

RES# 2022-27

RESOLUTION

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Town Board of the Town of Bethlehem in the County of Albany, State of New York has on the 22nd day of June, 2022 duly adopted a resolution as follows:

WHEREAS, the Town Board of the Town of Bethlehem has determined that it is in the public interest preserve more than 300 acres of historic farmland in the town; and

WHEREAS, the 300 acres is divided among 9 parcels as identified in the attached agreement; and

WHEREAS, the property has been generously offered to the town by the current landowner at a discount of \$1 million from the appraised value of the property; and

WHEREAS, in recognition of these needs, funds for such purposes are in the Farms & Forest Fund; and,

WHEREAS, the Farms & Forest Fund, within the town's capital reserves, currently has \$2.23 million available;

WHEREAS, the property owner is requiring a \$30,000 toward an "option to purchase".

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that it is in the public interest to use the project as described above; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Town Comptroller is authorized to expend from the Farms & Forest Fund the funds necessary to purchase the 9 parcels of land using up to \$2,200,000, including the \$30,000 option to purchase, in said fund subject to permissive referendum; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Town Comptroller, in order to expedite the commencement of the transaction, is authorized to modify the adopted budget by increasing the equipment category in department 1940 (Land Acquisition) and sales tax revenues each by \$30,000, should permissive referendum fail; and,

The motion to adopt the resolution was made by Councilmember DeCancio, was seconded by Councilmember Becker and duly adopted by the following vote:

AYES: Supervisor VanLuven, Councilmember Becker, Councilmember Coffey, Councilmember Cunningham, Councilmember DeCancio

NOES: none

ABSENT: none

DATED: June 22, 2022