

April 8, 2025

Regular meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Sparta was held April 8, 2025 at 7:00 pm.

Members present: Deputy Supervisor Deb Halpenny, Councilmember Aaron Schreiner, Mary Ellyn Calabrese and Bill Smith.

Absent: Supervisor Mark Schuster.

Minutes of the March 11, 2025 meeting were read. A motion was made by Aaron Schreiner and seconded by Bill Smith to accept the minutes. All voted yes. Carried.

Assessor Holley Smalt reviewed her report.

Code Enforcement Officer Ron Maxwell reviewed his report.

Highway Superintendent Kevin Robinson reviews his report.

Attorney Eli McWhinney reviewed the process and procedures of the Solar Local Law to be passed by the Town.

A motion was made by Bill Smith and seconded by Aaron Schreiner to pass the following Resolution:

**TOWN OF SPARTA  
RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING A PUBLIC HEARING ON A PROPOSED LOCAL LAW ENTITLED:  
“TOWN OF SPARTA LOCAL SOLAR LAW”**

**WHEREAS**, The Town Board of the Town of Sparta met at a regular board meeting at the Town Hall located at located at 8374 Sparta Center, Dansville, New York on the 8th day of April, 2025, commencing at 7:00 P.M., at which time and place the following members were:

Present:	Deputy Supervisor	Deb Halpenny
	Councilmember	Aaron Schreiner
	Councilmember	Bill Smith
	Councilmember	Mary Ellyn Calabrese
Absent:	Supervisor	Mark Schuster

**WHEREAS**, all Town Board Members, having due notice of said meeting, and that pursuant to Section 94 of the Public Officers Law (Public Meetings Law), said meeting was open to the general public and due and proper notice of the time and place whereof was given as required by law; and

**WHEREAS**, the Town Board of the Town of Sparta is considering the adoption of a new solar energy law to advance and protects the public health, safety and welfare of the Town of Sparta while facilitating the production of renewable energy; and

**WHEREAS**, the Town Board, in consultation with the Town Attorney, has produced as draft local law to regulate solar energy systems, such law being entitled: “Town of Sparta Local Solar Law”; and

**WHEREAS**, the Town Board of the Town of Sparta finds it in the best interest of the Town to hold a public hearing to consider the adoption of said local law.

**NOW ON MOTION OF** Bill Smith which has been duly seconded by Aaron Schreiner, be it

**RESOLVED**, by the Town Board of the Town of Sparta will hold a public hearing on the proposed adoption of said Local Law on the 6th day of May, 2025 at 7:05 P.M., at which time all interested parties and citizens for or against the proposed law will be heard; and be it further

**RESOLVED**, by the Town Board of the Town of Sparta that the Town Clerk is hereby directed to place the Notice of Public Hearing on the Town Notice Board, and is also directed to publish the Notice of Public Hearing in the Town of Sparta’s Official Newspaper.

Ayes:	4
Nays:	0
Absent/Abstain:	1

Motion carried.

A motion was made by Mary Ellyn Calabrese and seconded by Aaron Schreiner to pass the following Resolution:

**RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN BOARD  
OF THE TOWN OF SPARTA  
TO DECLARE ITS INTENT TO SEEK LEAD AGENCY STATUS  
AND MAKE THE 239-L REFERRAL IN REGARD TO PROPOSED LOCAL LAW NO. 1 OF 2025**

**WHEREAS**, the Town Board of the Town of Sparta met at a regular board meeting at the Town Hall located at located at 8374 Sparta Center, Dansville, New York on the 8th day of April, 2025, commencing at 7:00 P.M. at which time and place the following members were:

Present:	Deputy Supervisor	Deb Halpenny
	Councilmember	Aaron Schreiner
	Councilmember	Mary Ellyn Calabrese
	Councilmember	Bill Smith
Absent:	Supervisor	Mark Schuster

**WHEREAS**, all Board Members, having due notice of said meeting, and that pursuant to Article 7, §104 of the Public Officers Law, said meeting was open to the general public and due and proper notice of the time and place whereof was given as required by law; and

