

TOWN OF SCHUYLER FALLS
TOWN BOARD
REGULAR MEETING FEBRUARY 25, 2025

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

Member	Present	Absent
Jason Bruno	X	
Martin Perrotte	X	
Vernon Bruno	X	
Timmy Aubin	X	
Vic McCasland	X	
Kelsi Russell	X	
Mike Snider	X	
Nick Bracy	X	

PUBLIC RECOGNITION:

All Board Members were provided with a copy of the Minutes of the Regular Meeting December 18, 2024, Public Hearing December 18, 2024, Town Board Organizational Meeting on January 15, 2024, Public Hearing on January 15, 2025, Regular Meeting on January 28, 2025

Mr. Vernon Bruno made a motion to approve and accept the Minutes as presented; Seconded by Mr. Aubin
 AYES: Mr. Perrotte, Mr. Vernon Bruno, Mr. Aubin, Mr. Jason Bruno, Mrs. Smith

ADDRESSES: Clinton County Health Department attended the meeting and discussed their initiative to curb food waste in Clinton County. Discussion took place on the possible implementation of a town program for food waste prevention. Mr. Perrotte inquired about what is considered food scraps, food waste is anything produced for human consumption that is ultimately not consumed. Questions were posed about collection. The collection process was briefly described to the board. The question was posed how this process would take place for an apartment dweller. The process was briefly described. Discussion also took place on the process for home composting. It was mentioned that there is a New York State Food Scrap Donation Law for commercial entities. Brief discussion took place on various matters related to food waste and food waste prevention.

COMMUNICATIONS:

Communications were received from NYSEG related to the rising costs in bills. Copies of the information sent were provided to both the board members and the public.

Spectrum sent communications regarding various changes to the channel lineup.

Mr. Jason Bruno made a motion to approve the communications. The motion was seconded by Mr. Aubin
 AYES: Mr. Perrotte, Mr. Vernon Bruno, Mr. Aubin, Mr. Jason Bruno, Mrs. Smith

MONTHLY REPORTS

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

Mr. Vernon Bruno made a motion to approve and accept the reports as presented; Seconded by Mr. Aubin
 AYES: Mr. Perrotte, Mr. Vernon Bruno, Mr. Aubin, Mr. Jason Bruno, Mrs. Smith

RECEIPTS

Tax Collector/1,601,183.16

Town Clerk/\$315.00

Macey Lane Water/\$1430.53

Morrisonville Water/\$9772.59

Woods Mills Water/\$3929.42

Judge VanNortwick\$/5088.00

Judge Smith/\$0

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

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

PLANNING BOARD/ Minutes were submitted for the January 7, 2025 meeting. Mr. Perrotte made a motion to accept the minutes of the January 7, 2025 meeting. The motion was seconded by Mr. Vernon Bruno

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

ZONING BOARD/ No minutes submitted

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

COUNCILMAN/ Mr. Vern Bruno inquired on how the repair of the one-ton truck was progressing. He explained that it needed extensive work but it could be repaired. Discussion took place on the matter.

HIGHWAY/ Mr. Snider discussed that one of the tandem trucks broke down in the last big storm we had. The Highway Department has been working at the sand pit sorting out the sand from all the big salt and sand chunks. Further discussion took place on the matter. Mr. Snider also expressed the department is cleaning up trucks to the best of their ability. He mentioned that the purchase of a new truck is still tabled. He expressed he will continue to look for some decent trucks again. Mr. Snider explained that the Peterbilt truck is running again. Mr. Vern Bruno asked how many he would replace if they needed to be replaced, he explained that the single axel would be top priority. Brief discussion took place. He also expressed it would be good to replace a tandem truck. Further discussion took place on what the trucks are used for. Mr. Snider expressed that he now has five men working at the garage now. He expressed that the new hire is working out well. Mr. Vern Bruno

questioned if Mr. Snider had heard any more from one of his men who plans to retire. Brief discussion took place on the matter. Mr. Snider also expressed that he is looking to retire in May 2025. There was a brief discussion regarding who Mr. Snider would see next in line. Brief discussion ensued regarding salary and reclassification of positions.

WATER/ Supervisor Smith gave brief updates regarding Rickson Avenue and Morrisonville Water.

SAFETY/CODES/The solar farm has been approved for the Hogan property on Sand Road. The planning board was pleased that the town adopted the solar energy law. Mr. Guynup explained that his Wednesday hours are sometimes difficult to keep. Discussion took place regarding the matter among Mr. Guynup and the board members. Mrs. Smith inquired about Air B&B units. Discussion took place on the matter.

TOWN CLERK/ January is a busy month in the Town Clerk's office. There are duties as both Town Clerk and Tax Collector that must be accomplished. Tax Collection is very time consuming. Tax Collection takes place from 9:30-2:30. The Town Clerk did have some health issues in January but is on the mend. Regular hours, 9am-4pm have been resumed since February 4, 2025. The clerk has issued three permanent handicap permits and one temporary handicap permit.

ASSESSOR/ Mr. Finley expressed that it has been a smooth transition into his position. Kayla, from the county has stayed on to assist Mr. Finley, they have reorganized the office to accommodate two work stations. Primarily at this time of year the assessor's office is focused on exemption renewals and applications. They also reported that they spent one day out on the road to familiarize themselves with the town. The town is currently at a 67 percent equalization rate. Mr. Finley does have a public phone number in case he needs to be reached during the week. He expressed that the town residents have been wonderful to work with so far and he is looking forward to working with everyone.

PLANNING BOARD/The solar farm has been approved for the Hogan property on Sand Road. The planning board was pleased that the town adopted the solar energy law.

DOG CONTROL/Supervisor Smith and Dog Control Officer Christon will be going over some matters regarding the tether law. Mr. Christon will also be submitting a monthly report from this point forward.

