



ANTHONY JASENSKI
CHAIR OF THE LEGISLATURE

GEOFFREY T. HALL
CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE

County of Schenectady

NEW YORK

SCHENECTADY COUNTY LEGISLATURE

County Office Building ♦ 620 State Street – 6th Floor

Schenectady, New York 12305

Tel: (518) 388-4280 Fax: (518) 388-4591

Website: www.schenectadycounty.com

Monday, March 6, 2023
Public Hearing - 7:00 p.m.

PUBLIC HEARING I

1. Public Hearing Called to Order.
2. Roll Call
3. Reading of the Public Hearing Notice by the Clerk:

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that pursuant to section 303-b of the Agriculture and Markets Law of the State of New York, that one or more requests for inclusion of predominantly viable agricultural land within a certified agricultural district have been filed with the Schenectady County Legislature. A public hearing is hereby called, on Monday, March 6, 2023 in Legislative Chambers, in the County Office Building, 620 State Street, 6th Floor, Schenectady, NY 12305, for the purpose of hearing all interested persons on the recommendations of the Schenectady County Agricultural and Farmland Protection Board regarding applications to include certain parcels in the Schenectady County Agricultural District

4. Appearance by the Public
5. Adjournment

COUNTY OF SCHENECTADY




RORY FLUMAN
COUNTY MANAGER

OFFICE OF THE COUNTY MANAGER
620 STATE STREET
SCHENECTADY, NEW YORK 12305

TELEPHONE: (518) 388-4355
FAX: (518) 388-4590

To: Honorable Chairperson and Members of the Legislature

From: Rory Fluman, County Manager 

CC: Geoffrey T. Hall, Clerk of the Legislature
Alissa Foster, Deputy Clerk of the Legislature
Ray Gillen, Commissioner of Economic Development and Planning
Stephen Feeney, Planner

Date: February 3, 2022

Re: Call for a Public Hearing Regarding Proposed Agricultural Districts

Attached is a memorandum from Ray Gillen, Commissioner of Economic Development and Planning, and Stephen Feeney, Planner, requesting a call for a public hearing on three proposed applications, two in the Town of Glenville and one in the Town of Princetown.

The first application in the Town of Glenville involves two parcels that total 16.7 acres. The owners of those parcels operate an aquaculture/aquaponic farm with plans for kitchen to make baked goods and retail space to sell said goods and other farm products. The other application in the Town of Glenville involves another two parcels that total 145 acres, on which the owners have livestock, grow hay, and vegetables, and harvest timber. The application in the Town of Princetown involves only one parcel that totals 92.1 acres which is currently be rented to a farmer with livestock.

The County Agricultural and Farmland Protection Board has already reviewed the requests and recommended the lands' inclusion in the County's Agricultural District. Before these can be included, the County Legislature must set a public hearing in accordance with NYS Agricultural and Markets Law.

I recommend your approval.



County of Schenectady

NEW YORK

Ray Gillen
Commissioner

DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND PLANNING

(518) 386-2225 FAX (518) 382-5539
Schaffer Heights, 107 Nott Terrace, Suite 303
Schenectady, New York 12308

Memo

To: Rory Fluman
From: Ray Gillen & Stephen Feeney
Re: 30-Day Annual Review Period
Schenectady County Agricultural District
Date: January 17, 2023

The County received three applications in 2022 under the annual 30-day review period (which takes place in December) for inclusion in the Schenectady County Agricultural District. There are two applications with property located in the Town of Glenville (Kunze & Schultz) and one application in Princetown (Gauthier). Attached is a summary report of the parcels.

In Glenville, Stephen and Cait Kunze owns two parcels totaling 16.7 acres. They are operating a start-up aquaculture/aquaponic farm. They also plan to have a kitchen certified as a C20 kitchen under NYS Department of Agriculture and Market for making meals and baked goods and they plan on having a retail space for baked goods and other farm products. William and Kristina Schultz own two parcels totaling 145 acres where they have livestock, grow hay and vegetables and harvest timber.

