

Town Supervisor
Timothy Doney
Town Board Members
Kenneth Knapp
James Kenney
Steve Dorr
Kevin Patchen



Town of Clayton
405 Riverside Drive
Clayton, New York 13624
Telephone: (315) 686-3512
Fax: (315) 686-2651
www.townofclayton.com

Town Clerk
Megan Badour

TOWN BOARD WORKSHOP MEETING AGENDA

Wednesday, August 26, 2026 • 5:00pm • Depauville Library, 32333 Caroline St., Depauville, NY

1. **Pledge of Allegiance**
2. **Public Hearing: Local Law No. 2 of 2026 Tax Cap Override**
3. **Guests: TI Youth Hockey**
 - A. **Town Clerk**
 - i. *Correspondence* that Needs Recording
 - ii. *Minutes* from 08/12/2026 Regular Meeting
 - B. **Public:** *Comment on Agenda Items*
 - C. **Workshop Discussion Items:**
 - i. Training: Justin Taylor
 - ii. ZBA Full-time Members
 - iii. Grindstone Island Research and Heritage Center Lease Renewal
 - D. **Public:** *Comment on Non-Agenda Items*
 - E. Budget Workshop @ 5:30PM
4. **Adjournment** **Next Meeting:** *Wednesday, September 9, 2026 @ 5:00pm Cerow Recreation Park Arena*

TOWN OF CLAYTON
LOCAL LAW NO. 2 OF 2026
A LOCAL LAW TO OVERRIDE THE TAX LEVY LIMIT
ESTABLISHED IN GENERAL MUNICIPAL LAW §3-c

BE IT ENACTED by the Town Board of the Town of Clayton 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 Clayton pursuant to General Municipal Law §3-c, and to allow the Town of Clayton to adopt a budget for the fiscal year beginning January 1, 2027 and ending December 31, 2027 that requires a real property tax levy in excess of the “tax levy limit” as defined by General Municipal Law §3-c
- Section 2.** **Authority:** This local law is adopted pursuant to subdivision 5 of the General Municipal Law §3-c, which expressly authorizes the Town Board to override the tax levy limit by adoption of a local law approved by a vote of at least sixty (60%) of the Town Board.
- Section 3.** **Tax Levy Limit Override:** The Town Board of the Town of Clayton, County of Jefferson is hereby authorized to adopt a budget for the fiscal year 2027 that requires a real property tax levy in excess of the amount otherwise prescribed in General Municipal Law §3-c.
- Section 4.** **Severability:** If any clause, sentence, paragraph, subdivision, or part of this Local Law or the application thereof to any person, individual, firm or corporation, or circumstance, shall be adjudicated 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, firm or corporation or circumstance, directly involved in the controversy in which such judgment or order shall be rendered.
- Section 5.** **Effective date:** This local law shall take effect immediately upon filing with the Secretary of State.

**TOWN OF CLAYTON
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**

PROPOSED LOCAL LAW 2% TAX CAP OVERRIDE

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that a Local Law has been introduced before the Town Board of the Town of Clayton to override the 2% Tax Cap in the Town of Clayton, Jefferson County, New York.

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that a Public Hearing in connection with the proposed Local Law will be held at the Depauville Free Library, 32333 Caroline Street, Depauville, New York 13632 on August 26, 2026 at 5:00 p.m. and that an opportunity to be heard in regard thereto will then and there be given to all persons.

Dated: August 12, 2025

Megan Badour, Town Clerk

RESOLUTION NO. 53 OF 2026

TOWN OF CLAYTON

**A RESOLUTION TO ADOPT LOCAL LAW NO. 2 OF 2026, TAX CAP
OVERRIDE**

Dated: August 26, 2026

At a regular meeting of the Town Board of Clayton, Jefferson County, New York held at the Cerow Recreation Park Arena, 600 East Line Road, Clayton, New York, on the 26th day of August, 2026 at 5:00 pm, prevailing time.

The meeting was called to order by Supervisor Doney and upon roll being called, the following were:

PRESENT: Timothy Doney, Supervisor
Kenneth Knapp, Councilman
James Kenney, Councilman
Steve Dorr, Councilman
Kevin Patchen, Councilman

ABSENT: None

WHEREAS, the Town Board for the Town of clayton, New York has devoted considerable time and attention to budgetary issues for the upcoming fiscal year and;

WHEREAS, the Town Board intends to adopt legislation to provide greater financial flexibility during budget deliberation, if needed.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Town Board for the Town of Clayton, New York as follows:

1. The forgoing recitation is incorporated herein and made a part hereof as if set for the hereafter.
2. The Town Board hereby enacts the Local Law to Override the Tax Levy Limit as being in the best interests of the Town of Clayton.
3. The Supervisor of the Town of Clayton and the Town Clerk of the Town of Clayton, their respective agents and employees are authorized to sign all documents and take all steps necessary to enact this legislation.
4. This legislation shall be filed with the New York State Department of State.
5. The Resolution shall take effect immediately.

