

REGULAR TOWN BOARD MEETING
OCTOBER 14, 2025

The Town Board of the Town of Conklin held a Regular Town Board Meeting at 6:00 P.M. on October 14, 2025. Mr. Dumian, Supervisor, presided. The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

PRESENT:	Town Board Members	Boyle, Finch, Francisco, Farley, Dumian
	Town Counsel	Mark Spinner
	Town Clerk	Sherrie L. Jacobs
	Secretary to the Supervisor	Teresa Bamber
	Highway Superintendent	Jeff Hayes
	Code Officer	Nick Pappas
	Planning Board	Sandra Beam
	Zoning Board of Appeals	William Brodsky

GUESTS:	Abundant Solar	Bartolo Morales
	Abundant Solar	Matt McGregor
		Laurie Francisco
		Peter J. Motsavage
		Naomi VanHart
		Daniel VanHart
		Derek Pavelski
		Lloyd Boyle
		Lincoln Boyle
		Kennedy Wilson
		Mary Boyle

MINUTES: SEPTEMBER 23, 2025 REGULAR TOWN BOARD MEETING

Mr. Farley moved to approve the September 23, 2025 Regular Town Board Meeting minutes as presented.

Seconded by Mr. Finch.

VOTE: Boyle – Yes, Finch – Yes, Francisco – Yes, Farley – Yes, Dumian – Yes. Motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Dumian stated as a clarification that in the site plan of the proposed agrivoltaics solar facility at 50 Boyle Boulevard, the sheep would be grazing inside the fence with the solar panels, not outside the fence.

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CONTINUATION OF PUBLIC HEARING/PROPOSED DELAWARE RIVER SOLAR
FACILITY/FALLBROOK ROAD

PRESENT: Same as on page one.

Mr. Dumian stated that the responses from Town Engineer John Mastronardi were just received earlier today, adding that he would need to examine them with Town Attorney Mark Spinner. William Brodsky of the Zoning Board of Appeals asked if there was a report on acoustic impact and Mr. Dumian replied he had not yet had a chance to review the reports. He added that he will have a meeting with representatives of Delaware River Solar Power. The Public Hearing remains open.

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PUBLIC COMMENTS:

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MORATORIUM

Mr. Brodsky asked if the Board is considering a one-year moratorium on battery-based storage units, not just solar, but wind energy also. Mr. Spinner stated he will have to research this possibility. Mr. Brodsky asked about a second solar moratorium based on new firefighter training dealing specifically with solar facilities. He added that electrical connections on solar panels should be five to six feet above the flood plain because the field cannot be de-energized. Regarding the proposed agrivoltaics solar facility at 50 Boyle Boulevard, Mr. Brodsky asked how the Town could protect emergency workers and de-energize between multiple fenced areas. Mr. Dumian stated that each area would have its own disconnect. Mr. Brodsky asked if there is a statement regarding maximum slope of this project, adding that an increase in slope makes it harder to maintain vegetation and get help from First Responders. He asked if there is a distance that must be mowed outside the fence to keep vegetation down. Derek Pavelski stated that if there is a fire in a solar field, New York State will investigate the incident. Mr. Brodsky asked what the time requirement would be for local management to access the solar field to secure it for emergency personnel. He also asked who would be required to pay for decontamination during decommissioning of a solar facility. Mr. Spinner stated that a new Uniform Code is due from New York State by December 31, 2025, which should address these questions. Mr. Dumian stated that current solar facility applications will not be affected by the proposed new moratorium.

CORRESPONDENCE:

Mr. Dumian stated that he had a meeting with representatives from the DEC (New York State Department of Environmental Conservation) regarding violations in the floodway/flood plain on FEMA properties, adding that these violations must be remediated or residents and businesses within the flood plain will see an increase in their flood insurance rates. Mr. Dumian stated that mining permits for gravel are issued by FEMA but added that FEMA and the DEC do not communicate well with each other.

Mr. Dumian stated that he received a voicemail from a resident concerned with the visual impact of the proposed solar facility at 50 Boyle Boulevard.

