

TOWN BOARD
GARNERVILLE, NY
APRIL 26, 2021

The Town Board of the Town of Haverstraw met at a Regular Meeting on Monday, April 26, 2021, at 7:00 p.m. in the Meeting Room of the Town Hall, One Rosman Road, Garnerville, New York.

THE TOWN OF HAVERSTRAW POLICE HONOR GUARD PRESENTING THE COLORS

The meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.
On Roll Call the following members answered to their names:

Supervisor	Howard T. Phillips, Jr.
Councilman	Isidro Cancel
Councilman	Vincent J. Gamboli
Councilman	John J. Gould
Councilman	Johnny Ortiz

RETIRE THE COLORS

APPOINTMENT OF MANFREDO FIGUEROA TO THE POSITION OF POLICE LIEUTENANT FOR THE TOWN OF HAVERSTRAW POLICE DEPARTMENT

The following resolution was offered and unanimously adopted by all of the Town Board Members.

168-21 RESOLVED, THAT THE TOWN BOARD OF THE TOWN OF HAVERSTRAW HEREBY APPOINTS MANFREDO FIGUEROA OF STONY POINT, NEW YORK TO THE POSITION OF POLICE LIEUTENANT FOR THE TOWN OF HAVERSTRAW POLICE DEPARTMENT, EFFECTIVE APRIL 26, 2021 AND BE IT FURTHER

RESOLVED, THAT THIS APPOINTMENT IS SUBJECT TO THE RULES AND REGULATIONS OF THE ROCKLAND COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL.

5 MINUTE RECESS

ADOPTION OF MINUTES

169-21 ADOPTION OF MINUTES - TOWN BOARD MEETING OF TOWN APRIL 12, 2021 as submitted by the Town Clerk and on motion by Councilman Cancel, seconded by Councilman Gamboli were unanimously adopted.

PAYMENT OF BILLS

Councilman Gould offered the following resolution, which was seconded by Councilman Ortiz and on roll call unanimously adopted.

170-21 RESOLVED, that bills numbered 1124 through 1246 in the amount of \$138,816.12 (\$11,136.26 - Highway Department) audited at this meeting, be and they are hereby paid.

ACCEPTANCE OF REPORTS

None.

TOWN BOARD
GARNERVILLE, NY
APRIL 26, 2021

The Town Board of the Town of Haverstraw held a Public Hearing on Monday, April 26, 2021 at 7:10 p.m. in the Meeting Room of the Town Hall, One Rosman Road, Garnerville, New York.

On Roll Call the following members answered to their names:

Supervisor	Howard T. Phillips, Jr.
Councilman	Isidro Cancel
Councilman	Vincent J. Gamboli
Councilman	John J. Gould
Councilman	Johnny Ortiz

PUBLIC HEARING – TO ADOPT LOCAL LAW NO 2 – 2021

Supervisor Phillips announced that this Public Hearing was being held to consider adopting Local to amend Chapter 10 of the Town Code of the Town of Haverstraw, Entitled, “DEFENSE AND INDEMNIFICATION.”

The Town Clerk read the proof of publication.

PRESENTATION BY WILLIAM M. STEIN, TOWN ATTORNEY

William M. Stein, Town Attorney stated that the purpose of this Local Law is to amend Chapter 10, “Defense and Indemnification” of Employees to provide legal and financial protection for individuals serving the Town of Haverstraw from claims brought against them in their individual capacity for actions taken in the performance of their official duties for the Town of Haverstraw.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Supervisor Phillips stated to let the record note that no public comment was offered.

CLOSE PUBLIC HEARING

171-21 On motion by Councilman Ortiz and seconded by Councilman Gould unanimously adopted, the Public Hearing was closed.

ADOPT RESOLUTION

Councilman Gamboli offered the following resolution, which was seconded by Councilman Cancel and on roll call unanimously adopted.

172-21 **RESOLVED**, that the Town Board of the Town of Haverstraw, does hereby adopt Local Law No. 2 of 2021 to amend Chapter 10 of the Town Code of the Town of Haverstraw, Entitled, “DEFENSE AND INDEMNIFICATION.”

