TOWN OF PLATTEKILL

REGULAR TOWN BOARD MEETING

September 17, 2024

Time – 7:00pm

SALUTE TO THE FLAG:

ROLL CALL:

The following Town Board Members were present:

Supervisor Depew

#### Councilman Fazio

Councilman Hoppenstedt

Councilman O’Flaherty

Councilman Castillo

Town Clerk, Sarah Nelson was absent. Clerk, Janice Stryker took minutes.

PUBLIC HEARING: None

MINUTES:

* Supervisor DePew made a motion to NOT read the minutes from the September 4, 2024 Regular Town Board Meeting

Seconded by Councilman Castillo

On the vote: All Ayes

Supervisor DePew made a motion to accept the minutes from the September 4, 2024 Regular Town Board Meeting.

Seconded by Councilman Castillo

On the Vote: All Ayes

ADDITIONS:

Welcome Plattekill Police Department

Deputy Chief Smith spoke regarding Lori Scarano, Confidential Secretary.

She retired after 15 years of service (July 31, 2009- June 30, 2024) to the Department and was presented a plaque for her dedication and service. Thank you.

* Plattekill Day 2024

This Saturday, September 21 from 10-5.

* Comprehensive Plan- Phase 2.

Meeting #5, September 25

6:30PM at the Town of Plattekill

* Councilman Hoppenstedt gave a report on his meeting with the Battery Storage Facility

He reports that County Legislator, Kevin Roberts called him to meet with the Facility

The Battery Facility director asked what it would take to allow the storage facility to come into town?

He told them that this isn’t a good fit for our town.

Supervisor DePew stated that this was a separate meeting, outside of the Town Board with Kevin Roberts. His opinion is that the Town Board is still educating themselves and will make a more educated decision as we move forward with the moratorium concerning Battery Storage facilities.

Councilman Hoppenstedt mentioned that he talked to the company and that it is very close to our water sheds and a 50ft buffer isn’t much.

Councilman Fazio stated that we do have a committee that is actively working on this, a moratorium is being discussed and written up, a local law is in the works.

Supervisor DePew asked who he spoke too and if he received a business card?

Councilman Hoppenstedt didn’t know names and that he didn’t get a business card.

Supervisor DePew stated that the Town Board did speak to our legal council and we are headed towards a moratorium on battery storage in the Town of Plattekill. We intend to look at all aspects of safety, where it would fit, where it would not fit and make the most educated decision we can. I don’t want to give anyone false information but we have hit the ground running with this.

* Updating our Employee Manual

Councilman Hoppenstedt & Councilman O’Flaherty were tasked with this process.

Councilman Hoppenstedt stated he is almost finished reading it and then will start seeing what we can update.

Supervisor DePew told him to make sure he stays in contact with Councilman O’Flaherty

* Sign Law

Councilman Hoppenstedt started to look at this as well but nothing to report yet

* Councilman Fazio is bringing up a resident request:

During the month of July, the free July coupon, residents are only allowed to receive one. This particular resident, owns 5-6 houses. Only one Dump Permit but is requesting more than 1 “Free” July Coupon.

Supervisor DePew stated that the permits go by residence but if you have additional vehicles, are allowed to purchase an additional permit for a smaller cost but still under the same address. We generally don’t live in 5 separate houses in a town. You would get one dump permit for each house; I would hope that each permit is registered under each house.

Councilman Castillo said these “Free” coupons are for our Town Residents. You are talking about a person that has 5 homes, that is a business. They usually are apartments with more than 1 residence. Individual Permits should be purchased and assigned to each residence.

* Thank you, Card

“Dean, I want to thank you and the board and express my gratitude for your participation in hosting the first annual Living resources Olympic Games. We look forward to next year!

REPORTS: AUGUST 2024

* Supervisor Depew read the monthly department reports and noted they are all available at the Town Clerk’s Office upon request.

The following reports for the month of August were available.

Plattekill Police Monthly Report

Dog Control Monthly Report

Buildings & Grounds Monthly Report

Building Department Monthly Report

Assessor Report Monthly Report

Recreation Department Monthly Report

PUBLIC INPUT:

* Supervisor Depew made a motion to open Public Input at 7:26 pm.

Seconded by Councilman Fazio

On the vote: All Ayes

1. Mike Lembo- There are two Ag & Turfs, why are you going through Hudson and not Goshen? Do they control the grant money, do you have to go through them?

Supervisor DePew- Source well is a purchasing company that governments use; the businesses get vetted through Source Well to be able to sell that product.

Source Well establishes the price.

Mike Lembo- Police cars are done the same way?

Supervisor DePew- Yes, they are done the same way. They come out of approved dealerships.

