

REGULAR MEETING OF THE TOWN BOARD

**TOWN OF STEPHENTOWN
26 GRANGE HALL ROAD,
STEPHENTOWN, NEW YORK 12168
March 18, 2024**

The Regular meeting of the Town Board, Town of Stephentown was called to order by **Supervisor P. Roder** at **7:04 PM** at the Town Hall.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

(X) Supervisor Philip (PJ) Roder

(X) Council Diana Clark

(X) Council Kyle Kidney

(X) Council John E. DeFreest Jr.

(X) Council Tammy Madden

(X) Town Clerk Stephanie Hoffman

() Alden Goodermote, Highway Superintendent

() Jennifer Van Deusen, Assessor

A quorum (X) was () wasn't established.

5 from the Public were present

AUDIT OF CLAIMS:

- Claim #60-24 through #81-24 in the amount of **\$19,758.95 to be approved** from the **General Account**
- Claim #39-24 through #55-24 in the amount of **\$34,131.37 to be approved** from the **Highway Account**
- For a **Total of \$53,890.32** audited and approved by the Town Board.

MOTION BY: DEFREEST, JR.

SECONDED BY: KIDNEY

VOTES OF: 5 AYE

0 NAY 0 ABSTAINED

Minutes of the **February 19, 2023 Regular Town Board Meeting** were approved by the Town Board as written.

MOTION BY: KIDNEY

SECONDED BY: MADDEN

VOTES OF: 4 AYE

0 NAY 1 ABSTAINED (RODER)

TOWN CLERKS REPORT: The Town Clerk turned over the sum of **\$945.64** to the Supervisor for the month of **FEBRUARY 2024**.

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 2024** *has not yet been received*.

TRANSFER STATION REPORT: The Transfer Station deposited a total of **\$4,187.00** for the month of **FEBRUARY 2024**. *(Report from Council Clark: we are low on bags and stickers from 2023)*

Bags: \$2,948

C&D & Metal: \$998

Tires: \$36

Stickers: \$160

Appl. & Electronics: \$45

Propane Tanks: \$0

ACCOUNT TOTALS:

GENERAL \$906,048.39

HIGHWAY \$1,517,277.23

GENERAL RESERVE FUND \$912,730.94

HIGHWAY RESERVE FUND \$744,652.70

BEACON ESCROW \$ 885.19

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

ARPA \$186,139.71 – earmarked for the Madden Road Bridge Repair/replacement

MEETING OPEN TO PUBLIC COMMENT:

Reminders to All Participants who would like to speak: (this meeting is on Live Stream and is being recorded)

- *Raise your hand prior to speaking*
- *Announce your name and the Town you reside in.*
- *There is a 3-to-5-minute window for each speaker per Resolution 1 of the fiscal year*
- *Any disruptive conduct will be addressed at any meeting if the Town Board is willfully disrupted by a person or by a group of persons so as to render the orderly conduct of the meeting impossible. The Chair (Town Supervisor) may recess the meeting or order the person, group or groups of persons willfully disrupting the meeting to leave the meeting or to be removed from the meeting. Disruptive conduct includes addressing the Board without first being recognized, not addressing the subject before the Board, repetitiously addressing the same subject, failing to relinquish the podium when requested to do so, or otherwise preventing the Board from conducting its business.*

K. Roppolo, Library Director provided an update to the Easter Party scheduled for 3/30 at 1:00pm, the Youth Commission Director this year will remain Jessica Rontay.

J. Peabody provided an update to the Library's Annual Meeting scheduled for 4/21 at 4:00pm. Library is looking for the support of the Town on a new idea, littering has become a big concern and we are looking to get a group together for a clean up on the roads. Possibly kick off on Saturday will have vests, bags and supplies. We were hoping the Town would offer some Transfer Station bags. This is something New Lebanon has done. We are aiming for the day before Earth Day 4/20.

Supervisor Roder presented prior concerns regarding insurance and safety issues with people walking on the roads. June is slated for the Town Clean Up day maybe this is something that can be combined rather than have multiple events.

Council Clark reported that June 7th is the tentative day for the Town Clean Up day this year.

Council DeFreest, Jr. suggested reaching out to the local boy scout troops, they are always looking to do something in their communities to get badges.