In Princetown, Pierre and Theresa Gauthier have one parcel totaling 92.1 acres. The parcel is rented to a start-up farmer who has livestock.

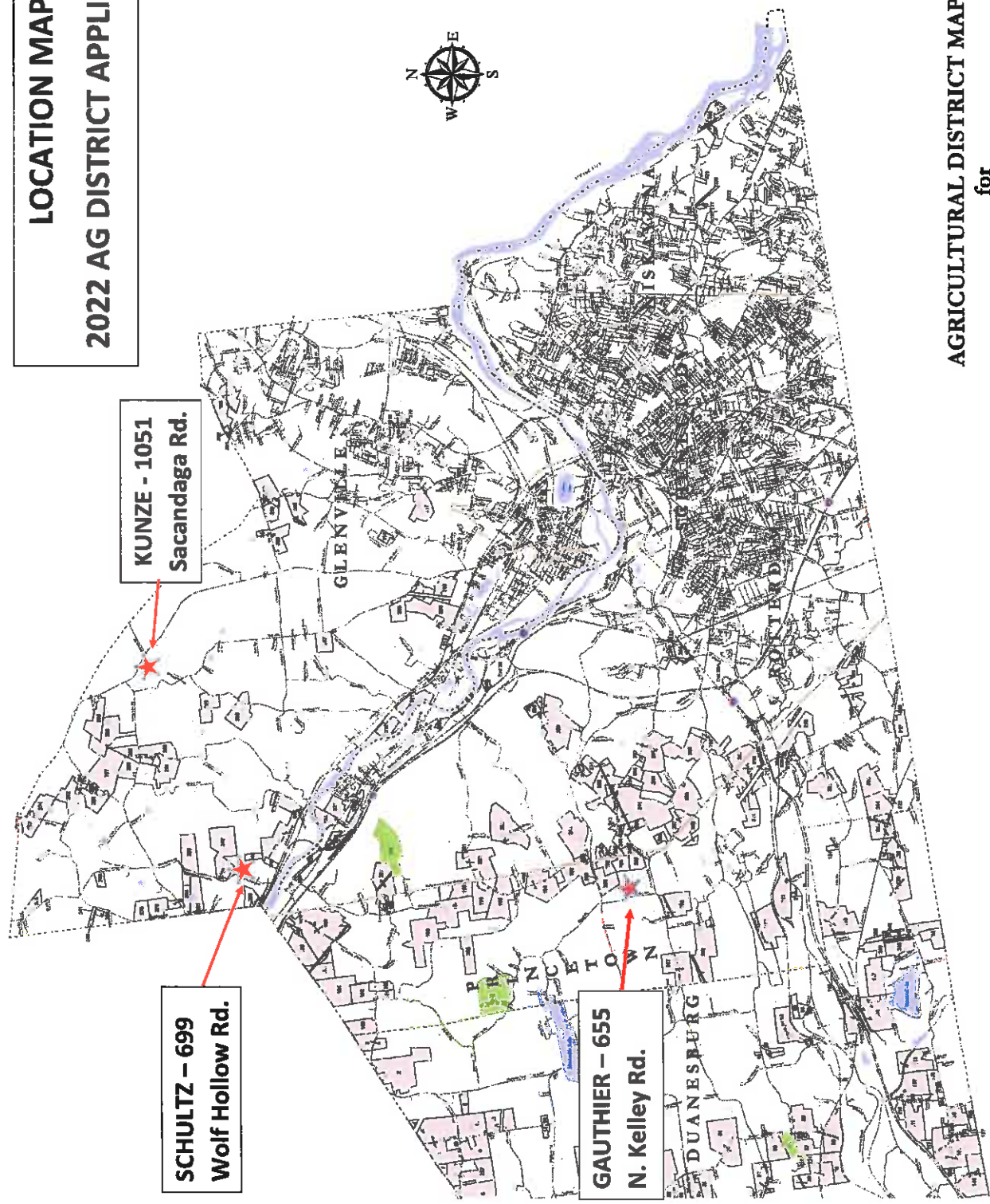
Attached is a location map for the applications and individual maps of the three properties in question.

