REGULAR TOWN BOARD MEETING
OCTOBER 13, 2026

The Town Board of the Town of Conklin held a Regular Town Board Meeting at 6:00 P.M. on October 13, 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 Attorney	Mark Spinner
	Town Clerk	Sherrie L. Jacobs
	Highway Superintendent	Jeff Hayes
	Secretary to the Supervisor	Teresa Johnson
	Planning Board	Sandra Beam
	Zoning Board of Appeals	Elizabeth Einstein
	Zoning Board of Appeals	William Brodsky
GUESTS:		Laurie Francisco
		John Hellmers
		Marcella Jaworski
		Lloyd Boyle
		Mary Boyle
		Meg Jacobs
		Lincoln Boyle

MINUTES: SEPTEMBER 22, 2026 REGULAR TOWN BOARD MEETING

Mr. Farley moved to approve the September 22, 2026 Regular Town Board Meeting minutes as presented.

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

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

PROPERTY ON LOTUS AVENUE

Marcella Jaworski of 18 Clearview Avenue expressed concerns about activity at the property at 11 Clearview Avenue, across Clearview Avenue from her property. She stated that the property has not yet been sold and no remediation has occurred regarding the ongoing Code violations, including burning furniture and garbage. Ms. Jaworski stated that there are currently five tenants living at 11 Clearview Avenue.

PROPOSED SOLAR PROJECT/BOYLE BOULEVARD

John Hellmers asked if there is an update on the application for the proposed solar project on Boyle Boulevard. Mr. Dumian stated that the Town has not received anything new regarding the project and Town Attorney Mark Spinner stated that Abundant Solar Power has not yet submitted an application for a Hardship Variance to the Zoning Board of Appeals. He added that the company must file for this Hardship Variance due to the moratorium, which prohibits accepting new applications. Moving the proposed project from Boyle Boulevard to Scofield Road would create a need for a new application. Mr. Spinner stated that there will be a Public Hearing required if the Zoning Board of Appeals hears this case.

Mr. Hellmers asked if this new proposal voids the application for Boyle Boulevard and Mr. Spinner explained that while the new proposal is in lieu of the Boyle Boulevard site, the original application has not yet been withdrawn. He reminded those present that the Board had issued a

Positive Declaration with regard to environmental impact and has to date received no new data that the Board had requested. Mr. Dumian commented that he is not sure the Town would want to impose a required timeline for applications. Mr. Spinner stated that it depends on the length of the moratorium.

TAKEOVER OF SOLAR COMPANIES BY NY POWER AUTHORITY

William Brodsky of the Zoning Board of Appeals offered the Board a news article he read in which 51% ownership of a solar facility was taken over by the New York Power Authority. The article goes on to say that the Authority can takeover "large-scale solar facilities." Mr. Dumian asked if part of the income from the solar facilities will be grant money. Mr. Hellmers commented that he read about a large solar company that gave up its permit because the LLC behind it fell behind in payments.

CORRESPONDENCE:

Mr. Dumian provided copies of a letter from the Broome County Health Department citing "wellhead protection deficiencies" due to vehicles on a site owned by the Maines family and leased to a contractor that are parked too close to the Town wellhead. Mr. Dumian stated that he spoke to the commercial property manager, who stated, "We complied." The letter was also sent to the business partner and the Town is awaiting a response. Mr. Dumian stated that the letter contains "suggested requirements from the Broome County Health Department," adding that he is "working on it."

Mr. Dumian stated that he spoke to the local director of Meals on Wheels regarding their 2027 lease and informed her that the charge for 2027 will increase to $1100 per month. He stated that there was no pushback regarding the increased cost, adding that Meals on Wheels values the space at the Community Center and is willing to work with the Town.

Mr. Dumian stated that he has been working with Mr. Spinner in setting a permit fee for the solar facility on Fallbrook Road, adding that they have been researching rates set in other municipalities. He stated that he will have more information on this in the future, adding that the Board needs to define this cost in the solar law.

REPORT: HIGHWAY SUPERINTENDENT

Highway Superintendent Jeff Hayes discussed the carbide razor system that he wants to buy for one of the plow trucks, adding that it will last "twice as long as the current system" for plow blades. He would like to buy two razor systems, for the head plow and wing plow for one truck, to see if it works as well as advertised.

Mr. Hayes stated that his department is busy finishing blacktop for the season and cleaning road shoulders. Leaf pickup will started October 12 and will continue until the end of November, weather permitting. Mr. Hayes stated that his crew also repaved at the Community Center. He thanked Dennis and Derek Pavelski for helping one of his crew cut up a tree that fell and was blocking a Town road. Mr. Dumian thanked Mr. Hayes and his department for constructing the handicapped accessible ramp into the Court entrance and for repairs to the closet in the Castle that had damage from water leaks.

