

REGULAR MEETING – ATHENS TOWN BOARD

May 19, 2025

The regular meeting of the Athens Town Board was called to order on May 19, 2025 by Supervisor Michael Pirrone at 6:00pm and was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag. The meeting was held at the Athens Municipal Building, 2 First St.

The following Board members were present: Supervisor Michael Pirrone, Council Members Tami Bone, Anthony Paluch and Becky Pine. Absent: Karen Haas.

The following Town Officers were present: Town Clerk Phyllis Dinkelacker, Deputy Supervisor Gail Lasher, Highway Superintendent John J. Farrell, Code Enforcement Officer Albert Gasparini and Town Attorney George McHugh.

The following people were in attendance: Michael Campbell and Susan Brady.

VOUCHERS

The following bills were audited by the Board and ordered to be paid.

<u>General 2025 Abstract # 09</u>	Vouchers	#189 – 212	\$187,823.39
<u>Highway 2025 Abstract # 09</u>	Vouchers	#070 - 075	\$ 16,230.69

The minutes from: April 21, 2025 were distributed to the Town Board.

A Motion was made by Paluch and second by Pine to accept the April 21st minutes.

Motion carried: Ayes – 4 (Bone, Paluch, Pine and Pirrone), No's – 0, Absent/Abstain – 1(Haas).

DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

HIGHWAY SUPERINTENDENT – John Farrell see attached.

A motion was made to purchase the plow from Toad's for \$21,700.00. Motion by Pine and seconded by Bone.

Motion carried: Ayes – 4 (Bone, Paluch, Pine and Pirrone), No's – 0, Absent/Abstain – 1(Haas).

The Road agreement for 2025 has already been approved. But there may be some money left over and if so, may change the Road agreement to add some work to it. Will bring it back to the Board once confirmed.

Historian – Sara Dunlop see attached.

CODE ENFORCEMENT – Albert Gasparini See attached.

Discussion on the Code fee schedule that was approved April 7, 2025.

ASSESSOR – Ms. Dawn DeRose. See attached.

TOWN SUPERVISOR – Supervisor's report see attached.

Supervisor Report: Legal Items

-FreePoint Solar, LLC. et al. v. Town of Athens Zoning Board of Appeals. Appellate Division, Third Dept.-Case/Docket No.:CV-24-0711.

Special Counsel Dreyer Boyajian (John Dowd, Esq., Of Counsel) applied to the Appellate Division asking them to refer the Freepoint Solar decision to the Court of Appeals for their review and deliberation. If application is not granted, the Appellate Division decision stands & Freepoint Solar will have the ability to proceed to the Planning Board for Site Plan review.

The latest unconfirmed information from April 29, 2025 is that the Application is on Page 4, Court's Open List.

Supervisor Pirrone reported that he met with John Dowd and representatives from Freepoint. They wanted to know what the Town's attention was if their application was granted. He advised them the town would go forward and ask for a review of the decision.

Freepoint also mentioned that when they met with the ZBA (Zoning Board of Appeals) they were given a negative SEQRA, which means that there would not be a negative impact if Freepoint was to move forward.

-Town Attorney McHugh-Town Board legal update & explanations.

Supervisor Report: General Items.

-Peckham, Schoharie Turnpike odor issues. The Supervisor continues to aid in the resolution of this issue, initiating on August 14, 2023 and continuing into the present day, Tuesday, May 13, 2025, 3:29 AM. Peckham managers responded with information & kept us in the loop. Constructive conversations, questions & answers are always welcomed.

Discussion: Board member Pine stated that contacted Peckham twice last week when there was a smell present in the morning. Peckham reported back at both times they were loading trucks with their product.

Pine suggested that if this was the situation it appears to be a human issue and what are they going to do about it?

-Greene County Ambulance Review Study Meeting will be on Wednesday, June 11, 2025.

Discussion: Board member Bone stated that she is in favor of new/stronger ambulance service: We have an aging population, tourist destination, opioid crisis, and NO ambulance. We need a strong ambulance service.

Pine: asked how we would show the town's support for the ambulance service? Pirrone: What would like to do? Wait until they have better numbers of the cost? Go forward as it stands now?

John Farrell: he suggested that before the Board makes a decision to go through the paperwork that has been distributed.