The forgoing Resolution was offered by Board Member, _____, and seconded by Board Member, _____, and upon roll call vote of the Board was duly adopted as follows:

Timothy Doney, Supervisor	Yes ___	No___	Absent___
Kenneth Knapp, Councilman	Yes ___	No___	Absent___
James Kenney, Councilman	Yes ___	No___	Absent___
Steve Dorr, Councilman	Yes ___	No___	Absent___
Kevin Patchen, Councilman	Yes ___	No___	Absent___

Yes ___ No ___ Abstain ___ Absent ___ Dated: August 26, 2026

The Resolution was thereupon declared duly adopted and shall take effect immediately.

Certification:

I, Megan Badour, Town Clerk of the Town of Clayton, do hereby certify that the above resolution was adopted at a regular meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Clayton held on August 26,

2026 and it is on file and of record, and that said resolution has not been altered, amended or revoked and it's in full force and effect.

[SEAL]

Megan Badour, Town Clerk



Department of Transportation

KATHY HOCHUL
Governor

MARIE THERESE DOMINGUEZ
Commissioner

ROBERT A. HAYNES, P.E.
Regional Director

August 10, 2026

Joseph E. Wasilewski
Superintendent of Highways
Jefferson County Department of Highways
21897 County Road 190
Watertown, NY 13601

Superintendent Wasilewski:

The New York State Department of Transportation (NYSDOT) has completed the investigation regarding the request for a further reduction of the existing 35 MPH speed zone on County Road 179 (Caroline Street) in the Town of Clayton (Hamlet of Depauville).

Most posted speed limits, both in New York State and nationally, are based on the results of an engineering study. As part of this study, the NYSDOT performed a review of several factors including, but not limited to, the roadway environment and characteristics, the three-year crash history, and speed distribution data obtained from two (2) laser speed surveys.

Based on the results of this study, no change to the existing 35 MPH speed limit is warranted at this time. The results were confirmed using the Federal Highway Administration's (FHWA) USLIMITS2 program. USLIMITS2 is a web-based expert system tool designed to help practitioners with conducting an engineering study for setting reasonable, safe, and consistent speed limits for specific segments of roads. The National Cooperative Highway Research Program 17-76 Tool "Guidance for the Setting of Speed Limits" also confirmed the results. The NYSDOT also consulted with the Troop D Traffic Sergeant of the New York State Police.

It is suggested that the county install a second northbound "AREA SPEED LIMIT 35" sign as a reminder of the speed limit after entering the hamlet, and review the existing signing within this portion of CR 179 to ensure compliance with the MUTCD and NYS Supplement (sign spacing, color, mixing of sign types, etc.).

Thank you for bringing your concerns to the NYSDOT's attention. If you have any questions regarding this determination, please contact Derrick Kehoe at (315) 779-3007 or me at (315) 785-2321.

Sincerely,



Aaron L. Docteur, P.E.
Regional Traffic Engineer

cc: T/Sgt. Paul Carner, Troop D, NYSP
Megan Badour, Clerk, Town of Clayton
7250076 – 22.28

TOWN OF CLAYTON

Zoning Officer

Richard A. Ingerson
Office Hours
Mon. Through Fri.
7.00 AM-12:00 PM & 1:00 -3:30 PM

Zoning Department

405 Riverside Drive
Clayton NY 13624
(315) 686-3512 Ext. 29
Fax (315) 686-2651

Planning Board

Douglas Rogers
(Chairman)
Sandra McMullen
Adam Powers
Edward Higgins
Alson Taylor
ALT: Thomas Williams
Ben Barton

APPLICATION FOR A SUBDIVISION**NOTICE TO ADJACENT LAND OWNERS**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that, pursuant to Section 210 of the Town of Clayton Subdivision regulations, **Candie L. Pecor** is requesting the approval of a simple minor subdivision on the property located at 35649 NYS Route 12, Tax Map # 42.00, Block # 1, Lot # 6.1. This is a 2 lot subdivision in the Agricultural and Rural Residential district.

The application may be viewed at the Town Offices, 405 Riverside Drive, Clayton during Office hours.

All adjacent landowners may, within 15 days from the date of this notice, submit comments to the Joint Town/Village of Clayton Planning Board, 405 Riverside Drive, Clayton, NY 13624.

Attn: Dr. Douglas Rogers, Chairman
Joint Town/Village Planning Board

Richard Ingerson
Zoning Officer
Town of Clayton

DATE OF NOTICE: August 13, 2026

Town is a
neighbour.



