

REGULAR TOWN BOARD MEETING
MARCH 24, 2026

The Town Board of the Town of Conklin held a Regular Town Board Meeting at 6:00 P.M. on March 24, 2026, at the Conklin Town Hall. 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
	Highway Superintendent	Jeff Hayes
	Secretary to the Supervisor	Teresa Bamber
	Town Engineer	John Mastronardi
	Planning Board	Sandra Beam

GUESTS:	Abundant Solar Power	Andrew VanDoorn
	Abundant Solar Power	Matt McGregor
	Abundant Solar Power	Bartolo Morales
	Barton & Loguidice	Rebecca Minas
		John Colley
		John Hellmers
		Rob Slezak
		Laurie Francisco
		Justin Slezak
		Travis Hayes
		Steven C. Airwyke
		Kennedy Wilson
		Josh Nichols
		Jessica Nichols
		Elijah Nichols
		Lyle Fassett
		Ron Miner
		Mary Boyle
		Lloyd Boyle
		Derek Pavelski
		Tina Corbin
		Fran Corbin
		Lincoln Boyle
		Mary Martir
		Milton Martir
		Jody & Kevin Cackett

MINUTES: MARCH 10, 2026 REGULAR TOWN BOARD MEETING

Mr. Finch moved to approve the March 10, 2026 Regular Town Board Meeting minutes as presented.

Seconded by Mr. Farley.

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



PUBLIC HEARING
TO RECEIVE INPUT REGARDING PROPOSED SOLAR PROJECT
AT 50 BOYLE BOULEVARD

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PRESENT: Same as on page one.

Continuing the Public Hearing from March 10, 2026, Mr. Dumian commented that Abundant Solar Power has provided new documents, which Town Engineer John Mastronardi has reviewed. Matt McGregor, one of the representatives from Abundant Solar, stated that the size of the project has been reduced by 36 %, with all of the solar arrays on the north side of Boyle Boulevard. He stated that the proposed project will encompass 8.2 acres on an 82.9 acre site. Mr. McGregor stated that an evergreen line has been added to the project to improve screening during the winter months. He stated that the fact that the distance from this proposed site to the already-approved site on Fallbrook Road is less than the required one mile “doesn’t add to the cumulative impact.”

Rebecca Minas of Barton and Loguidice stated that there will be no solar panels in the flood plain, adding that there are two proposed access drives on the new site plan. She stated that she has photos from Conklin Forks Road from the area of three homes showing what the winter visuals would be, adding that the company will maintain the existing buffers.

Mr. Mastronardi stated that the new site plan removes 1.2 MW panels from the flood plain. He added that Abundant Solar should reconsider the species of evergreen they plan to plant because the ones on the site plan are attractive to deer, which will eat the plants. Mr. Dumian stated that he still has concerns about the waiving of the one-mile separation part of the solar law, which Abundant Solar is requesting, adding that the one mile limit was included to prevent “a corridor of solar farms” in one area. John Hellmers asked about building on the wetlands and Mr. Dumian replied that the company can do so if the DEC allows it.

Mr. Hellmers asked the representatives of Abundant Solar Power if Mr. Boyle, who owns the property at 50 Boyle Boulevard, is being paid as a consultant to Abundant Solar Power. Mr. McGregor stated that Mr. Boyle would receive compensation as the owner of the property being leased by Abundant Solar Power for the proposed project but is receiving no other compensation now nor will he in the future. Mr. Dumian stated that the Public Hearing will remain open, with the new site plan being sent to Broome County Planning Department for review. He added that he hopes to do the SEQRA review and vote on this project at the April 28 Town Board meeting.

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PUBLIC COMMENTS:

NOISE AND LIGHT ISSUE/CORBETTSVILLE ROAD

Josh Nichols of 33 Corbettsville Road stated that there is an ongoing noise problem with the neighbor across the street, with loud music being played from 6:30 AM until 11 PM or later. He stated that he has addressed this personally with the neighbor and has called both the New York State Police and the Broome County Sheriff’s Department and has contacted both the Town Supervisor and the Town Code Office, with no response. Mr. Nichols asked, “What can be done about this?” He said he has been told that “the noise ordinance is difficult to prove,” and requires a formal complaint. Mr. Dumian stated that law enforcement addresses this problem and there is a short period of compliance, then the problem re-starts, adding that this has been addressed multiple times. He stated, “Law enforcement’s hands are tied.” Fran Corbin, also of Corbettsville Road, stated, “This is harassment.” Mr. Nichols stated that this same neighbor has flood lights that “shine on my house.” Town Attorney Mark Spinner stated that this is criminal harassment.

