

**Town of Shandaken
County of Ulster
State of New York**

**The Town of Shandaken Town Board conducted a Regular Monthly Meeting on
Monday February 2, 2026 at 7pm. Shandaken Town Hall. 7209 Rt. 28 Shandaken,
NY**

**Call to Order
Pledge of Allegiance
Roll Call**

Members Present **Barbara Mansfield – Supervisor
Kevin VanBlarcum - Board Member
Kyle Steen – Board Member
Elizabeth Kneissl – Board Member
Robert Drake – Board Member**

Recording Secretary **Joyce Grant - Town Clerk**

**On a Mansfield/Drake motion the Town Board unanimously approved the minutes of
the previous meeting as submitted by the Town Clerk.**



**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*

Supervisor's Notes – February 2026
From Supervisor Mansfield

Following a fire that destroyed the original structure, Shandaken's Town Hall was rebuilt around 1947—predating energy-inefficient, flood mitigating, and accessible building. For decades, previous Supervisors achieved updates, plans, and new facilities to accommodate various Town functions. But, the need for a Town Hall remains. It's critical we get Town Hall out of the floodway, create a facility that's accessible for all, and lower energy and maintenance costs. Upkeep costs for old structures are significantly higher than for new ones. So, until we find a feasible property and identify funding to build a new town hall, the current building will be a bit of a money pit.

Our 30-year-old furnace had been repeatedly repaired the last few years, and failed in a big way the day before the storm that plunged our town into single digit temps and dumped two feet of snow. We contacted three companies for quotes: the consensus was we needed a furnace replacement. But, only one company could schedule the replacement right away. Highway and Town staff still spent most of the week working, in between blowing fuses with space heaters and turning water off to avoid breaking pipes. Kudos to all who came to pay taxes in the cold.

The Board is actively seeking a site and funding for a new Town Hall. The site needs to be out of the flood plain, avoid environmentally-sensitive areas like wetlands, and ideally have enough acreage to accommodate town offices, highway *and* ambulance. If you have an idea about a possible site—please reach out to supervisor@shandaken.gov.

Extreme cold also triggers water main leaks. Phoenicia's new Water Superintendent Kyle Steen has been working hard to map lines to more easily find leak sources, and subsequently identified a leak on Route 214.

The snow storm also highlighted an interesting dilemma: the County issued a travel ban for January 25 and the morning of January 26—even as Belleayre Ski Center remained open. Presumably skiers were parachuting in from Delaware County to avoid the ban??

Our police and ambulance spend a minimum of 15% of their time responding to Belleayre calls and proactively helping to keep Belleayre skiers safe. At this month's meeting, the Board will vote on this resolution, memorializing our request for \$175,000 in annual funding to offset the Belleayre Ski Center-related costs that Shandaken shoulders. If you're inclined to help, please email a letter of support to Joyce at townclerk@shandaken.gov.

Our March meeting is on the 2nd of the month, at 7:00 p.m.

Supervisor Report February 2026
Revenues For January, 2026

Police Fees	\$	60.00
Dog Licenses	\$	376.00
Planning	\$	20.00
Ambulance Fees	\$	8,087.19
Ambulance Donation	\$	100.00
Town Clerk	\$	260.00
Zoning	\$	225.00
Building Fees	\$	6,445.00
Sam's Club Reimbursement	\$	591.16
Time Warner - Franchise Fee	\$	14,102.34
Highway Revenue	\$	1,000,000.00
Gas/Diesel Reimbursement	\$	3,715.82
Vital Statistics	\$	120.00
Justice Fees	\$	1,142.00
STR Receivables	\$	11,278.92
Totals	\$	<u>1,046,523.43</u>



SHANDAKEN POLICE DEPARTMENT

Post Office Box 134
Shandaken, New York 12480
845-688-9902 . 845-688-9748(b) . 845-688-5332(f)
CHIEF OF POLICE CHAD STOREY chief@shandakenpolice.org

January 2026 Monthly Report

INCIDENT TYPE	NUMBER	INCIDENT TYPE	NUMBER
911 Misdia/No Voice/Abandoned	8	Harassment	1
Accident PIAA/PDAA	13	Local Law	
Abandoned Vehicle		Lock Out	11
Alarm Burglary/Panic/Robbery	3	Lost/Missing Person	
Animal Complaint/Investigation	2	Noise Complaint	
Assist EMS/Fire	5	Property Retrieval/Lost/Found	2
Criminal Mischief		Public Service/Special Detail	7
Disorderly Conduct	3	Open Door	
Encon Violation		Property Check	395
Larceny	16	Road Hazard	1
Community Oriented Policing Project	7	School Check	3
Custody Dispute	1	Shots Fired	
Civil	2	Suspicious Activity	4
Disabled Vehicle	8	Traffic Stop	19
Dispute		Trespass	
Domestic Dispute	1	Vehicle and Traffic Complaint	2
Erratic Vehicle	1	Welfare Check	7
Foot Patrol	3	Field Interview	
Fraud		Warrant	
Mental Health Law	2	Total	132

Property Checks 395
Total w/property checks 527

SUMMONS ISSUED	8
ARRESTS	5

TOWN OF SHANDAKEN AMBULANCE SERVICE



7209 STATE ROUTE 28 SHANDAKEN, NY 12480

January 2026 Report

TOTAL CALLS RECEIVED – 43

MUTUAL AID GIVEN – 8

TOWN OF OLIVE – 5

TOWN OF WOODSTOCK – 1

GREENE COUNTY – 2

TOWN OF LEXINGTON – 1

MUTUAL AID RECEIVED – 4

OLIVE FIRST AID – 1

WOODSTOCK FIRE – 1

MARGARETVILLE AMBULANCE – 2

TOTAL TRANSPORTS – 23

TOTAL NO TRANSPORT / STANDBY / RELOCATION – 18

The Monthly Report for The Shandaken Historical Museum for January 2025

The Museum is currently working with Pine Hill's Henry Morton Memorial Library on its 125th anniversary in 2028. The Shandaken Historical Museum will put together a large exhibit celebrating

