

MINUTES OF PUBLIC HEARING ON LOCAL LAW No. 1 of 2026 and WORKSHOP MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 2026, AT 5:45 P.M. AT THE TOWN HALL LOCATED ON RTE. 23A IN TANNERSVILLE, NEW YORK.

PRESENT:

Sean Mahoney	Town Supervisor, Arrived at 6:11 p.m.
David Kukle	Councilman
Raymond Legg	Councilman
Dolph Semenza	Councilman, Deputy Town Supervisor
Ernest Reale	Councilman

OTHERS PRESENT:

Corina Pascucci	Town Clerk
Lara Hamrah-Poladian	Secretary to the Supervisor
Jaynie Bogus	Deputy Town Clerk, Secretary – Planning Board
Marc Czermerys	Planning Board Chairman
Robert Blain	Highway Department Administrator
Robert Haines	Sargeant, Hunter Town Police
Peter Kusminsky	Greene County Sheriff
Ariel Woolheater	Ambulance Administrator
Barbara Pforte	Assistant Ambulance Administrator
Dede Terns Thorpe	Town Historian

Plus, all names on attached listing

Public Hearing: Local Law No. 1 Of 2026 Real Property Tax Exemption Permanently & Totally Disabled Veterans RPTL 458-a(11)

MOTION to open public hearing at 5:50 p.m. made by Councilman Semenza. Councilman Semenza called for public comment. No members of the public came forward to speak. Seconded by Councilman Legg.

Ayes – 4 - Noes – 0 - Absent – 1 (Supervisor Mahoney)

MOTION to close the public hearing at 6:05 p.m. was made by Councilman Semenza and seconded by Councilman Reale.

Ayes - 4 - Noes - 0 – Absent – 1 (Supervisor Mahoney)

Pledge of Allegiance – 6:10 p.m.

AUDIT – The following vouchers were audited and approved for payment by the Town Board:

General Fund (TW) Voucher #390 through #418 in the amount of \$31,216.64
General Fund (TOS) Voucher #1059 through #1066 in the amount of \$3,501.15
General Fund (G) Voucher #3067 through #3074 in the amount of \$52,387.21
Highway Fund (TW) Voucher #198 through #219 in the amount of \$33,707.94
Highway Fund (TOS) Voucher #1054 through #1067 in the amount of \$24,999.57

Landfill Closure Fund Voucher #71 through #71 through #78 in the amount of \$4,333.20

September 11th Presentation By Ram Singal

Ram Singal, a professional civil engineer and longtime resident of the mountaintop community, delivered a personal account of his experience as a survivor of the September 11, 2001 attacks on the World Trade Center, on the 25th anniversary of September 11th.

Mr. Singal described being on the 64th floor of the North Tower when it was struck, having narrowly avoided leaving the building minutes before due to returning to his desk to complete a task. Drawing on his background having developed the structural inspection program for the entire World Trade Center complex, he helped guide colleagues toward evacuation. He recounted navigating flooded stairwells in complete darkness, changing stairwells multiple times due to debris and structural damage, and emerging from the building approximately five minutes before the North Tower collapsed.

Mr. Singal reflected on several profound takeaways from the experience. He noted that throughout the 95 minutes he spent in the tower, he did not experience fear, which he attributed to his focus on helping others around him. He spoke of encouraging other evacuees, stepping back to allow frightened colleagues to walk ahead of him, and offering reassurance throughout the descent. He also shared his deliberate decision, in the aftermath, to practice forgiveness — both of himself and of others — as a means of healing rather than perpetuating cycles of retaliation. He described working through survivor's guilt by resolving to dedicate the remainder of his life to service to humanity.

Mr. Singal introduced his global initiative, **7 Billion Acts of Goodness**, which he conceived as a grassroots campaign inspired in part by the physics of chain reactions. The program encourages individuals to perform acts of goodness — toward themselves, toward others, and toward nature — with the goal of triggering a global domino effect of compassion and generosity. He noted that he has personally traveled to more than 800 cities across 25 countries and delivered over 4,000 presentations on the program. He expressed that the Town of Hunter's participation represented the first time the program had been officially presented to a municipal government body, and he expressed hope that the initiative could extend to local schools, businesses, and other communities.

Town Historian, Dede Terns Thorpe, noted that a community event honoring first responders was planned for September 13th, 2026, at which Mr. Singal would be present to speak further. Supervisor Mahoney and other board members expressed gratitude for Mr. Singal's presentation and enthusiasm for bringing the program to Hunter-Tannersville Central School and the broader community.

BIODATA: RAM SINGAL, P. E.

