

**TOWN OF ESOPUS  
TOWN BOARD MEETING  
June 26, 2025, 7:00 PM**

A regularly scheduled Town Board Meeting was held in person on June 26, 2025, at 1 Town Hall Way, Ulster Park. The following persons were in attendance:

**Councilman Laura Robinson  
Councilman Evelyn Clarke  
Councilman Kathie Quick  
Councilman Jared Geuss  
Supervisor Danielle Freer**

**Administrative Recorder: Holly A. Netter, Town Clerk, RMC**

**4 WAYS TO GIVE PUBLIC COMMENT:**

- 1.) **In-Person – Attend the Workshop**
- 2.) **Phone in:** Leave a voicemail on 845 331 0676 before the meeting
- 3.) **EMAIL – [lreynolds@esopus.com](mailto:lreynolds@esopus.com) with the subject line “Public Comment”**
- 4.) **MAIL – mail written comments to:**  
*Town of Esopus, P.O. Box 700  
Port Ewen, NY 12466*

**Supervisor Danielle Freer called the meeting to order at 7 pm.**

A moment of silence was held in memory of Esther and Tim Keiderling. They were valued members of our community and of our Parks & Rec team here.

**PLEDGE TO THE FLAG**

**PUBLIC COMMENT –**

**DIANE DINTRUFF MINTURN ST.** Diane asked several questions of the board about the future plans, if any, for additional kayak access and launches. She also wondered if the John Burroughs community day would be rescheduled.

\*\* Later in the meeting, Heather Blaikie of Scenic Hudson confirmed the community day would not be rescheduled.

**MEG DERLACK, ROSENDALE,** has a house on Creek Lock Road and is experiencing disturbance from the gunshots from the Lake Katrine Rod & Gun Club located in Esopus. They have a new rescue dog that the noise from the shots across the Rondout Creek has impacted. They have tried to contact the gun club to see if there is a schedule that is maintained so they can tend to

their dogs' needs accordingly. They have not been successful in communicating with the gun club.

**SUPERVISOR FREER MADE A MOTION TO CLOSE THE PUBLIC COMMENT, SECONDED BY COUNCILMAN JARED GEUSS. ALL MEMBERS WERE IN FAVOR: MOTION CARRIED.**

**PRESENTATION FROM DR. EVE WALTER, PH.D., PUBLIC HEALTH DIRECTOR FOR THE ULSTER COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH** – will be rescheduled. Dr. Walter did not show.

**RESOLUTION AND ORDER CALLING A PUBLIC HEARING UPON A PETITION OF THE OWNER FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE LAKESHORE SEWER DISTRICT AND CONSTRUCTION OF RELATED IMPROVEMENTS**

Joseph Moriello, Legal Counsel for Lakeshore  
Gary Williams, Lakeshore Representative

Joseph Moriello gave a brief review of the project, including the update to the original petition. A full presentation of the project will be held at the Public Hearing. The Town Board accepted the petition for review and set the public hearing. Board members will continue to review materials provided and hold a public hearing at the July meeting. Supervisor Freer said that based on the outcome of the Public Hearing, the Board will consider adopting a resolution to determine whether the petition is granted and whether the district is to be formed. Proper notices will be placed in the Daily Freeman and on the website.

The Town Board has received copies of the petition that was previously presented, as well as the amendment to the petition.

The following resolution was **offered by Supervisor Danielle Freer, seconded by Councilman Jared Geuss**, to wit;

IN THE MATTER OF THE

ESTABLISHMENT OF LAKESHORE SEWER DISTRICT IN THE TOWN OF ESOPUS,  
COUNTY OF ULSTER, STATE OF NEW YORK PURSUANT TO ARTICLE 12 OF THE TOWN  
LAW

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RESOLUTION AND ORDER CALLING A PUBLIC HEARING UPON A PETITION OF THE  
OWNER FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF LAKE SHORE SEWER DISTRICT AND  
CONSTRUCTION OF RELATED IMPROVEMENTS, IN THE TOWN OF ESOPUS IN THE  
COUNTY OF ULSTER, STATE OF NEW YORK, PURSUANT TO ARTICLE 12 OF THE  
TOWN LAW, AND FOR ALLOCATION OF COSTS OF OPERATION WITH PORT EWEN  
SEWER IMPROVEMENT AREA SEWER SYSTEM

