DRAFT
08/25/2026
w/suggested chages from CR

August 10, 2026
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 8, 9. And 10.

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, 6 residents at the Taghkanic Town Hall and 3 residents attending via Zoom.

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

Absent:

Guest Speaker: **Thea Schoep, Claverack Library** Thea Schoep, Claverack Library PRE:
Nancy Rutter representing the Roeliff Jansen Community Library

Supervisor Ryan Skoda then asked for a motion to approve the following minutes:
July 13, 2026: Town Board Regular meeting minutes were accepted as written on a motion by ***Board Member Linda Mirabelli*** seconded by ***Board Member Hannah Calhoun.***
Approved ***5 Aye*** ***(Ryan, Elisabeth, Perry, Hannah, Linda)***
0 Nays
0 Absent
August 5, 2026: Town Board Zoning Review meeting minutes were accepted as written on a motion by ***Board Member Linda Mirabelli*** seconded by ***Board Member Hannah Calhoun.***
Approved ***5 Aye*** ***(Ryan, Elisabeth, Perry, Hannah, Linda)***
0 Nays
0 Absent

The Correspondence:

a) Ray Colgrove, Letter of interest ZBA
b) Ron BelBruno, Letter of interest ZBA
c) Greg Chwiecko, Williamson President/CEO, Software increase for 2027
d) Richard F. Laberge, P.E. President, Budgeting for Grant Readiness and Project Development
e) Kim Volpe, Animal Health Inspector, NYS Agriculture and Markets, Shelter Inspection Report
f) Karen Quinn, NYS Department of Taxation and Finance, 2025 Cyclical Aid Certification
g) Stawnychy, Monthly report Taghkanic Fire Co.
h) Repeat Business, copier quote
i) Columbia County Office for the Aging, Public Hearing Notice
j) Heidi K. Bock, VP Columbia Land Conservancy PILOT payment in Lieu of Taxes

Reports from the Boards:

Animal Control: *Kyle Miller*, report submitted. 260810 Monthly dog report.pdf

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

Planning Board: *Katherine Bainer*, Chair report submitted. 260810 PB REPORT.pdf

Assessor: *Brittany Santarelli*: report submitted. 260810 Report_Assessor - Jul

ZEO/CEO/Building Inspector: *Dennis Callahan* report submitted. 260810 ZEO REPORT.pdf 260810 2026 Permit Log (7).pdf

- ***Board Member Perry Ascher:*** Asking if Dennis has had any resolution with the bank on the property on Old Route 82 the on e closest to Jean Feinberg?
- ***Superintendent Gaylord:*** I had a conversation with the owner**,** they have moved across the river. Dennis Callahan has asked when I see him there again to let him know.

Historian: *Nancy Griffith*, no report submitted.

Traffic Safety Board: *Board Member Linda Mirabelli*, report submitted 260810 TRAFFICE SAFETY REPORT.pdf

- ***Board Member Perry Ascher:*** In the report there was nothing reported about the two Speed limit request for Route 82 and County Route 27.
- ***Board Linda Mirabelli:*** The Traffic Safety Board makes no decisions on those requests. The requests go to NYSDOT the County DOT, the Traffic Safety Board is informed of the requests.
- ***Clerk Rogers:*** the request to NYSDOT was returned to me as I addressed it wrong and has been resent to correct address.

Environmental Management Council: *Robert Brush* NO report submitted:

Office for the Aging: *Celine Kagan and Susan Silverman*, NO report submitted:

- ***Celine Kagan:*** the TSN scrabble event was won by Linda Mirabelli a great time was had by all.

Clerk/Collector: *Cheryl Rogers*, reports were submitted to the Board. 260810 Town Clerk Monthly Report.pdf

Supervisor: *Ryan Skoda*, report submitted. 260810 Town of Taghkanic 7.31.26 fina

- ***Board Member Perry Ascher:*** any updates on the STR tax collection?
- ***Supervisor Ryan Skoda***: The County is negotiating with Graicus to iron out the problems with the collection of the STR taxes.

Highway: *Eric Gaylord*, report submitted. 260810 HIGHWAY REPORT.pdf

- ***Superintendent Eric Gaylord:*** Salt Shed cover has been repaired. Just an FYI I will be asking in the future about needing more storage for the equipment, (adding on to the storage shed).
- ***Board Member Perry Ascher***: I greatly appreciate the hard work and prompt attention to the storm damage on New Forge Road last month helping to restore safe travel conditions for our residents and motorists.
- ***Board Member Betsy Albert***: informing Superintendent Gaylord about storm debris on Near Road partially blocking the road. Also beavers on Sopok Road.

Advisory Board reports:

Financial Advisory Committee Report: ***Board Member Linda Mirabelli*** 260810 FAC Monthly Report to Town Boarc

Conservation Advisory Committee/Climate Smart Community: ***Co-Chair Charlene and Peter Paden***: 260810 CAC-CSC Report July 2026.pdf 260810 Solicitation of Interest.pdf 260810 DRAFT 7_23_26 Meeting Min

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

- **Columbia County Climate Smart Community Task Force:** ***Board Member Elisabeth Albert***

Old Business:

A. Old and New Town Hall:

Old TH*: Supervisor Ryan Skoda:* I have met with another plumber about the hot water hook up we are on his schedule.