RAQUEL VENTURA
Town Clerk

TOWN BOARD
GARNERVILLE, NY
APRIL 26, 2021

ACCEPTANCE OF LETTER FOR LEAVE OF ABSENCE

The following resolution was offered and unanimously adopted by all of the Town Board Members.

173-21 RESOLVED, THAT THE TOWN BOARD OF THE TOWN OF HAVERSTRAW, DOES HEREBY ACCEPT A REQUEST FOR A THREE-MONTH LEAVE OF ABSENCE, WITHOUT PAY, FROM ANTONINO SPARTA, GROUNDWORKER FOR THE PARKS DEPARTMENT, EFFECTIVE MAY 4, 2021.

ADVERTISE FOR BID NO. 6- 2021 – BUS TRANSPORTATION FOR SUMMER RECREATION PROGRAM – 2021

Councilman Gould offered the following resolution, which was seconded by Councilman Ortiz and on roll call unanimously adopted.

174-21 RESOLVED, THAT THE TOWN CLERK BE AND SHE HEREBY IS AUTHORIZED TO PUBLISH A NOTICE TO BIDDERS THAT SEALED PROPOSALS WILL BE RECEIVED AT HER OFFICE AT ONE ROSMAN ROAD, GARNERVILLE, NEW YORK, UP TO AND INCLUDING 10:00 A.M. ON THURSDAY, MAY 6, 2021, FOR THE RECEIPT OF BIDS FOR THE PROVISION OF BUS TRANSPORTATION FOR THE CHILDREN IN THE TOWN OF HAVERSTRAW'S SUMMER RECREATION PROGRAM 2021 IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE SPECIFICATIONS.

AWARD OF CONTRACT TO THE GORMAN GROUP. – PAVER-PLACED SURFACE TREATMENT - VARIOUS TOWN ROADS

Councilman Cancel offered the following resolution, which was seconded by Councilman Gamboli and on roll call unanimously adopted.

175-21 RESOLVED, THAT THE TOWN BOARD HEREBY AUTHORIZES THE SUPERVISOR TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH THE GORMAN GROUP OF ALBANY, NEW YORK FOR PAVER-PLACED SURFACE TREATMENT FOR THE FOLLOWING: ROUTE 202A, TULIP TREE DRIVE, HAVERVALE LANE, ELM STREET, OAK STREET, SYCAMORE STREET, ANDERSON ROAD, HOEY CIRCLE, DUCEY CIRCLE, KOHUT STREET, SAPLING COURT, MAZZA COURT, TOWN HALL PARKING LOT, BOWLINE POINT PARK PARKING LOT AND GOLF COURSE DRIVEWAY AND LOWER PARKING LOT, AT A COST NOT TO EXCEED THE AMOUNT OF \$750,000 PURSUANT TO THE 2020 NEW YORK STATE OGS LIQUID BITUMINOUS CONTRACT PC # 69063.

ESTABLISH CAPITAL PROJECT FOR THE 2021 PAVER-PLACED SURFACE TREATMENT - VARIOUS TOWN ROADS

Councilman Ortiz offered the following resolution, which was seconded by Councilman Gould and on roll call unanimously adopted.

176-21 RESOLVED, THAT THE TOWN BOARD HEREBY APPROVES THE 2021 PAVER-PLACED SURFACE TREATMENT - VARIOUS TOWN ROADS PROJECT FOR ROUTE 202A, TULIP TREE DRIVE, HAVERVALE LANE, ELM STREET, OAK STREET, SYCAMORE STREET, ANDERSON ROAD, HOEY CIRCLE, DUCEY CIRCLE, KOHUT STREET, SAPLING COURT, MAZZA COURT, TOWN HALL PARKING LOT, BOWLINE POINT PARK PARKING LOT AND GOLF COURSE DRIVEWAY AND LOWER PARKING LOT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$750,000.00 OF WHICH \$250,000.00 WILL BE FUNDED FROM THE GENERAL FUND AS INTERFUND TRANSFER AND \$500,000.00 WILL BE FUNDED BY THE HIGHWAY DB FUND AS AN INTERFUND TRANSFER.

