

Regular Meeting
November 13, 2023

The Regular Meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Pittstown was held November 13, 2023 at the Town Hall, Tomhannock, New York. Those present included Supervisor, Matthew Curley, Councilpersons, Robert Russell, Tanya Lipinski, Erin Maxon & Jason Eddy. Highway Superintendent, Paul Campbell & Town Attorney, Stacey Goldstein were also present. Supv. Curley called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

PUBLIC HEARING ON 2024 PRELIMINARY BUDGET @ 6:30 P.M.

Motion: Eddy; Second: Lipinski to open the public hearing on the 2024 Preliminary Budget at 6:30 p.m. Vote: Ayes - all; Nays - none. Supv. Curley asked for comments from the public; there were none.

PUBLIC ACCESS

No one from the public wished to speak.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES (10/10/23, 10/11/23 & 10/27/23)

Motion: Eddy, Second: Russell to accept the October 10th minutes as presented. Vote: Ayes - all; Nays - none. Motion: Eddy, Second: Russell to accept the October 11th minutes as presented. Vote: Ayes - all; Nays - none. Motion: Curley, Second: Eddy to accept the October 27th minutes as presented. Vote: Ayes - Russell, Eddy and Curley; Nays - none; Abstains - Lipinski & Maxon.

REPORTS OF OFFICERS AND CONSULTANTS

Motion: Curley, Second: Eddy to accept the Town Clerk's report as presented. Vote: Ayes - all; Nays - none. Reports were received from the Bookkeeper/Supervisor, Code Enforcement Officer, Town Justices and Dog Control. P. Campbell had nothing to report.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES AND THEIR REPRESENTATIVES

ERCSWMA - Russell stated that they met for the last time this year; nothing to report.

Highway - Campbell reported that the garage door was installed. The last cleanup for this year will be on the 18th. He is working on getting quotes for a new backhoe.

Buildings - Curley stated nothing to report. Eddy stated that he is still trying to get the one camera working.

OLD BUSINESS

Tomhannock Fire Protection - S. Goldstein waiting to talk with Office of State Comptroller. She stated that it is on her list; she apologized. Curley stated that our Assessor has spoken to them. Goldstein will reach out to her.

Review of bids for Ford Road & Kautz Hollow Road Bridge - Campbell advised that we received two bids for each from Town & County Bridge & Rail and Winn Construction. The bids for Ford Road were Town & County - \$109,160; Winn - \$142,000. The bids for Kautz Hollow were Town & County - \$41,242; Winn - \$55,000. He is recommending both be awarded to Town & County Bridge & Rail. Motion: Curley, Second: Eddy to accept the bids

from Town & County Bridge and Rail at a cost not to exceed \$109,160 for Ford Road Bridge & \$41,242 for Kautz Hollow Bridge. Vote: Ayes - all; Nays - none.

FILED RESOLUTIONS -

None

NEW BUSINESS

Union Negotiations - Curley advised that the negotiations are off the table for now; they could not agree.

Senior Citizens Exemption - Curley advised that the assessor has e mailed the board looking to amend our local law for the exemption; the income level would be higher. The board would need to choose to include or exclude the veteran's disability compensation and what the board wants to do with those on disability; we would have to incorporate them as well. Motion: Maxon; Second: Lipinski to hold a public hearing on proposed local law #4-2023, at 6:30 p.m. to amend Local Law #1-2019, Senior Citizens Tax Exemption to replace the existing sliding scale with an updated sliding scale and amendments consistent with the amendment to the Real Property Tax Law Section 467. Vote: Ayes - Russell, Lipinski, Eddy & Curley; Nays - none; Abstains - Maxon.

MEMBERS PRIVILEGE

Russell - nothing; Lipinski - appreciative to serve another term on the town board; Maxon - nothing; Eddy - nothing; Curley - the town wide reval is moving forward; letters have gone out to residents. He received an e mail that the invoice for the street lights were put in for October 16th, but they are behind. Nothing new on the bell. We are working on a network extender getting installed for better cell service at the Town Hall. The Town of Stephentown presented a proposition before the voters to extend the terms from 2 to 4 years for the Supervisor, Town Clerk, Tax Collector and the Highway Superintendent. It passed. He would like to propose that here. Motion: Eddy, Second: Lipinski to proceed with the process to bring a proposition before the voters to extend the terms of the Supervisor, Town Clerk, Tax Collector and Highway Superintendent from 2 year to 4 years. Vote: Ayes - Russell, Lipinski, Maxon & Eddy; Nays - none; Abstains - Curley. S. Goldstein will proceed. Curley advised that the Association of Towns in NYC is February 18th if anyone is interested in attending. We currently have a moratorium of mobile home parks for 6 months so that the Board can consider regulations for future parks; we are 3 months in, we need to proceed. T. Lipinski stated what she presented was incorporated from a law from the Town of Schaghticoke and our current law. S. Goldstein stated that we can extend the moratorium.

CONT. OF PUBLIC HEARING ON 2024 PRELIMINARY BUDGET.

No further comments. Motion: Eddy; Second: Lipinski to close the public hearing on the 2024 preliminary budget at 6:50 p.m. Vote: Ayes - all; Nays - none.

ADOPTION OF 2024 FINAL BUDGET

Motion: Maxon, Second: Lipinski to adopt the 2024 Preliminary Budget as the 2024 Final Budget. Vote: Ayes - all; Nays - none.

PUBLIC ACCESS

John Costello stated that he enjoys politics so decided to attend the meeting. He questioned why the extension of the terms of offices. He is not for or against the proposal

- just curious. Curley advised that being in the position for two years doesn't give enough time to learn the position before it's time to run again. Maxon stated that it is a cost factor as well.

S. Goldstein advised that the Mohawk & Hudson Humane Society is full to capacity so the County is looking to create a facility; legislatures are reaching out to see if Towns are interested. Curley advised that he was contacted and advised that we were not; we are happy with our current shelter.

AUDIT OF BILLS

Motion: Maxon, Second to pay the vouchers on Abstract 11 except for vouchers 283,284, 285, 286 & 312. Vote: Ayes - all; Nays - none. Motion: Maxon, Second: Eddy to pay vouchers 283, 284 & 312. Vote: Ayes - Russell, Lipinski, Maxon and Eddy; Nays - none; Abstains - Curley. Motion: Curley, Second: Eddy to pay voucher 285. Vote: Ayes - Lipinski, Maxon, Eddy & Curley; Nays - none; Abstains - Russell. Motion: Curley, Second: Eddy to pay voucher 286. Vote: Ayes - Russell, Lipinski, Eddy & Curley; Nays - none; Abstains - Maxon.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion: Curley, Second: Eddy to adjourn the meeting at 6:55 p.m. Vote: Ayes - all; Nays - none.

Respectfully submitted,

Michelle A. Hoag
Town Clerk