Town of St. Armand
Budget Work Session #2 – 5:30 pm
Thursday, October 15th, 2026

These Meeting Minutes were approved by the St. Armand Town Board on October 20, 2026.

A Budget Work Session of the Town of St. Armand was held on the above date and time via webinar and in person at the Town Hall, Bloomingdale, NY. The meeting was advertised and made available to the public.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Town Supervisor Davina Thurston, Deputy Supervisor Karl Law, Councilperson Donna Whitelaw, Councilperson JP O'Neil and Councilperson Joseph Fisher were present at the meeting.

A quorum of the Board was in attendance.

TOWN EMPLOYEES PRESENT: In person: Nancy Heath, Kate Lewis.

GUESTS FROM THE COMMUNITY: None

Supervisor Davina Thurston opened the public hearing at 5:30 pm and asked everyone to join in the Pledge of Allegiance.

The Notice of Public Hearing was read aloud. The notice had been published in the Adirondack Daily Enterprise, and the meeting was also made available for online participation.

Supervisor Thurston explained that although the Town does not anticipate exceeding the tax levy limit for the 2027 budget, the Town Board considers this local law annually as a precautionary measure.

Supervisor Thurston invited questions, comments, or concerns from those present regarding the proposed local law.

There were no questions or comments.

Adjournment of Public Hearing: At 5:32 p.m., Councilperson J.P. O'Neill made a motion to close the public hearing, seconded by Councilperson Joseph Fisher.

Motion carried unanimously.

Opening of Special Town Board Meeting

At 5:33 p.m., Councilperson Joseph Fisher made a motion to open the Special Town Board Meeting, seconded by Deputy Supervisor Karl Law.

Motion carried unanimously

RESOLUTION # 73 OF 2026

RESOLUTION INTROODUCING PROPOSED LOCAL LAW NO. 6 OF 2026 ENTITLED "A LOCAL LAW TO OVERRIDE THE TAX LEVY LIMIT ESTABLISHED IN GENERAL MUNICIPAL LAW §3-C"

The following resolution was offered by Councilperson JP O'Neil, who moved its adoption.

Upon the passage of a motion to consider from the floor, and the same appearing proper and necessary.

BE IT RESOLVED that the Town of St. Armand Town Board hereby introduces proposed Local Law No. 6 of 2026 entitled "A Local Law to Override the Tax Levy Limit Established in General Municipal Law §3-c," reading and provided as follows:

"TOWN OF ST. ARMAND LOCAL LAW No. 6 OF 2026"

A Local Law to Override the Tax Levy Limit Established in General Municipal Law §3-c.

BE IT ENACTED, by the Town of St. Armand Town Board as follows:

Section 1. Legislative Intent.

It is the intent of this local law to override the limit on the amount of real property taxes that may be levied by the Town of St. Armand pursuant to General Municipal Law §3-c, and to allow the Town of St. Armand to adopt a budget for the fiscal year 2026 that requires a real property tax levy in excess of "tax levy limit" as defined by General Municipal Law §3-c.

Section 2. Authority.

This local law is adopted pursuant to subdivision 5 of General Municipal Law §3-c, which expressly authorizes the Town Board to override the tax levy limit by the adoption of a local law approved by vote of sixty percent (60%) of the Town Board.

Section 3. Tax Levy Limit Override - Budget Authorization.

The Town Board of the Town of St. Armand hereby overrides the tax levy limit for the Town of

St. Armand for 2026 and authorizes the Town of St. Armand, after completing all required procedures for the adoption of a budget, to adopt a budget for 2027 that requires a tax levy that is greater than the tax levy limit calculated for 2027 pursuant to §3-c of the General Municipal Law.

Section 4. Severability.

If any clause, sentence, paragraph, subdivision, or part of this Local Law or the application thereof to any person, firm or corporation, or circumstance, shall be adjusted by any court of competent jurisdiction to be invalid or unconstitutional, such order or judgement shall not affect, impair, or invalidate the remainder thereof, but shall be confined in its operation to the clause, sentence, paragraph, subdivision, or part of this local law or in its application to the person, individual, form or corporation, or circumstance, directly involved in the controversy in which such judgement or order shall be rendered.

