

**Schroon Lake Town Board Meeting**  
**Held at the Town Hall**

**April 3rd, 2024**  
**6:00 P.M**

**Present:**

**Town Supervisor:** Meg Wood

**Councilpersons:** Richard Gero, Steve Miller, Lynn Donaldson and Leanne Welch

**Town Clerk:** Erica Hedden

**Also Present** Violet Hedden, Albert May, Mark Granger, Skip Mahler, Fran Mahler, Brian Ritching,  
Sue Palisano

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

**Public Participation:**

None

**PRESENTATION: Justice Granger on JCAP Grant**

Justice Granger stated; we have a simple problem. We had a great plan for increasing the safety of the court house. All written out, and went out to BID. We only got two responses from the bidding process. What happened was the department of security decided that one of the bids was two high, from what they thought it should have cost. I spent a lot of time working with the bidder in question and also talking to the state government folk at the courts to see if there was anything we could do about it. They said ‘No’. So with that short fall of approval for our security upgrades we are about \$1,300.00 short of what we would need. The missing cost is for the wiring of the security system. I was told that because we are hooking into an existing system it will take more time and more care to do it properly and safety. This is for the panic alarms that would need to be wired in. The other amount that they shorted was for a Key fob. That would be for our court bailiff to have on his person during court days, so if needed he could activate the key fab the moment a situation arises to get help to us faster. The key fobs run about \$75-\$80. We have had a couple instances that this would have been very helpful to have. This is something that is above and beyond what the courts require us to have for security, but I think it would be a great thing to have. It can some times take the police up to 20 minutes to get here when they are called, so the sooner they can be notified the better. I am coming to the board to ask for help with this matter.

With respect to the doors to the chamber, it is inconsistent at locking. We need to get that fixed. We are concerned with the safety issue this can cause for our court staff as well as our records, both of course are important. We have had two incidents recently, one of which is on going where our staff has been threatened or has felt threatened.

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So the court is asking for the approximate \$1,300.00 help toward the items we have discussed. The bulk of the funds will go through the JCAP grant that we qualified for, so we just need a little help with the remainder of the balance.

Councilperson Miller stated, the \$1,300.00 includes the estimated 75\$ for the key fab?

Justice Granger stated; yes it does.

Supervisor Wood stated; and that wasn't included in the original request?

Justice Granger stated; yes it was, they turned it down, with no explanation.

Supervisor Wood stated; could you put together a packet with all the information. What you are requesting, the exact dollar amounts and what that money would go towards that would be great. In order to approve or process anything we really need to have a clear cut outline of what it is for and how much. We would also need all the information on the Bid process and your responses.

Justice Granger stated; I can do that.

Councilperson Gero stated; in regards to the lock on the door, I know Ethan has had to adjust it before. It might be something that we just have to keep an eye on and adjust as the temperature changes or as it wears down from being leaned on.

Justice Granger stated; I do appreciate all the work Ethan has done for the door but I am just concerned that this is an on-going problem.

Councilperson Gero stated; when you were refused the items in your proposal, did they issue that in writing or was it a verbal transaction?

Justice Granger stated; in writing, they crossed it right out. I didn't understand why, they didn't explain it.

**APPROVE MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 27<sup>TH</sup>, 2024 AND MARCH 11<sup>TH</sup> 2024 PUBLIC BOARD MEETINGS**

**RESOLUTION # 81 -2024**

**INTRODUCED BY:** Councilperson Welch

**WHO MOVED ITS ADOPTION**

**SECONDED BY:** Councilperson Donaldson

**WHEREAS**, the Town of Schroon requests Approve Minutes of February 27<sup>th</sup> 2024 and March 11<sup>th</sup> 2024 Public Board Meetings

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT**

**RESOLVED**, that the Town Board of Schroon hereby approve Minutes of February 27<sup>th</sup> 2024 and March 11<sup>th</sup> 2024 Public Board Meetings

**DULY ADOPTED APRIL 3, 2024 BY THE FOLLOWING VOTES:**

**AYES:   5   NAYS:   0**

**AYES: Councilpersons Miller, Donaldson, Gero, Welch, Supervisor Wood**

**APPROVE WATER UNIT CHANGE FROM .50 UNIT TO 2.00 UNITS FOR TAX MAP 146.20-2-8.100 PER**  
**RECOMMENDATION OF WATER CHIEF WILLIAM JENKS**

