

**Town Board Meeting held May 8th, 2023 at 6:00 P.M. at the Town Hall in Schroon Lake**

**N.Y.**

**Present:**

**Town Supervisor:** Meg Wood

**Councilperson:** Richard Gero, Lynn Donaldson, and Leanna Welch

**Town Clerk:** Patricia Savarie

**Deputy Town Clerk:** Erica Hedden

**Also Present:** Ethan Thompson, Albert May, Fran Mahler, Skip Mahler, Brian Ritchinig, Sue Palisano, Molly Colden, Lynette Colden, Dax Colden, and Roger Friedman

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

**Public Participation:**

Sue Palisano requested the board to start initiatives to improve the streets on and around main street. Last year we identified some municipal trash cans that would work nicely, as well as some planters and the welcome to Schroon Lake signs, particularly the one by the old J&L. We could easily clean that planter out and plant some perennials, which would require minimal maintenance. The chamber of commerce is happy to help, and I am also happy to help with these items.

Molly Colden stated, we have some fun updates on the color run to share with the board. We have 57 people registered, which is right on track with our goals and expectations. We are doing very well with recruiting people to participate. We are still looking for volunteers to throw color, the fire department has several people who will be at the fire house, in their fire fighter shirts to throw color, which will be a great representation of our town. If there are any groups that anyone knows of who would like to do some community services hours, I know there is a class at the school that has community service hours, I am going to reach out to them.

We are really excited about how this is coming together. We have our DJ booked, our speaker is ready, we are going to have a big balloon arch right at the end, we of course have some small details to still iron out, but we are really excited with how everything is coming together. The small details we have left I would love to be able to communicate those to you via email.

Supervisor Wood stated that would be great.

Sue Palisano stated, I have already received several calls at the Chamber of Commerce asking where it will be?

Molly Colden stated, Excellent, there is a 1-mile loop and there is a 5k loop and they both stop and start at the exact same spot which will be the finish line of the marathon, on Leland. We start by heading down Dock Street, up by Stewarts and down Route 9. So, the one-mile loop stays on the right side of town and loops back in on Fowler Ave, and back to the same ending spot. The 3.2-mile loop goes up and down Industrial Ave by the fire house and then down to Jordan and Cross and then comes down to end in the same spot. They will be running down by the shops on Main Street. That was one of our plans was to outreach to local business to see if they wanted to put out any maybe “buy one get one” coupons in the bags. We have people that are coming from out of town, and this would be a great way to promote our local businesses. The sheriff’s department will be there to TEMPORARILY allow runners across the street, but they will not be closing any roads. With the one exception we are hoping to have from Dock and Leland to the bathroom. To reroute traffic to Leland to Fowler, if that corner by the bathrooms could be closed, that would be great but it is not necessary. We only need about 25 feet for the DJ and for chalk messages on the road and for people to set up.

Supervisor Wood stated, we will get in touch with our Highway Department and make sure they get in touch with you to see what we can do. Are you advertising this?

Molly Colden stated, yes, we have posters at every local business, for example the post office and tops and all the restaurants have them and they are scattered throughout the county.

Sue Palisano asked Newspapers?

Molly Colden replied, no we are a little worried about our capacity, we didn’t want to get more then we can handle. Right now, we have about 10 volunteers to throw color and if we have 100 people running that’s not enough. If all of you promise to find volunteers, then I will SHOUT IT FROM THE ROOF TOPS. I just don’t want us to bite off more than we can chew and disappoint, I’d rather have us have a successful event and have it return, and to grow next year.

Councilman Gero stated I’d reach out to the local churches; I am sure our churches here would love to participate.

Molly Colden stated, yes, I will do that. It’s a great opportunity too for folks to throw on a T-Shirt of their organization and throw color it’s a great way to show support for our cause and

for theirs. We are very excited as to how this is all coming together so well and with such support.

**Resolution# 100 Approve Minutes**

Councilwoman Gero moved a resolution to approve the minutes of April 10th, 2023, seconded by Councilman Welch; Carried

**Resolution # 101 Approve Vouchers**

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

General Fund \$ 45,032.31 Sewer \$4,406.39 Water \$18,550.72 Highway \$7,940.7

**Resolution #102 Approve Board resignation**

Resignation from the position of Town Board from Ethan Thompson, effective May 5<sup>th</sup>, 2023.

