

Town Board Minutes
February 10, 2026
Local Law 1/23 Public Hearing
Override Tax Cap Limit 2027 Budget

The monthly town board meeting held on February 10, 2026, at 56 Geneva St. Dresden New York was called to order by Supervisor Peter Martini at 7:30PM.

Present: Supervisor Pete Martini, Council; Colby Petersen, Bruce Henderson, Kathleen McGrath, Robert Miller

Others present: George Thompson, George Dowse, Grant Downs, Gary McIntee, Donna Rae Sutherland, Dwight James, Tim Chambers

Mr. Martini led the pledge of allegiance.

Mr. Martini opened the public hearing on Local Law 1 / 26 to Override the tax levy limit established in General Municipal Law §3-c; With no one desiring to speak in support or opposition of this law, Mr. Martini moved on to business.

January minutes: Motion by Ms. McGrath 2nd Mr. Petersen to approve January minutes carried by all.

Abstract of vouchers - Mr. Martini presented the abstracts.

Motion by Mr. Miller, 2nd Ms. McGrath that the bills on the General A & B Accounts in the amount of \$ 8,516.11 be paid, carried by all.

Motion by Mr. Petersen 2nd Ms. McGrath, the bills on the Highway DA & DB Accounts in the amount of \$19,775.00 be paid, carried by all.

Mr. Martini presented a letter of resignation from Robert Constantine. Mr. Constantine, in his letter, stated he has enjoyed serving the residents of the Town of Torrey and working with board members. He wrote it is time for a new member to provide fresh input to ZBA.

Mr. Miller made a motion to accept Mr. Constantine's resignation with sincere appreciation for his service to the residents, 2nd Mr. Petersen carried by all.

Appointments: Mr. Miller made a motion 2nd Ms. McGrath to appoint Chad Nelson to the Planning Board for a term to 2031, Mary O'Connell to the Zoning Board of Appeal term to 2028, Carried. Planning Board is now a full board, ZBA has a vacant seat.

Supervisor presented LL 2-26:

Motion by Ms. McGrath 2nd Mr. Miller to set a public hearing on

Local Law 2-26 "A LOCAL LAW TO ADOPT CERTAIN BENEFITS UNDER §458-B OF THE REAL PROPERTY TAX LAW AUTHORIZING ALTERNATIVE TAX EXEMPTIONS FOR COLD WAR VETERANS"

WHEREAS, the Town Board of the Town of Torrey, after due deliberation, finds it in the best interests of the Town to schedule a public hearing to solicit public comment upon a proposed Local Law entitled "A Local Law to Adopt Certain Benefits Under §458-b of the Real Property Tax Law Authorizing Alternative Tax Exemptions for Cold War Veterans"; and

WHEREAS, the Town Board of the Town of Torrey has reviewed the draft of the aforementioned proposed Local Law attached hereto as Exhibit "1" and deems it in the best interests of the Town of Torrey to proceed in accordance with the Code of the Town of Torrey and the Laws of the State of New York in adopting said Local Law,

WHEREAS, this action by the Town Board is a "Type II" action under the regulations promulgated by authority contained in the State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQRA), which appear in 6 NYCRR Part 617.5, thereby requiring no further action by the Town Board, in that Part 617.5 (c) states that actions that are not subject to review under SEQRA include, "(33) adoption of regulations, policies, procedures and local legislative decisions in connection with any action on this list" and subsection (26) on this list includes "routine or continuing agency administration and management, not including new programs or major reordering of priorities that may affect the environment". This action involves continuing agency administration and management in that it will address continuing administration and management regarding Town taxation.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Clerk be, and she hereby is, directed to schedule a public hearing to be held on February 26, 2026, at 7:00 p.m. at the Torrey Town Hall, 56 Geneva Street, Dresden, New York; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Town Clerk, be and hereby is, authorized to forward to the official newspaper of the Town a Notice of Public Hearing in the form substantially the same as that attached hereto as Exhibit "2"; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Town Clerk be, and she hereby is, directed to post a copy of the proposed Local Law on the Town of Torrey sign board and take all other necessary actions to properly bring the aforementioned Local Law before the Town Board of the Town of Torrey for its consideration.

