

TOWN OF SCHUYLER FALLS
TOWN BOARD
REGULAR MEETING JUNE 25,2024

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

	<u>Present</u>	<u>Absent</u>
<u>MEMBER</u>		
Jason Bruno	X	
Martin Perrotte		X
Vernon Bruno	X	
Tim Aubin	X	
Mindy Smith	X	
Kelsi Russell	X	
Nick Bracy	X	
Michael Snider	X	

PUBLIC RECOGNITION: Ryan Smith, Barb Benkwitt, Mary Sorrell, Richard Dabrowski, Howard Newton, Karen Newton, Jason Rock

All Board Members were provided with a copy of the Minutes of the Town Board Regular Meeting on May 28, 2024 and the corrected minutes of the regular meeting on April 23, 2024.

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

AYES: Mr. Aubin, Mr. Jason Bruno, Mr. Vern Bruno, Mrs. Smith

ABSENT: Mr. Perrotte

Supervisor Smith asked for the public to wait until public forum to speak so that those communications can be properly recoded into the record.

MONTHLY REPORTS

Town Clerk, Supervisor, Codes Enforcement, Woods Mills Water, Morrisonville Water, Macey Lane, Historian

Mr. Aubin made a motion to approve and accept the reports as presented; Seconded by Mr. Vern Bruno.

AYES: Mr. Aubin, Mr. Jason Bruno, Mr. Vernon Bruno, Mrs. Smith

ABSENT: Mr. Perrotte

COMMUNICATIONS/ We received an update from Friends of The North Country on the NYS Office of Community Renewal, the client project status report. 19 applications are in progress, four completed, five assessments,

Mr. Jason Bruno made a motion to accept the communications as presented; Seconded by Mr. Aubin.

AYES: Mr. Aubin, Mr. Jason Bruno, Mr. Vernon Bruno, Mrs. Smith, Mr. Perrotte

ABSENT: Mr. Perrotte

RECEIPTS Tax Collector/Town Clerk/\$670.00 Morrisonville Water/\$13,275.14, Macey Lane Water/\$2,854.32 Woods Mills Water/\$5,842.43, Judge VanNortwick/\$5,448.00

Mr. Aubin made a motion to approve and accept the receipts as presented; Seconded by Mr. Jason Bruno.

AYES: Mr. Vernon Bruno, Mr. Aubin, Mr. Jason Bruno, Mrs. Smith

ABSENT: Mr. Perrotte

PLANNING BOARD Mr. Vernon Bruno made a motion to approve and accept the Planning Board minutes as presented; Seconded by Mr. Aubin.

AYES: Mr. Vernon Bruno, Mr. Aubin, Mr. Jason Bruno, Mrs. Smith

ABSENT: Mr. Perrotte

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

HIGHWAY /Mr. Snider expressed that the Highway Department got their new road widener and they are working on getting it plumbed together. He expressed that the asphalt plant has a contract and is booked up so there is not room for the town to use it next month. Discussion took place on this matter. Mr. Snider is working on trying to get the Highway Department a new pickup. He expressed that this is a very time-consuming process. The Highway Department has also been working on various aspects of ditching and shoulder work. He expressed that Pete Hagar has been a blessing in helping out with a culvert. He has been doing research on the culvert on Shingle Street, closest to Norrisville Road. Mr. Bruno posed a question about working on that culvert and the Indians, Mr. Snider expressed that it would be difficult. Mr. Snider also expressed that they needed to work with DEC on the matter. Further discussion took place among the board members and Mr. Snider on this matter and other various matters. Mr. Vern Bruno expressed that he had people complaining about Mason Street and Irish Settlement Road, if you are going south people are unable to see by the stop sign. Mr. Vern Bruno asked if something could be done as far as trimming so that people don't end up in the intersection trying to see if it is safe to cross. Mr. Snider expressed that he would do what he could but his department is very busy. Mr. Snider gave an update on the brush hog, he expressed that it is still on order. Mr. Jason Bruno expressed that it may be time to see what can be done and possibly move on to another source. He also mentioned that there were a lot of complaints about the roadside grass being high. Mr. Snider expressed that he would do what he could and they are doing the best that they can. Discussion took place regarding this issue. Further discussion also took place regarding the brush hog. Mr. Vern Bruno expressed that perhaps it is time to get an answer from the current company and if the answer is not acceptable, to move on to another source. Further discussion took place regarding this matter.

SAFETY/CODES/No report given

WATER/ Phase one of Macey Lane water project was completed by Ed Garrow and Sons. The Town of Plattsburgh came to fix a break in the lateral line during construction, when this took place it was noted that there was a lot of buildup in the laterals Supervisor Smith spoke with Laberge to discuss having the laterals inspected to see if this is the case with all laterals in the back section. The Town of Plattsburgh will work with the town on this to hopefully determine their condition and the next steps that need to be taken. Phase one of Morrisonville Water has begun. PM Leary's crew started from the road and is making their way to the water tower. Detours may occur where Flat Rock Road meets 22B. Traffic will be re-routed to Staley Road and then Soper Street. Phase two of Morrisonville Water Project should be ready to bid by the July board meeting. USDARD just needs to approve plans. Rickson Avenue Water Project is the next to be completed. There is a proposal from Laberge and should be able to move forward soon.

