

REGULAR MEETING OF THE TOWN BOARD
TOWN OF STEPHENTOWN
26 GRANGE HALL ROAD,
STEPHENTOWN, NEW YORK 12168
NOVEMBER 18, 2024

The Regular meeting of the Town Board, Town of Stephentown was called to order by ***Supervisor P. Roder*** at **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) Craig Crist, Legal Counsel

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

AUDIT OF CLAIMS:

- Claim #250-24 through #275-24 in the amount of \$13,362.69 to be approved from the **General Account**
- Claim #187-24 through #199-24 in the amount of \$21,630.59 to be approved from the **Highway Account**
- For a **Total of \$34,993.28** audited and approved by the Town Board.

MOTION BY: DEFREEST, JR. SECONDED BY: CLARK

VOTES OF: 5 AYE 0 NAY

Minutes of the **October 21, 2024 Regular Town Board Meeting** were approved by the Town Board as written.

MOTION BY: KIDNEY SECONDED BY: MADDEN

VOTES OF: 5 AYE 0 NAY

Minutes of the **November 4, 2024 Public Hearing for the 2025 Preliminary Budget** were approved by the Town Board as written.

MOTION BY: KIDNEY SECONDED BY: MADDEN

VOTES OF: 5 AYE 0 NAY

TOWN CLERKS REPORT: The Town Clerk turned over the sum of **\$885.45** to the Supervisor for the month of **OCTOBER 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 \$_____.00 and **October 2024** was \$_____.00.

TRANSFER STATION REPORT: The Transfer Station deposited a total of **\$9,361.00** for the month of **OCTOBER 2024**.

Bags: **\$6100**

C&D & Metal: **\$2390**

Tires: **\$36**

Stickers: **\$770**

Propane Tanks: **\$0**

Appliances: **\$65**

Council Clark reported that the Highway crew repaired the Catwalk at the transfer station. We will be looking at

the expense of purchasing a bin for electronics required by E-waste that meets state specs. This will be a cost on the Town, ERCSWMA will not be helping with the cost, rough estimate of \$4,600.

ACCOUNT TOTALS: Supervisor Roder reported that his bookkeeper has been not been able to get the reports to him this month and will report them out next month.

GENERAL \$

GENERAL RESERVE FUND \$912,730.94

BEACON ESCROW \$ 885.19

HIGHWAY \$

HIGHWAY RESERVE FUND \$744,652.70

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.

J. Leonard from Stephentown Route 22 reported that he was told to come to the Town Board about his TV/internet services and that the town board was responsible for not allowing Spectrum to go through the Town. He expressed frustration over the cost of his services being \$72 more than Spectrum and wanted to know why the Town Board wouldn't allow Spectrum services in town.

Supervisor Roder explained that the Town Board did not deny Spectrum services. A few years ago, former Councilman Gerry Robinson worked hard on getting a grant for updating the Town to fiberoptic and increasing internet speeds throughout the town, it is a Franchise and if the company refuses to participate it's on the company not the Town. Spectrum was already in the North end of Town, and they refused to expand the franchise to the rest of the town. The Town did not deny them.

J. Peabody reported on the Fire Department Calls and events: Blood drive to be held on 12/17, completed CPR class with the Town Highway Department, reminder that the Light Parade will be held on 11/30 and registration is still open, this year it will begin at the Veteran's Park and end at the Fire Hall.

Fire Department Report for	September 2024	October 2024
EMS with Transport:	13	7
EMS without Transport:	5	2
Motor Vehicle no injury:	1	0
Burner/Boiler Malfunction	1	0
Brush Fire:	1	3
Good Intent	3	1
Weather Wires Down:	1	2
Call Cancelled:	3	1
Monthly Total:	28	16
YTD:	279	295

Supervisor Roder expressed his gratitude to the Volunteer Fire Departments for their great job on the structure fire on the West end of town.

Former Town Supervisor Lawrence Eckhardt made a suggestion that the Town Board consider purchasing the house across the street that has recently been listed for sale, if the budget could allow for it. It would be a good addition to the Town municipality, you never know who your next neighbor could be and it's right in the middle of the town hall, garage and fire hall. It would be an asset to have for the town.

Motion to Un-table Resolution #40 of 2024 made by: KIDNEY

SECONDED BY: DEFREEST, JR.