ATTORNEY/ Nothing to report.

SUPERVISOR/ Supervisor Smith explained that she is requesting the presence of each department at board meetings, if unable to attend she has requested a report to be given at board meetings. Supervisor Smith received a call from Lisa Napper who is Jefferson Duquette's daughter. She is organizing a family reunion to be held at the Jefferson Duquette Memorial Park. The family would like to donate and install two benches and plant an Oak Tree as a family memorial. She expressed that she is happy to see the park grow. Supervisor Smith provided an update on the park to Mrs. Napper. Mrs. Napper expressed that her father would be happy to see the way the town has taken care of the park. The portable restroom is under construction and should be here in early May. Pickleball court construction will begin when the weather is better. Hopefully NYSEG will soon put up our power sources for the Pickleball and Basketball courts. The Salt Shed grant has been received. Funds needed to build the Salt Shed will come from the CHIPS fund which was approved by the state. They are currently working on the blueprints, once completed, the project will go out to bid. There will be an Easter Egg hunt on April 12, 2025. Any help is appreciated. Supervisor Smith is also looking for bands for Music in the Park Series.

HISTORIAN/ The historian's office received an interesting call from a person on a snowmobile trail between Shingle Street, Norrisville Road and Austin Road. The individual came across a pond and remnants of a building. The historian did some research and it is believed the pond was called prisoner pond and that the building was an old fish hatchery. Discussion took place on the matter.

RECREATION/ Registration for 2025 sports is coming in slowly. Mr. Campbell expressed that he thinks getting the information to the Facebook page is going to help as he feels people don't use the website as much. Bowling is currently taking place. During school break there was open skate at AC North. This is an event that is free of charge and is run in collaboration with Town of Plattsburgh Recreation. Discussion took place on the matter. Discussion took place regarding department inventory.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS/ Supervisor Smith is waiting to hear back from the Department of Transportation regarding the speed limit signs. Supervisor Smith questioned Mr. Snider about the status of Jason Bushey's CDL License. Mr. Snider explained that Mr. Bushey knows exactly what he must do and that it is just a matter of time. Discussion took place on the matter.

NEW BUSINESS/ None

RESOLUTIONS

RESOLUTION#25-41

MOTION BY: Mr. Perrotte

WHEREAS, in accordance with the water supply agreement between the Town of Plattsburgh and the Town of Schuyler Falls Macey Lane Water District, the Town of Plattsburgh sent a letter to notify the town that the annual metered water rate for the 2025 calendar year will be raised to \$4.00 per thousand

WHEREAS, the Town of Schuyler Falls needs to raise the water rate charge to the customers in the district to reflect the increase.

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED, that the new water rate for the district will be \$59.60 for the first 0-7,000 gallons and \$4.80 a thousand over the initial charge.

SECONDED BY: Mr. Jason Bruno

DISCUSSION: The rate of \$59.60 is 15% over the town's charge. The rate of \$4.80 is 20% over the cost of what the Town of Plattsburgh is charging the district. Mr. Perrotte inquired if there was anything that could be done about this. Discussion took place on the matter.

ROLL CALL	AYE	NAY	ABSENT
Martin Perrotte	X		
Vernon Bruno	X		
Timmy Aubin	X		
Jason Bruno	X		
Mindy Smith	X		

APPROVED

RESOLUTION# 25-42

MOTION BY: Mrs. Smith

WHEREAS, the Town Board of the Town of Schuyler Falls implemented the Employee Handbook for the Town on December 18, 2018, and

WHEREAS, the Employee Handbook will be reviewed and updated, be it therefore

RESOLVED, that the Town Board authorizes to include the following in the employee handbook, any retired town employee, whether elected, appointed or hired with 24 years of continuous service will be entitled to single (individual) medical benefit coverage (policy that is offered by the town). The retired employee will be responsible for the prevailing percent of the medical premium that is in affect at that time. Seasonal or part time employees shall not be entitled to the benefit of this agreement except by Town Board resolution.

SECONDED BY: Mr. Jason Bruno

DISCUSSION: Copies will be distributed, when updated, and will be acknowledged by a signature of the employee.

ROLL CALL	AYE	NAY
Martin Perrotte	X	
Vernon Bruno	X	
Timmy Aubin	X	
Jason Bruno	X	
Mindy Smith	X	

APPROVED

RESOLUTION 25-43

MOTION BY: Mr. Jason Bruno

RESOLVED, that the records of the following Town officials who receive or disburse any money of the Town be accepted and approved as presented:

Kelsi Russell Town Clerk/Tax Collector

DISCUSSION:

SECONDED BY: Mr. Vernon Bruno

ROLL CALL	AYE	NAY
Martin Perrotte	X	
Vernon Bruno	X	
Timmy Aubin	X	
Jason Bruno	X	
Mindy Smith	X	

APPROVED

CLAIMS

General Abstract for January: 43,001.59

Highway Abstract for January: 37301.45

Audit Only for January: 3100.79

Capital Projects Abstract for January: 3,004.62

Woods Mills Water for January:56167.60

Morrisonville Water for January:61,299.96

Macey Lane Water for January:33579.63

Lighting District Abstract for January: 0

Fire District Abstract for January: 637,716.65

Ambulance District 1:165,367.00

Payroll Claims:(202500219-202500319)

(202500193-202500196)

Audit Only: (2022500210-202500218)

PUBLIC FORUM/ No Public addressed the board

NEXT MEETING

Regular Meeting	Tuesday 03/25/25	6 PM
Work Session	Wednesday 03/05/25	6 PM
Work Session	Wednesday 03/19/25	6 PM

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

Kelsi Russell, Town Clerk

DRAFT