Town of Woodstock, NY
Town Board Meeting
Tuesday, September 8, 2026
Meeting held at 45 Comeau Dr. and Virtually (Zoom)
MEETING MINUTES

MEMBERS PRESENT

- Supervisor Anula Courtis
- Councilperson Lily Korolkoff
- Councilperson Laurie Osmond
- Councilperson Laura Ricci

MEMBERS ABSENT

- Councilperson Reginald Earls

Recording Secretary: Rebekah Brooks, Acting Town Clerk

Presenters:
- Evan Holland: Woodstock Fire Commissioner
- Howard Cohen: Member, Complete Streets Committee

Members of the Press
Nick Henderson (HV1)
Isabella Schoonover (Overlook)

CALL TO ORDER

Supervisor Anula Courtis called the meeting to order at 7:01pm.

RESOLUTIONS

- 200-2026 Resolution Hiring Part-Time Typist
- 201-2026 Resolution Hiring Part-Time Parking Lot Attendant
- 202-2026 Resolution Expanding Membership of the Woodstock BearWise Committee
- 203-2026 Resolution Appointing Member to the Woodstock BearWise Committee
- 204-2026 Resolution to Changing Employee Status from Part-Time to Full-Time
- 205-2026 Resolution Accepting Employee Resignation
- 206-2026 Resolution Setting A Public Hearing On A Local Law Amending Chapter 7 (Alarm Systems)
- 207-2026 Resolution For Speed Limit Reduction and Glasco Turnpike Speed Study
- 208-2026 Resolution Authorizing the Purchase of a Police Vehicle
- 209-2026 Resolution Accepting Committee Resignation
- 210-2026 Resolution Authorizing the Engagement of Architect Related to the Housing Project

RESOLUTION 200-2026

Resolution Hiring Part-Time Typist

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board hereby appoints Joshua Ferguson to the position of Part-Time Typist, effective September 10, 2026, at an hourly rate of $26.45, for up to 40 hours per pay period, subject to all applicable Town policies and requirements.

MOTION: Supervisor Courtis
SECOND: Councilperson Ricci

VOTE
Supervisor Courtis - Aye
Councilperson Korolkoff - Aye
Councilperson Osmond - Aye
Councilperson Ricci - Aye

Resolution adopted 4-0

RESOLUTION 201-2026

Resolution Hiring Part-Time Parking Lot Attendant

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board hereby appoints Helen DeVoe to the position of Part-Time Parking Lot Attendant, effective September 9, 2026, at an hourly rate of $20.50, subject to all applicable Town policies and requirements.

MOTION: Supervisor Courtis
SECOND: Councilperson Osmond

VOTE
Supervisor Courtis - Aye
Councilperson Korolkoff - Aye
Councilperson Osmond - Aye
Councilperson Ricci - Aye

Resolution adopted 4-0

RESOLUTION 202-2026

Resolution Expanding Membership of the Woodstock BearWise Committee

WHEREAS, the Woodstock BearWise Committee was established to support and promote bear awareness, education, and coexistence initiatives within the community; and

WHEREAS, the Committee's responsibilities and workload have increased, creating a need for broader community representation and additional volunteer participation; and

WHEREAS, expanding the Committee membership will enhance the Committee's capacity to fulfill its mandate, provide greater diversity of perspectives, and improve succession planning and continuity;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

A. The membership of the Woodstock BearWise Committee be increased from five (5) members to seven (7) members.

B. The two additional member positions shall be filled in accordance with the Committee's established appointment procedures and applicable municipal policies.

C. All existing terms, duties, and responsibilities of Committee members shall remain unchanged unless otherwise amended by the Town Board.

D. This resolution shall take effect immediately upon approval.

MOTION: Supervisor Courtis
SECOND: Councilperson Ricci

VOTE
Supervisor Courtis - Aye
Councilperson Korolkoff - Aye
Councilperson Osmond - Aye

Councilperson Ricci - Aye

Resolution adopted 4-0

RESOLUTION 203-2026

Resolution Appointing Member to the Woodstock BearWise Committee

WHEREAS, the Woodstock BearWise Committee seeks to maintain active community participation in support of its mission to promote bear awareness, education, and coexistence within the Town of Woodstock; and

WHEREAS, the Committee has determined that the appointment of an additional member will strengthen the Committee's ability to carry out its programs and initiatives;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

1. Iris Permenter is hereby appointed to serve as a member of the Woodstock BearWise Committee.
2. The term of appointment shall commence immediately and expire on December 31, 2026.
3. At the expiration of this term, Iris shall be eligible for reappointment for a full term should she wish to continue serving and should the Committee and Town Board approve such reappointment.
4. This resolution shall take effect immediately upon adoption.

