

REGULAR TOWN BOARD MEETING
AUGUST 11, 2026

The Town Board of the Town of Conklin held a Regular Town Board Meeting at 6:00 P.M. on August 11, 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
	Planning Board	Sandra Beam
	Zoning Board of Appeals	William Brodsky

GUESTS:	G.S. Power Partners	Brian Dunlevy
		John Hellmers
		Laurie Francisco
		Daniel VanHart
		Naomi VanHart
		Thomas Dugan
		Derek Pavelski
		Maria Van DeWeert
		Dennis J. Pavelski
		Lloyd Boyle
		Mary Boyle
		Mary Martir
		Milton Martir
		Kennedy Boyle
		Lincoln Boyle

MINUTES: JULY 14, 2026 REGULAR TOWN BOARD MEETING

Mr. Francisco moved to approve the July 14, 2026 Regular Town Board Meeting minutes as presented.

Seconded by Mr. Finch.

VOTE: Boyle – No, Finch – Yes, Francisco – Yes, Farley – Yes, Dumian – Yes. Motion carried: 4 – Yes, 1 – No.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

COUNCILMAN BOYLE

Derek Pavelski stated that there has been questions raised about Councilman Boyle’s ethics and asked if there is audio recording in the Town Hall lobby. There is not; it is only video. He stated that at the May 12 meeting, Mr. Boyle “voiced frustration,” which Mr. Pavelski found “concerning, as he picked someone who doesn’t come to many meetings.”

Dennis Pavelski, Derek Pavelski’s father, stated that he is the person to whom Mr. Boyle was speaking on May 12. Dennis Pavelski stated that he has lived in Conklin since 1971 and has known Mr. Boyle and his family for years. He also noted that he is aware that a petition with 43 signatures was submitted protesting the proposed solar installation on Boyle Boulevard, on land owned by Mr. Boyle, but added that he, Mr. Pavelski, has not expressed an opinion about solar power in general or about this proposed facility. He stated that after the May 12 meeting, he was congratulating Mr. Boyle’s son on his new job when Mr. Boyle said to him, “You need to worry about your own side of the hill and your own property.” Confused, Mr. Pavelski asked him what

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he meant, but Mr. Boyle just walked away. Mr. Pavelski asked the Board, “Does this Councilman take the oath to represent the people? I don’t think so.” He also stated that he thinks “solar should be done the right way,” adding, “I know what a mile is,” referencing the required distance, per Conklin Town Law, between two solar facilities. Mr. Pavelski stated that this kind of comment was “out of place in this Town Hall.”

DIVERSION DITCH ON CONKLIN FORKS ROAD

John Hellmers asked if the Broome County Highway Department has plans to clean out the second diversion ditch on Conklin Forks Road and Mr. Dumian replied that nothing has been done to date.

TRANSPARENCY/EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mr. Hellmers asked the results of the Executive Session at the July 14 meeting, citing the need for transparency, especially in light of recent questions about ethics. Mr. Dumian explained that the Board need to have legal advice on the ethics question situation, adding that when the Board reconvened it open session, it voted to send Mr. Boyle’s ethics case to the Broome County Ethics Board for opinion and review. Mr. Dumian stated that the case is on the Broome County Board’s agenda for their August 17 meeting. Town Attorney Mark Spinner explained that the Board cannot vote on anything during Executive Session; all votes must be held in the public meeting.

SOLAR ISSUES

Mr. Hellmers stated that a recent national survey found solar energy to be “20% efficient and it does leach chemicals into the ground,” adding that the companies should be made to bond for damages because “no landfill will take solar panels. It costs more to dispose of them than the bond covers and what is signed might not still be owned by the original signers,” as the company could be sold. Mr. Dumian stated that this has already happened with the Fallbrook Road facility which has been sold.

Derek Pavelski asked about the resolution approving agreements for Conklin 1 and 3 (Fallbrook Road) solar facilities, asking if it was a typo and should be 1 and 2. Mr. Spinner stated that it is correct as Conklin 1 and Conklin 3. Brian Dunlevy from G.S. Power Partners, the current owners of the site, stated that originally the original applicant, Delaware River Solar Power, had three projects planned, but one (Conklin 2) was cancelled because of the wetlands on the site. Mr. Dunlevy stated that the easements are “still being worked out.” Daniel VanHart asked why there are workers on site working if the final approval for the building permit has not been given. Mr. Dunlevy stated that the people Mr. VanHart saw were conducting a geographical review to make sure the appropriate equipment is used for the construction of the solar facility. Mr. Derek Pavelski asked when NYSEG will have an answer regarding easements and Mr. Dunlevy replied, “In September.” William Brodsky of the Zoning Board of Appeals asked if G.S. Power Partners has an interconnection agreement with NYSEG and Mr. Dunlevy confirmed that they do have this in place.