TOWN CLERK/The Town Clerk has returned from a very beneficial training and is looking forward to implementing new practices in the office of the Town Clerk as time permits. The office of the Town Clerk will transition to summer hours beginning July 1, 2024. Hours will be from 10AM-2PM Monday-Thursday. Beyond that time the Town Clerk can be contacted and return to the office if needed.

SUPERVISOR/ Music in the Park began on Friday June 21, 2024. Kickin Up Dust performed. It was a nice turnout and the weather was good, and there was a good turnout. Friday June 28th Taylor Lavalley and Brandon will play. Hopefully it will be another good turnout. Field Day is approaching and preparations are in full swing. All help is welcome and appreciated.

ATTORNEY/No report given

COUNCILMAN/Mr. Jason Bruno expressed that there are holes where the old pickleball court poles were in the back of the Town Hall that need to be filled in before someone gets hurt. The Salmon River Road pump track is quite overgrown and needs to be taken care of. The track has grass growing on it from underneath and quite a few cracks in the bigger track. Mr. Jason Bruno expressed that this track generates traffic and is popular and should be maintained. He expressed that the field day is coming up there and it needs to look better. He shared that there are some new employees that started recently but none of our parks or town owned areas have been properly trimmed this year and it needs to be done because it is making the town look bad. Mr. Snider expressed that his crew has done trimming at the garage. Further discussion took place on this matter. Mr. Jason Bruno expressed that possibly meeting with the Recreation Director/Supervisor to iron out some of the issues. Questions were also presented to councilman about a new pickleball court. Mrs. Smith gave an update based on what she knew. Mr. Vern Bruno questioned about the salt shed and what was being done. Discussion took place on this matter. Mr. Vern Bruno expressed that this needed to be worked on soon. Further discussion took place about the salt shed.

HISTORIAN/ Mrs. Benkwitt expressed that there will be a visitor coming in from out of state later in July to try to find out more about their ancestor. The supervisor's quilt is out of the case because it is being taken to a local community member who is a quilter.

CLAIMS: Mr. Vern Bruno made a motion to pay the claims; Seconded by Mr. Jason Bruno.

AYES: Mr. Aubin, Mr. Jason Bruno, Mr. Vernon Bruno, Mrs. Smith

ABSENT: Mr. Perrotte

NEW BUSINESS: None

RESOLUTIONS

RESOLUTION24-97

MOTION BY: Mr. Aubin

WHEREAS, A continuing education Training Program by the NYS Unified Court System for Justice Court Judges is scheduled in Niagra Falls on September 22-25, and

WHEREAS, Philip Van Nortwick would like to attend the training, be it therefore

RESOLVED, that the Town Board authorizes the attendance of said conference and expenses will be chargeable to the General Fund as provided for in the 2024 budget.

SECONDED BY: Mr. Jason Bruno

DISCUSSION: Cost to the town would include meals, mileage, and accommodations

AYES: Mr. Aubin, Mr. Jason Bruno, Mr. Vernon Bruno, Mrs. Smith

ABSENT: Mr. Perrotte

RESOLUTION #24-98

MOTION BY: Mr. Jason Bruno

WHEREAS, A continuing education Training Program by the NYS Unified Court System for Justice Court Clerks is scheduled in Niagra Falls on September 29-October 3, and

WHEREAS, Mary Sorrell would like to attend the training, be it therefore

RESOLVED, that the Town Board authorizes the attendance of said conference and expenses will be chargeable to the General Fund as provided for in the 2024 budget.

SECONDED BY: Mr. Vern Bruno

DISCUSSION: Cost to the town would include meals, mileage, and accommodations.

AYES: Mr. Aubin, Mr. Jason Bruno, Mr. Vernon Bruno, Mrs. Smith

ABSENT: Mr. Perrotte

RESOLUTION #24-99

MOTION BY: Mr. Vern Bruno

WHEREAS, the Town of Schuyler Falls Building Permit fees have not been updated since 1996

WHEREAS, the Codes Enforcement Officer received and reviewed other Town's schedule of fees for the building permits and has composed a proposed schedule of fees for the Town Board's review, and

WHEREAS, the Town Board, at a work session, reviewed the proposed raise in fees for the building permit and other inspections related to building construction, be it hereby RESOLVED, that the Town Board approves and accepts the new schedule of fees, see attached, and authorizes the Codes Enforcement Officer to implement the new schedule of fees for the Town of Schuyler Falls effective immediately.

