

Town Board Meeting held August 14, 2023 at 6:00 P.M. at the Town Hall Schroon Lake N.Y.

Present:

Town Supervisor: Meg Wood

Councilpersons: Richard Gero, Lynn Donaldson, Leanna Welch and Steve Miller

Town Clerk: Patricia Savarie

Deputy Town Clerk: Erica Hedden

Also Present: Albert May, Jody Olcott, Neil Chippendale, Andrea Crisafulli, Fran Mahler, Skip Mahler, Joel Friedman, Sue Palisano, Molly Colden, Lynette Colden, Dax Colden, Brian Ritching, Roger Friedman

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

PRESENTATION: Bonacio Development – The Lodge at Schroon Lake

Jody Olcott stated, I am the co-director of Essex County Industrial Development Agency. We are here tonight to talk about the Lodges. Some of the services that we offer to new and existing businesses in Essex County range in financing, as in loans to permitting assistance we work with development and technical help with business plan development. Other incentives that we offer businesses are PILOT programs. How we have the ability to do that is that we are a non-profit government entity, we are tax exempt on our own. If we take an interest in the property, which could be considered title to the property or a ground lease. That allows us to provide the business with our tax exemption. It could be property tax exemption, it could be sales tax exemption, mortgage recording tax abatement. Those are a couple of examples. So here, what we are talking about tonight, is the payment in lieu of tax agreement. I will give you our proposal after the Bonacio's gives you, their presentation.

Libby Clark stated, I am the project council on the Lodge at Schroon Lake before we knew it was going to be called that. In 2018 the town engaged in a revitalization strategy. What was really facing the town at the time was the loss of more than 150 rooms in the last 20 years, and a call for primary moderate accommodations. A renovation of what was already here but made more modern and competitive in the market. Another was a way to improve the way customers participate in the town.

Those are the things the revitalization plan was looking at. Two of the actions items that came out of that was, one: to advance the feasibility of attracting a developer to construct a medium sized hotel in the hamlet, that's why we are here, that attraction worked. The second: was the town was open to exploring for providing financial assistance to upgrade existing accommodation businesses and to consider its own function and being able to partner with other regional and state funding, to provide funding assistance. That's what brings us here today, this is a conversation about what it takes to continue the process of partnering with the public and private sector to see the town wide revitalization really get its legs.

What's exciting for us is our project timeline, we purchased the property in 2022, in July. The property needed some serious upgrades. That construction started in August of 2022. Construction was completed on time in June of 2023. Everything inside the resort is completely rehabilitated, it's on the existing foot print, so no new environmental impact. There are now 97 restored guests' room, 9 chalets, 10 glamping sites and our total square footage renovation is 145,000 square feet. We have new food and beverage on site, the Brown Swan, the Bevy which is now open to the public. The high peaks ballroom, which is coming soon, for weddings and events. Some other things that I think are important to know financially are how much the investment in the Lodge has grown since it was originally contemplated in 2021. We originally wanted it to be a seasonal operation, but additional investment was brought to make it year round, that requires year round staff and year round marketing. We repaved all the site road ways, we added the food and beverage as I already mentioned, installed full WIFI capabilities, and 32 new dock slips for guest use. All of which required additional investments.

What are some of the future investments that the Lodge is looking to bring, which will also require additional capital and the success of the project. One is a spa and wellness facility, a tasting room above the brown swan, more renovations of historical buildings, there are three (3) more significant ones up on site that needs to be renovated through a historic renovation program. They are state recognized historical buildings. Adding more family amenities to the site, looking at renovating the beach front into something more accessible and hiring additional staff for growth.

In addition to all this, in 2021 to 2023 New York state saw the greatest increase in drive to regional tourism in the modern decades. It has been a massive influx of competition. right now, Lake Placid alone is estimated to have between 2021 and 2023, 100 million dollars' worth of new tourism

investment. That's who our competitor is, right down the road is 100 million dollars of new investments.