TOWN OF CLAYTON

Zoning Officer

Richard A. Ingerson
Office Hours
Mon. Through Fri.
7.00 AM-12:00 PM & 1:00 -3:30 PM

Zoning Department

405 Riverside Drive
Clayton NY 13624
(315) 686-3512 Ext. 29
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Douglas Rogers
(Chairman)
Adam Powers
(Vice Chair)
Sandra McMullen
Alson Taylor
Thomas Williams
Ed Higgins
Alt Ben Barton

APPLICATION FOR A SUBDIVISION**NOTICE TO ADJACENT LAND OWNERS**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that, pursuant to Section 210 of the Town of Clayton Subdivision regulations, **Charles Arthur Baum** is requesting the approval of a simple minor subdivision on his property located on 13834 Rusho Bay, Tax Map # 12.00, Block # 1, Lot # 38.1. This is a 2 lot subdivision in the Marine Residential district.

The application may be viewed at the Town Offices, 405 Riverside Drive, Clayton during Office hours.

All adjacent landowners may, within 15 days from the date of this notice, submit comments to the Joint Town/Village of Clayton Planning Board, 405 Riverside Drive, Clayton, NY 13624.

Attn: Dr. Douglas Rogers, Chairman
Joint Town/Village Planning Board

Richard Ingerson
Zoning Officer
Town of Clayton

Town is neighbor

DATE OF NOTICE: August 21, 2026

Town of Clayton Regular Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, August 12, 2026

The Town Board of the Town of Clayton held their regular meeting at 5:00 PM, located at Cerow Recreation Park, Clayton, NY.

The following persons attended:

Timothy Doney	Kevin Patchen	Steve Dorr, Sr.	James Kenney
Kenneth Knapp	Pamela McDowell	Mariah LaClair	Megan Badour
Chris Badour	Nicole Jobson	Cindy Brennon	

1. Pledge of Allegiance: Supervisor Doney led the pledge of allegiance.

2. Guests: N/A

3. Town Clerk:

- Correspondence that Needs Recording: N/A
- Minutes: Motion was made by Kenneth Knapp, seconded by Steve Dorr, Sr to approve 7/22/26 Workshop Meeting Minutes. **Motion carried.**

A. Bills & Transfers

i. Abstract #8 of 2026 in the amount of \$419,617.74

Motion was made by James Kenney, seconded by Kenneth Knapp to approve Abstract #8 of 2026, in the amount of \$419,617.74. **Motion carried.**

ii. Transfers: Depauville WWTP Disinfection Project

Motion to authorize a transfer to the Depauville WWTP Disinfection Project checking account for payment of TI Printing Co., Inc. purchase order #26-00590 in the amount of \$200.37 made by Kenneth Knapp, seconded by Kevin Patchen. **Motion carried.**

iii. Budget Amendment: N/A

B. New Accounts/Special Entries: N/A

C. Supervisor's Report & Bank Reconciliations: July 2026

Motion was made by Kevin Patchen, seconded by James Kenney to approve the Supervisor's Report & Bank Reconciliations for July 2026. **Motion carried.**

D. Balance Sheets: July 2026

E. Resignations, Appointments & Rate Changes

i. Resignations & Appointments:

Motion was made by Steve Dorr, Sr., seconded by Kenneth Knapp, to regretfully accept the resignation of Chip Garnsey from the ZBA Board effective immediately. **Motion carried.**

ii. Rate Changes: N/A

F. Training: N/A

G. Internal Audits

Motion was made by Kenneth Knapp, seconded by Kevin Patchen to approve the Internal Audits. **Motion carried.**

H. TIPAF Lease Renewal: No decision at this time.

I. Depauville Sewer Project Contract No. 2 Bid Award Resolution 51

Resolution 51 of 2026, a resolution to award Depauville WWTP Disinfection Project Contract No. 2-manhole restoration to Camden Group in the amount of \$287,662.21 was introduced by Kenneth

Knapp, seconded by James Kenney. Roll call vote: Kenney-aye; Knapp- aye, Doney-aye; Dorr- aye; Patchen-aye. **Passed.**

J. Depauville Sewer Ban NOS:

Motion to approve Depauville Sewer Bond Anticipation Notes Notice of Sale made by Steve Dorr, Sr., seconded by James Kenney. **Motion carried.**

K. Jefferson County Intermunicipal GML §239-m Referral Exemption Agreement:

Resolution 52 of 2026, a resolution to adopt the revised General Municipal Law §239-m Referral Framework and Authorize and Intermunicipal Agreement with Jefferson County, introduced by Kevin Patchen, seconded by Kenneth Knapp. Roll call vote: Kenney-aye; Knapp- aye, Doney-aye; Dorr- aye; Patchen-aye. **Passed.**

