



Saugerties Conservative Committee

September 9, 2025

Greetings Fellow Saugerties Conservatives,

I am writing this letter to you with gratitude for the many years, even decades, that George Heidcamp served at the helm as Chairman of our Saugerties Conservative Party. It is with sadness that I share with you his passing on August 9th. He leaves behind a legacy of honesty, dedication, and courage - standing for conservative principles even under pressure to "just go along." Thanks to George, Saugerties can proudly say that of all the towns in Ulster County, we have the largest number of enrolled Conservative voters. I had the privilege of working with George as his First Vice Chairperson for the past ten years. It was his request, and also procedural protocol, that I am now serving as the Acting Chairperson of the Saugerties Conservative party.

For some of you this may be the first time you have heard from the Conservative Party via the internet. Prior to 2022 we may have reached out to you via post cards to inform you of caucuses and organizational meetings. I will be using this email format to communicate with you in the future.

To those of you who may be new to the Party - Welcome!

In my experience, Conservative voters are folks who stand for principles of valuing life vs the culture of death; honesty vs manipulation; a respect for our history while forging into the future knowing that God is the source of all power vs the indoctrination that it is government which gives us our rights.

By our very nature we *conserve*. The Oxford dictionary defines *conserve* as *to protect*.. We believe in protecting our Constitution and protecting those rights within and must work to keep them from being stolen. Conservatism takes a strong stand against wastefulness and we apply it to the government as well and work for less spending and lower taxes.

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SAUGERTIES CONSERVATIVE COMMITTEE

With this in mind, we invite your involvement in taking our town back from recklessness, arrogance and possible illegal spending of our tax money by town officials.

An audit by the New York State Comptroller's Office had the following findings:

Key Findings

The Board did not properly audit claims or authorize credit card purchases. We reviewed 50 claims totaling \$2.1 million and 50 credit card purchases totaling \$28,815. We determined that the Board did not conduct a thorough and deliberate audit of any claims before payment or authorize all credit card purchases.

As a result:

- 15 purchases totaling \$91,979 did not comply with the Town's purchasing policy. For example, Town officials paid a contractor \$46,500 to clear debris for the highway department without bid or documentation that it was an exempt source.
- 36 credit card purchases totaling \$10,868 were not properly authorized. For example, an unauthorized individual used the Town Supervisor's (Supervisor) credit card to make an unauthorized purchase, totaling \$383 without the Supervisor's knowledge. The equipment was shipped to the Town's former video supply contractor. The Supervisor and we were unable to verify if the Town received this purchase due to lack of supporting documentation.
- The Supervisor used a Town credit card to pay for lunch to celebrate an employee's birthday. This is not an appropriate use of taxpayer money.

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SAUGERTIES CONSERVATIVE COMMITTEE

This Wednesday, September 10th, at 6:30PM at the Frank Greco Senior Center, we will be holding a meeting to plan for the upcoming local election which will take place in less than 2 months. We cannot allow this current administration to continue but rather, we must elect Conservative Party candidates and Conservative endorsed candidates. Please join us in planning to take back our town.

Gaetana Ciarlante Acting Chairperson
Saugerties Conservative Party

"The only thing necessary for the triumph of evil is for good men to do nothing."

https://www.osc.ny.gov/local-government/audits/town/2025/05/16/town-saugerties-claims-auditing-2024m-144?utm_content=20250524&utm_medium=email&utm_source=weekly+news

https://theoverlooknews.com/town-of-saugerties-didnt-properly-audit-2-million--of-credit-card-purchases-state-finds/?fbclid=IwY2xjawMZucJleHRuA2FlbQIxMQ-ABHvPs60F47-Rbs3t2A4jk-QRpElxIfEXtW3I4X4LjXYSpOKfcLByZhLRhjwtMR_ae-m_Cw6juBYK2zyHIWaPF5J6Xw