The Blue Bird, the Grand Adirondack in Lake Placid, Fort William Henry in Lake George, Dunham's Bay, The Wydler and the Windham down in the Catskills. If you're coming up out of the metropolitan areas and looking to go upstate, we are now part of that huge tourism draw, but also part of the competition.

Why a PILOT, I always thought of it as, when the tax situation for an emerging business that is economically important to the region, needs predictability in its tax payments, it asks for a PILOT. It doesn't mean any taxes; it means it makes a payment. It is a payment made into the taxing jurisdiction at an agreed upon amount, for a certain period of time to enable start up predictability. It allows for the predictability for the allocation of future resources. The ability to predict our expenses allows us to plan out what we do today, tomorrow, or next year. The types of investments that we want to put into the Lodge require a certain amount of predictability of expenses. Number two we ask because the town revitalization plan says that financial assistance at the local level is something that was to be contemplated and sought after for projects that are of note. We need to adequately provide for staffing, this is a shrinking labor market, and it is challenging, so being able to afford, recruit and attract the type of staff that is necessary to keep the Lodge running is of vital importance. The allocation of money for staff and for jobs is critical. The next is to continue the growth of the wedding space. The interest in the wedding space has been incredible. The more we grow the more people we can bring downtown and the more money they will spend.

The direct economic impact from the Lodge is estimated. The estimated property tax that we are looking for in the PILOT is commensurate with what we think of as what the expense load for Word of Life was when they owned the property. There really are no NEW services that we can think of, when it comes to EMS, or fire, anything additional that the town would need because it was an ongoing concern, an ongoing site, those concerns had already been budgeted for. They are being paid for now by the Lodge instead of Word of Life. The two things that are really significant, that are different, is the estimated sales tax for 2024 is \$ 138,000.00 dollars, and in 2021 the prior owner paid zero. So, the sales tax impact is enormous. The estimated bed tax is \$485,000.00 with the new occupancy tax. Almost half a million dollars being paid in occupancy tax. Our estimated total 2024 tax impact is about \$640,000.00.

What did I mean a minute ago when I said no NEW infrastructure impact. As I mentioned, because it was a historical renovation for the most part, there are no new environmental impacts. It is an existing site; it is meant to be built upon the footprint of the original buildings. There are no new buildings, there's a decrease in the room count, so there's less density. There are no new site roads, there are no traffic increases, and to the best of my knowledge there has been no new fire and Ems response. So those services that would normally be covered by town tax are part of this discussion. The big one is increasing secondary impact. Also, the town revitalization strategy was working on ways to improve the way visitors participate in local events and contribute to local businesses and services. One of the things that happened at the Lodge is to really partner with the town on this, and that's the training of the front-end house staff, where to go, what businesses are in town, where they can go to spend their money, what can they visit. The second is to increase community spending, the average spending a day is \$100.00 a guest. The higher our occupancy rate, the higher community spending per guest. Third is the monthly community night at the Brown Swan, where there is an effort to make profits and give them to area charities, one of which was the PTSO. Lastly, is our workforce impact, which I believe is what Jody and her team looks at. In order to qualify for a PILOT you have to demonstrate the creation of jobs. The reason why we hope this project fits under the Essex County Uniformed Tax-Exempt Policy is because its focus is on the creation of work force development. Our original jobs projected were 26 new Full-time employees. The actual number of jobs created was 47.5, 30 of those are local employees and 5 of them are full-time. Last, we fill in with the J1/H2B's employees there's 20 seasonal workers, that also work shifts at other local area businesses.

That's the overall presentation, I want our team to be available for any questions. I know Jody has the tax impact to describe, and I think the owner would like to say a few things.

