

**REGULAR MEETING
OF THE
TOWN BOARD
TOWN OF STEPHENTOWN
26 GRANGE HALL ROAD, STEPHENTOWN, NEW YORK 12168
APRIL 17, 2023**

The Regular meeting of the Town Board, Town of Stephentown was called to order by *Supervisor Philip Roder* at **7:02PM** at the Town Hall.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

(X) *Supervisor Philip (PJ) Roder*

(X) *Council William Jennings*

() *Council Everett Madden*

(X) *Council Diana Clark*

(X) *Council Kyle Kidney*

(X) *Town Clerk Stephanie Hoffman*

(X) *High. Superin. Alden Goodermote*

(X) *Assessor, Jennifer Van Deusen*

(X) *Code Enforcement Officer, Owen Cassavaugh*

A quorum (X) was ()
wasn't established.
2 from the Public were present

AUDIT OF CLAIMS:

- Claim #89-23 through #119-23 in the amount of **\$19,623.61 to be approved** from the **General Account**
- Claim #63-23 through #78-23 in the amount of **\$62,877.08 to be approved** from the **Highway Account**
- For a **Total of \$82,500.69** audited and approved by the Town Board.

MOTION BY: KIDNEY

SECONDED BY: JENNINGS

VOTES OF: 4 AYE

0 NAY

0 ABSTAINED

Minutes of the **March 20, 2023 Regular Town Board Meeting** were approved by the Town Board as written.

MOTION BY: JENNINGS

SECONDED BY: KIDNEY

VOTES OF: 4 AYE

0 NAY

0 ABSTAINED

TOWN CLERKS REPORT: The Town Clerk turned over the sum of **\$968.00** to the Supervisor for the month of **MARCH 2023**.

JUSTICE COURT REPORT: The distribution from the office of the State Comptroller, Justice Court Fund to the Town of Stephentown for the month of **January, February or March of 2023** has not been received to date.

TRANSFER STATION REPORT: The Transfer Station deposited a total of \$ 5,452.00 for the month of **MARCH 2023**.

Bags:\$4,344

C&D & Metal: \$937

Tires:\$16

Stickers:\$110

Appl. & Electronics: \$45

Propane Tanks: \$0

Council Jennings: \$1,000 less from last year, Reminder on Clean Up Day and Hazardous Waste Day. Paint Cans are now always accepted at the Transfer Station.

ACCOUNT TOTALS:

GENERAL \$1,854,170.63

HIGHWAY \$525,002.12

GENERAL RESERVE FUND \$651,343.61

HIGHWAY RESERVE FUND \$511,406.36

BEACON ESCROW \$ 885.19

BEACON ESCROW FOR PLANT (BOND) \$5,000 & \$70,000.

ARPA ACCOUNT: \$285,177.21

2022 -AUD Report for 2022 has been filed with the State and the Town Clerk's Office.

MEETING OPEN TO PUBLIC COMMENT:

Kim R. (Library Director): Provided update to Youth Commission and Library. 122 attended the Easter Party, 25 teens on teen night. Working on getting Camp ready. Summer Food is set up, Library numbers are increasing.

Council Jennings: asks if numbers are back to pre-pandemic.

Kim R.: numbers are still lower than in 2018.

Supervisor Roder: asks about the "bake section" in the library.

Kim R.: There are over 40 cake pans that people are allowed to rent out, tons of options.

Jennifer P.: provided a Fire Dept. update for March – there we 14 EMS calls, 4 without transportation, 10 with transportation, 3 structure fires, 1 mutual aid (Petersburg) and 13 weather/wire down related calls. Year to date 72 calls, on 5/28 at 11am Life Net Helicopter drill in Gardner's field will take place. Ambulance is back, huge Thanks to Berlin for allowing Stephentown to use an ambulance.

REPORT FROM THE TOWN BOARD AND TOWN OFFICES:

Assessor's office is getting prepaid for Grievance Day.

Supervisor Roder asks Code Enforcement if he had any updates to provide

C.E.O. Cassavaugh: reported that he was there to follow up on the Solar Regulations

Supervisor Roder: thoughts go out to the Eckhardt Family, they had a barn burn down and lost a lot, they are overwhelmed with the amount of support they have received from the community. The Board has been discussing the possibility on changing terms of offices for those two year elected terms. This would go on the ballot for public vote. Current two year terms are the Town Clerk, Tax Collector, Highway Superintendent and the Town Supervisor. We have two choices, pass resolutions and place it on the ballot and have some informational meetings closer to election or we can pass local laws and hold a public hearing to pass the local law for it to go on the ballot. Would the board like to pass resolutions or local laws?

Council Jennings: agrees that the resolutions are cleaner, agrees to read resolutions tonight and vote at the May meeting. Post it up on the website for public review and welcome comments and questions.