L. Authorize 2026-2027 Fuel Bid Solicitation

Motion was made by Kenneth Knapp, seconded by Kevin Patchen, to authorize solicitation of Fuel Bids for 2026-2027 with a return date of Monday, September 7, 2026 at 2:00PM. **Motion carried.**

M. Local Law No. 2 of 2026: Tax Cap Override

Local Law No. 2 of 2026, a local law to override the tax levy limit established in General Municipal Law §3-c, was introduced by James Kenney, seconded by Kenneth Knapp, and a motion was made to set the Public Hearing for 8/26/2026 @ 5:00pm at the Depauville Library, 32333 Caroline Street, Depauville, NY made by Steve Dorr, Sr., seconded by Kevin Patchen. **Motion carried.**

N. Schedule Budget Workshop

Motion to schedule the first Budget Workshop meeting for 8/26/2026 @ 5:30 pm at the Depauville Library, 32333 Caroline Street, Depauville, NY made by Kenneth Knapp, seconded by Steve Dorr, Sr. **Motion carried.**

O. Grindstone Island Civil War Cemetery

Motion to approve a subdivision of the Grindstone Island Civil War Cemetery with Howard-Smith Family LLC as surveyed by LaFave, White & McGivern, L.S., P.C. 09/30/2022 made by Kevin Patchen, seconded by Kenneth Knapp. **Motion carried.**

P. Grindstone Island Upper Cemetery: No decision at this time.

Q. Depauville Library The upcoming Town Board Meeting on 8/26/2026 will be held at the Depauville Free Library, 32333 Caroline Street, Depauville, NY

4. Public:

Cindy Brennon addressed the Board with regard to concern surrounding the lighting at Boathouse Marine. Ms. Brennon does not believe that the lighting reflects what was previously approved by the Planning Board and is requesting a response from the Codes Enforcement Officer.

5. Supervisor's Report: Consolidated Health District, Youth Commission & Antique Boat Museum:

Supervisor Doney shared thanks to all Town Employees for their continued commitment to the Town of Clayton.

6. Department Head Reports:

A. Highway Superintendent: Raymond Robinson: See Councilman Dorr's report.

B. Buildings & Grounds: James Jones: See Councilman Patchen's report.

C. Assessor: Interim Christina Johnson: See attached

D. Codes/Zoning: Richard Ingerson: N/A

7. Council Reports:

A. Councilman Knapp: Libraries & Chamber of Commerce: Reminder that the Depauville Library runs a Wednesday Kids Camp. Mr. Knapp attended the Jefferson County Legislative meeting and brought forth concern with solar projects.

B. Councilman Patchen: Buildings & Grounds, Cemeteries, and Purchasing & Personnel: Reported for Mr. Jones that there are still 3 shows upcoming at the arena. The ice is scheduled to go in September 29, 2026. The pool will close August 29, 2026. There are issues with bees at the Depauville Library. Dock revenue looks to be up 11% from the same time last year. Local Food Pantry will be supporting a backpack program.

Mr. Patchen reported that he has been working with Ms. Dewey on the Fieldhouse project and they are forming a committee with hopes of 18 members.

C. Councilman Kenney: Safety Coordinator, Planning/Zoning, and Sewer Districts: Mr. Kenney reported there are several boards that are in need of members.

D. Councilman Dorr: Highway, TIERS, Paynter Center and CLDC: Mr. Dorr stated that the Paynter Center is continuing to seek grant funding for a bus.

8. Public: Submitted Requests to Address the Board: N/A

9. Executive Session:

- Motion was made by Kenneth Knapp, seconded by James Kenney to close the regular meeting at 5:52 PM. **Motion carried.**

- Motion was made by Kenneth Knapp, seconded by Steve Dorr, Sr. to enter into Executive Session at 5:53 PM in accordance with NYS OML §105 (f) the medical, financial, credit or employment history of a particular person or corporation, or matters leading to the appointment, employment, promotion, demotion, discipline, suspension, dismissal or removal of a particular person or corporation. **Motion carried.**

- Motion was made by Steve Dorr, Sr., seconded by Kenneth Knapp, to close Executive Session at 6:19 PM. **Motion carried.**

- Motion was made by Kevin Patchen, seconded by James Kenney, to open the regular meeting at 6:19 PM. **Motion carried.**

10. Adjournment

Motion was made by Kevin Patchen, seconded by Steve Dorr, Sr. to adjourn regular meeting at 6:19 PM. **Motion carried.**

Next Board Meeting: Wednesday, August 26, 2026 @ 5:00pm, located at the Depauville Free Library, 32333 Caroline St, Chaumont, NY 13622.

