

January 13, 2026

Regular Meetings

Minutes of a Regular Meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Southport held at the Southport Town Hall, 1139 Pennsylvania Avenue on January 13, 2026.

Members Present: Supervisor Joseph Roman, Council Members Daniel Hurley, Daniel Williams, Rich Mathews

Members Absent: Council Member Timothy Steed

Others Present: Attorney Kimberlee Balok-Middaugh, Code Enforcement Peter Rocchi, Deputy Supervisor Kathleen Szerszen, Town Clerk Carolyn Renko, Deputy Town Clerk Marianne Schrom

The meeting was called to order by Supervisor Joseph Roman at 6:00 p.m., followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America.

Moment of Silence – Supervisor Joseph Roman

Monthly reports were received as follows:

Town Clerk Carolyn A. Renko

Town Clerk & Dog License Fees	\$ 1,528.91
Funds Turned to State & County Agencies	\$ <u>1,827.59</u>
	\$ 3,356.50

Code Enforcement Officer

Fees Collected:	Building Permit Fees	\$ 727.20
	Building Permit Values	\$ 147,800.00
	Operating Permit Fees	\$ 350.00
	Site Plan Fees	\$ 150.00

Justice Office  
Elmira City Animal Control  
Recreation/Aging/Youth Services  
Residential Deputy

Council Member Mathews made a motion, Council Member Hurley seconded to accept the monthly reports as filed.

Under Correspondence, Supervisor Roman read communication that the Town received a matching grant up to \$675,000.00 through NYS Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation towards the Chapel Park Community Center Redevelopment Project.

Council Member Hurley made a motion, Council Member Williams seconded to accept the minutes of December 9, 2025 Regular Meeting and January 5, 2026 Organizational Meeting.

Supervisor Roman read the rules of Public Comments.

Under Public Comments, Agenda and Discussion items only, no one wished to speak.

RESOLUTION NO. 30-2026

APPROVING ABSTRACT OF GENERAL FUND CLAIMS #13 OF 2025

Resolution by: Williams  
Seconded by: Mathews

RESOLVED, that the Abstract of General Fund Claims #13, submitted by the Town Clerk for the month of December 2025, No. 609 through No. 647, with the exception of No.'s 612, 614, 622, 623, 624, 631, 632, and 647, not to exceed \$50,203.77, has been approved for payment by this Town Board.

AYES: Hurley, Williams, Mathews, Roman  
NOES: None  
ABSENT: Steed  
CARRIED.

RESOLUTION NO. 31-2026

APPROVING ABSTRACT OF GENERAL FUND CLAIMS

Resolution by: Hurley  
Seconded by: Williams

RESOLVED, that the Abstract of General Fund Claims submitted by the Town Clerk for the month of December 2025, No.'s 612, 614, 622, 623, 624, 631, 632, 647, not to exceed \$3,925.85, has been audited and approved by this Town Board.

AYES: Hurley, Williams, Roman  
NOES: None  
ABSENT: Steed  
ABSTAIN: Mathews  
CARRIED.

RESOLUTION NO. 32-2026

APPROVING ABSTRACT OF GENERAL FUND CLAIMS #1 OF 2026

Resolution by: Mathews  
Seconded by: Hurley

RESOLVED, that the Abstract of General Fund Claims #1, submitted by the Town Clerk for the month of January 2026, No. 1 through No. 34, not to exceed \$90,410.32, has been audited and approved for payment by this Town Board.

AYES: Hurley, Williams, Mathews, Roman  
NOES: None  
ABSENT: Steed  
CARRIED.

RESOLUTION NO. 33-2026

APPROVING ABSTRACT OF HIGHWAY FUND CLAIMS #13 OF 2025

Resolution by: Williams  
Seconded by: Hurley

RESOLVED, that the Abstract of Highway Fund Claims #13, submitted by the Town Clerk for the month of December 2025, No. 244 through No. 259, not to exceed \$55,296.71, has been approved for payment by this Town Board.

AYES: Hurley, Williams, Mathews, Roman  
NOES: None  
ABSENT: Steed  
CARRIED.

RESOLUTION NO. 34-2026

APPROVING ABSTRACT OF HIGHWAY FUND CLAIMS #1 OF 2026

Resolution by: Mathews  
Seconded by: Williams

RESOLVED, that the abstract of Highway Fund Claims #1, submitted by the Town Clerk for the month of January 2026, No. 1 through No. 10, not to exceed \$58,338.43, has been approved for payment by this Town Board.

AYES: Hurley, Williams, Mathews, Roman  
NOES: None  
ABSENT: Steed

CARRIED.

RESOLUTION NO. 35-2026

APPROVING ABSTRACT OF LIGHT FUND CLAIM #13 OF 2026

Resolution by: Hurley  
Seconded by: Williams

RESOLVED, that the Abstract of Light Fund Claim #13 of 2026, submitted by the Town Clerk for the month of December 2025, No. 12, not to exceed \$8,115.38, has been approved for payment by this Town Board.

AYES: Hurley, Williams, Mathews, Roman  
NOES: None  
ABSENT: Steed  
CARRIED.