**RESOLUTION # 82-2024**

**INTRODUCED BY:** Councilperson Gero

**WHO MOVED ITS ADOPTION**

**SECONDED BY:** Councilperson Miller

**WHEREAS**, the Town of Schroon seeks approve water unit increase to 2.00 water units, per recommendation of Water Chief William Jenks for Tax map 146.20-2-8.100, new single family dwelling at 1361 Charley Hill Rd construction is now complete.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT**

**RESOLVED**, that the Town Board of Schroon hereby approves water unit change for 146.20-2-8.100 from .50 to 2.00 on recommendation of Water Chief William Jenks

**DULY ADOPTED APRIL 3, 2024 BY THE FOLLOWING VOTES:**

**AYES:   5   NAYS:   0**

**AYES: Councilpersons Miller, Donaldson, Gero, Welch, Supervisor Wood**

**APPROVE ADVERTISING FURNACE AND HEAT PUMP REPLACEMENT BID WITH ESSEX COUNTY**

**RESOLUTION # 83-2024**

**INTRODUCED BY:** Supervisor Wood

**WHO MOVED ITS ADOPTION**

**SECONDED BY:** Councilperson Donaldson

**WHEREAS**, the Town of Schroon seeks approval to advertise existing Furnace and Heat Pump replacement bid through Essex County Purchasing

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT**

**RESOLVED**, that the Town Board of Schroon hereby approves advertising existing Furnace and Heat Pump Replacement bid with Essex County Purchasing

**DULY ADOPTED APRIL 3, 2024 BY THE FOLLOWING VOTES:**

**AYES:   5   NAYS:   0**

**AYES: Councilpersons Miller, Donaldson, Gero, Welch, Supervisor Wood**

**REQUEST TO DECLARE STATE OF EMERGENCY IN CONJUNCTION WITH ESSEX COUNTY**

**EFFECTIVE 4/6/24-4/10/24**

**RESOLUTION # 84 -2024**

**INTRODUCED BY:** Supervisor Wood

**WHO MOVED ITS ADOPTION**

**SECONDED BY:** Councilperson Gero

**WHEREAS**, the Town of Schroon requests to declare state of emergency in conjunction with Essex County effective 4/6/24-4/10/24. This is to allow the town to make decisions regarding traffic control on an as needed basis

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT**

**RESOLVED**, that the Town Board of Schroon hereby approves the declaration of state of emergency in conjunction with Essex County effective 4/6/24 through 4/10/24

**DULY ADOPTED APRIL 3, 2024 BY THE FOLLOWING VOTES:**

**AYES:   5   NAYS:   0**

**AYES:** Councilpersons Miller, Donaldson, Gero, Welch, Supervisor Wood

**APPROVE VOUCHERS**

**RESOLUTION # 85-2024**

**INTRODUCED BY:** Councilperson Gero

**WHO MOVED ITS ADOPTION**

**SECONDED BY:** Councilperson Welch

**WHEREAS**, the Town of Schroon Seeks to Approve Vouchers

**2023 Hwy:\$0.00      Water: \$1,057.44    Sewer: \$478.83      General: \$1,295.72**

**2024 Hwy: \$27,686.62    Water: \$537.97      Sewer: \$ 6,230.93    General: \$32,869.80**

**Post Audits**

**2024 Hwy: \$0.00      Water: \$3,828.14    Sewer: \$ 2,931.06    General: \$3,938.25**

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT**

**RESOLVED**, that the Town Board of Schroon hereby approves vouchers

**2023 Hwy:\$0.00      Water: \$1,057.44    Sewer: \$478.83      General: \$1,295.72**

**2024 Hwy: \$27,686.62    Water: \$537.97      Sewer: \$ 6,230.93    General: \$32,869.80**

**Post Audits**

**2024 Hwy: \$0.00      Water: \$3,828.14    Sewer: \$ 2,931.06    General: \$3,938.25**

**DULY ADOPTED APRIL 3, 2024 BY THE FOLLOWING VOTES:**

**AYES:   5   NAYS:   0**

**AYES:** Councilpersons Miller, Donaldson, Gero, Welch, Supervisor Wood

**APPROVE ORKIN CONTRACT**

**RESOLUTION # 86 -2024**

**INTRODUCED BY:** Councilperson Donaldson

**WHO MOVED ITS ADOPTION**

**SECONDED BY:** Councilperson Welch

**WHEREAS**, the Town of Schroon requests approve Orkin Contract for the \$1,616.97.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT**

