

A Town Board Meeting was held on September 8th, 2025, at 7:00 p.m. The location of the meeting was the Town Hall Building located at 117 Pelon Road in the Town of Indian Lake, County of Hamilton, State of New York.

Supervisor Wells called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. All said the Pledge of Allegiance followed by a roll call with the following board members present.

Roll Call:

Councilperson Mahoney: Here
Councilperson Eldridge: Here
Councilperson Rathbun: Absent
Councilperson Howard: Absent
Supervisor Wells: Here

Councilperson Eldridge motioned for the approval of minutes from Town Board meeting on 8/11/25 Councilperson Mahoney seconded the motion. No discussion. All were in favor.

Women of Distinction Award:

Supervisor Wells announced that Susan Rollings, our Library Director, was nominated for Assemblyman Robert J. Smullen Women of Distinction award and has been chosen to receive the award. Jen Zahray, employee of the library, read aloud the letter that was submitted for her nomination. Attached is the letter.

Resolution #12 DEC Smart Growth Grant:

Supervisor Wells stated that at the last meeting in Blue Mountain Lake the Town Board approved our Events Economic and Marketing Coordinator Christine Pouch to apply for a DEC Smart Growth grant for the purpose of replacing the existing Town museum. Supervisor Wells offered resolution number 12, Councilperson Eldridge second the motion. No discussion was held. All were in favor.

Resolution #13- SEQR:

Supervisor Wells read aloud and answered the questions from the Short Environmental Assessment Form for the reconstruction of the Indian Lake Museum. Supervisor Wells offered resolution #13 to complete SEQR process to comply with funding requirements. Councilperson Mahoney second the motion. No discussion was held. All were in favor.

Department Head Reports:

Supervisor Wells addressed the board saying that there were department head reports in their meeting packets. Supervisor Wells asked Eugene Darling Highway Superintendent if he had a chance to get the pole numbers from the light poles that are out on the causeway. Eugene stated he had not yet. Supervisor Wells asked if he could get the pole numbers off the poles by Irma Hutchins house, they have been out for some time now.

Christine stated at the last board meeting the board agreed to set up a meeting with NYS Caregiving & Respite Coalition. Christine said the meeting is scheduled for September 10, 2025, at the Welcome Center at 3 o'clock. Supervisor Wells asked if Christine had received any phone calls regarding people being interested in it yet. Christine stated there were three so far.

Davanna Marks gave an update from the Chamber attached is their report.

Firework Discussion:

Connor Burgess Fire Chief of Indian Lake Fire District approached the board with updated information he was able to gather. Connor stated that they are easily able to obtain insurance for setting off fireworks, it cannot be submitted until January 1st of the new year. After talking with Christine, the Town has budgeted \$10,000 for fireworks currently. The idea that the committee we formed came up with was to go to local businesses, ask for donations and fundraise. Ideally the Fire Department would like to have around \$20,000 set up for this. Connor addressed the board that they are holding a meeting next Wednesday to

discuss more about the fireworks. Councilperson Mahoney asked Connor what type of license and certifications must be obtained to be able to shoot the fireworks off. Connor responded with its multiple steps you must go through with Federal, ATF background checks and many classes to get certified, ideally, we would like to have four guys certified. Connor added the Town of Long Lake Individuals were able to obtain all their licenses and certifications within four months. Supervisor Wells thanked Connor for coming and to keep the board in the loop with any new information he finds out.

Social Media Policy:

Supervisor Wells asked the board if everyone had time to review the social media policy draft that was introduced at last month's board meeting. Supervisor Wells added that Councilperson Howard was absent at the meeting she sent an email to board members wanting language added that posting on social media platforms be limited to 8:00 am through 4:00 pm Monday through Friday and no posting on the weekends, unless emergencies or authorized by the Town Supervisor. Discussion was held regarding this. Supervisor Wells motioned to adopt the social media policy as is, Councilperson Mahoney second the motion. No further discussion was held. All were in favor.

Public Comments & Concerns:

Andy Cooney complimented the Parks and Rec crew on painting the building on Durrant Road and for replacing the old roof on the bathroom building in Blue Mt. Lake.

Marti Evanoff addressed the board with her concerns regarding the transparency and participation within the various board and committees. Attached is a letter that was handed out to the board at this meeting.

