

Minutes of July 14, 2026 Germantown Public Hearing on Local Law B Governing the Use of Town Parks and Facilities held in the Germantown Town Hall, 50 Palatine Park Road, Germantown, NY and via Zoom, commencing at 7:00pm.

Present: Supervisor Helsley
Councilman Sullivan
Councilman Kukon
Councilman Christian

Town Attorney, Corinne Smith

Recorded by: Town Clerk, Joyce Vale

Supervisor Helsley opened the Public Hearing and then Led with the Pledge to the Flag.

Supervisor Helsley asked if there were any comments from the public.

Phillip Williams, who is on the Board of Directors of the Germantown Sportsman's Club read over the proposal and he and the members of the Sportsman's Club are concerned about the lease. Phillip said the Sportsman's Club leases the land and wonders if there is any other way there lease would be handled under this proposed Local Law.

Corinne answered by saying this Local Law would not change anything that is in the current lease. Phillip said this lease is a contract and would this Local Law superimpose this contract? Corinne said the definition will be further defined to make things clear. Corinne responded by adopting this Local Law it would make the rules and regulations clear for all of the public parks & recreational facilities. Corinne said this Local Law does not have to do with the Sportsman's. Corinne said currently there are two Local Laws from 1983 & 2005 that regulate and govern the parks and they are outdated and are not consistent with posted regulations on the sites.

Phillip agreed with the Town Board and appreciates the board taking their time to codify and making things up to date.

Arthur Cady said the definition references the lease and in the leased boundaries including the historic access to the Roe Jan along the Old Dale's Bridge Road. Art said the old access is a state asset and by defining it into the lease would change the status as parkland and it can't just turn into parkland without going through legal proceedings. Art said the existing rights to the water still exist. Art mentioned the Riverledge "ROW" which establishes it as a town recreational asset therefore it is subject to the proposed Local Law. Art said there was a suggestion from Jeff Anzevino to recognize the state assets in the Waterfront plan.

Supervisor Helsley said there were a few emails along that same line that Mr. Cady has just spoke about.

Corinne said this Local Law does not change or create any new public parks. Corinne thinks there is some confusion about the definition which may need to be revised slightly.

Supervisor asked for Town Board comments

Councilman Sullivan would like the parks specifically listed along with the rules listed in the law and not have it be changed by Resolution by this Board or any future Board. Corinne said the intent is to keep the public hearing open and the SEQR could be done on the proposed Local Law and when the Local Law is revised make available to the public.

Councilman Sullivan said the point of this law is that the current law is so outdated and the Town Board has been talking about updating the Local Law for about 5 years.

Councilman Christian is not against what Councilman Sullivan said just making it clear about naming the parks but Councilman Christian said with the pickleball application they came across some difficulties on what is a park.

Corinne recommends adjourning until August 11, 2026 at 7pm.

Motion to adjourn the public hearing at 7:22pm made by Councilman Kukon, seconded by Councilman Sullivan, with all in favor and none opposed.

Respectfully submitted,