

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

**DECEMBER 28, 2023**

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

**Also Present:** Ambulance Administrator Davia Montie, Highway Superintendent Gary Thorington, James Stone, Jon Licurse, Marianne Brigham, Town Attorney Tal Rappleyea was on phone

**Absent:** Delaware Engineering John Brust & Mike Ryan Mountain Eagle

The Supervisor called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

THE MINUTES OF THE DECEMBER 14, 2023, TOWN BOARD MEETING were approved as typed on a motion by Councilman Goettsche, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilman Van Valin, with 4 in favor, Councilman Peters was absent.

1.TOWN BOARD RESOLUTION #117 OF 2023: “WHEREAS, the provisions of the Real Property Tax Law allows a municipality to establish a Senior Citizen’s Tax Exemption (RPTL §467) as well as the Persons with Disabilities and Limited Income Tax Exemption (RPTL §459-c); and WHEREAS, the Town Board of the Town of Windham hereby establishes the maximum income limit for a 50% exemption would be adjusted to \$35,100.00 with full sliding scales for both exemptions; and NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Town Board of the Town of Windham hereby establishes the maximum income limit of \$35,100.00 for the year 2024 for Senior Citizen’s Tax Exemption as well as the Persons with Disabilities and Limited Income Tax Exemption Maximum Income Limit that are residents of the Town of Windham. A motion to adopt this resolution was made by Councilman Walker, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilman Goettsche, with all in favor.

2.CWC BOARD OF DIRECTORS NOMINATIONS: The director whose term is expiring is Thomas Hoyt; and he currently holds this seat on the Board of Directors. The Director elected pursuant to this election shall serve a four (4) year term. The nominee must be a resident of a town in your county and must also be a publicly elected official. A motion to nominate Thomas Hoyt was made by Councilman Walker, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilman Peters, with all in favor.

3.REMO NOTIFICATION FOR Permanent Operating Certificate for the Town of Ashland: Under Section #3008 of Article 30 of the Public Health Law of the State of New York: Determination of public need for a Permanent Operating Certificate. This was sent to the Town of Windham as a FYI.

4.TOWN BOARD #118 OF 2023: to authorize the Supervisor to use \$2.00 from Unanticipated Revenue to balance the accounts in the Streetlighting Fund as per Streetlighting Fund Resolution #119 of 2023. A motion to adopt this resolution was made by Councilman Van Valin, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilman Goettsche, with all in favor. TOWN BOARD RESOLUTION #119 OF 2023: the following resolution was proposed to transfer funds to balance the Streetlighting Fund accounts. A motion to adopt this resolution was made by Councilman Van Valin, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilman Goettsche, with all in favor. TOWN BOARD RESOLUTION #120 OF 2023: the following resolution was proposed to transfer funds to balance the Sewer District accounts. A motion to adopt this resolution was made by Councilman Peters, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilman Goettsche, with all in favor. AMBULANCE FUND RESOLUTION #13 OF 2023: the following resolution was proposed to transfer funds to balance the Ambulance District accounts. A motion to adopt this resolution was made by Councilman Goettsche, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilman Peters, with all in favor. GENERAL FUND RESOLUTION #22 OF 2023: the following resolution was proposed to transfer funds to balance the General Fund accounts. A motion to adopt this resolution was made by Councilman Peters, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilman Goettsche, with all in favor.

5.GREENE COUNTY RESOLUTION #422-23: Authorizing Chargeback of Election Related Services and Materials; GREENE COUNTY RESOLUTION #423-23: Authorizing Delinquent Water, Sewer and Sidewalk Charges be added to Assessment Rolls; GREENE COUNTY RESOLUTION #426-23: Town Levies.

6.AMBULANCE REPORT: Ambulance Administrator Davia Montie was present. Weekend shifts are covered through January 2024 for ALS with a minimum of overtime. Ambulance Administrator Davia Montie would like to thank the Supervisor and the Town Board for their continued support and the new building is wonderful. Supervisor Hoyt will not be signing the EMS Contract for 2024. The following report was submitted to the Board for their review “*Calls for the Month of November 2023: Calls in Windham: Advanced Life Support (ALS)-8, Basic Life Support (BLS)-8, Call Cancelled (C/C)-1; Calls in Jewett: ALS-6; Calls in Hunter: RMA-1; Calls in Cairo: ALS-1; Calls in Ashland (Prattsville) ALS-2; Calls turned over to Mutual Aid: Ashland-2, Hunter-1. Total calls for November: 33, County Coverage Request Amb S/B-2, Stand by for GCEMS-1. Vehicle Mileage Log for November 2023: 96-1: 94,284 and the new 96-2: 2,498*”.

7.ASSESSOR’S REPORT: The following report was submitted by Richard Tollner to the Board for their review: “Prepping year’s data for use in 2024 applications. Ready to assist all Exemption documentation to assist AG, VETERAN, DISABILITY, SENIOR STAR and Firefighter First Responder Exemptions. Contact made with chiefs of the local Fire Departments to assist their members in obtaining their well deserved exemption(s) for January informal meet(s). Seniors will have a presentation at their Jan/Feb meet. Work on, and contribution to Windham Zoning commission continues. Fielded @ dozen responses / follow up phone calls and contacts form the November presentation to the public at the Windham Senior & Community Room. Still addressing, *successfully* navigating the challenges of Windows 11; and our NYS software. Received confirmation from NYS Office of Real Property Tax Services – Educational Services Division that next year 2024 Continuing Education requirements are met and now exceeded. Inquiries on the WINDHAM MOUNTAIN CLUB process, continues. The office supplies solely data, without comment or critique of the marketplace. Inquiries come in from news media, investors, locally concerned parties, and realtors. Looking forward to a challenging workload in 2024, with the numerous and fluctuating conditions in the Windham real estate community.”

6.HIGHWAY REPORT: Highway Superintendent Gary Thorington was present. Supervisor Hoyt would like to thank the highway dept for their help to Chief Selner in organizing the old golden agers room. The police dept will be taking over that space. The diesel pump went bad last week; the pump itself was bad. The vendor gave out good service after the sale to help with the problem. Last week the town had heavy rains, there was no loss to town roads; just a lot of debris to pick up. Highway Superintendent Gary Thorington would like to suggest to the Board to start considering about the next equipment to be purchased as this is a state wide mess all deliveries are 18-24 months out and it is not getting better but worse. They are now requiring a “Letter of Intent” for purchase.

7.POLICE REPORT: Thank you to the highway dept for their help downstairs. The Chief was able to fill the open spots with the veteran police staff. The Chief has finally had access to the computer and will start in 2024 with the accountability report.

8.COMMITTEE REPORT: **Councilman Walker** went to a CWT meeting on December 18, 2023, Paul Rush, DEP was there. They talked about 3 & 4 land classifications; as they want to cut back on the purchases of the land in 3 & 4. There will be a big meeting in January and February 2024. They continue to have talks about the easements on previous parcels; stewardship along the creek banks and land as there is a big Knot Weed problem. DEP is looking to cap land at \$15,000 per acre in our area. **Supervisor Hoyt** stated that a subdivision came into the planning board meeting for a subdivision at the end of Nauvoo Road. The application has been rescinded as it is a violation to our law. A letter was sent out. Supervisor Hoyt stated, Delaware Engineering is talking with CWC for a funding study. What is the capacity at the WWTP to treat septic so we are not under? There are two watershed communities in this study the Town of Windham and the Town of Prattsville. **Councilman Van Valin** the tree lighting

and the menorah lighting went well. The Centre Property has a new fuel account with Bottini Fuels and we are able to buy off the highway state bid. Thank you to the highway dept for their continued help with the signs in town and all the other jobs they help out with all year. **Councilman Goettsche** has the town website all updated. **Councilman Peters** is working on the citizen's report with Dan King, this will be zero cost to our tax payers. **Town Attorney Tal Rappleyea** there has been a falling out with the contractor and project owner on the west side of town. In the coming year 2024, a new contractor will be finishing off that project. They would like to attend the next meeting in January 2024 to discuss with the Town Board and John Brust of Delaware Engineering issues with DEP and the WWTP system.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC: Marianne Brigham was present. She would like to discuss the "Unsafe Building Law". Supervisor Hoyt will review the law and has declined to discuss the issue until he has read the law. Marianne would like to formally say: the homeowner needs a letter from the town to take care of his unsafe and unsightly building with upstairs windows left open. Second she would like to discuss the Lysy Subdivision on Mill Street. They are currently are building a new home (currently listed for sale) and before they get their Certificate of Occupancy; she wants to make sure the fence goes up as discussed and approved at the planning board. Third she would like to discuss the site plan for the other properties there. The site plan was approved for houses under 3,500 square feet and she would like to know what other structures have been approved to go up? Supervisor Hoyt noted to Marianne that escrow accounts are being set up for each project that is discussed at the planning board meetings. The escrow accounts are set up the Town Attorney Tal Rappleyea.

GENERAL FUND WARRANT #24-G contained vouchers #795-834, totaling \$27,364.48 was audited and approved for payment on a motion by Councilman Van Valin, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilman Goettsche, with all in favor.

HIGHWAY FUND WARRANT #24 contained vouchers #236-241, totaling \$3,066.82 was audited and approved for payment on a motion by Councilman Goettsche, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilman Van Valin, with all in favor.

SEWER DISTRICT FUND WARRANT #24 contained vouchers #325-336, totaling \$10,514.39 was audited and approved on a motion by Councilman Van Valin, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilman Goettsche, with all in favor.

AMBULANCE FUND WARRANT #23 contained vouchers #236-251, totaling \$5,084.22 was audited and approved for payment on a motion by Councilman Goettsche, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilman Van Valin, with all in favor.

NY RISING WARRANT #44 contained vouchers #74, totaling \$440,641.59 was audited and approved for payment on a motion by Councilman Van Valin, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilman Goettsche, with all in favor.

GENERAL FUND PAYROLL WARRANT #26-P for **General** contained 8 claims, totaling \$7,925.44 was audited and approved for payment on a motion by Councilman Goettsche, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilman Van Valin, with all in favor. **Ambulance** payroll contained 18 claims, totaling \$18,122.18 was audited and approved for payment on a motion by Councilman Goettsche, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilman Van Valin, with all in favor. **Police** payroll contained 7 claims, totaling \$9,264.59 was audited and approved for payment on a motion by Councilman Goettsche, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilman Van Valin, with all in favor.

HIGHWAY PAYROLL WARRANT #26-P contained 6 claims, totaling \$11,715.84 was audited and approved for payment on a motion by Councilman Van Valin, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilman Goettsche, with all in favor.

**TOWN BOARD MEETING (CON'T)**

**DECEMBER 28, 2023**

SEWER DISTRICT FUND PAYROLL WARRANT #26-P contained 1 claim, totaling \$92.60 was audited and approved for payment on a motion by Councilman Goettsche, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilman Van Valin, with all in favor.

The meeting adjourned at 7:38 p.m. on a motion by Councilman Peters, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilman Goettsche, with all in favor.

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SUPERVISOR

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COUNCILMAN

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COUNCILMAN

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COUNCILMAN

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COUNCILMAN

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TOWN CLERK

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HAPPY NEW YEAR!

OFFICIAL