Section 5. Effective Date

This local law shall take effect immediately upon filing with the Secretary of State.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Town Board of the Town of St. Armand shall hold and conduct a public hearing on the foregoing proposed local law on the 15th day of October 15th, 2026, at 5:30 p.m. in the forenoon of that day, to hear any and all persons concerning the same; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the Town of St. Armand will publish a notice of such hearing in the designated Town newspaper at least five days prior to said hearing.

This Resolution was duly seconded by Deputy Supervisor Karl Law, and adopted by Roll Call Vote as follows:

Supervisor Davina Thurston	AYE
Deputy Supervisor Karl Law	AYE
Councilperson Donna Whitelaw	AYE
Councilperson JP O'Neil	AYE
Councilperson Joseph Fisher	AYE

_____ Dated: October 15, 2026

Barbara J. Darrah
St. Armand Town Clerk

RESOLUITON # 74 OF 2026 RESOLUTION DECLARING THE TOWN OF ST. ARMAND BOARD'S INTENT TO SERVE AS LEAD AGENCY FOR THE COORDINATED ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW OF THE PROPOSED LOCAL LAW FOR FLOOD DAMAGE PREVENTION (TYPE I ACTION)

The following Resolution was offered by Deputy Supervisor Karl Law, who moved its adoption:

WHEREAS, the Town Board is considering the adoption of a proposed Local Law for Flood Damage Prevention applicable to all areas of special flood hazard within the Town of (the Proposed Action); and

WHEREAS, the adoption of a local law is an action subject to environmental review under the State Environmental Quality Review Act, Article 8 of the Environmental Conservation Law, and its implementing regulations at Title 6 of the New York Codes, Rules and Regulations, Part 617 (SEQRA); and

WHEREAS, the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) has advised, and the Town Board concurs, that the Proposed Action constitutes a Type I action under 6 NYCRR 617.4; and

WHEREAS, a Type I action requires coordinated review among all involved agencies and the establishment of a single lead agency prior to any determination of significance, in accordance with 6 NYCRR 617.6; and

WHEREAS, the Town Board is the agency principally responsible for undertaking and approving the Proposed Action and desires to serve as lead agency for the coordinated environmental review of the Proposed Action; and

WHEREAS, Part 1 of a Full Environmental Assessment Form (Full EAF) has been prepared for the Proposed Action and is available for circulation to involved and interested agencies;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Town Board of the Town of Moriah as follows:

1. Classification. The Town Board hereby determines, subject to completion of coordinated review, that the Proposed Action is a Type I action under 6 NYCRR 617.4.

2. Intent to Serve as Lead Agency. The Town Board hereby declares its intent to serve as lead agency for the coordinated environmental review of the Proposed Action under SEQRA.

3. Circulation of Notice. The Town Supervisor and/or Town Clerk is hereby authorized and directed to circulate a Notice of Intent to Serve as Lead Agency, together with a copy of Part 1 of the Full EAF and the text of the Proposed

Action, to all involved and interested agencies, including without limitation the following:

- New York State Department of Environmental Conservation, Region 5 Office;
- New York State Health Department
- Adirondack Park Agency

4. Thirty-Day Coordination Period. The Notice shall advise each involved agency that any objection to the Town Board serving as lead agency must be received by the Town Board within thirty (30) calendar days from the date the Notice and Full EAF Part 1 are transmitted, and that if no objection is received within that period, the Town Board shall be deemed to have been established as lead agency for the Proposed Action.

5. Resolution of Lead Agency Disputes. In the event any involved agency objects to the Town Board serving as lead agency, the Town Supervisor is authorized to seek agreement among the involved agencies as to lead agency designation and, if agreement cannot be reached, to request that the Commissioner of the DEC designate the lead agency in accordance with 6 NYCRR Part 617.