**RESOLVED**, that the Town Board of Schroon hereby approves the Orkin Contract for \$1,616.97

**DULY ADOPTED APRIL 3, 2024 BY THE FOLLOWING VOTES:**

**AYES:**   5   **NAYS:**   0  

**AYES:** Councilpersons Miller, Donaldson, Gero, Welch, Supervisor Wood

Sue Palisano stated; can I ask a question? It looks to me that our town is spending significantly less than other towns are for black fly and mosquito control, is that something we use bed tax money for that?

Supervisor Wood stated; I will look into that. We used to spray for them, but the person that did it in years past, stopped doing it. The person that took over that business, us and other towns were very unhappy with her work. Apparently things have improved but, the other towns are spending upwards of \$30,000 on spraying and treatment.

**APPROVE JUNE 1<sup>ST</sup> GOLF TOURNMENT HELD BY SLCS CLASS OF 2025**

**RESOLUTION # 87-2024**

**INTRODUCED BY:** Councilperson Welch

**WHO MOVED ITS ADOPTION**

**SECONDED BY:** Councilperson Gero

**WHEREAS**, the Town of Schroon requests to approve June 1<sup>st</sup> golf tournament held by SLCS class of 2025, with a rain date of June 2<sup>nd</sup> 2024. Fees to remain the same, \$10 per golfer and \$10 per cart rider.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT**

**RESOLVED**, that the Town Board of Schroon hereby approves June 1<sup>st</sup> golf tournament held by SLCS class of 2025, rain date of June 2<sup>nd</sup> 2024.

**DULY ADOPTED APRIL 3 2024 BY THE FOLLOWING VOTES:**

**AYES:**   5   **NAYS:**   0  

**AYES:** Councilpersons Miller, Donaldson, Gero, Welch, Supervisor Wood

**APPROVE GOLF COURSE FEES - TABLED**

**RESOLUTION # 88 -2024**

**INTRODUCED BY:**

**WHO MOVED ITS ADOPTION**

**SECONDED BY:**

**WHEREAS**, the Town of Schroon Seeks to Approve Golf Course Fees

Supervisor Wood stated; this is a list, just some ideas for fees. We just need to start thinking about it. Leanna has been trying to work through the golf course income and expenses. We need to determine what we need to do in order to keep above water with the golf course. We just want to make sure it is running well enough to sustain itself.

Also relative to the golf course is Jerry Sheridan has again submitted a request to use his bike on the golf course. We are concerned with what that will do to the course and the greens. We will have to talk to Ethan about this.

**REQUEST TO PURCHASE TRUCK FOR WASTEWATER DEPARTMENT- TABLED**

**RESOLUTION # 89 -2024**

**INTRODUCED BY:**

**WHO MOVED ITS ADOPTION**

**SECONDED BY:**

**WHEREAS**, the Town of Schroon seeks to purchase a truck for wastewater department

Councilperson Welch stated; Chevy? The ford was out?

Brian Ritching stated; there is no Ford or Chevy, they are both 4 to 6 months out.

Councilperson Welch stated; I was just wondering how you made out

Brian Ritching stated; the two trucks you have in front of you, they are about the same the only difference is the Chevy is plus or minus. I cannot get a definitive price from them. I have had no luck with emails or telephone calls, they don't take me serious unless I am right there talking to them. I do not have a brand preference; I just need a truck a lot sooner than 4 to 6 months out.

Councilperson Gero stated; what are you looking for, to pass a resolution to say yes?

Supervisor Wood stated; but we need to know the price, we have to have that to pass the resolution.

Brian Ritching stated; they may require some sort of a deposit, or an outright purchase.

Councilperson Donaldson stated; do you need a tow package on that or anything?

Brian Ritching stated; no I do not.