WHEREAS, there has been filed on April 15, 2025 in the office of the Town Clerk of the Town of Esopus (“Town”), a petition dated as of April 11, 2025, and there has been filed on June 20, 2025 in the office of the Town Clerk an Amendment of Petition dated as of June 16, 2025 (as amended, the “Petition”), signed and acknowledged by Lakeshore Villas PropCo LLC (“Owner”), requesting the creation of a sewer district pursuant to Article 12 of the Town Law encompassing the parcel identified as Tax Map as S-B-L: 64.1-1-15, being the same premises as conveyed by deed, dated December 31, 2020 from Lakeshore Villas LG Associates L.P. to Lakeshore Villas PropCo, LLC, which said deed was recorded February 19, 2021 in the Office of the County of Ulster as Instrument No. 2021-3436, as such area is more specifically described in the Petition, which said lands are situated outside of any incorporated village or city and are wholly within the Town of Esopus (the “Lake Shore Sewer District”); and

WHEREAS, the Owner is the purported sole owner of all of the taxable real property situated in said proposed Lake Shore Sewer District, and all of the assessed valuation of all of the taxable real property in the proposed Lake Shore Sewer District, as shown in the latest completed assessment roll in the Town, and there are no resident owners within the boundaries of the proposed Lake Shore Sewer District; and

WHEREAS, the Owner has submitted with the Petition a map, plan and report dated April 2025, as amended May 29, 2025 (“MPR”) prepared by Brinnier and Larios, P.C., Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors, duly licensed by the State of New York (herein called "Engineer") showing the boundaries of the proposed Lake Shore Sewer District, providing for a general plan to serve such proposed Lake Shore Sewer District, an estimate of the construction costs of the Lake Shore Sewer District, an estimate of the annual costs to be borne by the typical property, that being the single parcel within the district, an estimated connection cost and explanation of how the estimated connection costs was computed, and such MPR is on file with the Town Clerk where the same is available during regular office hours for examination by any persons interested in the subject matter thereof; and

WHEREAS, the sanitary sewer improvements proposed to be constructed to serve the proposed Lake Shore Sewer District described in the MPR include an on-site pump station and a force main, with an estimated maximum cost of \$1,482,000, and an up front connection fee in the amount of \$100,000 for flow mitigation is to be applied to infiltration and inflow within the PESIA Sewer System referred to herein, all of which costs are proposed to be paid wholly by the Owner as set forth in the Petition and MPR, no Local Finance Law obligations are proposed to be issued to finance any such costs, the estimated annual expense for the proposed Lake Shore Sewer District as set forth in the proposed MPR is \$69,601.80, and there are no one or two family homes in the proposed Lake Shore Sewer District; and

WHEREAS, the proposed method of apportioning costs of the Lake Shore Sewer District is to assess the costs entirely against the lands benefitted thereby, being the entire area of the Lake Shore Sewer District, and to assess, levy and collect from the several lots or parcels within such benefitted

area in just proportion to the amount of benefit which the improvement shall confer on such lots or parcels; and

WHEREAS, the Port Ewen Sewer Improvement Area created pursuant to Town Law Article 12C is served by a sewer system (“PESIA Sewer System”) including force mains, collection system, pump stations, and other sewer facilities, and the Town provides for treatment of effluent pursuant to an intermunicipal agreement between the Town and the City of Kingston, New York (“City IMA”); and

WHEREAS, the Petition and MPR propose connection of the Lake Shore Sewer District sewer system to the existing PESIA Sewer System and the conveyance of effluent from the Lake Shore Sewer District through the PESIA Sewer System to the City of Kingston sewer treatment plant pursuant to the City IMA; and

WHEREAS, the MPR includes proposed joint operation and maintenance of the Lake Shore Sewer District and PESIA by the Town, with costs to be allocated to the Lake Shore Sewer District based on a 20% surcharge on PESIA capital costs assessments and a 20% surcharge on annual rates, and subject to the flow mitigation up front payment of \$100,000, all as further provided in the MPR, subject to approval by the Town Board after a public hearing; and

WHEREAS, the Town Board has received and reviewed a Part 1 Short Environmental Assessment Form for the proposed action; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED as follows:

1. The Town Board directs that the Petition and MPR be entered in its minutes and that the Petition and MPR be made available to be reviewed by the public, in advance of the public hearing scheduled herein, in the Office of the Esopus Town Clerk, at the Town Hall at 1 Town Hall Way, Ulster Park, Esopus, New York during regular business hours and on the town website, [www.esopus.com](http://www.esopus.com).
2. The Town Board determines that the proposed action constitutes an unlisted action under the State Environmental Quality Review Act, and that the Town Board will consider the potential environmental impact of the proposed action.
3. A public hearing of the Town Board of the Town shall be held at the Town Hall in the Town on July 17, 2025 at 6:45 o'clock p.m. (Prevailing Time) to hear all persons interested in the subject concerning the proposed creation of the Lake Shore Sewer District and construction of a sewer system to serve the proposed Lake Shore Sewer District, the connection to the existing Port Ewen Sewer Improvement Area, the joint operation and maintenance of the PESIA and the proposed district, and the allocation of costs as described in the Petition and MPR, and for such other action on the part of the Town Board with relation thereto as may be required by law or shall be deemed proper.

4. The Town Clerk is hereby authorized and directed to shall publish at least once in the Daily Freeman, being a newspaper having a general circulation in the Town and hereby designated as the official newspaper of the Town for such publication, and post on the signboard of the Town maintained pursuant to subdivision 6 of Section 30 of the Town Law, a certified copy of this order, the first publication thereof and posting to be not less than ten (10) days or more than twenty (20) days before the date of such public hearing.
  
5. This Resolution shall take effect immediately.

The question of the adoption of the foregoing resolution was duly put to vote on a roll call, which resulted as follows:

Supervisor Danielle Freer	Voting AYE
Councilmember Evelyn Clarke	Voting AYE
Councilmember Jared Guess	Voting AYE
Councilmember Kathie Quick	Voting AYE
Councilmember Laura Robinson	Voting AYE

The foregoing resolution was thereupon declared duly adopted.

**REQUEST FROM HEATHER BLAIKIE OF SCENIC HUDSON REGARDING BLACK CREEK PRESERVE RESILIENCY AND ACCESSIBILITY PROJECT CFA APPLICATION**

Heather Blaikie presented the plans for a grant that they were looking to have the town give support for their Black Creek Preserve Resiliency and Accessibility Project CFA application. There is no funding obligation from the Town for the project; however, the grant requires the municipality's endorsement of the resiliency and accessibility project at Black Creek Park.

**RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF SCENIC HUDSON'S CFA APPLICATION FOR THE BLACK CREEK PRESERVE: RESILIENCY AND ACCESSIBILITY PROJECT**

WHEREAS, Scenic Hudson is applying to the New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation (OPRHP) for a grant under Title 9 of the Environmental Protection Act of 1993 for a park project located at Black Creek Preserve within the Town of Esopus; and

WHEREAS, as a requirement under the rules of this program, said not-for-profit corporation must obtain the "approval/endorsement of the governing body of the municipality in which the project will be located";

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved that the Town Board of the Town of Esopus hereby does approve and endorse the application of Scenic Hudson for a grant under Title 9 of the

Environmental Protection Act of 1993 for a park project known as Black Creek Preserve: Resiliency and Accessibility Project and located within this community.

The foregoing resolution was voted upon with all councilmen voting as follows:

<b>OFFERED BY:</b>	<b>SUPERVISOR DANIELLE FREER</b>	
<b>SECONDED BY:</b>	<b>COUNCILMAN KATHIE QUICK</b>	
	<b>COUNCILMAN LAURA ROBINSON</b>	<b>AYE</b>
	<b>COUNCILMAN EVELYN CLARKE</b>	<b>AYE</b>
	<b>COUNCILMAN KATHIE QUICK</b>	<b>AYE</b>
	<b>COUNCILMAN JARED GEUSS</b>	<b>AYE</b>
	<b>SUPERVISOR DANIELLE FREER</b>	<b>AYE</b>

**Resolution duly adopted.**

DATED: Ulster Park, New York  
June 26, 2025

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HOLLY A. NETTER, TOWN CLERK, RMC

\*\*A question had been asked earlier if the community day would be rescheduled because it had been cancelled due to rain; the answer is unfortunately no.

**LIAISON LIGHTNING ROUND:**

**SUPERVISOR FREER:**

Highway has provided a list of their monthly progress; a copy was provided to the Board members.