REPORT: HIGHWAY SUPERINTENDENT

Mr. Dumian stated that the Town has a potential new employee for the Highway Department. Highway Superintendent Jeff Hayes stated that his crew has been busy with leaf pickup, helping with a water main break, brush cleanup and pickup, and repairing road shoulders.

REPORT: CODE OFFICER

Code Officer Nick Pappas stated that he has provided updated photos of the ongoing situation with 1298 Conklin Road, site of many Code violations.

REPORT: PARKS/WATER/SEWER DEPARTMENT

Mr. Dumian reported that the Parks/Water/Sewer Department has been busy with mowing and repairing a water main break.

REPORT: SUPERVISOR'S OFFICE

The Supervisor's Report is on file in the office of the Town Clerk.

OLD BUSINESS:

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2026 BUDGET

Mr. Dumian stated that the Public Hearings on the 2026 Budget will take place on October 28, 2025.

PROPOSED SOLAR FACILITY/50 BOYLE BOULEVARD

Mr. Dumian stated that the application is with Mr. Mastronardi for review.

NEW SOCCER GOALS

Mr. Farley reported that he has no new data on the replacement soccer goals, currently estimated to cost \$20,000. He explained that two of the four goals needed are smaller, for the 9-man 9 and Under team, than the regular goals for the 11-man team. Mr. Farley will discuss the issue with Youth Commissioner Justin Parker for the October 28 meeting, looking for something in mid-range pricing. Mr. Finch asked if there are any used goals available to purchase and Mr. Farley stated, "We can look." Mr. Francisco asked if the goals need new netting and Mr. Dumian stated that the frames need to be replaced.

NEW BUSINESS:

CHANGING COST OF REPLACEMENT WATER METERS WHEN THEY ARE FROZEN

Mr. Dumian stated that it has been suggested that the Town increase the cost of replacement water meters when the meters have been frozen, sometimes due to property owner negligence, from \$140 to \$250. The Board was in agreement with this increase in cost. Mr. Boyle asked why the Water Department changed from using brass Neptune meters to plastic meters. Mr. Dumian stated that he would have to ask Water Superintendent David Kilmer or Scott Zaino.

2026 AGREEMENT WITH MEALS ON WHEELS LEASE/COMMUNITY CENTER

Mr. Dumian stated that he signed the 2026 Agreement with Meals on Wheels to lease the Community Center at a cost of \$700 per month to use it for meal distribution. He added that this saves the Meals on Wheels program money, adding that it is a "very good cause."

NEW RICOH PRINTER FOR CODE OFFICE

Mr. Dumian stated that the Code Office wants to lease a new RICOH printer for their office, rather than purchase one outright. Mr. Farley asked what the warranty covers and what the cost of toner and maintenance would be. Mr. Dumian stated that he will research these questions and the decision will be held over to the October 28 meeting.

RESO 2025-162: ACCEPT RESIGNATION/ERIC COLLINS/HIGHWAY LABORER

Mr. Finch moved for the following resolution:

Be It Resolved: that the Town Board of the Town of Conklin accepts the resignation of Eric Collins from the position of Highway Laborer, effective October 10, 2025.

Seconded by Mr. Farley.

VOTE: Boyle – Yes, Finch – Yes, Francisco – Yes, Farley – Yes, Dumian – Yes. Motion passed unanimously.

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RESO 2025-163: ACCEPT RESIGNATION/DANIEL SMITH/HIGHWAY LABORER

Mr. Francisco moved for the following resolution:

Be It Resolved: that the Town Board of the Town of Conklin accepts the resignation of Daniel Smith from the position of Highway Laborer, effective October 31, 2025, due to retirement.

Seconded by Mr. Farley.

VOTE: Boyle – Yes, Finch – Yes, Francisco – Yes, Farley – Yes, Dumian – Yes. Motion passed unanimously.

RESO 2025-164: RATIFY PURCHASE/NEW CARPETING FOR COURT ROOM & CONFERENCE ROOM FROM WAREHOUSE CARPET OUTLETS

Mr. Francisco moved for the following resolution:

Be It Resolved: that the Town Board of the Town of Conklin ratifies the purchase of new carpeting for the Court Room and Conference Room from Warehouse Carpet Outlets for a cost of \$6,783.00.