**REQUEST TO PURCHASE TRUCK FOR WATER DEPARTMENT- TABLED**

**RESOLUTION # 90 -2024**

**INTRODUCED BY:** Councilperson

**WHO MOVED ITS ADOPTION**

**SECONDED BY:** Councilperson

**WHEREAS**, the Town of Schroon seeks to purchase a truck for water department

Supervisor Wood stated; so for now we will have to table this, Bill isn't here. Without his input I think we need to wait to make sure that any quotes we have, meet his needs.

**DISCUSSION: GOLF COURSE OPEN/CLOSE DATES; STAFFING, RETAIL OPERATIONS, CREDIT CARDS FEES, ETC.**

Supervisor Wood stated; so we touched on this a little already earlier in the meeting. So we are going to reach out to Ethan Tyrell about an opening date. Another thing I want to talk to Ethan about is last year we spent about \$4,000 on equipment. Hopefully this year we will not need to spend that, so can we allocate that money to expanding the green a little and using more fertilizer and such to improve and/or expand a little bit? We will have to discuss that with him.

**DISCUSSION: RED CROSS EMERGENCY WARMING STATION LOCATIONS**

Supervisor Wood stated; last year there was a lot of talk about warming stations and emergency stations. I recently talked to the county and Michele Lee who is a local Red Cross lady. There was a question as to whether or not the fire station was a safe place to be. She said yes. The fire department is certified and the school is certified. During the last storm I had a little bit of communication with the fire chief who wasn't able to give me too much information in regard to what would happen if we needed to use the fire station as a warming station. I ran into Lynette Colden at the church and she said the church is ready to go, it has space it has a commercial kitchen it has bathrooms. She said that she would be happy to open up the church for that. I spoke to Matt Watts who is the emergency services director for the county about adding the church to the list. Long story short he forwarded my request on to the appropriate person, she said that both the fire department are approved for overnight stays, she is going to get in touch with our local rep, who will get in touch with Lynette to confirm that the church is able to be another warming station.

**DISCUSSION: BUILDING AND GROUNDS PROJECTS**

Supervisor Wood stated; Ethan has given us a list of his projects and their estimated costs. This is just for everyone to keep in mind. Look these numbers over; these are the expenses that we are facing. Our town needs a lot of work; we have to start some where. We have to pick what is most urgent, and what we can afford to do right now. Then budget out for the rest, come up with a plan of attack.

Town Hall Furnace

Sidewalks

Tennis/Pickle ball court

Docks

Parking lot

Golf Club House Flooring

Highway Garage Roof

Playground

Boat House

Park Retaining walls

Water Department Building

Bandstand

Supervisor Wood stated; the town hall furnace project is currently out to bid, so we are moving forward with that.

Sidewalks as well, they are not out to bid

**DISCUSSION: TENNIS / PICKLE BALL COURT**

Supervisor Wood stated; we had \$56,000 budgeted for that. We talked with three different outfits, one was here a year ago and he has given us newer figures, which are now in the \$70,000 dollar range. We started out with just needing a washing and to fill in the cracks, but within a year or so we are going to have to repaint and reline, and in order to do that we will need to re wash. So it might be in our best interest financially to do it all now and then have a Maintenance budget in the following years. The court isn't in bad shape, but it does have cracks, especially where the back board is. We talked to another outfit, the same one actually that we worked with eight years ago. We also need to decide how we want to have it arranged with the tennis courts and the pickle ball courts. The pickle ball courts are smaller, so could we re-arrange to make sections larger?



**DISCUSSION: DOCKS**

Supervisor Wood stated; another thing is our docks. I don't know if everyone has had a chance to go down and look at our new docks. Another one went down today. Ethan and Kevin have been working very hard on them and they look fantastic! We are really hoping that people will enjoy them. They probably won't ALL be done by the time summer starts but he has done so much work already. We have all the materials to finish the project, so he will keep working at that. Another thing is the anchor, which is a major issue. We need to find them or replace them. We may need to get a professional diver to go looking in the silt in the bottom of the lake. Best case scenario is that we find them, replacing them would be very costly. Not only the purchase of them but the delivery and placing them in the water. Not only the anchors but also a new set up, we need new chains and a way to lower and raise the docks from the anchors as the water level changes. That will help us get more longevity out of the docks as well.

I, Erica 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: April 10th, 2024 \_\_\_\_\_

Town Clerk