Supervisor Roder: This is not a law just resolutions to put on the ballot, each position will be separate and the public can vote on each term separately.

RESOLUTION# 25- 2023

OPENING OF SEALED LAWN MOWING BIDS FOR 2023

WHEREAS: the Town Board requested sealed BIDs for the 2023 Lawn Mowing at the Town Park and the Town Hall, and

WHEREAS: the Town Clerk's Office received 1 sealed BIDs by April 17, 2023, at 7:00PM from:

1. Everything Green Lawn & Landscape for the amount of \$896.00 for the Season for Town Hall AND \$1,036.00 for the Season for Town Park

now therefore be it

RESOLVED: that the Town Board would like to award the 2023 Lawn Mowing to Everything Green Lawn & Landscape for the amount of \$1,036.00 for the Town Park and \$896.00 for the Town Hall.

MOTION BY: Roder **SECONDED BY:** Kidney

VOTES OF: 4 AYE 0 NAY

RESOLUTION# 26 - 2023

TOWN OF STEPHENTOWN AUTHORIZING THE SOLICITATION OF BIDS FOR THE TOWN GARAGE AND THE TOWN HALL NON-LEGALLY REQUIRED EMERGENCY AUTOMATIC STANDBY GENERATOR SYSTEMS

WHEREAS: the Town Board desires to solicit bid for the project identified as the “Town Garage AND Town Hall Non-Legally Required Emergency Automatic Standby Generator Systems” and now therefore be it

RESOLVED: that the Town Board hereby calls for bid proposals for said project, in conformance with the bid specifications and Notice To Bidders, available at the Town Clerk’s Office, which are to be received and considered publicly at the Town Hall, on the 15th day of May, 2023 at 7:00 p.m., the time and place specified in said public notice.

MOTION BY: Clark **SECONDED BY:** Jennings

VOTES OF: 4 AYE 0 NAY

Supervisor Roder: This project will be funded via ARPA funds. BIDs are to be bidded together as one project. Companies interested are expected to complete both projects.

RESOLUTION # 27 of 2023 A RESOLUTION INCREASING THE TERM OF OFFICE FOR THE TOWN SUPERVISOR FROM A TWO (2) YEAR TO FOUR (4) YEARS.

WHEREAS, the Town Board of the Town of Stephentown has proposed an increase in the term of offices from two (2) years to four (4) years for the office of **Town Supervisor**; and

WHEREAS, Town Law Section 24-a permits an increase in the terms of office of elective officers for the Town, being the **Town Supervisor** by mandatory referendum at a biennial Town election.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED AND DETERMINED, that pursuant to the provisions of Town Law Section 24-a, that the term of office of elective **Town Supervisor** of the Town of Stephentown shall be four years upon submission to the qualified electors of the Town at the next biennial Town election to be held on November 7th, 2023; and be it further

RESOLVED, that should a majority of the electors cast votes in the affirmative, then the term of office of the **Town Supervisor** thereafter elected shall be for a period of four years; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the term of office, if approved, shall supersede the application of Town Law Section 24 in the Town of Stephentown with respect to the term of office for the **Town Supervisor**.

MOTION TO TABLE BY: JENNINGS

SECONDED BY: CLARK

VOTES OF: 4 AYE 0 NAY

Verbiage to be submitted to the Board of Elections (150 days prior to election):

“Shall Resolution 27 of the year 2023, A Resolution Increasing the Term of Office of the Town Supervisor from Two(2) to Four (4) years be approved?”

RESOLUTION # 28 of 2023 A RESOLUTION INCREASING THE TERM OF OFFICE FOR THE TOWN SUPERINTENDENT OF HIGHWAYS FROM A TWO (2) YEAR TO FOUR (4) YEARS.

WHEREAS, the Town Board of the Town of Stephentown has proposed an increase in the term of offices from two (2) years to four (4) years for the office of **Town Superintendent of Highways**; and

WHEREAS, Town Law Section 24-a permits an increase in the terms of office of elective officers for the Town, being the **Town Superintendent of Highways** by mandatory referendum at a biennial Town election.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED AND DETERMINED, that pursuant to the provisions of Town Law Section 24-a, that the term of office of elective **Town Superintendent of Highways** of the Town of Stephentown shall be four years upon submission to the qualified electors of the Town at the next biennial Town election to be held on November 7th, 2023; and be it further

RESOLVED, that should a majority of the electors cast votes in the affirmative, then the term of office of the **Town Superintendent of Highways** thereafter elected shall be for a period of four years; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the term of office, if approved, shall supersede the application of Town Law Section 24 in the Town of Stephentown with respect to the term of office for the **Town Superintendent of Highways**.

MOTION TO TABLE BY: JENNINGS **SECONDED BY: KIDNEY**
VOTES OF: 4 AYE 0 NAY

Verbiage to be submitted to the Board of Elections (150 days prior to election):

"Shall Resolution 28 of the year 2023, A Resolution Increasing the Term of Office of the Town Superintendent of Highways from Two(2) to Four (4) years be approved?"