Mike Lembo- I am curious about this meeting that Councilman Hoppenstedt attended regarding the Lithium Battery Storage?

Supervisor DePew- I have no idea; you will have to ask him?

Councilman Hoppenstedt- The gentleman from the Facility called County Legislator Roberts, and asked him to meet. I think he was trying to get Mr. Roberts on board with the project.

Mike Lembo- Was this a private or public meeting?

Councilman Hoppenstedt- It was private.

Mike Lembo- Where did you meet?

Councilman Hoppenstedt- We met at Kevins office in Newburgh

Mike Lembo- Was it similar to the meeting at Clintondale Firehouse? Was it the same format of discussion or what was discussed?

Councilman Hoppenstedt- It was one person and he kept asking about how he could get more public involvement and what our thoughts were about the project and how we felt?

Mike Lembo- Why didn’t you tell them to have another meeting and we could tell them how we feel especially when they tell you they can’t put the fire out.

Councilman Hoppenstedt- We did tell him that he can put more meetings out there and will get the same result.

Mike Lembo- The public should be more involved with something like this, between the risks and the location. This should have been done in a public format where the public can participate. The public is afraid of this. Bring this to the people.

1. Esther Coppola- I don’t understand about this meeting, you work for Kevin?

Councilman Hoppenstedt- Yes, I work for Kevin outside of here

Esther- So you were working for Kevin, Kevin mentioned whatever… you were present

Councilman Hoppenstedt- I was in the office, Kevin pulled me into his office. I knew nothing about this beforehand.

Esther- Who else was there?

Councilman Hoppenstedt- It was me, Kevin Roberts and the person from Mission Energy. He was a representative from the battery storage company.

Esther- It was not a called meeting. What was discussed at that time?

Councilman Hoppenstedt- He asked what our feelings were about the project and he asked about doing community outreach. We told him by doing that would be his best route.

Esther- This is really interesting? Did Kevin call this meeting

Councilman Hoppenstedt- I am not sure. I walked into this

Supervisor Depew made a motion close public input, at 7:36pm.

Seconded by Councilman Hoppenstedt

On the vote: All Ayes

OLD BUSINESS:

* Golf Cart Replacement/the current Golf Cart is from 2001

The park has expanded, walking paths, more events

John Deere- $30,349.01 Gas

Kabota- $25,693.23 Diesel

Bobcat- $18,163.57

The Highway Superintendent recommended the John Deere

Supervisor DePew recommended going with the John Deere as well

Town Board polled- All agreed to go with the John Deere

Councilman Castillo made a motion to purchase the John Deere for use at the park for the price quote of $20,266.56 which doesn’t include the heated and air condition cab.

Seconded by Councilman O’Flaherty

Councilman O’Flaherty made a motion to allow the Supervisor to sign the contract to purchase the John Deere UTV and support the purchase with ARPA Funds.

Seconded by Councilman Fazio

Councilman Fazio is questioning what is going to happen with the current golf cart?

Supervisor DePew suggested putting it out for bid. We don’t need two pieces of the same equipment.

* RFP Building Evaluation

There was a lot of back-and-forth discussions on these 3 bids.

Tinkleman Architecture, PLLC $67,750.00

GPI $73,400.00

Barton Loguidice $48,600.00

Councilman Hoppenstedt- My vote is Tinkleman. They were very professional, proactive. They asked a lot of questions.

Councilman Fazio- Tinklemans to me was the most informal, I think I need more time to think.

Supervisor DePew- All of them to be fair should be writing the same thing down, that they will be looking for grants. We are at the very beginning of this to look what we are faced with. This was designed to look at our buildings, see what we have and possibly discuss replacing what we have. They all said they would discuss with our employees to get an idea if they completely rebuild it.

Councilman Castillo- I feel the same way as Councilman Hoppenstedt. I like Tinkleman. Once this all gets evaluated, they will help look for grants and see what the next step is.

Councilman O’Flaherty- I did a lot of reading on these and I researched all the comparisons. What they have done, what they do as far as building structures. Tinkleman had some of the nicer buildings as far as their portfolios. Just because something is the least expensive, doesn’t mean it is the best value. GPI and Tinkleman are pretty close in price but I think Tinkleman presented the best detail and their portfolio work looked the best when we are done.

Councilman Castillo made a motion to go forward with the RFP, the quote by Tinkleman.

Seconded by Councilman Hoppenstedt.

On the Vote: All Ayes

Councilman Castillo made a motion to allow the Town Supervisor to sign the contracts with Tinkleman Architecture, PLLC and support the project with ARPA Funds.

Seconded by Councilman O’Flaherty

On the Vote: All Ayes

NEW BUSINESS

* Budget Meeting Dates & Times

I will give you some dates that I came up with.   
October 7, October 9, October 15, October 17, October 18

Councilman Castillo- I will be out of town from 10/12-10/19.

