

Town of Pine Plains Town Board Meeting

November 20, 2025

The Town of Pine Plains Town Board convened for a regular schedule meeting at the Town Hall on the above date at 7 pm. Supervisor Brian Walsh, Councilman Zick, Councilman Robert Ambrose, Councilwoman Sisco and Councilman Kevin Walsh were present. Also in attendance were Attorney to the Town Warren Replansky (via Zoom), Highway Superintendent Carl Baden, PPWIA Ray Jurkowski, Officer in Charge John Hughes, Recreation Director Brian Coons, CAC Chairperson Gail Mellow, and seven members of the public.

Supervisor Walsh called the meeting to order, and the Pledge of Allegiance was done.

Councilman Ambrose motioned to approve October 2025 Town Clerks report, and to accept October 14, 2025, Town Board Workshop meeting minutes and October 16, 2025, Town Board meeting minutes Seconded by Councilman Zick. 5-0 Passed.

Zick motioned to pay the following bills General 22013-22052, Highway 22053-22067, PPWIA 347-352 seconded by Ambrose 5-0 Passed.

Town Attorney- Attorney to the Town discussed potential short term rental law and will send over 2 examples, one from the Town of Rhinebeck and one from the Town of Pleasant Valley. Replansky discussed the double utility poles removal. The Building Inspector has sent the notices to Consolidated Communications, which the company has responded they will give a schedule of removals.

Public Comment- Supervisor Walsh thanked Carl and the Highway for putting up the flags for Veterans Day. Wreaths Across America will take place on December 13, 2025, at 12pm at the Evergreen cemetery. Town Decorating Day will take place on November 29, 2025, at 3pm with decorating trees and activities, following with the parade at 5 pm. Town & Highway offices will be closed November 27, and 28, 2025. Councilman Kevin Walsh thanked the Pine Plains Free Library for hosting the Wilderness First Aid, and the Lions Club for hosting the program for 2 days. Feedback from the program was that participants hoped in the future, the program would not run on the same weekend. Councilwoman Sisco recognized Thayer, Vikki and Eleana for the removal of the fall décor and prepping the barrels for winter holiday. Also thanked Thayer for decorating planter boxes. Sisco also thanked Carl Baden, Ibis Guzman, Stephaine Rhoades, and the FFA for setting up the trees in Town for decorating day. Councilman Zick will be setting up the ice rink on November 26 and if anyone would like to volunteer to help with opening and closing the ice rink during the season let him know.

Highway Reports- Highway- Superintendent Carl Baden read report on file. Baden also discussed with the Board about auctioning Kubota Mowing Tractor and seeking to purchase a new one. The tractor is currently in need of a \$30,000 motor. K. Walsh motioned to auction tractor, seconded by Zick 5-0 Passed. Baden will provide specs next month and timeline for getting a new tractor.

Building Inspector- Report on file.

PPWIA- Ray Jurkowski read report on file. Jurkowski also asked the Board to consider a water user rate increase for 2026. The new rate increase would be a flat rate of \$50.00 up to the first 9,000 gallons and used and portion thereof, and \$6.20 per 1,000 gallons above 9,000 gallons used. The last rate increase took place in January 2023. Zick motioned to hold a Public Hearing

on December 18 at 7:00pm for the Pine Plains Water Improvement Area rate increase, seconded by K. Walsh 5-0 passed.

Police Department- Officer in Charge John Hughes read report on file.

Animal Control- Report on file.

CAC- Chairwoman Gail Mellow let the Board know that members have been attending educational programs. Kim DeNardis and Mellow are attending an education on effects of road salt in drinking water. Mellow praised Carl Baden for being the second most ecological Highway Superintendent in Dutchess County for distribution of road salt. The CAC would like to have an Aquatic vegetation mapping survey completed by Solitude Lake Management for \$2,000.

Supervisor Walsh let Mellow know the CAC budget only has \$1723.00 but can find the difference if approved. K. Walsh motioned to approve expenditure, seconded by Zick 5-0

Passed.

Recreation- Recreation Director Brain Coons gave an update on the youth basketball.

Beautification- The committee donated to the landscaping of Community Center and Library.

Also, the committee is hosting Community Day on June 13, 2026. They have held first meeting with 13 people, and lots of new ideas and activities. The committee has received 4 options for the back of “Welcome to Pine Plains” signs, they have given the designer suggestions.

Old Business- Zick motioned to approve the final budget for 2026, seconded by Ambrose 5-0 Passed. The Board discussed the New Town Hall with LaBellas concept. The Board agrees the concept fits in with the Town. Sisco would like to have some options on the space utilization inside for historical purposes. The Board will be hosting a Public Forum on December 10, at 6 pm at the Community Center for community input. Sisco discussed her conference about growing homes. Which focused on affordable housing in the Hudson valley for farmers. Also, the Tri Town Coalition met and will be meeting with the department of health and Dutchess Planning to discuss septic and wastewater options for accessory dwelling unit.

New Business- Ambrose motioned to hire Joshua Dean to the Pine Plains Police Department part time at \$25.00/hr. seconded by Zick 5-0 Passed

Zick motioned to adjourn, seconded by Ambrose 5-0 Passed.

Supervisor: Brian Walsh

Councilman: Matt Zick

Councilman: Robert Ambrose

Councilwoman: Jeanine Sisco

Councilman: Kevin Walsh