10-8-26 TOWN BOARD MEETING MINUTES
Supporting documents for this meeting are available in the Town Clerk's Office

Members Present: Supervisor Arthur Wright, Highway Superintendent Andy Gilbert, Town Clerk Colleen DeMarsh, Town Board Members; Tim Hilker, Jim Brewster & Chuck Ovitt.
Members Absent: Attorney Raeann Johnson, Town Board Member Tina Ladd.

6:50 P.M. Supervisor Wright opened Public Hearing on Proposed Local Law 3 of 2026.
6:51 P.M. After no public comments, Supervisor Wright closed the Public Hearing.

7:00 P.M. Supervisor Wright called the meeting to order and all cited The Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of Pre-Paids:

General:	**$ 5,784.72**	**Highway:**	**$ 12,118.96**
Sewer:	**$ 150.00**		

Motion made by Chuck Ovitt. Second by Tim Hilker. All Ayes. Approved.

Approval of Paying Bills:

General:	**$ 19,001.76**	**Highway:**	**$ 82,182.35**
Water 1:	**$ 1,517.03**	**Water 2:**	**$ 2,109.84**
Sewer:	**$ 1,936.12**	**HO-7:**	**$ 16,000.00**
Park:	**$ 720.00**		

Motion made by Chuck Ovitt. Second by Tim Hilker. All Ayes. Approved.

Budget Transfers
GENERAL
TRANSFER $5386.66 FROM CODE 7110.1 (PARKS P/S) TO CODE 1430.1 (PERSONNEL P/S)
TRANSFER $303.83 FROM CODE 6989.4 (ECONOMIC OPP) TO CODE 8020.4 (PLANNING)
WATER ONE SW1
TRANSFER $145.34 FROM CODE 8330.4 (PURIFICATION) TO CODE 8320.4 (SOURCE)
TRANSFER $490.00 FROM CODE 8310.4 (ADMIN) TO CODE 9030.8 (SOCIAL SECURITY)
WATER TWO SW2
TRANSFER $411.80 FROM CODE 8330.2 (PURIFICATION) TO CODE 8330.4 (PURIFICATION)
TRANSFER $548.00 FROM CODE 8320.4 (SOURCE) TO CODE 9030.8 (SOCIAL SECURITY)

SEWER
DEBIT CODE 909 (FUND BAL) BY $6431.00, DEBIT CODE 960 (APPROPRIATIONS) SUB-CODE 8110.1 (PERSONAL SERV)
Motion made by Chuck Ovitt. Second by Tim Hilker. All Ayes. Approved.

Provided in Folders: 9/10/26 & 9/24/26 Minutes, Proposed Local Law 3 of 2026, & Supervisor Wright's Resignation/Retirement Letter.
Reports; Town Clerk & DEC, Building Inspector, Fuel, Operating Statement & Supervisor

Public Comments – no public comments.

Acceptance of 9/10/26 AND 9/24/26 Town Board Meeting Minutes
Motion made by Chuck Ovitt. Second by Tim Hilker. All Ayes. Approved.

Acceptance of September 2026 Supervisor's Report
Motion made by Chuck Ovitt. Second by Tim Hilker. All Ayes. Approved.

Highway Superintendent's Report:
Highway Superintendent Gilbert reported that
- 3rd Avenue paving is complete. Shoulders still need to be finished.
- They are building the sand pile for winter months.
- They are putting the plows on the trucks for winter months.

Supervisor's Report:
Supervisor Wright asked the board to vote on Proposed Local Law 3 of 2026.

Resolution #42
Be it resolved that the Town Board of Hadley hereby adopts Local Law 3 of 2026.
Motion made by Chuck Ovitt to adopt Local Law 3 of 2026. Second by Tim Hilker. All Ayes. Approved.

TOWN OF HADLEY LOCAL LAW NUMBER 3 OF YEAR 2026
"A Local Law Amending the Code of the Town of Hadley to Extend the Moratorium Prohibiting the Acceptance, Review and Approval of Applications and Permits for Battery Energy Storage Systems"
BE IT ENACTED by the Town Board of the Town of Hadley, County of Saratoga, State of New York, as follows:
SECTION 1: PURPOSE
The Town Board previously imposed a six month Moratorium to temporarily suspend the processing of land use approvals as to Battery Energy Storage System uses, and to temporarily stop the processing of applications for and the issuance of permits, certificates of occupancy and approvals for certain land uses related to Battery Energy Storage Systems, from April 17, 2026 until October 17, 2026. A draft Local Law is being prepared to address issues presented by battery energy storage systems. However, the Town Board has determined that additional time is needed for its review of proposed regulations, finalization of a draft Local Law and compliance with statutory procedural requirements to ensure that

regulations governing Battery Energy Storage Systems adequately protect the public health, safety and welfare of the residents of the Town of Hadley. The purpose of this Local Law is to protect the health, safety and welfare of the residents of the Town of Hadley and to maintain the status quo as to certain Battery Energy Storage System uses, as the present regulations of the Town of Hadley do not necessarily adequately address this type of use. An extension of this moratorium will temporarily stop the processing of applications for and the issuance of permits, certificates of occupancy and approvals for certain land uses related to Battery Energy Storage Systems. The extension of the moratorium is for a period of six (6) months, which will allow the Town Board time to analyze and determine potential appropriate revisions to the Town of Hadley Code, including the Town of Hadley Site Plan Law, concerning this use.

