

**REGULAR MEETING  
OF THE  
TOWN BOARD  
TOWN OF STEPHENTOWN  
26 GRANGE HALL ROAD, STEPHENTOWN, NEW YORK 12168  
MAY 15, 2023**

The Regular meeting of the Town Board, Town of Stephentown was called to order by *Supervisor Philip Roder* at **7:01PM** at the Town Hall.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

<i>( X ) Supervisor Philip (PJ) Roder</i>	<i>( X ) High. Superin. Alden Goodermote</i>
<i>( X ) Council William Jennings</i>	<i>( X ) Assessor, Jennifer Van Deusen</i>
<i>( X ) Council Everett Madden</i>	<i>( X ) Town Justice, Cyril Grant</i>
<i>( X ) Council Diana Clark</i>	
<i>( X ) Council Kyle Kidney</i>	
<i>( X ) Town Clerk Stephanie Hoffman</i>	

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

**RESOLUTION# 34 - 2023**

**OPENING OF SEALED BIDS FOR THE TOWN GARAGE AND THE TOWN HALL  
NON-LEGALLY REQUIRED EMERGENCY AUTOMATIC STANDBY GENERATOR  
SYSTEMS**

**WHEREAS:** the Town Board solicited bids for the project identified as the "Town Garage AND Town Hall Non-Legally Required Emergency Automatic Standby Generator Systems" and

**WHEREAS:** the Town Clerk's Office received **1** sealed BIDs by May 15, 2023, at 7:00PM from:

1. *CDE Electric Inc* for the amount of \$18,420.00 for the Town Hall AND \$31,870.00 for the Town Garage.  
now therefore be it

**RESOLVED:** that the Town Board would like to take this BID into consideration, and have it reviewed by legal counsel, to provide all requirements are met from the specifications.

**MOTION TO TABLE FOR REVIEW BY: Roder**

**SECONDED BY: Kidney**

**VOTES OF: 5 AYE 0 NAY**

**AUDIT OF CLAIMS:**

- Claim #120-23 through #140-23 in the amount of **\$13,558.21 to be approved** from the **General Account**
- Claim #79-23 through #101-23 in the amount of **\$151,064.85 to be approved** from the **Highway Account**
- For a **Total of \$164,623.06** audited and approved by the Town Board.

**MOTION BY: Jennings**

**SECONDED BY: Clark**

*Supervisor Roder: "Edit to Voucher #88-23 with tons to be stricken"*

**VOTES OF: 5 AYE 0 NAY 0 ABSTAINED**

Minutes of the **April 8, 2023 Public Hearing – Local Law 2 of 2023 Solar Systems** were approved by the Town Board as written.

**MOTION BY: Jennings**

**SECONDED BY: Kidney**

**VOTES OF: 5 AYE 0 NAY 0 ABSTAINED**

Minutes of the **April 17, 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

1 ABSTAINED (Madden)

**TOWN CLERKS REPORT:** The Town Clerk turned over the sum of **\$358.37** to the Supervisor for the month of **APRIL 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 **February 2023 was \$554.00 and March 2023 was \$1,231.00**. The month of **January 2023 was \$1,783.00 and April was \$1,731.00**.

**TRANSFER STATION REPORT:** The Transfer Station deposited a total of \$ 7,626.00 for the month of **APRIL 2023**.

Bags:\$ 4,911

C&D & Metal: \$2,403

Tires:\$22

Stickers:\$160

Appl. & Electronics: \$130

Propane Tanks: \$130

*Council Jennings: reported a break in at the Transfer Station on 5/4/2023. Someone threw a rock through the window and entered through the window. We do not left money in the cash drawer so no money was stolen. They riffled through the file cabinet and stole approximately \$15.00 in tips. And approximately 25 bags. Sherriff's took a report. Commissioned Alex to fix the window, and we are back in business. UPDATES to price increases. On June 1<sup>st</sup> recyclables will cost the Town \$105.00/ton. ERCSWMA put out BIDS and County Waste was the lowest bidder, they will be taking over June 1<sup>st</sup>. We will be paying more for recyclables than garbage removal (\$75.00/ton). We are expecting a new vendor for electronic. Tires have increased to \$5.00/tire. Board needs to have a discussion on when we will implement increases. Transfer Station may run itself out of business if the costs are too high.*

*Supervisor Roder: agrees there are concerns with increases. Reported the Highway Department turned over \$210.00 for Scrap metal.*

**ACCOUNT TOTALS:**

**GENERAL \$970,822.50**

**HIGHWAY \$1,288,907.23**

**GENERAL RESERVE FUND \$859,481.02**

**HIGHWAY RESERVE FUND \$655,384.29**

**BEACON ESCROW\$ 885.19**

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

**ARPA ACCOUNT: \$282,677.21**

**MEETING OPEN TO PUBLIC COMMENT:**

*T. Dormady: thanked the highway department for cleaning up Nora Way, expressed concerns of garbage being dumped on Whitman Road.*

*HWY Superintendent Goodermote: reported that the highway crew will be up to clean up the mess.*

*Council Jennings: expressed concerns that if prices continue to increase we will see more trash around town.*

*T. Dormady: asked about getting security cameras at the transfer station.*

*Council Jennings: considered this, however there are no internet services at the transfer station at this time. We would have to install fiber, and it is costly.*

