

MEETING OPEN TO PUBLIC COMMENT :

The Town Board, previous Town Supervisor Eckhardt and the Public express gratitude to Council William Jennings for his years of service to the Town and all he has done for the Town.

T. Dormady requested the board begin the process of researching Wind Power with Wind turbines before it becomes a problem in the future.

Supervisor Roder agreed this is a good topic to bring up now that the Solar has been addressed and reported that both Planning and Zoning Boards would be required to be involved.

K. Roppolo provided a report on the Library and Youth Commission, all of the paperwork for the Summer Program has been submitted to the County. A new location is still being considered due to the mud situation at the Library. Teen night was a success had a community service project for the Food Pantry – 175 packets of “Snowman Soup” were made and donated for Thanksgiving. Blood Drive will be held on 12/21 from 1 to 6pm.

Supervisor Roder asked in the County had increased funding for the Youth Program.

K. Roppolo reported that the County did increase the funds to the Town and this year she has requested another increase.

Options were discussed for a tent on the School property or possibly the Fire Hall.

Town Board discusses speaking with the Fire Hall Directors to see if they would be willing to allow the Youth Commission Summer Program run there for four weeks.

Council Clark provided an update on the Fire Department – reported it was a rather “peaceful month” 12 EMS with Transport, 1 without, 1 wire down , year to date call 288 which was less than 2022. They have 6 students in the EMT training and things are going very well.

L. Eckhardt is a new Fire Commissioner effective January 2024. 2024 will also start the process of Medicare/Medicaid billing for ambulance services.

Supervisor Roder discusses the exemption for volunteers who work for the fire department, it will begin January 1, 2024.

Assessor VanDeusen reported that the Fire Department has to pass a resolution as well.

Supervisor Roder reported that the fire department is aware of this and answered L. Eckhardt’s question on how to apply, the application process will be completed in the Assessor’s Office.

Council Clark reported that additional skills are being required that uses additional equipment for training which has been more costly for the department.

REPORT FROM THE TOWN BOARD AND TOWN OFFICES:

RESOLUTION 63 -2024

Authorization for Community Solar Campaign

WHEREAS: The Town of Stephentown has signed a Memorandum of Understanding with Power Economics, Inc. d/b/a PowerMarket outlining the responsibilities of each party in conduction a Community Solar Campaign AND:

WHEREAS: The Town of Stephentown has agreed to publicly endorse and support the Community Solar Campaign and to allow the use of the municipal seal on approved promotional content by PowerMarket, NOW THEREFORE BE IT:

RESOLVED: That the Town of Stephentown hereby authorizes Supervisor Philip J. Roder to sign the attached promotional letter to be sent to Stephentown residents by PowerMarket.

MOTION BY: CLARK

SECONDED BY: JENNINGS

VOTES OF:

4 AYE 0 NAY 0 ABSTAINED

RESOLUTION ##64-23

OPEN BIDS: ROAD MATERIALS FOR 2024

WHEREAS, the Town of Stephentown has put out to bid for Road Materials for 2024, and

WHEREAS, the State and County contract bids are available but not limited to, and

WHEREAS, the bids were received at the Town Clerk’s Office by Monday, December 18, 2023 by 7:00 PM,

and

WHEREAS, a total of 2 Bids were received:

1. Quality Construction
2. Senter

now therefore be it;

RESOLVED, that the Town Board award all bids and leave the decision of purchasing materials up to the discretion of the Highway Superintendent.

MOTION BY: RODER

SECONDED BY: KIDNEY

VOTES OF: 4 AYE 0 NAY 0 ABSTAINED

Council Jennings provides a summary of the letter and what the Clean Energy Committee is working on. He explains that this campaign could provide community solar opportunities, eligible participants would be those who rent, or have no desire to have solar panels. Those who sign up would see a potential 8 to 10% reduction on their energy bill.

L. Eckhardt asked how long will the discount would last.

Council Jennings reported that there is no deadline at this time "but nothing is forever." Every bill would be lower by 8 to 10% on your NYSEG bill. The Committee is also looking at air source heat pumps. The Town of New Lebanon has been very aggressive with clean energy opportunities. He expressed that the Town Hall needs some decent air conditioning.

Supervisor Roder expresses that this is an opportunity for folks, not something the Town Board is requiring people to sign up for. Residents will need to do their own homework and choose on their own to sign up. He expressed that if the Town Board did not sign up then the community would miss out of this opportunity if there are residents interested.

RESOLUTION #65-23

BIDS: 2024 CLEANER FOR TOWN HALL

WHEREAS: the Town of Stephentown has put out to bid the cleaning of the Town Hall for the year 2024, which is for 4.5 hours for cleaning and garbage removal, and

WHEREAS: the bids were received at the Town Clerk's Office by Monday, December 18, 2023 by 7:00 PM, and

WHEREAS: a total of 1 bids were received

1. Kathleen Olson

RESOLVED: that the bid for the cleaning at the Town Hall including garbage removal for a total of 4.5 hours per week for 2024 be awarded to **Kathleen Olson**, for the bid of **\$18.00/hour**.

MOTION BY: KIDNEY

SECONDED BY: CLARK

VOTES OF: 4 AYE 0 NAY 0 ABSTAINED

RESOLUTION ##66-23

OPEN BIDS: F350 Town Pick-up Truck

WHEREAS, the Town of Stephentown has put out to bid for the F350 Town Pickup Truck , and

WHEREAS, the bids were received at the Town Clerk's Office by Monday, December 18, 2023 by 7:00 PM, and

WHEREAS, a total of 1 Bids were received:

1. Alden Goodermote

now therefore be it;

RESOLVED, that the Town Board award the bid to Alden Goodermote in the amount of \$12,300.00.

MOTION BY: JENNINGS

SECONDED BY: KIDNEY

VOTES OF: 4 AYE 0 NAY 0 ABSTAINED

RESOLUTION NUMBER 67 OF THE YEAR 2023 OF THE TOWN BOARD OF THE TOWN OF STEPHENTOWN AUTHORIZING TOWN SUPERVISOR TO USE CHECK SIGNER

WHEREAS, following Town Board approval the Town Supervisor signs many checks;

WHEREAS, New York State Town Law section 29(3) and Opn 83-8 of NYS OSC allows the use of

reproduced signature;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Town Supervisor is hereby authorized to sign such checks via said device which is to be kept in the possession of the Town Supervisor and used solely by the Town Supervisor.

MOTION BY: RODER

SECONDED BY: KIDNEY

VOTES OF: 4 AYE 0 NAY 0 ABSTAINED

January 1st, 2024 will be the Town Organizational meeting at 7:00pm. All two year elected officials will begin a 4 year term.

MOTION TO ADJOURN AT 8:06 PM

MOTION BY: JENNINGS

SECONDED BY: KIDNEY

VOTES OF: 4 AYE 0 NAY 0 ABSTAINED

****A Workshop Meeting** is held every other second Monday of every month at the Town Hall. The next meeting will be held on Monday, March 11, 2024 at the Town Hall.

****The next Regular Meeting** of the Town Board, Town of Stephentown will be held on **Monday, January 15th, 2024, at 7:00 PM** at the Town Hall located at 26 Grange Hall Road, Stephentown, NY 12168.

Stephanie M. Hoffman

Town Clerk