Roll Call Vote: Supervisor Martini- Aye Councilmen: Petersen Aye Henderson - Aye McGrath Aye, Miller Aye (5 Ayes 0 Nays) carried.

June Clean Up: Following a brief discussion, Mr. Martini set the Clean Up date June 20th 8-2 PM

Highway Report: Due to winter storm Mr. Chambers is plowing, brief discussion on Hunt Engineering invoices, DOT will reimburse Town up to design phase only.

Code Report: Submitted by Dwight James, 1 CoC issued, 1 Area Variance app., 1 Site visit, 1 Violation inspection, 1 meeting w Soil & Water, 2 special incidents, 108 miles traveled.

Assessor Report: Submitted by Stephanie Holtz, 6 Sales for the end of November.

3 sales for December. Village of Dresden adopted the Cold War Veterans Exemption for the 2026 roll. Water District 1 was calculated with 57 units but did not update the special assessment roll to 57, this resulted in lower EDU calculation sent to taxpayers. Apologize for any inconvenience this may have caused.

Submitted Inventory Legal Notice for March 1st.

Attended online class for Valuation Factor Files for commercial properties sponsored by another municipality.

Water District 1: Submitted by Jayson Hoover, BACT. T and Chlorine testing per DOH requirements, flushing to maintain CL2, Marking Dig Safe tickets.

Fire Dept. Report: Submitted by Chief Jeremy Henries

Tax Collector Report: \$ 1,761,743.12, collected, Supervisor received \$ 860,778. & \$ 332.97 Water re-levy, Yates Co. Treasurer has received \$ 850,000 to date.

Planning Board: George Dowse- Chairman reported undertaking the updating on zoning laws with Code Officer. Comprehensive Plan will need updating suggest board keep this in considering in future budget process.

Perry Pt Water District: Supervisor reported CPL Engineering and Municipal Solutions are working on the MPR and SEQRA. Reviewing costing on two water routes, one from Village at Kings Hill other along Rte. 14 south under bridge.

Water District 1 George Thompson discussed the EDU cost, there are more part time residents which creates financial stress due to less water sales.

Gary McIntee stated a concern came to him from a resident on Davy Road with concerns about water charges, unsure of his EDU charges.

There is also a concern of septic odor on Rock Haven Beach. Mr. Petersen stated this has been addressed by Yates Co Soil & Water. Supervisor presented 2025 WD 1 water report. Discussion on amount of water used for flushing. Chlorine dissipation during the summer causes increase water used during flushing.

George Thompson addressed the board about the December dated letter about WD 1 sent to property owners.

He presented a petition to the Town Board with 33 signers, all property owners in Torrey Water District 1.

This petition read as follows:

As property owner within the Town of Torrey water District One, I request the Town of Torrey Board to require the engineer planning the water district for Perry Point, Arrowhead, and Rock Haven, or Angus Point in the Town of Benton, and any other contractor chosen to do any water district project to incorporate into, use up, the stockpile of unused surplus pipe and fittings left over from Torey Water District One before ordering any new materials.

Supervisor stated the engineer is aware, also the Highway Superintendent has informed other Town Hwy Superintendents with water districts, of the surplus stockpile Torrey has.

Mr. Chambers has also spoken with Village of Dresden officials, informing them of the surplus pipe and extras available.

Dresden is about to go out to bid on a water infrastructure project.

Donna Rae Sutherland inquired on a date for the Third Annual Community roadside clean up, suggested date April 18th 10 am to 1PM meet at the village of Dresden pavilion, rain or shine.

She spoke on the plans for the 175th Town Time capsule project.