Ram Singal is a Professional Civil Engineer and owns an engineering consulting firm in New York. He was born in India and came to United States in 1977.

Ram has been practicing Raja Yoga Meditation for the last 52 years and applies it in his professional and personal life. He believes that spirituality is dynamic and a higher form

of science that is applicable in our day to day life. It helps in dealing with situations, circumstances, relationship in professional and personal life.

Ram was on 64th floor of World Trade Center, New York on September 11/2001, when the planes hit the Twin Towers. He came out of the building just five minutes before it collapsed. He overcame many of his own physical problems and helped many people in this time of crisis. He had a unique positive experience. Because, he was trying to help others, he himself did not experience fear, anger or helplessness.

He travels around the world sharing his personal experiences. He shares his thoughts on how meditation and positive attitude, faith in higher beings and love for people and nature, help us in times of crisis like this. He has been to many places in USA, South America, Caribbean, Russia, UK, UAE and India sharing his personal positive experiences.

Ram has been working with youth groups for the last 25 years and has conducted workshops in Schools, colleges and organizations. The youth relate to him very well and consider him as an excellent Life Coach.

Currently, Ram is coordinating a global campaign named ‘7 Billion Acts of Goodness’ It is an inter-faith initiative intended for common people at grass-root level. The mission is to create a global environment of care, compassion and generosity by inspiring people to collectively perform 7 Billion Acts of Goodness, one each, for 7 Billion people of the world. It could trigger domino effects and chain reaction of goodness and happiness in the whole world. Ram has travelled to more than 800 cities in 25 countries and delivered more than 4,000 presentations on this program.

Some Suggested Topics to choose from:

1. Turning Crisis into Opportunities & Fear into Courage
2. Turning Stress into inner Strength
3. Power of Elevated Actions
4. Creating Atmosphere of Happiness
5. Exploring and Emerging Inner Resources
6. The Power of Soft Energy
7. Dealing with ‘All of a Sudden’ Situations
8. Building Inner Capacity
9. Living a ‘Life of Happiness’ through small Acts of Goodness
10. Dealing with anxiety and Fear

Local Law No. 1/2026 Discuss/Motion to Adopt LL #1 Regarding Permanently/Total Disabled Veterans RPTL 458-a(11)

Supervisor Mahoney noted that Local Law No. 1 of 2026 mirrors the law being adopted by Greene County, ensuring consistency between the county and the town with respect to eligibility requirements and administration. The law provides a sliding-scale property tax exemption — up to full exemption — for veterans who are permanently and totally disabled, applicable to any veteran whose primary residence is within the Town of Hunter, whether a current or future resident.

MOTION to adopt Local Law No. 1 of 2026 Real Property Tax Exemption for Permanently and Totally Disabled Veterans pursuant to Real Property Tax Law 458.a(11) was made by Supervisor Mahoney and seconded by Councilman Kukle.

Ayes – 5 -

Noes – 0 -

Signage Acknowledgement – Letter/Request for Assistance from Peter Blume, Rte. 214

The Board acknowledged receipt of a letter from Peter Blume regarding 2049 Route 214 concerning a signage dispute between neighboring property owners. The Board noted that the Town's Code Enforcement Officer, Rose Santiago, was not present at the meeting and indicated that no formal response or action would be taken until the matter could be reviewed with her input.

Privilege of the Floor

Councilman Kukle shared the passing of Valerie Brainerd, a longtime employee of Hunter Mountain, who passed away earlier that afternoon after a prolonged battle with cancer. Councilman Kukle offered a personal tribute, reflecting on her central role in the food and operations programs at Hunter Mountain over many years and her influence on the countless employees, students, and guests who passed through. He expressed that her contributions were foundational to the success of programs at Hunter Mountain, and that she would be greatly missed by the entire community.

Executive Session

MOTION to enter Executive Session at 6:50 p.m. to discuss an employee matter was made by Supervisor Mahoney and seconded by Councilman Semenza.

Ayes – 5 -

Noes – 0 -

MOTION to come out of Executive Session at 8:11 p.m. was made by Supervisor Mahoney.

Seconded by Councilman Semenza.

Ayes - 5 -

Noes - 0 –

MOTION made by Supervisor Mahoney to close the meeting at 8:11 p.m. Seconded by Councilman Semenza.

Ayes - 5 -

Noes - 0 -

Portions of this document were drafted with AI Support (clerk minutes) and refined by the author for clarity and accuracy.

Renee Ment, Recording Secretary

Corina Pascucci, Town Clerk, RMC
Town of Hunter