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TOWN OF JAY

Climate Smart Task Force

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Climate Smart Community Task Force

Meeting Minutes

September 30, 2026 @ 6:00 pm

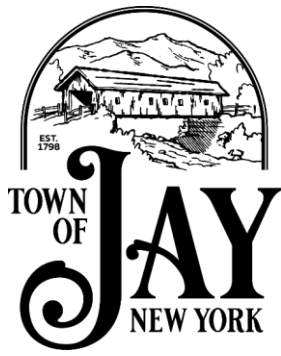
Community Center Au Sable Forks and Virtually

Attendees

Virtual: Tyler Eaton, Olivia Dwyer, Robin Licari, Eva Hoskin and Jennifer Manierre

In Person: Caroline Dodd, Wally Walters, Greg Zais, and Knut Sauer

- A. Minutes from July 7, 2026, meeting were approved. Motion by Wally, second by Olivis all in favor.
- B. Guest speakers Eva Hoskin, Climate Action Associates and Jennifer Manierre, NYSEDA, made a presentation on Battery Energy Storage (BESS), covering a wide range of topics/issue and NY State goals etc. Presentation was quite engaging and very information. Q&A session followed with many questions and discussions. Lots to learn about BESS, and lots of educational outreach needs to be done to dispel some myths etc. Presentation was recorded and available on the town website.
- C. Introduction of Caroline Dodd, NYSEDA Climate Smart Communities Coordinator, who replaced Carlie. Caroline has been with ANCA for about a year, and in the current role since May. ANCA is currently doing some research trying to identify what municipalities have done so far in terms of BESS (moratorium, passed local laws, bans, etc.). They are also preparing a survey for elected officials to gather feedback, and organizing a workshop in the late fall for municipalities and fire officers on BESS. They are trying to become experts on BESS and increase their outreach. Caroline also advised they are looking for a county to work with ANCA on a Climate Action Plan (CAP), but if a county is not available perhaps a smaller municipality. The Town of Jay would be interested in doing one.
- D. Updates on initiatives.
 - 1. EV Chargers (Jay and Upper Jay): Project Complete-being closed out with DEC, except ongoing electricity usage until funds run out.
 - 2. EV Chargers Au Sable Forks: Contract due to us very soon as per DEC.
 - 3. Compost pilot program: 32 gallon bins and countertop buckets have been ordered. Signage has been created and is on order. Rivervalley Regeneratives are working on the training and



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community outreach plan. RFQ for 40' container has been sent out, and a planning meeting with highway was held for site prep.

4. NY State Energy Efficiency & Conservation Block Grant: Bid has been publicized, and outreach to numerous potential contractors made, hoping we will get some bid by the deadline.
5. Complete Streets Policy grant application, working on budget and work plan. Town will try to maximize its share through in-kind, primarily doing a complete audit of existing streets and paths, and hold community input/open house meetings. Utilizing both volunteers and town staff for that purpose. Balance will be funded by the Town, ideally if possible/allowed utilizing Occupancy tax funds. There is quite a lot of overlap in with the Complete Streets policy and our Parks and Rec committee, and the current RERC initiative.
6. Olivia shared a recap of the recent RERC Community Welcome Event, which was very successful.

E. Wally Walters gave an update on the status of the Town of Jay Comprehensive Plan, the first draft of 300 pages is complete. A community open house will be held on October 22 at 5pm.

F. Next Meeting will be in November, as October is an extremely busy month. Date to be determined.

Meeting adjourned around 7:40 pm