The County Agricultural and Farmland Protection Board (AFPB) reviewed the requests and recommended inclusion of the parcels in the County Agricultural District.

In accordance with NYS Agricultural and Markets Law, after receiving the recommendation of the AFPB, the County Legislature must hold a public hearing on the proposed Agricultural District. We are requesting that the Legislature set a public hearing to consider the recommendation from the AFPB to include the three applications (five parcels) in the district.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

LOCATION MAP
2022 AG DISTRICT APPLICATIONS



AGRICULTURAL DISTRICT MAP
for
SCHENECTADY COUNTY

**Schenectady County Agricultural and Farmland Protection Board
Annual Thirty-day Review Applications (December 2022)**

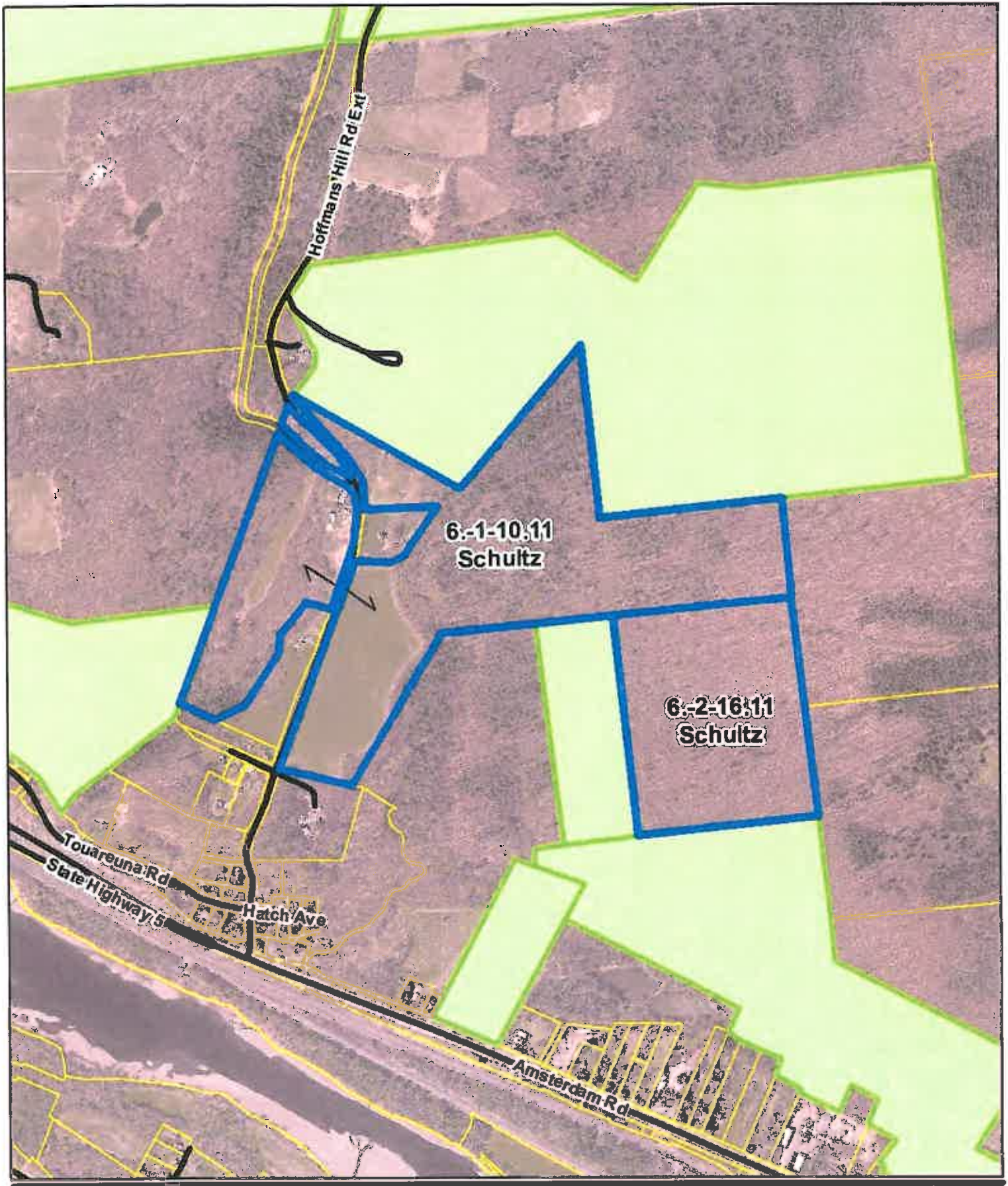
Below is a chart showing the parcels associated with the three applications received in 2022 under the annual 30-day review period for inclusion in the Schenectady County Agricultural District. In Glenville, the Kunze application involves two parcels totaling 16.7 acres where they operate a start-up aquaculture/aquaponic farm. The Schultz application includes two parcels totaling 145 acres where they have livestock, grow hay and vegetables and harvest timber.

