

Minutes of January 13, 2026 Germantown Reorganizational meeting, held in the Germantown Town Hall, 50 Palatine Park Road, Germantown, NY and via Zoom, commencing at 6:33pm.

Present: Supervisor Helsley
Councilman Sullivan
Councilman Kukon
Councilmember Suarez

Present via Zoom: Councilman Christian

Absent: Town Attorney, Corinne Smith

Recorded by: Town Clerk, Joyce Vale

Supervisor Helsley opened the Reorganizational meeting and Led with the Pledge to the Flag.

Resolution #1: Resolve to set the time/date for regular meetings as the second Tuesday of each month at 7:00pm unless public notice is given otherwise.

Resolution #2: Resolve to set Town Board meeting Rules & Procedures as:

1. Call to order
2. Acceptance of the minutes of the previous meeting(s)
3. Financial Review of previous month report
4. Pay the Audited Bills
5. Written communications to the Board
6. Old Business
7. New Business
8. Supervisor' Report
9. Comments from Councilmembers
10. Invitation to the Public to approach the Board, with a three-minute time limit
11. Enter into Executive session if necessary
12. Adjournment of meeting

Resolution #3: Resolve to name the Register Star as the Official Newspaper.

Resolution #4: Resolve to name the Bank of Greene County as the Town bank for deposits.

Resolution #5: Resolve to name the Bank of Greene County as the Town bank for the collection point for real estate taxes.

Resolution #6: Resolve to authorize the Town Supervisor to sign 2026 State and Local Youth contracts.

Resolution #7: Resolve to designate Town Supervisor as Official Representative to Association of Town's Annual meeting, Austin Sullivan as Alternate.

Resolution #8: Resolve to authorize checks to be signed with a facsimile signature of the Town Supervisor as reproduced by a check signer according to Town Law §29(3).

Resolution #9: Resolve to approve bond coverage for Town employees subject to the terms of the policy.

Motion to approve Resolutions 1-9 made by Councilman Kukon, seconded by Councilmember Suarez, with all in favor and none opposed.

Resolution #10: Resolve to accept the following recommendations of the Town Supervisor in designating accountants, bookkeepers, supervisors, administrative assistants and clerk typists:

1. Pursuant to Section 29 of the Town Law
2. Necessary for the proper conduct of the affairs of the Town of Germantown
3. Within the limits of 2026 budgeted funds

Pursuant to Town Law, the Town Supervisor makes the following appointments for the year:

Town Clerk Joyce Vale: Registrar of Vital Statistics

Deputy Town Clerk and Deputy Registrar of Vital Statistics: Kerrie Abela

Justice Court Clerks: Currently vacant due to resignation

Deputy Town Supervisor: Austin Sullivan

Budget Officer: David Helsley

Part-time Confidential Administrative Assistant to the Supervisor: Jami DelPozzo

Part-time clerk/typist to ZBA and Planning Board: Jami DelPozzo

Town Board Committees:

- Town Government: David Helsley and Kaare Christian (Planning, Zoning, Court, Town Clerk, & Administration)
- DPW: John Kukon and David Helsley
- Parks, Recreation and History Dept: Sarah Suarez and Kaare Christian
- Ballfields and Camp: Austin Sullivan and John Kukon
- Communications and Technology: Sarah Suarez and Austin Sullivan
- Budget and Finance: David Helsley and Austin Sullivan

Motion to approve Resolution #10 made by Councilmember Suarez, seconded by Councilman Kukon, with all in favor and none opposed.

Resolution #11: Resolve to name Brian Fitzgerald, CPA to handle the Town bookkeeping and accounting services, including payroll for 2026.

Motion to approve Resolution #11 made by Councilman Sullivan, seconded by Councilmember Suarez, with all in favor and none opposed.

Resolution #12: Resolve to appoint Whitbeck, Benedict and Smith to represent the Town on legal matters.

Motion to approve Resolution #12 made by Councilman Sullivan, seconded by Councilmember Suarez, with all in favor and none opposed.

Resolution #13: Resolve to appoint Columbia Greene Humane Society as official dog shelter, and Phil Salvatore to serve at the pleasure of the Board as Dog Control Officer.

Motion to approve Resolution #13 made by Councilmember Suarez, seconded by Councilman Kukon, with all in favor and none opposed.

Resolution #14: Chris Brown will be leaving the area and we will need to advertise for a replacement Planning Board Member. No appointment.

Resolution #15: Resolve to re-appoint Theresa Repko to the Zoning Board of Appeals for a 5 year term, 1/1/26 through 12/31/2030, and as Chairperson of the Zoning Board of Appeals to serve at the pleasure of the Town Board.

Motion to approve Resolution #15 made by Councilman Sullivan, seconded by Councilman Kukon, with all in favor and none opposed.

Resolution #16: Resolve to authorize Town Justices to hire a Stenographer when necessary 1. For a proper record of testimony 2. Within the limit of 2026 budgeted funds.

Resolution #17: Resolve to authorize electronic delivery of local laws to Town Board members pursuant to Municipal Home Rule section 20 to townboard@germantownny.gov

Motion to approve Resolutions #16 & 17 made by Councilmember Suarez, seconded by Councilman Kukon, with all in favor and none opposed.

Resolution #18: Resolve to re-appoint Thomas Shannon Town Historian.

Motion to approve Resolution #18 made by Councilmember Suarez, seconded by Councilman Sullivan, with all in favor with no opposed.

Resolution #19: Resolve to re-appoint Delaware Engineering, D.P.C to represent the Town of day-to-day engineering matters and projects as specified by the Town Board.

Resolution #20: Resolve to re-appoint Brandon Mullins Town Code Enforcement Officer.