SECTION 2: FINDINGS

The Town of Hadley is a rural, largely residential community located wholly within the Adirondack Park. Most of the Town consists of single-family homes. Several large water bodies are located partially or completely within the Town, including the Hudson River, the Sacandaga River, the Reservoir at Stewart's Bridge and the Great Sacandaga Lake a/k/a the Sacandaga Reservoir. Wetlands exist throughout the Town. The Town is part of a wholly volunteer Fire District. One specific area of concern and inquiry is Battery Energy Storage Systems within the Town. The Town has significant safety concerns, especially following the fire incidents at facilities across the state. The Town intends to study the safety and security of these energy storage systems, including thermal runaway, off gassing and toxicity, stranded energy, ways to prevent fires, prevent by-product contamination, and ensure emergency responders have the necessary training and information to prepare and deploy resources in the event of a fire. The Town is aware of extremely contentious public hearings and negative public opinion regarding proposed Battery Energy Storage Systems in nearby Towns. In short, the Town is very concerned with the detrimental effects of Battery Energy Storage Systems on the health, safety, welfare and quality of life of the residents and citizens of the Town of Hadley. The Town of Hadley hereby finds that without a temporary halt on the processing, permitting and approval for Battery Energy Storage Systems, there is the potential that such uses could be located in unsuitable areas within the Town and / or in areas without adequate regulations in place. The potential for the unsuitable location of and lack of proper regulations for such uses would have materially adverse impacts on the Town. The Town Board finds that it is in need of time to perform the necessary analysis of the potential types of Battery Energy Storage System facilities that could be located in the Town. By maintaining the status quo regarding such uses, the Town Board can provide for the planned orderly growth and development of the Town. The Town Board deems that it is in the best interest of the general health, safety and welfare of the residents of the Town of Hadley to impose a six (6) month moratorium prohibiting the review and approval of applications and permits for Battery Energy Storage Systems in the Town of Hadley.

SECTION 3: DEFINITIONS

Battery Energy Storage System:

One or more devices, assembled together, capable of storing energy in order to supply electrical energy at a future time, not to include a stand-alone 12-vold car battery or an electric motor vehicle. A Battery Energy Storage System is classified as a Tier 1 or Tier 2 Battery Energy Storage System as follows:

(1) Tier 1 Battery Energy Storage Systems have an aggregate energy capacity less than or equal to 600kWh and if in a room or enclosed area, consist if only a single energy storage system technology.

(2) Tier 2 Battery Energy Storage Systems have an aggregate energy capacity greater than 600kWh or are comprised of more than one (1) storage battery technology in a room or enclosed area.

SECTION 4: MORATORIUM EXTENSION

The Hadley Town Board hereby extends the Moratorium on the construction, establishment, installation, review or approval of any new or expanded land uses relating to Battery Energy Storage Systems, from the expiration of the current moratorium on October 17, 2026 until April 17, 2027, and

further provides that no application that no application may be processed and no permits, certificates of occupancy, variances, denials, determinations or interpretations may be issued or granted for any land uses relating to Battery Energy Storage Systems, during that period. This Local Law shall be binding on the Town Board, Planning Board, Building Inspector / Code Enforcement Officer and all Town officials and employees and any applicant or real property owner in the Town of Hadley desiring to apply for or receive a permit, certificate of occupancy, site plan approval or approvals in the Town of Hadley. During this period of the moratorium, the Town Board shall endeavor to complete all reasonable and necessary review, study, analysis and, if warranted, revisions to the Town of Hadley Code, including the Town of Hadley Site Plan Law. During the period of the moratorium, no applications will be accepted nor permits, certificates of occupancy or approvals issued, which would authorize development within the Town for land uses relating to Battery Energy Storage Systems, as described above.

SECTION 5: ADDITIONAL EXTENSIONS

The moratorium shall be in effect for a period of six (6) consecutive months from October 17, 2026 until April 17, 2027. This term may be extended for a cumulative period of an additional six (6) months, if necessary, by Resolution of the Town Board.

SECTION 6: TERMINATION

This moratorium may be terminated earlier than April 17, 2027 upon enactment of local legislation governing Battery Energy Storage Facilities.

SECTION 7: EFFECT ON OTHER LAWS

To the extent that any law, ordinance, rule or regulation, or parts thereof, are in conflict with the provisions of this Local Law, including all provisions of Article 16 of the New York State Town Law concerning special use permit, site plan, building permit and certificates of occupancy procedure and requirement, this Local law shall control and supersede such law, ordinance, rule or regulation.

