The Town Board of the Town of Trenton held a Hearing at the Trenton Municipal Center, 8520 Old Poland Road, Barneveld, New York at 6:30 PM regarding Local Law No. 2 of 2026 – the Temporary Moratorium Prohibiting the Siting, Construction and Installation of Billboards Within the Town of Trenton. No public comment at the Hearing. Jim Mills motioned to close the hearing at 6:43 pm, seconded by Chris Crumb, 5 ayes.

The Town Board of the Town of Trenton held a Board Meeting at the Trenton Municipal Center, 8520 Old Poland Road, Barneveld, New York at 7:00 PM. Present were: Supervisor Michael Bennison, Councilmen Chris Crumb, Eric Taylor, James Farr, James Mills and Town Clerk, Rachel I. Bunker. Also present, Jason Stiehl, Kate Festine, Esquire, Joseph Rowlands, Leo Boulerice, Ken Cutler, Dave Constable, Theresa Inserra Thomas Caputo, Chris Barboza.

I. Call to Order

Supervisor Bennison called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

II. Pledge to the Flag

III. Privilege of the Floor: Chris Barboza with the Tug Hill Commission gave a presentation regarding updating the Master Plan through Tug Hill. He supplied the Board with a Comprehensive Plan Training Packet and sample resolution and answered questions from the Board. He explained the reasons for having a Master Plan; a legal foundation for zoning laws the town has in place, to make the town board competitive with funding applications and grant programs, and helps to protect and reserve historical structures and landmarks, etc. He gave them information about setting up a committee and then information about setting up meetings with that committee and the timeline to get the Master Plan completed.

IV. Officer's Reports

A. Highway Superintendent:

i. Abstract: Abstracts 261 to 285 in the amount of $50,794.78. Eric Taylor made motion to pay abstracts 261 to 285 in the amount of $50,794.78, seconded by Jim Farr, 5 ayes.

ii. Supervisor Bennison asked for a motion to accept the Moratorium from the Public Hearing. Jim Farr made motion to accept the Moratorium Prohibiting the Siting, Construction, Installation and

Siting of Billboards Within the Town of Trenton for one year that was introduced July 22, 2026 and posted in the Rome Daily Sentinel, seconded by Chris Crumb.

Michael Bennison - Aye
Eric Taylor - Aye
Jim Mills - Aye
Jim Farr - Aye
Chris Crumb – Aye

Attorney Festine advised that a moratorium will take 2 actions under SEQR. We held a meeting tonight at 6:30 pm in the Boardroom, that it was introduced at the Board Meeting of July 22, 2026 and that it was duly noticed in the Rome Daily Sentinel.

iii. **Brian Tolbert Resignation:** Eric Taylor made motion to accept Brian Tolbert Resignation, seconded by Chris Crumb, 5 ayes.

iv. **2027 Budget items:** Stiehl advised that he has a few issues. First is the DB5110.4 Diesel Fuel Billed for Maintenance of Roads. He realizes that he is looking at being $40,000 over budget. Audrey sent Jason a spreadsheet and there was confusion late last year in December through February where they were charging diesel fuel for snow removal to our road work budget for 2026. So that is $23,000 of diesel fuel that got drawn out of that account that shouldn't have. We are still looking at being a little over budget. Jason has a $107,000 oil and stone bill sitting on his desk and he is talking with them because it's about $7,000 over their quote. The paving people all went over budget. We are sitting on some money in large machinery if we want to transfer some to balance budgets out.

Issue #2 is the loader that he didn't want to get rid of last year; the transmission is gone. He had an estimate from Caterpillar for them to rebuild the transmission of about $14,000. John Deere will give us $95,000 for a trade in on a new. Stiehl recommends doing the trade in. Total price $269,000 and with the trade in of $95,000 we would owe $174,000. If we ordered it soon, it would come out of the 2027 budget. Bennison advised they will look into it when the budget gets worked on.

