

**Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Kirkland, held at the Town of Kirkland Municipal Building, 3699 State Route 12-B, Clinton, Oneida County, New York on September 8, 2025, at 5:00 p.m.**

Present:

Supervisor Robert J. Meelan

Councilman Garry F. Colarusso

Councilwoman Donna E. Yando

Councilman Richard J. Maxam

Councilwoman Melanie L. O'Neil

Attorney Anthony Hallak

Supervisor Meelan called the regular meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. and asked those present to stand for the Pledge of Allegiance.

Supervisor Meelan opened the Public Hearing for Local Law No. 1-2025. The Town Clerk read the Notice of Public Hearing. The Public Hearing was left open. (A copy of the Notice of Public Hearing has been made a part of these minutes.)

TOWN OF KIRKLAND  
COUNTY OF ONEIDA, STATE OF NEW YORK  
**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE THAT, in Accordance with Section 202-b of the New York State Town Law, the Town Board of the Town of Kirkland, Oneida County, New York (the "Town") will conduct a public hearing on September 8, 2025 at 5 pm at the Town of Kirkland Municipal Building, located at 3699 State Route 12B, Clinton, New York in regard to the proposed Local Law No. 1 of 2025, a Local Law to override the tax levy limit established in General Municipal Law §3-c.

The Public Hearing will be held to hear all persons interested in the override of the real property tax levy limit. A copy of the proposed Local Law is available for inspection in the Office of the Town Clerk, 100 N. Park Row, Clinton, NY.

Dated: August 12, 2025

By Order of the Town Board of  
The Town of Kirkland  
Oneida County, New York  
Donna B. Maxam, Clerk

Supervisor Meelan recognized the public in attendance and asked if there was anyone who wished to address the Board.

Brian Thomas of the Clark Mills Community Leaders Group, which includes members from CMFD, American Legion Post 26, Legion Auxiliary, Sons of the American Legion, Kirkland Senior Center, Clark Mills Volunteer Public Workers, Clark Mills Methodist Church, CKIC, Clark Mills Historical Society addressed the Board. He spoke of the June tornado and the loss of lives, also how proud of the CMFD and all the volunteers everyone is. When the tornado struck the power went out and there was no power to the Firehouse, meaning the doors had to be opened manually and in the dark with flashlights. Their goal is to raise \$50,000. to purchase a generator, more chain saws and a tornado warning system. Clinton Tractor is offering to sell the CMFD a stand up generator for \$10,000 and M.J. Teesdale Electric will donate the labor. Supervisor Meelan said that he will reach out to the Town’s Budget Director.

Chad Davis addressed the Board regarding the Fire Department Feasibility Study. Mr. Davis stated that the Village has agreed to their third of the payment as did Hamilton College but have not heard from the Town on their third. Supervisor Meelan stated that the Village owns the Fire Department and the Town already pays an Outside of Village fee. Sandy Scofield asked that the Town Board Members attend the next meeting in conjunction with the Clinton Chamber’s Business After Hours to be held September 17 at the Firehouse. Supervisor Meelan has reached out to Fire Chief Bob Burns and is waiting for a return call. Councilman Colarusso asked Hamilton College Rep Mike D’Braggio what the College was dissatisfied with, Mr. D’Braggio said there was no dissatisfaction, it was just community involvement. Hamilton College funded a quarter of the payment for the new fire truck which was \$250,000.

Discussion regarding 7614 State Route 5:

Attorney Hallak reiterated that a Notice of Emergency Demolition had been issued to the property owner, the owners then attended the June 9<sup>th</sup> meeting with their attorney Mark Wolber, the owners said steps would be taken to improve the property and show good faith and as of today the steps have not been taken, 2 buildings are unsafe and need to be demolished. Codes Enforcement Officer Harris has quotes to demolish 2 of the buildings and also a separate quote for the house. Mr. Harris was told Attorney Wolber would get back to him regarding the demos on 2 buildings but not the house and Mr. Harris never heard back from the attorney. The property is in the floodway not floodplain. The owners said they now have an architect, Ken Roberts, and also that buildings can be rebuilt in a floodway. An engineer report has been requested and must be presented at the next meeting on September 22<sup>nd</sup>. This matter will be adjourned for 2 weeks until the next meeting and the Codes Officer has spoken to the architect. The owners must get a permit for demolition of building 1, the owner said she will be in Wednesday.

