

LAGRANGE TOWN BOARD

MEETING REPORT

Compiled by Dave Siegel, Secretary LaGrange Democratic Committee

Date: February 4, 2026

Time: 7:00 PM

Meeting Called to order by: Anthony Marinaro, Town Supervisor

Roll Call: Kelly Robin was absent.

- **Meeting minutes from the last Town Board meeting (1/21/2026) were accepted.**
- **Correspondence:** None
- **Supervisor's Comments:** The Supervisor thanked the public for their cooperation during and after the very large snowfall we had in January. He also told us he attended a multi-town meeting where he gathered ideas around EMS Services; Grants; Infrastructure projects among other things. He is going to look at all avenues to make improvements in the town.

Public Comments on Agenda Items:

1. **Peter Turoff asked about the Bid and RFP process regarding the Video Live Streaming of town meetings and how soon that would be up and running? He also asked about the reclassification of Noxon Road (Who makes the determination and is it based on traffic?).**

Agenda

- Consideration of Bid Award for RFP for Video Recording of Meetings – Bid was awarded to MJM (this will be a portable system and MJM will do the recording and live streaming). The cost is \$275.00 per meeting, but it saves the town the sunk costs of buying, installing, maintaining and then hiring someone to do this. The Town can always do that in the future. Also, as technology changes, we will always have the latest equipment. - Accepted
- Consideration of a 30-Day Advance Notice for the Liquor License Renewal for Tito's Kitchen – Accepted
- Consideration of a request of the Use of Freedom Park Pavilion & Fee Waiver for Big Band Sound - Accepted

- Consideration of a request from the Parks & Recreation Director for approval of a contract with Fuel for Life for the Freedom Lake Concession Stand - Accepted
- Designating Holiday Schedule for Union Park Employees – Accepted (Indefinitely)
- Consideration of issuance of RFP for software to manage Planning & Zoning Board of Appeals matters and enhance public transparency – This will make accessing information on development projects in town, especially on-line easier. Something that was asked for at the Public Hearing on Town Center - Accepted
- Consideration of approval from the Town Board to authorize attendance to the 2026 Association of Towns Meeting and Training School on February 15-17 in NYC – All members invited. - Accepted
- Consideration to accept the functional classification changes to CR 21 (Noxon Road), CR 33 (Arthursburg Road) and CR 42 (Arthursburg Road) as specified and recommended by Dutchess County Transportation Council (DCTC) in a letter dated January 16, 2026. This is due to increased traffic as noted by the NYS DOT. The new designation will be "**FC 16 – Urban Minor Arterial**". - Accepted
- Consideration of Highway Equipment Purchase Request – The Town's current utility truck is a 2004 Chevy that is at end of life. The Town owns a 2022 RAM pickup that can be retrofitted for use as a utility truck. Parts can be purchased and work can be done by Town's mechanics. – Accepted
- Move for a Public Hearing on a Community Block Grant, February 18th, 2026. – Accepted

Town Board Comments - None

Town Attorney - Attorney: Shane Egan

- Animal Control Officer contract with multiple towns is in progress.
- Looking at Town Code that requires people to connect to Sewers based on proximity. There should be some sort of hardship clause if it's too difficult or too expensive for the homeowner, so a septic option should be available.

Public Comments

Several people spoke about their concerns:

Sandy Washburn (Director of Parks & Recreation) spoke and is engaging community organizations and vendors in hopes to enrich and improve the experience of the 250-year celebration scheduled for July 2026.

Emma Arnoff spoke and underscored the lack of transparency and communication of the Town Center Project. Residents were unaware of the project. They had no idea of size and scope and how it was going to affect them. She said that most surprisingly, she learned the Fire Department had not been fully engaged with the Planning Board in the development of this project, and now there are many life safety concerns being brought up by the Fire Department.

Dave Siegel spoke in full support of Emma Arnoff's comments. He is also in favor of the portable Video Taping option the town chose and the software the town is looking into for the Planning Board and Zoning Board of Appeals. He also asked that sponsors to Town events be given a table even if they are political candidates.

Sandy Washburn (Director of Parks and Recreation) spoke and said there were too many incidents (protests, etc.) to allow candidates to have tables. It was too disruptive.

A resident (David M. – He spoke very softly and was hard to hear) spoke about a very difficult neighbor he has on his road. He has complained to the Board previously. He has gone to the Police. This neighbor is violent, dumps and burns garbage on his yard, threatens other neighbors and is genuinely harassing this entire neighborhood for years. Supervisor Marinaro offered that he come to Town Hall, meet with him and that they try and see what can be done.

David Mashiah said that the Fire Department was involved on the planning of the Town Center.

LaGrange Fire Chairman Marc Komorsky said that they have submitted a new Standpipe Code and updated Sprinkler Code for the Board to review.

New Fire Commissioner Jeff Kaiser spoke and he pointed out that engaging the Fire Commissioners in Planning development projects is good, but that it's the Chief and the Firefighters that need to be involved in all of the detail to ensure that everything is done correctly and safely. He pointed out that they have NOT been included. He also touched on the age of the information they were using and how it related to a much older design of Town Center and a lot has changed over the years.

Joe Luna spoke in favor of Town Center and said that all of these things that are being brought up were taken into consideration when the project was approved.

Former Town Attorney and current Planning Board attorney Rebecca Valk spoke and she said the project is fully EIS (Environmental Impact Statement) compliant and the Fire Department has been involved or they couldn't get that designation.

Chairman Komorsky spoke again and said a letter from the Fire Chief written in 2009 stating how problematic this development would be for the Fire Department sent to the Town was never answered.

Roy Kievit (Planning Board Vice-Chairman) spoke about the Battery Storage issue, where the state wants municipalities to store batteries containing excess power from the Grid. This was a concern of the Fire Department and he is hearing that the Governor may actually force municipalities to store them and take the option away. He does not want the town to lose control of this.

Peter Turoff spoke again regarding the Town Tax increases (as high as 20% for some residents) and was wondering why they rose so much. The Supervisor said he will look into it and follow up. He also asked about Town Board members taking lie detector tests as referenced in the Town Board Discussion section of 11/01/23 Meeting. Who took them and what were the results? The Supervisor said he will look into it and respond.

Al Rabasco spoke to Peter Turoff's question about the Lie Detector Tests and said they were related to the incident where Town Council people were allegedly recording conversations. This is also the incident that spurred the new proposed Local Law amending "Town Code to Adopt Provisions Prohibiting the Recording of Certain Conversations".

Al Rabasco also spoke on how the old Town Board should never have lifted the moratorium on 3 story buildings knowing how the Fire Department felt about it. He said the new Board can still do something about Town Center if they vote against accepting the PILOT agreement.

David Mashiah said that we should not hold the new Town Board accountable for things the old Town Board did.

Highway Superintendent Wisseman thanked the residents for their cooperation during the big snowfall. Mostly for staying off the roads!

At 8:20 PM, the Town Board went into Executive Session to get an update on a lawsuit currently with the Dutchess County Supreme Court (case # 2024-55860). Councilman Giangrasso recused himself.

