

**TOWN OF WINDHAM
TOWN BOARD MEETING
371 State Route 296, Hensonville, NY
Website: www.townofwindhamny.com**

AUGUST 27, 2020

Present: Supervisor: Thomas F. Hoyt
Councilmen: Wayne Van Valin, Ian Peters, Stephen Walker & Kurt Goettsche
Town Clerk: Bonnie Poehmel

Also Present: Town Attorney Larry Gardner, Police Chief Tor Tryland, William MacGregor, Eric Goettsche, Phyliss Parrish, and Mike Ryan Mountain Eagle

Absent: Ambulance Administrator Davia Montie, Highway Superintendent Gary Thorington & Delaware Engineering John Brust

The Supervisor called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm and asked Eric Goettsche opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

THE MINUTES OF THE AUGUST 13, 2020 TOWN BOARD MEETING were approved as typed on a motion by Councilman Peters, 2nd by Councilman Walker, with all in favor.

1. WILLIAM “Bill” MacGREGOR: Thanked the Town Board for accepting the petition from Mr. Rhoades at the last town board meeting on August 13, 2020. The petition was a neutral document

not taking the position one-way or the other. The same petition was given to the Planning Board at their meeting on August 6, 2020, regarding the "Recovery Center" as proposed in a site plan application looking to locate in the historical district, Main Street, Windham. Bill commented on highlighted moments of the past planning board meetings that he had attended regarding the "Recovery Center" and the Town Board meeting on August 13, 2020. In the conclusion of Bill's comments, he is hoping that the planning board members will all receive more training "on the proper procedure of conduction judicial business". The members all need to know the "proper running of planning board business". Bill noted he was a former town board member for 16 years. He has in his possession a copy of the "Town Law Manual." (**This manual is given out to only elected Supervisors and Town Board members.**) In this manual, there is a section on "Conducting a Town Board Meeting or Hearing." He has offered his services to the planning board members in giving them **guidance** on the proper process and procedures in conducting a public hearing.

2.ERIC GOETTSCHE was present to discuss speed limit on State Route 296 in front of the Thompson House. A letter was presented to the Board for their review. Eric writes, "vehicles whip across the bridge see the straightaway and accelerate. For years drivers ignored the two signs facing opposite directions at the crosswalk that states "**STATE LAW YIELD TO PEDESTRIANS IN CROSSWALK.**" Two years ago, we were pleased to receive a standalone sign to accompany the two signs that are there, which we put in the middle of Route 296 each morning and take away each evening. Despite being in the MIDDLE of the road, drivers will ignore "**STATE LAW YIELD TO PEDESTRIANS IN CROSSWALK.**" This new sign has been smashed by careless drivers. We spend time and resources trying to rebuild it whenever possible, and it has been replaced at least twice...We would like New York State DOT to address this dangerous situation before something tragic occurs...At the intersection of Route 23 and Route 296, the speed limit is 35 MPH. Upon turning onto Route 296, the speed limit increases to 40 MPH...With more people moving to Windham full time, as well as the dramatic increase in visitors to Windham Mountain, with Google recommends using Route 296 to get to, more traffic than ever is using Route 296...Also with the increase in pedestrian and bicycle traffic that will occur when the County Route 12 reconstruction is completed, we ask the Windham Town Board to direct the New York State Dept. of Transportation to reduce the speed limit to 30 MPH for Route 296." Supervisor Hoyt will make sure this letter is sent to Steve Shepard Resident Engineer at NYS DOT. Supervisor Hoyt stated that DOT will have to investigate with a traffic study. The Town Board has no issue with the speed limit going to 30 MPH through there.

3.PROPOSED TOWN SEWER CONNECTION on Panarama Lane. Darrin Elsom Kaaterskill Associates representing the proposed buyer of the property on Panarama Lane was not present. John Brust Delaware Engineering is having a conversation with Darrin concerning this matter. This has been tabled at this time.