TOWN BOARD
GARNERVILLE, NY
APRIL 26, 2021

**FY2019 ANNUAL SUBRECIPIENT AGREEMENT WITH THE COUNTY
OF ROCKLAND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AGENCY**

Councilman Cancel offered the following resolution, which was seconded by Councilman Gamboli and on roll call unanimously adopted.

177-21 RESOLVED, THAT THE TOWN BOARD OF THE TOWN OF Haverstraw HEREBY AUTHORIZES THE SUPERVISOR TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH THE COUNTY OF ROCKLAND TO OBTAIN A COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT FOR BOWLINE POINT PARK IMPROVEMENTS- ADDITION OF PICKLE BALL COURTS IN THE SUM OF \$53,500.00.

**SCHEDULE PUBLIC HEARING – TO HEAR ALL COMMENTS AND SUGGESTIONS
REGARDING THE TOWN OF HAVERSTRAW 2021 MS4 ANNUAL REPORT**

Councilman Gould offered the following resolution, which was seconded by Councilman Ortiz and on roll call unanimously adopted.

178-21 RESOLVED, THAT THE TOWN BOARD OF THE TOWN OF HAVERSTRAW DOES HEREBY SCHEDULE A PUBLIC HEARING TO HEAR ALL COMMENTS AND SUGGESTIONS REGARDING THE TOWN OF HAVERSTRAW 2021 MS4 ANNUAL REPORT WHICH HAS BEEN PREPARED PURSUANT TO THE NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION SPDES GENERAL PERMIT FOR STORMWATER DISCHARGES FROM MUNICIPAL SEPARATE SEWER SYSTEMS (MSRS), PERMIT NO. GP-02-02. SAID PUBLIC HEARING WILL BE HELD ON MONDAY, MAY 24, 2021 AT 7:05 P.M. AT THE TOWN HALL, ONE ROSMAN ROAD, GARNERVILLE, NEW YORK, AND BE IT FURTHER

RESOLVED, THAT THE TOWN CLERK SHALL PUBLISH SAID NOTICE AND ALL PERSONS ARE INVITED TO ATTEND AND WILL BE HEARD BY THE BOARD.

NOMINATE LISA PETRUCCI - POLICE OFFICER FULL TIME

The following resolution was offered and unanimously adopted by all of the Town Board Members.

179-21 RESOLVED, THAT UPON THE RECOMMENDATION OF PETER MURPHY, CHIEF OF POLICE, THE TOWN BOARD OF THE TOWN OF HAVERSTRAW DOES HEREBY NOMINATE LISA PETRUCCI OF POMONA, NEW YORK TO THE POSITION OF POLICE OFFICER, FULL TIME FOR THE TOWN OF HAVERSTRAW EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY, AND BE IT FURTHER

RESOLVED, THAT THIS NOMINATION IS SUBJECT TO THE RULES AND REGULATIONS OF THE ROCKLAND COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL.

TOWN BOARD
GARNERVILLE, NY
APRIL 26, 2021

**EXTENSION OF BUILDING PERMITS AND LAND USE APPROVALS
DURING COVID-19 STATE OF EMERGENCY**

Councilman Cancel offered the following resolution, which was seconded by Councilman Gamboli and on roll call unanimously adopted.

180-21 WHEREAS, ON OR ABOUT JUNE 17, 2020 NEW YORK STATE ENACTED CHAPTER 111 OF THE LAWS OF 2020, WHICH PROVIDES THAT FOR THE DURATION OF THE COVID-19 DISASTER EMERGENCY DECLARED BY THE GOVERNOR BY EXECUTIVE ORDER 202 ISSUED MARCH 7, 2020 AND SUBSEQUENTLY EXTENDED AND CURRENTLY IN EFFECT BY SUCCESSIVE EXECUTIVE ORDERS (THE MOST RECENT EXECUTIVE ORDER BEING 202.102 ISSUED APRIL 19, 2021), LOCAL MUNICIPALITIES MAY ADOPT A RESOLUTION EXTENDING FOR A PERIOD OF UP TO 120 DAYS BEYOND THE APPLICABLE EXPIRATION DATE (1) BUILDING PERMITS ISSUED BEFORE MARCH 7, 2020 AND (2) LOCAL ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS AND LOCAL PLANNING BOARD ACTIVE APPROVALS ISSUED BEFORE MARCH 7, 2020; AND