RESOLUTION # 29 of 2023 A RESOLUTION INCREASING THE TERM OF OFFICE FOR THE TOWN TAX COLLECTOR FROM A TWO (2) YEAR TO FOUR (4) YEARS.

WHEREAS, the Town Board of the Town of Stephentown has proposed an increase in the term of offices from two (2) years to four (4) years for the office of **Tax Collector**; and

WHEREAS, Town Law Section 24-a permits an increase in the terms of office of elective officers for the Town, being the **Tax Collector** by mandatory referendum at a biennial Town election.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED AND DETERMINED, that pursuant to the provisions of Town Law Section 24-a, that the term of office of elective **Tax Collector** of the Town of Stephentown shall be four years upon submission to the qualified electors of the Town at the next biennial Town election to be held on November 7th, 2023; and be it further

RESOLVED, that should a majority of the electors cast votes in the affirmative, then the term of office of the **Tax Collector** thereafter elected shall be for a period of four years; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the term of office, if approved, shall supersede the application of Town Law Section 24 in the Town of Stephentown with respect to the term of office for the **Tax Collector**.

MOTION TO TABLE BY: JENNINGS **SECONDED BY: KIDNEY**
VOTES OF: 4 AYE 0 NAY

Verbiage to be submitted to the Board of Elections (150 days prior to election):

"Shall Resolution 29 of the year 2023, A Resolution Increasing the Term of Office of the Tax Collector from Two(2) to Four (4) years be approved?"

RESOLUTION # 30 of 2023 A RESOLUTION INCREASING THE TERM OF OFFICE FOR THE TOWN CLERK FROM A TWO (2) YEAR TO FOUR (4) YEARS.

WHEREAS, the Town Board of the Town of Stephentown has proposed an increase in the term of offices from two (2) years to four (4) years for the office of **Town Clerk**; and

WHEREAS, Town Law Section 24-a permits an increase in the terms of office of elective officers for the Town, being the **Town Clerk** by mandatory referendum at a biennial Town election.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED AND DETERMINED, that pursuant to the provisions of Town Law Section 24-a, that the term of office of elective **Town Clerk** of the Town of Stephentown shall be four years upon submission to the qualified electors of the Town at the next biennial Town election to be held on November 7th, 2023; and be it further

RESOLVED, that should a majority of the electors cast votes in the affirmative, then the term of office of the **Town Clerk** thereafter elected shall be for a period of four years; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the term of office, if approved, shall supersede the application of Town Law Section 24 in the Town of Stephentown with respect to the term of office for the **Town Clerk**.

MOTION TO TABLE BY: JENNINGS **SECONDED BY: KIDNEY**
VOTES OF: 4 AYE 0 NAY
Verbiage to be submitted to the Board of Elections (150 days prior to election)

"Shall Resolution 30 of the year 2023, A Resolution Increasing the Term of Office of the Town Clerk from Two(2) to Four (4) years be approved?"

Supervisor Roder: do we have a resolution to pass the Solar Regulations?

Town Clerk Hoffman: was not given anything. Thought there were changes to that the Board wanted to make from the Public Hearing?

Supervisor Roder: that's correct, can we hold a Special Meeting on May 8th to pass this? Council Clark and I will get together to discuss and make changes and have the final draft to post on the website.

RESOLUTION # 31 of 2023

CALL FOR A SPECIAL MEETING TO ADOPT THE PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE TOWN'S LAND USE REGULATIONS ARTICLE III-SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC ENERGY SYSTEM

WHEREAS, the Town Board has held a public hearing on April 10th, 2023 at 7:00pm in regards to the amendments proposed for the Land Use Regulations Article III-Solar Photovoltaic Energy System, and

WHEREAS, the Town Board would like to call for a Special Meeting on Monday, May 8th, 2023 at 7:00pm at the Town Hall to adopt said amendments, now therefore be it,

RESOLVED, that the Town Board authorizes the Town Clerk to advertise for said Special Meeting.

MOTION BY: RODER **SECONDED BY: CLARK**
VOTES OF: 4 AYE 0 NAY

MOTION TO ADJOURN AT 7:58 PM

MOTION BY: Jennings **SECONDED BY: Kidney**
VOTES OF: 4 AYE 0 NAY

****The next Workshop Meeting** will be held on Monday, May 8, 2023 at 7:00PM at the Town Hall located at 26 Grange Hall Road, Stephentown, NY 12168.

****The next Regular Meeting** of the Town Board, Town of Stephentown will be held on **Monday, May 15, 2023** at **7:00 PM** at the Town Hall located at 26 Grange Hall Road, Stephentown, NY 12168.

Stephanie M. Hoffman

Town Clerk