



HAPPENING IN HURLEY

Serving the Ulster County communities of Hurley, West Hurley and Glenford

WEBSITE: TOWNOFHURLEY.ORG

FACEBOOK: [TOWN OF HURLEY, NY](https://www.facebook.com/TOWN OF HURLEY, NY)

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From the Desk of Melinda McKnight

Supervisor's message: By the numbers

The warm daytime temperatures for much of this Fall season have been delightful. It's also been a busy season that included a number of lovely events sponsored by the Hurley Heritage Society and libraries that brought our community together. The first Tomorrow Peoples Pow Wow, a collaboration between the Indigenous community and the Town of Hurley, took place at the Town Park in West Hurley Sept. 30 and Oct. 1. In spite of some rain and mud, the event was an inspiring demonstration of the resilience of Indigenous peoples and their various cultures.

The fall also has been busy at the Town Hall due to the New York State-mandated budget schedule. In July, worksheets were distributed to Town

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BUDGET APPROVED: The Town Board on Monday, Oct. 30, approved the 2024 Hurley budget, which totals \$3,815,773 and keeps the property tax levy at the 2023 level.

The combined General Fund and Highway Fund appropriations in the budget are 3.7% smaller than the 2023 total. The 2024 tax levy is \$2,347,261, unchanged from 2023.

The budget was to be voted on at the Town Board's Nov. 14 meeting, but with no changes made at the Oct. 30 meeting, a motion was made for early approval.

The 2024 budget summary is posted online at tinyurl.com/ycprp45b. Individual appropriation and revenue documents for 2024 can be viewed by going to tinyurl.com/msr7e9d2.

Several schedule adjustments at Town Hall this month

The Town Hall, at 10 Wamsley Place, be closed for business on four weekdays in November:

- **Tuesday, Nov. 7**, for Election Day. (The building will be open as a polling place.)
- **Friday, Nov. 10**, for Veterans Day, which falls on Saturday, Nov. 11. *The Town Transfer Station will be closed Nov. 11.*
- **Thursday, Nov. 23**, for Thanksgiving.
- **Friday, Nov. 24**, for Native American Heritage Day.



Also, the Town Board will meet only once in November, rather than the usual twice. The meeting will be on Tuesday, Nov. 14, in the Town Hall, beginning at 7 p.m.

The Planning Board, which typically meets on the fourth Thursday of the month, will meet a week later in November, on Thursday the 30th – at 6 p.m. in the Town Hall – because Thanksgiving falls on the 23rd.

Supervisor's Message: Continued from page 1

department heads, and they were returned in late August. During that time, work on aspects of the Town's 2024 budget that are not tied to individual departments takes place. As Town Supervisor, I analyze various sources of revenue and any anticipated increase in expenses for the following year. Then comes the task of making all costs and revenues work without raising property taxes. I am happy to report the tax levy will remain flat next year at \$2,347,261 (\$828,161 for the General Fund, \$1,519,100 for the Highway Fund).

Also on the fiscal front, the Town in September received the results of Fiscal Stress Monitoring conducted by the Office of the New York State Comptroller, and the news was great: Hurley is not experiencing fiscal stress.

The report – released on Sept. 26 by Comptroller Thomas DiNapoli – shows Hurley with a **Fiscal**

Score of 3.3. Scores are on a scale of zero to 100; **the lower the score, the less fiscal stress a municipality is experiencing.** The scoring system is as follows:

- **45 to 54.9** indicates a municipal government is "**susceptible to fiscal stress.**"
- **55 to 64.9** indicates "**moderate fiscal stress.**"
- **65 and higher** indicates a municipality is under "**significant fiscal stress.**"

The same report noted the Town of Hurley has a "**negative operating deficit,**" which is the Comptroller's way of saying the Town had an **operating surplus** for Fiscal Year 2022. The surplus of \$200,751.62 was allocated to Hurley's Capital Reserve Fund at a Town Board meeting held on Dec. 27, 2022.

Town gains access to landfill cleanup money from New York State

The former Town of Hurley Landfill, at 1043 Dug Hill Road, has been classified a New York State Superfund site due to contamination from PFOA (perfluorooctanoic acid) and PFOS (perfluorooctanesulfonic acid), according to the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation.

The designation means Hurley will have access to

more than \$1 million from the state for remediation.

The contamination dates to the period when the landfill operated, from the 1960s to the mid-1990s. The presence of PFOS, however, wasn't known until after New York State started testing for it in 2018.

For complete details and background, see the post on the Town website at tinyurl.com/4khca59t.



