

**Minutes of the Regular Monthly Meeting
of the
Town Board of the Town of Fabius**

Monday, July 20, 2026

Present:

Mr. Michael Vilardi – Supervisor	Mr. Dennis Bobbette – Highway Supervisor
Mr. Craig Powers – Councilmember	Mrs. Peggy Riker – Town Clerk
Mr. Jeremiah Eaton – Councilmember	Mr. Thomas Chartrand – Bookkeeper
Mrs. Deborah Foster – Councilmember	Mr. Tim Bearup – Zoning/Codes Officer (<i>Absent</i>)
Mr. Paul Brown – Councilmember	Mr. Robert DeMore – Attorney for Town

The Regular meeting was called to order by Mr. Vilardi at 5:30 PM, with Mr. Vilardi leading in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Motion by Mrs. Foster, seconded by Mr. Brown, to open the Public Hearing to adopt Local Law #1 of 2026 the purpose of which is to extend the terms of office for the Town Supervisor, Highway Superintendent and Town Clerk from 2-years to 4-years. No public comment received. Motion PASSED – Ayes – 5, Nays – 0. Voting aye – Vilardi, Foster, Brown, Powers, Eaton.

RESOLUTION #2026-4

(Extend Terms for Town Supervisor, Highway Superintendent & Town Clerk from 2- to 4-years)

Upon a motion by Mr. Brown, seconded by Mrs. Foster, the following resolution was

ADOPTED Ayes – 5 Vilardi, Foster, Brown, Powers, Eaton
 Nays – 0

RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Fabius adopts Local Law #1 of 2026 extending the terms for Town Supervisor, Highway Superintendent and Town Clerk from 2-years to 4-years. Motion by Mr. Powers, seconded by Mrs. Foster, to close the Public Hearing at 5:32 PM. Motion PASSED – Ayes – 5, Nays – 0. Voting aye – Vilardi, Foster, Brown, Powers, Eaton.

Motion by Mrs. Foster, seconded by Mr. Powers, to approve the minutes of the last meeting. Motion PASSED – Ayes – 5, Nays – 0. Voting aye – Vilardi, Foster, Brown, Powers, Eaton.

FINANCIAL REPORT:

- * Mr. Chartrand reviewed the June financial report.
- * Interest rates are flat, no need to change.
- * Court fines are over budget by \$100; doing well.
- * The host community fee came in, which is all surplus.
- * Penalties on property taxes came in strong.
- * The Fire District reimbursed us for their Clerk's salary.
- * Building permits in June included \$17,000 from a solar farm fee.
- * Snow and ice funds received from the County.
- * We received a recovery reimbursement from Workers' Comp. insurance for 2025.
- * General Fund spending is at 49% and revenue is at 110%. Highway spending is at 32% and revenue is at 84%.
- * Budget transfer of \$1,000 from Garage/Equipment to Engineer/Contractual for Highway Garage.

* Motion by Mrs. Foster, seconded by Mr. Brown, to accept the June financial report. Motion by Mrs. Foster, seconded by Mr. Eaton, to accept the bank reconciliation. Motion by Mr. Brown, seconded by Mr. Powers, to approve the budget transfer. All motions PASSED – Ayes – 5, Nays – 0. Voting aye – Vilardi, Foster, Brown, Powers, Eaton.

ZONING REPORT: Single family home and shed permits in progress. One new violation.

HIGHWAY REPORT:

* Received two fuel reimbursement payments from the fire district: \$724.20 and \$106.50. Received one fuel reimbursement payment from the school district for \$729.65.

* The oiling and stone work was completed last week.

HISTORIAN: No report.

HISTORICAL SOCIETY: Ms. Beglinger reported 108 visitors since June 20th.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Resident Mr. Doug Wheeler is in the process of purchasing the old Toggenburg Ski center and was wondering what steps he would need to take in order to also run his automotive repair business from the same property. Mr. DeMore informed him it was a non-conforming use but has reverted to its A2 status since its closure. Mr. Wheeler was told he would need to apply for a zone change, once he is the legal owner.