MOTION: Supervisor Courtis
SECOND: Councilperson Ricci

VOTE
Supervisor Courtis - Aye
Councilperson Korolkoff - Aye
Councilperson Osmond - Aye
Councilperson Ricci - Aye

Resolution adopted 4-0

RESOLUTION 204-2026

Resolution to Changing Employee Status from Part-Time to Full-Time

WHEREAS Melissa Cocks is currently employed as a part-time Cleaner, and it has been determined that the operational needs of the organization would be best served by increasing her employment status to full-time;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that Melissa Cocks shall be appointed to the full-time position of Cleaner, effective September 14, 2026, while retaining her current job title of Cleaner at the hourly rate of $22.48. Supervisor is authorized to take all actions necessary to implement this change and update all relevant employment and payroll records accordingly.

MOTION: Supervisor Courtis
SECOND: Councilperson Korolkoff

VOTE
Supervisor Courtis - Aye
Councilperson Korolkoff - Aye
Councilperson Osmond - Aye
Councilperson Ricci - Aye

Resolution adopted 4-0

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RESOLUTION 205-2026

Resolution Accepting Employee Resignation

WHEREAS, Michael Innello has submitted his resignation from the Town of Woodstock Custodial Department;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board hereby accepts the resignation of Michael Innello from the Custodial Department, effective September 11, 2026.

MOTION: Supervisor Courtis
SECOND: Councilperson Korolkoff

VOTE

Supervisor Courtis	- Aye
Councilperson Korolkoff	- Aye
Councilperson Osmond	- Aye
Councilperson Ricci	- Aye

Resolution adopted 4-0

RESOLUTION 206-2026

Resolution Setting A Public Hearing On A Local Law Amending Chapter 7 (Alarm Systems)

WHEREAS, the Town Board of the Town of Woodstock (the "Town Board") has proposed Local Law No. 2 of the Year 2026, entitled "A Local Law Amending Chapter 7 (Alarm Systems) of the Code of the Town of Woodstock" (the "Proposed Local Law"), as attached here; and

WHEREAS, the Town Board finds that a significant and growing share of fire department responses within the Town are attributable to false alarms and water intrusion events that are recurring, preventable, and within the control of property owners and alarm system users, and that such responses divert volunteer firefighters from genuine emergencies and accelerate fatigue among members; and

WHEREAS, the Proposed Local Law seeks to update Chapter 7 of the Town Code, originally adopted in 2001, by revising the false alarm fine schedule, establishing a new enforcement framework for water intrusion events, incorporating the alarm company liability authority conferred by General Business Law § 69-vvv, and clarifying the respective roles of Town and fire district personnel in the administration and enforcement of the chapter; and

WHEREAS, the Proposed Local Law establishes a Notice of Alarm Incident reporting procedure modeled on the existing chimney fire reporting structure, authorized pursuant to the agreement of the Board of Fire Commissioners of the Woodstock Fire District as memorialized by District resolution dated July 9, 2026, under which fire department members document alarm responses in a ministerial capacity and transmit records to the Town's Alarm Administrator for enforcement purposes; and

WHEREAS, the Town Board has determined that the Proposed Local Law is a Type II action under 6 NYCRR Part 617 of the State Environmental Quality Review Act regulations and is therefore not subject to environmental review; and

WHEREAS, the Town Board wishes to hold a public hearing on the Proposed Local Law in accordance with Section 20(5) of the Municipal Home Rule Law;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Woodstock hereby schedules a public hearing on Local Law No. 2 of the Year 2026 for the 22nd day of September, 2026 at 7:00pm at the Woodstock Town Offices, 45 Comeau Drive, Woodstock, NY 12498; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Town Clerk is hereby directed to publish notice of such public hearing in the official Town newspaper and to post such notice on the Town's official sign board and website, not

less than ten (10) days before the date of the hearing, as required by Section 20(5) of the Municipal Home Rule Law; and be it further

RESOLVED, that a copy of the Proposed Local Law shall be available for public inspection in the office of the Town Clerk during normal business hours.