SITE OF FORMER CONKLIN POOL

Maria Van DeWeert asked what is happening with the site of the former Conklin Pool. Mr. Dumian stated that pickleball courts or softball and baseball fields have been suggested. Ms. Van DeWeert asked if the Board is open to input from the public and Mr. Dumian stated that the Board is happy to receive input from the public. Ms. Van DeWeert stated that she would like to see a splash pad installed on the site.

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MORE SOLAR ISSUES

Derek Pavelski asked what Mr. Dumian found “disappointing” about the Host Community Agreement, asking if it is the amount per kilowatt. Mr. Dumian stated that it is disappointing that the offer made by G.S. Power Partners is “lower than other projects.” Mr. Pavelski asked if the solar project on Hardie Road (Abundant Solar Power) is still viable and Mr. Dumian replied that it is viable but the company is experiencing a shortage of panels. Mr. Dumian added that he will be addressing this with Abundant Solar, since there is a timeline for building permits.

Mr. Hellmers stated that the FCC has banned all inverters from foreign countries, which he stated makes up “90% of inverters for solar facilities.” Mr. Spinner stated that the decommissioning process would begin if a solar facility is not producing electricity and added that the decommissioning bonds are reviewed annually.

Mr. Brodsky asked if the Town used external quotes and/or bids besides the Town Engineer for review of the solar projects. Mr. Spinner stated that there are “several components” to the reviews. Mr. Dunlevy stated that Delaware Solar used a civil engineering specializing in decommissioning, adding that the decommissioning agreement moves with the project LLC name (Conklin 1 and Conklin 3). Mr. Pavelski asked if there is a copy of the Conklin 3 project available and Mr. Dunlevy stated that it is “on the website.” Mr. Spinner explained that Conklin 2 was never part of the application as it was scrapped before the application was submitted to the Town. Mr. Dunlevy stated that there will be no solar panels near the wetlands on the site.

CORRESPONDENCE:

Mr. Dumian stated that “it will be a struggle” to keep the traffic light at the intersection of Conklin Road and Powers Road, which is in place because of the ongoing construction on the Conklin-Kirkwood Bridge. He stated that the bridge is supposed to be open with one-lane traffic after September 9 and the light will be removed at the end of the project.

Mr. Dumian stated that the Town has received many compliments for the Highway and Parks Departments for the excellent work that both departments have done in maintaining the Town.

Mr. Dumian stated that the Town needs to reconfigure JR Park and Schnurbusch Park to create more ballfields, adding that he is looking for volunteers to work with Youth Commissioner Justin Parker.

REPORT: HIGHWAY SUPERINTENDENT

Highway Superintendent Jeff Hayes stated that the lowest bid he received to purchase a 2027 RAM 5500 truck was from Robert Green Auto & Truck, Inc., for \$108,812.64 on NYS Bid, which he stated is a lower cost than the last two trucks of the same make that the Town has purchased.

Mr. Hayes stated that his crew has been busy mowing, paving, patching, and working on ditches and shoulders, and cleaning up trees. Mr. Dumian stated that he would like to see the handicapped access ramp to the Court entrance completed.

REPORT: CODE OFFICER

Mr. Dumian stated that there is not a lot of building going on right now but it is the season for grass complaints.

Mr. Spinner stated that the final paperwork has been filed with the State Supreme Court asking for an Order to Show Cause for Nathan Cross, which would state that there is no reasonable way

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for him to remediate the Code violations on his own. Mr. Spinner stated that the Court is waiting for an appearance date to be issued.

REPORT: PARKS/WATER/SEWER DEPARTMENT

Mr. Dumian stated that the Parks/Water/Sewer Department is doing a “great job.” He stated that he is looking for funding for some of the needed projects for 2027.

REPORT: SUPERVISOR’S OFFICE

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

OLD BUSINESS:

SOLAR MORATORIUM

Mr. Dumian stated that the Board needs to look at changes in New York State regulations, funding changes, and public feedback, and “must get into this moving forward.”