In Princetown, the Gauthier application has one parcel totaling 92.1 acres that is rented to a start-up farmer who has livestock.

Table 1. Schenectady Agricultural District 2022 Applications

TOWN	TAX ID #	NAME LAST	NAME FIRST	STATUS	ACRES OWNED	ACRES RENTED
Glenville	4.4-2-9 & 4.4-2-8	Kunze	Stephen & Cait	Farmer	16.7	0
Glenville	6.-1-10.11 & 6.-2-16.11	Schultz	William & Kristina	Farmer	145	0
Princetown	36.-2-5.11	Gauthier	Pierre & Theresa	Non-farmer	92.1	0

The County Agricultural and Farmland Protection Board recommended inclusion of the parcels in the County Agricultural District.



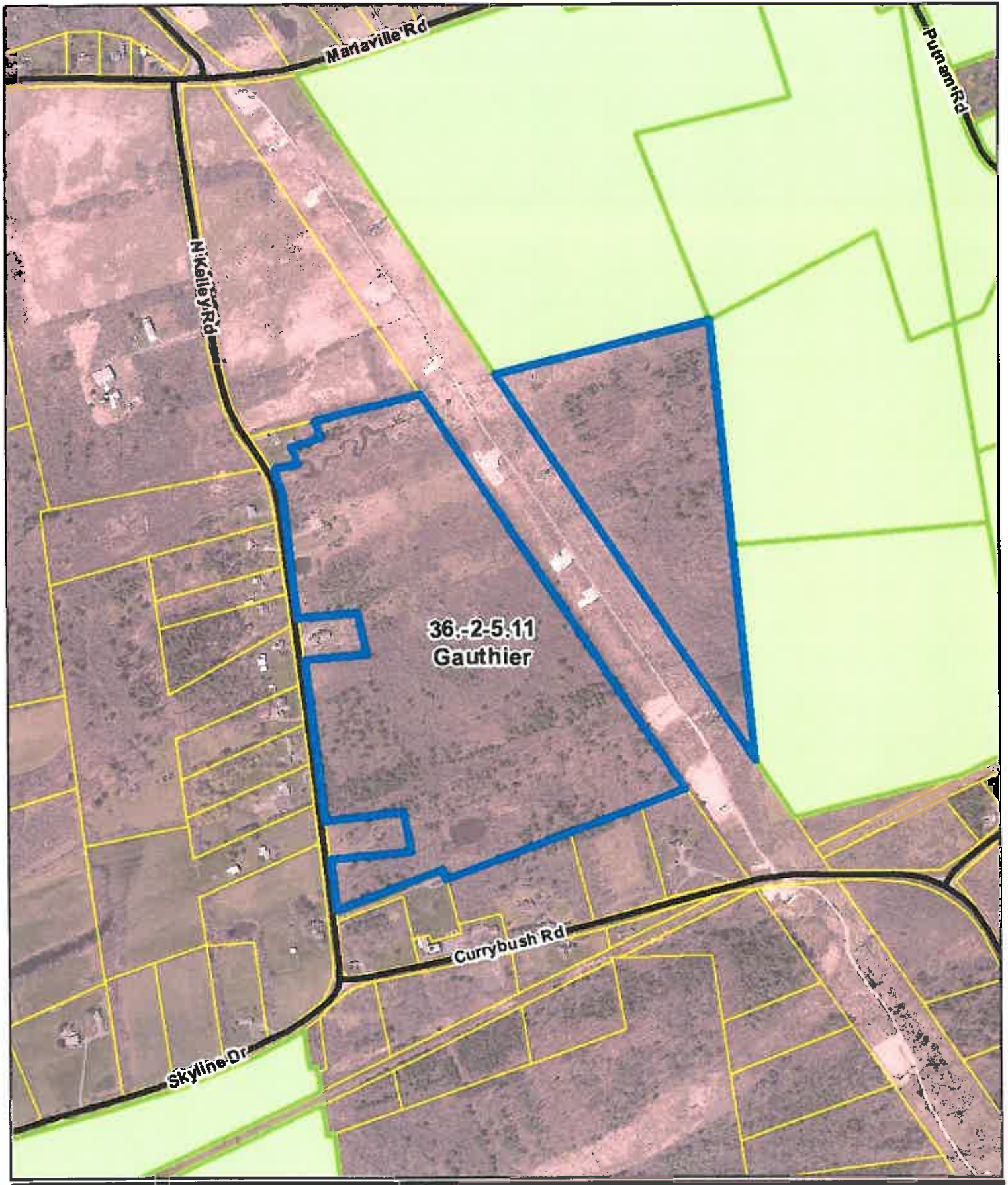
**Parcel# 6.-1-10.11 & 6.-2-16.11
Town of Glenville- Wolf Hollow Rd**

