

TOWN OF NEW LEBANON

RESOLUTION #32, 2026

A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN BOARD OF THE TOWN OF NEW LEBANON, NEW YORK, OPPOSING THE UTILIZATION OF FLOCK SAFETY SURVEILLANCE CAMERAS

SEPTEMBER 8, 2026

At the regular monthly meeting of the New Lebanon Town Board, held in person at 14755 State Route 22, New Lebanon, NY, duly called and held on the 8th day of September 2026, the following Resolution was proposed and seconded:

Resolution by Councilmember Powers

Seconded by Supervisor Houghtling

A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN BOARD OF THE TOWN OF NEW LEBANON, NEW YORK, OPPOSING THE UTILIZATION OF FLOCK SAFETY SURVEILLANCE CAMERAS, URGING THE COLUMBIA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS TO REFRAIN FROM PURCHASING OR DEPLOYING AUTOMATED LICENSE PLATE READER (ALPR) TECHNOLOGY WITHIN THE COUNTY, AND ESTABLISHING AN EXCEPTION FOR STANDARD TRAFFIC-COUNTING DEVICES

WHEREAS, the Town Board of the Town of New Lebanon is deeply committed to safeguarding the constitutional rights, civil liberties, and fundamental right to privacy of its residents, business owners, and visitors; and

WHEREAS, Flock Safety surveillance systems utilize Automated License Plate Reader (ALPR) technology, vehicle fingerprinting, and machine learning to capture, log, and analyze the movements of vehicles, creating a centralized, searchable database of mass vehicular travel; and

WHEREAS, the pervasive deployment of Flock surveillance cameras operates on a model of continuous mass surveillance without individualized reasonable suspicion or probable cause, capturing data on law-abiding citizens going about their daily routines, including trips to medical facilities, places of worship, legal counsel, and political or community gatherings; and

WHEREAS, the Town Board finds substantial public concern regarding the third-party commercial ownership, data retention policies, algorithmic profiling, and potential network vulnerabilities associated with data captured by the proprietary Flock Safety network; and

WHEREAS, the Town of New Lebanon values its distinct rural character, open community atmosphere, and individual freedoms, which are fundamentally incompatible with the introduction of pervasive, unvetted automated tracking networks on public rights-of-way; and

WHEREAS, decisions regarding law enforcement surveillance technologies deployed by Columbia County directly impact the privacy, trust, and tax dollars of New Lebanon residents; and

WHEREAS, the Town Board recognizes the critical distinction between invasive, tracking-based surveillance systems and standard, anonymous data-collection tools used strictly for municipal planning, public works infrastructure maintenance, and traffic engineering;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE TOWN BOARD OF THE TOWN OF NEW LEBANON, NEW YORK, AS FOLLOWS:

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, The Town Board of the Town of New Lebanon hereby establishes its official opposition to the acquisition, lease, installation, or utilization of Flock Safety surveillance cameras, ALPR networks, or substantially similar predictive mass-surveillance technologies on any Town-owned property, municipal infrastructure, or rights-of-way within the Town of New Lebanon.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, The Town Board of the Town of New Lebanon formally urges the Columbia County Board of Supervisors, the Columbia County Sheriff's Office, and all county departments to refrain from purchasing, leasing, or deploying Flock Safety surveillance cameras or participating in shared third-party ALPR tracking networks that impact county and state routes running through local municipalities.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, No department, official, or employee acting on behalf of the Town of New Lebanon shall allocate municipal funds, resources, or data to assist in the expansion of the Flock Safety database, nor shall Town infrastructure be authorized for use by external agencies to host Flock Safety surveillance equipment without explicit, prior Town Board approval via public hearing.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, Nothing in this Resolution shall be construed to prohibit, restrict, or limit the Town of New Lebanon Highway Department, the Columbia County Public Works Department, or the New York State Department of Transportation from utilizing standard, non-tracking traffic-counting devices (such as pneumatic road tubes, radar counters, or non-recording loop detectors) that are deployed strictly to aggregate anonymous vehicle counts, determine traffic volume, or assess speed data for infrastructure planning and safety maintenance purposes, provided such devices do not capture, log, or index license plates, facial features, or unique vehicle identifiers.

The Town Clerk is hereby directed to forward certified copies of this Resolution to the Clerk of the Columbia County Board of Supervisors, the Columbia County Sheriff, and New Lebanon's designated representatives on the County Board of Supervisors to ensure the Town's position is officially recorded.

Upon the question of the foregoing Resolution, the following Town Board Members voted "Aye" or "Nay" for said Resolution:

Roll Call Vote:

Councilmember Steve Powers	Aye
Councilmember Joanne Amlaw	Aye
Supervisor Tistrya Houghtling	Aye
Councilmember Susan Tipograph	Aye
Councilmember Chris Patterson	Aye

The Resolution, having been approved by a majority vote of the Town Board, was declared duly adopted by the Supervisor of the Town of New Lebanon.

Dated: September 8, 2026

Marcie Robertson
Town Clerk
Town of New Lebanon