



Town of Shandaken Town Board
Monthly Meeting
Monday February 2, 2026

- 1. Call to Order**
- 2. Pledge of Allegiance**
- 3. Roll Call**
- 4. Approval of previous T/B Meeting minutes**
- 5. Supervisor's Report & Financial Report**
- 6. Communications**
- 7. Committee Reports:**
 - a. Ambulance*
 - b. Building/Zoning*
 - c. Police*
 - d. Phoenicia Water*
 - e. Pine Hill Water*
 - f. Museum*
 - g. Recreation*
 - h. Housing*
 - i. Conservation Advisory Council*
 - j. Comprehensive Plan*
 - k. Board Conversation*
- 8. Public Comments on Resolutions**
- 9. Motions:**
- 10. Resolutions:**
 - 34- Pay All Bills**
 - 35- Accept LFA Implementation Report – Phoenicia**
 - 36- Appoint Summer Camp Counselor**
 - 37- Appoint ZBA Zoning Bd. Appeals Member**
 - 38- Appoint Planning Bd. Chair**
 - 39- Amend Phoenicia Water District Supt. Pay**
 - 40- Request for Annual State Appropriation of Funds for Emergency Services Supporting Belleayre Mtn. Ski Center**
- 11. Open Public Comment**
- 12. Meeting Adjournment - *In Memory of Robert Rizzo***

RESOLUTION TO PAY ALL BILLS

WHEREAS, The Department of Audit and Control require Town Boards to sign and inspect all vouchers coming into the town for payment, to number and total amounts from each fund.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board authorize the following vouchers paid:

General	\$
Highway	
Phoenicia Water	
Pine Hill Water	
Phoenicia Lights	
Chichester Lights	
Pine Hill Lights	

	\$

AND MOVES ITS ADOPTION

Seconded by:

ROLL CALL

AYES	NAYS
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BOARD MEMBER DRAKE	_____	_____
BOARD MEMBER KNEISL	_____	_____
BOARD MEMBER STEEN	_____	_____
BOARD MEMBER VAN BLARCUM	_____	_____
SUPERVISOR MANSFIELD	_____	_____

**ACCEPTING FINAL ADDITIONAL LOCAL FLOOD ANALYSIS IMPLEMENTATION REPORT
FOR THE HAMLET OF PHOENICIA**

WHEREAS the Town of Shandaken, in 2015, enlisted the services of the Town and Engineering Firm, **SLR Inc.**, to conduct a Local Flood Analysis (**LFA**) Report for the Hamlets of Phoenicia and Mt. Tremper to investigate multiple options for flood reduction and resilience projects within each of those Hamlets in order to qualify those Hamlets for funding through certain programs for flood mitigation and resiliency; and

WHEREAS, following several Town Board and community meetings where the public was invited to provide input and questions as to options they would like to see investigated; and

WHEREAS, in March 2016, the Town Board accepted the Final Local Flood Analysis Report for the Hamlets of Phoenicia and Mt. Tremper by a unanimous vote; and

WHEREAS, the Final **LFA** Report for the Hamlets of Phoenicia and Mt. Tremper recommended further engineering analysis and design of projects such as floodplain enhancements, bridge enlargements, and other structural and flood mitigation improvements to protect the Hamlets; and

WHEREAS, recommendations for the Hamlet of Phoenicia included enlargement and replacement of the Bridge Street Bridge and floodplain enhancements bordering the Stony Clove Creek and Esopus Creek at the Hamlet; and

WHEREAS, in April 2024, the Town of Shandaken tasked **SLR** to conduct Additional Flood Mitigation Modeling for the Hamlet of Phoenicia to advance design of floodplain enhancements and other flood mitigation measures in coordination with engineering analysis of a Bridge Street Bridge replacement project simultaneously implemented by the Ulster County Department of Public Works; and

WHEREAS, in June 2025, **SLR** and the Ulster County Department of Public Works held a public open house for the Phoenicia public to learn about and comment on initial Bridge

Street Bridge replacement options that accommodated floodplain enhancements modeled by **SLR** for the Town of Shandaken; and

WHEREAS, the Shandaken Town Board members and the Shandaken Area Flood Assessment Remediation Initiative (**SAFARI**) recommended that analysis of the Phoenicia Bridge Street Bridge replacement options in conjunction with floodplain enhancements and other recommended flood mitigation measures be incorporated into the final Additional Flood Mitigation Modeling for the Hamlet of Phoenicia LFA Report; and

WHEREAS, **SLR** incorporated that analysis into the LFA Final Report and advised the Town of Shandaken about the feasibility of recommended flood mitigation actions and their potential staging and interdependencies; and

