

TOWN OF SCHUYLER FALLS
TOWN BOARD
REGULAR MEETING October 25, 2022

Supervisor Randall called the Regular Meeting of the Town of Schuyler Falls Town Board to order at 6:00 p.m.

Present

MEMBER

Howard Newton	X
Martin Perrotte	X
Vernon Bruno	X
Reginald Facteau	X
Kevin Randall	X
Michael Snider	X
Michael McCormick	X
Donna Hamel	X

PUBLIC RECOGNITION Richard Donah, Larry Whalen, Barb Benkwitt, Sam Campbell, David Souliere

All Board Members were provided with a copy of the Minutes of the Regular Meeting that was held on September 27, 2022.

Mr. Facteau made a motion to approve and accept the Minutes as presented; Seconded by Mr. Bruno.

AYES: Mr. Newton, Mr. Perrotte, Mr. Bruno, Mr. Facteau, Mr. Randall

All Board Members were provided with a copy of the Minutes of the Public Hearing that was held on September 27, 2022.

Mr. Newton made a motion to approve and accept the Minutes as presented; Seconded by Mr. Facteau.

AYES: Mr. Newton, Mr. Perrotte, Mr. Bruno, Mr. Facteau, Mr. Randall

COMMUNICATIONS 1. Letter from PERMA asking for help to advocate for a veto on a bill awaiting approval by the Governor regarding a change in the Workers' Compensation Law.

2. Memo from Charter Communications regarding upcoming changes to the Spectrum monthly bill.

3. Letter from Emergency Medical Transport of CVPH announcing Nicholas Pain as the new Operations Supervisor who will oversee CVPH's 911 service.

MONTHLY REPORTS Town Clerk, Supervisor, Woods Mills Water, Morrisonville Water, Macey Lane Historian, Supervisor, Codes Officer, Dog Control

Mr. Newton made a motion to file the reports; Seconded by Mr. Bruno.

AYES: Mr. Newton, Mr. Perrotte, Mr. Bruno, Mr. Facteau, Mr. Randall

NAYES: Mr. Perrotte (did not get a chance to review the reports.)

DEPARTMENT REPORTS/ Councilman/Handouts were given to the Councilman for the Annual Training School in NYC. It was mentioned to contact the Secretary for more information.

Mr. Facteau asked if anything has been done regarding the Town's website. It was discussed that nothing has been rectified to date. A few contact phone numbers are listed, but the minutes still not posted even though he has had them since sometime in July. If one were to click on any header, its states that no data is found. Mr. Randall said that he had some quotes that he received for a possible new web master. He will discuss this further at Supervisor's time.

Mr. Facteau mentioned that at the Planning/Zoning conference he attended, it was mentioned that a new procedure is needed that would require a Town to pass a local law to allow the Secretary of that Board to act as an alternate member. This will be investigated further.

Highway/Mr. Snider stated that he is doing the best that he can to get ready for the winter months. He still needs two more employees. It was mentioned that our Town is not the only Town that is experiencing short staffage. This year's paving has been completed. He said that his crew attended an informative safety training seminar.

Town Clerk/Unpaid water bills will be relevied to the County on November 15th to be included on the resident's land taxes in January.

Historian/Barb Benkwitt announced the date for the winter festival. It will be held on December 4th. Country Dream Farms is already scheduled for wagon rides in the afternoon. She is looking for volunteers to help make this event successful. She mentioned that the 175th Anniversary of the Town is next year. Many ideas such as; a parade, fireworks, along with other events are being thought to do. This event will be held to coincide with the Garage Sale Days in August. First gathering of a Schuyler Falls Town #175 planning team will be in November, several volunteers have come forward already, but she will be continuing to solicit people to help. The calendar for this event should be set by year-end 2022.

Supervisor/Mr. Randall has received some highly recommended references from the new computer security firm in regards to the hiring of a new website manager. He passed out the two recommendations that he receive. One of them is the webmaster of a Town close by. Mr. Randall will call that Town for a reference. It was asked if the Town would be able to void the contract that was signed. At this time, this was not known.

Mr. Randall passed out the two quotes received from Mr. Snider for a replacement for a front-end loader for the Highway Department. He has stated that this piece of equipment is a vital upgrade needed to keep up with the technology of present equipment. He asked the Councilmen to review the quotes to decide on how they would like to move forward. He mentioned to Mr. Snider that the two quotes that Mr. Snider gave him to purchase a trailer were two different types and sizes. He asked Mr. Snider to obtain new quotes.

