

**TOWN OF HUME  
TOWN BOARD MINUTES  
APRIL 8, 2026  
7:00 PM**

The regular monthly meeting of the Hume Town Board; Allegany County; Fillmore, New York was held at the Fillmore Central School small auditorium. Officials in attendance were: Supervisor Darlene Mason, Councilmen Peter Hopkins, Andy Peet, Warren Smith, Councilwoman Tammy Peet and Town Clerk Dawn Bentley.

Others in attendance: Kevin Peet, Darla Indralingam, **SEE ATTACHED**

Meeting was called to order by Supervisor Mason

Pledge to flag and a moment of silence was observed by all in attendance.

**MINUTES**

Motion made by Councilman Hopkins, Second by Councilman A. Peet to accept minutes from March 11<sup>th</sup> meeting.

ROLL CALL

Darlene Mason	Yes	
Pete Hopkins	Yes	
Andy Peet	Yes	So Carried
Tammy Peet	Yes	
Warren Smith	Yes	

**WATER/SEWER**

Bill from Bruce Hinz for Septic pumping – wants town to pay – it had already been pumped on schedule. He had LM White pump it. After much discussion, Town does not want to set precedence.

Motion made by Councilman Hopkins not to reimburse Bruce Hinz for the septic pumping done by LM White, Second by Councilwoman T. Peet.

ROLL CALL

Darlene Maon	yes	
Tammy Peet	yes	
Pete Hopkins	yes	So Carried
Warren Smith	yes	
Andy Peet	yes	

**HIGHWAY** – Kevin Peet

Cleaning up mess after flood last week.

Ordered salt to start supply for next year

Cemetery lawn Mower – 7 years old, deck is cracking. Quotes received from 3 different sources.

The lowest price came from JRM Equipment for a SCAG Liberty.

Motion made by Councilman Hopkins to Purchase Liberty SCAG for 45499.00 from JRM Equipment, Second by Councilman A. Peet

**ROLL CALL**

Darlene Mason	abstains	
Andy Peet	yes	
Warren Smith	yes	So Carried
Pete Hopkins	yes	
Tammy Peet	yes	

Playground Grant – Tammy Peet – not prepared to work on Grant. Gave update.

**SEE ATTACHED**

**MUSEUM** – Darla Indralingam

Ground broke for lift – we will finally have 2 exits from upstairs so that Museum can be opened and it will be handicap accessible.

JUSTICE – Darla Indralingam

Nothing new going on

**COMMUNITY FORUM**

Town Clerk read letter addressed to Fillmore Community. **SEE ATTACHED**

Levin Behen – Monitor the Community page – asked some of the same questions as before.

Rose Marie Goi – spoke about grants

**DOG CONTROL**

Report is in Board folders

**LEGAL**

NO REPORT

**TOWN CLERK** – Dawn Bentley

We received three thank you notes from the cemeteries that we provided donations to (Pine Grove, St. Patrick's, and Alger)

Property Taxes are finished; we collected 90% of the total taxes due.

**SUPERVISOR** – Darlene Mason

Proposal of \$150 a month to video tape meetings and maintain website, set up streaming services through Youtube

Motion made by Councilman Hopkiins, second by Councilman A. Peet to table proposal until next month, Supervisor will consult legal counsel.

ROLL CALL

Darlene Mason	yes	
Warren Smith	yes	
Andy Peet	yes	So Carried
Pete Hopkins	yes	
Tammy Peet	yes	

May Negotiations – Brooks Hose – Starting. Supervisor Mason and Councilman Smith will be handling these.

Motion made by Councilman Smith, second by Councilman A. Peet to pay all bills.

ROLL CALL

Darlene Mason	yes	
Pete Hopkins	yes	
Tammy Peet	yes	So Carried
Warren Smith	yes	
Andy Peet	yes	

Motion made by Councilman Hopkins, second by Councilman Smith to adjourn the meeting.

ROLL CALL

Darlene Mason	yes	
Pete Hopkins	yes	
Andy Peet	yes	So Carried
Tammy Peet	yes	
Warren Smith	yes	

Next meeting will be May 13<sup>th</sup>, 7:00 pm at the Fillmore Central School small Auditorium, just off the Lobby, school is located at 104 W. Main St., Fillmore, NY

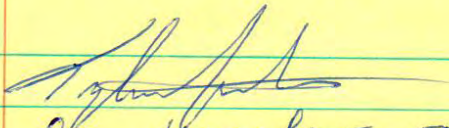
The above is true and accurate to the best of my knowledge.

Dawn Bentley  
Town Clerk

# Please Sign In

1. ~~Robert M~~
2. ~~Ellis~~
3. Lisa Bower
4. Courtney Potter
5. Charlene King Wedder
6. David Bell
7. James Hennard
8. ~~APB~~
9. Thomas E Bower
10. Nancy Beth
11. Cami Pott
12. Wendy Yu Reinhold
13. Luce Segl
14. Rose Marie Mori
15. Kathy Young
16. Lisa Crouch
17. Roy Crouch
18. Joel Stroud
19. Bill Brewer
20. Bill Wda
21. GORDON RANOSKA
22. Tara Boyd
23. Carl Thomas
24. ~~John Ellis~~
25. Lisa Ellis
26. Lew Bowers
27. Lilly Millman

28.



