#### Mexico Town Board

## Minutes of the Special Meeting

Held June 26, 2025, at the Town Hall 64 S Jefferson Street Mexico Commencing at 5:30 P.M.

Present: Eric Behling, Supervisor

Russell Partrick, Councilor Hadwin Fravor, Councilor Jeanne Revette, Councilor Nicole Wild, Town Clerk

Absent: vacant, Councilor

Graham Seiter, Town Attorney

And 1 in the audience.

Supervisor Behling opened the special Town Board meeting at 5:34 pm with the Pledge of Allegiance.

The Town Clerk briefly reviewed legal public notification requirements related to the application for funding for WSA #6.

## Resolution 2025-32 Public Hearing for WSA6 CDBG

A motion was made by Councilor Partrick and seconded by Councilor Revette to approve the following resolution. The motion was adopted by a vote of 4 ayes: Behling, Partrick, Fravor, Revette, and 0 nays.

**WHEREAS**, the Town of Mexico intends to apply to the New York State Office of Homes and Community Renewal for funding under the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program for the 2025 program year; and

WHEREAS, the State of New York has announced that up to \$24.2 million is available through the 2025 CDBG Program, with up to \$20 million specifically available for public infrastructure projects; and

**WHEREAS**, the Town of Mexico is considering applying for up to \$2 million in CDBG funds to support Water Service Area #6 design and construction costs.

**WHEREAS**, as part of the application process, the Town of Mexico must hold a public hearing to gather input from citizens, public agencies, and other stakeholders on the proposed CDBG application, community needs, and CDBG funding priorities.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Town of Mexico Board hereby schedules a public hearing to be held on **July 14, 2025**, at the regular Town Board meeting to receive public comments on the Town's proposed CDBG application for Water Service Area #6.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** that the Town Clerk is directed to publish notice of said public hearing in accordance with applicable laws and regulations.

### **Resolution 2025-33 Public Hearing for WSA6 WIIA**

A motion was made by Councilor Revette and seconded by Councilor Fravor to approve the following resolution. The motion was adopted by a vote of 4 ayes: Behling, Partrick, Fravor, Revette, and 0 nays.

WHEREAS, the Town of Mexico intends to apply to the New York State Office of Environmental Facilities Corporation for funding under the Water Infrastructure Improvement and Intermunicipal Water Infrastructure Grants Program for the 2025/26 program year; and

**WHEREAS**, the State of New York has announced that up to \$325 million is available through the 2025 Water Infrastructure Improvement and Intermunicipal Water Infrastructure Grants Program, for public infrastructure projects; and

**WHEREAS** the Town of Mexico is considering applying for up to \$5 million or up to 70 percent of eligible project costs, whichever is less, in Water Infrastructure Improvement and Intermunicipal Water Infrastructure Grants funds to support design and construction costs for Water Service Area #6.

WHEREAS, as part of the application process, the Town of Mexico must hold a public hearing to gather input from citizens, public agencies, and other stakeholders on the proposed Water Infrastructure Improvement and Intermunicipal Water Infrastructure Grants application, community needs, and Water Infrastructure Improvement and Intermunicipal Water Infrastructure Grants funding priorities.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Town of Mexico Board hereby schedules a public hearing to be held on **July 14, 2025**, at the regular Town Board meeting to receive public comments on the Town's proposed Water Infrastructure Improvement and Intermunicipal Water Infrastructure Grants application for Water Service Area #6.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Town Clerk is directed to publish notice of said public hearing in accordance with applicable laws and regulations.

## Resolution 2025-34 Appoint Town Clerk as Fair Housing Officer

A motion was made by Councilor Partrick and seconded by Supervisor Behling to approve the following resolution. The motion was adopted by a vote of 4 ayes: Behling, Partrick, Fravor, Revette, and 0 nays.

**WHEREAS**, the Town of Mexico has a need for a Fair Housing Officer for all community development programs in order to carry out all local town obligations relating to Fair Housing opportunities.

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Town of Mexico Board hereby appoints the Town Clerk as Fair Housing Officer.

Supervisor Behling addressed the importance of agricultural support for the Town of Mexico. The board took time to read a resolution drafted by Attorney Seiter calling on Governor Hochul to veto S.8012/A.8332 related to the assessment of solar and wind energy systems.

# Resolution 2025-35 Request Governor Hochul Veto S.8012/A.8332

A motion was made by Councilor Revette and seconded by Councilor Fravor to approve the following resolution. The motion was adopted by a vote of 4 ayes: Behling, Partrick, Fravor, Revette, and 0 nays.

**WHEREAS**, Senate Bill 8012 (Harckham)/Assembly Bill 8332 (Lasher) would amend the Real Property Tax Law to modify the method for assessing solar and wind energy systems by requiring the use of a discounted cash flow approach; and

**WHEREAS**, the legislation further requires host community benefit payments to be included as expenses, stipulates that federal tax credits be deemed intangible assets and not included in revenue streams, and imposes a standardized formula for determining the assessed value of solar and wind projects; and

WHEREAS, this methodology would result in a significant reduction in the assessed value of large-scale solar and wind installations, thereby diminishing the tax revenue that can be collected by counties and municipalities; and

WHEREAS, often solar and wind energy systems encompass thousands of acres of land, which means municipalities lose a significant portion of tax income due to these projects; and

**WHEREAS**, the last formula adopted by the State for assessing solar and wind energy systems only taxed the systems at a quarter of their worth which shifts the fiscal burden to residents and small businesses; and

**WHEREAS**, as a result, corporations are benefiting at a cost to taxpayers in New York State; and

**WHEREAS**, the cumulative effect of this policy would be to erode the long-term fiscal stability of local governments and unfairly prioritize corporate tax relief over equitable taxation and funding for local services.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,** that this governing body strongly urges Governor Kathy Hochul to veto S.8012/A.8332 in order to preserve the ability of local governments to generate fair and adequate tax revenues from commercial energy developments; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** that copies of this resolution be forwarded to Governor Kathy Hochul, Assemblyman Smullen, Senator Fahy, and the New York State Association of Counties.

A motion was made by Councilor Partrick and seconded by Councilor Revette to adjourn at 5:58pm. The motion was adopted by a vote of 4 ayes: Behling, Partrick, Fravor, Revette, and 0 nays.

Respectfully submitted,

Nicole Wild, Town Clerk