WHEREAS, in September 2025, **SLR** made a presentation of final findings for Additional Flood Mitigation Modeling for the Hamlet of Phoenicia to the Town Board that included a re-evaluation of LFA recommendations and development of additional potential flood hazard mitigation strategies for Phoenicia; and

WHEREAS, the Shandaken Town Board members and the **SAFARI** had until December 31, 2025, to submit comments for inclusion in the Additional Flood Mitigation Modeling for the Hamlet of Phoenicia LFA Final Report and submitted no additional comments; and

WHEREAS, the Shandaken Town Board recognizes the need to implement flood resiliency and mitigation projects in order to maintain tax-base, the economy and, most importantly, the well-being of its residents and businesses; and

WHEREAS, the Town Board also recognizes that any such projects to be implemented shall be embarked upon with the support of the public within that community and the Town Board will maintain a "willing property owner" position concerning any project effecting a specific property (i.e., no eminent domain proceedings, no takings);

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Town of Shandaken Town Board hereby accepts the Additional Flood Mitigation Modeling for the Hamlet of Phoenicia LFA Final Report prepared by **SLR**, including all amendments as prescribed by Town Board members and the **SAFARI** group and that the Town Board embark on finding funding for any such

feasible projects and report back to the public on any progress toward any goals as prescribed in said LFA.

AND MOVES ITS ADOPTION

Seconded by:

ROLL CALL

AYES

NAYS

BOARD MEMBER DRAKE

BOARD MEMBER KNEISSL

BOARD MEMBER STEEN

BOARD MEMBER VAN BLARCUM

SUPERVISOR MANSFIELD

RESOLUTION #36-26

OFFERED BY:

APPOINT SUMMER CAMP MANAGER

WHEREAS, under § 20, Notes of Decision 9 of the Town Law, the Town Board shall appoint all employees of the Town,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board of Shandaken appoint Manuela Jean-Pierre as Recreation Director, and receive \$21.37 per hour while discharging the duties of said office, not to exceed salary of \$6,000.

AND MOVES ITS ADOPTION

Seconded by:

ROLL CALL

AYES NAYS

BOARD MEMBER DRAKE _____

BOARD MEMBER KNEISL _____

BOARD MEMBER STEEN _____

BOARD MEMBER VAN BLARCUM _____

SUPERVISOR MANSFIELD _____

RESOLUTION #37-26

OFFERED BY:

APPOINT ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS MEMBER

WHEREAS, pursuant to §20 of the Town Law it is the duty of the Town Board to appoint all Boards and Commissions;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that **Frank Cuevas** be appointed to the Zoning Board of Appeals with the term to expire in December 31, 2030.

BE IT ALSO RESOLVED, each Board Member is required each year to attend four hours of applicable training for their Office and record such at the Town Clerk’s Office.

AND MOVES ITS ADOPTION

Seconded by:

ROLL CALL

AYES NAYS

BOARD MEMBER DRAKE _____

BOARD MEMBER KNEISL _____

BOARD MEMBER STEEN _____

BOARD MEMBER VAN BLARCUM _____

SUPERVISOR MANSFIELD _____

RESOLUTION #38-26

OFFERED BY:

APPOINT PLANNING BOARD CHAIR

WHEREAS, pursuant to §20 of the Town Law it is the duty of the Town Board to appoint all Boards and Commissions, and;

WHEREAS, the Town Board of the Town of Shandaken accepts the resignation of Planning Board Chair Clifton Rubuffo—with deep gratitude for his many years of service—effective March 1, 2026;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that **Joanne Kalb** be appointed Chair of the Planning Board, effective March 1, 2026 with the term to expire in December 31, 2026.

BE IT ALSO RESOLVED, each Board Member is required each year to attend four hours of applicable training for their Office and record such at the Town Clerk’s Office.

AND MOVES ITS ADOPTION

Seconded by:

ROLL CALL

AYES NAYS

BOARD MEMBER DRAKE _____ _____

BOARD MEMBER KNEISSL _____ _____

BOARD MEMBER STEEN _____ _____

BOARD MEMBER VAN BLARCUM _____ _____

SUPERVISOR MANSFIELD _____ _____

RESOLUTION #39-26

OFFERED BY:

RESOLUTION TO AMEND PHOENICIA WATER DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENT PAY

WHEREAS the Town Board has not appointed a Deputy Superintendent to date, and
WHEREAS Phoenicia Water Superintendent’s hours have increased due to the position of Deputy Superintendent being vacated;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that Superintendent Kyle Steen receive \$500 bi-weekly until a Deputy Superintendent is appointed;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Kyle Steen may complete up to 24 hours per week with the approval of the Town Supervisor in order to complete meter reading, filter installation, or other responsibilities of the Deputy or as may be necessary for the good functioning of the water district and,