-Greene – Columbia NYS Dept. of State Training, June 10, 2025. Open to all.

-Judge Pazin 40th Anniversary of Service. Town Honorarium recognition.

-Green Lake Resort, Planned Unit Development Project: No additional information.

-NYSDOT, Region One, Culvert Project, Route 385, Corlaer Kill, 2026 year.

New Business:

Greene county has reached out to Supervisor Pirrone to see if the Town of Athens would be interested in obtaining ownership of the Athens Senior Center. Supervisor Pirrone to get more information and report back to the board.

Old Business Issues:

Supervisor Pirrone reported that he has reached out to Adam Yagelski, from Delaware Engineering, to let him know that we want to move forward with the local law for B.E.S.S. Adam was sent the last paperwork we have regarding the BESS local law. Adam suggested that he should make a few changes and will report back to the Board.

Town Council Concerns:

Board member Pine reported on the walkthrough they had with the village and Lamont (Jason) engineering regarding the lift that is to be installed. Jason said the best place for the lift would be behind the building; the fuel tanks would have to be removed. More information to follow,

Public Concerns: none

Community Information: all dates are subject to change.

- May 20: Cocksackie-Athens School Budget& Board Election. EJ Arthur School.
- May 22: Town Planning Board Meeting. Municipal Building.
- May 26: Memorial Day. Town Offices Closed.
- Jun 2: Town Board Meeting. Municipal Building.
- Jun 10: NYS-Greene & Columbia Counties Training by Registration.
- Jun 11: Zoning Board of Appeal Meeting. Municipal Building.
- Jun 11: Greene county EMS
- Jun 14: Flag Day.
- Jun 14: Athens Community Day. Riverside Park.
- Jun 15: Father's Day.
- Jun 16: Town Board Meeting. Municipal Building.
- Jun 26: Town Planning Board Meeting. Municipal Building.
- Jul 4: Independence Day. Town Offices Closed.
- Jul 7: Town Board Meeting. Municipal Building.
- Jul 9: Zoning Board of Appeal Meeting. Municipal Building.
- Jul 21: Town Board Meeting. Municipal Building.
- Jul 24: Town Planning Board Meeting. Municipal Building.

Motion By Paluch and 2nd By Pine., to adjourn the meeting at 7:08 pm.

Motion carried: Ayes – 4 (Bone, Paluch, Pine and Pirrone), No's – 0, Absent/Abstain – 1(Haas).

Respectfully submitted,

Phyllis Dinkelacker
Town Clerk

5/19/2025 1:54 PM

**Town of Athens, NY & Town Council Meeting
Municipal Building, 2 First Street**

Michael N. Pirrone, Supervisor, Presiding.

Agenda, Monday, May 19, 2025 @ 6:00pm

Please Sign In, No Sign in-Not Included in Minutes.

- **CALL to ORDER. PLEDGE of ALLEGIENCE.**

- **VOUCHERS: To Approve the Vouchers audited by the Town Board for payment.**
Motion By _____ 2nd By _____ AIF
EXCEPTIONS NOTED:

- **PRIOR MEETING MINUTES: To Approve the Minutes of the Meeting of April 21 and May 5, 2025.**
Motion By _____ 2nd By _____ AIF
EXCEPTIONS NOTED:
 - **Highway Superintendent: Report Attached.**
 - **Historian: Report Attached.**
 - **Assessor: Report Attached.**
 - **Code Enforcement Officer: Report Attached.**
 - **Supervisor's Report: Report Attached.**

Supervisor Report: Legal Items

1. **FreePoint Solar, LLC. et al. v. Town of Athens Zoning Board of Appeals.**
Appellate Division, Third Dept.-Case/Docket No.:CV-24-0711.
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2. Town Attorney McHugh-Town Board legal update & explanations.

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- A. Peckham, Schoharie Turnpike odor issues. The Supervisor continues to aid in the resolution of this issue, initiating on August 14, 2023 and continuing into the present day, Tuesday, May 13, 2025, 3:29 AM. Peckham managers responded with information & kept us apprized. Constructive conversations, questions & answers are always welcomed.**
- B. Greene County Ambulance Review Study Meeting will be Wednesday, June 11, 2025.**
- C. Greene – Columbia NYS Dept. of State Training, June 10, 2025. Open to all.**
- D. Judge Pazin 40th Anniversary of Service. Town Honorarium recognition.**
- E. Green Lake Resort, Planned Unit Development Project: No additional information.**
- F. NYSDOT, Region One, Culvert Project, Route 385, Corlaer Kill, 2026 year.**

New Business:

Code Review Committee items for discussion.