Patrick Mahoney addressed the board regarding his concerns with the way the garbage is being picked up right now and if the town had any updates of when the garbage truck will be repaired. Supervisor Wells stated that the Garbage truck's engine has blown, and it was towed out of town a few weeks ago. Supervisor Wells stated that the garbage contractor is supposed to be talking with Lake Pleasant about getting their garbage truck over to do the commercial garbage pickup. Bill Laprairie stated he spoke with Randy from Lake Pleasant this morning and their garbage truck is not compatible with our commercial dumpsters so that isn't an option anymore. Supervisor Wells said that this is the first he has heard about this.

Someone from the crowd addressed the issue with people speeding down Adk Lake Road, there is no speed limit posted so people don't know how slow to go. There have been accidents on the sharp curves of the road. Supervisor Wells stated he would have to reach out to the County and ask for a speed study done to lower the speed for the road.

Supervisor Wells addressed the public that New York State D.O.T denied the speed reduction from 30 to 25 mph for Lake Durrant Road and Lake Shore Drive.

Boonie Eldridge addressed the board with her concerns on why the board minutes couldn't go in the Hamilton County News. Supervisor Wells answered Boonie that News doesn't send reporters out anymore, they pick them off the website and there is no method to it, they randomly pick through different Towns. Boonie read from Lake Pleasant Town minutes where they talked about a grant through NYS for a Community Center. Bonnie asked the Board if this is something that the Town has investigated. Supervisor Wells stated that yes, we have investigated this. Further discussion was held.

Peggy Evatt asked about the status of the old Grand Union. Supervisor Wells stated that it is owned by the Fire Commissioner's. Supervisor Wells stated there is a restriction on what they can do with it until 2026 he believes. There was a ten-year restriction where the building had to be used as a fire station and its related uses until of 2026.

There was discussion held regarding the status of Adk dam and when Byron Park Building would be available. Supervisor Wells stated last minute things are being completed, they have until September 30th to finish their work there. Our engineers must review it and make sure everything is done and checked off before it can be opened back up.

Supervisor Comments:

Supervisor Wells stated the town received a thank you letter from Hamilton County DPW Superintendent Tracy Eldridge for everyone's cooperation during the Big Brook bridge replacement there were a few hiccups and it went a little longer than anticipated due to getting a wrong delivery of bridge parts. Supervisor Wells said there will be another day that they will have to shut the road down again, they will get the notice out early to everyone again. Supervisor Wells addressed the board that there is a Senior Fall Festive in Warrensburg at the D.E.C Fisheries it is for our Senior Citizens. Supervisor Wells asked Bernice Cummins to gather a list of individuals that would be interested in going. Supervisor Wells stated that with board approval he would like to have the Town van be used to transport individuals to the festival. Board was in favor of this. It is September 25th at 10 o'clock until 2 o'clock. Budget schedule draft was handed out at the last board meeting. Supervisor Wells motioned to pass the legal notice for the budget workshop schedule as presented. Councilperson Mahoney second the motion, there was no further discussion. All were in favor. The Town received a thank you letter from the Theater for donation to their online auction. He received the NYS Safety inspection on Lake Durrant dam which is a class A low hazard. They listed all their violations, but one state entity can't oversee another state entity they are just considered recommendations. Most of them are just general maintenance, it wasn't deemed unsafe or hazardous. Early voting starts October 25th at Town Hall through November 4th.

Board Comments:

Councilperson Mahoney asked Christine how the vendors booking went for food trucks for this weekend. Christine responded there are 4 food trucks scheduled for this weekend.

Councilperson Eldridge had no further comments.

Bills and Abstracts:

42851 to 42879 \$11,099.47

42893 to 42919 \$7,044.65

42920 to 43079 \$166,171.77

Supervisor Wells motioned to pay the bills and abstracts, Councilperson Mahoney second the motion. All were in favor.

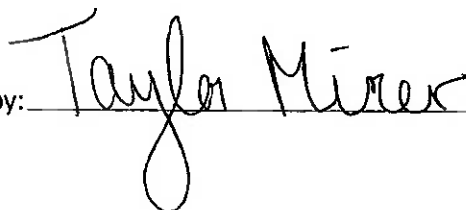
Supervisor Wells motioned to enter executive session at 8:10 for the discussion of contractual and litigation. Seconded by Councilperson Eldridge.

No action was taken.

Councilperson Eldridge motioned to exit executive session at 8:35 Councilperson Mahoney seconded the motion.

