

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE TOWN BOARD
TOWN OF STEPHENTOWN
26 GRANGE HALL ROAD,
STEPHENTOWN, NEW YORK 12168
DECEMBER 16, 2024**

The Regular meeting of the Town Board, Town of Stephentown was called to order by ***Supervisor P. Roder*** at **7:00 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

(X) Alden Goodermote, Highway Superintendent

(X) Jennifer Van Deusen, Assessor

(X) Owen Cassavaugh, Code Enforcement Officer

(X) Chris Langlios, Legal Counsel

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

5 from the Public were present

AUDIT OF CLAIMS:

- Claim #276-24 through #308-24 in the amount of **\$41,071.15 to be approved** from the **General Account**
- Claim #200-24 through #217-24 in the amount of **\$18,670.02 to be approved** from the **Highway Account**
- For a **Total of \$59,741.17** audited and approved by the Town Board.

MOTION BY: T. MADDEN

SECONDED BY: J. DEFREEST JR.

VOTES OF: 5 AYE

0 NAY

TOWN CLERKS REPORT: The Town Clerk turned over the sum of **\$737.65** to the Supervisor for the month of **NOVEMBER 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 **September 2024** was **\$2,925.00** and the month of **October 2024** was **\$974.00**.

TRANSFER STATION REPORT: The Transfer Station deposited a total of \$_____.00 for the month of **NOVEMBER 2024**. **No report this month – still looking for electronics container**

Bags: \$

C&D & Metal: \$

Tires: \$

Stickers: \$

Propane Tanks: \$

Appliances: \$

ACCOUNT TOTALS: Nothing again this month

GENERAL \$

HIGHWAY \$

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.

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.

<i>Fire Department Report for</i>	<i>November 2024</i>
<i>EMS with Transport:</i>	<i>13</i>
<i>EMS without Transport:</i>	<i>2</i>
<i>Structure Fire:</i>	<i>4</i>
<i>Outside Fire:</i>	<i>1</i>
<i>Good Intent</i>	<i>4</i>
<i>Weather Wires Down:</i>	<i>1</i>
<i>Call Cancelled:</i>	<i>2</i>
<i>Monthly Total:</i>	<i>27</i>
<i>YTD:</i>	<i>322</i>

J. Peabody – initial requests for 911 signs are coming in, forms are available online, it's been posted on social media and in the Eastwick Press. Toy Drive 55 children and 29 families signed up. Thank you to everyone who has donated.

Approved for cardiac arrest airway tools. Petersburg donated the device, very grateful to them. More CPR classes are coming to the library on January 23rd and 25th, Blood drive tomorrow. Teen night coming up – gingerbread house project. Food pantry has 24 families which is twice the amount of last year. Over 50 families for Thanksgiving bags, seeing a significant increase in use of the food pantry.

Council DeFreest Jr. – Veterans – we need people to come to meetings, the organization is struggling and needs more people to join. If you are a veteran, please consider joining and coming to the meeting.

Assessor VanDeusen – revaluation not for profits are required to be in a specific zone.

Council Clark – just came back from Washington DC they sponsored 16 veterans to go to the Army Navy game and a gala, great trip and experience, recommends veterans signing up

Supervisor Roder – Mortgage tax check received 22k a lot closer than anticipated.

RESOLUTION ##50-24

OPEN BIDS: ROAD MATERIALS FOR 2025

WHEREAS, the Town of Stephentown has put out to bid for Road Materials for 2025, 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 16, 2024 by 7:00 PM, and

WHEREAS, a total of **1** Bids were received:

1. Senters

now therefore be it;

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

MOTION BY: K. KIDNEY

SECONDED BY: T. MADDEN

VOTES OF: 5 AYE 0 NAY

RESOLUTION #51-24

BIDS: 2025 CLEANER FOR TOWN HALL

WHEREAS: the Town of Stephentown has put out to bid the cleaning of the Town Hall for the year 2025, 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 16, 2024 by 7:00 PM, and

WHEREAS: a total of **1** bids were received

1. Kathleen Olsen

RESOLVED: that the bid for the cleaning at the Town Hall including garbage removal for a total of 4.5 hours per week for 2025 be awarded to **Kathleen Olsen**, for the bid of **\$20.00/hour**.

MOTION BY: T. MADDEN

SECONDED BY: K. KIDNEY

VOTES OF: 5 AYE 0 NAY

RESOLUTION #52-24

ANNUAL ADOPTION OF THE UNIFORM CODES SET FORTH IN 19 CRR-NY 1203.3

WHEREAS: the Town Board of the Town of Stephentown has adopted the new standards set forth in 19 CRR-NY 1203.3 in 2022, and

WHEREAS: the Code Enforcement Department is required to adopt such standards annually, and

WHEREAS: the Code Enforcement Department is requesting the Town Board to adopt the standards set forth in said guidelines, now therefore be it,

RESOLVED: that the Town Board hereby adopts the New York State Code Enforcement and Administration Minimum Standards set forth in 19 CRR-NY 1203.3.