4.DELAWARE ENGINEERING: John Brust was absent. His report was given to the Board for their review. "Our list of current project items includes the following: **Water Project** All project work, except for paving of County Rt. 65/Elm Street has been completed. Paving is scheduled to occur within the next two weeks. A comprehensive summary of the project work will be provided to the Board at the next Water Board meeting. **Wastewater Treatment Plant** Preparation of an Engineering Report that will provide an overall assessment of the WWTP is in progress. On a parallel track, D.E. staff are preparing engineering plans for the anticipated conversion from the originally installed force main emanating from the Old Rd pump station to the larger force main also installed back in 2004. **Ambulance Building** the Board has been provided with a revised site plan, building layout, and profile for the proposed building. A project budget of \$1.85 million has been provided to the Board. **Comprehensive Plan** Helen Budrock and the Comprehensive Plan committee are holding another of a series of meetings this afternoon. Today's topic is "Economic Development". A survey regarding resident aspirations for the Town is being assembled. To date, we have received 236 responses from the public. The survey is now closed and results are being analyzed. **Madd Brook – CWC Project** Bids for the Madd Brook work were opened on July 2nd. Delaware Bulldozing was selected and awarded the project. A pre-construction meeting is to be held tomorrow, August 28th with all involved parties. Fieldwork should take place over a two – three-week period. **CD Lane Park** D.E. staff have been supporting the development of a trail map for the proposed enhancements to the park. We are also evaluating options for a pedestrian bridge to be installed over the influent creek.

South Street - New Wastewater Connections There are two proposed new connections to the wastewater collection system along South Street. Our staff has been working with Kaaterskill Engineering on an evaluation of options. *Town Hall and Centre Church Improvements* These projects are temporarily on hold. Please let me know if you have any questions or comments about the items detailed in this report.”

5.ROAD DEDICATION: “The purpose of this letter is to formally request a road dedication in memory of my mother, Bridget R. Tompkins. Bridget (Bunny) Tompkins passed away on January 6, 2019, after a lifetime of dedicated service to this community. Bridget was born on March 24, 1940, in Brooklyn, NY. Upon graduating from Bishop McDonnell High School, Bunny Attended St. Catherine’s Nursing School in Brooklyn. During her studies and hands-on experience in the hospital, she vacationed at Sugar Maples in Maplecrest, New York where she met her future groom, Russell Tompkins Jr. Bunny and Russell were married on September 17, 1960. Bunny immediately relocated to the Tompkins Farm on Old Road in Windham, New York, and began her career as a registered nurse on the maternity floor at Catskill Memorial Hospital. Bunny later accepted a position as the school nurse at the Windham Ashland Jewett Central School where she remained for 44 dedicated years. Bunny loved being a school nurse and was a loyal and gentle friend to every student and staff member at WAJ. In addition to working full time at the Windham Ashland Jewett Central School, Bunny was actively involved in this community for over 50 years. Bunny and Russell fostered several infants and children and were host parents for Rotary exchange and other foreign students. Also, Bunny served as a Red Cross volunteer for the local swim program and annual blood drives. She also coordinated the Toys for Tots Program and Thanksgiving turkey and food drives across several towns on the mountaintop. After work and on the weekends, she consistently provided medical care and/or visited shut-ins, and spent quality time with the elderly in local nursing homes. As a result of her lifetime of service to our community, I would like to request that a portion of Old Road be dedicated to Bridget R. Tompkins. More specifically, I feel that the section between her home at 461 Old Road and the intersection of Route 23 and Old Road near the car wash is most appropriate as this was the path; she took each morning on her way to school. Thank you in advance for your support. Sincerely, Bridget Lopez.” Supervisor Hoyt spoke to Bridget and stated to her he was not in favor of renaming the road as it effects too many residents living on the road with their 911 addresses. Bridget’s intension is to have this road has a memorial to her mother “Bridget Tompkin’s Memorial Road”. The Supervisor asked the Board is they are interested in moving forward as a memorial road. A motion to approve was made by Councilman Walker, 2nd by Councilman Peters, with all in favor. The Supervisor asked the Town Clerk to get in touch with the Highway Superintendent for the paperwork, colors and to install the signs. Two signs will be needed, one will be out of the State right-away at the entrance of State Route 23/Old Road and the other sign near Jennie’s Notch/Cross Road.