RESOLUTION NO. 36-2026

APPROVING ABSTRACT OF FIRE FUND CLAIMS #1 OF 2026

Resolution by: Mathews  
Seconded by: Hurley

RESOLVED, that the Abstract of Light Fund Claim #1 of 2026, submitted by the Town Clerk for the month of January 2026, No. 1 through No. 3, not to exceed \$22,923.75, has been approved for payment by this Town Board.

AYES: Hurley, Williams, Mathews, Roman  
NOES: None  
ABSENT: Steed  
CARRIED.

RESOLUTION NO. 37-2026

APPOINTING CHAD PRESTON AS EQUIPMENT OPERATOR #2

Resolution by: Williams  
Seconded by: Hurley

RESOLVED, that Chad Preston be and he hereby is promoted to the position of Equipment Operator #2 for the Highway Department of the Town of Southport, effective January 13, 2026, and be it further

RESOLVED, that Chad Preston receive an hourly salary in the amount of \$33.65 as compensation for his duties.

AYES: Hurley, Williams, Mathews, Roman  
NOES: None  
ABSENT: Steed

CARRIED.

RESOLUTION NO. 38-2026

APPOINTING KATHLEEN SZERSZEN AS DEPUTY TOWN SUPERVISOR

Resolution by: Hurley  
Seconded by: Williams

RESOLVED, that the Supervisor be and he hereby is authorized to designate a Deputy Supervisor for the year 2026 to conduct the affairs of his office during his absence therefrom and is granted the power to act generally for and in place of the Supervisor, with no limitation, and be it further

RESOLVED, that Kathleen Szerszen is hereby appointed as Deputy Town Supervisor for the year 2026 and is authorized to act generally for and in place of the Supervisor.

AYES: Hurley, Williams, Mathews, Roman  
NOES: None  
ABSENT: Steed  
CARRIED.

RESOLUTION NO. 39-2026

ACCEPTING PROPOSAL OF HARTER SECREST & EMERY, LLP TO PROVIDE LEGAL COUNSEL TO THE TOWN OF SOUTHPORT PLANNING BOARD AND ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS

Resolution by: Hurley  
Seconded by: Mathews

WHEREAS, the Town Board reviewed the Legal Service Proposal submitted by Harter Secrest & Emery, LLP for providing legal services to the Town of Southport, and

WHEREAS, the Town Board wishes to engage the law firm of Harter Secrest & Emery, LLP to provide legal services to the Town of Southport Planning Board and Zoning Board of Appeals.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board hereby appoints Harter Secrest & Emery LLP as Special Counsel for the year 2026 pursuant to the terms set forth in the proposal dated January 6, 2026, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Town Board authorizes the Town Supervisor to execute all documents and take any action necessary to effectuate the engagement of Harter Secrest & Emery, LLP.

AYES: Hurley, Williams, Mathews, Roman  
NOES: None  
ABSENT: Steed  
CARRIED.

RESOLUTION NO. 40-2026

DESIGNATING OFFICIAL DELEGATE TO THE 2026 ASSOCIATION OF TOWNS MEETING

Resolution by: Williams  
Seconded by: Hurley

RESOLVED, that Joseph Roman be and he hereby is designated as the official delegate to the annual Association of Towns Meeting to be held in New York City on February 15, 2026 to February 18, 2026, and the Town Clerk is directed to complete the Certificate of Designation.

AYES: Hurley, Williams, Mathews, Roman  
NOES: None  
ABSENT: Steed  
CARRIED.

RESOLUTION NO. 41-2026

APPOINTING KENT COLLIER AS AN ALTERNATE MEMBER OF THE TOWN OF SOUTHPORT PLANNING BOARD

Resolution by: Hurley  
Seconded by: Williams

RESOLVED, that Kent Collier is hereby appointed to serve the remaining term as an Alternate Member of the Town of Southport Planning Board, term to expire May, 2027.

AYES: Hurley, Williams, Mathews, Roman  
NOES: None  
ABSENT: Steed  
CARRIED.

**6:20 p.m. – Presentation by Josh Shapiro, 6<sup>th</sup> District Counsel & Judge Cocchiola, 6<sup>th</sup> Judicial District Administrative Judge for Town & Village Courts.**

Under Public Comment, Mike Smith from 786 Cedar Street and 14<sup>th</sup> District Legislature stated he was contacted about a property on Hillview Drive that has a camper in the driveway that people are allegedly living in, as well as other garbage/rubbish on the property. Mr. Smith stated that he has been informed that there are dogs located at that property that run loose and have allegedly attacked residents who were walking in the road. Mr. Smith stated Animal Control and police have been notified. He also commented that the Southport Volunteer Fire Department was just made aware of the Hopkins Place, LLC development which consists of the old Hopkins Street School site being converted 24 residential apartments.

Lynn Thirion from 23 Mt. View Drive asked once again to have speed limit signs posted at the bottom and top of Mt. View Drive because of the excessive speed of cars that travel on her road.

Ira Manhoff from 834 Dutch Hill Road read and presented a Code of Conduct for Board Members that he and other residents drafted.

Council Member Mathews made a motion, Council Member Williams seconded to adjourn the meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Carolyn A. Renko, Town Clerk

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