Motion to approve Resolutions #19 & 20 made by Councilmember Suarez, seconded by Councilman Kukon, with all in favor and none opposed.

Resolution #21: Set the Local Law Permit and Application fees, and Kellner Activity Building Rental Fees as Follows:

Alarm Permit Registration Fee- \$25.00

Alarm Permit Renewal Fee- \$5.00

Filming Permit- \$100.00 per day Kellner Activity Building Rental Fees:

- Community Groups- No Charge, No Deposit- Fees will be charged for Damages

- Non-Profit- \$25.00 Rental Fee- Kitchen use included, No Deposit, Fees will be charged for Damages.

- Germantown Resident- \$25.00 Rental Fee, \$25.00 Fee for Kitchen use, \$100 Deposit, Fees will be charged for Damages.

- Non-Germantown Resident- \$50.00 Rental Fee, \$25.00 Fee for Kitchen use, \$100 Deposit, Fees will be charged for Damages.

Motion to approve Resolution #21 made by Councilmember Suarez, seconded by Councilman Kukon, with all in favor and none opposed.

Resolution #22: Resolve to re-appoint Garrett Montgomery as the Chairperson of the Planning Board to serve at the pleasure of the Town Board.

Motion to approve Resolution #22 made by Councilman Sullivan, seconded by Councilmember Suarez, with all in favor and none opposed.

Resolution #23: Resolve to re-appoint Wendy Fieser to the Advisory Council of the Columbia County for the Aging.

Motion to approve Resolution #23 made by Councilman Kukon, seconded by Councilman Sullivan, with all in favor and none opposed.

Resolution #24: We will need to advertise and appoint a new member to the Columbia County Traffic Safety Board due to Alex Stier's unfortunate passing.

Resolution #25: Resolve to establish a rate per mile for official town travel of \$0.725 per mile.

Resolution #26: Resolve to adopt remaining current policies and procedures for 2026.1.30

Resolution #27: Resolve to appoint North Shore Solutions as Town webmaster.

Motion to approve Resolutions #25, 26 & 27 made by Councilman Kukon, seconded by Councilmember Suarez, with all in favor and none opposed.

Resolution #28: Resolve to accept salaries as stated in, and to the limit provided for, in the 2026 Budget as follows:

Supervisor- \$6,000 year/paid bi-weekly

Deputy Supervisor- \$2,500 year/paid bi-weekly

Justice (2)- \$8,050 year for each/paid bi-weekly

Councilperson (4)- \$3,000 year for each/paid bi-weekly

Town Clerk- \$9,064 year/paid bi-weekly

Deputy Town Clerk(s)- \$19.50 hour/paid bi-weekly

Registrar of Vital Statistics- \$500 year/paid bi-weekly

Tax Collector- \$4,225 year/paid bi-weekly

Sewer Billing stipend- \$1,650 year/paid bi-weekly

Assessor- \$21,000 year/paid bi-weekly

Dog Control Officer- \$5,000 year/paid bi-weekly

Highway Superintendent- \$68,000 year/paid bi-weekly

Deputy Highway Superintendent- \$2,500 year/paid bi-weekly

Town Historian- \$2,175 year/paid bi-weekly

Chief Financial (Budget) Officer- \$1,200 year/paid bi-weekly

Code Enforcement Officer- \$17,500 year/paid bi-weekly

Confidential Administrative Assistant to the Supervisor- \$25 hour/paid bi-weekly

Clerk typist to the Planning Board and Zoning Board of Appeals- \$25 hour/paid bi-weekly

Justice Court Clerk- \$23 hour/paid bi-weekly

Assessment Review Board- \$150 year per member/paid by voucher

Planning Board members- \$50 per meeting attended, paid bi-annually

Planning Board chair- \$75 per meeting attended, paid bi-annually

Zoning Board of Appeals members- \$50 per meeting attended, paid bi-annually

Zoning Board of Appeals chair- \$75 per meeting attended, paid bi-annually

Motor Equipment Operator- \$19.00- \$24.52 hour/paid bi-weekly subject to CBA

Maintenance Worker- \$27.15 hour/paid bi-weekly subject to CBA

Seasonal or temporary Laborer- \$15.00- \$18.00 hour/paid bi-weekly, as needed

Motion to approve Resolution #28 made by Councilman Sullivan, seconded by Councilmember Suarez, with all in favor and none opposed.

Resolution #29: Resolve that upon recommendation of the Department of Audit and Control, an Annual Resolution recognizing intent of previous town boards regarding Reserve Funds.

And RESOLVE that the Germantown Town Board, on this 13th day of January 2026, does hereby recognize the intent of previous town boards that created the following Capital Reserve Accounts and Capital Repair Reserve Accounts as follows:

- Sidewalk Reserve Fund
- Highway Reserve Fund
- Lorenz Memorial Reserve Fund
- Capital Reserve Fund I
- Capital Reserve Fund II
- Capital Reserve Fund III (Pedestrian)
- Cheviot Cemetery Reserve Fund
- Cemetery Reserve Fund
- Economic Development Special Reserve Fund
- Parsonage Special Reserve Fund
- Celebration Special Reserve Fund

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the town of Germantown does hereby recreate these Capital Funds as they exist today.

Motion to approve Resolution #29 made by Councilman Sullivan, seconded by Councilman Kukon, with all in favor and none opposed.

Resolution #30: Resolve to acknowledge Highway Superintendent's appointment: Deputy Highway Superintendent- George Sharpe Jr.

Motion to approve Resolution #30 made by Councilmember Suarez, seconded by Councilman Kukon, with all in favor and none opposed.

Meeting closed at 6:43pm

Respectfully submitted,