MOTION BY: J. DEFREEST JR.

SECONDED BY: K. KIDNEY

VOTES OF: 5 AYE 0 NAY

RESOLUTION # 53-24

AUTHORIZING THE EXTENSION OF THE SERVICE AGREEMENT WITH THE EASTERN RENSSELAER COUNTY SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT.

WHEREAS: the Eastern Rensselaer County Solid Waste Management Authority manages MSW programs, Recycling programs, Household hazardous waste programs and Education programs; and

WHEREAS: the Eastern Rensselaer County Solid Waste Management Authority service agreements are all coming to an end in the next three months at staggered dates for their member communities, and the Eastern Rensselaer County Solid Waste Management Authority board of directors has determined that due to large projects currently in progress, that it would be in the best interest and benefit of the member municipality's to extend these service agreements one year to further pursue these projects; and

WHEREAS: the Eastern Rensselaer County Solid Waste Management Authority service agreements would remain unchanged to the current agreements; and

WHEREAS: it is necessary that a Contract by and between the EASTERN RENSSELAER COUNTY SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY, herein called the ERCSWMA, and the Town of Stephentown be executed; now therefore be it,

RESOLVED: that the Members of Town of Stephentown Town Board extend the ERCSWMA service agreement 1 year from the end of the current agreement.

MOTION BY: D. CLARK

SECONDED BY: J. DEFREEST JR.

VOTES OF: 5 AYE 0 NAY

RESOLUTION NO. 54 OF THE YEAR 2024 OF THE TOWN BOARD OF THE TOWN OF STEPHENTOWN, NEW YORK, OPPOSING THE PROPOSED UPGRADES TO THE INTER-REGIONAL ELECTRIC TRANSMISSION SYSTEMS CONCERNING THE NEW YORK TO NEW ENGLAND INTERCONNECTION

WHEREAS, the Town of Stephentown has been made aware of a proposal from the United States Department of Energy (DOE) for upgrades to inter-regional electric transmission systems, including the New York to New England interconnection;

WHEREAS, the Town has been apprised that the current right-of-way for the transmission line from New York to New England varies from around 200 to 300 feet;

WHEREAS, the Town Board has also been apprised that for the New York to New England interconnection, the DOE is proposing a possible mile-wide transmission corridor right-of-way extension that would likely impact 17 towns, including the Town of Stephentown as well as the neighboring Town of Nassau, as well as Hancock, Lanesborough, Hinsdale, Peru, Dalton, Windsor, Plainfield, Ashfield, Conway, Shelburne, Greenfield, Montague, Deerfield, Erving, and Northfield, MA;

WHEREAS, it is the position of the Town Board that such an expansion, to a mile- wide corridor through the Town of Stephentown, would result in undue damage to the environment, local properties and to the character of the Town of Stephentown as a whole;

WHEREAS, the Berkshire Regional Planning Commission completed a study analyzing the impacts that a mile wide right-of-way could have on the environment and local communities. They determined that within Berkshire County alone, the proposed right-of-way would impact 905 buildings and 832 parcels of land, totaling 13,546.23 acres, including endangered species habitat;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Town Board hereby resolves that it opposes the aforementioned expansion;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOVLED THAT the Town Board further resolves that the Town Clerk is hereby requested to transmit this resolution evidencing the Town of Stephentown's formal opposition to said project to the US Department of Energy and copy the Berkshire Environmental Action Team on said correspondence and that any prior transmission of same is hereby ratified and authorized with full force and effect.

MOTION BY: P. RODER

SECONDED BY: D. CLARK

VOTES OF: 5 AYE 0 NAY

Council DeFreest Jr. – where does that intersect Stephentown?

Supervisor Roder – Believe it is Firetower where it intersects.

P. Flint – we'd be homeless.

Highway Superintendent Goodermote – my understanding they have a larger right away then what people believe.

Supervisor Roder reported that the draft contract for Columbia Greene Humane Society for Dog Control was received, and we need to update our impoundment fee in our current local law. Moving forward we are not going to hold workshop meetings unless the board feels the need for one, we can further discuss if folks feel there is a need.

MOTION TO ADJOURN AT 8:18 PM

MOTION BY: J. DEFREEST JR.

SECONDED BY: T. MADDEN

VOTES OF: 5 AYE 0 NAY

**** 2025 Organizational Meeting** will be held on **Monday, January 6th, 2025 at 7:00 PM** 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, January 20th, 2025 at 7:00 PM** at the Town Hall located at 26 Grange Hall Road, Stephentown, NY 12168.

Stephanie M. Hoffman

Town Clerk