

HOPEWELL TOWN BOARD MEETING JANUARY 21, 2026 7:02PM

The regular scheduled Town Board Meeting for the Town of Hopewell was held at the Hopewell Town Hall on Wednesday evening, January 21, 2026 at 7:02PM, with Supervisor William Namestnik presiding.

Present:	Supervisor	William Namestnik
	Council Member	Mark Curran
	Council Member	Andy Faust
	Council Member	Adam Sanford
Necessarily Absent	Council Member	Jeff Trickey

Others Present: Hopewell Fire Chief Alan “Skip” Critcher, Charles Ash Jr., Highway Superintendent Matt Curran, Water Superintendent Joe Eckam and Town Clerk Denise Hood

A motion was made by Council Member Faust, seconded by Council Member Curran to approve the minutes of the regular Town Board Meeting of December 17, 2025.

Adopted: Vote: Ayes 4 Nays 0

A motion was made by Council Member Curran, seconded by Council Member Faust to approve the minutes of the Organizational Meeting on January 7, 2026.

Adopted: Vote: Ayes 4 Nays 0

Privilege of the Floor –Fire Chief Skip Critcher- Gave a Hopewell Fire Department update, reporting there were two house fires yesterday (Tuesday, January 6th) in Honeoye and in Farmington. There was also a fire in Middlesex on Monday, January 5th. The new truck has been painted. The ladder truck #581 is out of service for approximately 3 months, waiting for parts and will be towed and repaired in Syracuse. Averaging about a call per day.

Charlie Ash Jr. of 4210 State Route 488- He is interested in getting public water to his house. The water in his home is very hard water, which causes him to replace his faucets quite often. Because of the location of his home being close to the outlet, there are issues with the Canandaigua sewage being at the same water table as the outlet. Conversation ensued regarding past attempts for Water Districts. Water Superintendent Joe Eckam stated the main concern in hooking up water in that area would be the railroad system. He indicated it would be costly to install the waterline under the railroad.

Communications and Reports-The following communication was provided-
a. USDA Rural Development-Together, America Prospers

Old Business

Town Clerk-Denise Hood-CNB Credit Card-I have contacted Andrea O’Sullivan at CNB to advise me of what the next step is to receive a Credit Card. Also, I have asked for the check scanner for the office to cut the amount of trips to the bank for deposits.

Local Law #2-2025-Local Law #2-2025 has been filed at the Department of State. The letter from Town Attorney Jeff Graff has been attached. **(Exhibit A)**

Highway Superintendent- Matt Curran-Town of Hopewell Back Stairs- No update.

Highway Building Gate-The gate is operational and working great!

Water Superintendent-Joe Eckam-Route 247 Meter Pit-Fineline to Finish Project-Bryan Rayburn at Marks Engineering reached out to Fineline. Fineline would like to “make it right” by coming back in the spring and completing the project.

Supervisor-William Namestnik-Route 488 and Freshour Road Update-(Exhibit B) -
Supervisor Namestnik has reached out to the DOT asking for a letter that was sent to the Town of Hopewell a number of years ago, pertaining to the intersection of State Route 488 and Freshour Road. DOT had done a review and there were quite a few things that they were going to complete. Supervisor Namestnik had Highway Superintendent Matt Curran take a look at the

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list to see if the list had been completed. There was a 50mph sign that was to be posted prior to the intersection. The Highway Department will make sure those will be ordered and placed in the near future. There was a resident that reached out to DOT regarding their concerns with this intersection. Supervisor Namestnik will reach out to the State Senator, the State Assemblyman and to the Sherriff for support. Hopewell Fire Chief Skip Critcher stated he would send a letter as well, if needed.

Ontario County Firing Range Update-Supervisor Namestnik is keeping the resident information and sharing it with the County.

Security Cameras-Parking Lots and Highway Building-The security cameras have been installed on the Town Hall and on the Highway building.

Garbage Compactor-Quote Approval-Three proper bids were received and opened on Monday, January 12th at 3pm. One from Waste Equipment for \$58,800, second from PTR for \$59,100 and the third one was from Global Metal Works for \$47,043. A motion was made by Council Member Curran, seconded by Council Member Faust to approve the proposal from Global Metal Works in the amount of \$47,043. **(Exhibit C)**

Adopted: Vote Ayes 4 Nays 0

Human Sewer Sludge Update-Set Public Hearing Date for the Proposed Local Law for Zoning- A motion was made by Council Member Faust, seconded by Council Member Curran to set the Public Hearing for the Proposed Local Law for Zoning on February 18, 2026 at 7PM.

Adopted: Vote Ayes 4 Nays 0

Human Sewer Sludge Update- Set Public Hearing Date for the Proposed Local Law for Storage- A motion was made by Council Member Faust, seconded by Council Member Curran to set the Public Hearing for the Proposed Local Law for Storage on February 18, 2026 at 7PM.

Adopted: Vote Ayes 4 Nays 0

Accounting Software Update-The Town of Hopewell is moving to another accounting software program that began this month. The Bookkeeper, Linda Biehl, has been very thorough, so with learning the new system it is taking more time than usual. One of the benefits of this system is removing the redundancy of posting the vouchers. We are working on customized reports.