SECONDED BY: Mrs. Smith

DISCUSSION:

AYES: AYES: Mr. Aubin, Mr. Jason Bruno, Mr. Vernon Bruno, Mrs. Smith

ABSENT: Mr. Perrotte

RESOLUTION #24-100

MOTION BY: Mr. Aubin

RESOLVED, that the Town of Schuyler Falls hires Laberge Group Engineering for Professional Services related to the Rickson Avenue Water Project.

SECONDED BY: Mr. Vern Bruno

DISCUSSION: See attached documents for further information and breakdown of costs.

AYES: Mr. Aubin, Mr. Jason Bruno, Mr. Vernon Bruno, Mrs. Smith

ABSENT: Mr. Perrotte

RESOLUTION #24-101

MOTION BY: Mrs. Smith

RESOLVED, that the Town of Schuyler Falls rescinds the resolution #23-26 for the construction of a Recreational Splash Pad on the Town Hall Property.

SECONDED BY: Mr. Vern Bruno

DISCUSSION: The resolution is being rescinded because the cost to the town was excessive and more than anticipated.

AYES: Mr. Aubin, Mr. Jason Bruno, Mr. Vernon Bruno, Mrs. Smith

ABSENT: Mr. Perrotte

RESOLUTION #24-102

MOTION BY: Mrs. Smith

WHEREAS, the Town of Schuyler Falls wishes to terminate the contract with VORTEX Aquatic Structures International for the Splash Pad.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Supervisor sign and terminate the contract and general release with VORTEX.

SECONDED BY: Mr. Aubin

DISCUSSION:

AYES: Mr. Aubin, Mr. Jason Bruno, Mr. Vernon Bruno, Mrs. Smith

ABSENT: Mr. Perrotte

RESOLUTION #24-103

MOTION BY: Mrs. Smith

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

From: A.1990.400 Contingent Account \$5,767.00

To: A.1910.400 Unallocated Insurance \$5,250.00

To: A.1950.400 Taxes and Assessments \$517.00

SECONDED BY: Mr. Jason Bruno

DISCUSSION:

AYES: Mr. Aubin, Mr. Jason Bruno, Mr. Vernon Bruno, Mrs. Smith

ABSENT: Mr. Perrotte

CLAIMS

General Abstract for May \$22,540.62

Highway Abstract for May \$89,019.

Morrisonville Water for May \$7,469.30

Woods Mills Water for May \$3,580.84

Macey Lane Water for May \$2,128.68

Lighting District Abstract for May \$0.00

Capital Projects Abstract for May 13,631.51

Payroll Claims: (#202400801-202400821)

Audit Only (#202400822-202400832)

Claims # (202400833-202400914)

Mr. Vernon Bruno made a motion to pay the claims, seconded by Mr. Aubin

AYES: Mr. Aubin, Mr. Jason Bruno, Mr. Vernon Bruno, Mrs. Smith

ABSENT: Mr. Perrotte

PUBLIC FORUM

Mr. Dabrowski asked about the same property as last month. Mr. Bracy explained that the defendant's lawyer did not show up to court which meant the case got adjourned again. Mr. Bracy expressed that this is a difficult case, Judge VanNortwick did express that he will hold a trial regardless of whether the defendant's lawyer appears. Mr. Dabrowski expressed that the weeds are high on this property and with a building that is falling in, it is surprising that no-one has been hurt. Mr. Newton expressed that he and his wife attended a meeting and he was able to go to a training for dog control officers and he learned that Bombay Shelter is in the same situation that Elmore SPCA is in right now. He wanted to make the town aware of this. The state has adopted new mandates, which is causing the small shelters not to be able to make needed improvements/updates. He expressed that there are 1,000 shelters applying for 5 grants. He expressed that the status of Bombay Shelter is unknown at this time. Mrs. Newton expressed that there is an exemption for veterinarian's offices. Mr. Bracy mentioned that part of the problem is that the animals used to be housed in smaller areas but there are regulations that require more room for the animals now. Mrs. Newton expressed that the newly imposed regulations were originally supposed to be suggestions, which has made it difficult for the small shelters. Further discussion took place on the matter. Mr. Newton questioned about an application for a laborer position as to whether it was processed. Mrs. Smith, expressed that the position was for the Recreation Department. The board and Mr. Newton discussed this matter further. Mr. Vern Bruno questioned Mr. Dabrowski about the laterals on Macey Lane, if perhaps the laterals could be plugged. Mr. Dabrowski expressed that perhaps that could be the case. He and the board members discussed this matter further. Mr. Newton asked about the Rickson Avenue Water Project and if a loop could be made, Mrs. Smith explained that was not possible because it would be twice as much money.

NEXT MEETING

Work Session (if needed) Wednesday	7/3/24	6:00 p.m.
Work Session (if needed) Tuesday	7/17/24	6:00 p.m.
Regular Meeting Tuesday	7/23/24	6:00 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT Mr. Vern Bruno made a motion to adjourn, which was seconded by Mr. Aubin, and was UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED. ADJOURNMENT.

Kelsi Russell, Town Clerk