

February 12, 2024  
Regular Meeting

The Regular Meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Pittstown was held February 12, 2024 at the Town Hall, Tomhannock, New York. Those present included Supervisor, Matthew Curley, Councilpersons, Tanya Lipinski, Erin Maxon and Jason Eddy. Councilman, Robert Russell was absent. Highway Superintendent, Paul Campbell was present. Town Attorney, Stacey Goldstein arrived at 6:45. Supv. Curley called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

**PUBLIC HEARING ON LOCAL LAW #2-2024 – MORATORIUM ON SOLAR**

Motion: Maxon, Second: Lipinski to open the public hearing on proposed Local Law #2-2024 at 6:30 p.m. Vote: Ayes – all; Nays – none. Supv. Curley asked for comments. Jacqueline Stallone who resides in the Town of Schaghticoke stated that she believes that there are too many solar fields being installed; we are losing our agriculture. She submitted a written statement. It will be part of the minute attachments. Supv. Curley advised that we currently have a solar law; this moratorium is to streamline the application process between the Planning and Zoning Boards. Fred Howard, Zoning Board Chairman & Gordon Bushway, Planning Board Chairman, were present and both stated that they believe our current law is good. The issue that they would like to see clarified is that if an application comes in, it gets handled correctly working with both boards and not duplicate procedures between the two boards. They both agreed that National Grid should be involved at the beginning of the application; not when the applicant has spent a lot of time and money to get to the final stage and National Grid is not able to support the application.

**PUBLIC ACCESS**

No one wished to speak.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES (1/8/24)**

Motion: Eddy, Second: Maxon to accept 1/8/24 Organizational Meeting minutes as presented. Vote: Ayes – all; Nays – none. Motion: Lipinski, Second: Eddy to accept the 1/8/24 Regular Meeting minutes as presented. Vote: Ayes – all; Nays – none.

**REPORTS OF OFFICERS AND CONSULTANTS**

Motion: Curley, Second: Maxon, to accept the Town Clerk's report as presented. Vote: Ayes – all; Nays – none. Reports were received from the Bookkeeper/Supervisor, Town Justices & Dog Control.

**REPORTS OF COMMITTEES AND THEIR REPRESENTATIVES**

**ERCSWMA** – Curley advised that Russell is absent but he is aware that the year-end numbers are in; should be good.

**Highway** – Campbell stated that he is still waiting on quotes for a new dump body for truck 7; hopefully have next month.

**OLD BUSINESS**

**Tomhannock Fire Protection** – we are moving forward. We have been speaking with the State Comptroller's Office; the County is assisting with mapping.

**FILED RESOLUTIONS**

**Increasing the Term of the Office of the Town Supv. from 2 to 4 years.** The resolutions need to be voted upon and if passed, submitted to the Rensselaer Co. Board of Elections to be put on the ballot in the 2024 General Election.

**#27-2024** Resolved: Maxon; Second: Eddy a resolution increasing the Term of Office of the Town Supervisor from Two (2) to Four (4) years be approved? Vote: Ayes – Lipinski, Maxon & Eddy; Nays – none; Abstains – Curley.

**#28-2024** Resolved: Curley; Second: Maxon a resolution increasing the Term of Office of the Town Superintendent of Highways from Two (2) to Four (4) years be approved. Vote: Ayes – all; Nays – none.

**#29-2024** Resolved: Lipinski, Second: Curley a resolution increasing the Term of Office of the Tax Collector from Two (2) to Four (4) years be approved? Vote: Ayes – all; Nays – none.

**#30-2024** Resolved: Curley, Second: Lipinski a resolution increasing the Term of office of the Town Clerk from Two (2) to Four (4) years be approved? Vote: Ayes – all; Nays – none.

**Justice Court Audit #29-2024** WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 2019-a of the Uniform justice Court Act, the Town Justice provide their annual court records and dockets to their respective town auditing board, and

WHEREAS, the such records be audited and that fact be entered into the minutes of the board's proceedings, be it hereby

RESOLVED: Eddy; Second: Maxon that the Town Board of the Town of Pittstown hereby acknowledges that the required audit was conducted by Councilwoman, Tanya Lipinski and Supervisor, Matthew Curley on January 25, 2024. Vote: Ayes – all; Nays – none.