Councilman Welch regretfully moved a resolution to approve Board Resignation of Ethan Thompson effective May 5, 2023, unanimously seconded by the Town Board, carried.

**Resolution #103 Approve Revised Employee Handbook effective May 1, 2023**

Councilman Gero moved a resolution to Approve Revised Employee Handbook, seconded by Councilwoman Donaldson; carried.

**Resolution #104 Approve lactation facility/room**

Supervisor Wood stated, the state now requires accommodation for persons that are pregnant or recently have had a child. Accommodation is for a space for lactation, and we need to designate a spot in the building should the need arise. The location requires privacy, easy access to water and of course electricity. I suggest we designate this room, the meeting room. It has privacy, it has a kitchen sink and is close to the bathroom. Should it occur when we have a public meeting, they can use the room of the supervisor upstairs.

Councilman Welch moved a resolution to approve the meeting room as a lactation facility/room, seconded by Councilwoman Donaldson; carried.

**Resolution #105 Approve 2023 Golf Course Fees**

Supervisor Wood stated, these are suggestions based on suggestions from the Golf course, and people that are regularly at the Golf Course.

Proposed changes are as follows.

## 2023 Schroon Lake Golf Course

Fees:

9 Holes.....	\$ 16.00
18 Holes.....	\$ 22.00
After Hours.....	\$ 6.00

Cart Fees:

9 Holes.....	\$14.00 (1 Person)	
		(\$12.96+\$1.04 Tax)
18 Holes.....	\$20.00 (1 Person)	
		(\$18.52+\$1.48Tax)

Season Fees:

Adult Membership – Single.....	\$400.00 (previously 300)
Adult Membership – Couple.....	\$750.00 (previously 600)
Senior 80+ Membership.....	\$110.00 (previously 100)
Student Membership.....	\$110.00 (previously 100)
Own Cart – Member.....	\$250.00 (previously 200)
Own Cart – Non Member.....	\$20.00/ Day (previously 15/day)
Hand Pull Carts .....	\$2.00 (unchanged)
Club Rental.....	\$10.00 (unchanged)
Lockers – Season.....	\$20.00 (unchanged)

Credit Card Fee

Per transaction fee.....	\$3.00
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Supervisor Wood stated, secondly, we use the Square system for the charge cards now, there are fees for that. I believe we paid a couple thousand dollars in fees last year. According to Chris Stone it would be a lot easier if we charged a standard fee, \$3.00 for example, instead of a percentage. It has been a struggle for us to bring the golf course up to a “Break even point” if we look at what it costs to play golf in other towns, I think these increases are reasonable.

Councilman Welch moved a resolution to Approve Golf Course Fees for 2023, seconded by Councilwoman Donaldson; carried.

**Resolution #106 Approve Seasonal Employees**

Golf Course

John Swinton -Laborer - \$21.00

Justin Smith- Laborer- \$18.15

Brad DeZalia- Club House Attendant - \$15.67

Deanne Bowen – Club House Attendant - \$15.67

Kathy Riggins- Club House Attendant -\$15.56

Brian DeZalia – Club House Attendant - \$15.22

Bath House and Boathouse

George Reeves – Cleaner- \$16.62

Boat wash Station

John Hiess – Boat wash Station Attendant - \$15.11

David Peterson – Boat wash Station Attendant - \$15.11

Councilwoman Donaldson moved a resolution to Approve 2023 Seasonal Employees, seconded by Councilman Gero; carried.

**Resolution #107 Approve seasonal bid for maintenance of 4 cemeteries**

Supervisor Wood stated we received two bids for the cemeteries. We took the Loch Mueller cemetery off the list because its in such poor shape it needs more then annual maintenance. The bids are for spring and fall clean up and mowing of the Severance cemetery, protestant cemetery on Hoffman, Baker Street and South Schroon cemetery. We received one bid for \$20,000. The second bid by G+C Services is broken down as follows.