PHOTOS: Tomorrow Peoples Pow Wow

The photos on this page are from the first day of the Tomorrow Peoples Pow Wow, which was held Sept. 30 and Oct. 1 at the Town Park on Dug Hill Road in West Hurley. The event, put on by the Ramapough Culture and Land Foundation with support from the Town, included Native American ceremonies, tree plantings, singing and dancing, and vendors selling crafts, clothing, other goods and food. *Photos by Jeremy Schiffres*



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)

Melinda McKnight, 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)

Annie Reed, Town Clerk: Ext. 303, clerk@townofhurley.org

Donna Cudney, Deputy Clerk: Ext. 304, deputyclerk@townofhurley.org

PLANNING AND ZONING (phone option 6)

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

or 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, Zoning Enforcement Officer/Fire Inspector: Ext. 317

Troy Ashdown, Building Inspector/Municipal Code Officer: Ext. 315

Erin Stewart, Building Clerk: Ext. 310, building@townofhurley.org

HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

Mike Shultis, Superintendent: mshultis@townofhurley.org

John Wiacek, Deputy Superintendent: highway@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

Peter Humphries,

Deputy Supervisor:

pumphries@townofhurley.org

Michael Boms:

mboms@townofhurley.org

Jana Martin:

jmartin@townofhurley.org

Gregory Simpson:

gsimpson@townofhurley.org

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

AROUND THE TOWN HALL: Info from our departments

Assessor’s Office: The office is sending renewal notifications in November to residents ages 65 and up who have limited income and currently receive the exemption available to them.

Residents who turn/ed 65 in 2023 should reach out to the Assessor’s Office to find out if they qualify for the Enhanced STAR exemption or the exemption for seniors with limited income. The office can be reached at (845) 331-7474, option 4, or assessor@townofhurley.org. The deadline to file exemption forms with the Assessor’s Office is March 1, 2024.

If you are a new property owner in Hurley, you should register with New York State for the Basic STAR credit by calling (518) 457-2036 or going to the website tax.ny.gov/star.

Town Clerk’s Office: The Town Clerk’s Office is preparing to offer an online option for residents to look up and pay their tax bills. The platform is expected to be operational by Jan. 1, 2024.

These services are being implemented for Ulster County’s town by the county Department of Finance, and we are excited to make them available to you.

Planning/Zoning: The Town Planning Board, which typically meets on the fourth Thursday of the month, will meet a week later in November, on Thursday the 30th, because Thanksgiving falls on the 23rd. The meeting will start at 6 p.m. in the Town Hall, 10 Wamsley Place.

The Zoning Board of Appeals (ZBA) will meet on Thursday, Nov. 9, if necessary, starting at 7 p.m. in the Town Hall. (Keep an eye on the Town website for updates.)

The meeting agendas and minutes for the Planning Board and Zoning Board of Appeals are posted on the Town website and are sent automatically to people who sign up for email notifications at townofhurley.org/subscribe. Agendas also are attached to the meeting announcements on the Town’s online calendar (townofhurley.org/calendar).

In Memoriam: Longtime Building Dept. employee Glenn Hoffstatter



Longtime Hurley Building Inspector and Municipal Code Officer Glenn Hoffstatter passed away on Wednesday, Oct. 18, at age 59.

Glenn (pictured at left) was a valued employee of the Town Building Department for more than 15 years, and we extend our deepest sympathies to Glenn's family and all who knew him.

The funeral service for Glenn was held on Monday, Oct. 23, at Immanuel Lutheran Church in Kingston. He was laid to rest in the Hurley Cemetery.

Glenn’s obituary is posted online at tinyurl.com/muanycwp.

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.



Elections are upon us; here's what you need to know



Hurley residents have the opportunity to vote in town, county and regional races this election season.

Voters will elect the Town Supervisor, Town Clerk, Town Highway Superintendent, two Town Board members and two Town Justices; as well as the Ulster County Executive and District Attorney, a county legislator, and three State Supreme Court Justices. There also are two state and two county propositions on the ballot. The text of each proposition is posted at tinyurl.com/2jjebne8.

Sample ballots for each voting district in the county can be found at tinyurl.com/44bj4chz. (There are two ballots for Hurley because part of the town is in Ulster County Legislature District 18 and part is in District 23.)

Early voting began Saturday, Oct. 28, and runs through Sunday, Nov. 5, at locations at Ellenville, Marlborough, New Paltz, Olive, Saugerties and the City of Kingston. Voters can cast ballots at any of the locations, regardless of where in Ulster County they live. Specific locations and hours are posted at tinyurl.com/ynfudyyt.

To find your polling place in Hurley if you plan to vote on Election Day, Nov. 7, go to tinyurl.com/5xnd2xjh, and enter the requested information. Voting hours on Election Day are 6 a.m. to 9 p.m.



Year-end financial reports now posted

The Town of Hurley's year-end financial reports for 2011 through 2022 are now posted on our website.

They can be accessed by going to the webpage at tinyurl.com/5abpd79e and then clicking on the year for which you want to view the report.



UPCOMING TOWN GOVERNMENT MEETINGS

Thursday, Nov. 9: Zoning Board of Appeals, 7 p.m. Town Hall

Tuesday, Nov. 14: Town Board, 7 p.m., Town Hall

Thursday, Nov. 30: Planning Board, 6 p.m., Town Hall - *One week later than usual because of Thanksgiving*

Tuesday, Dec. 5: Town Board (workshop), 7 p.m., Town Hall

For a complete schedule of town meetings, go to townofhurley.org/calendar.