Discussion/Presentation

Fire Commissioner Evan Holland presented on this topic. He said that the Fire Department is completely volunteer, and a decrease in volunteers and increase in population led to an explosion in the number of calls, which was difficult to sustain. They have looked at two areas that will eliminate hundreds of calls that unnecessarily take away volunteer time: false alarms and water intrusions (cellar pumps). When this happens, the plan going forward on the first call is to go in, fix it, and explain that if there is a second and third call within twelve months, there will be a $250 penalty. By the sixth call, the fee would be $1000, which should be an incentive to deter this behavior and reduce the number of calls. For water intrusions, the homeowner is responsible to have a plumber and electrician service the home and have a sump pump. He said that Woodstock is one of the few fire departments that even work with cellar pumps anymore and drain the basement.

Councilperson Ricci discussed the legality of the law going through the Town, versus the Fire Department which is its own district, due to the Town having to be the one to collect those fees, as the Fire Department can only issue the certificate. When asked about how this will be publicized, Commissioner Holland said that once the law is passed, they will conduct internal education as well as notify the public through many channels, including but not limited to the newspaper, town website, and with involvement from the Building Department.

The Town Board thanked Commissioner Holland as well as Symon Hallam for their work, as well as legal counsel David Gordon and Lydia Slaby.

MOTION: Supervisor Courtis
SECOND: Councilperson Ricci

VOTE

Supervisor Courtis	- Aye
Councilperson Korolkoff	- Aye
Councilperson Osmond	- Aye
Councilperson Ricci	- Aye

Resolution adopted 4-0

RESOLUTION 207-2026

Resolution For Speed Limit Reduction and Glasco Turnpike Speed Study

WHEREAS, Woodstock Complete Streets has received numerous complaints regarding vehicle speeds and safety conditions along the entire length of Glasco Turnpike within the Town of Woodstock; and

WHEREAS, Woodstock Complete Streets is committed to promoting safe, accessible, and equitable transportation infrastructure for all roadway users, including pedestrians, bicyclists, motorists, transit users, and persons with disabilities; and

WHEREAS, a consistent 35 MPH speed limit along the entire length of Glasco Turnpike within the Town of Woodstock, from Route 212 in Shady to the Town border with Saugerties, would improve safety for pedestrians, cyclists, and motorists; and

WHEREAS, Resolution 139-2020 resulted in the reduction of the speed limit from 40 MPH to 35 MPH on only a limited section of Glasco Turnpike, between Rock City Road and Upper Byrdcliffe Road; and

WHEREAS, Woodstock Complete Streets supports reducing the speed limit on the entire length of Glasco Turnpike within the Town of Woodstock from the current 40 MPH to 35 MPH, or lower should the appropriate agencies determine such a reduction to be warranted; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Woodstock requests that the Ulster County Department of Public Works and the New York State Department of Transportation evaluate the advisability of a consistent speed reduction along the entire length of Glasco Turnpike within the Town of Woodstock;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Woodstock Town Board hereby requests that the Ulster County Department of Public Works seek a study by the New York State Department of Transportation to evaluate and recommend an appropriate speed limit for the entirety of Glasco Turnpike within the Town of Woodstock; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Woodstock Town Board supports reducing the speed limit on Glasco Turnpike from the current 40 MPH to 35 MPH, or lower if deemed appropriate by the reviewing agencies based on the findings of such study; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution shall be transmitted to the Ulster County Department of Public Works, the Ulster County Department of Transportation, and the New York State Department of Transportation.

Discussion/Presentation

Howard Cohen, member of the Complete Streets Committee said that in 2020 the Town Board passed a resolution to reduce the speed limit on Glasco Turnpike between Rock City Road and Upper Byrdcliffe Rd., and the County changed it to 35 MPH. However, the effect has been minimal, as that section is only a short section and people continue to speed through. This resolution asks the Town Board to support the request to the County to reduce the speed limit in this road from 212 in Shady to the Town border in Saugerties. Howard stated that a consistent 35mph speed limit will serve the Town residents and cyclists better, and asked that the police be vigilant in enforcing it.