Supervisor Wells motioned to adjourn the meeting at 8:40 seconded by Councilperson Eldridge.

Respectfully submitted by:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Taylor Miller", is written over a horizontal line.

Re: 2025 Assemblyman Robert J. Smullen Women of Distinction Award - Town of Indian Lake Nominee Susan Rollings

Supervisor Brian E. Wells wishes to nominate Susan Rollings as a nominee for consideration of this prestigious recognition.

Susan Rollings is the director of the Town of Indian Lake Library.

This public library serves a population of approximately 1400 residents. The latest statistics for circulation show that close to 15,000 items were circulated in the last year.

Susan now calls Indian Lake home after living in the Finger Lakes region for many years. She became acquainted with the community through her love of gardening and screen-printed apparel business. Her face became a familiar one at area craft fairs and soon she was fully immersed in year-round living in a small Adirondack town.

Susan's professional background is in art education. She is an avid reader and inquiry-based individual. When the former director of the library retired, Susan seemed to be the perfect candidate for this position and was hired by the town.

She has fulfilled the library director role as described and surpassed its expectations. The result has been that the library has become a true community center for all ages of year-round and seasonal residents. The monthly calendar is full of activities and experiences for everyone from infants to seniors.

Early in her tenure, the Southern Adirondack Library System encouraged member libraries to review existing and create on-going strategic plans for the library. The process required input from library patrons, the school community, town residents, the library staff, friends group, and trustees. It was a daunting task, but it laid out a plan, going forward, which would enable the library's role in the community to grow.

Partnerships with the Indian Lake Central School District and area day-care providers grew early literacy programs and monthly visits by students in pre-k through middle school. Along with the library staff, Susan planned and executed lessons and activities that have continued during each academic year. In addition, opportunities were created for summer enrichment to help maintain and increase literacy growth during the summer months. This became especially important after the pandemic.

During the pandemic, the library was closed to the public for several months. This did not mean that patrons were unable to access services. As with most public libraries, curbside pickup of materials was available. Susan extended that with, for example, creative opportunities for all ages with kits available for pickup for craft experiences over Zoom meetups. This enabled Indian Lake residents to interact with their neighbors in a safe manner and to express themselves through art. At the same time, as an avid gardener, Susan created lessons on

YouTube about the process of straw bale gardening, which allows for fruit and vegetable plants to thrive in our shortened North Country growing season. What began with small deliveries of bales through a partnership with the Hamilton County Soil and Water Conservation District has grown to a delivery of 150+ bales to town gardeners this spring!

The following is an example of just some of the on-going programs at the library. It should be noted that Susan encourages the staff, community members, and community organizations to propose the use of the library for a variety of activities. She is more than willing to open a discussion on how the library can create a space for connection, fulfilling its mission statement, "Where Information and Imagination Meet".

- Monthly meeting of a caregivers' group, facilitated by the Alzheimer's Association for those whose loved ones are experiencing memory loss related challenges
- Weekly early literacy experiences coordinated with local day-care providers that happen at the providers' locations
- Tie-ins with the Indian Lake Community meal site and county health department to deliver activities and materials to seniors
- Monthly "Fun Saturdays" that provide multi-generational literacy-based theme experiences for families, for example, the annual "Dinosaur Tea Party"
- Participation in town-wide events, such as Snocade Week in February and the Monarch Festival in June, with coordinated literacy activities for all ages
- Weekly knitting group from which she seeks input from participants about choosing library materials related to their craft
- Monthly "Crafternoons" with activities for teens through seniors, giving the opportunity for intergenerational experiences
- Weekly "Book Buddies" group for preschoolers and their parents/guardians/caretakers to meet up with other young community members for a story & activity time
- Extended summer programming with programs, activities, workshops, and other experiences, both indoors and outdoors, for residents and visitors of all ages
- Partnerships with directors of other rural libraries in the Southern Adirondack Library System for building experiences that mesh with our unique location in New York State
- On-going relationship with the library board, not limited to monthly meetings, that enables open and honest communication to foster the library's continued growth as an essential community entity
- Commitment to the library's dedicated friends group that spends hours fundraising for the library throughout the year, including two book sales each year

The Town of Indian Lake Library is thriving under the leadership of Susan Rollings. As such, it would be a great honor for Susan to be recognized as one of Assemblyman Robert J. Smullen's Women of Distinction.