Two notice of changes in policy terms were received from Selective Insurance. The item containing cyber security will be passed on to the Town's computer security firm to review.

The Town of Schuyler Falls was mentioned in the ANCA annual report. The article explains the willingness of the town to implement the LED street light conversion through NYSEG's program with help from ANCA. The highlight of the article was the cost savings to the Town residents. By converting to LED streetlights, the Town's total annual energy savings is 66.5% or 76,546Kwh, resulting in cost savings of 53.9% or \$17,255.00 per year. This will amount to over 1,530 megawatt hours of electricity and \$345,000.00 of taxpayer dollars saved over 20 years.

RECEIPTS Town Clerk/\$892.00, Woods Mills Water/\$5,046.21, Morrisonville Water/\$11,648.50, Macey Lane/\$1,961.74, Judge Barber/\$1,047.00 Judge Van Nortwick/\$1,862.00, Casella Waste Systems 3rd Quarter Host fees/\$136,963.74

Mr. Facteau made a motion to file the receipts; Seconded by Mr. Newton.

AYES: Mr. Newton, Mr. Perrotte, Mr. Bruno, Mr. Facteau, Mr. Randall

UNFINISHED BUSINESS Mr. Perrotte asked what the status was on the work to be done at the Highway Garage. Mr. Randall told him that he only has one quote. He was hoping to receive two more quotes before the meeting so the Board could decide if they wanted to move forward with this project. He stated that he received a recommendation that if this temporary work were to be done on the garage floor and if the Board decided to go out to bid for the whole project in the spring, the company that would be hired to do the work would most likely need to rip the temporary work out and start from scratch. Mr. Perrotte told the Board that they are running out of time to start this project due to the availability of the concrete that is needed. When Mr. Snider was asked whether he wanted to wait until they went out to bid on the whole project in the spring, Mr. Snider told the Board that he wanted to move forward and get the job done now. Hopefully, the other quotes will be received so that they could discuss it at the next work session and move forward with it at the November 10th Special Meeting.

Mr. Randall made a motion to enter into Executive Session to discuss possible litigation if a resolution that will be presented tonight was to move forward. This motion was seconded by Mr. Newton and was Unanimously Approved. Executive Session/6:52 p.m.

Mr. Newton made a motion to reconvene the meeting with all Board members present. This motion was seconded by Mr. Bruno and was Unanimously Approved. Meeting reconvened at 7:31 p.m. No action taken in Executive Session and the resolution in question will move forward as a determination in the session.

RESOLUTIONS

RESOLUTION #22-86

MOTION BY: Mr. Perrotte

WHEREAS, the Schuyler Falls Town Board has a duty to implement a fair and balanced annual Town Budget; and

WHEREAS, the Schuyler Falls Town Board at times, adjusts public salaries in the interest of taxpayers at their discretion; and

WHEREAS, the Schuyler Falls Town Board will adjust the 2023 salaries of the (2) following positions;

WHEREAS, the following (2) positions serve taxpayers at "the pleasure of the Town Board";

WHEREAS, the following salary adjustments will be effective from 1/1/2023 to 12/31/2023; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, the 2023 salary for the position of safety officer account code "A3620.1 will be budgeted in the amount of \$11,000.00 annually, and the 2023 salary for the position of Code Enforcement Officer, Account Code #A8010.1 will be budgeted in the amount of \$11,000.00.

SECONDED BY: Mr. Facteau

DISCUSSION: Mr. Randall stated that he will be voting no as he would rather have had more information.

Mr. Newton stated that he would be voting no for several underlying reasons.

AYES: Mr. Bruno, Mr. Perrotte, Mr. Facteau

NAYES: Mr. Newton, Mr. Randall

RESOLUTION #22-87

MOTION BY: Mr. Newton

with the provisions of Section 106 of the Town Law, approves and adopts the annexed detailed statement of estimated expenditure and revenues with the changes made in Resolution 22-86 to be the Preliminary Budget for the year 2023. Such Preliminary Budget shall be filed forthwith in the office of the Town Clerk where it shall be available for public inspection, and

RESOLVED, THAT THE TOWN BOARD OF THE TOWN OF SCHUYLER FALLS WILL HOLD A PUBLIC HEARING TO HEAR COMMENTS FOR OR AGAINST THE YEAR 2023

Preliminary Budget on Thursday, November 10, 2022 at 5:30 p.m. at the Town Hall, 997 Mason Street, Morrisonville with a Special Meeting to follow for the purpose of adopting the 2023 Annual Budget, and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Town Clerk shall give notice of such public hearing in the official newspaper at least five days prior to the hearing and shall cause a copy of said notice to be posted on the bulletin board and the Town's website.