-  **New Agricultural District Parcels**
-  **Existing Agricultural District Parcels**



**Parcel# 4.4-2-8 & 4.4-2-9
Town of Glenville- Sacandaga Rd**

-  **New Agricultural District Parcels**
-  **Existing Agricultural District Parcels**



Parcel# 36.-2-5.11
Town of Princetown- N. Kelley Rd

-  **New Agricultural District Parcels**
-  **Existing Agricultural District Parcels**

PUBLIC HEARING II

1. Public Hearing Called to Order.
2. Roll Call
3. Reading of the Public Hearing Notice by the Clerk:

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that pursuant to section 20 of the Municipal Home Rule Law, a public hearing is hereby called upon proposed Local Law A-2023, to be held before the Legislature of the County of Schenectady, in the Legislative Chambers in the County Office Building, 620 State Street, Schenectady, New York on the 6th day of March, 2023 at 7:00 pm for the purpose of hearing all interested persons on the question of proposed Local Law A-2023, entitled “A LOCAL LAW REGARDING TAX EXEMPTIONS FOR MEMBERS OF VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANIES OR VOLUNTEER AMBULANCE SERVICES”

4. Appearance by the Public
5. Adjournment



PROPOSED LOCAL LAW NO. A-23

COUNTY OF SCHENECTADY

Introduced by Legislators Constantine and Jasenski:

A LOCAL LAW REGARDING TAX EXEMPTIONS FOR MEMBERS OF VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANIES OR VOLUNTEER AMBULANCE SERVICES

BE IT ENACTED by the Legislature of the County of Schenectady, as follows:

Section 1. Subdivision A of Section 345.01 (entitled Exemption) of Chapter 345 of the Codified Local Laws of Schenectady County (entitled Tax: Real Property – Tax Exemptions for Members of Volunteer Fire Companies or Volunteer Ambulance Services) is REPEALED and a new subdivision A of section 345.01 of Chapter 345 is added as follows:

- A. Pursuant to section 466-a of the New York State Real Property Tax Law, real property owned by an enrolled member, or enrolled member and spouse, of an incorporated volunteer fire company, fire department or incorporated voluntary ambulance service shall be exempt from taxation by the County of Schenectady to the extent of 10% of the assessed value of such property for county purposes, exclusive of special assessments.