6. Subsequent SEQRA Review. Upon its establishment as lead agency, the Town Board shall proceed to complete Parts 2 and 3 of the Full EAF, review the criteria set forth in 6 NYCRR 617.7(c), and make and issue a written determination of significance in accordance with 6 NYCRR 617.7, prior to taking any final action to adopt the Proposed Action.

7. Further Actions. The Town Supervisor and Town Clerk are authorized and directed to take such further actions and to execute and file such documents as may be necessary or appropriate to carry out the intent of this Resolution, including the filing, publication, and distribution of SEQRA documents in accordance with 6 NYCRR 617.12.

8. Effective Date. This Resolution shall take effect immediately.

This Resolution was seconded by Councilperson Joseph Fisher and duly adopted by order of the Town Board of the Town of St Armand by Roll Call Vote:

Supervisor Davina Thurston	AYE
Deputy Supervisor Karl Law	AYE
Councilperson Donna Whitelaw	AYE
Councilperson JP O'Neil	AYE
Councilperson Joseph Fisher	AYE

Dated: October 15, 2026

_____
Barbara J. Darrah
St. Armand Town Clerk

RESOLUTION # 75 OF 2026 RESOLUTION DETERMINING THAT THE YOUTH FIELD PLAYGROUND IMPROVEMENT PROJECT IS A TYPE II ACTION UNDER THE STATE ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY REVIEW ACT (SEQR)

Councilperson Joseph Fisher, who moved its adoption, offered the following Resolution:

WHEREAS, the Town of St. Armand has been awarded funding in the amount of $276,489.00 through the New York Places for Learning, Activity, and Youth Socialization (NY PLAYS) Grant Program, Project No. 30765, for improvements to the existing Youth Field recreational facility located at 15 Roosevelt Lane, Bloomingdale, New York; and

WHEREAS, the proposed project consists of the removal and replacement of existing playground equipment and the construction of an approximately 1,600-square-foot open-air pavilion; and

WHEREAS, the proposed pavilion will be constructed on an existing maintained lawn area located between the Youth Building and the existing playground, within the established Youth Field recreational facility; and

WHEREAS, the proposed improvements will maintain and enhance the existing public recreational use of the property without changing its principal use; and

WHEREAS, the Town Board has reviewed the proposed project pursuant to Article 8 of the New York State Environmental Conservation Law and the implementing regulations set forth in 6 NYCRR Part 617, commonly known as the State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQR); and

WHEREAS, 6 NYCRR §617.5(c)(2) identifies the replacement, rehabilitation, or reconstruction of existing structures on the same site as a Type II action, provided applicable regulatory conditions are satisfied; and

WHEREAS, 6 NYCRR §617.5(c)(9) identifies the construction or expansion of certain nonresidential structures or facilities involving less than 4,000 square feet of gross floor area, without a zoning change or use variance and consistent with applicable local land-use controls, as a Type II action; and

WHEREAS, the Town Board has determined, based upon the project plans and information presented, that the playground equipment replacement, that the proposed pavilion meets the applicable requirements of §617.5(c)(9), and that the project as a whole qualifies as a Type II action;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of St. Armand hereby classifies the Youth Field Playground Improvement Project, located at 15 Roosevelt Lane, Bloomingdale, New York, as a Type II action pursuant to 6 NYCRR §617.5(c)(2) and §617.5(c)(9); and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that as a Type II action, the project is not subject to further environmental review under SEQR, and no Environmental Assessment Form, determination of significance, or Environmental Impact Statement is required; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Town Supervisor is authorized to coordinate with the NY PLAYS grant administrator and the New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation, including the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO), to obtain any required historic preservation or archaeological review and clearance prior to construction; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Town Supervisor is authorized to execute and submit documentation necessary to establish the project's SEQR classification and satisfy applicable environmental and historic preservation requirements of the NY PLAYS Grant Program; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution shall be maintained in the official records of the Town of St. Armand and included in the project grant file.