Supervisor Roder requested a liaison from the Town Board to assist the Library.

Both Council D. Clark and J. E. DeFreest, Jr. have offered to assist.

Council Clark mentioned that Hazardous Waste Day with ERSWMA will be held in Stephentown this year on April 27th and you must register to participate. You can call 518-687-1018 to register or online.

J. Peabody provided the Volunteer Fire Department report for the month of February. EMS with transport: 21, EMS with no transport:4, Motor Vehicle Accident with transport: 1, Motor Vehicle Accident without transport: 5, Mutual Aid Given: 2, Structure Fire: 1, Brush Fire: 2, Carbon Monoxide activation: 1, Call Cancelled: 1, False Alarm: 1, Weather Wires down: 4 for a total of 43 calls in February 2024. There are 5 Town Residents who are students in the EMT Class, all passed state exam. Next open recruitment is on April 13th. Burn Ban is from March 15th to May 15th, after this you will need to get a burn permit from Code Enforcement.

Council DeFreest, Jr.: Veteran's Meeting will be held at the Fire Hall the 1st Wednesday of every month at 6:00pm.

Town Historian Patricia Flint was honored with the Martha Washington Awards.

Supervisor Roder reads award from President David W. Powell of the Empire State Society, SAR.

"Patricia "Pat" Flint

"Recipient of the Martha Washington Award

"by the Empire State Society, SAR

"March 16, 2024

"Patricia "Pat" (Thomas) Brazie Flint is a life-long resident of Stephentown, NY. Pat has always been civically and

community minded. Being native to Stephentown she has grown up hearing and reading about local history. Pat and David, both widowed, married in Stephentown in 1997. They joined the Stephentown Historical Society and became active members and then life members. Pat has served two terms as President of the Historical Society and has served on a variety of committees. She has also researched and presented programs of interest including one on the first doctors who practiced in Stephentown.

“Pat started the Historical Society's Cemetery Committee and with the help of other dedicated members began cleaning up the cemeteries, cleaning & restoring headstones, and documenting veterans of the Revolutionary and Civil Wars. Pat has been the leader, as well as the doer, in getting Revolutionary War cemetery signage from the William G. Pomeroy Foundation. She's gotten seven signs that recognize 17 patriots of the Revolutionary War. Pat has also gotten one sign for the Town of Stephentown that marks the location of the Center Stephentown post office.

“Pat Flint became the appointed Stephentown, NY Town Historian about 2011. Her work, dedication and leadership are now recognized by town officials and by the townspeople of Stephentown. Her work is 'top shelf'!

“Pat is a member of the Fort Crailo Chapter NSDAR by descent from John Batchelder who served from Massachusetts.

“Pat, in recognition of your service to your community, your leadership in your local historical society and your help to the SAR in getting Revolutionary War patriot burials marked it is my pleasure, and my honor, to present to you the SAR Martha Washington Medal and Certificate. Thank you.

“By David W. Powell, President
“Empire State Society, SAR”

Supervisor Roder provided an update to the Route 22 road closure; we are expecting a light and one lane to be running by May. Madden Road looks like it should be completed within 4 to 6 weeks. Highway Superintendent was in an accident where another individual drove into the town truck. The other party's insurance company took full responsibility and will be paying for a replacement truck. Council Kidney is working on fixing the doors at the Town Hall.

RESOLUTION # 23 OF 2024

DESIGNATION OF DIANA CLARK TO REPRESENT THE TOWN OF STEPHENTOWN ON THE BOARD OF THE EASTERN RENNELAER COUNTY SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY (ERCSWMA)

WHEREAS: The Town of Stephentown is currently a member of the Eastern Rensselaer County Solid Waste Management Authority (ERCSWMA), and

WHEREAS: Each municipality that is a member of ERCSWMA may designate one representative to be a member of the ERCSWMA Board for a term of 5 years, and

WHEREAS: The Town of Stephentown wishes to designate Diana Clark to represent the Town of Stephentown on the ERCSWMA Board, therefore be it:

RESOLVED: That Diana Clark is hereby designated to represent the Town of Stephentown on the ERCSWMA Board effective January 1, 2024 to December 31, 2028, as long as she remains a member of the Stephentown Town Council and Stephentown remains a member of ERCSWMA.