**WHEREAS**, the Town Board of the Town of Sparta is considering the adoption of a new solar energy law to advance and protects the public health, safety and welfare of the Town of Sparta while facilitating the production of renewable energy; and

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to and in accordance with the provision of Section 617.6 (Initial Review of Actions and Establishing Lead Agency) of the New York State Environmental Quality Review Regulations, (6 NYCRR part 617) the Town Board of the Town of Sparta has determined that the proposed solar law is an Unlisted Action, and shall opt to conduct a Coordinated Review seeking the input of other agencies; and

**WHEREAS**, the Town Board of the Town of Sparta believes itself to be the most appropriate agency to act as lead agent in accordance with the State Environmental Quality Review Law, as the Town Board is the legislative body with the authority to approve the Local Law known as “Town of Sparta Local Solar Law”; and

**WHEREAS**, the Town Board of the Town of Sparta must provide notice of its intent to make such declaration to the following agencies pursuant to Section 617.6 of the New York State Environmental Quality Review Act:

1. Livingston County Board of Supervisors
  2. Livingston County Planning Board
  3. New York State Department of Environmental Conservation
  4. New York State Department of Transportation
  5. New York State Office of Renewable Energy Siting
  6. Town of Conesus
  7. Town of Groveland
  8. Town of North Dansville
  9. Town of Sparta Planning Board
  10. Town of Springwater
  11. Town of Wayland
  12. Town of West Sparta
  13. Village of Dansville
  14. Village of Wayland
- ; and

**WHEREAS**, the Town Board must refer the law to the Livingston County Planning Board as required under Section 239-M of General Municipal Law; and

**WHEREAS**, the Town Board of the Town of Sparta now desires to declare its intent to seek lead agency status in regard to the proposed Local Law entitled “Town of Sparta Local Solar Law”; and

**NOW ON MOTION OF** Mary Ellyn Calabrese which has been duly seconded by Aaron Schreiner, be it

**RESOLVED**, that the Town Board of the Town of Sparta hereby declares its intent to seek lead agency status for purposes of the State Environmental Quality Review Act in regard to the proposed Local Law entitled “Town of Sparta Local Solar Law”; and be it further

**RESOLVED**, that the Town Board of the Town of Sparta has completed Part 1 of a Full Environmental Assessment Form, and provide a copy of such form along with a notice of intent to declare the Town Board of the Town of Sparta as lead agent under the State Environmental Quality Review Act, and that notices will be sent to the following agencies for a Coordinated Review in accordance with Section 617.4 of the New York State

Environmental Quality Review Regulations:

- 1. Livingston County Board of Supervisors
- 2. Livingston County Planning Board
- 3. New York State Department of Environmental Conservation
- 4. New York State Department of Transportation
- 5. New York State Office of Renewable Energy Siting
- 6. Town of Conesus
- 7. Town of Groveland
- 8. Town of Sparta Planning Board
- 9. Town of Springwater
- 10. Town of Wayland
- 11. Town of West Sparta
- 12. Village of North Dansville
- 13. Village of Wayland ; and

**RESOLVED**, that the Town Board shall hereby refer the proposed local law to the Livingston County Planning Board as required by Section 239-M of General Municipal Law.

Ayes: 4  
Nays/Absent: 1

Motion Carried.

Resignation of Tax Collector Sheila Duffy was received effective April 8, 2025.

A motion was made by Mary Ellyn Calabrese and seconded by Aaron Schreiner to appoint John Duffy as Tax Collector effective April 9, 2025. All voted yes. Carried.

General bills were audited and approved for a total amount of \$5,863.39.  
Highway bills were audited and approved for a total amount of \$19659.82  
Sparta Fire bills were audited and approved for a total amount of \$93,500.00  
Street light bills were audited and approved for a total amount of \$518.61.

A motion was made by Mary Ellyn Calabrese and seconded by Aaron Schreiner to adjourn the meeting. All voted yes. Carried.

A motion was made by Bill Smith and seconded by Aaron Schreiner to adjourn the meeting. All voted yes. Carried.

Next regular meeting will be held May 13, 2025 at 7:00 pm.

TOWN CLERK  
Sheila Duffy