Seconded by Mr. Dumian.

VOTE: Boyle – Yes, Finch – Yes, Francisco – Yes, Farley – Yes, Dumian – Yes. Motion passed unanimously.

RESO 2025-165: RATIFY EMERGENCY REPAIR/VAUGH CHOPPER PUMP FOR SEWER 1

Mr. Francisco moved for the following resolution:

Be It Resolved: that the Town Board of the Town of Conklin ratifies the emergency repair of the Vaugh Chopper Pump for Sewer 1 by W2O for a cost of \$13,450.00.

Seconded by Mr. Finch.

VOTE: Boyle – Yes, Finch – Yes, Francisco – Yes, Farley – Yes, Dumian – Yes. Motion passed unanimously.

RESO 2025-166: RATIFY PAYMENT/THE HARTFORD/3RD QUARTER 2025 DISABILITY INSURANCE

Mr. Farley moved for the following resolution:

Be It Resolved: that the Town Board of the Town of Conklin ratifies payment in the amount of \$159.84 to The Hartford for 3rd Quarter 2025 Disability Insurance.

Seconded by Mr. Finch.

VOTE: Boyle – Yes, Finch – Yes, Francisco – Yes, Farley – Yes, Dumian – Yes. Motion passed unanimously.

RESO 2025-167: APPROVE PAYMENT/CLAIMS #25-00974 - #25-01047/\$81,859.54

Mr. Farley moved for the following resolution:

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Be It Resolved: that the Town Board of the Town of Conklin approves the payment of the following Claims #25-00974 through #25-01047, which have been audited and approved for payment, in the total amount of \$81,859.54:

General	\$ 31,085.64
Highway	15,590.97
Light Districts	1,839.67
Sewer District #1	2,094.97
Water District	26,937.34
Water District #6	189.95
Non-Budgeted	<u>4,121.00</u>
Total	\$ 81,859.54

Seconded by Mr. Finch.

VOTE: Boyle – Yes, Finch – Yes, Francisco – Yes, Farley – Yes, Dumian – Yes. Motion passed unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

DEC VIOLATIONS

Derek Pavelski stated that in regard to the DEC violations discussed earlier in the meeting, a New York State agency is reviewing the sites and the gravel pit in question is expanded beyond its allowed footprint from the issued permit. Mr. Dumian asked why it is being reviewed now and Mr. Pavelski stated that it is a 10-year review. Mr. Pavelski added that the NYS inspectors are looking at rock quarries as well as gravel pits. Mr. Spinner stated that “mining is 100% DEC permitted.” Mr. Brodsky asked if mining and stone cutting are both covered under the mining permit or if the stone cutting is covered under Town Code. Mr. Spinner stated that the stone cutting is covered under the Town of Conklin Code.

ABUNDANT SOLAR PROJECT ON HARDIE ROAD

Mr. Pavelski asked if the Abundant Solar Power project on Hardie Road has been cancelled since no progress has been seen. Mr. Dumian stated that the application was approved but Abundant Solar controls the property but has sold the construction and operation, adding that there may be a problem getting the solar panels. He added that the Town received “an aggressive FOIL request” concerning that project. Mr. Pavelski asked what happened with the proposed solar project in Colesville and Mr. Spinner replied that there was a problem with the NYSEG interconnection, making it financially unfeasible. Mr. Spinner stated that many municipalities are instituting a temporary moratorium on solar projects in light of the new New York State requirements.

RESO 2025-168: INTRODUCE PROPOSED LOCAL LAW 2, 2025/ “A LOCAL LAW IMPOSING A TEMPORARY MORATORIUM ON NEW COMMERCIAL SOLAR ENERGY SYSTEM APPLICATIONS TO ALLOW REVIEW OF UPDATGED FIRE-SAFETY, ZONING, AND FINANCIAL REGULATORY STANDARDS”

Mr. Farley moved for the following resolution, seconded by Mr. Finch:

WHEREAS, a local law entitled “A LOCAL LAW IMPOSING A TEMPORARY MORATORIUM ON NEW COMMERCIAL SOLAR ENERGY SYSTEM APPLICATIONS TO ALLOW REVIEW OF UPDATED FIRE-SAFETY, ZONING, AND FINANCIAL REGULATORY STANDARDS” was introduced at this meeting; and

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WHEREAS, the Town Board desires to hold a public hearing with respect to the adoption of said Local Law.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that a public hearing will be held by the Town Board of the Town of Conklin with respect to the adoption of the aforesaid Local Law on November 13, 2025, at 6:03 P.M. at the Conklin Town Hall, 1271 Conklin Road, Conklin, New York; and it is further

RESOLVED, that the Town Clerk is hereby authorized and directed to cause public notice of said hearing to be given as provided by law.