This Resolution was duly seconded by Councilperson JP O'Neil and adopted by Roll Call Vote

as follows:	Supervisor Davina Thurston	AYE
	Deputy Supervisor Karl Law	AYE
	Councilperson Donna Whitelaw	AYE
	Councilperson JP O'Neil	AYE
	Councilperson Joseph Fisher	AYE

CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of a resolution duly adopted by the Town Board of the Town of St. Armand at a meeting held on the date indicated above.

_____ Dated: October 15, 2026

Barbara J. Darrah
St. Armand Town Clerk

Resolution Declaring the Town of St. Armand Town Board's Intent to Serve as Lead Agency for the Coordinated Environmental Review of the Proposed Local Law for Flood Damage Prevention

Supervisor Thurston explained that the Town must repeat the environmental review process for the proposed Flood Damage Prevention Local Law due to an error made by the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC).

The updated review is necessary to satisfy FEMA requirements.

Motion made by Deputy Supervisor Karl Law and seconded by Councilperson Joseph Fisher.

A roll call vote was conducted. Deputy Supervisor Karl Law's affirmative vote is audible in the transcript; the remaining votes require verification.

Resolution Determining that the Youth Field Playground Improvement Project Constitutes a Type II Action Under the State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQR)

Supervisor Thurston explained that the Youth Field Playground Improvement Project involves the removal and replacement of existing playground equipment and construction of a new open-air pavilion.

The pavilion will be constructed on an existing lawn area between the Youth Building and playground at 15 Roosevelt Lane, Bloomingdale.

The project does not involve the removal of trees or substantial disturbance of the existing grounds.

Based on the scope of the proposed improvements, the project was determined to qualify as a Type II Action under SEQR.

Motion made by Councilperson Joseph Fisher and seconded by Councilperson J.P. O'Neill.

A roll call vote was conducted. Affirmative votes from Deputy Supervisor Karl Law and Councilperson J.P. O'Neill are recorded in the transcript. The remaining votes require verification.

Supervisor Thurston presented updated 2027 budget materials following completion of union negotiations, which included a 4% wage increase. She explained that substantial reductions were necessary to bring the proposed budget within the New York State tax levy limit.

Highway Equipment and Capital Reserves: Supervisor Thurston reviewed the Highway Vehicle Appropriation Spreadsheet and long-term debt schedule. Equipment replacement savings were reduced temporarily, as most major highway equipment is relatively new. The highway garage debt, currently costing approximately $65,000–$67,000 annually, will be retired in 2029, allowing those funds to be redirected toward future equipment purchases.

Water and Wastewater Employee Compensation: Supervisor Thurston discussed proposed compensation adjustments for Jonathan Nielsen and Josh Woodruff to recognize their responsibilities and encourage employee retention. Regular salary appropriations include the negotiated 4% increase, with an additional longevity step for Woodruff. Additional compensation would be distributed among the districts benefiting from their services.

Fire Hydrant Agreements and Payroll Allocations: Proposed agreements for the Bloomingdale and Rockledge districts would establish appropriate charges for hydrant maintenance and repairs. Supervisor Thurston explained that Rockledge historically had not contributed toward employee labor expenses, despite receiving maintenance services. The proposed budget includes new Personal Services (.1) appropriations to distribute these costs more fairly. Supervisor Thurston confirmed that the proposed accounting procedures were reviewed with the New York State Office of the State Comptroller.

Rockledge Water and Sewer Districts: Supervisor Thurston clarified that the Village of Saranac Lake provides water and sewer services to Rockledge residents, while the Town maintains the district infrastructure. She also discussed the proposed establishment of a Rockledge Sewer District, which would provide funding for infrastructure maintenance and allow the Village's sewer rate to decrease from three times to twice its standard rate, similar to the previously negotiated water rate reduction.