Andrea Crisafulli stated, Thank you. Many of you were at the open house we had; it was our opportunity to say that we are members of this community. My family has been coming here for 50 years. Keeping the authenticity of the Lodge and trying to really bring back the Schoon Lake I had as a child, Sonny and Julie have the same exact hope for this property. Again, I think what I am hoping you can hear from Libby and Jody, we are not looking to not pay our way, what we are looking for is to have a number that will be in our performance so we can know we can count on what our costs are going to be, and we can further invest in this project. My husband and I are all in on this. We are not some people from San Francisco or San Diego who have money to throw at resorts all over the

country. That's not who we are. We wanted to invest in this, we are not looking to make it something that it never was, but we really are just looking for your support for the IDA and hopefully Jody can speak a little more about it. I do know that I had heard at one point, from people talking around town, that it was something we were looking for that was really for non-profits. That it isn't something that we really qualify for, that's not the case, and I think Jody will be able to explain, we wouldn't ask for something that we didn't feel was warranted, and that we would continue to invest in this project. I just wanted to kind of close that up and ask you to be open minded, and please come back to us when you have questions.

Jody Olcott stated, we get to look at the dollars a cent of what we are talking about. What makes you eligible for a PILOT or any of the incentives through the IDA. Basically, your project must have a large economic impact for the town and county. It doesn't specifically have to have a set number of jobs. If I attracted a gas station to Newcomb and it created one job, I would be a hero, if I created a gas station here with one job, you would probably boot me out the door. What you have in front of you is if things stayed the same which is current assessed value of almost \$4.6 million dollars, and I use the 2% increase every year. Each tax amenity would receive should things stay the same. The second thing is the proposed deviation. The whole idea is that, and what they have proposed is that you're not losing revenue, it's the same amount you would receive from Word of Life, from those four (4) parcels that are allocated to this project. It's a set amount each year. For budgeting purposes that is obviously important to them. In terms of just looking at the town, there are three tax amenities involved. We decided to come to the town first to give our presentation, and each tax amenity will have the same say that you have. It will be the same presentation to the county and to the school. That is the starting point of the proposal. Basically, you're going to look to the far left and you're going to look at the town of Schroon and this is your tax rate, and then these are the highway, fire and park and that's your tax rate. If you multiply that by the assessed value, this is what you would pay in 2024, this is what you can anticipate seeing in this first year. Then if you go down to the proposed PILOT deviation this is what that payment would be for each of the three taxing entities. You can see on here the proposal to the town of Schroon would stay a constant \$18,137.00 for the term of the PILOT. We call this a PILOT deviation because we have other PILOT schedules that are originals, but this is their proposal, so it's called a deviation. Talking about this project, obviously public/private partnership is key. You noticed it when the governor came to the ribbon cutting, which has never happened in my 25 years at the IDA. The state putting in tax benefits and other economic development incentives, locals,

the county gave up the sales tax exemption for the purchase materials and equipment that goes into the renovation facility, and the county also gave up mortgage recording tax which is 1.25% of was recorded. In total \$575,000.00 in sales tax exemption, \$178,000.00 in mortgage tax exemption. That is a small portion of the total project investment to date of about \$26 million dollars.

Town Clerk Patricia Savarie stated, you don't have 2023 on here

Jody Olcott stated, I don't just because I used the numbers, your taxable assessment date of March 1st has come and gone, so anything we put in place will be moving forward. I'm trying to project that. It's difficult because I have to use the 4.6 million dollars, I don't know where the assessment will end up and I try to be as accurate as possible. It just gives you a baseline to talk about. For the terms of the proposal they have, it's a set term, it doesn't really matter if the assessment goes up or down, and this is for the term of the PILOT.

Councilman Miller stated, I am new to the board and new to a lot of these concepts so, if we have questions going forward, because there is a lot here. Could we have your contact information so as questions arise, we can quickly get them answered.

Jody Olcott stated, yes absolutely. I brought you a couple brochures about the IDA. It will give you a general synopsis of what we do. The services that we offer. So, for example if someone walked in and said they wanted to buy the town store, what can you offer me. You can let them know that we have the IDA at the county level, the IDA administers a \$3 million dollar revolving loan program on behalf of the county. We offer business financing at very low interest rates to get them up and operating. Our terms and conditions are very flexible. We work with seasonal businesses, regular businesses. We are here to help, if the business needs a health department permit, or help with hiring. We usually find that our services are worthwhile, we work with businesses, and they are usually happy with the services we provide. We also help with business plan development; everything starts with a plan.