Councilperson Ricci, liaison to Complete Streets, added that even though this is a County road, New York State has to get involved because they must approve the speed limit change. Howard Cohen also thanked Laurie Felber for previously advocating for a lower speed limit on this road earlier this year in front of the Town Board.

Councilperson Ricci also mentioned that there are new reflective parking signs that have recently been erected and that have been in the making for years; she thanked Complete Streets as well as Maintenance for getting those up.

MOTION: Supervisor Courtis
SECOND: Councilperson Ricci

VOTE

Supervisor Courtis	- Aye
Councilperson Korolkoff	- Aye
Councilperson Osmond	- Aye
Councilperson Ricci	- Aye

Resolution adopted 4-0

RESOLUTION 208-2026

Resolution Authorizing the Purchase of a Police Vehicle

WHEREAS, the Town Board of the Town of Woodstock has determined that it is necessary to replace and/or augment the vehicle fleet utilized by the Woodstock Police Department in order to maintain public safety services and operational efficiency; and

WHEREAS, the Woodstock Police Department has recommended the purchase of a new police vehicle suitable for law enforcement operations; and

WHEREAS, funds are available for such purchase;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Woodstock hereby authorizes the purchase of one (1) police vehicle for use by the Woodstock Police Department at a cost not to exceed $40,000 and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the expenditure for such purchase shall be funded from A03120.20000; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Town Supervisor and Chief of Police are authorized to execute any and all documents necessary to effectuate the purchase.

Discussion

Supervisor Courtis delivered additional news that a police vehicle will be transferred to the Town as well. As mentioned in the last Town Board meeting, they are selling two of the oldest and most unsafe vehicles and starting the process of upgrading their fleet in a money-concious manner.

MOTION: Supervisor Courtis
SECOND: Councilperson Korolkoff

VOTE

Supervisor Courtis	- Aye
Councilperson Korolkoff	- Aye
Councilperson Osmond	- Aye
Councilperson Ricci	- Aye

Resolution adopted 4-0

RESOLUTION 209-2026

Resolution Accepting Committee Resignation

WHEREAS, Richard Miller has submitted his resignation from the Town of Woodstock Board of Assessment Review Committee;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board hereby accepts the resignation of Richard Miller from the Board of Assessment Review Committee, effective September 11, 2026.

MOTION: Supervisor Courtis
SECOND: Councilperson Ricci

VOTE

Supervisor Courtis	- Aye
Councilperson Korolkoff	- Aye
Councilperson Osmond	- Aye
Councilperson Ricci	- Aye

Resolution adopted 4-0

RESOLUTION 210-2026

AUTHORIZING THE ENGAGEMENT OF JOSEPH VESCIO AND GRAYDON YEARICK ARCHITECT FOR PHASE 1 DEVELOPMENT SERVICES RELATED TO THE TOWN OF WOODSTOCK HOUSING PROJECT

WHEREAS, the Town of Woodstock is evaluating the development of a housing project to address community housing needs; and

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WHEREAS, completion of the initial Development Phase is necessary before any infrastructure or construction activities can proceed; and

WHEREAS, Graydon Yearick Architect, through principals Graydon Yearick and Joseph Vescio, has presented a proposal to provide professional planning, coordination, and development services for Phase 1 of the project; and

WHEREAS, the Development Phase includes coordination of engineering and consulting services, preparation of conceptual site plans and development alternatives, feasibility analyses, survey and testing coordination, regulatory agency coordination, and other planning and project management activities necessary to advance the project; and

WHEREAS, the Town Board recognizes that several elements of the Development Phase, including land surveys, soil borings, and percolation testing, are time-sensitive and may be significantly delayed if not initiated promptly; and

WHEREAS, timely completion of Phase 1 is necessary to maintain project momentum, pursue available funding opportunities, and position the Town to move forward with future infrastructure and construction phases;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Woodstock Town Board hereby authorizes the engagement of Joseph Vescio and Graydon Yearick Architect to provide professional services associated with Phase 1 Development of the Town's housing project; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the scope of services shall include, but not be limited to:

- Coordination of engineering and consulting services;
- Preparation of conceptual site plans, diagrams, renderings, and development alternatives for Town review and presentation;
- Evaluation of housing options and preparation of feasibility studies for proposed building types;
- Coordination of water and wastewater feasibility studies;
- Management of soil borings and percolation testing;
- Procurement and coordination of topographic and boundary surveys, including identification of significant site features;
- Preliminary planning for roads, utilities, septic systems, housing layouts, open space, and related site improvements; and
- Coordination with regulatory agencies, including the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation, Ulster County Department of Health, and other agencies as required.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that compensation for Phase 1 Development Services shall be billed at a rate of $175 per hour, a discounted rate, with a total Phase 1 cost not to exceed $35,000 without further authorization of the Town Board; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Supervisor is authorized to execute an agreement and any related documents necessary to effectuate this engagement, subject to review by the Town Attorney.