*R. McClave: here on behalf of the fire department and ambulance billing. Provided a history of the fire department response team. \$221,000 presently is spent from the Fire District Budget. 2 Ambulance services are currently not allowed to bill are Hoag's Corners and Stephentown. Currently going through a tedious process to allow Stephentown to bill for ambulance services. The ambulance had 235 patients last year, over 9,000 miles, transports to three states, provided 18 mutual aids, there was 76 ALS intercepts. If we do not start billing by January 2026, ALS services will start billing us. This would be \$23,000 to \$25,000 annually. The bill prohibits to bill the uninsured. We will bill those who have insurance in hopes to off set some of the funds.*

*Supervisor Roder: agrees that there have been financial struggles and long-term problems with EMS County wide.*

*Council Jennings: asked if any other "outfits" were going through the same issues.*

*R. McClave: yes, \$3,000 is not reasonable, we are looking at \$900, Priority 1 is who we are working with.*





**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?"*

**MOTION TO MOVE FORWARD BY: Clark**

**SECONDED BY: Kidney**

**VOTES OF: 5 AYE 0 NAY**

**RESOLUTION # 35 of 2023**

**A RESOLUTION TO MOVE FORWARD WITH MADDEN ROAD BRIDGE REPLACEMENT**

WHEREAS, the Highway Superintendent and the Town Board believe there is a need to repair the bridge located on Madden Road; and

WHEREAS, the Town Board would like to use funds from the Highway Fund and the American Rescue Plan Act Funds (ARPA Funds), to fund this project, now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Town Board authorizes the Highway Superintendent to move forward on obtaining Engineering for the Bridge deck replacement to go out to bid.

**MOTION TO TABLE BY: RODER**

**SECONDED BY: KIDNEY**

**VOTES OF:            5 AYE                            0 NAY**

*Highway Superintendent Goodermote: this will not be a total replacement, it will to replace the deck. The replacement estimated cost is approximately \$375,000.00 for the project.*

*Supervisor Roder: there is approximately \$285k in ARPA funds, we have \$230k left over from the general fund from last year and \$140k from the highway. After the generator project we should be able to allocate the funds to replace the deck on Madden Road Bridge.*

*Council Jennings: we are in need of another substitute at the transfer station, Rebecca Hartnett has moved out of town and Donna Cornell has expressed interest and sent a letter of intent in to the Town Clerk.*

**RESOLUTION # 36 of 2023**

**APPOINT DONNA CORNELL AS A SUBSTITUTE FOR THE TRANSFER STATION.**

WHEREAS, the Transfer Station is in need for an additional substitute; and

WHEREAS, the Town Clerk received a letter of interest from Donna Cornell on 5/11/2023,, now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Town Board appoints Donna Cornell as a substitute for the Transfer Station for the current year and further be it,

RESOLVED: that Donna Cornell will be paid by timesheet bi-weekly at the minimum wage rate.

**MOTION TO TABLE BY: JENNINGS**

**SECONDED BY: KIDNEY**

**VOTES OF: 5 AYE 0 NAY**

**RESOLUTION # 37 of 2023**

**SUPPORT AND PARTICIPATION IN NYSERDA'S CLEAN ENERGY COMMUNITIES PROGRAM MAY 15, 2023**

WHEREAS, New York State created New York State Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA) to help New Yorkers increase energy efficiency, save money, use renewable energy and reduce reliance on fossil fuels; and

WHEREAS, NYSEDA created the Clean Energy Communities (CEC) program to accomplish those goals; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Stephentown approves of the goals to help its residents and businesses increase energy efficiency, save money, use renewable energy and reduce reliance on fossil fuels; and

WHEREAS, the CEC program offers outright grants for energy upgrades to towns that have performed High Impact Actions; and

WHEREAS, some residents of the Town of Stephentown have offered their volunteer services to achieve the goals of the CEC program; and

WHEREAS, the Capital District Regional Planning Commission serves as liaison to NYSEDA for elected officials, municipal staff and volunteers; and

WHEREAS, the Town Board of Stephentown shall appoint, William Jennings, as the liaison to work with volunteers on the CEC program;

IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED that the Town Board of the Town of Stephentown hereby proclaims its intent to allow volunteer residents to work under a Town Board liaison and in consultation with the Capital District Regional Planning Commission for the purpose of implementing CEC high-impact clean energy actions to achieving community-wide resiliency and economic opportunity.

**MOTION TO TABLE BY: RODER**

**SECONDED BY: JENNINGS**

**VOTES OF: 5 AYE 0 NAY**

*Highway Superintendent Goodermote: asked if private individuals sign up can it help the Town get points?*

*M. Van Horn: yes, individuals can help get points for the town after it's approved by NYSEDA.*

*Council Jennings: explains that it has to be done as a community. We receive grants by doing thing like educational programs.*

**MOTION TO ADJOURN AT 8:45PM**

**MOTION BY: Jennings**

**SECONDED BY: Clark**

**VOTES OF: 5 AYE 0 NAY**

**\*\*The next Workshop Meeting** will be held on Monday, June 12, 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, June 19, 2023 at 7:00 PM** at the Town Hall located at 26 Grange Hall Road, Stephentown, NY 12168.

*Stephanie M. Hoffman*

**Town Clerk**