

**VILLAGE OF HEUVELTON**  
**Special Joint Board Meeting**  
**October 7, 2025**

At 6:00 pm, Mayor Lashua called the meeting to order, she opened the meeting with the pledge of allegiance. Trustees in attendance were Trustee M. Hebert, Trustee E. Wood, and Trustee C. Basford. Council members in attendance were Nichols, Wilson, Stoner, B. LaRose and L. LaRose. Also in attendance were V. Thornhill, B. Dashnaw, T. Wood and T. Harris.

Mayor Lashua took a motion from Tr. Basford, seconded by Tr. Wood to open the public hearing to form a fire district.

Supervisor Nichols took a motion from Cm. Wilson, seconded by Cm. Stoner to open the public hearing for the dissolution of the fire protection district.

No one from the public had comment.

Mayor Lashua took a motion from Tr. Basford, seconded by Tr. Wood, to close the public hearing.

Supervisor Nichols took a motion from Cm. L. LaRose, seconded by Cm. Wilson to close the public hearing.

There was discussion on taxable assessed value of the Town and numbers that could be used to plan for a fire district budget.

**Resolution 25-107                    JOINT RESOLUTION TO FORM A JOINT FIRE DISTRICT**

Offered by Tr. Hebert seconded by Mayor Lashua. All in favor

WHEREAS, the Town Board of the Town of Oswegatchie and the Board of Trustees of the Village of Heuvelton having duly convened on the 7<sup>th</sup> day of October, 2025, in joint session for the purpose of jointly considering the formation of a joint fire district, to be called the "Heuvelton Volunteer Fire District", pursuant to the provisions of section 189-a of the Town Law and section 22-2210 of the Village Law; and

WHEREAS, such joint fire district would include all of that portion of the Town of Oswegatchie, including the Village of Heuvelton, but excluding that portion of the Town of Oswegatchie which includes the Morristown Fire District; and

WHEREAS, the Town Board of the Town of Oswegatchie and the Board of Trustees of the Village of Heuvelton have caused Notice of a Joint Public Hearing to be published in the Watertown Daily Times on September 25, 2025; and

WHEREAS, the Town Board of the Town of Oswegatchie and the Board of Trustees of the Village of Heuvelton have caused Notice of a Joint Public Hearing to be posted in five (5) public places within the fire protection districts within the Town of Oswegatchie's (sole) Fire Protection District and five (5) public places within the Village of Heuvelton for at least ten (10) days; and

WHEREAS, the Town Clerk for the Town of Oswegatchie and the Village Clerk for the Village of Heuvelton gave Notice of the Joint Public Hearing to each of the members of their respective governing bodies, at least ten days in advance of the Joint Public Hearing; and

WHEREAS, the Town Board of the Town of Oswegatchie and the Board of Trustees of the Village of Heuvelton held a joint public hearing on the 7<sup>th</sup> day of October, 2025 at 6 p.m. at the Oswegatchie Town Hall, located at 51 State Street, Heuvelton, New York, at which time the Boards heard all those wishing to be heard on the question of the formation of said joint fire district; and

WHEREAS, the creation of the Heuvelton Volunteer District is agreed to be contingent upon the dissolution of the Fire Protection District in the Town of Oswegatchie; and

WHEREAS, said Town Board and Board of Trustees have considered the evidence and objections presented at said public hearing.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED AND ORDERED, that, it is in the public interest to form the said Heuvelton Volunteer Fire District, that all property, property owners and interested persons in the proposed joint fire district are benefitted thereby, all property and property owners benefitted are included therein, and only such property and property owners as are benefitted shall be included therein, and that said joint fire district be, and hereby is formed and established subject to permissive referendum as provided in sections 90 and 189-a of the Town Law, and

IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED, that joint fire district shall include all of that portion of the Town of Oswegatchie, including the Village of Heuvelton, but excluding that portion of the Town of Oswegatchie which includes the Morristown Fire District;

IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED, that subject to the provisions of section 189-e of the Town Law, the property and affairs of the Heuvelton Volunteer Fire District shall be under the management and control of an elected board of five (5) fire commissioners, elected each year by the voters of the District, pursuant to Article 11 of the Town Law, but whose initial appointments shall be for the terms set forth in section 189-e of the Town Law; and

IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED, that pursuant to section 189-e of the Town Law, the Town Board of the Town of Oswegatchie, after consultation with the Village Board of the Village of

Heuvelton, hereby will appoint five (5) persons as the initial commissioners at a later session. If known now, those persons shall be: **UNKNOWN**

IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Heuvelton Volunteer Fire District shall have all the powers enumerated in Article 11 of the Town Law, Section 176, including but not limited to the power to acquire or purchase easements or property, both real and personal, as well as dispose of easements or property, both real and personal, without any further approval of the boards of the Town of Oswegatchie and the Village of Heuvelton; and

IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED, that subject to the provisions of section 189-g of the Town Law, there shall be a treasurer appointed by the Board of Fire Commissioners annually; and that the first such Treasurer, if known now, shall be: **UNKNOWN**

IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED, that the creation of the Heuvelton Volunteer Fire District is contingent upon the dissolution of the Town of Oswegatchie's Fire Protection District, and

IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED, that upon the passage of the time for a permissive referendum as provided in sections 90 and 189-a of the Town Law, the Town Board for the Town of Oswegatchie and the Board of Trustees of the Village of Heuvelton shall meet to pass resolutions related to the confirmation of the initial appointment of five fire commissioners who shall be hereafter elected pursuant to Article 11 of the Town Law, the transfer of firefighting assets of the Village of Heuvelton to the Heuvelton Volunteer Fire District and the transfer of funds, related to the provision of fire protection, from the Towns of Oswegatchie and the Village of Heuvelton; and

**IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED THAT THE EFFECTIVE DATE OF THE FORMATION OF THE FIRE DISTRICT SHALL BE ON THE 1st DAY OF FEBRUARY, 2026.**

The Town passed a dissolution resolution.

There was discussion on commissioners and options. Both Boards agreed to meet November 3<sup>rd</sup> at 6pm

Motion to adjourn made by Tr. Basford second by Cm. L. LaRose at 6:25. All agreed.

Respectfully submitted,

Rebecca Donnelly  
Village Clerk