6.BLOOD DRIVE seeking permission to use WWTP. “Right now, it is at the Town of Ashland 7:00 am-3:00 pm. We are keeping an eye on the weather and as of right now it looks like it is going to remain on the cooler side but we need to be prepared to have somewhere else in case it decides to warm up. We would probably decide by Wednesday.” Supervisor Hoyt, the Red Cross had contacted the Town Board should the weather on Saturday, August 29, 2020, be very hot, they would like permission to use the WWTP as this space is air-conditioned, whereas the Town of Ashland has no air-conditioning space. As it turns out the weather will be fine and the blood drive will remain in the Town of Ashland. Request has been withdrawn.

7.DRIVE THROUGH FLU CLINIC on September 24, 2020, at the Windham WWTP. “Just a follow up regarding our scheduled drive through Greene County Public Health Flu Clinic on September 24, 2020, at the Windham Waste Water Treatment Plant. Big Top will be setting up a tent on September 23 and will pick it up on September 24”. There is a pre-registration for anyone interested to please call 518-943-3600 before arrival. A motion to approve was made by Supervisor Hoyt, 2nd by Councilman Peters, with all in favor. Supervisor Hoyt asked Mike Ryan Mountain Eagle if this notice could be noted in the newspaper, “**Greene County Public Health drive through Flu Clinic on September 24, 2020, at the Windham Waste Water Treatment Plant for residents of the mountaintop. They will have to pre-register by calling 518-943-3600**”. Councilman Goettsche will put the notice on the website and Facebook.

8.AFFIDAVIT & APPLICATION FOR CERTIFICATE OF RESIDENCE: Brianna Terrill is a resident of Windham, Greene County, New York. She plans on attending Hudson Valley Community College. This affidavit is made for the purposes of securing from the Chief Fiscal Officer of the County of Greene a certificate of residence pursuant to the requirements of Article 126 of the Education law. A motion to approve was made by Councilman Van Valin, 2nd by Councilman Walker, with all in favor.

9.WINDHAM ROTARY CLUB is canceling their Tag Day/Coin Drop for October 10, 2020, and would like permission for next year October 9, 2021. "We would like to set up at the intersections of State Route 23/State Route 296 and at State Route 23/South Street between the hours of 10:00 am – 2:00 pm. With a rain date of October 10, 2021, if needed." A motion to approve was made by Councilman Walker, 2nd by Councilman Goettsche.

10.JUSTICE REPORT FOR JULY 2020: Justice McCarthy \$785.00 was noted by the Board.

11.EMPLOYEE HEALTH INSURANCE RENEWAL 2020-2021: The Town Board will be offering the three current health insurance plans and a fourth plan has been added for the employees to either stay where they are or accept the newest fourth plan that is being offered. The current dental and eye vision plans will remain as offered. Insurance premiums have gone up at about 5% this year. A letter will go out on Friday to each employee showing the new premium change for each plan that is offered. They may stay in their current plan or change to the plan that fits them best. Our insurance policy calendar renewal year is October 1 - September 30. A motion to approve to sign the insurance renewal contracts was made by Councilman Walker, 2nd by Councilman Van Valin, with all in favor.

12.TOWN BOARD RESOLUTION #26 OF 2020: the following resolution was proposed to transfer funds to balance the Sewer District accounts. A motion to approve was made by Councilman Goettsche, 2nd by Councilman Peters, with all in favor. GENERAL FUND RESOLUTION #15 OF 2020: the following resolution was proposed to transfer funds to balance the General Fund accounts. A motion to approve was made by Councilman Peters, 2nd by Councilman Goettsche, with all in favor.

