

**TOWN OF HUME  
TOWN BOARD MINUTES  
AUGUST 5, 2026  
7:00 PM**

The regular monthly meeting of the Hume Town Board; Allegany County; Fillmore, New York was held at the Fillmore Firehall S. Genesee St, Fillmore. 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:** Darla Indralingam, Kevin Peet, **SEE ATTACHED**

Meeting was called to order by Supervisor Mason, Pledge of Allegance was recited and a moment of silence observed by all.

**MINUTES**

Councilwoman T. Peet would like correction made to July monthly minutes stating “Shop N Save was closing at the end of December.” She states she didn’t say that. Clerk pointed out that was exactly what she said.

Councilman Hopkins made motion to accept minutes with the above change made Second by Councilman Smith.

**Roll Call**

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

**DISCLAIMER** – The Town Clerk is making the change in the July Minutes under protest due to after reviewing the recording the above statement was just what was said by Councilwoman T. Peet.

Supervisor Mason referred the floor to Councilman Hopkins regarding Wiscoy/Rosburg getting water from CoGen plant. Not feasible, costs would be to high and they are a private entity. If a smaller line is used for the water system it would make the cost less. So there are other options that can be explored

7:16 PM

Motion made by Councilman Hopkins, Second by Councilman Smith to Open Public Hearing to discuss Temporary Moratorium on Battery Energy Storage System Project and DATA center projects in the Town of Hume.

Roll Call

|               |     |            |
|---------------|-----|------------|
| Darlene Madon | yes |            |
| Tammy Peet    | yes |            |
| Pete Hopkins  | yes | So Carried |
| Warren Smith  | yes |            |
| Andy Peet     | yes |            |

Floor was turned over to Patti MacEwan to speak. **SEE ATTACHED**

Motion made by Councilman Hopkins to pass Local law #1 2026 Establishing a Temporary Moratorium on Battery Energy Storage System Projects and DATA Center Projects in the Town of Hume pending review by County Planning Board.

Roll Call

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

7:46 PM

Motion made by Councilman Hopkins, Second by Councilman A. Peet to close Public Hearing.

Roll Call

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

### **WATER/SEWER**

ARCAP update, there will be a Town Hall Community Meeting, September 2<sup>nd</sup> 2026 @ 7:00 pm. The meeting will be at the Fillmore Firehall, 20 South Genesee St., Fillmore.

Motion made by Councilman Hopkins, Second by Councilman Smith to hold a Community Town Hall meeting to update everyone on the Water Rate Study

Roll Call

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

**HIGHWAY** - Kevin Peet

Looking at CHIPS reimbursement monies by September 10<sup>th</sup>

**MUSEUM** – Darla Indralingam  
Working on moving upstairs

**JUSTICE** – Darla Indralingam  
Status Quo

### **COMMUNITY FORUM**

Dave Stenzel – talked bout notifying business owners when there are water issues that will be affecting them.

Bill and Kathy Breuer – waterbill issues – SEE ATTACHED

Motion made by Councilman Hopkins, Second by Councilman A. Peet to table for later review.

Roll Call

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

Linda Fiegl – discussed the creation of a Planning Board

Tom Bower – presented law regarding having a Public Hearing in order to renew Fire District contracts.

**LEGAL**

**NO REPORT**

**TOWN CLERK** – Dawn Bentley

Hunting Licenses in full swing, Getting ready for school taxes.

**SUPERVISOR** – Darlene Maon

Fire Contract Public Hearing

Motion made by Councilman Smith, Second by Councilman A, Peet to hold Public Hearing on the Fire District Contract Renewals on September 9<sup>th</sup>, @ 7:15 PM at the Fillmore Firehall, 20 S. Genesee St., Fillmore.

Roll Call

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

County Rd 4 Bridge will be switching to otherside for retopping.

Motion made by Councilman Hopkins, Second by Councilwoman T. Peet to pay all bills.

Roll Call

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

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

Roll Call

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

The next monthly Town Board meeting will be September 9<sup>th</sup>, 2026 to be held at the Fillmore Firehall at 7:00 pm.