Cost per visit

	Spring Clean up	Single Routine Mowing	Fall Cleanup
Cemetery			
Severance.....	\$ 150.00.....	\$600.00.....	\$150.00
Protestant.....	\$150.00.....	\$500.00.....	\$150.00
Bake Street.....	\$100.00.....	\$200.00.....	\$100.00
South Schroon.....	\$100.00.....	\$200.00.....	\$100.00
Totals.....	\$500.00.....	\$1,500.00.....	\$500.00

Supervisor Wood stated that we will approve for four (4) routine mowing visits, depending on weather and rain and how much the grass grows. That would allow for a total of \$6,000.00 allotted for routine mowing throughout season.

So the second bid would total out at \$7,000.00, the first bid was for \$20,000.

Councilwoman Donaldson moved a resolution to Approve seasonal bid for maintenance of 4 cemeteries by G+C Services, seconded by Councilman Gero; carried.

**Resolution #108 Approve Building and Grounds hire**

Supervisor Wood stated this resolution is to approve the appointment of Ethan Thompson to building and grounds, effective date of 5/10/2023 at a starting rate of \$26.50 an hour.

Councilman Gero moved a resolution to hire Ethan Thompson to Building and Grounds, effective 5/10/2023 at a starting rate of \$26.50 an hour, seconded by Councilwoman Welch; carried

**Resolution # 109 Approve Consulting Firm LaBella as consultant for the Comprehensive Plan**

Supervisor Wood stated, we had two bids. LaBella was \$69,166.00 and Barton and Loquidice was \$77,000.00. We each reviewed both presentations carefully, I think there was a difference in quality and happily, I believe the lower priced proposal was better.

Councilwoman Welch moved a resolution to Hire LaBella as consulting firm in the amount of \$69,166.00 for the Comprehensive Plan, seconded by Councilwoman Donaldson; carried.

**Resolution #110 Approval of the Revolving Loan Agreement**

REVOLVING LOAN FUND ADMINISTRATIVE AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE LAKE CHAMPLAIN-LAKE GEORGE REGINAL PLANNING BOARD (LCLGRP) AND THE TOWN OF SCHROON REVOLVING LOAN FUND COMMITTEE (TSRLF)

July1, 2023-June 30, 2024

The Lake Champlain-Lake George reginal Planning Board agrees to perform the following Post Loan Approval services for the Town of Schroon Revolving Loan Fund Committee:

- A. File maintenance on each loan services by LCLGRP
- B. On-Going review and management of Glens Falls National Bank's Pass Through Controls Accounts Statements by LCLGRP
- C. Quarterly postings of cash receipts by LCLGRP

- D. On-Going maintenance of loan journals
- E. Quarterly preparation of financial statements
- F. General follow-up on loan delinquencies/defaults as directed by TSRLFC
- G. Annual preparation of federal/state tax reports, if required
- H. Annual audit of Schroon RLF Program, if required
- I. Legal follow-up on loan delinquencies/defaults by Bartlett, Pontiff, Stewart & Rhodes Esq., if required and as directed by TSRLFC

This agreement is in effect for one year.

The annual fee for services provided by LCLGRP will be 1.3% of the TSRLF outstanding principal balance billed to the TSRLFC in quarterly installments as follows, .3375% March 31<sup>st</sup>, .3375% June 30<sup>th</sup>, .3375% September 30<sup>th</sup>, .3375% December 31<sup>st</sup>

Fees for those series provided by firms other than LCLGRP with the exception of routine services provided by LCLGRP will be billed to the TSRLFC on an at cost basis.

Councilwoman Welch moved a resolution to approve The Revolving Loan Agreement, seconded by Councilman Gero; carried.

#### **Resolution #111 Approve Adirondack Marathon Support**

Supervisor Wood states, I have received an email request from Laurie Edelman the assistant to the marathon director, for our annual support of their annual race. It will be on Saturday September 30<sup>th</sup> this year and Sunday October 1<sup>st</sup>. I'd like to pass a resolution of support.

Councilman Gero moved a motion to approve Adirondack Marathon Support, seconded by Councilwoman Welch; carried.

#### **Resolution #112 Approval to Post an ad for Clerk to the Supervisor**

Supervisor Wood states: at the last meeting we talked about advertising for a replacement or two for Chris Stone who is retiring sometime in August. Since then, we have received a job evaluation and questionnaire completed by her. We need to pass a resolution that we will place an ad or two for this position.

Councilwoman Donaldson moved a motion to approve the Posting of an ad for Clerk to the Supervisor, seconded by Councilwoman Welch; carried.