Megan Badour, Town Clerk



New York Association of Towns' Legislative Conference
 Local Voices, State Impact
 September 22-23rd
 Tentative Agenda

Tuesday, September 22

Time	Topic	Speaker
10:30 am	Registration opens	
11am-11:40	Women's Leadership Caucus discussion Rural Communities Council discussion	
11:45 – 12:30pm	Buffet Lunch	
12:30pm-1	Conference Welcome and Opening Comments	
1-2:10pm	Plenary (70 Mins) New York State Legislative Landscape: An Update from State Legislators	
2:10-2:30	Coffee Break	
2:30-3:40	3 Concurrent Panels (70 mins) - Town Workforce Development: Staffing, Skills, and State Support - Employee Benefits, Local Budgets, and State Policy: Addressing Rising Health Insurance Costs - State Housing Policy: Local Impacts and Town Perspectives	

3:45-4:55	3 Concurrent Sessions (70 Mins) - Following the Money and the Mandate: How Albany Works 2026 Case Law Updates - Building Effective Intergovernmental Relationships	
5pm-6pm	Reception	

Day 2: September 23		
8am-9am	Breakfast	
9am-9:30	Opening Comments and NYAOT Update	
9:30am-10:40am	Plenary (70 mins) From Local Government to State Representative	
10:40-11am	Coffee Break	
11am-12:10	3 Concurrent Sessions (70 mins) - Water Infrastructure Policy for Towns: Funding, Mandates, and Legislative Priorities - The Future of EMS: State Policy, Local Costs, and Town Responsibilities - Open	
12:15-1:30	Lunch	
1:30-2:40	3 Concurrent Sessions (70 mins) - Effective Advocacy and Working with Your Representatives - Growing the Local Economy: Partnerships, Tools, and Strategies for Towns - Open	
2:45pm-4pm	Meeting on NYAOT Legislative Priorities for 2027	

Class Descriptions

11-11:30am

Women's Leadership Caucus

The Women's Leadership Caucus is an initiative of the NYAOT dedicated to connecting, supporting, and advancing women serving in town government across New York State. Its mission is to facilitate connection, mentorship, and advancement for women in town government, in positions like supervisors, clerks, board members, department heads, historians, and administrators, and to help shape future programming and policy engagement for NYAOT's 933 member towns.

Rural Communities Council

Rural towns face a distinct set of pressures, and the Rural Communities Council is a forum to compare notes, share what's working, and tackle the challenges that look different when you're governing a small town.

Plenary: 1pm-2:10

New York State Legislative Landscape: An Update from State Legislators (Plenary)

State legislators join us to look back on the 2026 session and ahead to what's coming next. Panelists will walk through the bills, budget decisions, and policy debates that mattered most for towns this year, what passed, what stalled, and what it means for local officials heading into the fall and the 2027 session. They'll share what they're hearing from their own districts, where town priorities gained traction in Albany, and which issues are likely to return when lawmakers reconvene in January. Expect a candid conversation about the wins, the missed opportunities, and where towns have the most leverage to shape what comes next.

Concurrent Classes: 2:30-3:40pm

Town Workforce: Staffing, Skills, and State Support

Workforce policy is shaped as much in Albany as it is on the ground, and the decisions legislators make about apprenticeships, training funds, prevailing wage, childcare, and education pipelines all land squarely on towns trying to grow their local economies. This panel brings together state legislators and workforce development leaders to discuss the bills and budget items driving workforce policy in New York, what passed this session, what's still in play, and what towns should be watching heading into 2027. Panelists will talk through how recent state investments are reaching (or not reaching) municipalities, where the gaps remain between state programs and local needs, and how town officials can weigh in as workforce legislation takes shape. Expect a practical conversation about how state policy translates into real opportunities for town employers, residents, and the next generation of the local workforce.

Employee Benefits, Local Budgets, and State Policy: Addressing Rising Health Insurance Costs

Health insurance is one of the fastest growing lines in nearly every town budget, and the pressure isn't letting up. Double-digit renewal quotes, rising prescription drug costs, and federal policy shifts are all landing on town boards at the same time, often with little room

to absorb them under the property tax cap. This panel brings together benefits experts, municipal officials, and policy voices to walk through what's driving the increases and what towns can actually do about them. Panelists will discuss the tradeoffs between NYSHIP, municipal cooperatives, and self-insured pools, share cost-containment strategies that have worked for other towns, and talk candidly about how to navigate collective bargaining when benefits are on the table.

