

**Christine Montague
Town Board Member Report
March 2026**

NY Association of Towns Training School and Annual Meeting, Feb 15-17

I shared documents and slides from all the presentations with the rest of the Board.

Major takeaways: Resolutions having to do with grant applications need to be unanimous for funding agencies to take them seriously. Also, we should become a Pro-Housing Community.

Sessions Attended

- Developing an Effective Budget and Analyzing Financial Condition
- The Evolving Landscape of Solar and Wind facilities: Taxes, Siting, and Municipal Agreements
- Creating Your Award-Winning Funding Quilt
- Fundamentals of Collective Bargaining in the Public Sector
- Proactive Planning for Long-Term Infrastructure Success
- 250 Years of Land Use Regulations - What We Lost
- Housing Needs Assessments: A Road Map to Addressing Housing Needs in Your Community
- Boosting Grant Success: How Small Towns Can Best Position Themselves for State and Federal Funding

Lansing Housing Authority, Feb 23

- We met the new maintenance supervisor at Woodsedge. He is getting quotes for cameras for outside entrances and the hallways, and for new cabinets for the apartments. New laundry machines are on their way.

Tompkins County Youth Services Advisory Board, Feb 23

- We had a presentation by the director of Youth Employment Service at Ithaca Youth Bureau. The Youth Counselor Ambassadors (YCA) went to a youth leadership forum at the State Assembly. YCA has three areas of focus - mental health, food insecurity, and homelessness. They sent surveys to Ithaca schools to determine where support is needed in these three areas.
- New county legislators visited youth services to understand their work.
- County Youth Services will have Community Cafes in the localities to communicate with youth and parents in each town.

Conservation Advisory Council, March 4

- Ashley Seyfried from Southern Tier Regional Board came to help identify actions the Town has taken and actions that can be taken for us to become designated a Climate Smart Community. Ruth Groff will help Ashley and the CAC obtain documentation for the program.