TOWN OF HASTINGS, OSWEGO COUNTY NEW YORK

TOWN BOARD MEETING- MARCH 10, 2026

The Town of Hastings Town Board held a regular meeting on Tuesday March 10th, 2026, at 7:30pm.

ATTENDANCE

Board members present: Supervisor Tony Bush, Councilman Alan Hanson, Councilman Mark Martino, Councilman Richard Waldron, and Councilman John DeBottis.

Also present: Mike Lewis, Highway Superintendent; Thomas Fuzia, Director of Community Planning and Development and Code Enforcement, and Erin Goodrich, Town Clerk.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Supervisor Bush called the town board meeting to order at 7:32pm, asked for the Pledge of Allegiance and pointed out the emergency exits.

DISCUSSION

Supervisor Bush opened the floor for public comments.

1.) Town resident Katie H. gave the Town Board an update on an event coming up on June 13th, "Unity in the Community Remembrance Vigil". It will be an opportunity for residents to come together to remember those residents who have "gained their wings" and left their footprints forever throughout our community. There will be live music and refreshments. Katie would like to volunteer for the Parks manager position that is open within the Town. Parks and serving her community is Katie's passion. She has ample experience leading organizations and planning events and knows our Town parks as she would her own home. The programs she has run gave over a million dollars in grants and services to this community. She understands the Town has been struggling to find the right person to fill the position, and Town residents are already calling her for help when they can't reach anyone at the Town. The Town Supervisor thanked her for her interest.

2.) During the discussion of the resolutions a Town resident asked questions about resolution 26-60 about where the Town's portion of the grant match would come from. Supervisor Bush said these grants take years and before any money is awarded the Town would look for other grants to cover more of their mandated match for this particular grant. Town Resident asked the Town board if infrastructure costs are budgeted for within a capital improvement fund. Supervisor Bush explained the way grants work is that once the Town gets one grant it becomes easier for the Town to get other grants which will help cover the costs of this grants match stipulation. He agrees that if the Town needed to cover the full cost of over $800,000, we would not be able to do that. Town resident understood and appreciated Supervisor Bush's honest answer and explanation; he was concerned the Town might take out a bond to cover those costs. The discussion moved toward questions about how the Town budgets for plow trucks. Supervisor Bush explained that the Town budgets for the plow trucks in a manner similar to how you might budget for a car, the Town purchases one truck and when that one is paid off the Town continues to budget for the payment. The Town does

have some money market accounts that receive interest that can be used on building improvements, the residents concern is that the Town continues to take out bonds, so those accounts should be re-evaluated and potentially additional funds set aside for the bigger ticket items like the building roof, heating, and even the plow trucks because those are expenses that the Town will always have in the future. Another resident said those are good ideas to have, but Town's cannot budget for the what ifs or what might happen before it happens because those things might not happen. The discussion then circled back to the resolution for the grant being voted on.

3) In regard to resolution 26-61, why switch salaried employees to hourly? Supervisor Bush stated he was advised to make the switch by an accounting consultant the Supervisor's office uses and after Supervisor Bush asked the county and they felt it might be a better idea to go hourly instead of salaried. Supervisor Bush put forward the county and consultant's recommendations to the Town Board and they approved. Town residents questioned the benefit to this decision and asked when the employees would be notified of the change. Supervisor Bush stated nothing changes with the employee's pay; this does not apply to elected employees or Court employees. The resident who asked about court employees was because the court clerks work so many hours that if they moved to hourly, they would not even make minimum wage at their current salaried amount. A resident asked, the way the resolution is worded makes it sound like all non-elected employees are moving to hourly wages, but by the board members explanation it isn't all, but only a few. Supervisor Bush started to explain that this is a new system with the time clock, but other board members and a Town resident added to the explanation that ultimately NYS retirement prefers employers to use a timekeeping device to help with "reporting hours worked" to the state for reporting purposes. A time clock is not required by NYS, but a way of reporting hours worked by an employee is. Supervisor Bush emphasized that they are not making this decision on a whim, they are taking professional advice on what the professionals think will work the best for the Town.

RESOLUTIONS:

1.) Councilman Waldron introduced the following and moved its adoption:

RESOLVED, the Town of Hastings Town Board hereby approves the minutes from the February 10th, 2026, Town Board Meeting.

Councilman Martino seconded. Supervisor Bush asked if there was any discussion. **Vote**: Supervisor Bush, aye; Councilman Hanson, aye; Councilman Martino, aye; Councilman Waldron, aye; and Councilman DeBottis, aye. Motion carried. **Resolution 26-53 adopted**.

