



NEW PALTZ VILLAGE BOARD & TOWN COUNCIL

Resolution No. ___ of 2022

The following was presented by _____; Sec'd by _____

Date of Adoption _____

Names	Ayes	Noes	Abstain	Absent
Mayor Rogers				
Deputy Mayor Wojcik				
Trustee Wheeler-Murray				
Trustee Weisburd				
Trustee Zipp				
Totals				

The following was presented by _____; Sec'd by _____

Date of Adoption _____

Names	Ayes	Noes	Abstain	Absent
Supervisor Bettez				
Deputy Supervisor Torres				
Councilmember Seyfert-Lillis				
Councilmember Lewis				
Councilmember Baer				
Totals				

NEW PALTZ VILLAGE BOARD & TOWN COUNCIL

Resolution No. ____ of 2022

**RESOLUTION OF THE VILLAGE AND TOWN OF NEW PALTZ BOARDS
APPROVING THE NEW PALTZ 2017 COMMUNITY WIDE GREENHOUSE GAS
INVENTORY, REDUCTION TARGETS, AND FREQUENCY OF INVENTORY**

WHEREAS, The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) which is a United Nations body for assessing the science related to climate change, has published the “*Climate Change 2022: Impacts, Adaptation, and Vulnerability*”. Contribution of Working Group II to the Sixth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change. The report clearly states Climate Resilient Development is already challenging at current warming levels. It will become more limited if global warming exceeds 1.5°C (2.7°F). In some regions it will be impossible if global warming exceeds 2°C (3.6°F). This key finding underlines the urgency for climate action, focusing on equity and justice. Adequate funding, technology transfer, political commitment and partnership lead to more effective climate change adaptation and emissions reductions.

WHEREAS, The IPCC states that climate change is a threat to human well-being and the health of the planet. According to the new report, it requires urgent and far-reaching actions and fundamental changes in all aspects of human life to increase people’s and nature’s ability to cope with, and respond to, climate change. IPCC recommends strategies that can increase the resilience of people and nature. One key to success is acknowledging climate, biodiversity, and human society as a coupled system, meaning that all components are interlinked. If we change one of them, it will affect the other two as well. Based on this recognition, conservation and climate change responses would be planned and implemented hand in hand – not only locally, but across landscapes, in cities as well as in rural areas, across sectors, state and country borders.

WHEREAS, The IPCC states that we also know that impacts will continue to increase if drastic cuts in greenhouse gas emissions are further delayed – affecting the lives of today’s children tomorrow and those of their children much more than ours. But science is also clear: with immediate action now, drastic impacts can still be prevented.

WHEREAS, The Shawangunk Ridge is one of New York’s most iconic landscape features and one of the highest priority areas for biodiversity conservation in the northeastern United States according to the New York State Open Space Conservation Plan. The Nature Conservancy has designated the Shawangunk ridge as one of the Earth’s “Last Great Places.” It is also identified as a top priority in the Town of New Paltz Open Space Plan, noted for its unique geology and ecological Significance and will be impacted by Climate Change.

WHEREAS, On July 18, 2019, the New York State Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act (Climate Act) was signed into law. New York State’s Climate Act is among the most ambitious climate laws in the world and requires New York to reduce economy-wide greenhouse gas emissions 40 percent by 2030 and no less than 85 percent by 2050 from 1990 levels. The law creates a Climate Action Council charged with developing a scoping plan of recommendations to meet

NEW PALTZ VILLAGE BOARD & TOWN COUNCIL

Resolution No. ____ of 2022

these targets and place New York on a path toward carbon neutrality and on September 17th, 2019, Ulster County approved Resolution No. 315 “Establishing A Policy Regarding Ulster County’s Use Of Renewable Energy” resolved to decrease greenhouse gas emissions associated with its operations by 25% by the year 2025 and 80% by the year 2050 using the County’s 2012 greenhouse gas emission inventory as a baseline.

WHEREAS, The Local Government for Sustainability (ICLEI) prescribed in the Global Protocol for Community-scale GHG Emissions (GPC) and Local Government Operations (LGO) Protocol the standards and tools we need to measure our emissions, build more effective emissions reduction strategies, set measurable and more ambitious emission reduction goals, and to track their progress more accurately and comprehensively.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, That the Town and Village of New Paltz approves the presentation and document of the “New Paltz NY 2017 Inventory of Community-wide Greenhouse Gas Emissions” as our baseline and will utilize it as a reference for ongoing decision making and efforts to reduce our Greenhouse Gas emissions.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that no later than 30 days after passage of this Resolution, shall update Town and Village websites with the approved document and presentation of the “New Paltz NY 2017 Inventory of Community-wide Greenhouse Gas Emissions” for raising the awareness of the New Paltz Residents, Businesses, and Organizations within our community

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Town and Village of New Paltz is committed to decrease greenhouse gas emissions associated with its operations (Community and Government) by 40% by the year 2030 and 80% by the year 2050 using the 2017 baseline greenhouse gas emission.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Climate Smart Community Task Force, in collaboration with the resources and staff of the Town and Village, shall reinventory the Community and Government of New Paltz on a frequency of no less than every 5 years to asses our progress of reducing Greenhouse Gas emissions against the targets.

The Resolution was thereupon adopted.

Ariana Basco, Village Clerk

Date