

December 10, 2025

The Town Board of the Town of Harpersfield held a Board meeting on December 10, 2025.

Present were:	Lisa M. Driscoll,	Supervisor
	Erik Reeve,	Councilmember
	Patrick R. Funk,	Councilmember
	Donna VanSickell,	Councilmember
	Dwayne C. Hill,	Councilmember
Also Present:	Russell Hatch,	Supt. of Highways
	Heidi Stevens,	Town Clerk
	Thomas Giaguzzi,	Deputy Town Clerk
Others Present:	Laurie Bedford,	Assessor
	Russ Bedford	
	Nora Ortiz	
	Luis Ortiz	
	Thomas VanSickell	
	Liz Page,	Editor of the Mountain Eagle

The meeting was called to order at 7:00pm by Lisa M. Driscoll. Supervisor Driscoll let the Board and those in attendance in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Supervisor Driscoll asked the Board if there were any questions, comments or concerns regarding the minutes from November 12, 2025. The Board had no questions, comments or concerns.

A motion to accept the minutes from November 12, 2025, was made by Dwayne C. Hill and seconded by Donna VanSickell. All voting Aye.

Supervisor Driscoll asked if there were any correspondence. There was no correspondence.

Supervisor Driscoll informed the Board that next on the agenda was the Headwaters contract for the year 2026. Supervisor Driscoll mentioned that Headwaters had come to the Board and asked the Town of Harpersfield to increase the fee by \$2,000. Supervisor Driscoll had put that in the 2026 budget.

A motion was made to accept the 2026 Headwaters contract by Patrick F. Funk and seconded by Dwayne C. Hill. All voting Aye.

Councilmember Erik Reeve asked with the new contract would Headwaters be making more money? Supervisor Driscoll answered that she is not sure if they would be really making any more money. They did have a grant with Robinson Broadhurst, she believes that it runs out this year though. Supervisor Driscoll suggested that in the new year the Town of Harpersfield should have Headwaters come to a Board meeting so that the Board could ask them the questions that they have for them and so Headwaters could tell the Town how they are doing with the ambulance services that they provide. The Board is in agrees with Supervisor Driscoll. Supervisor Driscoll will be in contact with Headwaters to set that up. A discussion was had.

Supervisor Driscoll informed the Board that next on the agenda is Positive Pay with NBT bank. The Town is all set up with this new program. When the Town writes out any checks the Town at that time will need to inform the bank of what checks are written with a spread sheet showing all the information that is on each check. If the bank receives a check and it doesn't match up with the checks that are on the spread sheet. The bank will send us an email inquiring about that check. The Town can either make an exception to that check, or the bank will not cash it and send it back to the Town. A discussion was had.

Supervisor Driscoll informed the Board that next on the agenda is the changes to the Website. All of the changes have been made. The only thing that still needs to be done is the privacy policy. That will be done soon. The Town is not taking in any personal information from the public on the website, so the privacy policy should be very short and simple.

Supervisor Driscoll informed the Board that next on the agenda is closing the Transfer Station on December 24th. Luis Ortiz had asked Supervisor Driscoll if the Transfer Station could be closed on the Wednesday before Christmas which is Christmas Eve. He feels that there will not be a lot of traffic that day.

A motion was made to close the Transfer Station on December 24th by Patrick F. Funk and seconded by Donna VanSickell. All voting Aye.

Supervisor Driscoll informed the Board that she had a contract from the County Planning Department. The cost is \$3500 for them to work with the Town of Harpersfield. This would be paid at the first of the year.

A motion for the new County Planning Department contract was made by Patrick F. Funk and seconded by Dwayne C. Hill. All voting Aye.

Supervisor Driscoll informed the board that next on the agenda is CHiPS. Russ told the Board that the CHiPS paperwork is completed and in the mail. The money for the roads should come

to the Town in the middle of December. The money for the dump box should be coming in March or April of 2026. That money should go towards the 2025 budget.

Russ informed the Board that the truck that the Town is purchasing is in the shop getting gear put on it. Russ would also like to sell the 2005 F550 when the Town takes possession of the truck that is in the shop.

A motion was made to sell the 2005 F550 by Donna Van Sickell and seconded by Erik Reeve. All voting Aye.

Supervisor Driscoll asked if there were any items that Councilmembers would like to address with the Board.

Patrick F. Funk informed the Board that he had sent an email about the tax exemptions for the seniors. The Town could raise the exemption to 65%. Currently it is at 50%. Supervisor Driscoll asked Laurie Bedford, Town of Harpersfield Assessor, if she had seen this email. Laurie had not seen that email. Laurie said that this makes sense to her though. Laurie wished that the schools would keep up in the COLA increases. Laurie sends information to the schools each year but never hears back from anyone except for Charlotte Valley Central School. A discussion was had.

The Town Clerks report for the month of November was issued to the Board. The amount that the Town received was \$510.77.

The Town Board was issued a tax interest check for the month of May 2025 in the amount of \$44.44.

Supervisor Driscoll informed the Board that next on the agenda is the Abstract and Vouchers. Supervisor Driscoll mentioned that there is a voucher for plowing. The Town Hall and the Post Office had been plowed two times in the month of November. The NYSEG bill for the Transfer Station was high. Supervisor Driscoll has spoken with Luis to make sure that he was turning down the heat when he closed the Transfer Station at the end of the day.

A motion to pay the bills that have been presented to the Board was made by Dwayne C. Hill and seconded by Patrick F. Funk. All voting Aye.

Supervisor Driscoll informed the Board that next on the agenda is the Profits and Losses. General A is at a revenue of \$582,000. This does not include the Appropriated Fund balance of \$50,000 that had been put aside. The Town has just received \$10,000 in mortgage tax from the County that has just been deposited. Supervisor Driscoll says the Town is in good shape and will be very close to what the budget is for 2025. In General B the Town will also close to the 2025 budget. DA the Town is at \$212,000 without the Appropriated Fund balance. That is also going to be very close to the 2025 budget. The Town may need to use a bit of the Appropriated Fund balance in DA. DB the Town has \$179,000 that came in from CHiPS. There is more funds coming

from CHiPS for the roads and the truck. For CHiPS the Town has spent \$391,000. It shows that the Town is over on expenditures because the Town is still waiting for the CHiPS money to get here. Transfer Station is still getting payment from the other Towns for the month of December. The Transfer Station is close to the 2025 budget also.

Supervisor Driscoll wanted to bring the Board up to date on the Walgreens tax liability. The Town is still in discussion with the attorneys and have not come up with an agreement at this time.

Supervisor Driscoll has asked to go into executive session to discuss possible litigation.

A motion was made to go into executive session at 7:33pm by Patrick F. Funk and seconded by Erik Reeve. All voting Aye.

A motion to come out of executive at 8:13pm was made by Dwayne C. Hill and seconded by Patrick F. Funk. All voting Aye.

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 8:35pm by Patrick F. Funk and seconded by Dwayne C. Hill. All voting Aye.

The Organization meeting and next regular meeting of the Town Board will be held on January 14, 2026 at 7:00pm.