Housing Policy and the Pressure on Towns

Housing has become one of the most contested policy fights in Albany, and towns are squarely in the middle of it. From the Governor's push for statewide housing targets to ongoing debates over ADU legislation, zoning preemption, and transit-oriented development mandates, state policymakers are increasingly looking at local land use as the lever to address New York's housing shortage. For town officials, that raises hard questions about the balance between state goals and local control, and about what towns can actually do to meet the moment on their own terms. This panel brings together housing policy experts to walk through where housing legislation stands heading into the 2027 session, what proposals are likely to return, and how towns can shape the conversation rather than simply react to it. Panelists will discuss the practical implications of recent and pending state action, the funding and incentive programs available to towns that want to expand housing supply, and how local officials can make the case for approaches that work in their communities.

3:45-4:55 Concurrent Sessions

Following the Money and the Mandate: How Albany Works

Every decision in Albany eventually lands in your town, in your budget, your workload, or your residents' tax bills. This session traces how state government actually works: how the budget gets built, how a bill becomes law, and why some mandates come with funding and others don't. You'll leave knowing not just how Albany works, but how to work with it.

2026 Case Law Updates

This session breaks down the past year's most significant rulings affecting New York local governments, from land use and zoning to FOIL and Open Meetings Law, assessment challenges, employment, and municipal liability. We'll skip the legalese and focus on what each decision means in practice: where you may need to adjust how your town operates, and where the courts have given you firmer ground to stand on.

Building Effective Intergovernmental Relationships

No town operates alone. The work increasingly runs through your relationships with the county, neighboring municipalities, school districts, and state agencies — on everything from shared services and emergency response to roads, water, and planning. This session focuses on how to build and sustain those partnerships: finding common ground across governments with different priorities, structuring agreements that hold up, and keeping lines of communication open before a crisis forces the conversation. We'll look at what makes intergovernmental cooperation actually work, and how strong relationships can stretch limited local resources further than any town could on its own.

Day 2

Plenary: 9:30-10:40am

From Local Government to State Representative (Plenary)

Many state legislators got their start at the local government level - learning to read a budget, hold a public hearing, and build a coalition long before they ran for Albany. But the jump from local to state office is a real shift in scale, pace, and political culture. This panel brings together current state representatives who made that leap to discuss what local government taught them, what they had to unlearn, and how their early work still shapes the way they legislate today.

11-12:20am Concurrent Sessions

The Future of EMS: State Policy, Local Costs, and Town Responsibilities

Emergency medical services are in a moment of real strain across New York. Call volumes are up, volunteer rosters are thinning, and towns that once relied on a local squad showing up without a line item in the budget are finding that model harder to sustain every year. At the same time, EMS isn't classified as an essential service under state law, which leaves towns navigating a patchwork of funding, mutual aid agreements, and regional arrangements to make sure someone answers the call. This panel brings together EMS leaders, town officials, and state policy voices for a broad conversation about where things stand and what towns can actually do about it. Panelists will discuss the push to designate EMS as an essential service and what that would mean for local budgets, the recruitment and retention challenges facing volunteer squads, and the regional and shared-service models some communities are turning to as a path forward.

Water Infrastructure Policy for Towns: Funding, Mandates, and Legislative Priorities

Towns across New York are staring down aging water and sewer systems, rising construction costs, and federal and state mandates that don't come with enough funding attached. For years, local officials have pointed to CHIPS as proof that a dedicated, formula-based funding stream can make a real difference for town infrastructure—and have asked why water and sewer don't have the same. The Safe Water Action Program (SWAP) is designed to fill that gap: a dedicated fund modeled on CHIPS that would give towns reliable, predictable resources to invest in the pipes, plants, and systems their residents depend on. This panel brings together advocates, state officials, and town leaders to discuss where SWAP stands, what it would mean for town budgets if fully funded, and how local officials can make the case for water infrastructure investment alongside the other pressures on Albany. Panelists will also share practical guidance on navigating existing funding

Concurrent Classes 1:30pm -2:40pm

Growing the Local Economy: Partnerships, Tools, and Strategies for Towns

Economic development does not happen in a vacuum. For many towns, the key to supporting local growth is knowing how to build the right partnerships. This session will examine how towns can work with counties, neighboring municipalities, regional councils, IDAs, chambers of commerce, and state agencies to address workforce, tourism, infrastructure, and community development needs.

Effective Advocacy and Working with Your Representatives

Town officials have a story to tell in Albany and Washington, but telling it well is a skill. The towns that consistently get heard are the ones that build relationships with their state and federal representatives long before they need something, know how to frame a local issue in terms a legislator can act on, and show up at the right moments with the right ask. This panel brings together experienced local advocates to walk through what effective advocacy actually looks like from a town official's perspective. Panelists will discuss how to build lasting relationships with your representatives and their staff, when a phone call beats an email and when it's the other way around, how to make the case for a town priority in a crowded legislative environment, and how to work with statewide associations to amplify your voice.

