January 2024



Serving the Ulster County communities of Hurley, West Hurley and Glenford WEBSITE: TOWNOFHURLEY, ORG FACEBOOK: TOWN OF HURLEY, NY INSTAGRAM: TOWN OF HURLEY



### From new Town Supervisor Mike Boms

### Working together to address key issues

Serving as the Town of Hurley's new Supervisor is a duty I look forward to, and I want to express my gratitude to all the residents who cast ballots in the November election. The task of day-to-day operations might be daunting, but I am encouraged by the outpouring of support from the community.

I would like to thank Supervisor Melinda McKnight, who led the Town government in 2022-23, for her public service and wish her the best in her future endeavors. We may have had our differences, but Melinda and I tried to have as our goal what we thought was best for the town.

Continued on Page 2

### **INSIDE THIS ISSUE**

Town department news: 2 Clerk, deputy clerk resign: 3 New Town Board member: 3 Transfer Station permits: 3 Planning Board and ZBA 2024 meeting schedules: 4 Employee contact info: 5 Home-delivered meals: 6 Clean energy opportunities: 6 Library happenings: 7



### **UPCOMING TOWN GOVERNMENT MEETINGS**

All meetings will be held in the Town Hall, 10 Wamsley Place. Thursday, Jan. 4: Town Board (annual organizational meeting), 6 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 11: Zoning Board of Appeals, 7 p.m. Tuesday, Jan, 16: Town Board, 7 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 25: Planning Board, 6 p.m. *For a complete schedule of town meetings, go to townofhurley.org/calendar.* 

## **AROUND THE TOWN HALL: Info from our departments**

**Assessor's Office:** Town residents applying for tax exemptions are reminded the deadline is March 1, 2024.

Senior exemption renewals have been sent out and must be returned to the Assessor's Office. If you are turning 65 in 2024, please reach out to the Assessor's Office – (845) 331-7474, option 4 – to see if you qualify for Enhanced STAR or the exemption for seniors with limited income.

If you are a new property owner in Hurley, please do not forget to register for the STAR credit with New York State by calling (518) 457-2036 or going to the website tax.ny.gov/star.

**Building Department:** While many are aware of the new staffing in the Building Department, it is not yet complete, as we will be brining on an additional part-time Municipal Code Officer soon. This position will handle the MS-4 program, complaints and various other duties.

When applying for a building permit, please visit the "Documents" section of the Building Department page on the Town website (tinyurl.com/mry5w255), and refer to the checklist of information that must be included. The list is a broad spectrum, and every item doesn't apply to every project, but the information is important.

The Building Department is quite busy, and a twoweek turnaround time for reviews is not uncommon. Incomplete submissions always result in delays, so please be sure your submissions are as complete as possible.

Finally, when calling for an inspection, note that a minimum of 48 hours lead time is required.

**Town Clerk's Office:** The Town Clerk's Office is gearing up for tax season and anticipating the launch of an online payment portal for property taxes and other fees.

The new system should be up and running on the Town website, townofhurley.org, in early January 2024, allowing Hurley residents to look up their tax bills and pay them online.

Watch the website and the "Town of Hurley, NY" Facebook page for details as the launch date gets closer.

### Supervisor's message (con'd)

We agreed on many issues and disagreed on others, which promoted a healthy process. I am certain that, in the future, I will be calling on Melinda for some knowledge and direction.

There are many issues facing all of us here in Hurley. The issues that need to be addressed almost immediately are:



\* The contamination at the leachate field at the Town's former landfill, which has been designated a New York State Superfund site.

Mike Boms

\* The siting of a new Town Highway Garage to replace the condemned building on Dug Hill Road.

\* The completion of a Comprehensive Plan, as required by New York State.

\* Remediation of the drinking water problems that have plagued West Hurley residents for decades.
\* Updating and/or replacing our antiquated zoning laws and codes.

These are just the most pressing issues as of now. Others may crop up and will be addressed.

Being an elected official, I am beholden to neither a political affiliation nor special-interest groups, only to the residents of Hurley. I do not have all of the answers or solutions to issues facing the Town and its residents. But I do know I cannot satisfy the duties of this office without guidance and help from Town residents. A town is not run by one person, but by many. So I ask all residents to make their voices and concerns heard and to help in any way they can to keep this Town a jewel of the Catskills.

Thank you.

## Town Clerk, one Deputy Clerk submit resignations



Town Clerk Annie Reed and Deputy Town Clerk Donna Cudney submitted their resignations during the Hurley Town Board meeting on Wednesday, Dec. 27, 2023.

Reed, a former Deputy Clerk who was appointed Town Clerk in June after the death of Judy Mayhon, said her resignation will be effective Jan. 1, 2024. Cudney, also appointed in June, said her last day of work will be Jan. 12, 2024.