WHEREAS, IT HAS RECENTLY COME TO THE TOWN BOARD'S ATTENTION THAT CERTAIN PROJECTS APPROVED BY THE APPLICABLE TOWN BOARDS AND/OR DEPARTMENTS HAVE BEEN DELAYED BY THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC; AND

WHEREAS, CHAPTER 111 OF THE LAWS OF 2020 PROVIDES A MECHANISM TO HELP EASE THE BURDEN LOCAL GOVERNMENT ADMINISTRATION AND ASSIST APPLICANTS WHO HAVE OUTSTANDING BUILDING PERMITS AND/OR ACTIVE LAND USE APPROVALS, BUT WHICH PROJECTS HAVE BEEN DELAYED BECAUSE OF THE ONGOING COVID-19 PANDEMIC AND THE RELATED BUSINESS, ECONOMIC AND/OR PERSONAL IMPACTS; AND NOW THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED, ANY BUILDING PERMITS, ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS APPROVALS AND/OR PLANNING BOARD APPROVALS ISSUED PRIOR TO MARCH 7, 2020 THAT ARE STILL ACTIVE AND HAVE NOT EXPIRED BY THEIR TERMS AND/OR APPLICABLE LAW PRIOR TO THE DATE OF THIS RESOLUTION ARE HEREBY EXTENDED FOR A PERIOD OF 120 DAYS AFTER THEY WOULD HAVE OTHERWISE EXPIRED BY THEIR TERMS AND/OR APPLICABLE LAW; AND

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, THIS RESOLUTION SHALL EXPIRE AND NO LONGER BE OF ANY FORCE AND EFFECT ON THE DATE THAT THE COVID-19 DISASTER EMERGENCY DECLARED BY EXECUTIVE ORDER 202 AND SUBSEQUENTLY EXTENDED AND CURRENTLY IN EFFECT BY SUCCESSIVE EXECUTIVE ORDERS EXPIRES AND/OR LAPSES; AND ANY BUILDING PERMITS, ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS APPROVALS AND/OR PLANNING BOARD APPROVALS THAT HAD NOT EXPIRED BY THEIR TERMS OR APPLICABLE LAW OR HAD NOT EXPIRED DUE TO THE 120-DAY EXTENSION PROVIDED HEREIN SHALL EXPIRE THE LATER OF: (1) THE DATE THE PERMIT OR APPROVAL WOULD HAVE EXPIRED BY ITS TERMS OR APPLICABLE LAW AND (2) THE DATE THE COVID-19 DISASTER EMERGENCY DECLARED BY EXECUTIVE ORDER 202 AND SUBSEQUENTLY EXTENDED AND CURRENTLY IN EFFECT BY SUCCESSIVE EXECUTIVE ORDERS EXPIRES AND/OR LAPSES; AND

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, THE BUILDING DEPARTMENT AND ANY OTHER APPLICABLE TOWN DEPARTMENTS, STAFF AND/OR CONSULTANTS SHALL TAKE ALL REASONABLE MEASURES NECESSARY TO IMPLEMENT AND ENFORCE THE PROVISIONS OF THIS RESOLUTION.

TOWN BOARD
GARNERVILLE, NY
APRIL 26, 2021

SURPLUS VEHICLE – PARKS DEPARTMENT

Councilman Ortiz offered the following resolution, which was seconded by Councilman Gould and on roll call unanimously adopted.

181-21 RESOLVED, THAT BASED UPON THE RECOMMENDATION OF MICHAEL COTIER, PARKS DIRECTOR THE TOWN BOARD OF THE TOWN OF HAVERSTRAW DOES HEREBY AUTHORIZE THE 2002 DODGE RAM 3500 DUMP TRUCK VIN # 3B6MF36562M289135 FROM THE PARKS DEPARTMENT TO BE CLASSIFIED AS SURPLUS FOR RESALE.