Justin Slezak stated he and his neighbors face a similar situation but in a different neighborhood, Woodside Avenue, adding that the police tell him it is a “Town issue.” Tina Corbin, of Corbettsville Road, stated that she “cannot be outside because of the noise.” Mr. Dumian stated

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that law enforcement can only do what is in their jurisdiction to do. He added that there have been multiple conversations with this neighbor, adding it is “not a pretty picture.” Mr. Spinner stated that the neighbor has been cited by Code Officer Nick Pappas, but added that the Town would need certified sound testing equipment to verify whether the noise exceeds the limits in the Town law. Ms. Corbin asked if the law needs to be changed, either the noise level allowed or the time frame in which louder noises are allowed. She stated that this affects quality of life and property values. Mr. Dumian reiterated that there is a limit to what the Town can do, because there is no legal accountability. Mr. Nichols asked if someone can do a decibel test in the area. Mr. Dumian stated that the Town would need to hire a professional to conduct that test. Mr. Spinner stated that the test should be done by an outside entity off site of the property that is the issue, and if the noise level is outside of allowed parameters, a citation can be served and the person brought to Court, where the judge would decide whether or not it should go to trial. He stated that the judge could issue a fine and/or a warning, but cannot force payment of the fine.

Mr. Nichols asked if he could expect a response from the Town and Mr. Dumian stated that there will be a response. Ms. Corbin stated that they “need to see action from the Town,” adding that she has videos if the Town needs proof. Elijah Nichols stated that the noise continues from 5:30 AM until 1 AM, seven days per week, adding that the neighbor sets up speakers outside. Mr. Dumian stated that witnesses are needed, adding that he will talk with the Code Office tomorrow and that complaint forms are available in the Code Office.

CRIME PROBLEMS ON WOODSIDE AVENUE

Justin Slezak of Woodside Avenue spoke about problems with homeless people and meth dealers on Woodside Avenue, citing breaking and entering and theft of mail from mailboxes. He stated he was told by law enforcement that the breaking and entering could not be prosecuted because the house was vacant and “there was no one to press charges.” He said one person committed arson, but added “it does no good to call the cops.” Mr. Slezak stated, “Our taxes go up every year but ‘nothing can be done.’” He stated that there are four vacant houses in the area plus what he called “slumlords who don’t take care of their properties.” Mr. Slezak stated, “Something is going to happen. We’re taking back our street.” Mr. Dumian suggested calling the Broome County Health Department about the raw sewage concerns in the area. “They won’t do anything,” stated Mr. Slezak. He asked if the Town has considered hiring a constable. Mr. Dumian stated that lax New York State laws make it hard to prosecute anyone, but added, “It’s better if you call the police.” He suggested that the Town offer more money to Broome County to use to hire more officers so that there would be more patrols.

CORRESPONDENCE:

The issues on Woodside Avenue were just discussed.

REPORT: HIGHWAY SUPERINTENDENT

Highway Superintendent Jeff Hayes stated that the new excavator has been delivered. He stated that his department has been busy plowing, doing maintenance on the equipment, and picking up trash and brush. Mr. Hayes is looking a a vacuum truck, adding that a new vehicle costs \$10,000 to \$12,000. He stated that it could be used to clean outfalls and drainage areas by the Highway Department and to clean around hydrants by the Water Department. Mr. Hayes stated that the price is “very reasonable.”

REPORT: CODE OFFICE

Mr. Dumian stated that Code Officer Nick Pappas is busy with issues, as seen above, on Woodside Avenue and Corbettsville Road, and with the ongoing case of the Nathan Cross property on Conklin Road.