Town Action:

Motion By 2nd By AIF

EXCEPTION NOTED:

Battery Energy Storage System items for discussion.

Town Action:

Motion By 2nd By AIF

EXCEPTION NOTED:

Building Code Permits and related charges items for discussion.

Town Action:

Motion By 2nd By AIF

EXCEPTION NOTED:

Motion By 2nd By AIF

EXCEPTION NOTED:

Old Business Issues:

Town Council Concerns:

Public Concerns:

- **Town Action: Move to Executive Session**
Motion By 2nd By AIF

EXCEPTION NOTED:

- **Town Action: To Adjourn from Executive Session.**
Motion By 2nd By AIF

EXCEPTION NOTED:

- **Town Action: To Reconvene Regular Session.**
Motion By 2nd By AIF

EXCEPTION NOTED:

Community Information: All Dates Subjected to Change.

- **May 20: Coxsackie-Athens School Budget& Board Election. EJ Arthur School.**
- **May 22: Town Planning Board Meeting. Municipal Building.**
- **May 26: Memorial Day. Town Offices Closed.**
- **Jun 2: Town Board Meeting. Municipal Building.**
- **Jun 10: NYS-Greene & Columbia Counties Training by Registration.**
- **Jun 11: Zoning Board of Appeal Meeting. Municipal Building.**
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- **Jun 26: Town Planning Board Meeting. Municipal Building.**

- Jul 4: Independence Day. Town Offices Closed.
- Jul 7: Town Board Meeting. Municipal Building.
- Jul 9: Zoning Board of Appeal Meeting. Municipal Building.
- Jul 12: Athens Street Festival.
- Jul 21: Town Board Meeting. Municipal Building.
- Jul 24: Town Planning Board Meeting. Municipal Building.

Town Action: Move to Adjourn,
Motion By

2nd By

AIF

TOWN OF ATHENS

Building Department

Report for March 2025

Building Permits: 3

- 43 High Hill Road, Install New Shingles
- 88 Whitney Point, Single Family Home 2008 Sq. Ft. \$ 616,000.00
- 119 Potic Mountain Road, Install New Shingles

Building Inspections: 14 –

Building Permit Inquiries For: Residential Solar Panels, Garage, Building New House, House Renovations, Additions, Decks.

Certificate of Occupancy:

Temporary Certificate of Occupancy:

Certificate of Compliance:

Certificate of Occupancy Search Request: 6

Complaints:

Demolition Permits: 1, 72 Old Green Lake Road, Removal of Manufactured Home

Septic Permit:

Sign Permits:

Short Term Rental Certificates:

Fire / 911 Calls: -

Fireworks Permit: 1, Annual Sleepy Hollow Lake, celebration at Greensburg Ct.

Violations Notes: Property owner of 51 Old Travis Road did not appear to court appearance on Thursday 3/20/2025. The property owner appeared at Town Court Wednesday May 14, 2025 and charges were stated. **Next scheduled court date is Thursday June 12, 2025.**

*VOL25-1, 116 Junkyards, Section 116-2- Motor Vehicle Junkyard. *VOL25-2, Chapter 121. Littering, Section 121- LITTER: Garbage, refuse and rubbish, as defined herein, and all other waste material, including used appliances and auto parts. *VOL25-3. Chapter 180 Zoning, Section 180-9 Prohibited uses. 7 commercial equip.

Note:

- The **Stop Work Order** issued on 3/31/2025 was lifted on 4/25/2025 for the New Firehouse located at 921 Schoharie Turnpike.
- **Notice to Stop Backfilling of Foundation** was issued on 4/21/2025 for New House Foundation located at 270 Green Lake Road. A plastic membrane (Hard Sheathing) was installed on the exterior part of the foundation which was not in the submitted engineered plans. Notice was lifted on 4/23/2025 after receiving letter of approval for the plastic membrane installation from Engineer.