AWARD OF RFQ NO. 9-2021 – DESIGN, MANUFACTURE, PROOFS, PRINTING AND SHIPPING OF HISTORICAL SIGNS

Councilman Gamboli offered the following resolution, which was seconded by Councilman Cancel and on roll call unanimously adopted.

182-21 RESOLVED, THAT ONE (1) REQUEST FOR QUOTE WAS SUBMITTED TO ALEX GUARINO, ASSISTANT TO THE SUPERVISOR, FOR THE DESIGN, MANUFACTURE, PROOFS, PRINTING AND SHIPPING OF HISTORICAL SIGNS WITH STANCHIONS AND SUPPLEMENTAL MATERIALS FOR MT. REPOSE CEMETERY TO COMMEMORATE THE THREE MEDAL OF HONOR RECIPIENTS FROM THE TOWN OF HAVERSTRAW, AND BE IT FURTHER

RESOLVED, THAT THE TOWN BOARD OF THE TOWN OF HAVERSTRAW DOES HEREBY AWARD THE RFQ TO INTERPRETIVE GRAPHICS ENVIROSIGNS OF SALT LAKE CITY UTAH, THE SOLE PROVIDER, AT A COST OF \$4,484.78.

AGREEMENT BETWEEN WEST HAVERSTRAW ELEMENTARY SCHOOL AND THE TOWN OF HAVERSTRAW

183-21 RESOLVED, THAT THE TOWN BOARD OF THE TOWN OF HAVERSTRAW HEREBY AUTHORIZES THE SUPERVISOR TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH WEST HAVERSTRAW ELEMENTARY SCHOOL FOR A CONTRIBUTION IN THE AMOUNT OF \$500.00 FOR THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE OPENING OF THEIR SCHOOL CELEBRATION.

AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE TOWN OF HAVERSTRAW AND STUDIO ELEVEN PRODUCTIONS

184-21 RESOLVED, THAT THE TOWN BOARD OF THE TOWN OF HAVERSTRAW HEREBY AUTHORIZES THE SUPERVISOR TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT OF SERVICES WITH STUDIO ELEVEN PRODUCTIONS OF WEST NYACK, NEW YORK TO PROVIDE FILMING AND EDITING OF BUSINESS HIGHLIGHT VIDEOS (MONTHLY SERIES) AND FILMING AND EDITING OF TOWN HIGHLIGHT VIDEOS (MONTHLY SERIES) AT A COST OF UP TO \$22,260.

ADJOURNMENT OF REGULAR TOWN BOARD MEETING

185-21 A motion was made by Councilman Gould, seconded by Councilman Ortiz to adjourn the Regular Town Board Meeting.

CONVENE TO A MEETING OF THE SANITATION COMMISSION

186-21 A motion was made by Commissioner Cancel seconded by Commissioner Gamboli to convene to a Meeting of the Sanitation Commission.

SANITATION COMMISSION
GARNERVILLE, NY
APRIL 26, 2021

The Town Board of the Town of Haverstraw met at a Meeting of The Sanitation Commission of the Town of Haverstraw on Monday, April 26, 2021 at 7:30 p.m. in the Meeting Room of the Town Hall, One Rosman Road, Garnerville, New York.

On Roll Call the following members answered to their names:

Chairman	Howard T. Phillips, Jr.
Commissioner	Isidro Cancel
Commissioner	Vincent J. Gamboli
Commissioner	John J. Gould
Commissioner	Johnny Ortiz

APPROVAL OF LICENSE FOR GARBAGE REMOVAL FOR AAA CARTING & RUBBISH REMOVAL INC.

Commissioner Gamboli, offered the following resolution, which was seconded by Commissioner Cancel, on roll call unanimously adopted.

187-21 RESOLVED, THAT THE SANITATION COMMISSION OF THE TOWN OF HAVERSTRAW HEREBY APPROVES THE APPLICATION FOR A LICENSE FOR AAA CARTING & RUBBISH REMOVAL, INC. OF CORTLANDT MANOR, NEW YORK TO EXPIRE ON APRIL 30, 2022.

APPROVAL OF LICENSE FOR GARBAGE REMOVAL ROBERT HIEP INC.