Justice Court Salaries: Supervisor Thurston explained that the Town Justice requested a Court Clerk beginning January 1, 2027. The proposed budget would divide the existing salary appropriation, including the 4% increase, with 75% allocated to the Court Clerk and 25% to the Town Justice, without additional salary expenditures.

Budget Classifications: Supervisor Thurston clarified that (.2) appropriations are generally designated for equipment purchases, while (.4) appropriations cover contractual expenses, supplies, and services.

Supervisor Thurston encouraged Board members to review the revised appropriations, payroll allocations, capital savings, and supporting financial documents and to identify any concerns before finalizing the 2027 budget.

Buildings and Grounds: Supervisor Thurston explained that capital appropriations were reduced because no major improvement projects are planned for 2027. The reductions were necessary to remain within the tax levy limit.

Departmental Spending: Supervisor Thurston advised that she would meet with department heads to emphasize careful spending and limit expenditures to necessary supplies, materials, and services.

General Fund Revenues: A typographical error in the Moody Pond parking ticket revenue description was identified for correction. Supervisor Thurston also clarified that cellular tower lease revenue continues to increase annually, while cable television franchise fee revenue is declining due to changes in consumer viewing habits.

Recreation Staffing: Supervisor Thurston explained that increases in the Summer Recreation and Ice Rink Attendant salary appropriations primarily reflect additional budgeted work hours rather than higher hourly wages. Additional staffing will support expanded recreational activities, particularly following the planned Youth Field improvements.

Longevity Increases: Supervisor Thurston confirmed that applicable employee longevity step increases are identified separately in the budget worksheets to distinguish them from regular wage increases and additional staffing hours.

Potential Hydroelectric Project: The possibility of small-scale hydroelectric generation on Sumner Brook, near the recently acquired Town well field property, was briefly discussed. No action was taken.

Proposed Trudeau Property Community Solar Project

Supervisor Thurston discussed scheduling a follow-up meeting with representatives of Our Generation Solar to address concerns raised during the previous public informational meeting.

The Board agreed that Supervisor Thurston and Deputy Supervisor Karl Law should meet with the developer to discuss setbacks, visual impacts, accuracy of project photographs, and protections to be included in any future agreement.

The Board emphasized the importance of Town Attorney review, particularly regarding enforceability of project conditions and potential transfer of ownership. It was noted that the Town's solar moratorium remains in effect.

A meeting was tentatively scheduled for Tuesday, October 20, 2026, at 10:00 a.m., subject to confirmation with the developer.

Essex County Sales Tax Revenue: Supervisor Thurston reported that sales tax revenue received from Essex County had increased by approximately 15%, providing additional revenue for the Town.

Miscellaneous Unclassified Revenue: Supervisor Thurston explained that no revenue was projected for this category in 2027 because it consists of unpredictable, nonrecurring receipts, including equipment sales, donations, and miscellaneous government payments. Previous receipts included approximately $29,999.90 associated with a capital project bond and $41,807 from the Essex County EMS Stabilization Plan.

Highway Townwide Fund – Personnel Services: Supervisor Thurston clarified that apparent increases in Motor Equipment Operator (MEO) and Laborer appropriations primarily resulted from reallocating employee salaries among highway functions rather than actual wage increases.

Annual salaries were calculated using 2,080 hours for full-time employees and applicable annual hours for part-time employees, then distributed among Town road maintenance, County road maintenance, snow removal, and machinery appropriations based on estimated work assignments.

Supervisor Thurston reviewed examples, including Christopher Willette’s annual salary of $59,114, allocated 59% to County snow removal, 10% to machinery, 17% to Town snow removal, and 14% to summer Town road maintenance. Doug Snickles’ annual salary of $30,347, based on 1,040 hours, was allocated 60% to summer Town road maintenance, 20% to County roads, 10% to machinery, and 10% to winter Town road maintenance.

Robert Stephenson’s salary was similarly distributed among the appropriate highway accounts.

Supervisor Thurston emphasized that these allocations provide a more accurate distribution of personnel expenses and that increases shown in individual budget lines do not necessarily represent increases in employee compensation.