TOWN OF ATHENS
Assessor's Monthly Report May 2025

Our office has received and processed the following:

- Village Permits/CO/CC: 0 (Received from V-CEO)
- Town Permits/CO/CC: 5 (Received from T-CEO)
- Village Deeds via parcels: 7 (Received from RPTS-County)
- Town Deeds via parcels: 25 (Received from RPTS-County)
- Village Map Revisions: 0 (Received from RPTS-County)
- Town Map Revisions: 0 (Received from RPTS-County)
- Village E-911 number Revision: 0 (Received from RPTS-County)
- Town E-911 number Revision: 1 (Received from RPTS-County)
- Village GIS Coordinates 0 (Received from RPTS-County)
- Town GIS Coordinates 0 (Received from RPTS-County)

There were 7 sales received for the Village, all with conditions

There were 25 sales received for the Town, ranging from 130,000 to 565,000, still supporting the current assessments (noting 14 deeds have conditions are not part of the statistics)

We have mailed: Change of Assessment notices; Pro-rata/Omit notices; exemption removal letters out to those property owners effected

We have received notice from NYST&F, that Greene County is moving from the Southern Region to the Northern Region and Karen Quinn has been designated to assist with the transition

We are continuing to update our files, adding pictures, verifying data, filing, collecting data

Otherwise, conducting business as usual, Thank you.

Dawn DeRose
Assessor

Town of Athens HWY.

Report for 5/19/2025

- Town cleanup day went well
- The highway crew took the UDIG NY certified excavator training class
- Blacktop patched on Schoharie TPK
- The crew has been mowing the roadside and trimming by guardrail
- Put new rear brakes on unit# 3 1998 international following its NYS inspection
- All trucks got NYS inspections
- Crack filled Flats Road Ext., Valley Rd. & South Vosenkill Rd. with Gorman
- 3 trucks hauled stone for a half a day for village
- We had 3 meetings with RMT team building out our program, everything is going well
- #1 & #4 went to R.C. Lacy's Ford for oil changes
- order plow and sander for new truck from Toads LLC

Toad's LLC
893 Main Street
Cairo, NY 12413
518-622-9772
Toads@Verizon.net

5/7/25

Town of Athens Highway for new F600 dump truck

1) Fisher XV2 Stainless 10.5 V-plow	\$10500.00
LED headlight upgrade	\$400.00
10" Rubber Foil	\$350.00
Cast shoe kit	\$200.00
1) Fisher 4 yard Tempest stainless Sander	\$9800.00
70" spill guard kit	\$1050.00
Work light pair	\$250.00
Led Strobe pair	\$250.00
	Total \$22800.00
Municipal discount	-\$1100.00
	Final \$21700.00



Henderson Truck Equipment-New York
22686 Fisher Road
Watertown, NY 13601

Toll Free: 888-895-2446
Phone: 315-785-0994
Fax: 315-785-0146

Quotation

Date: 5/7/25
To: Town of Athens Highway Department
By: Tim Plante
Re: Fisher Plow and Spreader

Henderson Truck Equipment-NY is pleased to quote the following equipment:

1 Fisher XV2 Stainless Steel 10.5 V Plow

LED HEADLIGHT
10 Rubber Deflector
Cast Shoe Kit

1 Fisher 4 yd Tempest Stainless Steel Sander

70" Spill Guard
2 Work Lights
2 LED Strobe

Customer Supplied Chassis all transportation to be done by customer if Henderson handles transportation back and forth from facility and additional \$750 fee will incur.

Price per Unit:	\$21,750.00
Number of Units	1
Extended Price	\$21,750.00
Tax	NA
Total Quote Price	\$21,750.00

FOB Watertown, NY

Please note the following regarding installation quotes:

A clean truck frame without obstruction is assumed in the pricing of our quote. Re-positioning of air tanks, fuel tanks or other obstacles to the ease of installation may require additional charges. Henderson will notify you before modification if this occurs.