SECONDED BY: Mr. Perrotte

DISCUSSION: Mr. Randall allowed statements from the public. David Souliere mentioned this employee has held the position for 18 years. He said that at the work sessions for the budget, the Board gave raises to the Highway Superintendent and the Recreation Director. The Supervisor's salary was raised last year. He went on to say that with the historical inflation, salaries should not be cut at this time. He stated that the Councilmen should cut their salaries in half as they are paid about \$240.00 a meeting. Mr. Perrotte replied that Mr. Souliere has no idea on hours that they spend besides their meetings. He said that this move to lower the salary was not personal but was for budget purposes.

After obtaining the Town Attorney's advice, this resolution was modified with the wording for the changes made to the 2023 Preliminary Budget before the vote.

AYES: Mr. Newton, Mr. Perrotte, Mr. Bruno, Mr. Facteau, Mr. Randall

RESOLUTION #22-88

MOTION BY: Mr. Facteau

RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Schuyler Falls approves the following Highway Fund Budget Transfers.

From:	DA.5110.100 General Repairs Personal Services	\$ 8,439.38
To:	DA.9050.800 Unemployment Insurance	\$ 8,439.38

To cover the cost of expenses for 2022 for Unemployment.

SECONDED BY: Mr. Bruno

AYES: Mr. Newton, Mr. Bruno, Mr. Perrotte, Mr. Randall, Mr. Facteau

RESOLUTION #22-89

MOTION BY: Mr. Perrotte

RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Schuyler Falls approves the following General Fund Budget Transfers.

From:	WM.0909.000 Fund Balance Unreserved	\$ 2,000.00
To:	WM.8310.400 Administration Cont. Exp.	\$ 2,000.00

To cover the cost for expenses of Laberge to date.

SECONDED BY: Mr. Newton

AYES: Mr. Newton, Mr. Bruno, Mr. Perrotte, Mr. Facteau, Mr. Randall

RESOLUTION #22-90

MOTION BY: Mr. Newton

WHEREAS, the Town Board resolved to hold a Public Hearing for Local Law #3 2022, A Local Law to ADOPT A PARTIAL EXEMPTION-REAL PROPERTY-PERSONS 65 YEARS OF AGE, AND OLDER,

WHEREAS, the notice of Public Hearing was posted in the Press Republican and posted on the Town Clerk's bulletin board, and

WHEREAS, the Public Hearing was held on October 25, 2022 during which time any persons could voice comments for or against Local Law #22-3, it is hereby

RESOLVED, that the Town Board adopts Local Law #22-3, which offers real property tax relief for persons with an annual income of up to a maximum of \$26,000.00, raised from \$24,000.00, and it is further

RESOLVED, that the Town Clerk is directed to send the appropriate paperwork to the Secretary of State and the Real Property Office.

SECONDED BY: Mr. Facteau

AYES: Mr. Newton, Mr. Bruno, Mr. Perrotte, Mr. Facteau, Mr. Randall

CLAIMS

General Abstract for the Month of October	\$ 21,753.97
Highway Abstract for the Month of October	\$252,539.47
Morrisonville Water Abstract for the Month of October	\$ 9,465.66
Woods Mills Water Abstract for the Month of October	\$ 1,736.65
Macey Lane Water Abstract for October	\$ 845.73
Audit only Abstract for the Month of October	\$ 2,331.47

Vouchers for Claims (#202201291-202201367)

Vouchers for Audit Only (#202201267-202201277)

Payroll Vouchers (#202201253-202201266)

(#202201278-202201290)

Mr. Newton made a motion to pay the claims, which was seconded by Mr. Bruno.

AYES: Mr. Newton, Mr. Bruno, Mr. Perrotte, Mr. Facteau, Mr. Randall

PUBLIC FORUM David Souliere commended the Board members with the work that they have done but stated that Resolution #22-86 was a grave injustice. He said that he hopes it was not done as a personal vendetta.

NEXT MEETING

Work Sessions (if Needed)	Monday	November 7, 2022	
	Monday	November 21, 2022	6:00 p.m.
Public Hearing	Thursday	November 10, 2022	5:30 p.m.
Special Meeting	Thursday	November 10, 2022	Following Public Hearing
Regular Meeting	Tuesday	November 15, 2022	6:00 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT Mr. Randall made a motion to adjourn, which was seconded by Mr. Newton; and was UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED. ADJOURNMENT/7:57 p.m.