Thank you for your consideration of this honor.

Town of Indian Lake 9.8.25 * Public Comments and Concerns

Representation of all three Hamlets on Committees and Boards ... how to recruit

At times it takes twisting of arms and even begging to get members of the community to SERVE! Would the Board consider recruiting equal representation from all three hamlets? Does the Town Council believe the community knows the web site publishes tenure of all committee members. A possible suggestion ... in the Town newsletter SEEKING, RECRUITING BOARD MEMBERS and in addition, send a communication to all community associations? <https://indianlakeadk.com/about/officials/>

Minutes and activities of Town Board and Town Committees ... how to publicize

How to inform the community on the actions being taken by the Town Board and committee activities. It is difficult to get members of the community to attend meeting and actually contribute to the voice of the community. Inform the community where the agendas, minutes and attachments are located. <https://indianlakeadk.com/about/meetings/> For instance, inform community members of the valuable resource available to them via the NEWSLETTER. For example, *FLASH.... Minutes available and list the link*. Additionally, the Town Board publishes their minutes, however, the committees do not, any reason? Realizing the Town Council has no authority over the committees, why not ask? ZOOM is the way of the world - may we consider having the Town Board meetings on Zoom? We would be able to have more transparency and may I, suggest more involvement.

OTHER

- Question...what communication method is *preferred* to raise issues to the Town Council...is it only via ****public comments*** at the Board meetings. Is email not to be used to communicate, what is the most effective and expedient given the Town Council is not a fulltime position?

TENURE of Boards and Committees

BOARD OF ASSESSMENT AND REVIEW

Edward Graves Term: 10/01/2021 to 9/30/2025

John Zahray Term: 2/10/2020 to 9/30/2024

Lucino Marques Term: 10/3/23 to 9/30/2028

PLANNING BOARD

Please note: The Planning Board meets the first Wednesday of the month when there is business to conduct.

Irene Hutchins – Secretary

Mary Fraiser Term: 1/1/2024 to 12/31/2023

Aaron Gadway Term: 2/10/2020 to 12/31/2030

Neil Johnson - Chairman Term: 1/1/2019 to 12/31/2025

Justin Moore Term: 1/1/2023 to 12/31/2029

Thomas Riley 1/1/2022 to 12/31/2028

Licinio Marques - Alternate Term: 1/1/2022 to 12/31/2026

LIBRARY BOARD

Beverly Cannan Term: 1/1/2022 to 12/31/2026

Mary Jean Rathbun Term: 1/1/2020 to 12/31/2024

Beth Lomnitzer Term: 1/1/2023 to 12/31/2027

Ben Conboy Term: 1/1/2024 to 12/31/2028

Chelsea Provost Term: 1/1/23 to 12/31/2025

ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS

Irene Hutchins - Secretary

John Hutchins - Chairman Term: 10/1/2021 to 9/30/2026

Donald Liddle Term: 11/15/2022 to 9/30/2027

George Virgil Term: 1/1/2024 to 12/31/2029

Richard Bahlmann Term: 1/1/2024 to 9/30/2028

Darrin Harr Term: 5/13/25 to 12/31/25

TOWN BOARD MEETING ATTENDANCE:

DATE OF MEETING: 9/8/25

<u>NAME:</u>	<u>TITLE:</u>	<u>ADDRESS:</u>
1. Bill LeRadic	MR	IL
2. Pat Mah	MR.	IL
3. Eugene D. H.	NS	BML
4. Ann Zuber	WTS	BML
5. Jacob Wells	Mech	IL
6. B.L. Eldridge		IL
7. C. Pouch	publicist	IL
8. Beverly Cannon		IL
9. Marti Ganojff	BML	→
10. Edna Wells	ILVAC	IL
11. SUSAN ROLLINS	LIBRARY	IL
12. HAROLD Stackhouse		IL
13. Sally Stanton		IL
14. Davanna Marks	chamber	IL
15. Rita Rozboril	land owner	IL
16. Beth Pich	home owner	IL
17. Laura Keller	MS	IL
18. Jennifer Zehner	Library	IL
19. Peggy Eratt	—	Sabael
20. Andy Conay		Blue
21. Kim Buckley		IL
22. Karen Murphy		IL
23. Caroli Wrede		BML
24. Doree Benton		IL
25. C U		IL
26.		
27.		
28.		
29.		