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REPORT: PARKS/WATER/SEWER DEPARTMENT

A written list provided by the Parks/Water/Sewer Department stated that they have been busy with the following: taking the yearly well samples; installing more meters and radios; cleaning up debris and garbage in Conklin Cemetery from recent wind storms; digging a grave for a full burial; picking up garbage and debris at Town parks; setting up the batting cage poles; prepping the dugouts for concrete; and brush hogging the sewer easement in front of the Town landfill.

Mr. Dumian stated that it was good to have the summer help back to assist with the workload. It was noted that all seasonal decorations must be removed from the cemeteries by April 15 to allow for spring cleanup.

REPORT: SUPERVISOR'S OFFICE

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

OLD BUSINESS:

FAIR COMMITTEE MEETING

Mr. Dumian stated that he and Fair Committee President Will Platt came up with a "good plan" to share the parking lot at the Community Center with Meals on Wheels, so all should run smoothly.

SOLAR MORATORIUM

Mr. Dumian stated that he would like the solar law to be amended to prohibit solar facilities outside of the Commercial district. He reiterated the importance of supporting Home Rule, adding that the resolution of support approved by the Board has been sent to lawmakers. Mr. Dumian noted that new fire and safety regulations are being enacted by the State. He stated that the Fallbrook Road solar facility owners have reached out to the Town regarding a Host Community Agreement. Mr. Spinner stated that the Town of Vestal only allows solar facilities in areas zoned Industrial. Mr. Farley asked, "Does that mean they wouldn't be allowed in an Agricultural district?" Mr. Dumian answered, "Correct." Mr. Spinner stated that the solar companies could request a Use Variance. "Or enact Article 78," added Mr. Dumian.

PROPOSED DOG PROTECTION ORDINANCE.

Mr. Dumian stated that he needs to study the proposed legislation further. Mr. Farley stated that the outside temperature parameters of the City of Binghamton law should be adjusted for Conklin. Mr. Dumian stated that his major concern was prohibition of dogs on property without a primary residence, unless they are working dogs. He stated that the Board will move on this proposed ordinance in May. Mr. Francisco asked if the fine process is enforceable. Mr. Spinner stated that the proposed law would allow the Dog Control Officer to seize the dog if the dog's safety was in danger. Mr. Dumian added that our Dog Control Officer always brings law enforcement with him in such situations, adding that these are extreme cases of neglect that are creating a need for such a law.

PROPOSED SIGN AT TOWN HALL

Mr. Dumian stated that he is researching prices on an electronic sign in front of the Town Hall. Mr. Francisco asked, "At 50 miles per hour, what can you really read?"

NEW BUSINESS:

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DISCUSSION/GENERATOR FOR JR SEWER STATION

The Board discussed a quote for a permanent generator for the JR Sewer Station that would cost approximately 81,201.00, noting that a new town-behind generator would cost around \$59,000. This would provide backup for the sewer station in the event of a power outage. The Board will discuss this further at the April 14 meeting.

**RESO 2026-41: INTRODUCE PROPOSED LOCAL LAW 2, 2026/
“A LOCAL LAW AMENDING ARTICLE II OF CHAPTER 112 ENTITLED
NOTIFICATION OF DEFECTS/SCHEDULE PUBLIC HEARING**

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

WHEREAS, a local law entitled “A LOCAL LAW AMENDING ARTICLE II OF CHAPTER 112 ENTITLED NOTIFICATION OF DEFECTS” was introduced at this meeting; and

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 **April 14, 2026, 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 24th day of March, 2026. 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: March 24, 2026

Town of Conklin Seal

Sherrie L. Jacobs, Town Clerk

**RESO 2026-42: RATIFY PAYMENT/ADVANCED TANK & INFRASTRUCTURE
SOLUTIONS/AHERN ROAD WATER TANK INSPECTION**

Mr. Francisco moved for the following resolution:

Be It Resolved: that the Town Board of the Town of Conklin ratifies payment in the amount of \$3,730.00 to Advanced Tank & Infrastructure Solutions (ATS) for Ahern Road Water Tank Inspection.

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Seconded by Mr. Farley.