MOTION BY: K. KIDNEY

SECONDED BY: T. MADDEN

VOTES OF: 5 AYE

0 NAY

RESOLUTION # 24 of 2024

AUTHORIZING THE SOLICITATION OF BIDS FOR A 2024 OR 2025 FORD F-600 4X4 CAB AND CHASSIS WITH A 169" WB, OR EQUIVALENT, AS DETAILED IN THE ACCOMPANYING BID SPECIFICATIONS FOR USE BY THE TOWN

HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

WHEREAS, the Town Highway Department Superintendent has requested the Town Board approve the solicitation of bids for a 2024 or 2025 Ford F-600 4x4 cab and chassis with a 169” WB, or equivalent, as detailed in the accompanying bid specifications for use by the Town Highway Department, which needs to be cable of being equipped at a later date with a dump box and snow removal equipment;

WHEREAS, the Town Board has reviewed the request and wishes to go to bid on said item;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Town Board hereby calls for bid proposals and the Town Clerk is hereby authorized to advertise for sealed bids for the aforementioned purchase pursuant to bid specifications to be developed by the Town Highway Superintendent with the assistance of Craig M. Crist, Esq., which are to be received and considered publicly at Town Hall, on the 15th day of April, 2024 at 7:00 p.m., the time and place to be specified in said public notice.

MOTION BY: MADDEN

SECONDED BY: KIDNEY

VOTES OF: 5 AYE

0 NAY

Resolution 25 of 2024

Support of the Road Stream Crossing Survey Evaluation and Prioritization Project Provided by Trout Unlimited, Cornell Cooperative Extension and Rensselaer County Soil and Water District.

WHEREAS, the Trout Unlimited team has been working with the Town of Stephentown to develop a Road Stream Crossing Management Plan for the Town of Stephentown that is designed to help improve community and ecosystem resiliency by identifying high priority road stream crossing replacement projects that reconnect high quality aquatic habitat and improve community flood resiliency and road infrastructure condition within the Town; and

WHEREAS, the scope of the project included an inventory of all state, county, town and private road stream crossing, aquatic passage and hydraulic modeling of the data, prioritization of results using multiple objectives and the development of conceptual and shovel ready designs and cost estimates for highest priority projects, and

WHEREAS, the Town will utilize this survey evaluation and prioritization for the following main purposes: first, to have plans for priority culvert replacements; second, to have the inventory data available for future culvert replacement planning; and additional benefits will include having the inventory available for potential grant opportunities related to culvert replacements and for environmental considerations, and

WHEREAS, the Town desires to incorporate this survey evaluation and prioritization in any long-term road maintenance plans and in considering standards for new roads and driveways and to also provide a resource for the Highway Superintendent and Town Board with identifying and prioritizing future projects and annual budgets; and

WHEREAS, the Town Board intends to make the Road Stream Crossing Management Plan available on the Town's official Website as well as to incorporate the Plan in future updates of other Town plans and policies including the Town's Comprehensive Plan as the Town Board deems appropriate;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Stephentown fully supports and approves the project performed by Trout Unlimited and will make use of the results of the project in the form of a Road Stream Crossing Management Plan as stated aforesaid.

At the regular monthly meeting of the Town of Stephentown Town Board, held at the Stephentown Town Hall, 26 Grange Hall Road, Stephentown, NY duly called and held on the 18th day of March, 2024, the following Resolution was proposed by: P. Roder, Supervisor and seconded by: J. E. DeFreest, Jr.

Tabled the above resolution. Votes: 5 Aye 0 Nay

Discussion:

Supervisor P. Roder would feel more comfortable with Highway Superintendent Goodermote present to provide further details on this matter.

Council D. Clark agrees.

Council T. Madden asks if the Town has done prior work with them.

Supervisor P. Roder believes the Town has in the past, but would like to confirm with the Highway Superintendent.

MOTION TO ADJOURN AT 7:52 PM

MOTION BY: DEFREEST, JR. SECONDED BY: MADDEN

VOTES OF: 5 AYE 0 NAY

****The next Workshop Meeting will be held on Monday, May 13, 2024 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, April 15, 2024 at 7:00 PM at the Town Hall located at 26 Grange Hall Road, Stephentown, NY 12168.**

Stephanie M. Hoffman
Town Clerk