TOBACCO AND VAPE LAWS

Mr. Dumian stated that the Board needs to look at existing laws and access points to tobacco and vaping materials. He stated that the group that spoke at the June meeting will be at the September 8 meeting with an update on their efforts to combat tobacco and vape use in the schools.

UPGRADES TO WATER & SEWER STATION CONTROLS

Mr. Dumian stated that the Town needs a good succession plan for handling the water and sewer controls. He asked, “If the person who knows the system is not available, what happens?” Currently the Town is contracting with TCSI Solutions. Mr. Dumian stated that he will arrange a meeting with David Kilmer and Scott Zaino from the Water and Sewer Department, a representative from TCSI Solutions, and himself to look at options. He stated that he must look for money in the Water Budget to create a backup plan.

CHANGES TO JR PARK & SCHNURBUSCH PARK

Mr. Dumian stated that there will be more discussion regarding the needed reconfiguration of JR Park and Schnurbusch Park to create additional softball and baseball fields. Mr. Farley explained that currently the Towns of Conklin and Binghamton combine the talent pool for youth sports to create a draft of fairly equal teams. Currently the Town of Binghamton runs football and basketball, while the Town of Conklin runs soccer and wrestling. In the spring of 2027, the baseball and softball programs will move to this model, with Town of Binghamton running the softball program and Town of Conklin running the baseball program. Mr. Farley stated that this will create equity for the teams, with no “built” teams utilizing travel teams from outside the two towns. Mr. Dumian stated that the teams will also be moving to utilization of Williamsport Rules. The Town of Kirkwood is not participating in this combined program, so the program lost the use of the Kirkwood ball fields, hence the need to create new ones in Conklin.

WATER LINE TO THE CITY OF BINGHAMTON

Mr. Dumian stated that it will cost between \$18,000 and \$24,000 for the flow study for the proposed water line connection to the City of Binghamton. Town Engineer John Mastronardi will meet with City of Binghamton Engineer Ron Lake to discuss the project. There are questions about potential connection points and whether or not a booster station will be required. Mr.

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Dumian estimates the project could cost between \$750,000 and \$1,000,000. He stated that the Town's "median income is too high for grants," adding that bonding may be an option.

NEW BUSINESS:

SUCCESSION PLAN/UPCOMING RETIREMENT/MULTIPLE TOWN EMPLOYEES

Mr. Dumian stated that Code Officer Nick Pappas is planning on retiring in March 2027 and his assistant, Mary Plonski, who also helps with water billing and payroll, is potentially retiring in May 2027. This would leave two large voids in staffing at the Town Hall. Mr. Dumian stated that he does not believe the Town needs a full-time Code Officer but another shared agreement with the Town of Binghamton, as the Town now has for Mr. Pappas, is unlikely. Ms. Plonski also handles paperwork for the Town cemeteries. Mr. Dumian stated, "We can't combine too much and still attract employees," adding, "we're pretty thin on head count." Mr. Dumian stated that the Town will be looking for someone who is Code-certified, with a good balance of firmness and customer service.

RESO 2026-79: APPROVE HIRING/REX FRANCISCO/HIGHWAY LABORER

Mr. Farley moved for the following resolution:

Be It Resolved: that the Town Board of the Town of Conklin approves the hiring of Rex Francisco to the position of Highway Laborer at a pay rate of \$25.00 per hour, effective August 17, 2026.

Seconded by Mr. Finch.

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

RESO 2026-80: AUTHORIZE SUPERVISOR/EXECUTE FINAL PROJECT AGREEMENTS/CONKLIN I & CONKLIN III SOLAR PROJECTS

Mr. Farley moved for the following resolution:

Be It Resolved: that the Town Board of the Town of Conklin authorizes the Town Supervisor to execute final project agreements, including but not limited to Payment in Lieu of Taxes (PILOT) Agreements, Host Community Agreements, Indemnification Agreements, and Decommissioning Agreements, relating to the Conklin I and Conklin III Solar Energy Projects, and confirming that the final forms of all such agreements have been reviewed and approved by the Town Attorney as to form, legality, and consistency with applicable law and prior Town Board approvals.

Seconded by Mr. Francisco.

VOTE: Boyle – Abstain, Finch – Yes, Francisco – Yes, Farley – Yes, Dumian – Yes. Motion carried: 4 – Yes, 1 – Abstain.

RESO 2026-81: RATIFY PAYMENT/DAN BOLTEN/CONCERT JULY 15, 2026

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 \$400.00 to Dan Bolten for Concert in the Park on July 15, 2026.

Seconded by Mr. Finch.