Supervisor Wood stated, you referring to variables here like the 2%, what made you chose 2 %?

Judy Olcott stated, I just use 2 % because I always think whatever your town's budget is every year you will try to stay under the 2 % tax cap.

Councilman Gero stated, the 15 years, what is usually a standard term? Is that something that they asked for?

Jody Olcott stated, this is their proposal, our standard term, we have two schedules and our schedule term is 10 years.

Supervisor Wood stated, so is 10 years considered short term or long term?

Jody Olcott stated, 10 years is usually the minimum and they go up to 25. We just did the Champlain power and Hudson express program that goes, Montreal to New York City, they laid the cable down in Lake Champlain, we just did their PILOT and we offered them a 30 year PILOT. So, terms are flexible, I call it a PILOT deviation because its not our typical 10 year PILOT that we typically do.

Supervisor Wood stated, well you have given us a lot to talk about, we will get back to you with any questions that we have, and questions that are presented to us by our town's people.

Jody Olcott stated, great. I am happy to answer any questions. You have my contact information, and please keep me involved with your thought process and we can talk and I can give you any more information you need. We can talk about other projects that have been done around the county as well.

Supervisor Wood stated, I think communication between us is going to be key. We want this project to be successful. There are a lot of things here that we can't predict, like the wear and tear I know it was said that nothing was more then it was, and we want to make sure the utilities and departments are involved with the conversation.

Councilman Gero stated; are you going to schedule another presentation for the school?

Jody Olcott stated, I started with you first, I really wanted to go out and get your feedback before I started anywhere else. Typically, an application will come to the IDA board. The IDA board is made up of seven (7) members that are appointed by the Board of Supervisors. We typically meet and review the project, make sure it's valid, then if we decide we are ready to move forward, we typically go out to each and every town's amenity, make a presentation and ask for your support to

provide these incentives. Typically, I start with the town, then the school, once I have those approvals then I go to the county. Once all that is done, I go back to the IDA board, and we issue the PILOT.

Councilwoman Welch stated, how do you come to your figures? How did they come to their proposal figures?

Kate Jarosh stated, it was our understanding that Word of Life has agreement with the town that started in 2005 that was about \$20,000.00 dollars a year for four (4) parcels that were exempt, it is now ramped up with all of the extension and increased to about \$26,600.00. We purchase two of those parcels and prorated for the value that is on the current tax role, of the \$26,600.00 we believe we are responsible for about \$18,000.00.

Brian Ritching stated, I have a question. Usage fees. For water and sewer.

Kate Jarosh stated, it's our understanding that that is a separate department from the taxes.

Brian Ritching stated, correct but if they are not paid then they are rolled into taxes.

Kate Jarosh stated, I think what you're asking is that if we don't pay our usage fees, they go onto the tax bill. That would be separate from the PILOT.

Jody Olcott stated, actually with the PILOT agreement, failure to pay any fees would terminate the PIOLT agreement and have some very severe penalties. We would have the right to take back any benefit that was granted under the PILOT agreement. Keeping with employment, keeping up the investment, all are terms of the PILOT. They must document their investments and employment, we do semiannual inspections to make sure they are keeping up with their agreement.

Supervisor Wood stated, so what happens if the employment numbers go down?

Jody Olcott stated we have a claw-back provision, for example, we can take back all the sales tax they saved or the mortgage tax abatement, and it would immediately terminate the PILOT, which is very expensive to do. We can take back everything we gave. The IDA is a non for profit, a government entity that is tax exempt. We are providing our tax exemption to a business. It takes it off the tax roll, gives it a PILOT, payments in lieu of taxes, and puts it back on the tax roll at a discounted amount. We can do that because we have an interest in the project.