2:45-4pm: Vote on NYAOT's Legislative Priorities

In this meeting, delegates will vote on the issues that will define NYAOT's 2027 Legislative Priorities, the agenda that guides the Association's advocacy in the year ahead. Your participation determines which town concerns rise to the top when lawmakers reconvene in January.

Lease Agreement

THIS LEASE is effective as of July 27, 2011, between the TOWN OF CLAYTON, a Municipal Corporation of the State of New York, hereinafter referred to as "Town" and the GRINDSTONE ISLAND RESEARCH AND HERITAGE CENTER, a 501(c)3 organization located in the County of Jefferson, State of New York.

The TOWN hereby leases to the GRINDSTONE ISLAND RESEARCH AND HERITAGE CENTER, on the terms and conditions hereinafter set forth, and in its "as is condition", those PREMISES described as follows:

**Former Grindstone Island District #15 Schoolhouse
41591 Cross Island Road, Tax Map# 11.00-1-6
Grindstone Island, Clayton, NY 13624, herein referred
to as the "PREMISES".**

1. TERM OF LEASE: This agreement is effective for a five (5) year period with automatic five (5) year renewals upon a written request by the GRINDSTONE ISLAND RESEARCH AND HERITAGE CENTER at least ninety (90) days prior to the termination date. The maximum number of automatic five (5) year renewals under this Agreement shall be four (4). During the period of this Agreement, either party may terminate this Lease for any reason by giving the other party at least ninety (90) days prior written notice of such termination.

2. OPTION TO EXTEND: Lessee shall have the right to extend this lease for a further term of five (5) years provided that lessee shall not have defaulted in performing this agreement in any manner. The option to extend shall be exercised as follows:

Not less than ninety (90) days or more than one hundred twenty (120) days before the termination of the initial term, the lessee shall notify the lessor in writing of its election to lease the demised premises for an additional term, whereupon the parties hereto shall proceed to negotiate an additional term.

3. RENTAL: There shall be no consideration for this Agreement, pursuant to Local Law No. 1 of 2001, the Town Board of the Town of Clayton recognizes the importance to the Town of promoting the recognition and support of arts, education, recreation and cultural affairs within the Town of Clayton, and authorized the Town of Clayton to enter into Agreements with individuals, institutions and organizations having as one of their purposes the promotion of arts, education, recreation and/or cultural affairs within the

Town of Clayton, and further authorized the Town of Clayton to enter into Agreements to provide such organizations, institutions and individuals the right to utilize with or without consideration portions of the Town property not used or needed for Town purposes. *The TOWN feels that the preservation of this building, the last one room schoolhouse to close in New York State, qualifies under these purposes.*

4. USE: The GRINDSTONE ISLAND RESEARCH AND HERITAGE CENTER shall use the PREMISES to fulfill its mission to nurture through educational programs and services the cultural, historical and social aspects of Grindstone Island by collecting, preserving, and teaching regional, island, and family heritage and for no other use without the TOWN's written consent.

5. TAXES AND ASSESSMENTS: The TOWN shall be responsible for all taxes and assessments, including special assessments, if any, levied upon said PREMISES.

6. UTILITIES AND JANITORIAL SERVICES: The GRINDSTONE ISLAND RESEARCH AND HERITAGE CENTER shall pay all charges for electricity, fuel oil, water, sewer, and janitorial services for the PREMISES. The GRINDSTONE ISLAND RESEARCH AND HERITAGE CENTER will be responsible for their refuse disposal. The TOWN will be responsible for general maintenance of the building. The GRINDSTONE ISLAND RESEARCH AND HERITAGE CENTER shall be responsible for and pay the cost of the repair if such expenses are incurred by reason of negligence or fault on the part of the GRINDSTONE ISLAND RESEARCH AND HERITAGE CENTER. The TOWN shall also provide general landscaping to the grounds of the PREMISES. Specific requests for any of these activities shall be coordinated between the GRINDSTONE ISLAND RESEARCH AND HERITAGE CENTER and the Town of Clayton Buildings and Grounds Supervisor.

7. CONDITION OF PREMISES: The GRINDSTONE ISLAND RESEARCH AND HERITAGE CENTER has inspected the PREMISES and takes the PREMISES in its "as is" condition. The GRINDSTONE ISLAND RESEARCH AND HERITAGE CENTER acknowledges that the TOWN has made no representations or warranties as to the condition of the PREMISES. The GRINDSTONE ISLAND RESEARCH AND HERITAGE CENTER shall return the PREMISES to the TOWN upon termination of this Lease in the same condition as originally received subject to reasonable wear and tear.