VOTES OF: 5 AYE 0 NAY

RESOLUTION #40 – 24

**AUTHORIZING TOWN SUPERVISOR TO EXECUTE PILOT
Agreement for Route 22 (Tax Map 196-1-2), Stephentown
(Longroad Development aka: Milk Run Solar, LLC)**

WHEREAS, the Town Supervisor received a Notice of Intent to Construct a Solar Project located at NY22, Stephentown, NY 12168 (Tax Map No. 196.-1-2), further be known as Longroad Development; and

WHEREAS, the Town Supervisor responded within the required sixty-day timeframe to require a contract for payment in lieu of taxes under Real Property Tax Law §487(9)(a); and

WHEREAS, such contract was reviewed by legal counsel and is required to be approved by the Stephentown Town Board, Rensselaer County and School District, to be paid in lieu of taxes, (Agreement to be attached to these minutes),

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Town Supervisor is hereby authorized to execute said agreement on behalf of the Town.

MOTION BY: MADDEN

SECONDED BY: CLARK

VOTES OF: 5 AYE 0 NAY

*Supervisor Roder explained that this is how the Town can get revenue from these solar projects.
(PILOT Attached – EXHIBIT A)*

T. Dormady

RESOLUTION # 42 OF 2024

ADOPTION OF THE 2025 TOWN BUDGET

WHEREAS: the Town of Stephentown 2025 Preliminary Budget was submitted to the Stephentown Town Board; and

WHEREAS: a public hearing was held Monday, November 4th, 2024, at 7:00 PM, now therefore be it

RESOLVED: that the 2025 Preliminary Budget is adopted as the 2025 Adopted Town Budget and stayed under the mandated tax cap amount required by NYS, with a tax increase of **3.0%** and that the Town Clerk files with the proper agencies. *(2025 Budget Attached – EXHIBIT B)*

MOTION BY: DEFREEST, JR.

SECONDED BY: MADDEN

VOTES OF: 5 AYE 0 NAY

RESOLUTION #43-24

**2025 MATERIALS BID TO COMPLETE ROAD WORK AND
MAINTENANCE OF TOWN ROADS**

WHEREAS: there is a need to purchase materials to complete the Town Road work, and

WHEREAS: the Town Board authorizes the Town Clerk to advertise for such bids, now therefore be it,

RESOLVED: that the Town requests sealed bids on these materials. BID specs are available at the Town Clerk's Office *(2025 Material Specs attached - EXHIBIT C)*, be it further,

RESOLVED: that all sealed bids with a non-collusion form are due to the Town Clerk's Office by 7:00PM on Monday, December 16, 2024. Mailed or delivered to the Town Clerk at 26 Grange Hall Road in Stephentown, NY 12168.

MOTION BY: CLARK

SECONDED BY: KIDNEY

VOTES OF: 5 AYE 0 NAY

RESOLUTION #44-24

**ADVERTISE FOR ANNUAL APPOINTED POSITIONS FOR THE
YEAR 2025**

WHEREAS: the Town Clerk is authorized to advertise for all appointed positions with their salary, that are expiring or vacant on December 31, 2024, now therefore be it

RESOLVED: that the Town Clerk advertise requesting applications for appointed positions for 2025, with a deadline of Friday, December 20, 2024, at 11:00 AM.

MOTION BY: KIDNEY

SECONDED BY: MADDEN

VOTES OF: 5 AYE 0 NAY

RESOLUTION #45-24

ADVERTISE 2025 CLEANING SERVICES FOR TOWN HALL AND OFFICES

WHEREAS: there is a need to advertise for Town Hall cleaning, with present term to expire on December 31, 2024, now therefore be it

RESOLVED: that the Town Clerk is authorized to advertise for this position for the year 2025. Resumes and letters of interest due to the Town Clerk by Monday, December 16, 2024, at 7:00 PM. Delivered to the Town Hall or mailed to 26 Grange Hall Road, Stephentown, NY

MOTION BY: MADDEN

SECONDED BY: KIDNEY

VOTES OF: 5 AYE 0 NAY

RESOLUTION #46-24

ADVERTISE FOR THE 2025 ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING

WHEREAS: the Town Board would like to hold an Organizational Meeting to establish the Town's Annual Business for 2025, now therefore be it

RESOLVED: that the Town Clerk is authorized to advertise for the 2025 Organizational Meeting to be held on Monday, January 6th, 2025 at 7:00pm.

MOTION BY: RODER

SECONDED BY: KIDNEY

VOTES OF: 5 AYE 0 NAY

MOTION TO ADJOURN AT 9:04 PM

MOTION BY: DEFREEST, JR.

SECONDED BY: MADDEN

VOTES OF: 5 AYE 0 NAY

****The next Regular Meeting** of the Town Board, Town of Stephentown will be held on **Monday, December 16th, 2024 at 7:00 PM** at the Town Hall located at 26 Grange Hall Road, Stephentown, NY 12168.

Stephanie M. Hoffman

Town Clerk