Supervisor DePew- Can everyone call me tomorrow and give me their availability? This year’s budget will be crazy hard. There is a lot of things going on. I anticipate going above that 2% tax Cap. Looking at the preliminary budgets that already have been turned in. We will most likely do the law to override the tax cap.

* RFP Asphalt Parking Lot

Supervisor DePew- I’m not sure it will be an RFP; I have to research it. It might just be something we can put out to bid.

This is the parking area at the Town Park and the Veterans Memorial parking lot. I was able to get some monies back from one of the grants we had but we will have to put money with it. That grant will support the black topping of the parking lot and the striping. I will speak to the attorney and get back to everyone.

* Air Conditioning Units

Supervisor DePew- A few meetings back, the Highway Superintendent recommended Northeast Climate Solutions for the amount of $15,500.00

There were a few questions at that board meeting and we did not vote. Since that board meeting, the questions were answered.   
Councilman Fazio- Yes, he did explain what he picked that company and explained it very well.

Supervisor DePew made a motion to go forward with the recommendation of the Highway Superintendent for the replacement of the 2 units at the Town Hall by the Company North East Climate Solutions for $15,500.00

Seconded by Councilman Castillo

On the Vote: All Ayes

Supervisor DePew made a motion to support the replacement of the 2 units by using our ARPA Funds.

Seconded by Councilman Hoppenstedt

On the Vote: All Ayes

* RESOLUTION #62- Budget Amendment

Supervisor DePew made a motion to amend the 2024 General Fund Budget increase revenue line A.2680 Insurance Recoveries and expense line A.1910.400 Unallocated Insurance in the amount of $5,416.00. The funding was supported by Receipt.

This was necessary to show revenue and expenses for return premium for vehicles and equipment deleted, we received refunds from Marshall & Sterling.

These monies were for the vehicles and equipment that we took off the insurance policies with the anticipation of selling them at auction.

Seconded by Councilman O’Flaherty

On the Vote: All Yes

* RESOLUTION #63- Amendment

Supervisor DePew made a motion to adopt Resolution #63.

The Town of Plattekill authorizes the removal of the old playground mulch which is to be funded by the ARPA Funds for the amount, not to exceed $10,000 at the Thomas Felten Park.

This Is an amendment to drop the name of the specific person removing it, it may be a different contract removing it.

Seconded by Councilman Hoppenstedt

On the Vote: All Ayes

* RESOLUTION #64- Budget Amendment

Supervisor DePew made a motion, requesting the transfer of $2,000 from A.1990.400 to A.3510.400 which is necessary to cover the cost of Vet bill for the remainder of the 2024 year.

This will be a decrease of expense line A.1990.400 Contingent Account in the amount of $2,000 and an increase in expense line A.3510.400 Dog Control in the amount of $2,000.

Seconded by Councilman Castillo

On the Vote:

Ayes- Councilman Castillo, Councilman O’Flaherty, Councilman Hoppenstedt and Supervisor DePew

Nay- Councilman Fazio

TRANSFERS:

* Notice of Appropriation Transfer

A.1990.400 Contingent Account in the amount of $2,000.00 is transferred to A.3510.400 Dog Control in the amount of $2,000.00

This transfer is necessary to cover the cost of Vet Bills for the remainder of the 2024 year.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Supervisor DePew made motion to go into Executive Session at 8:05PM to discuss Personnel Matters.

Seconded by Councilman Hoppenstedt

On the Vote: All Ayes

Supervisor DePew made a motion to exit Executive Session at 9:00PM

There was no decisions or votes made.

Seconded by Councilman Hoppenstedt

On the Vote: All Ayes

Councilman Castillo is looking for an update on the walkways to the pavilion.

Supervisor DePew wants to meet with him at the park, so he can get an idea of what he is looking for and put something in writing to bring back to the Town Board.

VOUCHERS:

* Supervisor Depew reviewed the Voucher Detail report Dated September 17 2024, which includes:

The A-General Fund amount of $32,437.59

The DA-Highway Fund amount of $31,445.69

The H2 Recreation Playground Equipment ARPA in the amount of.……. $18.101.40

The SB- Modena Lighting in the amount of ……………………………………. $1,759.73

The SA-Clintondale in the amount of ………………………………………………. $964.11

For a grand total in the amount of **$84,708.52**

Supervisor Depew made a motion to pay the vouchers, recognizing that the Audit Committee has reviewed the claims and found them acceptable for payment.

Seconded by Councilman Castillo

On the vote: All Ayes

ADJOURNMENT:

Councilman O’Flaherty made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:04 pm.

Seconded by Councilman Fazio On the Vote: All Ayes