

TOWN OF BLENHEIM
SCHOHARIE COUNTY, NEW YORK
RESOLUTION #22-2022

**TITLE: TOWN OF BLENHEIM COMMENTS ON THE NEW YORK CITY
FILTRATION AVOIDANCE DETERMINATION BY THE NEW YORK STATE
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH**

WHEREAS, The Town of Blenheim, as a Town located in the County of Schoharie, is a host-community to the New York City owned Schoharie Reservoir located in the Schoharie County Town of Gilboa, and

WHEREAS, The Town of Blenheim, as Town located in the County of Schoharie has been a partner in the original Memorandum of Agreement between the City of New York and all the regulating agencies and upstate communities executed in 1997 to ensure a high quality and plentiful water supply for the City of New York and

WHEREAS, The New York State Department of Health has opened the public comment period for the New York City Filtration Avoidance Determination, and

WHEREAS, the public comment period ends on Friday, June 3, 2022, and

WHEREAS, New York City has indicated that they will be removing the siphons from the New York City owned and operated Gilboa Dam, as well as the dam crest gates, and

WHEREAS, in communications with the Schoharie County Office of Emergency Services and other stakeholders in advance of storms or high-water events, the City of New York has agreed to create a void by lowering the Schoharie Reservoir pool level, and

WHEREAS the siphons and crest gates have proven successful in the past in lowering the pool level behind the dam in advance of storms or high-water events to mitigate the flooding impact of the storms or highwater events downstream of the Gilboa Dam as documented by USGS and other stream gauge monitoring, and

WHEREAS the Town of Blenheim desires that the City of New York maintain that capability in the future to be able to mitigate the impacts of storms or highwater events on the Schoharie Creek in advance of such events, and

WHEREAS, The Town of Blenheim wishes to submit comments, now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Town of Blenheim supports the ability of New York City Department of Environmental Protection to work with up and down stream partners including the New York Power Authority Blenheim-Gilboa Pump Storage as well as regulators to develop a Hydro-Resource Management Plan, including the necessary physical features and communications protocols, in particular to create a viable and static Reservoir Void, while also having the ability of lowering said static pool level as a pre-response to storms and in anticipation of high water events that are predicted on the Schoharie Creek, and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Town of Blenheim may consider additional comments at their June 1, 2022 meeting, and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Town of Blenheim Town Board authorizes the Town Supervisor to participate in comments made by other entities, such as the Schoharie County Board of Supervisors, on behalf of the Town of Blenheim

ROLL CALL VOTE ON RESOLUTION #22

Supervisor:	Don Airey	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Absent
Councilman:	Joseph Ward	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Absent
Councilman:	Chester Keyser	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Absent
Councilwoman:	Anne Mattice-Strauch	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Absent
Councilwoman:	Renee Grabowski	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Absent

Date: May 4, 2022

Robin Alley, Town Clerk