**SPECIAL TOWN MEETING, TOWN OF COLUMBUS, Aug. 25, 2025**

A Special Meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Columbus, County of Chenango

and the State of New York was held at the Town Courtroom, 4340 State Hwy 80 in Columbus on

**Aug. 25, 2025** regarding the 2026 Budget.

Meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm by Diane Scalzo, Supervisor, with the Pledge of Allegiance; and the Clerk called the roll.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Diane Scalzo Supervisor

Jane Prohaska Board Member

Judith Lowe Board Member

Gretchen Robinson Board Member

ABSENT: Alexis Wilcox Board Member

ALSO PRESENT: Elizabeth Vermeulen Town Clerk

Budget Preparation Calendar was reviewed and discussed.

Reviewed and discussed the Tentative 2026 Budget.

Discussed the current EMS situation, since the governor has still not signed into law the bill which would exempt EMS from the property tax cap.

Discussed Chobani’s previous PILOT program, their $35,000 annual payment which will expire in 2 years, and their two current projects which are both tax exempt by law.

Gretchen made a motion, which was seconded by Jane, to approve the Tentative Budget.

All Ayes. None opposed. Motion passed.

Gretchen made a motion to hold a Public Hearing on the Tentative Budget at 6PM before our Sept. 11, 2025 Town Board meeting. Jane seconded the motion.

All Ayes. None opposed. Motion passed.

Gretchen made a motion, which was seconded by Jane to adjourn the meeting.

All Ayes.

Meeting was adjourned at 6:54 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Elizabeth Vermeulen, Town Clerk

NOTE: The Audible recording of the Town Board meeting is available from the Town Clerk as a FOIL request.