Your town newsletter

HAPPENING IN HURLEY

Vol. 1., No. 10: November 2023

Town of Hurley, 10 Wamsley Place, P.O. Box 569, Hurley, NY 12443; Phone: (845) 331-7474

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Editor: Jeremy Schiffres, Hurley Public Information Officer, informationofficer@townofhurley.org

Page 1 photo: Traffic moves along Route 209, near Wynkoop Road, on Tuesday, Oct. 24, 2023.

Things to do at the Hurley and West Hurley libraries

Note: Both libraries will be closed Nov. 23 and 24 for Thanksgiving.

HURLEY LIBRARY 48 Main St.

(845) 338-2092, hurleylibrary.org

SUNDAY, Nov. 5

Nourishing Soup Workshop, with Holly Shelowitz – 1:30 p.m. Preregistration required; call library at number above.

MONDAYS

Mile Walking Club – Meet at the library at 1 p.m.

Drop-In Tech Help – 3 to 5 p.m.

TUESDAYS

Signing Friends ALS Playgroup – 9:30 to 10:30 a.m.

WEDNESDAYS

Scrabble – 1 p.m.

Chair Yoga – 5:30 p.m.

THURSDAYS

Preschool/Toddler Story Time – 10 a.m.

Drop-in Tech Help – 3 to 5 p.m.

THURSDAY, Nov. 2

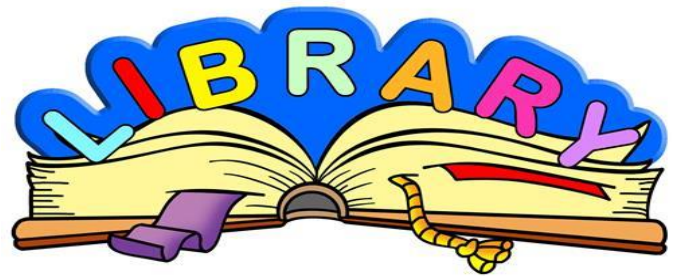
Library Board meeting – 6:30 p.m.

THURSDAY, Nov. 9

Hudson River School-inspired Collage Workshop, with Jill Obrig – 4 to 5:30 p.m. Preregistration required; call library at number above.

FRIDAYS

Dungeons & Dragons – 4 to 6 p.m.



WEST HURLEY LIBRARY 42 Clover St.

(845) 679-6405, westhurleylibrary.org

MONDAY, Nov. 13

Lego Lab – 4:30 to 5:30 p.m. Register at tinyurl.com/yubkjd8w.

Book Discussion Group – 6 to 7 p.m.

Topic: "Remarkably Bright Creatures" by Shelby Van Pelt. Contact library to sign up and get a copy.

WEDNESDAY, Nov. 15

Library Board meeting – 7 p.m.

THURSDAY, Nov. 9

Online meeting and workshop: "Archaeological Excavation at the Crispell Cottage Site in Hurley" – 7 to 8 p.m. Register at tinyurl.com/5fb9asjw.

FRIDAYS (except Nov. 24)

Preschool Story Hour – 10 a.m.



Library voters OK budget, elect board members

The Hurley Library's proposed budget for 2024 – totaling \$264,730 – was approved in a public vote on Thursday, Oct. 19. (A Daily Freeman article with budget details is posted at tinyurl.com/5hy9t5rm.)

Re-elected to the four-year terms on the Library Board of Trustees were Kathleen Longendyke and Suzanne Campise, who ran unopposed.

Town Hall holiday schedule for remainder of 2023

The Hurley Town Hall, at 10 Wamsley Place, is open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. weekdays, except on the dates listed below, when the building will be closed. *Note: During weeks with a Monday holiday, the Transfer Station is closed on Tuesday.*

Election Day: Tuesday, Nov. 7

Thanksgiving: Thursday, Nov. 23

Veterans Day: Friday, Nov. 10 (because holiday is Saturday)

Native American Heritage Day: Friday, Nov. 24

Christmas: Monday, Dec. 25

Climate Smart Task Force urges winter readiness

The Hurley Climate Smart Task Force has been talking about how to prepare for winter emergencies. Who can forget that most of Hurley was without electricity during a zero-degree cold snap for up to a week in the winter of 2021-22?! For many of us, that meant no heat; and if you have a well, no running water.

Every household should have a strategy in place for dealing with emergencies, and now there's a new "Disaster Preparedness" section on the Town of Hurley website that can help. You can find it at townofhurley.org/disaster-preparedness.

You'll find some good ideas there, like how much water you should store. But every household is different, and plans should be customized. You might have a fireplace or a back-up generator, you might only have an outdoor barbecue, or you might not have cellphone service. We urge you to come up with an emergency plan for your own home, and we'd love to hear some suggestions.

How did you get through last year's emergency? Are you making any changes to prepare for this year? Email your comments and suggestions to us at ClimateSmart@townofhurley.org, or comment on our website, climatesmarthurley.org/news.

THE TOWN OF

Hurley

IS A

Bronze Certified

CLIMATE SMART COMMUNITY

2023

Town of Hurley
10 Wamsley Place
Box 569
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