Reed, who was elected to a four-year term last month, recommended the Town's other Deputy Clerk, Lynne Bailey, be appointed Town Clerk. It will be up to the Town Board to make an appointment after the first of the year. The new Town Clerk then will be able to fill any open Deputy Clerk positions.

### Debbie Dougherty appointed to fill vacant seat on Town Board

Debbie Dougherty, a member of the Hurley Zoning Board of Appeals, has been appointed to fill the Town Board seat that became vacant when Jana Martin resigned in early December.

Dougherty's appointment was approved by a 3-1 vote of the Town Board at its meeting on Wednesday, Dec. 27. Supervisor Melinda McKnight and Board members Pete Humphries and Gregory Simpson voted "yes." Board member and Supervisor-elect Michael Boms voted "no."

Dougherty (pictured) is a native of Hurley, has lived in the Town for most of her life, and is retired from IBM. She is leaving the Zoning Board of Appeals in order to serve on the Town Board.



In early 2024, the Town Board will appoint someone to fill the seat that Boms is vacating to become Supervisor.

### 2024 Transfer Station permits for vehicles are now available



Hurley Transfer Station permits for 2024 are available for purchase at the Transfer Station, 1043 Dug Hill Road, and in the Town Clerk's Office at the Town Hall, 10 Wamsley Place.

The costs are unchanged from 2023: \$20 for Town residents and \$60 for non-residents.

Transfer Station punch cards, from which a per-pound amount is deducted for each drop-off of solid waste, also are available at the two locations. They can be purchased in

denominations of \$10, \$20 or \$100. Twenty cents is deducted from a card for each pound of trash dropped off.

# HURLEY TOWN BOARD 2024 organizational meeting





Thursday, Jan. 4, 2024 – 6 p.m. Town Hall, 10 Wamsley Place Open to the public



TOWN OF HURLEY PLANNING BOARD PO BOX 569 Hurley, New York 12443 <u>planning@townofhurley.org</u> (845)331-7474 Ext. 6

2024 meeting dates and deadlines

| Meeting Date                 | Deadline                     |
|------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Thursday, January 25, 2024   | Thursday, January 4, 2024    |
| Thursday, February 22, 2024  | Thursday, February 1, 2024   |
| Thursday, March 28, 2024     | Thursday, March 7, 2024      |
| Thursday, April 25, 2024     | Thursday, April 4, 2024      |
| Thursday, May 23, 2024       | Thursday, May 2, 2024        |
| Thursday, June 27, 2024      | Thursday, June 6, 2024       |
| Thursday, July 25, 2024      | Wednesday, July 3,2024       |
| NO MEETING IN AUGUST         | NO MEETING IN AUGUST         |
| Thursday, September 26, 2024 | Thursday, September 5, 2024  |
| Thursday, October 24, 2024   | Thursday, October 3, 2024    |
| Thursday, November 21,2024   | Thursday, October 31, 2024   |
| Wednesday, December 18, 2024 | Wednesday, November 27, 2024 |

Planning Board meetings are held on the 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday of each month at Town Hall @6:00PM. The deadline is 3 weeks prior.

TOWN OF HURLEY ZONING BOARD of APPEALS PO BOX 569/10 WAMSLEY PLACE Hurley, New York 12443 planning@townofhurley.org (845)331-7474 Ext. 6

#### 2024 Meeting Calendar

| Date                         | Deadline                        |
|------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Thursday, January 11, 2024   | Thursday, December 28, 2024     |
| Thursday, February 8, 2024   | Thursday, January 25, 2024      |
| Thursday, March 14, 2024     | Thursday, February 29, 2024     |
| Thursday, April 11, 2024     | Thursday, March 28, 2024        |
| Thursday, May 9, 2024        | Thursday, April 25, 2024        |
| Thursday, June 13, 2024      | Thursday, May 30, 2024          |
| Thursday, July 11, 2024      | Thursday, June 27, 2024         |
| NO AUGUST MEETING            | NO AUGUST MEETING               |
| Thursday, September 12, 2024 | Thursday, August 29, 2024       |
| Thursday, October 10, 2024   | Thursday, September 26, 2024    |
| Thursday, November 14, 2024  | Thursday, October 24, 2024      |
| Thursday, December 12, 2024  | ***WEDNESDAY, November 27, 2024 |

All Zoning Board meetings are held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday @7:00PM at Town Hall

**GET TOWN NEWS IN YOUR EMAIL:** Sign up for email alerts from the town by going to our website, townofhurley.org, clicking on the button shown at right (located at the bottom of the home page), and selecting the types of alerts you'd like to receive.

Subscribe to E-alerts

### WHO WE ARE, how to get in touch with us

All 3-digit extensions can be reached by calling (845) 331-7474 and then keying in the numbers at any time while the recorded message is playing.