T&T SALES INC.
 411 OLD NISKAYUNA ROAD
 LATHAM, NY 12110
 PHONE: 618.785.5591
 EMAIL: SALES@TNTBODYKING.COM

Quote

#Q2605

5/19/2025

CUSTOMER INFO:

TOWN OF ATHENS
 2 1ST ST
 HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT
 ATHENS NY 12015
 United States

\$22,912.00

EXPIRES: 7/18/2025

SALES REP	REFERENCE	YEAR	MAKE	MODEL	GVW
DANIEL R RADTKE					

Item	Unit Price	Total Amount
WE ARE PLEASED TO SUBMIT A QUOTE FOR THE FOLLOWING EQUIPMENT:	\$0.00	\$11650.00

FURNISH AND INSTALL

- FISHER 10'6" XV2 S/S SNOWPLOW
- HANDHELD CONTROLLER
- LED PLOW LIGHTS
- RUBBER DEFLECTOR
- SHOE KIT

- FISHER 4.0 S/S TEMPEST SANDER	\$0.00	\$11262.00
- DUAL CIRCUIT ELECTRIC SPREADER		
- INDEPENDENT VARIABLE SPEED CONTROLS		
- TOP SCREENS		
- INVERTED V KIT		
- STROBE LIGHT KIT		
- 70" SPILL GUARD KIT		
- PRIMARY & SECONDARY WORK LIGHT KIT		
- HOLD DOWN KIT		

IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, PLEASE FEEL FREE TO GIVE ME A CALL. THANK YOU FOR THE OPPORTUNITY TO QUOTE YOU ON THIS EQUIPMENT.	\$0.00	INCLUDED
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Prices may not reflect any applicable federal or state taxes. All special orders may require a non-refundable deposit. Due to supplier price changes and (or) product availability, this quote is subject to change at any time. Giving your approval assumes agreement to these terms.

TOTAL LESS TAX	\$22,912.00
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Customer Signature: _____



Q2605



TOWN of ATHENS
2 First Street
Athens, NY 12015

OFFICE of the SUPERVISOR
Michael N. Pirrone

Supervisor's Report Month of April 2025

Pursuant to Section 119 of the Town Law, I hereby render the following detailed statement of all funds received & disbursed by Supervisor Michael N. Pirrone, the Chief Executive/Financial Officer for the Town of Athens.

FUNDS:

- A General Townwide.
- B General Outside Village
- C Highway Townwide
- D Highway Outside Village

Michael N. Pirrone, Supervisor
May 19, 2025

Monday, May 19, 2025

**Town of Athens
Operational Narrative
April 2025**

- 1. Financial activity through April 2025 has been posted to the General Ledger.**
- 2. Time Reports are monitored, reviewed, and submitted for processing.**
- 3. Accounts Payable activity is coded, processed & paid as of April 2025.**
- 4. All Operating & Reserve Bank statements are being reconciled on a routine schedule.**
- 5. The monthly Retirement Report is being prepared & filed.**
- 6. Adapting previous schedules, forms & information to aid in preparation.**

Sarah Dunlap

Athens Town Historian

Since January, 2025, I have used multiple resources to collect data pertaining to the town of Athens NY.

They are as follows:

- Lynn J. Brunner's Book 1776-1976 Athens It's people and industry.
- Green County & Village of Athens Historian- Johnathan Palmer.
- Former NYS Archeologists- Robert E. Funk & Arthur C. Parker.
- Current NYS Historian- Devin Lander
- Vedder Research Library.
- Jefferson Hall Special Archive and Collections

West Point.

- Stockbridge Munsee Community Wisconsin
- New York State Museum curator Dr. Jon Lothrop
- Athenians

These resources were able to give me immense historical data pertaining to the town of Athens 12,500 years ago to Present day. For practical purposes I'm focusing on sites that are not in the current narrative. The West Athens Hill site, according to Robert E. Funk, is the most promising site for yielding data pertaining to the Paleolithic era. The public's outcry to preserve the site in the 1920s forced NYS to legally obtain funding to preserve the site by building a park. Funding is still on record. The Plans were never approved, and auspicious methods of preservations were clearly carried out.

Archeological excavations of the West Athens Hill were conducted by Robert E. Funk in 1963/64. In his report we can gain a wealth of information regarding how the quarry workshop operated and how Paleolithic natives lived. Further examination of archeological records revealed Kings Road, Black Rock, Four Mile, and the West Athens Hill played pivotal roles for the survival of humans habituating Athens at that time.

