

TOWN OF FRIENDSHIP

Minutes -Special Meeting

October 1, 2025-7pm

Supervisor Hall calls meeting to order.

Pledge of Allegiance-observed by all

Roll call: Supervisor-Russell Hall-present

Councilperson-Carolyn Carney-present

Councilperson-Linda Mascho-present

Councilperson-Kenneth Burdick-present

Councilperson-Dave Norton-present

Also present-Patricia Schurr, Town Clerk

Patricia Schurr presents the tentative budget to the Town Board Members.

Motion to make the tentative budget the preliminary Budget and set the Budget hearing on October 15, 2025 at 6:15pm offered by Linda Mascho, seconded by Carolyn Carney.

All approve.

Resolution 16-2025 to Support Congressman Langworthy.

**A RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF CONGRESSMAN NICK LANGWORTHY'S
ENERGY CHOICE ACT (H.R. 3699, S. 1945) AND IN OPPOSITION TO
GOVERNMENT-MANDATED NATURAL GAS BANS**

WHEREAS, affordable and reliable energy is essential to the health, safety, and economic prosperity of New York families, businesses, and communities; and

WHEREAS, natural gas remains a dependable, cost-effective, and clean-burning energy source used by millions of New Yorkers to heat their homes, cook their food, and power their businesses; and

WHEREAS, in 2019, New York State enacted the Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act (CLCPA), which mandates aggressive emissions reductions and serves as the foundation for sweeping energy restrictions, including efforts to phase out natural gas; and

WHEREAS, building on the CLCPA, Governor Kathy Hochul and the New York State Legislature in 2023 enacted provisions in the state budget banning natural gas and other fossil fuel hookups in most new residential and commercial buildings, effective 2026 for smaller buildings, and 2029 for larger buildings, thereby eliminating consumer choice and limiting access to affordable energy; and

WHEREAS, Governor Hochul has publicly supported these bans and related measures as part of her administration's climate and energy agenda, despite widespread concerns that such mandates will increase costs, strain grid reliability, and restrict energy diversity; and

WHEREAS, these top-down policies undermine affordability, threaten reliability during peak demand, and strip away the freedom of consumers and businesses to choose the energy sources that best meet their needs; and

WHEREAS, Congressman Nick Langworthy of New York and Senator Jim Justice of West Virginia introduced the Energy Choice Act (H.R. 3699, S. 1945), federal legislation that ensures state and local governments cannot restrict consumer access to natural gas and other affordable energy sources, thereby protecting freedom of choice for New Yorkers and all Americans; and

WHEREAS, the Energy Choice Act would safeguard households, small businesses, hospitals, farmers, and manufacturers from harmful government overreach and preserve access to an "all-of-the-above" energy strategy that strengthens reliability and affordability;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board of Friendship, Allegany County strongly supports the Energy Choice Act as introduced by Congressman Langworthy (H.R. 3699) and Senator Justice (S. 1945) and stands firmly opposed to New York State's natural gas bans, the CLCPA-driven restrictions, and other state energy mandates that eliminate consumer choice; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Town Board of Friendship, Allegany County urges Congress to pass the Energy Choice Act to defend consumer choice, protect energy affordability, and preserve reliable access to natural gas for New Yorkers; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that copies of this resolution be sent to Congressman Nick Langworthy, Senator Jim Justice, the New York Congressional delegation, Senators Chuck Schumer and Kirsten Gillibrand, Governor Kathy Hochul, and leadership of the New York State Legislature.

Offered by Linda Mascho, seconded by Ken Burdick.

Roll Call: Carolyn Carney-aye, Linda Mascho-aye, Dave Norton-aye, Kenneth Burdick-aye, Russell Hall-aye.

8:05 Motion to adjourn offered by Linda Mascho, seconded by Dave Norton.

Respectfully submitted,
Patricia Schurr
Town Clerk