### SUPERVISOR'S OFFICE (phone option 5)

Michael Boms, Town Supervisor: Ext. 300, supervisor@townofhurley.org
Samara Genee, Executive Assistant to the Supervisor: Ext. 301, supervisorsec@townofhurley.org.
Leslie McKewan, Bookkeeper: Ext. 340, bookkeeper@townofhurley.org
Jeremy Schiffres, Public Information Officer: Ext. 316, informationofficer@townofhurley.org

### TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE (phone option 2)

Town Clerk (position vacant as of Jan. 1): Ext. 303, clerk@townofhurley.org Donna Cudney, Deputy Clerk: Ext. 304, deputyclerk@townofhurley.org Lynne Bailey, Deputy Clerk, Ext. 304, deputyclerk@townofhurley.org

### PLANNING AND ZONING (phone option 6)

Maggie Colan, Clerk: Ext. 335, planning@townofhurley.org

#### ASSESSOR'S OFFICE (phone option 4)

Brittany Santarelli: Ext. 302, assessor@townofhurley.org Patty Smith, Assessor Clerk: Ext. 305, assessorclerk@townofhurley.org

### **BUILDING DEPARTMENT (phone option 3)**

Paul Economos, Building Inspector/Zoning Enforcement Officer: Ext. 317 Troy Ashdown, Municipal Code Officer, Fire Inspector: Ext. 315 Erin Stewart, Building Clerk: Ext. 310, building@townofhurley.org

### HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

Michael Shultis, Superintendent: mshultis@townofhurley.org Michele Bergenn, Secretary: Ext. 402, highway@townofhurley.org



TRANSFER STATION hurleytransfer@townofhurley.org

#### COURT (phone option 1)

Roy Hochberg, Town Justice John Parker, Town Justice Erma Moore, Clerk: emoore@nycourts.gov

### **TOWN BOARD**

Diana Cline: dcline@townofhurley.org Debbie Dougherty ddougherty@townofhurley.org Gregory Simpson: gsimpson@townofhurley.org One seat vacant

### Looking for something on the town website? This should help



- Homepage: townofhurley.org
- News and announcements:
- townofhurley.org/node/1/news
- Calendar: townofhurley.org/calendar
- > Town budgets:
- townofhurley.org/about/pages/budget
- > Town Board meeting minutes (from 2007 to 2023): townofhurley.org/node/1291/minutes
- Disaster preparedness: townofhurley.org/disaster-preparedness
- Highway Department: townofhurley.org/highway-department
- Transfer Station: townofhurley.org/transfer-station-recycling-center
- Job and board/committee openings: townofhurley.org/job-and-board-openings

## Town can benefit from clean energy use by residents

As a New York Climate Smart Community, the Town of Hurley is working to increase local clean energy opportunities, improve energy efficiency, and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

The Town can now earn financial rewards for specific clean energy actions through three different campaigns: Electric vehicle purchases, installing clean heating/cooling systems (i.e. heat pumps), and Community Solar sign-ups.

With your help, the Town can earn up to \$20,000 from the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA) to use toward clean energy, money-saving upgrades in Town facilities. Here's how:

• When we report that five town residents have purchased electric vehicles, the Town can receive a \$5,000 grant. (Purchases must be made after Nov. 29, 2023, to qualify.)

• If we report five installations of heat pumps or heat pump water heaters in the Town, we can receive a \$5,000 grant. (Installations must be completed after Nov. 29, 2023, to qualify.) • Once we report that 50 residents or businesses in Hurley signed up for community solar, the program that saves customers up to 10% on their electric bills, the Town can receive a \$10,000 grant. (Subscriptions must have begun after June 1, 2023, to be eligible.)

Those who meet the above criteria should send an email to climatesmart@townofhurley.org to that the grant-eligibility criteria can be met.

### **Online resources**

- For information from NYSERDA about electric vehicles, go to tinyurl.com/bp954dnp. For information about NYSERDA's Drive Clean Rebate Program, go to tinyurl.com/2xrpat2k.
- For information about heat pump options, and rebates and tax credits, go to cleanheat.ny.gov.
- Regarding Community Solar, electric customers can save up to 10% on their bills without having to install solar panels. Panels are installed elsewhere, and subscribers get a benefit. There's no cost to subscribe, and the process takes only 5 to 10 minutes. To find a provider, go to Central Hudson Gas & Electric Corp.'s Clean Energy Market site at tinyurl.com/2nyajrm3.

## Home-delivered meals available for qualified seniors

The Ulster County Office for Aging's Home Delivered Meal Program provides a week's worth of frozen meals for seniors, delivered once a week at no cost.