2.) Councilman Waldron introduced the following and moved its adoption:

RESOLVED, the Town of Hastings Town Board approves for the payment the claims certified on attached abstract #3 in the amounts indicated thereon:

Councilman Martino seconded. Supervisor Bush asked if there was any discussion. **Vote**: Supervisor Bush, aye; Councilman Hanson, aye; Councilman Martino, aye; Councilman Waldron, aye; and Councilman DeBottis, aye. Motion carried. **Resolution 26-54 adopted**.

3.) Councilman Waldron introduced the following and moved its adoption:

RESOLVED, the Town of Hastings Town Board determines that the proposed zone change, and concrete batch plant project is a type 1 action and will not have a significant adverse impact on the environment.

Councilman Martino seconded. Supervisor Bush asked if there was any discussion. **Vote**: Supervisor Bush, aye; Councilman Hanson, aye; Councilman Martino, aye; Councilman Waldron, aye; and Councilman DeBottis, aye. Motion carried. **Resolution 26-55 adopted**.

4.) Councilman Waldron introduced the following and moved its adoption:

RESOLVED, the Town of Hastings Town Board approves the authorizing engagement for Justice Court AUP Report.

Councilman Martino seconded. Supervisor Bush asked if there was any discussion. **Vote:** Supervisor Bush, aye; Councilman Hanson, aye; Councilman Martino, aye; Councilman Waldron, aye; and Councilman DeBottis, aye. Motion carried. **Resolution 26-56 adopted**.

5.) Councilman DeBottis introduced the following and moved its adoption:

RESOLVED, the Town of Hastings Town Board approves the letter of engagement with Bonadio & Co., LLP to perform the 2025 Town Audit, at a fee not to exceed $30,500, to be paid from Budget code A13204.01.

Councilman Martino seconded. Supervisor Bush asked if there was any discussion. **Vote**: Supervisor Bush, aye; Councilman Hanson, aye; Councilman Martino, aye; Councilman Waldron, aye; and Councilman DeBottis, aye. Motion carried. **Resolution 26-57 adopted**.

6.) Councilman DeBottis introduced the following and moved its adoption:

RESOLVED, the Town of Hastings Town Board approves voiding the prior assessor contract and appointing the Town Assessor for a six (6) year term.

Councilman Martino seconded. Supervisor Bush asked if there was any discussion. **Vote:** Supervisor Bush, aye; Councilman Hanson, aye; Councilman Martino, aye; Councilman Waldron, aye; and Councilman DeBottis, aye. Motion carried. **Resolution 26-58 adopted**.

7.) Councilman DeBottis introduced the following and moved its adoption:

RESOLVED, the Town of Hastings Town Board approves the resolution authorizing submission of a Northern Border Regional Commission (NBRC) Grant application for the Town of Hastings South Central Sewer District Project.

Councilman Martino seconded. Supervisor Bush asked if there was any discussion. **Vote:** Supervisor Bush, aye; Councilman Hanson, aye; Councilman Martino, aye; Councilman Waldron, aye; and Councilman DeBottis, aye. Motion carried. **Resolution 26-59 adopted**.

8.) Councilman DeBottis introduced the following and moved its adoption:

RESOLVED, the Town of Hastings Town Board approves the resolution for the Department of Transportation, Transportation Alternatives Program (DOT TAP) Grant.

Councilman Martino seconded. Supervisor Bush asked if there was any discussion. **Vote:** Supervisor Bush, aye; Councilman Hanson, aye; Councilman Martino, aye; Councilman Waldron, aye; and Councilman DeBottis, aye. Motion carried. **Resolution 26-60 adopted.**

9.) Councilman DeBottis introduced the following and moved its adoption:

RESOLVED, the Town of Hastings Town Board approves converting non-elected salary employees to hourly compensation.

Councilman Martino, Councilman Waldron, and Councilman DeBottis initiated a motion to add that if an employee will be more than 15 minutes late, they must use a half day of their PTO.

Councilman Martino seconded. Supervisor Bush asked if there was any discussion. **Vote:** Supervisor Bush, aye; Councilman Hanson, aye; Councilman Martino, aye; Councilman Waldron, aye; and Councilman DeBottis, aye. Motion carried. **Resolution 26-61 adopted**.

10.) *David Bardoun's site plan approval was overlooked for this meeting so the Town Board gave him conditional approval so he can proceed with installing the driveway for the project. Supervisor Bush motioned the conditional approval. Councilman Martino seconded. All approved and motion passed.*

ADJOURNMENT

As there was no further business, Supervisor Bush motioned to adjourn the meeting. Councilman Martino seconded. All in favor. Motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 8:22pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Erin Goodrich, Town Clerk