Highway Personnel Allocations: Supervisor Thurston explained that the Motor Equipment Operator (MEO) personnel appropriations combine the salaries of Christopher Willette, Robert Stephenson, and Doug Snickles, distributed according to their estimated work assignments. Highway Laborer Devin Snickle’s 6,500.00 annual salary of $45,490 is allocated equally (25% each) among summer Town road maintenance, winter Town road maintenance, County road maintenance, and brush and weed control.

Supervisor Thurston reported that the Essex County highway maintenance contract increased by 10% to $77,405.90. She emphasized that payroll allocations are estimates based on anticipated duties and that percentage increases in individual budget lines do not necessarily reflect actual employee raises.

Water and Wastewater Employee Compensation: Supervisor Thurston reviewed proposed compensation adjustments for Jonathan Nielsen and Josh Woodruff, targeting approximately $65,000 annually for each employee. The proposed allocations recognize their responsibilities across multiple districts while distributing payroll expenses among the funds benefiting from their services.

Nielsen's proposed compensation totals $6500.00, consisting of $27,851 from General Fund A, his Bloomingdale Water District salary 27,861.00 with a 4% increase, $3,000 from Rockledge Water District, and $3,149 from Bloomingdale Fire Protection fund, and 3149.00 from the SL Fire Protection Fund.

Woodruff's proposed compensation totals $65,227, consisting of $56,929 from Bloomingdale Wastewater District, $3,149 each from the Bloomingdale and Saranac Lake Fire Protection Districts, and $2,000 from

Rockledge Water District. His regular salary includes the negotiated 4% increase and an applicable longevity step.

Supervisor Thurston also noted an adjustment to Woodruff's health insurance contribution in the Wastewater District budget.

Water and Wastewater Department: Supervisor Thurston explained that Jonathan Nielsen and Josh Woodruff regularly assist one another with water and wastewater maintenance and emergency repairs. The proposed payroll allocations would distribute compensation more fairly among the districts receiving services, particularly Rockledge, which historically had not contributed toward employee labor expenses. Board members expressed support for the proposed arrangement.

Fire Protection Fund: Supervisor Thurston explained that the Bloomingdale and Saranac Lake Fire Protection appropriations were combined for 2027 to align with Essex County's assessment codes and tax billing system. Both areas are taxed at the same rate. The revised budget includes Personal Services (.1) appropriations for hydrant maintenance and associated Social Security and New York State Retirement contributions, as required by applicable accounting procedures.

Essex County EMS Funding: The Board reviewed revenue account 2770.101, totaling approximately $45,904, which included $25,000 in Essex County funding associated with Advanced Life Support (ALS) services and an amount representing 50% of the applicable contract.

Highway Overtime: Supervisor Thurston explained that proposed overtime appropriations were estimated using actual 2026 expenditures, recognizing that weather conditions and emergency repairs can affect overtime needs.

Teamsters HRA Negotiations: Supervisor Thurston updated the Board on continuing negotiations with the Teamsters Union regarding contractual protections for employees' existing Health Reimbursement Arrangement (HRA) balances. She requested language ensuring that previously accumulated funds remain available to employees following the transition.

Wastewater District: Supervisor Thurston explained that the wastewater facilities have substantial electrical expenses due to the continuous operation of treatment equipment at both the treatment plant and pretreatment building. Two solar installations help offset these costs. She also reviewed the new wastewater treatment plant's approximately $2.79 million debt obligation, financed over 30 years at 0% interest.

Debt Service: Supervisor Thurston advised that an Environmental Facilities Corporation (EFC) invoice had been forwarded to the Town Clerk for payment. The Board also discussed a $1,584.38 interest payment associated with a separate financing obligation and confirmed that a previously listed debt had been fully paid.