**SIGN & APPROVAL OF THE 2025 EXPENDITURE OF HIGHWAY MONEY - 284 AGREEMENT**

As discussed in previous meetings, paving will be performed on  
Floyd Ackert Rd commencing at Valli Rd and leading to Swartekill 4 - corners (\$196,400)  
Second Street commencing at Center and leading to Dead End (\$53,698.67)  
Esopus Ave commencing at Union Center and leading to 600 feet in (\$25,606.67)  
Poppletown Road commencing at Union Center and leading to Seasonal Section (\$98,069.17)

**COUNCILMAN KATHIE QUICK MADE A MOTION TO SIGN THE 284 AGREEMENT AND APPROVE THE EXPENDITURE OF HIGHWAY FUNDS FOR REPAIRS AND IMPROVEMENTS TO FLOYD ACKERT, SECOND STREET, ESOPUS AVENUE, AND POPPLETOWN, AS DISCUSSED. COUNCILMAN LAURA ROBINSON SECONDED THE MOTION. ALL MEMBERS WERE IN FAVOR: MOTION CARRIED.**

**JUSTICE COURT – MOTION REQUEST FOR APPROVAL**

New York State Office of Court Administration requires Court Clerks to obtain six (6) credits of training. This training is available at the New York State Association of Magistrates Court Clerks annual conference on September 28, 2025, through October 1, 2025, at the Crowne Plaza Albany, The Desmond Hotel, Albany, New York. Judge Barnett respectfully requested that the Town Board approve Marianne Wells and Dawn LaMarca to attend this conference.

**SUPERVISOR DANIELLE FREER MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE MARIANNE WELLS AND DAWN LAMARCA TO ATTEND THE NEW YORK STATE ASSOCIATION OF MAGISTRATES COURT CLERKS ANNUAL CONFERENCE ON SEPTEMBER 28, 2025, THROUGH OCTOBER 1, 2025, AT THE CROWNE PLAZA ALBANY, DESMOND HOTEL, ALBANY, NEW YORK. COUNCILMAN JARED GEUSS SECONDED THE MOTION. ALL MEMBERS WERE IN FAVOR: MOTION CARRIED.**

Kingston Creative is continuing to work on Web design, which is an ongoing project. They will gather information from every department to meet the individual office's needs.

Hometown Heroes launching phase three. Applications are available on the town website and here at Town Hall. The application deadline is August 31, 2025. Help spread the word.

**TOWN CLERK**-New peddler's permit issued to Kristi Wiczopolski, to operate Connie's Ice Cream Bus. Kristi is a Town resident who lives in West Park. She will be driving around town and attending events, selling scooped ice cream and other frozen novelties.

**Esopus Basketball** will be running a clinic on August 2<sup>nd</sup> from 7 am – 3 pm at Ross Park, with a rain date of August 9<sup>th</sup>. Cost is \$10 per child

Ages 4-6      8 am – 9 am

Ages 7-9      9:30-11 am

Ages 10-13    11:30-1 pm

**COUNCILMAN GEUSS**

The UCRRA conducted a survey to acknowledge Waste & Recycling Workers Week. Supervisor Freer said a lot of good feedback was received about our Transfer Station. Brian and Ernie received wonderful reviews for their customer service. The Town Board is very proud of the work they have done and grateful for all they do.

**UCRRA Letter of Support Request:** Supervisor Freer read a letter from Marc Rider, Executive Director of UCRRA, who is looking for a letter of support for the UCRRA's 2025 Climate Smart Communities grant program for implementation of a county-wide food scraps diversion program.

**COUNCILMAN LAURA ROBINSON MADE A MOTION TO AUTHORIZE SUPERVISOR FREER TO SEND A LETTER OF SUPPORT FOR UCRRA'S 2025 CLIMATE SMART COMMUNITIES GRANT PROGRAM FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF A COUNTY-WIDE FOOD SCRAPS DIVERSION PROGRAM. COUNCILMAN EVELYN CLARKE SECONDED THE MOTION. ALL THE MEMBERS PRESENT WERE IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIED.**

**COUNCILMAN ROBINSON:**

Cas Landi Update: The new playground is complete, and we're working on getting the swings up. Additionally, the parking lot has been leveled and improved. Work continues to be done on drainage, and there will be a guardrail installed on Union Center Road. The movie nights held last summer had a disappointing turnout, with low attendance, and were also hot and buggy. This year, the recreation commission intends to coordinate a Halloween movie with the trunk or treat.