There was a complaint about people speeding on Putnam Rd. from Rt. 28 to Rt 12. Stiehl advised it is a heavily traveled road. The state has to approve dropping the speed limit. Stiehl said he could restrict heavy dump trucks. Festine advised the town has to do a TE9 – it

goes to the county, supposed to go to the state. Festine said to make a list of all the roads you want a TE9 done on, there will have to be a resolution and then it gets sent off to the county.
Taylor asked about the equipment they spent $10,000 on to track the speed. Stiehl advised we don't really need it to track data but to get people's attention. One on Powell Rd. is not turned on. Taylor said if there are peaks of time where it happens all the time, the sheriff's or troopers will come and sit there.

Last issue is Dead Man's Corner – Parker Hollow Rd.. Eighteen years ago the town paid to build a retaining wall, etc. It is now moving down the road a little bit further, the guardrails are loose and the ground is moving. We just repaired the guardrails and re-bolted them to retaining wall we poured because it pulled away, but we have to do something next year. There is an old concrete retaining wall there that is tipping over and as that tips, the road sinks and the new guardrails are going in with it. Crumb advised putting it on the grant list.

A. **NOCCOG:** Joe Rowlands gave an update on NOCCOG and what's coming up.
   - Webinar August 27th on Records Management.
   - Tug Hill Commission will be at the Woodman's Field Days August 21 to 23rd in Boonville.
   - Advised about the Moratorium on large data centers.
   - Resolution of support for the Tug Hill Commission.
   - Budget Workshop with Laird Petrie on August 26th, Town of Lee.
   - Everything available on the Tug Hill Website.

B. Zoning/Codes:

Zoning: Board members received report. Will review the current application regarding billboard. Boulerice will need to discuss other items during Executive Session.
Codes: Cutler provided Board with his report. Eric had a question about the building being put up on Putnam Rd. Cutler advised it is a residence and it has been permitted and monitored from the beginning.
Cutler was asked about resident setting up a day care on Trenton Falls Rd. and referred it to Leo and Theresa. Theresa said she sent her a zoning application but hasn't heard back yet.

Cutler advised that Pachura's place is being cleaned up.
139 Mappa is up for sale.
There is a problem at DG Market in the parking lot with cones and now a shopping cart with a red cone on top.
He has had calls about Trenton Meadows.
Mills wanted to talk about the clean up on the property on Steuben Valley Rd. Cutler advised it's a zoning issue. And he asked about the responses from River Hills Property about what they are doing. Cutler has been going back and forth with the people sending notes. He thought there was a protocol that we write it up, they don't respond, Theresa gives it to Benny and the Board. And the U-Haul at Jetsew. Ken believes their time has expired and that it falls back to the Town Board as to whether they take legal action or not. Ken said there are all kinds of businesses inside the building as well.
Mills advised that 160 Mappa Ave needs a placard.
Lastly Mills asked what is the capacity for the Prospect pavilion at the ballfield. Will be discussed at a later time.
Dave Constable wanted the Board to know there are 5 or 6 businesses that need to be brought up to compliance. There are 2 or 3 letters that have been sent out and are way past the time line. Theresa has the list and will get it to Kate. At the next meeting the Board can authorize Kate to proceed with legal action if necessary.
Ken was at the Recycling Center with Keith Lighthall and everything was cleared up.

C. **Supervisor Report:** Bennison asked Kate about the Wayling Solar decommissioning on Hulser Rd. Kate advised it expires in October and she will reach out to them. After looking at her files, she noticed the bond amount is wrong and will send them a letter.
Easy Stop – corner that the town owns on Rte. 12. A realtor called Bennison. Cindy's would like to either buy it or have a right of way. Bennison would like to get rid of it. Board agreed to sell. Kate advised it will be subject to permissive referendum.
Eric Taylor made motion to approve May Supervisor's Report, seconded by Jim Mills, 5 ayes.

D. **Town Clerk Report**: Local shares remitted $13,567.92.
Rachel advised that park program went well and is ending this week. They did end of year reviews for employees.
Rachel advised the next big project for Clerk's Office is dog renumeration. Looking at the report we bring in about $200 a month in dog licenses and it should be about $2,000. Rachel has talked to other towns and Colleen. She told the Board last week Colleen took

a dog to the Rome Humane Society and it was not licensed, it was roaming free in Prospect. The owners contacted me and I looked up our local law. They are on the hook to pay what we have to pay per contract with the Humane Society. The contract is $500 for each dog. They came to the office and paid us $507.00 and then $50.00 to pick up their dog from Rome.