8. ABANDONMENT—DISPOSITION OF PERSONAL PROPERTY: The GRINDSTONE ISLAND RESEARCH AND HERITAGE CENTER shall not vacate or abandon the PREMISES at any time during the term of this Lease. If the GRINDSTONE ISLAND RESEARCH AND HERITAGE CENTER, with the TOWN's consent, abandons,

vacates or surrenders the PREMISES, any personal property belonging to the GRINDSTONE ISLAND RESEARCH AND HERITAGE CENTER and left on the PREMISES shall be removed upon the TOWN's demand.

9. ASSIGNMENTS: The GRINDSTONE ISLAND RESEARCH AND HERITAGE CENTER shall not assign this Lease, or any interest therein, and shall not sublet the PREMISES or any part thereof, or any right or privilege appurtenant thereto, or suffer any other person including other officers, agents, and employees of the GRINDSTONE ISLAND RESEARCH AND HERITAGE CENTER to occupy or use the PREMISES, or any part thereof, without the prior written consent of the TOWN. Consent to one assignment, subletting, occupation or use by another person shall not be deemed to be consent to any subsequent assignment, subletting, occupation or use by another person. Any such assignment of subletting without consent shall be void and shall, at the opinion of the TOWN, terminate this Lease. As a condition to the TOWN's consent the GRINDSTONE ISLAND RESEARCH AND HERITAGE CENTER must provide a Certificate of Insurance to the TOWN indicating that the GRINDSTONE ISLAND RESEARCH AND HERITAGE CENTER has an active policy with the liability coverage as set forth by the terms in Section 9: Indemnity and Insurance.

10. INDEMNITY AND INSURANCE: To the fullest extent of the law, the GRINDSTONE ISLAND RESEARCH AND HERITAGE CENTER agrees at its own cost to defend, indemnify and hold harmless the TOWN, its officers, directors, trustees, agents, representatives, managers, employees and affiliates from and against any and all claims, suits, liens, judgments, damages, losses and expenses including reasonable attorneys fees and legal expenses, whether such loss, personal injury, or property is sustained by the TOWN, and costs arising in whole or in part and in any manner from the acts, omissions, and/or breaches of default of the GRINDSTONE ISLAND RESEARCH AND HERITAGE CENTER or its agents, employees, contractors, successors, assigns, licensees, visitors, guests or invitees occasioned by or in connection with the lease of the premises located at 41591 Cross Island Road, Grindstone Island, Clayton, New York, said PREMISES.

The GRINDSTONE ISLAND RESEARCH AND HERITAGE CENTER shall provide proof of General Liability insurance coverage by a Certificate of Insurance naming the TOWN as additional insured with the following limits: \$1,000,000 each occurrence, \$2,000,000 aggregate. Any sponsoring agent or individual requesting use of the PREMISES shall have on file with the TOWN one week prior to the event, a Certificate of Commercial General Liability Insurance, or its equivalent, naming the TOWN as additionally insured with the following limits: \$1,000,000 each occurrence, \$2,000,000 aggregate.

11. DESTRUCTION OF PREMISES: If the PREMISES are totally destroyed by fire or other casualty, this Lease, at the option of the GRINDSTONE ISLAND RESEARCH AND HERITAGE CENTER or the TOWN, shall terminate. If a casualty renders a portion of the floor space of the premises unusable for the purpose intended, either the TOWN or the GRINDSTONE ISLAND RESEARCH AND HERITAGE CENTER may terminate this Lease by written notice to the TOWN.

12. NOTICES: Except where otherwise specifically provided, all notices under this Lease and in connection herewith and all statements shall be addressed and delivered as follows:

To TOWN:

Town Supervisor
Town of Clayton
405 Riverside Drive
Clayton, New York 13624

To GRINDSTONE ISLAND RESEARCH AND HERITAGE CENTER:

President
GRINDSTONE ISLAND RESEARCH
AND HERITAGE CENTER
41591 Cross Island Road
Grindstone Island
Clayton, New York 13624

13. ENTIRE AGREEMENT: In conjunction with the matters considered herein, this Lease contains the entire understanding and agreement of the parties and there have been no promises, representations, agreements, warranties or undertakings by any of the parties, either oral or written, of any character or nature hereafter binding except as set forth herein. This Lease may be altered, amended or modified only by an instrument in writing, executed by the parties to this Lease and by no other means. Each party waives its future right to claim, contest or assert that this Lease was modified, canceled, superseded or changed by any oral agreements.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the TOWN OF CLAYTON and the GRINDSTONE ISLAND RESEARCH AND HERITAGE CENTER have signed this Lease.

Date: 7/27/11

"TOWN"

TOWN OF CLAYTON

By:

Justin A. Taylor
Justin A. Taylor, Supervisor

Date: 7/27/11

GRINDSTONE ISLAND RESEARCH
AND HERITAGE CENTER

By:

Janice McPhail
Janice McPhail, President