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

RESO 2026-43: APPROVE DOG CONTROL OFFICER RICK MURRAY/ATTEND WEBSTER DOG CONTROL EDUCATIONAL SEMINAR/MAY 6 & 7, 2026

Mr. Francisco moved for the following resolution:

Be It Resolved: that the Town Board of the Town of Conklin approves Dog Control Officer Rick Murray to attend the 2026 Webster Dog Control Educational Seminar May 6 and 7, 2026, in Webster, New York, at a cost of \$160 registration fee plus all necessary travel and lodging expenses.

Seconded by Mr. Finch.

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

RESO 2026-44: APPROVE PAYMENT/CLAIMS #26-00231 - #26-00287/\$51,367.08

Mr. Francisco moved for the following resolution:

Be It Resolved: that the Town Board of the Town of Conklin approves payment of the following Claims #26-00231 through #26-00287, which have been audited and approved for payment, in the total amount of \$ 51,367.08:

General	\$ 33,468.81
Highway	3,923.63
Sewer District #1	2,315.57
Water District	<u>11,659.07</u>
Total	\$ 51,367.08

Seconded by Mr. Finch.

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

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

NEW GENERATOR

Mr. Hellmers stated that Frito-Lay put their generator on a concrete pedestal to protect it from flood waters. Mr. Dumian stated that the Town had researched that possibility and found it would cost \$120,000 to elevate the generator.

UPDATE FROM ATTORNEY SPINNER

Mr. Spinner stated that the Cross Code violation case will soon be moving to the State Supreme Court. He stated that the Boyle Boulevard Solar Project revised site plan has been sent to Broome County Planning Department for review, adding that Mr. Mastronardi is waiting for the revised SWPPP (Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan) so he can review that.

WATER HOOKUP WITH CITY OF BINGHAMTON

Mr. Boyle asked about the water hookup with the City of Binghamton and Mr. Dumian replied that Mr. Mastronardi is writing bid specifications for the project.

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UPSTATE ASSOCIATION OF TOWNS

Mr. Boyle stated that the Upstate Association of Towns will meet on April 30 at the Golden Oaks Golf Course in Windsor.

CLEANUP OF EASEMENTS AND ROADS

Mr. Boyle asked if the Parks Department could clean up the Town easements, noting that there are trees that have fallen on manhole covers. He also questioned the safety of having garbage or dump trailers parked on Terrace Drive next to the Town's water source. Mr. Finch commented about the trash pickup along the roads.

CEMETERIES

Mr. Francisco stated that he had received an update from the New York State Cemeteries Division stating that documentation for receipt of a body is required, meaning personal burials of remains by the families cannot be allowed without documentation.

Mr. Francisco stated that there are 25 to 30 "abandoned graves" in the old section of Conklin Cemetery, and asked if the Town can resell them, adding, "I don't think so." He stated that they date back to the 1800's or early 1900's. "Leave it alone," said Mr. Dumian.

Mr. Francisco noted sadly that Howard Henderson, long-time Postmaster at the Conklin Post Office, had passed away, calling him "a stellar part of the community."

CONKLIN KIWANIS UPDATES

Town Clerk Sherrie Jacobs reminded those present that the annual Kiwanis/Town of Conklin Children's Easter Party will be held this Saturday at the Community Center. She stated that the Conklin Kiwanis Club has just ordered its sixth piece of equipment for the playground at Schnurbusch Park, a generational swing.

YOUTH SPORTS

Mr. Farley stated that the draft for baseball and softball is completed and the schedule is being set. Mr. Dumian stated that the plan is to create a Sabers team, where all the student athletes are in one pool and teams are divided evenly, with no travel teams or students from outside the Susquehanna Valley School District playing, which would alleviate some of the animosity between coaches. This approach is currently being used for the football, basketball, soccer, and wrestling programs and works very well. Mr. Dumian stated that it is too late this year to implement this system but added that it will be implemented in 2027, adding that "every kid should get to play." He added that the coaches are still discussing whether or not to adopt Williamsport Rules. Mr. Dumian stated that when talk began about developing the property the Town purchased on Powers Road, there were many people talking about volunteering their time for cleanup but now there are no volunteers who seem to be available. The Town has been asked to name the site "Perseverance Park" when it is finally developed.

There being no further business to come before the Board, Mr. Farley moved for adjournment, seconded by Mr. Finch. The meeting adjourned at 7:28 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Sherrie L. Jacobs
Town Clerk

