

APPROVED
9/8/2025

August 11, 2025
Town of Taghkanic
Town Board Meeting

 Note all documents in these minutes may be clicked on and enlarged for easier reading

Town Board Members audited and signed vouchers August 9, 10 and 11th.

7 pm: The Taghkanic Town Board held its Regular meeting on the above date with a combination of Supervisor Ryan Skoda, Board Members, Town Clerk, 4 residents at the Taghkanic Town Hall and 0 residents attending via Zoom.

Present:	Ryan Skoda	Supervisor	
	Elisabeth Albert	Board Member	ZOOM
	Perry Ascher	Board Member	
	Doug Craig	Board Member	
	Linda Mirabelli	Board Member	
	Cheryl Rogers	Clerk	
	Eric Gaylord	Highway Superintendent	

Absent:



Guest Speaker: NONE

Supervisor Ryan Skoda then asked for a motion to approve the following minutes:

July 14, 2025: Town Board Regular meeting minutes were accepted as written on a motion by **Board Member Linda Mirabelli** seconded by **Board Member Doug Craig**.

Approved 5 Aye (Ryan, Elisabeth, Perry, Doug, Linda)
 0 Nays
 0 Absent

The Correspondence:

- a) NYS Department of Taxation and Finance, Assessor appointment
- b) Brittany Santarelli, requesting reappointment
- c) Dan Aitchison, Hudson valley Beaver Strategies LLC
 **Board Member Elisabeth Albert:** I share an email from Dan outlining a maintenance plan/guarantee for \$325 a year. **Board Member Elisabeth Albert** contact Dan for more details.
- d) Taghkanic/Verizon timeline—July 22 call summary
 **Supervisor Ryan Skoda:** I asked **Chief Hilscher** if the Fire Company had any conversations with Verizon Cell? He said no but with Verizon Telephone.
- e) Albert Christiana, County Route 11

Reports from the Boards:

Animal Control: Kyle Miller, no report submitted.

ZBA: James Romaine, Chair, no meeting no report submitted.

Planning Board: Katherine Bainer, Chair report submitted.  20251118 REPORT.pdf

Assessor: Brittany Santarelli: report submitted.



- Board Member Linda Mirabelli: please ask Brittany to add Assessor Report at top.

ZEO/CEO/Building Inspector: Dennis Callahan report submitted.



- Board Member Elisabeth Albert: can we ask Dennis to include in his report how many STR Applications he's received and how many inspection he's done?
- Supervisor Ryan Skoda: I will ask him to do that.
- Board Member Perry Ascher: have we received anything from Granicus?
- Supervisor Ryan Skoda: anything from Granicus will go to Dennis.

Historian: Nancy Griffith, report submitted.



Traffic Safety Board: Board Member Linda Mirabelli: report submitted:



Environmental Management Council: Robert Brush no report submitted:

Office for the Aging: Celine Kagan and Susan Silverman, report submitted:



Clerk/Collector: Cheryl Rogers, reports were submitted to the Board.



Supervisor: Ryan Skoda, report submitted.



Highway: Eric Gaylord, report submitted.



Superintendent Eric Gaylord not a bad month we paved some needed area on Syndertown Road, Old Oak and an apron on Conera Road. We did have a few equipment break downs:

- Grader: will need to send out for repairs. Made arrangements with County to haul it to Alta Equipment, \$127.00 an hour. I privet hauler would cost way more.
- Backhoe hydraulic hoses fixed in house.
- Paver fixing in house
- JD Tractor w/boom: fixing in house

I would like to look into a side arm mower for the JD Tractor it would be safer and practical, we would still use the boom arm mower. I am asking for permission to seek bids for the side arm mower. **Board Member Elisabeth Albert** motioned to grant permission for **Superintendent Eric Gaylord** to seek bids for the side arm mower for the JD Tractor, seconded by **Board Member Linda Mirabelli**.

Approved 5 Aye (Ryan, Elisabeth, Perry, Doug, Linda)
0 Nays
0 Absent

Superintendent Eric Gaylord: FYI Next year backhoe with enclose cab with broom. I will also get an update on the delivery of the two new trucks.

Fran Murcott Update: Fran has delivered maps showing the turn-around which will be maintained by the Town and showing the gate has been moved.

- Supervisor Ryan Skoda I will contact Attorney Howard and see what the next steps are. Everything looks correct on the maps.

Advisory Board reports:

Financial Advisory Committee Report: Board Member Linda Mirabelli,
meets Friday.



The FAC

Conservation Advisory Committee/Climate Smart Community: *Board Member Doug Craig*: no report

- ✚ Board Member Doug Craig: would like to start working on the grant app for the culvert but I am still unable to see anything in the SFS Portal.
- ✚ Tony LaSakvia: reported he has completed the Environmental Justice Survey for the Town of Taghkanic there was only one section that pertained to the town affordable house.
- ✚ Supervisor Ryan Skoda; the recording monitors for the tree-for-tribs have been collected.

Digital Communication Advisory Committee: *Nadja Palenzuel* no meeting held.