REPORT: CODE OFFICE

Mr. Dumian stated that he will discuss the issue raised earlier by Marcella Jaworski with Code Officer Nick Pappas tomorrow.

Mr. Dumian stated that the Town will begin to clean up the outside of the residence at 1298 Conklin Road, adding that the Town will hire off-duty Sheriff's Department personnel to be present during the cleanup process, since the property owner can be present on site as long as he doesn't interfere with the cleanup process. Mr. Dumian stated that he will get a timeline in place for the cleanup.

REPORT: PARKS/WATER/SEWER DEPARTMENT

The Parks/Water/Sewer Department provided a written list of the department's activities, which include: finishing trimming and mowing the Landfill and overseeing its yearly inspection; replacing Well Pump #3 and the motor starter; overseeing a full burial at the cemetery and mowing and trimming the cemetery; repairing a water main break at 565 Conklin Road; moving forward on the SCADA repairs; completing monthly flushing of Well 5; repairing a fire line failure at Cooperative Feed; mowing and trimming the parks; painting the soccer fields; changing the outlets at Pavilion 1; and painting and resealing the basketball court at JR Park. The department is waiting for insurance to respond to the claim before it can repair the hydrant that was hit by a vehicle on Corporate Drive.

Mr. Dumian commented that the 2027 Parks truck that will be discussed under Old Business will be less expensive than originally thought, adding that the price went down and this is the lowest bid received.

REPORT: SUPERVISOR'S OFFICE

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

OLD BUSINESS:

SOLAR MORATORIUM

Mr. Spinner is researching possible changes to the current solar law, including researching solar laws passed by other municipalities. One big change would be to limit solar facilities to sites zoned Commercial or Industrial, and not allowing them in sites zoned Residential or Agricultural. Mr. Spinner stated that he will have some suggestions for the Board at the October 27 meeting. Mr. Dumian stated that the Town can put a solar law in place but companies can apply to New York State to circumvent the municipal law.

TOBACCO AND VAPE LAWS

Mr. Dumian stated that Maria Fabrizi and the anti-vape and tobacco group she works with will be back at a future meeting with an update. One of that group's goals is to prevent access to vaping materials by Middle School age children. Mr. Spinner stated that he met with Ms. Fabrizi and members of the Broome County Health Department to discuss what municipalities can do to restrict sales. He stated that options include local licensing laws, zoning restrictions, and updating the park restrictions on smoking to include vaping. Mr. Spinner stated that, as always, the question is who will enforce the laws. Current law states that facilities selling vape products or tobacco must be at least 500 feet from schools and churches, adding that the Town could increase the required distance but the current facilities would be grandfathered in. Mr. Dumian stated that the Town has "no time to oversee the permitting process." Mr. Spinner stated, "Fines are not a deterrent."

UPGRADES TO WATER & SEWER STATION CONTROLS

Mr. Dumian stated that the Town has the materials for Sewer Station 5, adding that the upgrade will be completed by the end of 2026.

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WATER LINE CONNECTION WITH CITY OF BINGHAMTON

Mr. Dumian stated that he will contact the new Engineer at Griffiths Engineering, adding that this project is a high priority due to the Town's aging infrastructure, which has resulted in numerous water main breaks.

NEW 2027 PARKS TRUCK

As mentioned earlier, Mr. Dumian stated that the new 2027 Parks Truck will actually be less expensive than originally thought.

2027 BUDGET/INCREASE IN WATER & SEWER RATES

A comparison of the proposed Water and Sewer rates for 2027 shows a substantial increase in revenue between the increase proposed by the Supervisor and the additional increase proposed by Mr. Francisco (an additional $.25 above Mr. Dumian's proposed $.75 increase). The Board agreed that it has no choice but to raise the rates the additional amount, given the need for repairs to the aging infrastructure.

Mr. Dumian stated that the Town is seeing a cost savings from the new bulbs at Schnurbusch Park. Mr. Finch asked if the riprap was installed around the new light and it has been installed.

NEW BUSINESS:

RESO 2026-101: RATIFY PAYMENT/THE HARTFORD/ 3RD QUARTER 2026 DISABILITY INSURANCE

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 $149.94 to The Hartford for 3rd Quarter 2026 Disability Insurance.

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

RESO 2026-102: MOVE RETIREE HEALTH INSURANCE FROM UHC TO EXCELLUS MAPD FOR 2027

Mr. Finch moved for the following resolution:

Be It Resolved: that the Town Board of the Town of Conklin approves moving the Retiree Health Insurance from UHC to Excellus MAPD for 2027.