**RESOLUTION #74**

Upon motion by Councilwoman Yando, seconded by Councilwoman O’Neil, the following resolution was ADOPTED:

**RESOLVED**, that the Kirkland Town Board approve the minutes of August 25, 2025 as printed.

**Roll Call Vote:**

<u>NAME</u>	<u>VOTE</u>
Supervisor Robert J. Meelan	Aye
Councilman Garry F. Colarusso	Aye

Councilwoman Donna E. Yando	Aye
Councilman Richard J. Maxam	Aye
Councilwoman Melanie L. O’Neil	Aye

**GENERAL ORDER**

Attorney Anthony Hallak – No report  
Town Clerk Donna Maxam – No report  
Highway Supt. Jon Scott – Absent, Councilman Colarusso – No report  
Police Dept. - Administrative Officer Occhipinti – All good, will be receiving an application for a Part Time Officer  
Building and Grounds Liaison Councilwoman Yando – No report  
Recreation Liaison Councilwoman O’Neil – Ice has started to go down, paving should begin Monday, park had issues with water  
Seniors Liaison Councilwoman Yando – Bathroom Vanities have been delivered  
Sewer Liaison Councilman Maxam – No report  
SWOCO Liaison Councilman Maxam – Meeting is on Thursday

The monthly Safety Inspectors’ Reports and Animal Control Officer’s Reports were reviewed by the Town Board Members.

**CORRESPONDENCE:**

A packet of information was received and distributed to the Town Board Members from the Underground Railroad Consortium of NYS. Supervisor Meelan has reached out to the Town of New Hartford Supervisor for his thoughts, he has not yet heard back. The Supervisor wants the Board members to review the information. This will run from NYC to Niagara Falls, this would impact the Town’s Route 5 commercial district and would significantly impact signage and what can be done in the commercial zone.

**RESOLUTION #75**

Upon motion by Councilman Colarusso, seconded by Councilman Maxam, the following resolution was ADOPTED:

**RESOLVED**, that the Kirkland Town Board close the Public Hearing for Local Law No. 1 of 2025 at 5:38 p.m.

**Roll Call Vote:**

<u>NAME</u>	<u>VOTE</u>
Supervisor Robert J. Meelan	Aye
Councilman Garry F. Colarusso	Aye
Councilwoman Donna E. Yando	Aye
Councilman Richard J. Maxam	Aye

Councilwoman Melanie L. O’Neil      Aye

**RESOLUTION #76**

Upon motion by Councilman Colarusso, seconded by Councilwoman O’Neil, the following resolution was ADOPTED:

**RESOLVED**, that the Kirkland Town Board adopt Local Law No. 1 of 2025, a Local Law to override the tax levy limit established in General Municipal Law §3-c.

**Roll Call Vote:**

<u>NAME</u>	<u>VOTE</u>
Supervisor Robert J. Meelan	Aye
Councilman Garry F. Colarusso	Aye
Councilwoman Donna E. Yando	Aye
Councilman Richard J. Maxam	Aye
Councilwoman Melanie L. O’Neil	Aye

**RESOLUTION #77**

Upon motion by Councilman Maxam, seconded by Councilwoman Yando, the following resolution was ADOPTED:

**RESOLVED**, that the Kirkland Town Board review and approve the bills as audited. The totals were:

<b>A -</b>	35,449.45
<b>B -</b>	9,031.48
<b>DA -</b>	10,065.03
<b>DB-</b>	162.72
<b>SS1 -</b>	3,855.26
<b>SS2-</b>	658.46
<b>SS4-</b>	496.95
<b>Cap Fund H –</b>	4086.49
<b>SL1</b>	665.57
<b>SL2</b>	234.91
<b>SL3</b>	130.23
<b>SL4</b>	738.65

**Roll Call Vote:**

<u>NAME</u>	<u>VOTE</u>
Supervisor Robert J. Meelan	Aye
Councilman Garry F. Colarusso	Aye
Councilwoman Donna E. Yando	Aye
Councilman Richard J. Maxam	Aye
Councilwoman Melanie L. O’Neil	Aye

There being no further business to come before the Town Board, upon motion by Councilwoman O’Neil, seconded by Councilwoman Yando, the meeting was adjourned at 5:39 p.m.

Donna B. Maxam, Town Clerk