E. **Attorney Report:**

i. **Decommissioning Bond**: Already discussed. Kate advised she has prepared 3 local laws for this Board's consideration tonight. The first one is Local Law 3 of 2026 and this is the Adoption of the 2025 State Codes in exactly the same format as the law we passed in 2022. There is an error in the title of this law that she asks the Board to amend. Also in section 20 Repeal prior legislation – we are repealing and replacing Local Law # 1 of 2022 and that needs to be switched out and the subtitle should be Local Law #3 of 2026. Chris Crumb made motion to introduce Local Law #3 of 2026, seconded by Jim Mills, 5 ayes.

Jim Mills made motion to hold a public hearing on Local Law #3 of 2026 at 6:30 pm on August 26, 2026, seconded by Eric Taylor, 5 ayes.

Next is Local Law #4 of 2026. This is a local law requiring ownership and intended business use disclosures for commercial property acquisitions within the Town of Trenton. This is a local law we are passing pursuant to Section 130, subdivision 15 of the Town Law in Section 136 of the Town Law for the licensing and regulation of occupations and businesses in governing the promotion of public welfare in the town. This will allow us to make mandatory notification of the town when a commercial property is purchased or a business moves in, they will have to tell us what the business is and will have to notify the zoning enforcement officer so he can figure out if they need any further permitting. It will also require that if it's a corporation, they will have to disclose who the principles are and who the contact person is. Cutler asked for discussion on the matter. Long conversation ensued. Kate will make amendments to the Local Law. Eric Taylor made motion to introduce Local Law #4 with the amendments, seconded by Chris Crumb, 5 ayes.

Jim Mills made motion to hold a Public Hearing on Local Law #4 of 2026 at 6:30 pm on August 26, 2026, seconded by Jim Farr, 5 ayes.

Finally, is Local Law #5 of 2026 – a local law to amend Chapter 200, Zoning Code of the Town of Trenton which regulates Roadside stands for homemade woodcrafts and small produce. Issue recently came up because someone wanted to sell sheds which nobody found objectionable, but it is not eligible for a use variance. The woodcrafts requires that they are locally handcrafted by local residents of the Town of Trenton or neighboring municipalities or by the operator of the roadside stand and the sale of mass manufactured or commercially manufactured or commercially wholesaled wooden products is prohibited. Long discussion ensued regarding the wording.

Jim Mills introduced Local Law #5 of 2026, seconded by Chris Crumb, 5 ayes.
Jim Farr made motion to hold a Public Hearing on Local Law # 5 of 2026 at 6:30 pm on August 26, 2026, seconded by Jim Mills, 5 ayes.

Kate provided update on the Millers lawsuit. Judge brought them into conference to see if there was any way to resolve it. Kate said there is no law that would prohibit them from having a cultural operation, a timber operation as defined under the Agricultural and Markets Law that it is limited by how they are acquiring the wood; it has to be from land they own or lease and the income they make from it can't exceed their total agricultural income. They refused to cease operations, so there was a hearing. Judge Randall will have a decision in a couple of weeks. Cutler advised that if this doesn't go our way in court, we need to discuss that we now have a factory. Wait and see.

ii. **Buildings & Grounds:** Keith submitted an overview of everything that is going on and where we are to the Board. They are about half way done with the coating of the short roof at the garage. Recycling Center should be fully operational by the end of next week.

B. Resolutions:

A. Approve July 22, 2026 Meeting Minutes: Jim Farr made motion to approve July 22, 2026 minutes, seconded by Eric Taylor, 5 ayes.

B. Abstracts:

i. **Hinckley:** Eric Taylor made motion to approve Hinckley abstracts number 16 and 17 in the amount of $93.30, seconded by Chris Crumb, 5 ayes.

ii. **General:** Jim Mills made motion to approve General vouchers numbered 653 to 791 in the amount of $386,596.10, seconded by Chris Crumb, 5 ayes.

C. **Prospect Scholarships:** Bennison said the Hart Scholarship is still available. He spoke with Ally Campbell and she confirmed. Eric Taylor made motion to approve the list of awardees for the Prospect Scholarship fund, seconded by Jim Mills, 5 ayes.