CERTIFICATION

I, Sherrie L. Jacobs, do hereby certify that I am the Town Clerk of the Town of Conklin and that the foregoing constitutes a true, correct and complete copy of a resolution duly adopted by the Town Board of the Town of Conklin at a meeting thereof held at Conklin Town Hall, 1271 Conklin Road, Conklin, New York, on the 14th day of October, 2025. Said resolution was adopted by the following roll call vote:

Supervisor William Dumian, Jr.	YES
Councilman Dell Boyle	YES
Councilman William Farley	YES
Councilman Charles Francisco	YES
Councilman James E. Finch	YES

Dated: October 14, 2025

Town of Conklin Seal

Sherrie L. Jacobs, Town Clerk

Mr. Spinner stated that the Local Law must be submitted to Broome County for its Form 239 Review, adding that 30 days are required but there will be only 28, so he hopes to have the County's comments back by the November 13 Public Hearing.

CULVERT REPAIR OVER CARLIN CREEK

Mr. Boyle stated that he is concerned that the culvert over Carlin Creek is being repaired, not replaced, adding that he talked to the engineer on site about his hydrology concerns regarding increased volume. Mr. Dumian suggested that he email New York State, which is doing the repair work, regarding his concerns.

1298 CONKLIN ROAD

Mr. Finch stated that there is "more stuff coming in" at 1298 Conklin Road, adding that the Town should "step up the Supreme Court process." Mr. Spinner stated that he is working on this case.

LED LIGHTING AT SCHNURBUSCH PARK

Mr. Francisco asked about the LED lighting at Schnurbusch Park and Mr. Dumian stated that the lamps have not been delivered yet.

YOUTH SPORTS

Mr. Farley stated that soccer season is over October 23, and that basketball and wrestling signups are open now, adding, "It should be fun."

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PLAYGROUND EQUIPMENT

Town Clerk Sherrie Jacobs, a member of the Conklin Kiwanis Club, stated that the small climbing dome has been shipped and the other three pieces of equipment, all of which the Kiwanis Club is purchasing for Schnurbusch Park, will be shipped the fourth week of October.

EMPLOYEE HEALTH INSURANCE

Mr. Dumian stated that New York State approved an increase of 13% for BlueCross/BlueShield, which would mean an increase in 2026 of \$104 to the employee with a family plan and an increase of \$350 per month to the Town. He discussed an HSA card, with a high deductible and carryover from year to year any remaining monies. Mr. Dumian stated that the increases are affecting the hiring of employees because of the high cost of insurance, adding that it is not required to take the insurance plan that is offered. He stated that the Town will have to look at other options.

RESO 2025-169: EXECUTIVE SESSION/LEGAL ADVICE

Mr. Dumian moved to close the Regular Town Board Meeting and move into Executive Session for legal advice at 7:09 P.M.

Seconded by Mr. Farley.

VOTE: Boyle – Yes, Finch – Yes, Francisco – Yes, Farley – Yes, Dumian – Yes. Motion passed unanimously.

RESO 2025-170: RE-OPEN REGULAR TOWN BOARD MEETING

Mr. Dumian moved to close the Executive Session and re-open the Regular Town Board Meeting at 8:00 P.M.

Seconded by Mr. Farley.

VOTE: Boyle – Yes, Finch – Yes, Francisco – Yes, Farley – Yes, Dumian – Yes. Motion passed unanimously.

There being no further business to come before the Town Board, Mr. Dumian moved for adjournment, seconded by Mr. Finch. The meeting adjourned at 8:01 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Sherrie L. Jacobs
Town Clerk