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

Dawn Bentley

Town Clerk

# Please Sign In

- 1 Richard Mason
- 2 Patti MacEwen
- 3 Linda & John Burrows
- 4 Lisa Bower
- 5 Darel Bower
- 6 Wendy & Reinhold
- 7 LINDA FEEEL
- 8 Kathy Brewer
- 9 Bill Brewer
- 10 Vaughn Hark
- 11 John Ellis
- 12 Lisa Ellis
- 13 Sharon Mitchell
- 14 Jim " "
- 15 Nancy Ruth
- 16 Ann Roth
- 17 Maureen
- 18 Kathy Young
- 19 Roseanne & Joe
- 20 2th
- 21 Dave Stengel
- 22 Jane Stengel
- 23 Gordon Hakoska
- 24 Lilly Millerian
- 25 Fern Crouch
- 26 Rose Marie Mai
- 27 Joel & Karen Stroud

28 Julie Hall

29 Jan Bower

30 Megan Mason

31 Scendie Young

32 Rick Young

33 Carol Thomas

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### Data Centers Information Sheet

*What are AI data centers?*

AI data centers are specialized facilities built to handle the extreme computational, storage, and networking demands of artificial intelligence workloads. They use a tremendous amount of power, and water. Because of the industrial fans they use they emit constant noise 24/7.

Power and Cooling: Infrastructure capable of supporting multi-gigawatt facilities, with some projects exceeding 5 GW capacity.

*Why should the Town of Hume do a moratorium?*

It will protect the Town of Hume leadership and the residents of the town. The Town of Hume should not rely on the State of NY moratorium to protect them and the town residents from a potential data center. The Town of Hume should ensure that any resident that wishes to sell their property to a data center developer has the oversight of the Town leadership. The Town of Hume should have a documented moratorium in case in the future the State of NY tries to encroach on the county for placement.

*Why are data centers targeting rural America and why are they potentially bad?*

Data centers are targeting rural America for a few reasons:

- Cheaper land
- Less restrictive zoning rules
- A smaller population to complain and lobby against the harmful effects
- An exploitive opportunity

Data centers can negatively impact rural America by straining local resources, driving up utility costs, and altering the community landscape. While they promise tax revenue, they often create friction due to heavy demands on infrastructure.

Water Consumption: Facilities require millions of gallons of water daily for cooling, which can deplete local aquifers and challenge rural water tables.

Grid and Energy Pressures: Massive electricity usage overloads rural power grids, frequently resulting in higher utility bills for local residents and small businesses.

Noise and Pollution: Industrial cooling fans run continuously, and backup diesel generators create constant noise alongside air and light pollution. Land Use and Economic Concerns

Loss of Farmland: Huge warehouse-style footprints replace productive agricultural land and open spaces with industrial complexes.

Few Permanent Jobs: After construction finishes, these facilities typically employ very few permanent workers, offering limited direct economic boost to local labor markets.

*What negative repercussions could the Town of Hume residents experience if a data center were built here?*

All of the above higher water, and energy prices. Noise pollution 24/7.

### *Does a data center bring jobs?*

In the construction phase there may be a few temporary jobs. These would be short-term contracted jobs over at most two years.

For most permanent on-site operations, they would likely bring in their own people. Those jobs include Data Center Technicians, network engineers, and facility managers. The local jobs are most likely the lower-paying round-the-clock security and cleaning crews.

### *Do you have any real-world examples?*

Several documented cases show how AI-scale data centers have directly impacted rural water supplies, including wells going dry or failing, how the constant noise affects them, and documented energy cost increases. Here's a few:

- Meta Data Center in Newton County, Georgia. A \$750 million Meta facility built in Newton County caused severe well water failures for nearby residents. Within months of construction, people found their taps running dry, with water pressure dropping to a trickle. Sediment buildup and deteriorating water quality forced some families to replace appliances multiple times, and multiple families have a possible well replacement. The county, home to about 120,000 people, now faces a projected water deficit by 2030, with municipal costs rising and potential rationing risks.
- Rural Georgia and Virginia Communities. BBC World Service reports from Georgia and Virginia describe residents with brown tap water, low pressure, and even toilets requiring buckets to flush. One woman said her well water had turned brown and her home's water supply was no longer reliable. These problems are linked to nearby data center construction, which has also brought industrial noise and power grid strain.
- Canton, Mississippi – Amazon AI Data Center. Amazon's \$10 billion AI facility draws millions of gallons daily from the Big Black River system for cooling. Residents report lung irritation and asthma worsened by diesel exhaust from backup generators, alongside concerns over reduced local water availability.
- Documented cases of AI data centers causing multi-state power grid problems and short outages.
- Documented cases of noise problems in many communities.

RED DOTS REPRESENT TECH EXECUTIVES  
WHO LIVE WITHIN 5 MILES OF A DATA CENTER

### *Other factors?*

- What happens if the AI bubble bursts, as Wall Street expects at some point. Does construction stop? Are promised unfulfilled?
- What happens in 10 years when technology has advanced and you don't need these huge facilities anymore? Do they become the new closed K-marts, or abandoned solar fields down the road?

Buffalo News  
7/16/26

# A smart pause

It was the right thing to do. On Tuesday, Gov. Kathy Hochul signed an executive order imposing a one-year moratorium on data centers that use 50 or more megawatts of power. That moratorium started immediately.

