

# Town of Greenville

## PUBLIC HEARING RE: Local Law #2 of 2024 – Authorizing Hybrid Public Meetings February 19<sup>th</sup>, 2024 6:45pm

A Public Hearing was held by the Town Board of the Town of Greenville on January 15<sup>th</sup>, 2024 at 6:45 pm at Pioneer Hall regarding the adoption of Local Law #2 of 2024: Authorizing Hybrid Public Meetings.

Four members of the Board were present, Supervisor Bensen was absent. Town Attorney Tal Rappleyea, Highway Superintendent Mike Dudley and five guests were present.

***This Public Hearing was advertised in the Town's official newspaper, The Catskill Daily Mail on, February 9<sup>th</sup>, 2024.***

At 6:45 pm Deputy Supervisor Macko started the Public Hearing with the Pledge of Allegiance.

*Councilman Bear motioned, seconded by Councilman VonAtzingen to open the Public Hearing for public remark on the adoption of Local Law #2 of 2024: Authorizing Hybrid Public Meetings. Carried 4 ayes*

Supervisor Macko explained that the ability to host hybrid public meetings would be beneficial for all Boards but especially the ZBA as there are many people on the ZBA who travel for the colder months.

Town Attorney Tal Rappleyea explained the basics of the law highlighting that a quorum is still required to be physically present and that Board members are able to vote from calling/videoing in.

***Deputy Supervisor Macko called upon the hearing three times for any further questions/comments/concerns.***

*Councilman Bear motioned, seconded by Councilman VonAtzingen to close the Public Hearing at 6:49pm  
Carried 4 ayes*

*Councilman VonAtzingen motioned, seconded by Councilman Bear to confirm that this law will not have any negative or significant impact on the environment. Carried 4 ayes*

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*Councilman VonAtzingen motioned seconded by Councilman Bear to adopt the following:*

**TOWN OF GREENVILLE  
LOCAL LAW #2 OF 2024  
HYBRID PUBLIC MEETINGS**

**BE IT ENACTED BY THE TOWN BOARD OF THE TOWN OF GREENVILLE**

**SECTION 1:** A local law: Authorizing the Town of Greenville to continue holding hybrid public meetings.

Pursuant to the amendment to the Open Meetings Law, beginning on July 17, 2022, the Town of Greenville may continue holding Hybrid Public Meetings, permitting members of the Town Board, Planning Board, and Zoning Board of Appeals to appear virtually, under the following circumstances:

- A. The Town Board(s) of the Town of Greenville must meet in person at a physical location open to the public with a minimum number of members present to fulfill the Board's quorum requirement.
- B. Members of the Town Board(s) may attend meetings virtually due to extraordinary circumstances; however, those members attending virtually may not count towards a quorum but may participate and vote. A quorum shall only be met by in-person member attendance.
- C. Extraordinary Circumstances shall be defined as: disability, illness, caregiving responsibilities, or any other significant or unexpected factor or event which precludes the member's physical attendance at such meeting.
- D. The Town Supervisor shall retain discretion over permitted extraordinary circumstances for meetings of the Town Board(s).
- E. The meeting minutes must identify which, if any, Board members are participating remotely.
- F. Members of the public will be allowed to attend, observe and participate where public comment or participation is authorized at the available location and virtually.
- G. All meetings conducted by videoconferencing will be done in such a manner that members of the Board can be heard, seen, and identified.
- H. Each meeting conducted using videoconferencing shall be recorded and such recordings posted or linked on the public website of the Board within five (5) business days following the meeting and shall remain so available for a minimum of five (5) years thereafter.
- I. The in person participation requirements of the law shall not apply during a state disaster emergency declared by the Governor or when a local state of emergency is declared by the Board of Supervisors Chairman if it is determined that the circumstances necessitate the emergency declaration would affect or impair the ability for the public body to hold an in person meeting.

**Section 2:** This local law shall take effect immediately upon filing in the office of the Secretary of State.

**VOTING:**

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	AYE	NAY	ABSENT/OTHER
SUPERVISOR BENSEN		X	
COUNCILMAN BEAR	X		
COUNCILMAN MACKO	X		
COUNCILMAN VONATZINGEN	X		
COUNCILMAN RICHARDS	X		

CARRIED

*At 6:51 pm Councilman VonAtzingen motioned, seconded by Councilman Bear to close proceedings.*

\_\_\_\_\_  
Jessica K. Lewis, Town Clerk-Collector

\_\_\_\_\_ Deputy Supervisor Macko  
\_\_\_\_\_ Councilman Bear  
\_\_\_\_\_ Councilman VonAtzingen  
\_\_\_\_\_ Councilman Richards