Professor Henry Morton and his beautiful works from the Museum’s collection. The exhibition will consist of his books, papers, artworks, and poet. We also intend to work with the Pine Hill Community Center on related anniversary events and possibly the Phoenicia Playhouse to celebrate this important educational and scientific trailblazer along with his uniquely beautiful architectural landmark library in Pine Hill.

The Museum is currently developing an exhibition and website illustrating the story behind the beautiful Shandaken home of Japanese world health pioneer, Dr Hideyo Noguchi.

We are currently working with local musical groups to offer the Museum as an intimate venue for this spring.

The Museum is also working with the town board to help make the Museum more handicap accessible. We will also continue working with the local Native American community to offer uniquely exciting cultural, musical and storytelling events.

The museum had over 35 visitors in January. Many leaving generous contributions and messages of thanks and appreciation. Joseph Prieboy Director

COMMENTS were held on Resolution #37 Appoint ZBA Member.

Jan Jaffee – supported decision to appoint Frank Cuevas, Chris Schrempp, Matt Frisch, Jeannie Maloney, Molly Holm, Vivian Welton & Hank Williams – supported appointment of Hank Williams, Angela Galindo had questions about procedure, Angel Molina thanked the Town Board, Karen Charmin & Dave Channon supports the Town Bd & keep up the good work.

Decision was made to close the Dog Park at Glenbrook for the winter.

RESOLUTION #34-26

OFFERED BY: VANBLARCUM

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	\$ 455,393.88
Highway	344,542.65
Phoenicia Water	17,397.24
Pine Hill Water	4,584.44
Phoenicia Lights	775.33
Chichester Lights	127.56
Pine Hill Lights	529.22

	\$ 823,350.32

AND MOVES ITS ADOPTION

Seconded by:KNEISSL

ROLL CALL
AYES NAYS

BOARD MEMBER DRAKE	__ X __	_____
BOARD MEMBER KNEISSL	__ X __	_____
BOARD MEMBER STEEN	__ X __	_____
BOARD MEMBER VAN BLARCUM	__ X __	_____

RESOLUTION #35-26

OFFERED BY: KNEISSL

**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: MANSFIELD

	ROLL CALL	
	AYES	NAYS

BOARD MEMBER DRAKE	<u> X </u>	_____
BOARD MEMBER KNEISSL	<u> X </u>	_____
BOARD MEMBER STEEN	<u> X </u>	_____
BOARD MEMBER VAN BLARCUM	<u> X </u>	_____
SUPERVISOR MANSFIELD	<u> X </u>	_____

RESOLUTION #36-26

OFFERED BY: MANSFIELD

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: DRAKE

ROLL CALL
AYES NAYS

BOARD MEMBER DRAKE X _____

BOARD MEMBER KNEISSL X _____

BOARD MEMBER STEEN X _____

BOARD MEMBER VAN BLARCUM X _____

SUPERVISOR MANSFIELD X _____

RESOLUTION #37-26

OFFERED BY: DRAKE

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: STEEN

ROLL CALL
AYES NAYS

BOARD MEMBER DRAKE X _____

BOARD MEMBER KNEISSL X _____

BOARD MEMBER STEEN X _____

BOARD MEMBER VAN BLARCUM X _____

SUPERVISOR MANSFIELD X _____

RESOLUTION #38-26

OFFERED BY: STEEN

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: VANBLARCUM

ROLL CALL
AYES NAYS

BOARD MEMBER DRAKE	<u> X </u>	_____
BOARD MEMBER KNEISSL	<u> X </u>	_____
BOARD MEMBER STEEN	<u> X </u>	_____
BOARD MEMBER VAN BLARCUM	<u> X </u>	_____
SUPERVISOR MANSFIELD	<u> X </u>	_____

RESOLUTION #39-26

OFFERED BY: VANBLARCUM

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, effective January 1, 2026 in recognition of work performed;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Superintendent may review the Deputy Superintendent salary of \$12,000 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: KNEISSL

ROLL CALL
AYES NAYS

BOARD MEMBER DRAKE	<u> X </u>	_____
BOARD MEMBER KNEISSL	<u> X </u>	_____
BOARD MEMBER STEEN	ABSTAIN	_____

BOARD MEMBER VAN BLARCUM X _____

SUPERVISOR MANSFIELD X _____

RESOLUTION #40-26

OFFERED BY: KNEISSL

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 & Elizabeth Fine NYS Executive Chamber

AND MOVES ITS ADOPTION

Seconded by:

ROLL CALL
AYES NAYS

BOARD MEMBER DRAKE X _____

BOARD MEMBER KNEISSL X _____

BOARD MEMBER STEEN X _____

BOARD MEMBER VAN BLARCUM X _____

SUPERVISOR MANSFIELD X _____



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,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Barbara Mansfield".

Barbara (Babs) Mansfield, Town of Shandaken Supervisor

The Town Bd. Adjourned the meeting on a Mansfield/Drake motion – All in Favor, at 8:20.

Signed this 3rd day of February, 2026

Joyce Grant – Town Clerk