2026 Highway Paving Projects: The Board reviewed paving completed in Rockledge, on Poplar and Whiteface Streets, at a parking lot, and on a portion of Oregon Plains Road. Rockledge paving had been deferred from the previous year. Drainage improvements associated with roadway elevation changes were also discussed.

Supervisor Thurston reviewed the overall budget summary, noting that property reassessment had affected tax rates and that significant reductions were necessary to remain within the New York State tax levy limit.

Capital savings for the proposed salt storage building and highway equipment replacement were reduced. However, the 2027 budget still includes $31,129 for future vehicle and equipment purchases. Supervisor Thurston explained that the highway garage debt will be retired in 2029, freeing approximately $65,000 annually beginning in 2030 for future equipment replacement.

The Board discussed the Town's approximate ten-year highway vehicle replacement schedule and noted that most major plow trucks are relatively new, providing some flexibility in capital planning.

Supervisor Thurston advised that budget-related resolutions would be presented at an upcoming meeting, potentially during the 2027 budget public hearing. The preliminary budget would proceed toward adoption following any necessary adjustments.

Youth Field Playground and Pavilion Improvements

Supervisor Thurston reviewed plans for the Youth Field improvements, including replacement playground equipment, construction of a new pavilion, and proposed stairway access.

The anticipated construction schedule is April 1 through June 30, 2027.

Supervisor Thurston explained that AEDA, represented by Jim Abdullah, was selected through the procurement process to provide engineering and design services, which have already been completed and paid for.

Following an unsuccessful NY BRICKS grant application, the Town received funding through the NY PLAYS program, utilizing the previously completed engineering and project documentation.

Minor pavilion design adjustments may still be considered, but the principal engineering and design work is complete.

The Board discussed establishing a memorial at the Youth Field honoring the late Chad Oliver for his contributions to youth skating and hockey. Suggestions included displaying hockey memorabilia, subject to his family's approval.

Supervisor Thurston also proposed a memorial walkway incorporating engraved pavers extending from Roosevelt Lane toward the Youth Building. The walkway would improve pedestrian access while recognizing community members and loved ones.

The Board agreed to refer the concept to the St. Armand Youth Task Force for further consideration and potential fundraising coordination. Entrance modifications, walkway durability, and restrictions on skating or skateboarding were also discussed. No formal action was taken.

Youth Field Project – Grant Financing

Supervisor Thurston explained that the approximately $276,000 NY PLAYS grant is reimbursement-based, requiring the Town to pay eligible project expenses before requesting reimbursement.

The Board discussed temporarily using available General Fund resources rather than short-term borrowing to avoid financing costs. The availability of sufficient funds would be verified before determining the financing method.

Supervisor Thurston agreed to provide Board members with the engineering plans and project cost estimates prepared by AEDA. No formal financing action was taken.

Youth Field – Proposed Stairway Improvements

Deputy Supervisor Karl Law raised safety concerns regarding spectators and children using the steep embankment to access the upper ballfields. The Board discussed installing a professionally designed stairway with appropriate handrails, fencing, and directional signage.

Preliminary estimates included approximately $1,400 for construction materials and $2,000 for engineering services, subject to formal quotations. Supervisor Thurston recommended obtaining stamped engineering plans to address safety and liability concerns.

Motion: Councilman J.P. O'Neill moved to authorize Supervisor Thurston to obtain three written quotations for professional engineering and design services for the proposed Youth Field stairway. Deputy Supervisor Karl Law seconded the motion.

Motion carried unanimously.

The Board will review the quotations before selecting an engineering firm or authorizing expenditures.

Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Board, a motion to adjourn was made by Councilman Joseph Fisher and seconded by Councilman J.P. O'Neill.

Motion carried unanimously.

The Special Town Board Meeting was adjourned at approximately 6:53 p.m.

I, Barbara J. Darrah, Town Clerk for the Town of St. Armand, do hereby certify that the above is a true and correct transcript of the Public Hearing and Regular Board Meeting held on the above-referenced date.

Dated: October 15, 2026

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Barbara J. Darrah
St. Armand Town Clerk