In this very area (West Athens Hill & Flint Mine Hill) Paleolithic humans created the largest quarries in the NORTHEAST! They were thriving during the most frigid climates to date!

The Town & Village have HIGHLY significant PALEOLITHIC, LATE & MIDDLE WOODLAND period sites. IN REFERENCE TO Executive Law 171s (8) which is posted for public view. I've seen burial mounds & graves of ALL buried here in this beautiful town. Respectively there are plenty more that are unrecorded. For thousands of years people have enjoyed Athens and all her glory. I'm very proud to represent the town as the historian. Anyone interested in contacting me may do so.

(845)663-8190

Determined2424@gmail.com

Warmest regards

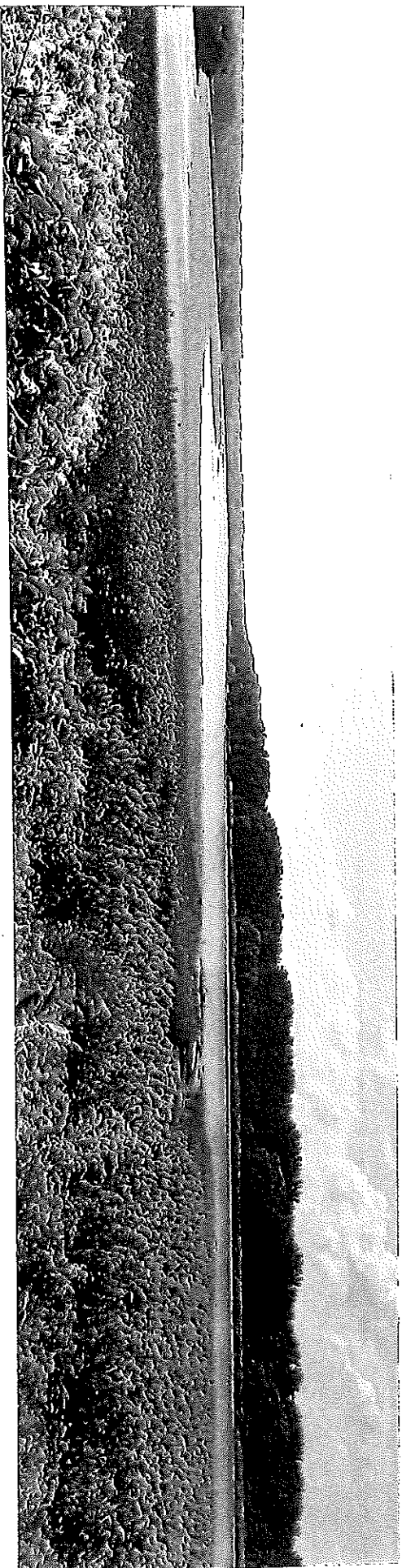
Sarah Dunlap

Sarah Dunlap

Athens Town Historian

New York State

UNMARKED BURIAL SITE PROTECTION ACT



WHAT IS IT?

- The Unmarked Burial Site Protection Act of 2023 establishes a process for the discovery of human remains and funerary objects from unmarked graves (Executive Law § 171).
- Unmarked Native American burial sites are the responsibility of the Native American Burial Site Review Committee pursuant to the statute.
- Non-Native American burial sites are the responsibility of the State Archaeologist.
- Disposition is determined in consultation with lineal descendants or culturally-affiliated groups and the property owner.
- Human remains and objects may only be handled or removed by a professional archaeologist or the State Archaeologist.
- Criminal penalties apply in the event of noncompliance.

WHAT TO DO WHEN HUMAN REMAINS ARE FOUND:

Immediately Stop all activity that could disturb the site. Notify the coroner or medical examiner immediately by calling 911. Limit public access to the site and do not allow photographs.

Within 4 days The coroner or medical examiner is mandated to notify the State Archaeologist within 96 hours if the remains are more than 50 years old. Upon receipt of such notification, the State Archaeologist will inform the Native American Burial Site Review Committee.

Within 10 days The State Archaeologist, or their designee, will evaluate the discovery and issue a report to the Committee and property owner about the status of the burial site. An additional 10 days are allowed if there are multiple remains.

State-mandated protocols apply when an unmarked burial is discovered.