Discussion

Supervisor Courtis said that ARPA (American Rescue Plan Act) funds must be used by the end of the year, to be used to move affordable housing forward. She introduced one of the architects, Joseph Vescio, who had looked at one town-owned property in particular (Three Mile) that was being evaluated for housing and found benefits where challenges were thought to exist; for example, to use the massive holes in the ground, once thought to be too expensive to build on, and instead use those areas for septic systems. She said that the Town Board will become more agile, and should be prepared to begin building housing as soon as 2027, should funding from our Congressman come through.

Councilperson Ricci reiterated that the Three Mile property had been eliminated from the final two previously selected for further analysis, and was now being brought back into consideration, and asked what the goal is now. Supervisor Courtis said they will get two surveys, for the Three Mile and the

Zena-Highwoods properties, and then the Town Board would make a decision about which to move forward with first. There would then be a perc test done on that property to ensure there is proper infrastructure. The plan is to move swiftly and with public discussion.

MOTION: Supervisor Courtis
SECOND: Councilperson Osmond

VOTE
Supervisor Courtis - Aye
Councilperson Korolkoff - Aye
Councilperson Osmond - Aye
Councilperson Ricci - Aye

Resolution adopted 4-0

ADDITIONAL MENTIONS

Supervisor Courtis thanked Dr. Neal Smoller from the Village Apothecary and his patients for their $3000 donation to the summer camp. Councilperson Ricci added that Deputy Clerks Meghann Reimondo and Michele Sehwerert ran the camp this year.

PUBLIC BE HEARD

Laurie Felber - lives on Glasco Turnpike and spoke about the proposed slower speed limit and how important it is to make this road safer. She also wants better signage. It is hard to pull out of driveways with fast trucks on the road and they are also in a wildlife corridor. She encouraged looking at the whole infrastructure of Glasco Turnpike, such as the culvert on Rock City Road, and the “antiquated” guardrails. She has concerns about the amount of traffic that will be generated on that road as a “cut-through” with the upcoming construction in 2027.

Fanny Prizant - congratulated the Board for their agreement on issues. She mentioned the American flags throughout town, noting concerns of who decided to put those up, as well as the fact that some are in disrepair, which is disrespectful. She wished that residents could vote on whether to fly the flags in town.

Mike Mulvey - thanked the new administration for being non-combative and willing to take on controversial issues. He called for a refurbishment of the Town’s brand and reputation as an entertainment destination and thriving artist community, and that there is urgency in addressing this issue. He also addressed the TV station, which is getting more volunteer support, programming, and interest. They are weighed down by old systems and equipment and asked to think about upgrading this station to reach a wider audience and have more reliable technology. He mentioned a previous list of upgrades existed that should be revisited in an internal audit.

Anna Womack - addressed environmental issues the town is facing, urging a larger conversation about how climate change will impact our area. The upcoming El Niño will impact our oceans and may bring more snow this year, so she encouraged looking at our systems in preparation for the next winter season. She also said we should be looking at food, urging us to look at Town land to grow food for our community, in case systems break down further. She mentioned the idea of a Town-sponsored tool library so people could borrow supplies from each other. She wants the town to be proactive in facing the realities of climate change.

Urana Kinlen - mentioned having a contact at AgriTech at Cornell University that could help with what Anna spoke about. She offered the idea of having international flags throughout town to be more inclusive. She is glad to see Three Mile considered as an option again. At the last Town Board meeting, there was a request from the Town Board about what the rest of the ARPA funds could be used for and she said she had that document the Housing Committee came up with on that. She raised the concern that her emails to the Board are not being responded to. For BearWise, she said the DEC spoke at the old library and presented valuable information and thinks we should do this as a Town-sponsored event twice a year.

ADJOURNMENT

Supervisor Courtis made a motion to adjourn at 7:47pm, 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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