

**TOWN OF BRUNSWICK**  
**PUBLIC HEARING**  
**July 9, 2025 7:00 P.M.**  
**Center Brunswick Fire Department**  
**1045 Hoosick Road**

**Board Members Present:** Supervisor Herrington, Councilman Christian, Councilman Cipperly, Councilman Balistreri, and Councilman Sullivan.

**Also Present:** Town Clerk, Rebecca Del Gaizo.

Supervisor Herrington called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM

The purpose of the meeting was to hold a Public Hearing to accept public comment relating to the establishment of an ambulance tax district for the Town of Brunswick.

At Supervisor Herrington's request, the Town Clerk read the Notice of Public Hearing into record. The Notice had been posted on the Town website, the Town Hall bulletin board, and published in the Troy Record.

Supervisor Herrington thanked the fire department for hosting this public hearing event. He gave a brief history of the challenges ambulance companies face and not having dedicated ambulance services in town.

Councilman Balistreri gave an overview from the Public Safety Committee's work leading to this public hearing event. He explained the next steps would include creating the ambulance taxing district followed by seeking bids from service providers.

**VISITORS WHO WISH TO SPEAK:**

Mary Lonergan said she is happy there will finally be an established ambulance district in the Town of Brunswick. She offered a quick anecdote about long wait times for ambulance arrival during an emergency.

Tim Gilchrist also thanked the board for moving forward with providing ambulance services in town. He said he needed an ambulance recently and it took around 40 minutes for one to arrive coming from Schenectady. He said he hope he doesn't need the service again but hopes it is available if the time comes.

Ray Faluszcak stated he is hoping to have two dedicated ambulances, one during the day and one at night.

Justin Bounds said having ambulance services in town will help its residents tremendously. He inquired what commercial businesses will be paying towards this to which Councilman Sullivan explained they will pay according to their assessed property value.

Mary Ellen Adams said she is thankful for the work Councilman Cipperly and Balistreri have put into this topic. She said the residents deserve this service as it benefits every age.

Jim Tzacik asked questions regarding the resolution establishing the tax district and housing the contracted ambulance organization if necessary. He was advised the decision relies on the board and not a public vote.

Mary Beth Bruno said she is in full support of establishing ambulance services in town as it is long overdue. She continued that every town resident deserves assurance someone will come in the event of an emergency. She commended the board for bringing information to the public's attention. She hopes this resolution is expedited for the betterment of everyone.

Linda Arnold asked the board where the ambulances will be located and if the crews will be on duty 24-hours. Councilman Balistreri reiterated that this meeting is to establish the tax district and if they contract with another agency, outside of Mohawk Ambulance Services, there could be one Advanced Life Support (ALS) during the day and another at night and there would be one crew on duty at a time. He continued that the dedicated ambulance district will provide for mutual aid that will be able to assist when others cannot. Councilman Balistreri expressed the importance of joining mutual aid services to allow access to more services. After reviewing ideas of creating a town ambulance service, it was determined the cost would be too excessive to create and sustain, therefore the board is looking to contract with already established ambulance services nearby.

Supervisor Herrington said there are many volunteer Emergency Medical Technicians (EMTs) in town and our volunteer fire companies have been holding it together but they are unable to transport patients. He said it could be a smoother transition if they decide to contract with Mohawk Ambulance Services since they already house their vehicles in town. If the board decides to contract with a different company, they would like to put one or two ambulance vehicles in town so the response times could improve with proximity. The town would need to provide housing, which takes time. He said the volunteer fire companies serving Brunswick have all agreed to host ambulances at their locations if needed.

Jack Curran said he has been a volunteer with Eagle Mills Fire Department since 1975 and he understands how every department struggles with similar problems. He applauds the board for working on the ambulance issues. He expressed the importance of timeliness during emergencies.

Councilman Balistreri thanked the volunteers for their time and dedication and thanked the town's support for establishing an ambulance district.

Sue Vitolins inquired about the next steps. Councilman Balistreri said the next steps include a resolution establishing the tax district, which will allow the town to seek bids and get official numbers before negotiating a contract.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Councilman Balistreri made a motion to close the public hearing, seconded by Councilman Sullivan. Unanimously approved. The public hearing closed at 7:39 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Rebecca Del Gaizo  
Town Clerk