Sue Palisano stated, I work at the Chamber of Commerce I speak from the prospective of our business members and our community standpoint. We interact with both on a day-to-day basis. I will speak from what I will hear and one of the things in the 5 years that I have been working at the chamber is, Word of Life never paid any taxes because they were a religious organization. This project was heavily charged with flipping that narrative and bringing in a for profit entity that was going to provide, as do all the other businesses in town, funds to the tax base. What I would probably caution you in moving forward is to stop comparing it to Word of Life and saying that the town will continue to receive the same amount of PILOT as they were being paid by Word of Life, because that is not going to sit well. I can't offer you suggestions on how you would change your pitch or your public opinion about this. It will be negative from the street no matter what. Word of Life brought a lot to this community in terms of support, in the short time the Lodge has been open, they have also brought a lot to the community. I just think you should be prepared on what strategy might be best in terms of the public space.

Andrea Crisafuli stated I think that's why she put up the slide right now about the sales tax and the bed tax that will be collected, and it is my understanding that the town of Schroon will get a higher percentage of what they had been getting from the bed tax due to the number of rooms. It's based on how many rooms your town has. So, to push that if you're looking for town support.

Supervisor Wood stated, thank you, that was a lot to digest, and we will discuss this further.

RESOLUTION #145 Approve Minutes of July 10th and 19th 2023

Councilwoman Welch moved a resolution to Approve the Minutes of July 10th and 19th 2023, seconded by Councilwoman Miller; carried

RESOLUTION #146 Approvals of Vouchers

Councilman Gero moved a resolution to Approve the Vouchers, seconded by Councilwoman Donaldson; carried.

General Fund \$26,771.26 Sewer \$8451.79 Water \$3859.38 Highway \$92,385.96

Marcia Dziamba \$1,225.00

RESOLUTION #147 Approve installation of water tap at 1164 US Route 9, tax map #147.46-3-21.100

Councilman Miller moved a resolution to approve installation of water tap at 1164 US route 9, Schroon lake NY tax map # 147.46-3-21.100 per request of Julia Pitkin-Shantz. A tap may be installed at such time all Local and State requirements and regulations regarding the installation of the tap are satisfied and at such time the Town Water Department is available for the project, seconded by Councilwoman Welch; carried

RESOLUTION #148 Approve October 1st Town Road Closures for the 27th Adirondack Marathon

Councilman Gero moved a resolution to approve road closures for the 27th Adirondack Marathon, seconded by Councilwoman Welch; carried.

WHEREAS: The 27th running of the Adirondack Marathon is scheduled for Sunday October 1, 2023

WHEREAS: For public safety certain roads need to be closed or restricted during this event

WHEREFORE: The Town Board orders the following use and traffic restrictions on the following roads, to the extent that they are located in the Town of Schroon, during the following times on Sunday October 1, 2023

Closed to all but emergency vehicles, police escorted vehicles and Official Marathon Vehicles and no parking allowed:

Leland Avenue: closed 6 am - 3pm.

Fairfield Avenue closed 9 am to 3 pm

Dock Street: closed 8:40 am - 9:10 am and from 10 am - 2:45 pm

Route 9 from Hoffman Road to Alder Meadow Road: closed from 8:40 AM to 9:45 am

Alder Meadow Rd, Tyrrell Rd, Severance Rd: closed from 8:55am – 9:45am

Adirondack Rd, Red Wing Rd to Adirondack: closed from 8:55AM - 11:45AM.

Route 9 (Pottersville) from Old Schroon Rd. to Leland St. Schroon Lake Village: closed from 10 am - 2:30 pm.

RESOLUTION #149 Accept resignation of Christine Stone as Clerk to the Supervisor effective September 13, 2023

With Regret, Councilwoman Welch moved a resolution to accept resignation of Christine Stone as Clerk to the Supervisor effective September 13th, 2023, unanimously seconded; carried

RESOLUTION #150 Approve \$600 payment to Carrington Carpenter for airport mowing

Councilman Miller moved a resolution to Approve \$600 payment to Carrington Carpenter for airport mowing, seconded by Councilwoman Donaldson; carried.

RESOLUTION #151 Approve Rush Meadow Consulting contract to provide an assessment of the Town Hall's current HVAC service, future needs and specs for an RFP seeking bids for a new system.