C. Priority Issues:

A. **Waste Water Funding:** Bennison advised they did turn down the money previously awarded and are reapplying for the grant.

B. **Trenton Falls Trails:** Still up in the air as to whether they will be opened in the fall. Tramp and Trails is not interested. Audrey said she may do it with volunteers and a stipend. Eric Taylor made motion to approve Audrey Pincott as Director for the Trenton Falls Trails with volunteers and the stipend, seconded by Chris Crumb, 5 ayes.

C. **Amish Sawmill Update:** Talked about previously.

D. **Bridge Contract:** Bennison advised they are going to have to take out a bond. Kate advised they may want to start working on it now because of the budget season coming up. Bennison does not want to go long term. They are looking at 15 years for $500,000. Kate advised the Bank of Green County has been doing a lot of municipal bonds. Once you get the rate, then you get bond counsel involved. Paul Michael, the long time bond counsel is retired. The person taking over that work now is Tom Clifford. The board has been introduced through emails with BCA on water and wastewater and is already involved with us. Kate will give him a heads up and Bennison will start looking for a bank.

E. **AYSO:** Rachel advised AYSO wants permission to use the athletic facilities for their fall season over at the Fish Hatchery field. Eric Taylor made motion to allow AYSO to use the athletic facility at Fish Hatchery Rd. for the fall season, seconded by Chris Crumb, 5 ayes.

F. **Roadside Stand:** William Nichols on Parker Hollow Rd. put in an application for a roadside stand permit to sell vegetables. Chris Crumb made motion to accept Roadside Stand application for William Nichols, seconded by Jim Mills, 5 ayes.

D. Committees:

A. Planning Board: Theresa advised they approved a couple of things; nothing major.

B. ZBA: Met on July 13th to discuss use variance for Schwartzentruber on 365 and Mapledale to construct their shed business. She drafted a letter with a set of criteria and not all 4 of them were met, so he cannot build sheds.

C. Greenbelt:

D. Infrastructure:

Theresa Inserra: Bennison advised he received a letter from Theresa that her last day will be October 10th. Jim Mills made motion to accept Theresa Inserra's resignation, seconded by Eric Taylor, 5 ayes.

Eric Taylor asked where we stand with the water district. We have to move along because we got the first grant over a year ago. Kate advised we are working on that with Environmental Facilities Corp. We are working to see if more grant money will come in. When we formed the district we formed it based on the assumption of a certain amount of grant money and a certain amount of user cost. The district is formed based on the cost per user. We have to wait for the right amount of grant funds or else we have to do an amendment to the district. Taylor said it was his understanding that before Steve left we were at about $7 or $8 million of the $10 million for the water for Barneveld. Taylor advised that there are 3 other water districts in the town; Rt 365 is 1.1 miles from one water district to the other. A study was already done on this 10 years ago. There are also 6 users on and near Prospect Depot Rd. that are tapped in and we are trying to figure out if that was legal. Crumb advised that the Health Department is on it as to whether or not we are actually consolidating. BCA is working on the definition and the details of consolidation but the guy from the Health Dept was very concerned about those 6 users.

Crumb said Don Ehre has the list of the users of the properties that we want to include in these 3 areas we want to make one water district. Long discussion ensued.
Eric Taylor made motion to move forward on the 3 water district, seconded by Chris Crumb, 5 ayes.

E. Communications:

A. Next Meeting August 26, 2026 at 7:00 pm

B. Executive Session: Jim Mills made motion to go into Executive Session at 8:10 pm for privileged discussions with town attorney, seconded by Eric Taylor, 5 ayes.

Jim Farr made motion to come out of Executive Session at 9:45 pm seconded by Chris Crumb, 5 ayes. Taylor Mills requested $100.00 per diem wage per day. Eric Taylor made motion to pay Taylor Mills, seconded by Chris Crumb, 3 ayes. Jim Mills and Jim Farr abstained.

A. Adjournment:

Jim Mills made motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:50 pm, seconded by Chris Crumb, 5 ayes.

Respectfully submitted,

Rachel I. Bunker

Rachel I. Bunker
Town Clerk