13.GREENE COUNTY RESOLUTION #214-20: Urging Governor Cuomo to Sign State Legislative Bill A.9952B to Prohibit the Incineration of Firefighting Foam Containing Per-And Poly-Fluoroalkyl Substances in Cohoes; GREENE COUNTY RESOLUTION #222-20: Awarding Bid for Propane; GREENE COUNTY RESOLUTION #238-20: Authorizing Chargeback of Assessment Roll Related Services and Material, Windham \$211.09

14.AMBULANCE REPORT: Ambulance Administrator Davia Montie was not present. No report was submitted for the meeting. **Ambulance Liaison Councilman Peters** reported Davia and her staff are happy that the proposed ambulance building is moving forward and will be presented to the taxpayers on the election ballot November 2020. He is working with Davia on coaching personnel issue.

15.CODE ENFORCEMENT REPORT: Report has been submitted to the Board for their review. Any questions should be directed to Dominick Caropreso.

16.HIGHWAY REPORT: Highway Superintendent Gary Thorington was not present. No report was submitted for the meeting. **Highway Liaison Councilman Van Valin** reported a group of local senior residents has been keeping the Windham Path clean from trash left behind from our Visitors. The highway department has been working on the regular brush hogging and maintenance for this time of the year. The highway department is starting to haul sand/salt for the upcoming winter.

17.POLICE REPORT: Police Chief Tor Tryland was present. The Board was presented a draft copy "Application for Tuition Reimbursement" for Police Officer Charles Rion and Police Officer Thomas Parquez. A motion to approve the application for Police Officer Thomas Parquez was made by Councilman Peters, 2nd by Councilman Goettsche, with all in favor. A motion to approve the application for Police Officer Charles Rion was made by Councilman

Walker, 2nd by Councilman Peters, with all in favor. The Chief gave the following report to the Board, it is that time of year where we do the range again. Range with Article 35/Use of Force training with the Durham Police Dept. They take good care of us. They do a great job. The Car Show at the Chicken Run went well. It was very busy. The Chief would like permission from the Board to send the two newest police officers for Radar Training, Breathalyzer Training, and Taser Training. All training will be held on various days in September. A motion to approve the training was made by Councilman Peters, 2nd by Councilman Goettsche, with all in favor. Police Reform and Reinvention Collaboration this adoption must be in place on or before April 1, 2021, to the State Budget Director per orders from Governor Andrew M. Cuomo. The Governor is asking for "Review the needs of the community served by its police agency, and evaluate the department's current policies and practices." We need to put a board together to do this. "Establish policies that allow police to effectively and safely perform their duties; Involve the entire community in the discussion; Develop policy recommendations resulting from this review; Offer a plan for public comment; Present a plan to the local legislative body to ratify or adopt it, and; Certify adoption of the plan to the State Budget Director on or before April 1, 2021." Supervisor Hoyt would like the Chief to get back to the Board on how many members will be needed for this committee. And any recommendations you have of naming those in the community to be on the committee with you. A book has been received by the Chief on this task. The Chief had received an email about a drug situation on the mountaintop. Windham PD works very closely with the Greene County Sherriff's Office. The Chief would like to announce there is a **Drug Tip Line for Greene County 518-719-3571**.

18.COMMITTEE REPORTS: **Councilman Van Valin**, the highway dept has been working with him at the Centre Property. They are re-edging the sidewalk, minor repairs with stone dust, and will be resetting some of the stones in the spring. The handicap ramp roof was put off due to the COVID-19 and the heat from the hot summer, not that it is starting to cool off the contractor will hopefully be able to complete. Councilman Walker asked about the sidewalk in front of Jimmy Lawrence's building. Supervisor Hoyt asked Toby Hubbell for a quote to repair that section of the sidewalk in front of the Windham Hardware. A window had fallen out of the Centre Property. The highway took care of the window and the glazing repair. **Attorney Larry Gardner** is working on some continuing things but has nothing to report on at this time. **Councilman Walker** beginning of this week we had a communication issue with the Court Clerk and he did speak with to Justice McCarthy. Communications is a primary issue. **Councilman Peters** has been working with the Highway Superintendent as he is having email issues with Dig Safety tickets. **Councilman Goettsche** has been working on continuing the updates with Facebook and the town website. He has spoken to KathodeRay as our website requires more space. He is trying to verify the Centre Property, Windham Path and CD Lane Park and any other properties that the town owns, as he is trying to manage all this on the website; with events, hours, etc. The Supervisor would like to make a motion to authorize Councilman Goettsche to spend up to \$500.00 to update whatever he needs to do with KathodeRay. As this is a very important part of our communications with the public. A motion to approve was made by Supervisor Hoyt, 2nd by Councilman Walker, with all in favor. Councilman Goettsche has been in communications with Jay Fink regarding the Wednesday Reporter's Notebook radio show on WRIP 97 at 3:30 pm with updates of what the Windham Town Board is doing. Anyone missing the radio show can hear it now on our website. **Supervisor Hoyt** spoke to Scott Templeton. South Street they are still waiting for a couple of sub-contractors to get approved. He is still having an issue with the telephone company moving forward moving their cables. The project is still underway for moving forward this fall. Mid-Hudson Cablevision will be conducting another survey on High Peak Road to add cablevision there. CD Lane Park has been getting great compliments, Supervisor Hoyt would like to thank Phyliss Parrish for her help in that project.

GENERAL FUND WARRANT #16-G contained vouchers #597-653, totaling \$48,310.65 was audited and approved for payment on a motion by Councilman Goettsche, 2nd by Councilman Van Valin, with all in favor.

HIGHWAY FUND WARRANT #15 contained vouchers #159-171, totaling \$245,764.95 was audited and approved for payment on a motion by Councilman Van Valin, 2nd by Councilman Goettsche, with all in favor.

SEWER DISTRICT FUND WARRANT #16 contained vouchers #210-224, totaling \$40,843.99 was audited and approved on a motion by Councilman Van Valin, 2nd by Councilman Goettsche, with all in favor. Supervisor Hoyt stated due to COVID-19, DEP is backed up on their reimbursements to the Town of Windham. A letter regarding this was received from Tom Salter.

SIDEWALK MAINTENANCE DISTRICT WARRANT #2 contained voucher #2, totaling \$0.50 was audited and approved for payment on a motion by Councilman Goettsche, 2nd by Councilman Van Valin, with all in favor.

GENERAL FUND PAYROLL WARRANT #18-P for **General** contained 8 claims, totaling \$9,734.20 was audited and approved for payment on a motion by Councilman Goettsche, 2nd by Councilman Van Valin, with all in favor. **Ambulance** contained 19 claims, totaling \$14,902.41 was audited and approved for payment on a motion by Councilman Goettsche, 2nd by Councilman Van Valin, with all in favor. **Police** payroll contained 4 claims, totaling \$4,203.99 was audited and approved for payment on a motion by Councilman Goettsche, 2nd by Councilman Van Valin, with all in favor.

HIGHWAY PAYROLL WARRANT #18-P contained 4 claims, totaling \$6,847.95 was audited and approved for payment on a motion by Councilman Van Valin, 2nd by Councilman Goettsche, with all in favor.

SEWER DISTRICT FUND PAYROLL WARRANT #18-P contained 3 claims, totaling \$545.18 was audited and approved for payment on a motion by Councilman Goettsche, 2nd by Councilman Van Valin, with all in favor.

The meeting adjourned at 7:40 pm on a motion by Councilman Peters, 2nd by Councilman Walker, with all in favor.

SUPERVISOR

COUNCILMAN

COUNCILMAN

COUNCILMAN

COUNCILMAN

TOWN CLERK