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*Carri Spagnole* 585-737-9946 playground planning

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# **REQUEST FOR PLANNING BOARD INCLUSION FOR PLAYGROUND UPDATING**

## **REF: January 14<sup>th</sup> Town Board Meeting**

- Highway Superintendent Kevin Peet advised the Town Playground is nearing a required update
- Supervisor Mason referred to Board Member Tamara Peet to write a grant application

## **CHALLENGES:**

1. Board Member Peet has not yet completed a Grant Writing Course to fully understand the process
2. A grant cannot be written without a formal plan in place

## **MISSING:**

- Detailed narrative of what the new project will represent
- How will the [non-grant] financing will be accomplished:
  - Tax dollars or credits
  - Bonds
- A comprehensive breakdown of how grant funds will be used within the planned project PER subproject (x% per equipment/ improvements)

## **IMPROVEMENT OF OUR TOWN PLAYGROUND REPRESENTS SEVERAL OPTIONS OF CONSIDERATION, TO INCLUDE:**

- Natural-looking playgrounds & nature-themed designs
- Inclusive play environments for all ages & all abilities
- Custom Playground Designs

## **FURTHER, IT OPENS CONSIDERATION TO:**

- Fully or partly covered playground to increase safety and year-round use
- Ground material: Matt, rubber mulch, wood mulch

With all the above reasons explained, this requires the input of the Planning Board Committee members to best determine Project Direction and to best meet the needs of our diverse community.

**\*As a result, the (NY PLAYS) Grant Program application due by June 15, 2026 is not feasible.**

**Dear Fillmore Community,**

I am writing as a concerned and longtime member of our community. Fillmore has always been a place where neighbors supported one another—where kindness, respect, and a shared sense of responsibility defined who we are. Recently, however, it feels as though we have begun to lose sight of those values.

I understand the concerns surrounding the recent water and sewer rate increases. Changes like these can be unsettling, and it is completely reasonable to feel worried when faced with higher costs. At the same time, we all recognize that expenses rise over time, and adjustments are sometimes necessary to maintain essential services.

A community Facebook group was created with the intention of sharing information and keeping residents informed. Unfortunately, it appears to have evolved into something far more divisive. Instead of fostering understanding, it has, at times, become a platform for criticism, personal attacks, and the spread of incomplete or one-sided information. Our board members—individuals who have dedicated their time and effort to serving this community—have been subjected to harsh and, in many cases, unfair treatment.

Everyone is entitled to their opinion. However, it is important that we base those opinions on accurate information and mutual respect. Before forming conclusions, I encourage everyone to seek out the facts directly. For example, residents can visit the town clerk to receive a clear breakdown of how these rate changes will affect their individual bills. In many cases, the increases are more modest than initially feared.

It is also worth reflecting on the relationships we have built over the years. Many of the same individuals now facing criticism are people we once trusted, respected, and called friends. Public service is not easy, and those who step into these roles do so with the intention of helping our community—not harming it.

I would also like to acknowledge Darlene Mason, who has served this community with dedication and care for many years. She has consistently demonstrated a willingness to go above and beyond for others. The level of criticism directed toward her recently feels disproportionate and, at times, deeply unfair. Disagreement is part of any community, but it should never come at the expense of basic respect and decency.

Looking ahead, I agree that opportunities for open dialogue—such as a community-wide meet-and-greet for candidates—could be very beneficial. These events should provide a fair and respectful space for residents to ask questions, hear directly from candidates, and make informed decisions. Transparency and accessibility are key to maintaining trust in our local board members. All candidates should be there at the same time it's only fair. It should not be used to get signatures. The sole purpose of running for an office is to go out and get signatures and talk to the people who you are asking to sign for you. Think about the questions you would ask them at the meet and greet. Signatures should not be done by text

message that is not the purpose of going out to interact so people know who they are signing for. It means more when you interact and gain that sense of trust with your community.

At the heart of all of this is a simple but important truth: how we treat one another matters. Disagreement does not have to lead to division. We can ask questions, express concerns, and hold leaders accountable while still maintaining kindness and respect.

Right now, our community feels divided in a way that is difficult to witness. Friendships have been strained, and conversations have become confrontational rather than constructive. I ask each of you to pause and reflect: Is this who we want to be? Is this how we want to move forward?

Let us remember:

*“There is no power for change greater than a community discovering what it cares about—friendship, loyalty, faith, and teamwork.”*

*“The strength of a community, like the strength of an army, lies in its loyalty to one another.”*

These words reflect the Fillmore I have always known and been proud to call home.

I have chosen to write this letter anonymously—not out of fear, but out of a desire to keep the focus on the message rather than the messenger. My hope is simply to encourage reflection, restore respectful dialogue, and help bring our community back together.

Thank you for taking the time to read this, and for considering how each of us can contribute to a stronger, more united Fillmore.

**Sincerely,**

A Concerned Community Member