

TOWN OF WAYNE

Board Meeting Minutes

December 10, 2024

The December 10th Board Meeting opened at 6:00 pm.

Roll Call:

Present: Councilmember Freeman Councilmember Kenyon
 Councilmember Bauer Supervisor Mahr
 Deputy Clerk Nancy Gabel

Absent: Councilmember Haar

In attendance: Bryan Starkweather, Cherokee Roe, David and Karen Chapman, Steve and Chris Bloom, Kelley Meade, Joe Rumsey, Laine Gillette, Dave Harmon, Amy Gush, Samantha Swarthout, and Ron McIntire.

The November 12th Town Board Meeting Minutes were approved with adjustments by Councilmember Kenyon, seconded by Councilmember Freeman, with all in favor.

Supervisor Mahr introduced Kelley Meade, Joe Rumsey, and Laine Gillette from the Hammondsport School District. Ms. Meade, Ms. Gillette, and Mr. Rumsey shared information on the upcoming Capital Project vote on December 12th.

Mrs. Cherokee Roe, Town Assessor, stated that there will be changes coming for Senior Exemptions and for Volunteer Firefighters. Ms. Roe stated that the Town needed to increase the Senior Exemptions from \$22,000 to \$35,000 by December 25th or lose the change until 2026. A motion to update the Senior Exemption amount to \$35,000 was made by Councilmember Kenyon, seconded by Councilmember Bauer, with all in favor.

SUPERVISOR'S REPORT: Supervisor Mahr presented the Supervisor's report for November stating that the Town will be using the Encumbrances for the Heating Project and possibly for a new highway truck purchase. A motion was made by Councilmember Bauer to use the Encumbrances, seconded by Councilmember Kenyon, with all in favor.

Supervisor Mahr stated that **Resolution 23** was to transfer Federal Aid, Special Items Contingent, and Central Data Processing/Equipment to Playground Equipment Project, Building and Grounds General, Central Data Processing/SFWE. Licensing, Central Data Processing/Rent/Lease, Supt. Highway/Ed-Training, Watershed Inspections, Deputy Clerk and Cemeteries Mowing. A motion to approve **Resolution 23** was made by Board Member Elizabeth Kenyon, seconded by Board Member Shona Freeman with all in favor.

Supervisor Mahr stated that **Resolution 24** was to be Resolved, that the Town Supervisor be authorized to make Budget Transfers for the purpose of closing out final expenses incurred in 2024. The Town Board authorizes the Town Supervisor and (1) additional board member to approve all valid invoices collected in **Abstract 13** and associated Budget Modifications so they can be paid no later than December 31, 2024. A motion to adopt **Resolution 24** was made by Councilmember Kenyon, seconded by Councilmember Freeman with all in favor.

Supervisor Mahr stated that Christmas being on a Wednesday, would it be best to close for Tuesday and Thursday, versus Thursday and Saturday? Councilmember Freeman suggested being closed on Christmas eve (December 24th) and Thursday (December 26th), and be open on Saturday (December 28th). A motion for the proposed new dates was made by Councilmember Freeman, seconded by Councilmember Kenyon, with all in favor.

Supervisor Mahr stated that the Monthly Payroll would be completed on December 19th versus December 24th. A motion was made for the Monthly Payroll to be completed on December 19th was made by Councilmember Kenyon, seconded by Councilmember Freeman, with all in favor.

Supervisor Mahr stated that the Organization Meeting would be on January 7, 2025, at 6:00 pm. All Board Members were in agreement.

Supervisor Mahr stated that some new Town of Wayne residents have expressed interest in serving as volunteers on one of the Boards (Planning, Zoning, or Ethics).

A motion to approve the Supervisor's Financial Report was made by Councilmember Kenyon, seconded by Councilmember Freeman, with all in favor.

CLERK'S REPORT: The Clerk's Report was presented with no discussion. A motion to approve the Clerk's Report was made by Councilmember Kenyon, seconded by Councilmember Freeman, with all in favor.

A motion to approve **Abstract 12** was made by Councilmember Freeman, seconded by Councilmember Kenyon, with all in favor.

HIGHWAY SUPERINTENDENT

Highway Superintendent Starkweather stated that since the truck was totaled, the title had been sent in to the Town's Insurance Company, but not received. Superintendent Starkweather stated he will track it down or get a second title and resend.