Resident John Engleton expressed concern over The Nest tavern's activities, including attendance and overflow parking on Route 80 and South Street. This severely restricts through traffic and emergency vehicle access. Currently there is one sign on South Street saying "No Parking Here to Corner" which doesn't seem to be helping. The Board offered to put up "No Parking" signs along the entire South Street. Motion by Mrs. Foster, seconded by Mr. Eaton, to approve erecting "No Parking" signs along South Street. Motion PASSED – Ayes – 5, Nays – 0. Voting aye – Vilardi, Foster, Brown, Powers, Eaton. As for the attendance concern, Mr. Vilardi will speak with our Codes Officer, Mr. Bearup, to visit The Nest during an event to check on capacity issues, if any.

NEW BUSINESS:

Justice Court: (1) Judge Deluna requested approval for her and her Clerk to attend the Magistrates and Court Clerks conference from September 27-30 in Albany. The Magistrates Association will reimburse for one night at hotel and the conference fee. The remaining cost will be about \$500. Motion by Mr. Powers, seconded by Mrs. Foster, to approve their attendance at the conference, cost not to exceed \$500. Motion PASSED – Ayes – 5, Nays – 0. Voting aye – Vilardi, Foster, Brown, Powers, Eaton. (2) Per their recent grant, the old records are now being scanned by an outside vendor.

Comprehensive Plan Grant: Mr. David Knapp has written a letter of support for the Town to apply for a grant. The grant would require the Town of Fabius to pay just 25% of the cost of updating its Comprehensive Plan, the Town's share being approximately \$25,000.

RESOLUTION #2026-7
(Comprehensive Plan Update Grant)

Upon a motion by Mr. Powers, seconded by Mr. Brown, the following resolution was

ADOPTED Ayes – 5 Vilardi, Foster, Brown, Powers, Eaton
 Nays – 0

RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Fabius approves and endorses the submission of an application for funding under the Department of State Smart Growth Comprehensive Planning Grant Program for a project known as the “Town of Fabius Comprehensive Plan” and further authorizes the Town Supervisor to execute all documents and take all actions necessary to submit the grant application and administer the grant, if awarded. Motion PASSED – Ayes – 5, Nays – 0. Voting aye – Vilardi, Foster, Brown, Powers, Eaton.

Fieldhouse Farm Preservation Grant: Residents Michael and Velda Ward, along with the Cazenovia Preservation Foundation, seek the Town’s support in applying for a perpetual conservation easement on a portion of their approximately 134-acre property known as Fieldhouse Farm. The property has frontage on Oran Delphi Road in the Town of Fabius and is within the viewshed of Highland Forest County Park.

RESOLUTION #2026-6

(Endorse Application for Farmland Protection Implementation Grant)

Upon a motion by Mr. Brown, seconded by Mrs. Foster, the following resolution was

ADOPTED Ayes – 5 Vilardi, Foster, Brown, Powers, Eaton
 Nays - 0

RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Fabius endorses the application submitted by the Cazenovia Preservation Foundation for the permanent protection of Michael and Velda Ward’s property known as Fieldhouse Farm.

OLD BUSINESS:

Motion by Mrs. Foster, seconded by Mr. Eaton, to pay the bills on Abstract #6 in the following amounts:

Highway Fund	Vouchers 43 through 50
	\$ 202,306.47
General Fund	Vouchers 124 through 144
	\$ 19,202.24

Motion PASSED – Ayes – 5, Nays – 0. Voting aye – Vilardi, Foster, Brown, Powers, Eaton.

The next regular Town Board meeting will be on **Monday, August 17, 2026**, at the Fabius Area Community Center, Fabius, New York at **5:30 PM**.

Motion to adjourn at 6:05 PM made by Mrs. Foster, seconded by Mr. Powers. Motion PASSED – Ayes – 5, Nays – 0. Voting aye – Vilardi, Foster, Brown, Powers, Eaton.

Respectfully submitted,

Margaret M. Riker
Town Clerk