

Town Board Meeting held September 12, 2022 at 6:00 P.M. at the Town Hall in

Schroon Lake N.Y.

Present:

Town Supervisor: Meg Wood

Councilpersons: Richard Gero, Ethan Thompson, Lynn Donaldson and Leanna Welch

Town Clerk: Patricia Savarie

Also Present: Albert May, Roger Mahler, Mickey Caputo-Abbott, Birdie Bolton,
Randy Garrison, Sue Palisano and John Fear

Supervisor Wood called the meeting to order at 6:00 P.M. with a pledge to the Flag.

Public Participation

Randy Garrison stated his son had done an Eagle Scout project at the Golf Course Gardens which he raised in the amount of \$2,500.00 to purchase flowers, shrubs and mulch with many businesses donating to the project. This summer I went to look at it and it has all been destroyed and was never maintained by the Town. Supervisor Wood apologized stating she will meet with him and go over to the Golf Course to discuss what can be done to correct it.

RESOLUTION# 149 Approve Minutes of August 8, 2022

Councilman Thompson moved a resolution to approve the minutes of August 8, 2022, seconded by Councilwoman Donaldson; carried.

RESOLUTION# 150 Approve Vouchers

Councilman Gero moved a resolution to pay the bills as reviewed, seconded by Councilman Thompson; carried.

General Fund \$51,845.28 Sewer \$32,593.58 Water \$12,275.70 Highway \$54,396.71

CDBG/UDAG \$459.78

RESOLUTION# 151 Change 10/6/2022 Budget Meeting date to 10/05/2022

Councilwoman Welch moved a resolution to change the Thursday, October 6, 2022 Budget meeting to Wednesday, October 5, 2022, seconded by Councilman Gero; carried.

RESOLUTION# 152 Advertise Budget Public Hearing on Thursday 11/10/2022 at 5:30 PM

Councilwoman Welch moved a resolution to advertise for the 2023 Budget Public Hearing, seconded by Councilman Thompson; carried.

PUBLIC HEARING ON 2023 Town of Schroon Budget

Pursuant to the town board resolution of September 12, 2022, the Town Board of the Town of Schroon will hold a public hearing on the proposed Town Budget for 2023. All citizens and especially senior citizens are invited to attend and provide the Board with written and oral comments on the budget.

The budget hearing will be held in the meeting room of Town Hall, 15 Leland Avenue, Schroon Lake, NY on Thursday, November 10, 2022, at 5:30 PM. The Regular Town Board Meeting will follow after the Budget Hearing at 6:00 P.M.

The Town Budget may be reviewed at the office of the Town Clerk during the regular office hours. All persons wishing to speak at this meeting will be permitted to do so.

RESOLUTION# 153 Budget Transfer \$9,200 from Water Department Equipment to Health Insurance

Councilman Gero moved a resolution for a Budget Transfer from the Water Budget to the Health Insurance seconded by Councilwoman Welch; carried.

**BUDGET TRANSFER
September 12, 2022
WATER FUND**

FROM;
SW0-07-8310.200 Equipment \$9200.00
TO;
SW0-08-9060-800 Health Insurance \$9200.00
To transfer money to cover health insurance expense.

RESOLUTION# 154 Approve Water Tap for Daniel Sullivan, 980 US Rte 9

Councilman Gero moved a resolution to approve to install a new 1 ½” water connection to replace the ¾” water line for Daniel Sullivan Tax Map #147.13-4-6.000 located at 980 US Route 9, seconded by Councilman Thompson; carried.

RESOLUTION# 155 Waive Sewer Grease Trap fines

Councilman Thompson moved a resolution to waive the Sewer Grease Trap Fines for Pitkins Restaurant, Alpine Pizza, Senior Citizens and the Timberwolf in the amount of \$500.00 for each business and going forward we need to make sure all businesses are in compliance to Ordinance #6 and yearly inspections are being done or fines will be issued if they are not in compliance, seconded by Councilman Gero; carried.

SECTION 6. Any business that serves or prepares food is required to have a grease trap or separating system, they are necessary for the proper handling of liquid wastes containing grease in excessive amounts, or any flammable wastes, sand, or other harmful ingredients:

except that such interceptors shall not be required for private living quarters or dwelling units. All interceptors shall be of a type and capacity approved by the Superintendent, and shall be located as to be readily and easily accessible for cleaning and inspection. Where grease traps or interceptors are being utilized, they shall annually submit cleaning and disposal records to the Town Sewer Department, those with grease traps will send copies of their hauler slips or bill and those with separators' will have to submit maintenance records and disposal records. An annual Inspection will be done. Interceptors shall be installed in accordance with current NYS Plumbing Codes.

ARTICLE VIII. PENALTIES

SECTION 1. Any person found to be violating any provision of this ordinance except Article VI shall be served by the Town with written notice stating the nature of the violation and providing a reasonable time limit for the satisfactory correction thereof. The offender shall, within the period of time stated in such notice, permanently cease all violations.