Commissioner Cancel, offered the following resolution, which was seconded by Commissioner Gamboli, on roll call unanimously adopted.

188-21 RESOLVED, THAT THE SANITATION COMMISSION OF THE TOWN OF HAVERSTRAW HEREBY APPROVES THE APPLICATION FOR A LICENSE FOR ROBERT HIEP, INC., OF WEST NYACK, NEW YORK TO EXPIRE ON APRIL 30, 2022.

APPROVAL OF LICENSE FOR GARBAGE REMOVAL KENNETH HIEP INC.

Commissioner Gamboli, offered the following resolution, which was seconded by Commissioner Cancel, on roll call unanimously adopted.

189-21 RESOLVED, THAT THE SANITATION COMMISSION OF THE TOWN OF HAVERSTRAW HEREBY APPROVES THE APPLICATION FOR A LICENSE FOR KENNETH HIEP, INC., OF WEST NYACK, NEW YORK TO EXPIRE ON APRIL 30, 2022.

APPROVAL OF LICENSE FOR GARBAGE REMOVAL FOR PERILLO SANITATION, LLC

Commissioner Cancel, offered the following resolution, which was seconded by Commissioner Gamboli, on roll call unanimously adopted.

190-21 RESOLVED, THAT THE SANITATION COMMISSION OF THE TOWN OF HAVERSTRAW HEREBY APPROVES THE APPLICATION FOR A LICENSE FOR PERILLO SANITATION, LLC., OF WEST NYACK, NEW YORK TO EXPIRE ON APRIL 30, 2022.

SANITATION COMMISSION
GARNERVILLE, NY
APRIL 26, 2021

APPROVAL OF LICENSE FOR GARBAGE REMOVAL FOR INTERSTATE WASTE SERVICES, INC.

Commissioner Gamboli, offered the following resolution, which was seconded by Commissioner Cancel, on roll call unanimously adopted.

191-21 RESOLVED, THAT THE SANITATION COMMISSION OF THE TOWN OF HAVERSTRAW HEREBY APPROVES THE APPLICATION FOR A LICENSE FOR INTERSTATE WASTE SERVICES, INC., OF CHESTER, NEW YORK TO EXPIRE ON APRIL 30, 2022.

ADJOURNMENT OF THE SANITATION COMMISSION MEETING

192-21 On motion by Commissioner Gould, seconded by Commissioner Ortiz, unanimously adopted, the Sanitation Meeting was adjourned.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

None

RECONVENED TO REGULAR TOWN BOARD MEETING

193-21 On motion by Councilman Cancel, seconded by Councilman Gamboli the Regular Town Board Meeting was reconvened.

TOWN BOARD
GARNERVILLE, NY
APRIL 26, 2021

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Keith Shikowitz, Garnerville, NY asked what a Paver-Placed surface treatment of the roads is.

Supervisor Phillips stated that it is a more efficient and cost effective process to pave the roads. Superintendent of Highways, George Wargo will explain in better detail this process.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Bowline Registration begins May 1st by appointment only. For more information please call Town Hall at 845-429-2200.

Shred Day at Town Hall will be held on Saturday, May 8th from 8:00 am to 12:00 noon. It is open to all Rockland County Residents.

The Memorial Day Watchfire Ceremony at Bowline Point Park will be held on Saturday, May 29th starting at 11:00 pm.

For more information on the Covid-19 vaccine please call Town Hall at 845-429-2200, visit the Rockland County Health Department website or call the Rockland County Covid-19 Call Center at 845-238-1956.

ADJOURNMENT

194-21 Supervisor Howard T. Phillips, Jr. stated that he would like to close tonight's meeting in memory of Frank Capellan, James (Jim) Gilmartin, Maria Vargas, Michael Brophy, Jacqueline Maria Depaolis, Gerald R. Rau, Michael Brophy, Basilio Diaz-Linares, Thelma Norfleet Carron, William Francis Goonan Jr., Joan Bucallo, Wanda Joy Alvarez, and Christian Guzman. A motion was made by Councilman Cancel, seconded by Councilman Gamboli and unanimously adopted and the Town Board Meeting was adjourned.

**RAQUEL VENTURA
TOWN CLERK**