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

RESO 2026-82: RATIFY PAYMENT/KASSANDRA PROFERA/
CONCERT JULY 22, 2026

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 \$400.00 to Kassandra Profera for Concert in the Park on July 22, 2026.

Seconded by Mr. Finch.

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

RESO 2026-83: RATIFY PAYMENT/RICHARD KAUFFMAN (BLUE VELVET)/
CONCERT JULY 29, 2026

Mr. Finch moved for the following resolution:

Be It Resolved: that the Town Board of the Town of Conklin ratifies payment in the amount of \$450.00 to Richard Kauffman (Blue Velvet) for Concert in the Park on July 29, 2026.

Seconded by Mr. Francisco.

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

RESO 2026-84: RATIFY PAYMENT/MICHELE JOHNSTON/
CONCERT AUGUST 5, 2026

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 \$400.00 to Michele Johnston for Concert in the Park on August 5, 2026.

Seconded by Mr. Finch.

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

RESO 2026-85: RATIFY PAYMENT/THE HARTFORD/2ND QUARTER 2026
DISABILITY INSURANCE

Mr. Finch 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 2nd Quarter 2026 Disability Insurance.

Seconded by Mr. Farley.

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

RESO 2026-86: RATIFY PAYMENT/CLAIMS #26-00737 - #26-00784/\$40,367.58

Mr. Finch moved for the following resolution:

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Be It Resolved: that the Town Board of the Town of Conklin ratifies payment of the following Claims #26-00737 through #26-00784, which have been audited and approved for payment, in the total amount of \$40,367.58:

General	\$ 7,545.32
Highway	23,093.89
Sewer District #1	5,258.49
Water District	2,819.88
Non-Budgeted	<u>1,650.00</u>
Total	\$ 40,367.58

Seconded by Mr. Francisco.

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

RESO 2026-87: APPROVE PAYMENT/CLAIMS # 26-00787 - #26-00832/\$38,214.52

Mr. Finch moved for the following resolution:

Be It Resolved: that the Town Board of the Town of Conklin approves payment of the following Claims #26-00787 through #26-00832, which have been audited and approved for payment, in the total amount of \$38,214.52:

General	\$ 25,815.35
Highway	3,095.87
Light Districts	1,789.19
Sewer District #1	1,794.05
Water District	<u>5,720.06</u>
Total	\$ 38,214.52

Seconded by Mr. Farley.

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

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

TRAFFIC LIGHT/POWERS ROAD & CONKLIN ROAD

Derek Pavelski stated that the traffic light at the intersection of Powers Road and Conklin Road is “not properly set up. It needs better warning.” He added he thinks it would be safer to have that light permanently installed if it were set up correctly.

E-BIKES & MINI-BIKES IN PARKS

Mr. Brodsky asked about people riding e-bikes and mini-bikes with no helmets in the parks. Mr. Dumian stated that they are also everywhere on the streets and are dangerous to the users because of the high speed at which people ride them, but he added, there are no laws from New York State governing their use. Mr. Spinner stated that the Town of Union will hold a Public Hearing on August 12 regarding a proposed local law that would prohibit e-bikes in the town parks, citing damage to ball fields. Mr. Dumian asked who will enforce this law.

RESO 2026-88: AUTHORIZE PURCHASE/2027 RAM 5500 TRUCK/
OGS CONTRACT #23166/ROBERT GREEN AUTO & TRUCK, INC.

Mr. Farley moved for the following resolution:

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Be It Resolved: that the Town Board of the Town of Conklin authorizes the purchase of a 2027 RAM 5500 Truck with painted box, salter, and head and wing plows from Robert Green Auto & Truck, Inc., on OGS Contract #23166 for an amount not to exceed \$108,812.64.

Seconded by Mr. Francisco.

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

UPDATES/NYSEG & CEMETERIES

Mr. Francisco stated that he contacted NYSEG regarding work orders for some light poles and is awaiting a response. Mr. Francisco stated that the Parks Department is doing a “great job” with the cemeteries, adding there have been five burials and six grave purchases since the last meeting.

CONCERTS IN THE PARK

Town Clerk Sherrie Jacobs reminded everyone present that there are two concerts left, including the finale next week. She stated that moving the concerts to Pavilion 3 has been well received for the most part.

There being no further business to come before the Board, Mr. Farley moved for adjournment, seconded by Mr. Finch. The meeting adjourned at 7:15 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Sherrie L. Jacobs
Town Clerk