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

Mr. Dumian stated that the Town had no choice with this decision as UHC dropped coverage for the Town because it does not have enough eligible retirees, so the decision was made to return to BlueCross/BlueShield.

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RESO 2026-103: APPROVE HIRING/STANLEY ALBRECHTA/ SEASONAL LABORER AS NEEDED

Mr. Farley moved for the following resolution:

Be It Resolved: that the Town Board of the Town of Conklin approves the hiring of Stanley Albrechta to the position of Seasonal Laborer on an as needed basis with a pay rate of $20.00 per hour, effective October 12, 2026.

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

RESO 2026-104: APPROVE PURCHASE/2 SETS OF 11 FOOT RAZOR SYSTEM WITH RIGHT CURB CAST/WINTER EQUIPMENT COMPANY

Mr. Francisco moved for the following resolution:

Be It Resolved: that the Town Board of the Town of Conklin approves the purchase by the Highway Department of two sets of 11-Foot Razor System with Right Curb Cast from Winter Equipment Company for a total cost of $3,763.86.

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

RESO 2026-105: SCHEDULE PUBLIC HEARING/OCTOBER 27, 2026/6:01 P.M./ TO RECEIVE PUBLIC INPUT REGARDING PROPOSED 2027 FIRE PROTECTION CONTRACT WITH CONKLIN VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT, INC.

Mr. Farley moved for the following resolution:

Be It Resolved: that the Town Board of the Town of Conklin schedules a Public Hearing at 6:01 P.M. on October 27, 2026, to receive public input regarding the proposed 2027 Fire Protection Contract with the Conklin Volunteer Fire Department, Inc.

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

RESO 2026-106: SCHEDULE PUBLIC HEARING/OCTOBER 27, 2026/6:03 P.M./ TO RECEIVE PUBLIC INPUT REGARDING PROPOSED 2027 MUNICIPAL WATER & SEWER RATES

Mr. Francisco moved for the following resolution:

Be It Resolved: that the Town Board of the Town of Conklin schedules a Public Hearing at 6:03 P.M. on October 27, 2026, to receive public input regarding proposed 2027 Municipal Water and Sewer Rates.

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

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RESO 2026-107: SCHEDULE PUBLIC HEARING/OCTOBER 27, 2026/6:05 P.M./ TO RECEIVE PUBLIC INPUT REGARDING PROPOSED 2027 GENERAL AND HIGHWAY BUDGET FOR TOWN OF CONKLIN

Mr. Finch moved for the following resolution:

Be It Resolved: that the Town Board of the Town of Conklin schedules a Public Hearing at 6:05 P.M. on October 27, 2026, to receive public input regarding the proposed 2027 General and Highway Budget for the Town of Conklin.

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

RESO 2026-108: APPROVE PAYMENT/CLAIMS #26-00971 - #26-01065/$71,105.21

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#26-00971 through #26-01065, which have been audited and approved for payment, in the total amount of $71,105.21:

General	$	52,180.05
Highway		9,432.84
Light Districts		1,937.85
Sewer District #1		1,878.66
Water District		5,675.81
Total	**$**	**71,105.21**

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

RESO 2026-109: AUTHORIZE PURCHASE/2027 CHEVROLET SILVERADO

Mr. Francisco moved for the following resolution:

Be It Resolved: that the Town Board of the Town of Conklin authorizes the purchase of a 2027 Chevrolet Silverado 2500 double cab, plow, and other components under OGS Contract PC12345 in an amount not to exceed $70,872.07.

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

PUBLIC COMMENTS: None.

RAZOR SYSTEM FOR HIGHWAY TRUCK

Mr. Finch asked if the price for the razor system for the Highway truck will remain the same, suggesting maybe the Town should consider purchasing the system for two trucks, since it is a good price. Mr. Hayes stated that it is not possible to know if the price will increase, but stressed that he wants to try the system on one truck first, to make sure it does as promised.

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CEMETERIES

Mr. Francisco asked that a notice be put on the Town website asking all decorations be removed from Shawsville and Conklin Cemeteries by November 15, 2026. He stated that he will have a report on income from the cemeteries at the October 27 meeting.

YOUTH SPORTS

Mr. Farley stated that the soccer season will end on October 22, but the goals will be kept outside until it snows. He stated that wrestling signups have begun, adding that the first tournament will be December 6.

CODE OFFICE

Mr. Dumian stated that he is still promoting the idea of shared services with the Town of Binghamton for the Code Office, adding that a couple of people are interested in the position of Code Officer after Nick Pappas retires next year.

There being no further business to come before the Board, Mr. Farley moved for adjournment, seconded by Mr. Francisco. The meeting adjourned at 6:46 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Sherrie L. Jacobs
Town Clerk