**MOTION TO HIRE SEAN WHITE – SEASONAL PARKS & REC**

**SUPERVISOR DANIELLE FREER MADE A MOTION TO HIRE SEAN WHITE FOR A FULL-TIME SEASONAL MAINTENANCE POSITION AT \$18.00 / HOUR. LAURA ROBINSON SECONDED THE MOTION. ALL MEMBERS PRESENT WERE IN FAVOR: MOTION CARRIED.**

**COUNCILMAN QUICK:**

**ZONING BOARD** - application for variance in Connelly

**WATERFRONT ADVISORY BOARD** – did not hear back from the state on the LWRP status; also, there have been no referrals from the planning board.

Carol Tomessetti has been cutting water chestnuts. New York State now requires all boaters to take the safety training course. Supervisor Freer has been talking to UC sheriffs to ask if they would offer the class here or at a park, and the class could be open to the public. Although they are very busy, they are trying to get this done.

**ESOPUS SENIORS** - The seniors had their Ice Cream social at Freer Park on 6/23, it was well attended, and they had a great time. They also had a trip to see a Motown revue at the Brownstone in NJ. Next trip will be to Lake George on 8/26, Steamboat cruise on Lake George

**COUNCILMAN CLARKE:**

**Environmental Board**

Environmental board members Chris DeCicco and Nina Nichols are working on the Native Bee Jubilee, which will be held in September. Previously, this event was called the Honeybee Jubilee, but the honeybee is not native to the area, hence the name change.

The Carex Frankii Count will be done in early July at Sleightsburgh Park.

Jenna Ice stepped down from her position as Esopus Climate-Smart Community Coordinator. The board will work together on the project.

The Town Board will be interviewing this evening for a vacancy on the Environmental Board, with the hope of filling the position.

Building Department will be meeting with the supervisor and some folks from the Planning Board next week, more to come on that.

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING PAYMENT OF BILLS JUNE 2025**

**BE IT RESOLVED** by the Town Board of the Town of Esopus, County of Ulster, as follows:

**WHEREAS** the Town of Esopus has been presented with vouchers for payment, and these vouchers have been examined and approved by the Town Board,

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the following vouchers be approved for payment:

GENERAL FUND	251211-251259	\$88,655.31
HIGHWAY FUND	252099-252125	\$40,545.88
STREETLIGHTS	256004	\$7,557.72
PORT EWEN SEWER FUND	253080-253093	\$14,204.91
PORT EWEN WATER	254099-254119	\$36,829.84
Capital Water		
ARPA	257005-257006	\$33,603.00
ESCROW	258003-258005	\$4,861.76
Total		\$226,258.42

**OFFERED BY:** SUPERVISOR DANIELLE FREER

**SECONDED BY:** COUNCILMAN JARED GEUSS

COUNCILMAN LAURA ROBINSON	AYE
COUNCILMAN EVELYN CLARKE	AYE
COUNCILMAN KATHIE QUICK	AYE
COUNCILMAN JARED GEUSS	AYE
SUPERVISOR DANIELLE FREER	AYE

**Resolution duly adopted**

\*No budget adjustments

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**SUPERVISOR DANIELLE FREER MADE A MOTION TO ENTER INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION AT 7:54 PM TO INTERVIEW FOR AN ENVIRONMENTAL BOARD VACANCY. COUNCILMAN KATHIE QUICK SECONDED THE MOTION. ALL MEMBERS PRESENT WERE IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIED**

**SUPERVISOR DANIELLE FREER MADE A MOTION TO COME OUT OF EXECUTIVE SESSION AT 8:15 PM. COUNCILMAN JARED GEUSS SECONDED THE MOTION. ALL OF THE MEMBERS PRESENT WERE IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIED**

**ACTION:**

**SUPERVISOR DANIELLE FREER MADE A MOTION TO APPOINT LINDSEY BAER AS A MEMBER OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL BOARD WITH A TERM TO EXPIRE 12/31/2026. COUNCILMAN EVELYN CLARKE SECONDED THE MOTION. ALL OF THE MEMBERS PRESENT WERE IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIED**

**KEY UPCOMING DATES**

**7.4 TOWN HALL CLOSED: FOURTH OF JULY  
7.17 NEXT TOWN BOARD MEETING  
7/17 PUBLIC HEARING 6:45 LAKESHORE SEWER DISTRICT**

**ADJOURNMENT**

**SUPERVISOR FREER MOVED TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 8:15 P.M., SECONDED BY COUNCILMAN JARED GEUSS. ALL MEMBERS PRESENT WERE IN FAVOR, AND THE MOTION CARRIED.**

*Respectfully Submitted,  
Holly A. Netter  
Town Clerk, R.MC*