance staff keep waste bags stocked for visitors and they cycle through more often to ensure garbage is removed. They also have been taking down dead or dangerous trees. Where safe and appropriate, trees will be left as 7’ trunks to preserve wildlife habitat. 12-15 trees have been falling over and breaking the fence, endangering humans and dogs.

The dog park will be closed Oct 13-15, and reopen on Friday Oct 16. Tree removal will take place over two days and the Highway Department will chip the removed trees and spread the wood chips throughout the dog park. She extended a big thank you to the Rotary Club. They are actively seeking out projects that make a meaningful difference in Woodstock. She also thanked Maintenance and the Highway crew for keeping the park welcoming for dogs and people.

COMPLETE STREETS / DOT PROJECT

Supervisor Courtis provided an update on the Route 212 Bridge and Sidewalk Improvement Project and acknowledged concerns from the business community regarding the potential impact of construction. She noted that the project remains in the preliminary design phase and that some details have not yet been determined.

Supervisor Courtis stated that Woodstock and Tinker Street will remain open during construction, with alternating traffic planned through the work area. The Town and project partners are planning for continued business access, parking, deliveries, signage, and customer communication throughout construction.

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The current preliminary schedule calls for tree clearing in November 2028, south-side construction in 2029, north-side construction in 2030, and project completion in spring 2031, subject to change. Beginning in 2027, the Supervisor's Office plans to provide monthly project updates during the preliminary design phase, which is expected to continue through the end of 2027.

Supervisor Courtis said the Town will continue meeting with local businesses and the Chamber of Commerce to identify concerns, important event dates, and other periods when businesses would prefer construction to be avoided. These requests will be brought to the New York State Department of Transportation, although construction-free periods cannot be guaranteed. The Town will also review its signage regulations and consider temporary measures during construction to help customers locate and access businesses.

Supervisor Courtis thanked the Complete Streets Committee and Flood Advisory Committee for their continued work on the project, including review of culverts, flood concerns, and FEMA mapping. She also announced plans to work with the Town Clerk's Office to create a dedicated project webpage containing updates, meeting information, and frequently asked questions.

Grace Murphy, Co-Chair of the Complete Streets Committee, provided an update on discussions with NYSDOT regarding pedestrian, bicycle, traffic-calming, and streetscape improvements. She reported that several Town requests were not accepted at this stage, including a proposed 25 MPH speed limit, narrower travel lanes in the commercial district, and raised crosswalks.

She reported that NYSDOT has agreed to several other improvements, including crosswalks at all intersections, a new crosswalk at Tinker Street and Tannery Brook, pedestrian bump-outs, continued on-street parking, accommodations for accessible parking and deliveries, and consistent ADA-accessible sidewalks. Some parking would shift from the south side to the north side in order to create a traffic-calming effect.

Grace also reported that 22 trees, many of which are in poor condition, are currently identified for removal and 28 replacement trees are proposed. The tree assessment was conducted by an arborist and includes information on the condition of trees proposed for removal. Trees affected specifically by the bridge replacement are not yet included in that plan. The Flood Advisory Committee continues to review the bridge portion of the project with attention to flood vulnerability and mitigation.

Lighting improvements are also proposed as part of the project.

PUBLIC BE HEARD

Mike Mulvey - raised concerns about light pollution and sound mitigation associated with tree removal and construction projects. He also discussed the failing condition of the Town's television station, stating that aging equipment and a lack of ongoing maintenance have created significant repair challenges that will be hard to rectify if left ignored. He urged the Town Board to consider allocating funds in the upcoming budget for both immediate repairs and ongoing maintenance of the station.

Marcel Nagele - expressed concern about the length of time required to receive records requested under FOIL. He cited requests for a resignation letter and a separate request for the Town's audit contract, stating that he believed some requested records could be provided more quickly.

Laurie Felber - reported on her attendance at the Sustainable Hudson Summit at SUNY Orange, where she participated in sessions concerning grant opportunities for environmental resiliency projects. She discussed the potential value of sharing a sustainability coordinator among neighboring municipalities to assist with grant writing and regional sustainability projects in order to share costs and break down silos. Felber also announced a No Kings event scheduled for Saturday, October 17 at noon near the Village Green and surrounding sidewalks, with an emphasis on encouraging voter participation and early voting.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Councilperson Ricci mentioned the new newsletter by Acting Town Clerk, Rebekah Brooks, who said she hopes to publish the newsletter monthly. Residents who subscribe by email may identify areas of interest for possible tailored updates as the newsletter expands.

ADJOURNMENT

Supervisor Courtis made a motion to adjourn at 7:35pm, seconded by Councilperson Ricci and carried as all present voted Aye.

Respectfully Submitted,

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Rebekah Brooks, Acting Town Clerk

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