SECTION 2. Any person who shall continue any violation beyond the time limit provided for in Article VIII, Section 1, shall be guilty of an offense, and on conviction thereof

- a) A \$500.00 fine will be issued upon inspection for a missing or non-maintained grease collection system.
- b) Correction of missing and/or satisfaction of Town of Schroon requirements in 30 days or less will be reimbursed \$250.00 of the fine amount.
- c) Fines will continue at \$500.00 per day with no reimbursement after 30 days of noncompliance of the Inspection date.
- d) After 60 days of noncompliance, the business will be ordered closed.
- e) If there is an interruption to the service of the Sewer Main and/or surrounding businesses/residences due to excessive grease build up due to non-existence or unmaintained grease collection system, all incurred cost will be the responsibility of the offending business to return service to all afflicted.
- f) All fines and credits will be added to the owners Water and Sewer Bill

SECTION 3. When a violation of this ordinance or any of the provisions thereof is continuous, each day thereof shall constitute a separate and distinct violation.

SECTION 4. The Town may enforce obedience to this ordinance by injunction.

SECTION 5. Any person violating any of the provisions of this ordinance shall become liable to the Town for any reasonable expense, loss, or damage occasioned by the Town by reason of such violation.

RESOLUTION# 156 Approve up to 30 hours labor to clean out Golf Course Gardens

Councilman Thompson moved a resolution to hire Molly Wissser and Alexie Subra at the rate of \$15.00 and hour and approve up to 30 hours of labor to clean out the Golf Course Gardens, seconded by Councilwoman Welch; carried.

DISCUSSION: Highway Garage Roof

Councilwoman Donaldson moved to table the discussion on the Highway Garage Roof until they have more information on material cost and that all quotes include Prevailing Wage, seconded by Councilman Gero; carried.

DISCUSSION: Senior Citizen Tax – waiting for information on how it affect Town of Schroon

Supervisor Wood stated she had received information from David Wainwright, Director of Essex County Real Property Tax Services, as is stands now; Essex County's income limit is \$25,000 for a 50% exemption. On the 2022 Final Roll there were 502 taxpayers that qualified equaling an exempt amount of \$36,005,723. There are currently 2,621 taxpayers that are receiving the Enhanced STAR exemption. All of these people are aged 65 or over and could possibly qualify for the Senior exemption if the income limit was raised high enough. Since the income limit for the Enhanced STAR was \$92,000 for 2022, all we know is that there are at least 2,621 people aged 65 or older earning less than \$92,000. If the income limit was raised to \$35,000 (also for a 50% exemption) and applied to the bottom 50% of taxpayers that have Enhanced STAR (arraying the parcels by assessed value) it would equal approximately 1,622 parcels and \$95,403,925 in exempt value. If the limit was raised to the maximum of \$50,000 and applied to the bottom 75% of parcels it would equal approximately 2,140 exemptions for an exempt amount of \$141,887,490. These figures are a "best guess", assuming 50% of seniors might earn less than \$35,000 and 75% of seniors might earn less than \$50,000. I will get you more information as it comes in.

DISCUSSION: Update on WiFi service in Town Park

Supervisor Wood stated that Jim Kowalka purchased equipment to be installed this week from the Parks Building to the Pavilion and from there will see how much more we will need to install. We will need to get quotes for cameras for the Boathouse, Bath House and possibly the Bandstand.

Meetings Coming Up

1. Essex County/NYDOS Zoning Overview School in Elizabethtown on Thursday, 9/15/2022, 3:00 – 5:00 pm;
2. Planning Board Overview School, 5:15 – 7:15 pm LGLCRPB Conference in Lake Placid 9/22/2022
3. NYS Associations of Towns Planning and Zoning School in Lake Placid 10/06/2022`
4. Housing Assistance Program of Essex County (HAPEC) Presentation on shared equity affordable housing, Monday 10/03/2022, 12:00 - 2:45

Resolution #156 Approve Adirondack Crafters for 2023

Councilman Gero moved a resolution to approve the Adirondack Artist and Crafters for the 2023 Season on Thursdays during the summer season (Last Thursday of June –the first Thursday in September) and also to be able to set up on Memorial Day Week-end, 4th of July, Labor Day Weekend and the Christmas Show, seconded by Councilwoman Welch; carried.

Executive Session

Councilman Gero made a motion to go into Executive Session at 7:05 P.M. to discuss Legal Issues on two Article 7 and Tax Assessments, seconded by Councilman Thompson; carried.

Councilman Gero made a motion to come out of Executive Session at 7:33 P.M., seconded by Councilman Thompson; carried.

Resolution #157 Agree to Settle an Article 7 Brought by Steven Gosselin

Councilwoman Donaldson moved a resolution to agree to settle an Article 7 against the Town of Schroon protesting there assessment brought by Steven Gosselin owner of tax map #136.4-2-4.230 located at Whits End Way from \$269,800.00 down to \$175,000.00, seconded by Councilman Gero; carried.

Resolution #158 Approve Hiring Appraiser for 1072 US Route 9

Councilman Thompson moved a resolution to hire Donald Hoffman, NYS Certified General Appraiser, to appraise 1072 US Route 9 tax map # 147.54-2-32.000 for \$1750.00, 1072 US Route 9 has Filed an Article 7 against the Town of Schroon protesting there assessment, seconded by Councilman Gero; carried.

Councilwoman Welch moved to convene at 8:02 P.M. and reconvene on Monday, September 19, 2022 at 4:00 P.M., seconded by Councilman Gero; carried.

I, Patricia J. Savarie, do hereby certify the foregoing to be a true and correct transcript from the minutes now on file in my office and of the whole such original minutes.

Dated: September 14, 2022 _____ Town Clerk