#### **Resolution #113 ADK Garden Proposal**

Supervisor Wood stated we have a proposal from ADK Gardens. The proposal is for the front of the building to have river stone go out under the drip edge. Rick did suggest that we continue that over to the courthouse, for a continuous look, so that the appearance is the same, that is something we can add. The proposal also includes mulch and several bushes, some planters. I do want to confer with Jane Bouchard on the plant selection, Jane has been volunteering her time to help us maintain the front of the building, among the many other things she does here at the town hall. The goal is to make the front of the building look nice but in such a way that requires minimal maintenance. We don't have enough volunteers to maintain the front of the building. His current proposal is \$4,420.00.

Supervisor Wood states, I think this is something we should do. We want a good image of our town.

Councilman Gero moved a motion to accept ADK Garden proposal, seconded by Councilwoman Welch; carried

**Discussion:**

Supervisor Wood stated, regarding the Lifeguards, we are not going to pass a resolution to hire them today as it is contingent upon the applicants to pass their Red Cross course. I met again this weekend with Jeanine she will be head lifeguard again this year. We are very fortunate this year as we have a lot of new lifeguards. We will have a full staff for the beach this year. Our new lifeguards will work 1 to 2 days a week and fill in as needed, and our returning lifeguards will work 3 to 4 days a week or more depending on scheduling. We have discussed having uniforms and shirts for the life guards this year. Marine Rescue Products has lifeguard suits that are reasonable, the woman's suits are \$44.00, shorts for them are \$32.50, and the men's suits are \$25.00 or \$ 27.00 if they want a pocket. The woman's suits will be blue, their shorts will be red, and the men's shorts will be red. The town will be ordering the T-shirts that we do every year from Sam Tyrrell, this year they will be white with a red cross to go with the red shorts. We will be going through the lifeguard shed to do inventory to see what we need to order for the year. We will be needing new buoys and ropes as well. The state health department that deals with lifeguard safety and safety inspections knows that Jeanine is the main person they will be dealing with for permits and their requirements. The new lifeguards will have their CPR training, Jeanine is going to send all the paperwork for the town's files to Chris. We will be giving reimbursement



to the lifeguards of UP TO \$50.00 for their suits. They do not have to purchase their suits from Marine Rescue Products, they can purchase them from anywhere they like.

Supervisor Wood stated, as some of you know there was a little damage to the stone wall in the park due to plowing. We requested estimates, but we only received one. The estimate was for a 4 ft long, 32 inch high repair with pouring a new cap and to remove all debris, for \$6,350.00. I think we are going to try to figure out another solution or repair for this. We felt that the estimate was too high, and we will continue to work towards a solution for the repairs.

This afternoon we had DEC people come up to talk about the sewer project in rogers brook. The town made a small bit of headway with them but not a lot. We went down to the fountain, and walked around by the brook, so they could see firsthand what we needed and what our restrictions were as to the space available for work. They said they will contact DEC to see if there is a date that they will be working on the bridge, as they agreed that if we could do it all at the same time then that would be ideal. We are hoping that by the end of the month our engineers will be able to make up a memo of exactly what the two options entail, what the cost would be, what the long- and short-term benefits will be. We will continue to move forward with this. We have a lot of planning left to do, we are exploring every possible option and issue that may arise.

Councilman Gero stated, I just want to thank Ethan for everything you have done for this board and for the town. I appreciate the friendship, and there is one term that comes to mind, whether he is on the board or at his new job he is a "Difference Maker"

Supervisor Wood stated we had several applicants, but we are pleased with our decision.

Councilman Welch stated, pleased and sad.

Town Clerk Savarie stated, John Rose was in today, he would like to do some stump grinding, he noticed there were a lot of trees, so please just reach out to him.

Supervisor Wood replied, Great.

Ethan Thompson stated, I just wanted to say "Thank You" to everyone that is sitting up there and to Chris Stone and Roger, this three and a half year has been great. I'm going to miss it, I really am, but we are always moving forward.

Supervisor Wood made a motion to adjourn at 6:56 P.M., seconded by Councilwoman Welch; carried.

I, Erica D. Hedden, 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: May 8th, 2023 \_\_\_\_\_ Deputy Town Clerk