The meals are planned by a registered dietitian, and each meal provides one-third of a senior's daily nutritional needs.

To qualify for the program, seniors must be:

- Age 60 or older.
- An Ulster County resident with no other support.
- Unable to prepare meals.

· Homebound due to incapacity or illness

Voluntary contributions for the meals are appreciated, but no one will be denied a meal because of inability to pay. The recommended voluntary contribution is \$3 per meal. If a recipient's monthly income is higher than 185% of the federal poverty level (\$2,248 for a one-person household, \$3,040 for two persons), they are offered the opportunity to contribute the full cost of the meal, which is \$11.04. Checks should be made payable to Ulster County.

For more information, call (845) 340-3456. To cancel home-delivered meals, call (845) 331-2496.

### Your town newsletter

### HAPPENING IN HURLEY

#### Vol. 1., No. 12: January 2024

Town of Hurley, 10 Wamsley Place, P.O. Box 569, Hurley, NY 12443; Phone: (845) 331-7474 **Published on the 1<sup>st</sup> of each month** (Deadline for submissions is the 15<sup>th</sup> of the previous month) **Editor:** Jeremy Schiffres, Hurley Public Information Officer, informationofficer@townofhurley.org

## Things to do at the Hurley and West Hurley libraries

### HURLEY LIBRARY 48 Main St.

(845) 338-2092, hurleylibrary.org **NOTE:** Beginning in January, the library will close at 6 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays for the winter season.

### MONDAYS

Mile Walking Club – Meet at the library at 1 p.m. Drop-In Tech Help – 3 to 5 p.m.

#### WEDNESDAYS

Scrabble (except Jan. 31) – 1 p.m. Chair Yoga – 5:30 p.m.

### THURSDAYS

Preschool/Toddler Story Time (except Jan. 4) – 10 a.m.

Drop-in Tech Help – 3 to 5 p.m.

### THURSDAY, Jan. 25

Library Board meeting - 6 p.m.

#### **FRIDAYS**

Dungeons & Dragons – 4 to 6 p.m.



**WEST HURLEY LIBRARY** 42 Clover St. (845) 679-6405, westhurleylibrary.org

#### MONDAY, Jan. 8

Book Discussion Group – 6 to 7 p.m. Topic: "Horse," by Geraldine Brooks. To sign up and get a copy of the book, call the library. **MONDAY, Jan. 15** Family History Group – 6 to 7 p.m. For more info and to register, go to tinyurl.com/y2nz5vmf. **FRIDAYS** Preschool Story Hour – 10 a.m.

### Updated online catalog for Mid-Hudson libraries coming soon

An improved version of the Mid-Hudson Library System's Online Public Catalog is coming. It will include a modern graphic interface with a clean, simple appearance and more intuitively organized features.

The new catalog also will be more visual than the old one, with large cover images, a customized homepage, and the ability to choose a "grid" or "list" view for search results.

For more information, go to discover.midhudsonlibraries.org.

## Hurley Town Hall schedule for 2024

The Hurley Town Hall, at 10 Wamsley Place, is open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. weekdays, except for the 2024 dates listed below, when the building will be closed. (NOTE: When the Town Hall is closed on a Monday, the Town Transfer Station, at 1043 Dug Hill Road, is closed the following day. If a Town Hall holiday falls on a Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday or Friday, the Transfer Station is closed the same day.)

Monday, Jan. 1: New Year's Day Monday, Jan. 15: Martin Luther King Jr. Day Monday, Feb. 19: Presidents Day Monday, May 27: Memorial Day Wednesday, June 19: Juneteenth Thursday, July 4: Independence Day Monday, Sept. 2: Labor Day Monday, Oct. 14: Columbus Day/Indigenous People's Day Tuesday, Nov. 5: Election Day Monday, Nov. 11: Veterans Day Thursday, Nov. 28: Thanksgiving Friday, Nov. 29: Native American Heritage Day Wednesday, Dec. 25: Christmas

## Free COVID-19 test kits available at Town Hall

The Town of Hurley has received at-home COVID-19 tests from the Ulster County Department of Health, and they're available to pick up for free at the Town Hall, 10 Wamsley Place.

Each box contains two Antigen Rapid Tests – which render results in 15 minutes – and an instruction sheet.

The test packages (pictured) are on a table in the main hallway of the Town Hall, and there are more in the Town Clerk's Office. Face masks also are available for free.



Hurley's supply of the tests and masks is limited, so please do not take more than you need for your household.

NOTE: The Town Hall will be closed on Monday, Jan. 15, in observance of Martin Luther King Jr. Day. The Transfer Station, which is closed every Monday, will be closed the day after the holiday – Tuesday, Jan. 16.

Town of Hurley 10 Wamsley Place Box 569 Hurley, NY 12443