Sewer Project- (Exhibit D) – Approximately four years ago, the Town entered into an MOU with the County and the Town of Gorham to explore a sewer project to serve the Lincoln Hill and Reed Corner areas. The MOU remains in effect. The Town of Canandaigua is interested in joining in since the Sunset Ridge housing project is beginning to move forward. There is a State grant that awards each county one grant in the amount of \$500,000 if under 10 housing units are being developed and if 10 or more housing units are to be developed then it is \$1,000,000. Proposals to the County are due 02/17/26 which the Town of Canandaigua, Town of Gorham and Town of Hopewell would jointly submit. Looking for approval for moving forward with a proposal. There is no financial obligation for the Town of Hopewell and we are able to back out of the agreement at any time. Council Member Sanford asked where the development was going. Supervisor Namestnik stated there would be approximately 9 units going in the R1 District on County Road 18. Council Member Sanford was opposed to the idea of a grant and stated the developers should provide the funds for the project. Council Members Curran and Faust commented they would like more information and to see the overall plan. Supervisor Namestnik will get more information and will schedule a Special Town Board Meeting to discuss questions.

New Business

Town Clerk-Denise Hood-Property Tax Collection Status- I have begun to collect taxes as of January 1st. I am hoping to pay the Town of Hopewell by the end of this week.

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Highway Superintendent- Matt Curran- Loader Purchase Approval- (Exhibit E) -

Highway Superintendent Matt Curran would prefer selling the current loader at auction since the Town would get more money for it. The new loader would come with a scale on the bucket and a snowplow. A motion was made by Council Member Curran, seconded by Council Member Sanford to approve the purchase of the 2026 644 P Wheel Loader for \$340,895.00.

Adopted: Vote Ayes 4 Nays 0

CAT Loader Marked Surplus-A motion was made by Council Member Faust, seconded by Council Member Curran to surplus the Cat Loader.

Adopted: Vote Ayes 4 Nays 0

Regional Road Salt Shortages- Highway Superintendent Matt Curran reported the Town of Hopewell is good on salt.

Code Enforcement Officer-Justin Bruen-Proposed Building and Zoning Fee Schedule- (Exhibit F)- A motion was made by Council Member Sanford, seconded by Council Member Curran to approve the purposed Fee Schedule.

Adopted: Vote Ayes 4 Nays 0

Water Superintendent-Joe Eckam-Deputy Water Superintendent to Assistant Water Superintendent- (Exhibit G) – The position of Assistant Water Superintendent has been developed at the County. An exam may be required for this position. A motion was made by Council Member Curran, seconded by Council Member Sanford to approve the creation of the Assistant Water Superintendent for the Town of Hopewell.

Adopted: Vote Ayes 4 Nays 0

Out of District User-Gehan Road Properties- Water Superintendent Joe Eckam brought up to the Town Board that there are two properties that have been listed they are hooked up to water. He asked how far the Town Board is willing to go out of district. Council Member Curran suggested the seller would need to get an engineer involved to check the feasibility. The cost would be on the customer for the engineer. When someone purchases the properties Water Superintendent Joe Eckam will give the customer the application and inform them they will need to ask the permission of the Hopewell Town Board.

Supervisor-William Namestnik-Resolution #1-2026-Abstract # 13-2026 and Abstract #1-2026-(Exhibit H)-A motion was made by Council Member Sanford, seconded by Council Member Faust to approve Resolution #1-2026-Abstract #13-2026 and Abstract #1-2026.

Adopted: Vote Ayes 4 Nays 0

Audit Approval of the 2025 Books- A motion was made by Council Member Faust, seconded by Council Member Curran to approve the 2025 Audited Books of the Bookkeeper, Chief Fiscal Officer, and the Town Clerk. **(Exhibit I)**

Adopted: Vote Ayes 4 Nays 0

A motion was made by Council Member Curran, seconded by Council Member Sanford to approve the 2025 Audited Books of the Court. **(Exhibit F)**

Adopted: Vote Ayes 4 Nays 0

Supervisor Namestnik named Vice Chairman of the Ontario County Board of Supervisors for 2026-On January 2, 2026 Supervisor Bill Wellman, of the Town of Phelps, was elected as Chairman of the Ontario County Board of Supervisors. Supervisor Wellman then appointed Supervisor William Namestnik as his Vice-Chairman of the Ontario County Board of Supervisors.

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Approval of Town Officials' Monthly Reports- A motion was made by Council Member Sanford, seconded by Council Member Curran to approve the Town Officials' Monthly Reports.

Adopted: Vote Ayes 4 Nays 0

Other: There will be a free Emergency Management Certification Training on February 18th at the Training Center on County Road 48 for 3 hours. Supervisor Namestnik and Code Enforcement Officer Justin Bruen will be in attendance.

Human Trafficking- (Exhibit J)-Human Trafficking Awareness Flyer

Privilege of the Floor- No one spoke for Privilege of the Floor

A motion was made by Council Member Curran, seconded by Council Member Faust to adjourn the meeting at 8:19PM.

Adopted: Vote: Ayes 4 Nays 0

Respectfully submitted, *Denise L Hood- Town Clerk February 6, 2026*

Next meeting- February 18, 2026 Opening with a Public Hearing at 7:00PM