Legislation imposing a one-year pause on data centers had already been passed in Albany and awaits the governor's signature. Apparently, Hochul wanted immediate action in the interim, as she considers the Legislature's bill. From Hochul's statement: "As data center development threatens to hike up utility bills, deplete our natural resources, and create uncertainty for New Yorkers, it's my responsibility to take action and lead."

Well said, governor. We simply don't know enough about the impact these energy-guzzling facilities will have on the communities that surround them. What we do know is concerning. Until guardrails are put into place against harms that have already affected other regions of the U.S., a pause is sensible and constructive.

This isn't about a witch hunt against data centers and artificial intelligence. It's about fact-finding and protecting New York residents from unaffordable electric bill hikes and the possible degradation of a natural environment that is already under enough stress.

Those hazards can be avoided, but it will take study, innovation and regulation. A pause does not mean, as Mark McManus, general president of the United Association of Union Plumbers and Steamfitters, put it: "Gov. Hochul is taking her ball and going home."

It means that New York needs to do this right.

Business groups and many labor unions – as well as, of course, the tech industry – oppose a data center pause on the grounds that good-paying construction jobs would be lost and America could slip behind as an AI leader. Some spokespeople from these groups admit that regulation is necessary, but don't take into account the time needed to put the right types of regulation into place.

There's no magic wand that will suddenly make

all the obvious problems with data centers disappear. And once construction is completed, it's well-known that these facilities offer very little in the way of permanent jobs.

For example, if approved, Stream Data Centers, proposed for the STAMP industrial park in Genesee County, will receive \$1.4 billion in tax breaks from the Genesee County Economic Development Center in exchange for just 125 permanent jobs, which amounts to \$11.2 million in taxpayer subsidies per job.

Combine massive new subsidies like this with the tax exemptions that have already been in place for years in New York. As reported by The News' Jonathan D. Epstein, Pataki-era internet-related tax exemptions have cost the state \$12 million in lost sales tax this year alone.

These old exemptions should be repealed and new subsidy requests should get more pushback.

Data center development cannot be accorded government tolerance until – when it's too late – the downsides begin to cause crisis-level damage. That damage is already happening elsewhere. For example, utility customers served by PJM, the nation's largest electrical grid operator, which controls the electricity across 13 states and the District of Columbia, have paid \$29 billion more in costs since 2024 because of data centers. Such power hogging is dangerous as well as costly – PJM has had a very thin buffer of excess power during extreme weather.

Water pollution and shortages are also already a reality in other states. A Meta data center contractor in Cheyenne, Wyo., discharged harmful bacteria into the city's water system. It took months to find the source and this contamination occurred even though the facility had the "closed loop" system that's being touted by Genesee County's Stream. Any disruption of the water supply is critical in semi-arid Wyoming.

At least New York leaders believe that the U.S. can compete against China without poisoning its water or forcing families to dread their electric

**TOWN OF HUME**

**LOCAL LAW NO. 1 OF 2026**

**A LOCAL LAW ESTABLISHING A TEMPORARY MORATORIUM ON BATTERY  
ENERGY STORAGE SYSTEM PROJECTS AND DATA CENTER PROJECTS IN THE  
TOWN OF HUME, NEW YORK**

Be it enacted by the Town Board of the Town of Hume, Allegany County, State of New York, as follows:

**SECTION 1. TITLE, PURPOSE AND FINDINGS**

This Local Law shall be known as the “2026 Battery Energy Storage System and Data Center Moratorium Law of the Town of Hume.”

The purpose of this Local Law is to temporarily halt the review, approval, permitting, construction, or establishment of any Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) project or data center project within the Town while the Town Board undertakes a comprehensive review of its laws, land use regulations, environmental protections, and public safety considerations related to such uses.

The Town Board finds that:

BESS facilities and data centers are emerging land uses with significant potential impacts, including but not limited to fire safety, emergency response, noise, water usage, energy demand, hazardous materials, and land use compatibility.

The Town currently lacks adequate regulations to properly evaluate and manage these uses.

A temporary moratorium is necessary to protect the public health, safety, and welfare while the Town studies and develops appropriate local regulations.

Adoption of this moratorium on building permits and other land development for construction of BESS or Data Center Projects will not have a significant impact on the environment and is a Type II action, not subject to further environmental review in accordance with SEQRA.

**SECTION 2. AUTHORITY**

This Local Law is enacted pursuant to the authority granted to the Town Board under: New York State Municipal Home Rule Law § 10; and New York Town Law §§ 130, 261, 263; and the Town’s police power to protect the health, safety, and welfare of its residents.