Columbia County Climate Smart Community Task Force: *Board Member Elisabeth Albert* no meeting

Old Business:

1. **New Town Hall:** *Supervisor Ryan Skoda, Andy for Taconic Engineering* still waiting for DEC to certify the survey maps with the elevation lines.
2. **Sample Shipping Container LL present to the Board by ZEO Callahan in December:** *Supervisor Ryan Skoda* we need to table this until Dennis has more time or we draft the law ourselves.
3. **Court Attorney/Special Counselor:** *Supervisor Ryan Skoda:* I have not contacted Ann Weaver; it fell off my radar. I have been very busy this month.
 - ✚ *Board Member Perry* offered to contact Ann Weaver
 - ✚ *Supervisor Ryan Skoda:* agree for Board member to be point contact.
4. **Budget Workshop:**
 - ✚ September 15, 2025 at 6:30 pm
 - ✚ October 20, 2025 At 6:30 pm
5. **Zoning Review dates:**
 - ✚ August 18, 2025 at 6:30 pm TB homework Section 40, have all question written down
 - ✚ September 25, 2025 at 6:30 pm
 - ✚ October 27, 2025 at 6:30 pm

New Business:

1. **October 2025 Calendar:** *Board Member Linda Mirabelli* motioned to accept the October 2025 calendar with the additional meeting dates, seconded by *Board Member Perry Ascher*.

Approved 5 Aye (*Ryan, Elisabeth, Perry, Doug, Linda*)
 0 Nays
 0 Absent

2. **Assessor Appointment next term will begin October 1, 2025 and end September 30, 2031:** *Board Member Linda Mirabelli* motioned to appoint Brittany Santarelli as the Assessor for the term October 1, 2025 – September 30, 2031, seconded by *Board Member Elisabeth Albert*.

Approved 5 Aye (*Ryan, Elisabeth, Perry, Doug, Linda*)
 0 Nays
 0 Absent

3. **Taghkanic Fire Company Proposal:** *Paul Nostrand and Tony LaSalvia, Directors Taghkanic Volunteer Co.* the fire company is proposing to build an addition on Station #2 to house additional equipment for the eastern portion of the district protection area and also to provide a secure room for the district fire Commissioners. We are asking for the town to suppress the town Zoning Regulations for the balancing of public interest.

✚ **Board Member Perry Ascher:** do Donay Queenan and Polly Horton know what the fire district is proposing?

✚ **Paul Nostrand:** yes, also we are meeting with them to show them the survey map with the proposed project later this week.

✚ **Supervisor Ryan Skoda:** we will need to follow the Monroe test and set a public hearing for next month. **Board Member Perry Ascher** motioned to set a Public Hearing September 8, 2025 for 7 pm, seconded by **Board Member Elisabeth Albert**.



Approved 5 Aye (Ryan, Elisabeth, Perry, Doug, Linda)
 0 Nays
 0 Absent

4. **Resolution 11 – 2025 Medicare Supplement insurance Retirees:** *Board Member Linda Mirabelli* motioned to approve Resolution 11 - 2025 Medicare Supplement insurance Retirees, seconded by **Board Member Doug Craig**.

Approved 5 Aye (Ryan, Elisabeth, Perry, Doug, Linda)
 0 Nays
 0 Absent

5. **Resolution 12 – 2025 Standard Workday Resolution:** *Board Member Doug Craig* **Board** motioned to approve Resolution 12 – 2025 Standard Workday Resolution, seconded by **Member Perry Ascher**.

Approved 5 Aye (Ryan, Elisabeth, Perry, Doug, Linda)
 0 Nays
 0 Absent

The bills were audited and approved for payment as follows:

- ✚ **July 25, 2025 Abstract:** on a motion by **Board Member Linda Mirabelli**, was approved for payment, seconded by **Board Member Perry Ascher**.

2025 General Fund Vouchers	# 225 - 236	\$	10,715.68
2025 Highway Fund Vouchers	#	\$	

Approved 5 Aye (Ryan, Elisabeth, Perry, Doug, Linda)
 0 Nays
 0 Absent

- ✚ **August 11, 2025 Abstract:** on a motion by **Board Member Linda Mirabelli**, was approved for payment, seconded by **Board Member Perry Ascher**.

2025 General Fund Vouchers	# 237 - 260	\$	12,492.51
2025 Highway Fund Vouchers	# 65 - 76	\$	60,710.17

Approved 5 Aye (Ryan, Elisabeth, Perry, Doug, Linda)
 0 Nays

0 Absent

The following people commented during the fifteen minute public comment:

Executive Session: none

With no further business, on a motion by ***Board Member Linda Mirabelli***, seconded by ***Board Member Doug Craig*** the meeting was adjourned at **8:40** pm, carried unanimously by all members present. The next Regular meeting will be **September 8, 2025** at the Taghkanic Town Hall.

Audience at Town Hall: Arthur Griffith Tony LaSalvia Paul Norstrand Fran Murcott

Audience via Zoom: