



# Town Board Meeting

## Minutes

**Tuesday, October 10, 2023 at 7:00 pm**

Attendees: Board Members Present- Jeffrey Horton, Michael Austin, John Tschantre, James Drumm -Absent Glenn Vogel: Also Present, Michelle Seeley Town Clerk, Wendy Oman Bookkeeper, Jacqui Kohman Water Admin, Jim Overhiser Code Enforcement Officer, Thomas Austin Highway Superintendent

### Guests

Norman Maynard, Denise Thompson, Wayne Cosier, Randy Personius, Sara Jordin, Brenden Jordin-Reed, Alex Jordin-Reed

#### 1. Pledge / Call to Order / Roll Call

**Minutes:**

Glenn Vogel Absent.

#### 2. Troop 79 Eagle Scout Projects

**Minutes:**

Jeffrey Horton invited the two Eagle Scouts from Troop 79 in Painted Post, who were, in attendance to share their proposed projects. Brenden Jordin-Reed would like to build 4 benches for the players to use during the games. The Benches would be made of wood and would be moveable. He would also like to repair the benches that are currently there. The materials would be purchased with money raised from fundraising. Michael Austin questioned if the benches would be painted or stained- John Tschantre suggested stain instead of paint. Thomas Austin said it would be a good project- the Board agreed. Alex Jordin-Reed proposed building a scoreboard for the various games. It would be made from 6x6 posts and set 3' into the ground with concrete- no electricity. The numbers and the materials would be purchased with money raised from fundraising. Michael Austin suggested that Alex buy bags of concrete and pour it into the hole with the posts. The Board agreed that this would be a good project. Jeffrey Horton let the young men know to let the Town know what they would need from the Board.

#### 3. Prior Minutes

**Minutes:**

A motion by Michael Austin to accept the Draft minutes from the September 11, 2023, Town Board meeting as the final minutes was seconded by John Tschantre- was Adopted

**Vote results:**

Ayes: 4 / Nays: 0

#### 4. Reports

##### a. HWY / Water Report

**Minutes:**

Thomas Austin recently attended the Highway Superintendent Conference in Syracuse. There are several changes being proposed in the Hudson Valley area that may affect the rest of the state. There is a push to lower the salt consumption for the roads, or move to using another substance such as sand. The cost of the change would be very high. Michael Austin asked if this would be a law or mandate? Thomas Austin said that he was not sure, but like other changes made in the Hudson Valley, they would migrate to our area. Michael Austin questioned whether Towns would have to go to electric vehicles for their Highway Departments. There is no new news on the electric vehicle front, but at this time it is not feasible for small towns.

Water- We are able to connect from the main by Tim Cole's house by the railroad tracks to the new meter pit. Which dead-ended the fire hydrant near the railroad tracks. That hydrant will be removed, and the valve given back to Tom Austin for spare parts. A new hydrant was placed and passed all pressure tests. Yard work will begin in the spring to allow for settling ground. Denice Thompson asked when people can begin to hook up, and how late can they hook up this year. Thomas Austin said the lateness of hookups will depend on the weather. As long as the contractor can break ground safely. Norm Maynard asked if money was being held back from the bills until the project is completed. Thomas Austin confirmed that 5% of each bill was being held back.

##### b. Bookkeeper Report

**Minutes:**

Revenue General AIM Sharing \$ 43,771.00

Water Extension WIAA Draw 18 Received \$ 55,781.42 Draw 19 Received \$146,221.25

Transfers Needed FROM AMOUNT TO DESCRIPTION A1010.4 Town Board \$900.00

A3510.4 Dog Retention of dogs for county case DA Fund Balance \$10,000.00 DA5110.4

Contractual \$4,802.87 DA5130.4 Contractual \$2,500.00 DA5142.4 Contractual \$2,697.13

A motion to approve the report with transfers was made by Michael Austin and seconded by James Drumm, adopted by vote;

**Vote results:**

Ayes: 4 / Nays: 0

##### c. Codes

**Minutes:**

A motion to appoint James Overhiser as the Code Enforcement officer to the end of 2023 was made by Michael Austin and seconded by James Drumm, adopted by roll call vote;

**Vote results:**

Ayes: 4 / Nays: 0

##### d. Dog Control

**Minutes:**

Jeffrey Horton spoke to Brooks Baker from the County about the issue of the SPCA taking animals that are involved in criminal investigations. The county's official shelter is the SPCA, any calls that the DCO or his deputy take that involve criminal charges, are to be transferred to the SPCA in Bath.

**e. Assessors Report**

**f. Supervisor Report**

**g. Town Clerk Report**

**5. Old Business**

**6. New Business**

**a. Revised Tentative Budget review to Preliminary Budget**

**Minutes:**

The Bookkeeper, Wendy Oman went over the revisions to the Tentative Budget for 2024 including the portions discussed in the executive session in the September 11, 2023 meeting. Wendy Oman discussed using funds from the Fund Balance to decrease the expected increase in taxes for 2024. A motion to accept the changes and adopt the 2024 Revised Tentative Budget as the 2024 Preliminary Budget was made by John Tschantre and seconded by James Drumm the motion was Adopted by roll call vote:

With Michel Austin voting no- because he does not agree with the 4% raise for the Board. Everything else looks okay.

**Vote results:**

Ayes: 3 / Nays: 1

**b. Water District 2 &3 Increase**

**Minutes:**

In order to make the water districts support themselves with the increase in the current costs of water an increase of up to \$1.50 per EDU will be needed. A resolution to increase water rents in Districts 2&3 up to \$1.50 per EDU was made by James Drumm and Seconded by Michael Austin was adopted by roll call vote:

**Vote results:**

Ayes: 4 / Nays: 0

**c. Set Public hearing for preliminary budget**

**Minutes:**

A motion to set the public hearing on the Revised Preliminary Budget for October 23, 2023, at 7:00 p.m., was made by Michael Austin and seconded by John Tschantre, adopted by vote

**Vote results:**

Ayes: 4 / Nays: 0

**d. LL 2 of 2023 Amended Zoning Law**

**Minutes:**

A motion to adopt LL 2 of 2023 entitled "Amendment to the 2016 Zoning law", was made by James Drumm and Seconded by John Tschantre. Was Adopted by vote. The Clerk was instructed to file LL # 2 of @023 with the State.

**Vote results:**

Ayes: 4 / Nays: 0

**e. Set Public Hearing for LL 3 of 2023- Tax Cap Override**

**Minutes:**

A motion to set the public hearing on LL # 3 of 2023 "Tax Cap Override" for October 23, 2023, at 7:00 p.m., was made by Michael Austin and seconded by James Drumm, adopted by vote.

**Vote results:**

Ayes: 4 / Nays: 0

**f. LL #4 of 2023 IMPOSING A THREE-YEAR MORATORIUM ON BATTERY ENERGY STORAGE SYSTEMS**

**Minutes:**

A motion to set the public hearing on LL # 4 of 2023 "IMPOSING A THREE-YEAR MORATORIUM ON BATTERY ENERGY STORAGE SYSTEMS" for November 13, 2023, at 7:00 p.m., was made by Michael Austin and seconded by James Drumm, adopted by vote.

**Vote results:**

Ayes: 4 / Nays: 0

**7. Public Comment**

**8. Announcements**

**9. Voucher Audit**

**Minutes:**

A-General 279-302 & 304 \$27,122.04 SL- Street Lighting 303 \$ 755.74 DA- Highway 157-168 \$ 291,721.56 SW1- Water District 1 45-55 \$ 6,549.24 SW2- Water District 2 20-22 \$ 851.06 SW-3 Water District 3 22-24 \$ 2,613.75 SW4- Water District 4 11-15 \$ 4,779.67 H-3 Capital Projects 46-47 \$ 503,068.49 FD1- Fire District 1 \$ FD2- Fire District 2 \$ TA- Trust and Agency 11 \$ 205.00  
TOTAL \$ 837,666.55

**10. Executive Session Capitol Plan**

**Minutes:**

A motion by John Tschantre seconded by James Drumm to enter into an executive session to discuss the Capitol Plan at 8;20 p.m. was adopted by vote 4-0

A motion to exit the executive session at 8;30 p.m. was made by James Drumm seconded by Michael Austin was adopted by vote

**Vote results:**

Ayes: 4 / Nays: 0

**11. Adjournment**

**Minutes:**

A motion by Michael Austin seconded by James Drumm to close the meeting at 8:31 p.m. was adopted by vote

**Vote results:**

Ayes: 4 / Nays: 0