Highway Superintendent Starkweather stated that he is staying clear of the State Bid Contract Process as it becomes quite complicated and time consuming.

Superintendent Starkweather stated that when the Dept. of Health checked the water room, they stated the Town needed a back-up pump that cost about \$2,000.

Superintendent Starkweather stated that when the tree that fell and broke on Fair Oaks needed to hire a contractor to come in and take it down because the Town's equipment wasn't tall enough to do the job. Also stating that trees along the roadways will be tagged for trimming and the Compost can be opened (weather permitting) by contacting the Highway Superintendent.

Superintendent Starkweather stated that PESH (Public Employee Safety & Health) Inspection was a consultation. Several areas were addressed and the Highway Department will set up the process within the Town Barn to have everything in place when they return in 2025.

Superintendent Starkweather stated that the 2025 Road "285 Agreement" has been established to get the roads caught up. Also, for the Keuka Hill ground-injected Trans-Canadian Project, they have one vehicle alone that weighs 114,000 lbs. for drilling the derek, will destroy the road, and the vendor will need to get a \$1 million insurance policy with the RUA.

Superintendent Starkweather stated that the East Lake Road culvert design was completed. NYSEG will be putting a gas line in that needs to go back to the engineer for the gas line information. Also, needs to be an easement obtained from the homeowners because cutting slopes back (about 4 ft.) and go down (about 15 ft.) is a tight area.

Superintendent Starkweather stated that the CHIPS were submitted on November 6th and reimbursement should be received by the end of December. Supervisor Mahr stated that last year it was received by December 15th.

CODE OFFICER – PLANNING - ZONING

Supervisor Mahr stated that the Zoning Board approved a settlement with the Hamm's. The Hamm's will pay the Town \$10,000 in fines and legal fees and have their Short-Term Rental Permit suspended until early June, 2025.

WATERSHED: Supervisor Mahr presented the Watershed Report. Ms. Gush stated that she and Colby would meet to resolve some issues that developed on the Report.

ETHICS: No Monthly Report

DOG CONTROL OFFICER: Ms. Swarthout stated that the Shelter passed NYS Inspection. The Inspector suggested that the Town go for a Grant. Ms. Swarthout stated that she needs ideas and possibly has a person that can assist doing the Grant. The Inspector stated there are changes coming in 2025.

HISTORY GROUP: The History Group continues working on the binders for the top 20 topics, sorting of hydroplant information, and recruiting additional volunteers who are willing to come on board after the first of the year to work on sorting/organizing the family binders. This will be a long-term project.

WEB STATISTICS: Supervisor Mahr presented the Web Statistics Report. No comments made.

OLD BUSINESS: Short-Term Rental: Councilmember Freeman stated that new owners have submitted their applications.

Supervisor Mahr stated that the Towns' Volunteers should get a \$50 gift card this year. A motion was made for the Volunteers gift cards by Councilmember Kenyon, seconded by Councilmember Freeman, with all in favor.

Supervisor Mahr stated the Retainer Agreement with Richardson, Pullen, and Buck should be accepted. A motion was made to approve the Retainer Agreement by Councilmember Freeman, seconded by Councilmember Kenyon, with all in favor.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mr. Steve Bloom, East Lake Road, stated he saw the advertisement in The Shopper for a Town Code Enforcement and spoke with the Code Enforcement Officer who appeared to not know he was being replaced. Mr. David Chapman stated that the Code Enforcement Officer knew more about plumbing layouts, fair, honest and cares about what's going on with the project. Mrs. Karen Chapman stated she is also in support of the Code Enforcement Officer. Supervisor Mahr stated the Board cannot publicly discuss personnel issues.

Councilmember Freeman stated that the Code Enforcement Officer is appointed one-year at a time.

ANNOUNCEMENT: Next Town Board Meeting – Tuesday, January 14th at 6PM

EXECUTIVE SESSION: A motion to go into Executive Session was made by Council-member Kenyon, seconded by Councilmember Bauer at 7:25 pm with all in favor. A motion to return to the Board Meeting was made by Councilmember Freeman, seconded by Councilmember Bauer at 7:55 pm with all in favor and with no conclusion resulted.

A motion to adjourn was made by Councilmember Kenyon, seconded by Councilmember Freeman, with all in favor at 7:56 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Nancy Gabel, Deputy Clerk