**Union Negotiations** – The Board agreed to bring to the Agenda. Curley advised that he and Eddy met with the union rep and the shop steward. An agreement was reached. He would like the Board to authorize him to sign if they are in agreement. Motion: Eddy, Second: Lipinski to authorize the Supv. to sign the Agreement with the Teamsters Local 294 effective February 13, 2024 to December 31, 2027. Vote: Ayes – all; Nays – none. Campbell thanked the Board for working with the employees.

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

**Authorization for Supv. to sign the 2024 Contracts with HVAA, Valley Falls Youth, Valley Falls Free Library, PVEC, Town of Pittstown Seniors.** Motion: Lipinski, Second: Eddy to authorize the Supv. to sign the 2024 contracts with the HVAA, Valley Falls Youth, Valley Falls Free Library, PVEC and the Town of Pittstown Seniors. Vote: Ayes – all; Nays – none.

#### **CONT. OF PUBLIC HEARING ON PROPOSED LOCAL LAW #2-2024 – SOLAR MORATORIUM**

Supv. Curley asked for comments; there were none. Motion: Curley; Second: Eddy to close the public hearing on proposed Local Law #2-2024 at 6:45 p.m. Vote: Ayes – all; Nays – none.

#### **MEMBERS PRIVILEGE**

Lipinski – she thanked Curley & Eddy for working with the employees and getting the union contract signed. She reminded that Town officials that they need to take the annual discrimination and harassment training. There is an on-line training thru NYMIR that can be completed or they can complete it thru their employer and get the certificate to the Town Clerk. M. Hoag will get her the on-line training with NYMIR because it has changed. Eddy – nothing; Curley – the reval is moving forward; we are almost done paying for it. The street light invoice has been paid in full; he will now sign the maintenance agreement. Motion: Maxon, Second: Lipinski to authorize the Supervisor to sign the street light maintenance agreement. Vote: Ayes – all; Nays – none. There is no news on the remainder of the bell restoration. Nothing to report on the solid waste bid. He has spoken to the chairmen of the Planning & Zoning Boards – they are not interested in live streaming. The Town Board already discussed it. It may be revisited in the future. Lipinski stated we have a small Town – live streaming is not necessary. Curley reminded that Brookfield Power is having a meeting/luncheon on April 16<sup>th</sup> – let him know if anyone is interested in attending. He & Bob Russell are meeting with a potential replacement for our building inspector on February 14<sup>th</sup> at 11:00. He stated that the Town Clerk's books were also audited when they did the Courts. He thanked Eddy for helping with the union negotiations, Maxon for helping with the Tomhannock Fire Protection distribution, and Lipinski for assisting in the clerks' audits ; all are very much appreciated. He was contacted by Jay Overocker, Village Mayor in regards to ambulance coverage in the Village; they would like the Town to cover them at no charge. Our contract with PVEC does not include the Village; they would have to contract on their own.

#### **PUBLIC ACCESS**

Curley advised that John Costello, a resident of the Meadows sent an e-mail, which he would like read aloud, in regards to his interest in having the meetings live streamed and his opposition to length of terms from 2 to 4 years. It will be part of the minute attachments.

**AUDIT OF BILLS**

Motion: Lipinski, Second: Eddy to pay the vouchers on Abstract 2 except for vouchers 19 & 20. Vote: Ayes – all; Nays – none. Motion: Maxon, Second: Eddy to pay voucher 19. Vote: Ayes – Lipinski, Maxon & Eddy; Nays – none; Abstains – Curley. Motion: Curley, Second: Lipinski to pay voucher 20. Vote: Ayes – Lipinski, Eddy & Curley; Nays – none; Abstains – Maxon.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Motion: Eddy, Second: Lipinski to adjourn the meeting at 7:04 p.m. Vote: Ayes – all; Nays – none.

Respectfully submitted,

Michelle A. Hoag  
Town Clerk