Section 2. Subparagraph 4 of subdivision B of section 345.01 (entitled Exemption) of Chapter 345 of the Codified Local Laws of Schenectady County (entitled Tax: Real Property – Tax Exemptions for Members of Volunteer Fire Companies or Volunteer Ambulance Services) is REPEALED and a new Subparagraph 4 of subdivision B of section 345.01 is added as follows:

4. The person applying for the exemption has been certified by the authority having jurisdiction for the incorporated volunteer fire company, fire department, or voluntary ambulance service as an enrolled member of such incorporated volunteer fire company, fire department, or voluntary ambulance service for at least two years. For County purposes, the procedure for certification by the appropriate authority shall be determined by the assessors designated by the respective municipalities, school districts or fire districts;

Section 3. Subdivision C of Section 345.01 (entitled Exemption) of Chapter 345 of the Codified Local Laws of Schenectady County (entitled Tax: Real Property – Tax Exemptions for Members of Volunteer Fire Companies or Volunteer Ambulance Services) is REPEALED and a new subdivision C of section 345.01 of Chapter 345 is added as follows:

C. On or after the effective date of this local law, any enrolled member of an incorporated volunteer fire company, fire department or incorporated voluntary ambulance service who accrues more than twenty years of active service and is so certified by the authority having jurisdiction for the incorporated volunteer fire company, fire department, or incorporated voluntary ambulance service shall be granted the ten percent exemption for the remainder of his or her life as long as his or her primary residence is located within Schenectady County.

Section 4. Subdivision D of Section 345.01 (entitled Exemption) of Chapter 345 of the Codified Local Laws of Schenectady County (entitled Tax: Real Property – Tax Exemptions for Members of Volunteer Fire Companies or Volunteer Ambulance Services) is REPEALED and a new subdivision D of section 345.01 of Chapter 345 is added as follows:

D. Application for such exemption shall be filed with the assessor designated by the municipality, school district, and/or fire district on or before the taxable status date on a form as prescribed by the Commissioner of the New York State Department of Taxation and Finance.

Section 5. New Subdivisions F and G are added to section 345.01 (entitled Exemption schedule) of Chapter 345 of the Codified Local Laws of Schenectady County (entitled Tax: Real Property – Tax Exemptions for Members of Volunteer Fire Companies or Volunteer Ambulance Services) to read as follows:

F. Un-remarried spouses of enrolled volunteer firefighters or volunteer ambulance workers killed in the line of duty may continue the ten percent exemption, or reinstate a pre-existing exemption, provided that:

1. Such un-remarried spouse is certified by the authority having jurisdiction for the incorporated volunteer fire company, fire department or incorporated voluntary ambulance service as an un-remarried spouse of an enrolled member of such incorporated volunteer fire company, fire department or incorporated voluntary ambulance service who was killed in the line of duty; and
2. Such deceased volunteer had been an enrolled member for at least five years; and
3. Such deceased volunteer had been receiving the exemption prior to his or her death.

G. Un-remarried spouses of deceased enrolled volunteer firefighters or volunteer ambulance workers may continue the ten percent exemption, or reinstate a pre-existing exemption, provided that:

1. Such un-remarried spouse is certified by the authority having jurisdiction for the incorporated volunteer fire company, fire department or incorporated voluntary ambulance service as an un-remarried spouse of a deceased enrolled member of such incorporated volunteer fire company, fire department or incorporated voluntary ambulance service; and
2. Such deceased volunteer had been an enrolled member for at least twenty years; and
3. Such deceased volunteer and un-remarried spouse had been receiving the exemption for such property prior to the death of such volunteer.

Section 6. This law shall take effect after its final adoption, filing and publication in accordance with section 27 of the Municipal Home Rule Law and section 2.12 of the Charter of the County of Schenectady.