New TH: ***Supervisor Ryan Skoda:*** I am in contact with both parcel owners keeping them up to date with our progress to purchase their properties. I have instructed Attorney Howard to draft contracts for the purchase of each. Attorney Howard has paperwork for the removal of the deed restrictions from the Catholic Diocese and has found two relatives of the Ilenburg family and will reaching out to them for the help with the removal of that deed restriction.

B. Zoning Review dates:

- **August 25 2026 at 6:30 pm**

C. ZBA Open Seat Appointment:

- ***Board Member Linda Mirabelli*** motioned to appoint **Raymond Cogrove** as **ZBA Member** term ending December 31, 2029, seconded by ***Board Member Elisabeth Albert.***

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

- ***Board Member Linda Mirabelli*** motioned to appoint **Ron Bel Bruno** as **ZBA Alternate Member** term ending December 31, 2026, seconded by ***Board Member Elisabeth Albert.***

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

D. Notice for Deputy Building Inspector: no response, Clerk will repost.

E. Notice for RFP Culvert Replacement/Rehabilitation Project: no response

- ***Doug Craig***: Since we received no responses to our RFP for the culvert, can the board approve going forward with trout Unlimited has our contractor for the culvert? Also, Taconic Engineering, since that role was also described in the RFP. I'm going to talk to trout Unlimited and see if they can actually make them a subcontractor, since we've actually had no direct interaction with them.
- ***Supervisor Ryan Skoda***: we will need something in writing from Trout Unlimited.

New Business:

A. **October 2026 Calendar:** ***Board Member Linda Mirabelli*** motioned to accept the October 2026 Calendar as presented seconded by ***Board Member Elisabeth Albert.***

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

B. **Resolution 14-2026 Congratulating Eagle Scout Brayden Skoda:** ***Board Member Linda Mirabelli*** motioned to approve Resolution 14 – 2026 Congratulating Eagle Scout Brayden Skoda, seconded by ***Board Member Elisabeth Albert***

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

C. **Budget Amendment 3-2026:** ***Board Member Elisabeth Albert*** motioned to approve Budget Amendment # 3-2026 as presented seconded by ***Board Member Linda Mirabelli***.

Town of Taghkanic					
10-Aug-26		**Budget Amendment #3-2026**			
			Increase		**Decrease**
GENERAL FUND					
INSURANCE		**A1910.4**	**317.00**		
GARAGE CONT		**A5132.4**	**18,000.00**		
Unappropriated Fund Balance					**18,317.00**
			18,317.00		**18,317.00**
HIGHWAY INTERFUND TRANSFER					
MACHINERY PARTS		**DA5130.41**	**10,000.00**		
BRUSH		**DA5140.4**	**1,100.00**		
SNOW REMOVAL CONT		**DA5142.4**	**10,000.00**		
CONT. UNPAVED		**DA5110.43**			**21,100.00**
			21,100.00		**21,100.00**

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

D. **Budget 2027 Workshop Dates:**

- **September 8, 2026 7 pm**

The bills were audited and approved for payment as follows:

- **July 25, 2026 Abstract:** on a motion by ***Board Member Linda Mirabelli***, was approved for payment, seconded by ***Board Member Hannah Calhoun.***

2026 General Fund Vouchers	#	247	-	256	$	13,215.17
2026 Highway Fund Vouchers	#	79	-		$	

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

- **August 10, 2026 Abstract:** on a motion by on a motion by ***Board Member Linda Mirabelli***, was approved for payment, seconded by ***Board Member Hannah Calhoun.***

2026 General Fund Vouchers	#	257	-	277	$	25,361.08
2026 Highway Fund Vouchers	#	79	-	91	$	43,093.81

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

The following people commented during the fifteen minute public comment:

- ***Scott Marinoff:*** I am in attendance to support for the libraries
- ***Board Member Perry Ascher:*** asked Board Member Linda Mirabelli if the FAC meeting could be moved to Friday instead of Thursday?
- ***Board Member Linda Mirabelli:*** agreed to the change and will contact Elaine of the change.

Executive Session: None

8 pm: The Town Board continued the meeting with Zoning Review.

***Board Member Linda Mirabelli*:** started with

- Affordable Housing/Senior Housing 80d6F
- Use table: 40-C Prohibited Uses and making sure there were definitions for each of the prohibited uses.

With no further business, on a motion by ***Board Member Linda Mirabelli***, seconded by ***Board Member Hannah Calhoun*** the meeting was adjourned at **9:05** pm, carried unanimously by all members present. The next Regular meeting will be **September 14, 2026** at the Taghkanic Town Hall.

Audience at Town Hall:	Thea Schoep	Susan Soltano	Mario Verna	Nancy Rutter
	Alice Platt	Scott Marinoff		
Audience via Zoom:	Celine Kagan	Joyce Thompson	Barbara Hermance	