

September 29th, 2025

The Town of Kingsbury held a special meeting on September 29th, 2025, at 6:00pm to address several urgent administrative and financial matters.

Present: Supervisor Hogan
Councilman Akins
Councilman Washburn

Absent: Councilman Haessly- Did end up arriving
Councilman Lindsay

Also Present: Jeff Meyer, Town Attorney
Rebecca Pomainville, Comptroller
Mason Leonard, Highway Superintendent
Herb Strong, Highway Worker
Mike LaRose, Highway Worker

The meeting was called to order at 6:00pm by Supervisor Hogan and opened for business with the Pledge of Allegiance by Councilman Washburn.

I. Selection of a New Water Operator

The town's previous water operator resigned, necessitating the immediate appointment of a replacement.

Two bids were received:

a. DCK Services (Glens Falls): \$2,575 per month

b. JCF Water Counseling (Victory Mills): \$1,000 per month

Both contractors offer licensed operators, handle annual reporting, meet DOH requirements, conduct quarterly bacteria tests, and perform weekly system checks. They serve as the legal operator, allowing town staff to handle physical interventions like meter readings and daily samples.

JCF's monthly fee is \$1,000. Emergency services are charged additionally: \$100 a day for scheduled calls, \$125 a day for unscheduled non-emergencies, and \$150 a day (door-to-door) for emergency calls at midnight.

Mason recommended contracting JCF Water Counseling due to its lower cost, which is expected to save the town money and provide stability. A motion by Councilman Washburn and seconded by Councilman Akins and carried by a vote of 3 ayes to approve the contract, contingent on a review of the agreement and insurance details, to ensure compliance before the current license expires on Friday. Discussion about hiring part-time staff internally is ongoing.

II. Payment for 2017 Dump Truck

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The 2017 dump truck is ready for pickup, requiring a payment of \$42,000.

Rebecca proposed using unspent funds from the current budget's equipment line, which were originally earmarked for a new dump truck expected next year. The funds for the new dump truck will be carried over into next year's budget using the existing fund balance, ensuring no impact on taxes.

The board was informed of this financial adjustment, and the payment process was approved.

III. HRA Plan Document and Resolution

The new health insurance provider requires an HRA Plan document and a corresponding resolution to initiate the Health Reimbursement Arrangement (HRA) program.

The resolution formally adopts the welfare benefit plan effective October 1, 2025, and authorizes agents to execute and implement the plan, including notifying employees and providing summary plan descriptions.

A motion by Councilman Akins and seconded by Councilman Washburn and carried by a vote of 3 ayes to accept the HRA plan and resolution. A public comment regarding improving the language of "Item 10 in definition" of the HRA document was noted for future consideration with the insurance provider.

IV. Tentative Budget Discussion and Workshop Schedule

Rebecca distributed the tentative budget for 2025, along with a two-page summary of highlights. The budget remains far under the tax cap.

Board members were asked to review the budget over the next week or two. A budget workshop was scheduled for October 8th at 6:00 PM. The workshop is intended for review and minor adjustments, as significant changes are not typically anticipated due to the town's stable financial position.

Public Comment:

A member of the public inquired about the "40% tax gap" comment, prompting clarification that the comment referred to the struggling county budget, not the Town of Kingsbury's budget, which is financially healthy.

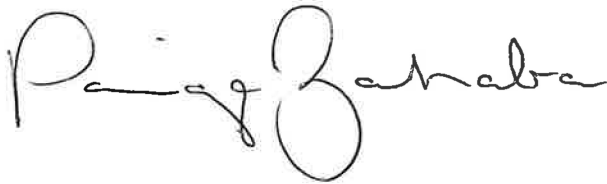
The chairman explained that the county budget faces challenges, including a potential 40% tax increase (though efforts are being made to cut it below 10%). Key drivers of the county's budget issues include a 20% increase from state-mandated health insurance and retirement benefits, as well as a \$3.5 million reduction in fund balance due to Department of Social Services expenditures.

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Information on upcoming county budget meetings (committee meetings this week, full board meeting on October 17th) was provided for interested citizens.

The Special Town Board meeting was adjourned at 6:22pm

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Paige Zahaba". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name and title.

Paige Zahaba
Town Clerk