SECTION 8: VARIANCE

An application for a variance from the terms of this moratorium may be submitted to the Town Clerk of the Town of Hadley. The Town Board shall have the power, in their discretion, after a public hearing, to vary or modify the application of any provision of this Local Law upon its determination that strict application of this Local Law would impose extraordinary hardship upon the applicant and that the variance granted would not adversely affect the health, safety or welfare of the citizens of the Town or significantly conflict with the general purposes and intent of this Local Law. The Town Board shall conduct a Public Hearing on the application on not less than five (5) days' notice and shall make its decision within thirty (30) days after the close of the Public Hearing. Any project which is granted a variance from this Local Law shall be subject to all requirements under the Town Code of the Town of Hadley and Laws of the State of New York which would have been applicable to the project if the moratorium had not been adopted, including but not limited to Site Plan Review.

SECTION 9: SEVERABILITY

If any part of this Local Law shall be declared invalid by a court of competent jurisdiction, such declaration shall not affect or impair in any way any other provision and all other provisions shall remain in full force and effect.

SECTION 10: SEQRA This local law constitutes a Type II Action under the State Environmental Quality Review Act inasmuch as it constitutes the adoption of a moratorium on land development or construction. As such, this project is not subject to review under the State Environmental Quality Act.

SECTION 11: SEVERABILITY

If any part of this Local Law shall be declared invalid by a court of competent jurisdiction, such declaration shall not affect or impair in any way any other provision and all other provisions shall remain in full force and effect.

SECTION 12: EFFECTIVE DATE This Local Law shall take effect upon filing with the New York State Secretary of State and shall be operative as of October 17, 2026 as provided in paragraph 4 above.

Supervisor Wright also requested that the town board schedule a Public Hearing for Proposed 2027 Town Budget.

Resolution #43
Be it resolved that the Town Board of Hadley hereby schedules a Public Hearing for Proposed 2027 Town Budget on Thursday, November 5th at 6:45 p.m. at the Hadley Town Hall.
Motion made by Chuck Ovitt. Second by Tim Hilker. All Ayes. Approved.

Supervisor Wright also requested that the Town Board pass a resolution to hold November's meeting on November 5th, 2026, instead of November 12th. 2026 so that the Budget can be adopted on time.

Resolution #44
Be it resolved that the Town Board of Hadley hereby approves having the November Town Board Meeting on November 5th, 2026 instead of November 12th, 2026 in order to adopt the proposed 2027 Budget on time.
Motion made by Chuck Ovitt. Second by Tim Hilker. All Ayes. Approved.

Supervisor Wright also reported that Saratoga County recently passed a Veteran's Exemption that gives Veteran's that are 100% disabled and unemployable due to a military injury, 100% exemption from paying county taxes.
Supervisor Wright has asked the Town Assessor to report to the Town Board at the November meeting as to how many Veterans are eligible and how Hadley taxpayers would be affected if we pass the exemption at the local level.

Town Clerk Report
Town Clerk DeMarsh read aloud a Proclamation of Appreciation to Supervisor Wright as he begins his retirement;

PROCLAMATION OF APPRECIATION

WHEREAS, **Supervisor Arthur "Mo" Wright** has dedicated **29** years of Exemplary service to **the Town of Hadley** demonstrating Leadership & Commitment; and

WHEREAS, throughout his career, **Supervisor Arthur "Mo" Wright** proved to be a fiscally responsible leader by keeping the budget affordable while maintaining services to the town of **Hadley** residents; and

WHEREAS, Supervisor Arthur "Mo" Wright has always been someone who "tells it like it is" and kept it real even when it wasn't the easiest thing to do; and

WHEREAS, **Supervisor Arthur "Mo" Wright** was elected to the Town Board in **1997** and served as Town Board Member until his election to Town Supervisor starting in **2008;**
and

WHEREAS, in **2016**, **Supervisor Arthur "Mo" Wright** was elected by the **Saratoga County Board of Supervisors** to be **Chairman**. He became the first Supervisor from the Town of Hadley to lead the Saratoga County Board since **1963;** and

WHEREAS, his retirement marks the conclusion of an extraordinary chapter in the Town of Hadley's History and the beginning of a well-deserved new journey;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Elected, Appointed and Hired Employees of the Town of Hadley, do hereby extend our deepest gratitude to **Supervisor Arthur "Mo" Wright** for his years of loyal service, invaluable contributions, and leadership. We wish you a Retirement filled with Great Health, Much Happiness, and Many New Adventures.

7:07 P.M. Supervisor Wright entertained a motion to adjourn.
Motion made by Jim Brewster. Second by Tim Hilker. All Ayes. Approved.

UPCOMING MEETINGS - Thursday, November 5th, 2026 at 7pm
**Please note this is the 1st Thursday of the month.*

FALL LEAF & BRUSH PICK UP IS THE WEEK OF OCTOBER 26TH.

Open House and Cake on October 29th from 11-3 at Town Hall. Stop in to wish Mo a Happy Retirement!

Mo,
Enjoy Retirement!
We wish you happiness during this next Journey of your life.