**SECTION 3. DEFINITIONS**

For purposes of this Local Law:

“Battery Energy Storage System (BESS)” means any facility, structure, or installation that uses electrochemical energy storage technology to store electrical energy for later use, including but not limited to lithium ion, flow battery, or other battery technologies, whether standalone or paired with another energy system.

“Data Center” means any facility or portion thereof occupying in aggregate more than one (1) acre of land to house computer systems, servers, networking equipment, or digital storage infrastructure, including associated cooling systems, backup power systems, and electrical distribution equipment, primarily for the purpose of data processing, storage, or transmission.

“Project” means any proposal, application, site plan, special use permit, building permit, variance, or other request for municipal approval related to the establishment, expansion, or construction of a BESS or data center.

#### **SECTION 4. SCOPE OF MORATORIUM**

For the duration of this moratorium, no board, officer, or employee of the Town shall accept, process, review, approve, issue, or grant: site plan applications, special use permits, building permits, variances, subdivision approvals, or any other land use or development approvals for any Battery Energy Storage System or data center project.

All applications not fully approved prior to the effective date of this Local Law shall be stayed and shall not proceed until the moratorium expires or is repealed.

This moratorium does not apply to: a) any applications complete and fully approved prior to the effective date of this Local Law; b) electric motor vehicles and charging stations for such electric motor vehicles; and c) small battery energy storage systems with an aggregate energy capacity less than or equal to 200 kWh, storing energy to be used on the premises where located, and if in a room or enclosed area, consisting of only a single storage system technology.

#### **SECTION 5. DURATION**

This moratorium shall remain in effect for twelve (12) months from the effective date of this Local Law, unless extended, modified, or repealed by resolution of the Town Board.

The Town Board may extend the moratorium for additional periods of up to six (6) months if necessary to complete its studies and adopt appropriate regulations.

#### **SECTION 6. STUDY AND REVIEW DURING MORATORIUM**

During the moratorium period, the Town Board, and other relevant Town officers and bodies shall: a) Conduct a comprehensive review of BESS and data center land use impacts; b) Evaluate fire safety standards, emergency response needs, and environmental risks; c) Review zoning districts where such uses may or may not be appropriate; d) Draft new or amended zoning regulations, permitting standards, and safety requirements; and e) Hold public hearings and consult with experts as needed

#### **SECTION 7. HARDSHIP WAIVER**

A property owner may apply to the Town Board for a hardship waiver if they believe the moratorium imposes an unnecessary and extraordinary hardship.

To be eligible for a hardship waiver, the applicant must demonstrate: a) The moratorium causes unique and substantial hardship not shared by others; b) The requested relief will not undermine the purpose of the moratorium; and c) the project will not pose risks to public health, safety, or welfare

The Town Board may impose reasonable conditions on any waiver to protect the interest of the Town and the public.

#### **SECTION 8. SEVERABILITY**

If any section or provision of this Local Law is held invalid by a court of competent jurisdiction, such decision shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions of the Local Law.

#### **SECTION 9. EFFECTIVE DATE**

This Local Law shall take effect immediately upon filing with the New York State Secretary of State.

We are here tonight to ask for assistance in correcting our water bill for the last two quarters Jan-June. We have paid the current bill of over \$539.13 under protest, hoping that now that we have consulted Cory Potter and an outside water expert that you will hear out our situation.

At first we thought the bill since January had something to do with the upping of the sewer and water charges and of course, that is a minor part of it. But, after examining the situation, it has become evident that there were other considerations.

For instance we are:

2 people in a household National average is 50 gallons per day.

We do 2 loads of wash a week in efficiency washer.

We do 1 load of dishes every other day using 5-7 gallons of water.

Two showers a day generally for 6 minutes total

Flushing toilet moderation

ALL gardens are watered by rain water from rain barrels.

Our entire house has been check for leaks and there are none, including toilets.

Our water softener uses 5 gallons 2 times a week.

HOWEVER, when we called in Cory Potter he was soon to notice our outside meter ...24 years old WAS NON FUNCTIONAL! So we ask, how were accurate readings even done? No one came in the house and we

have no idea how long the meter was actually non functional and wonder of course if numbers were just plotted in!

Cory immediately installed a new meter. We have been averaging 27-50 a day.

Is is difficult to say how many gallons per actual month are used as the reading are often done like the 25<sup>th</sup> but then not entered until the 12<sup>th</sup> of the next month.

Tammy at the clerks office noted that the average 2 person house is between 250-300 as are the other 2 couple houses on our street.

We will gladly pay for something we have used. But there is something wrong with our billing Your attention to this matter will be appreciated.

Bill and Kathy Breuer