AND MOVES ITS ADOPTION

Seconded by:

ROLL CALL

	AYES	NAYS
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BOARD MEMBER DRAKE	_____	_____
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BOARD MEMBER KNEISSL	_____	_____
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BOARD MEMBER STEEN	_____	_____
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BOARD MEMBER VAN BLARCUM	_____	_____
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SUPERVISOR MANSFIELD	_____	_____
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RESOLUTION #40-26

OFFERED BY:

TOWN BOARD OF SHANDAKEN REQUEST FOR ANNUAL STATE APPROPRIATION OF FUNDS FOR EMERGENCY SERVICES SUPPORTING BELLEAYRE SKI CENTER

WHEREAS, the Town of Shandaken provides emergency services and traffic management to the Belleayre Ski Center, and;

WHEREAS, rising costs, increased visitor usage, and a limited hiring pool make it ever more difficult to provide high quality emergency services;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Town of Shandaken Town Board endorses the following letter to be sent to the following individuals:

Jen Metzger, Ulster County Executive; Kathy Nolan, Ulster County Legislator, District 22; Michelle Hinchey, State Senator, District 41; Peter Oberacker, State Senator, District 51 Brian Maher, Assembly Member District 101; Lance MacMillan, PE, Region Director DOT Region 9; Gigi Loizzo, ORDA, Ulster County; Ashley Walden, ORDA; Pavan Naidu, NYS Executive Chamber

AND MOVES ITS ADOPTION

Seconded by:

ROLL CALL

AYES NAYS

BOARD MEMBER DRAKE _____

BOARD MEMBER KNEISSL _____

BOARD MEMBER STEEN _____

BOARD MEMBER VAN BLARCUM _____

SUPERVISOR MANSFIELD _____



Supervisor: (845) 688-7165
Police: (845) 688-9902
Town Clerk: (845) 688-5004
Justice Court: (845) 688-5005
Assessor: (845) 688-5003
ZBA/ZEO/Planning: (845) 688-5008
Highway: (845) 688-9901
Fax: (845) 688-2041
www.shandaken.us
PO Box 134, 7209 Rte. 28
Shandaken, NY 12480

January 29, 2026

To: Jen Metzger, Ulster County Executive; Kathy Nolan, Ulster County Legislator, District 22;
Michelle Hinchey, State Senator, District 41; Peter Oberacker, State Senator, District 51
Brian Maher, Assembly Member District 101; Lance MacMillan, PE, Region Director DOT Region 9; Gigi Loizzo,
ORDA, Ulster County; Ashley Walden, ORDA; Pavan Naidu, NYS Executive Chamber

Dear Senators and Representatives;

On January 25, following an emergency services meeting in which Jen Metzger confirmed a travel ban for Ulster County, the Town of Shandaken Board learned that Belleayre Ski Center intended to remain open for skiing—despite the ban. Shandaken's emergency services serve ORDA guests despite blizzards, overburdened responders (not even a month has passed since we lost firefighter Mike Ryan), and record numbers of visitors to Belleayre. The Shandaken Town Board asks your help in getting the State to recognize Shandaken's faithful partnership with ORDA and Belleayre Ski Center by enacting a legislatively-defined budget line of \$175,000 to support the disproportionate burden our Town incurs for the costs of emergency services.

Our emergency workers face communication challenges, dwindling volunteers, and rising costs associated with ambulance and other services. There was at least one accident yesterday that was a direct result of Belleayre remaining open. Even as we face these challenges each year, the lack of a budget line to help us with the costs has become untenable.

We estimate that \$175,000 is the minimum Shandaken spends a year on Belleayre-related police and ambulance service, including overtime and regular hours. Even in a light year, 15% of our ambulance calls are responding to Belleayre Ski Center—not including travelers to and from Belleayre. Based on our costs, \$150,000 is on the low end of the Town's ambulance expenditures related to Belleayre. In addition to our ambulance, Shandaken Police provide traffic control on weekends and holidays specifically to Belleayre costing the town \$25,000 a year.

Again, thank you for your consideration of a legislatively-defined budget line to support the disproportionate burden our Town incurs for the costs of emergency services.

Respectfully,

Barbara (Babs) Mansfield, Town of Shandaken Supervisor

cc: Kevin Van Blarcum, Robert Drake, Elizabeth Kneissl, Kyle Steen