Councilman Gero moved a resolution to Approve Rush Meadow Consulting contract to provide an assessment of the Town Hall's current HVAC service, future needs and specs for an RFP seeking bids for a new system, seconded by Councilwoman Welch; carried.

RESOLUTION #152 Approve Town Zoning / Building Fire Codes report for second quarter 2023

Councilman Miller moved a resolution to Approve Town Zoning / Building Fire Codes report for second quarter 2023, seconded by Councilwoman Welch; carried.

RESOLUTION #153 Approve Kevin Bryerton position of Land Fill Attendant for Town of Schroon \$16.50/hour effective August 14th 2023

Supervisor Wood moved a resolution to Approve Kevin Bryerton position of Land Fill Attendant for Town of Schroon at \$16.50/ hour effective August 14th, 2023, seconded by Councilman Miller; carried.

RESOLUTION #154 Approve Building & Grounds purchase of new Tapco Pro 14 Siding Brake per bids – \$2,125.00 TC Murphy

Councilwoman Welch moved a resolution to Approve Building & Grounds purchase of a new Tapco Pro 14 siding Brake per bids - \$2,125.00 TC Murphy, seconded by Councilman Gero; carried.

RESOLUTION #155 Approve change of date for October Board meeting from October 9 to Thursday October 12, 2023 and November Board meeting from November 13 to November 9, 2023

Councilman Gero moved a resolution to Approve change of dates for October Board meeting from October 9th to Thursday October, 12th 2023 and November Board meeting from November 13th to November 9th, 2023, seconded by Councilman Miller; carried.

RESOLUTION #156 Approve 2024 Budget workshop dates

Councilwoman Donaldson moved a resolution to Approve 2024 Budget workshop dates, seconded by Councilman Gero; carried.

Tuesday October 3rd at 10:00 AM, Friday October 6th at 2:00PM
Thursday October 12th at 4:00PM Tuesday October 17th at 10:00AM
Tuesday October 24th at 10:00AM Tuesday October 31st at 10:00 AM

RESOLUTION #157 Approve DOT Special Use Permit application for Route 9 road closure for Street Dance and Fireworks on September 2, 2023

Councilwoman Donaldson moved a resolution to Approve DOT Special Use Permit application for Route 9 road closure for Street Dance and Fireworks on September 2nd 2023, seconded by Councilwoman Welch; carried.

RESOLUTION #158 Approve Section 125 POP Plan document and Summary Plan Description as amended effective January 1, 2023

Councilman Gero moved a resolution to Approve Section 125 POP Plan document and Summary Plan Description as amended effective January 1st, 2023, seconded by Councilwoman Welch; carried.

RESOLUTION #159 Approve Town Court to proceed with the Unified Court System Office of Court Administration JACAP grant(s) for up to \$30,000

Councilman Miller moved a resolution to Approve Town Court to proceed with Unified Court System Office of Court Administration JACAP grant(s) for up to \$30,000, seconded by Councilman Gero; carried.

**RESOLUTION #160 AUTHORIZING SETTLEMENT OF
PROPERTY ASSESSMENT CASE
FILED BY 1072 SCHROON LAKE LLC**

RESOLUTION NO.: 160, 2023

INTRODUCED BY: Supervisor Wood

WHO MOVED ITS ADOPTION

SECONDED BY: Councilman Miller

WHEREAS, 1072 Schroon Lake LLC (“Petitioner”), filed an Article 7 Real Property Assessment Review case against the Town challenging the 2022 and 2023 assessments on real property located at 1072 Route 9 and identified as Tax Map Parcel #147.54-2-32.000; and

WHEREAS, it appears to be in the best interests of the Town to avoid the significant costs that would result if the litigation continues and goes to trial; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED, that the Town Board hereby approves the proposed settlement of the tax assessment cases filed by 1072 Schroon Lake LLC for assessment rolls 2022 and 2023 as follows:

1. The assessment on the 2022 assessment roll shall be reduced to \$285,000;
2. The assessment on the 2023 assessment roll shall be reduced to \$295,000; and
3. Section 727 of the Real Property Tax Law will apply, fixing the assessment for Tax Map Parcel #147.54-2-32.000 at \$295,000 for the 2024, 2025 and 2026 assessment rolls unless the property is further improved or the assessment is subject to some other exception under Section 727, however the assessment shall survive any revaluation for these assessment rolls; and

BE IT FURTHER, RESOLVED, that unless otherwise ordered by the Court, refunds based upon the assessment reductions shall be paid without interest provided they are paid within sixty (60) days after Petitioner serves a copy of the filed Court Order approving the settlement on the Town together with a Demand for Payment; and

BE IT FURTHER, RESOLVED, that approval of this Settlement Agreement is contingent upon Town Counsel’s review and approval of the Stipulation of Settlement and Order; and

BE IT FURTHER, RESOLVED, that the Town Board further authorizes and directs the Town Supervisor, Chairperson of the Board of Assessors, the Town Clerk and/or Town Counsel to execute settlement documents and take any additional steps necessary to effectuate the proposed settlement in accordance with the terms of this Resolution.

Duly adopted this 14th day of August, 2023, by the following vote:

AYES : 5

NOES : 0

ABSENT : 0

RESOLUTION #161 Horseshoe Pond / Tamarac Wastewater pump station rebuild project

Councilwoman Welch moved a resolution to Approve the Horseshoe Pond/ Tamarac Wastewater pump station rebuild project, seconded by Councilwoman Donaldson; carried.

Increased activity in Town Park

Supervisor Wood stated, it has been brought to my attention by concerned residents that there has been an increase in activity at the town park, after hours.

Such as, Driving cars on the rink, Drinking, leaving trash, several nights of partying, yells and loud conversations, Sleeper van there all night, plugging into outlets at night, State police called three times, neighbors went over to ask to reduce the noise twice, beer can, and spills found, lights on all night. Discussion was brought up that maybe we should have more signage. We are just starting to talk about this, we want people who live in that area to be happy and have a sense of privacy, but we also want our town areas to be used but also respected by anyone who wants to use them. It has been suggested that we resurrect the position of Constable, which is something to think about. Another complaint was that the parking area is supposed to be for vehicles and their trailers ONLY, someone counted a couple weekends ago and there were 12 vehicles with no trailers.

Sue Palisano stated, there's also a boat that has been parked at the dock for three (3) days now. It's a pontoon, I am not sure if it is the same one that was parked there before.

Supervisor Wood stated, Again? Well this appears to be an issue that we keep running into, and it is budget time, now is the time to address this. This will require a lot of discussion to come up with the solution.

Brian Ritching stated; as far as I know there is no ordinance in town, no sound ordinance.

Supervisor Wood stated; correct, we do not have a sound ordinance.

Councilman Gero stated, we have taken measures to try to alleviate some of this, people wanted the icicle lights left out all summer, so we did that, well now apparently there are people that are not happy with that, so now they are off. There were people turning the lights on, so we turned the breakers off, and we secured the breaker box with a pad lock. I myself got a call at a quarter after 11 one night, and I got in my pickup and I came down. We are trying to do what we can, but we don't want to over sign the park. We do have policies about alcohol on town property, and that seems

to be one of the complaints. We are going to review the footage from the town park, and I think that will give us a better idea of some possible solutions and what steps we need to take next. I talked to Jim Kowolka and he has over a months' worth of footage, 2 months. So, we can sit down and try and see exactly what's going on. What times things are happening and what is happening.

Supervisor Wood stated, it doesn't appear to be young kids. I think this is just the start of figuring this out. We will get together and try to come up with some solutions; this is just the start of this conversation. We could possibly use permits to allow activities, signs, hire a constable, put up gates; we will put our thinking caps on and explore this. Supervisor Wood stated, Highway crew, all other town employees, volunteers, and community members who helped our community during the flooding in July.

Supervisor Wood moved to recess the meeting at 7:24 P.M. and reconvene at 2:00 P.M. on Tuesday August 22, 2023, seconded by Councilwoman Welch; carried.