Grant Downs presented draft of letter going out to businesses/organizations for memorabilia to be placed in capsule. He is working with teacher Margot Martini to encourage students to take part in the celebration capsule.

Mr. Downs would like to turn over two town board duties he has performed for many years as Councilman.

He spearheaded the public beach improvement projects funded by grants thru Yates County. Ms. McGrath stated she would be glad to work with the Tim Chambers and highway department on this project.

Mr. Downs was a town representative and board member of SWIO (Seneca Watershed Intermunicipal Organization)

Mr. Miller volunteered to be town board representative at the SWIO meeting March 31st at Yates County building at 7:00pm

Supervisor asked if anyone would like to speak on Local Law 1/26
With no response **The public hearing was closed at 8:45pm.**

He offered the following resolution to adopt the Local Law 01/26

WHEREAS, a resolution was duly adopted by the Town Board of the Town of Torrey for a public hearing to be held by said Town Board on February 10 , 2026, at 7:30 p.m. at Torrey Town Hall, 56 Geneva Street, Dresden, New York, to hear all interested parties on a proposed Local Law to override the tax levy limit established in General Municipal Law §3-c; and

WHEREAS, notice of said public hearing was duly advertised in the official newspaper of the Town of Torrey, on January 29 & February 5, 2026, and all other notices required by law to be given were properly served, posted or given; and

WHEREAS, said public hearing was duly held on February 10, 2026, at 7:30 p.m. at the Torrey Town Hall, 56 Geneva Street, Dresden, New York, and all parties in attendance were permitted an opportunity to speak on behalf of or in opposition to said Proposed Local Law, or any part thereof; and

WHEREAS, the Town Board of the Town of Torrey, after due deliberation, finds it in the best interest of the Town of Torrey to adopt said Local Law.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Torrey hereby adopts said Local Law No. 1 of 2026, entitled, "A local law to override the tax levy limit established in General Municipal Law §3-c", a copy of which is attached hereto and made a part of this resolution, and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Town Clerk be and she hereby is directed to enter said Local Law in the minutes of this meeting and in the Local Law Book of the Town of Torrey, and to give due notice of the adoption of said local law to the Secretary of State of New York.

Roll Call Vote: Supervisor Martini- Aye Councilmen: Petersen Aye Henderson - Aye McGrath Aye, Miller Aye (5 Ayes 0 Nays) carried

Supervisor offered the following resolution for **Special Districts:**

WHEREAS, the Town Board of the Town of Torrey is the governing body of the special districts and/or fire protection districts set forth in the Schedule attached hereto and made a part hereof; and

WHEREAS, it is the intent of this resolution to override the limit on the amount of real property taxes that may be levied by the Town of Torrey, on behalf of the aforesaid special districts and/or fire protection districts, pursuant to General Municipal Law §3-c, and to allow the Town of Torrey, on behalf of the aforesaid special districts

and/or fire protection districts, to adopt a budget for the fiscal year 2027 that requires a real property tax levy in excess of the "tax levy limit" as defined by General Municipal Law §3-c; and

WHEREAS, this resolution is adopted pursuant to subdivision 5 of General Municipal Law §3-c, which expressly authorizes a local government's governing body to override the tax levy limit for the coming fiscal year by the adoption of a local law approved by a vote of sixty percent (60%) of said governing body.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Torrey, County of Yates, is hereby authorized to adopt a budget for the fiscal year **2027** on behalf of the special districts and/or fire protection districts set forth in the Schedule attached hereto and made a part hereof that requires a real property tax levy in excess of the amount otherwise prescribed in General Municipal Law §3-c.

Roll Call Vote: Supervisor Martini- Aye Councilmen: Petersen Aye Henderson - Aye McGrath Aye, Miller Aye (5 Ayes 0 Nays) carried.

There being no further business before the board Ms. McGrath made a motion to adjourn 2nd Mr. Miller carried at 8:59PM, carried.

Respectfully submitted

Betty M Daggett