

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

**April 23rd, 2024**  
**8:30 A.M**

**Present:**

**Town Supervisor:** Meg Wood  
**Councilpersons:** Richard Gero, and Lynn Donaldson  
**Deputy Town Clerk:** Jessica Botterbusch  
**Highway Superintendent** Joe Flores  
**Golf Course Superintendent** Ethan Tyrell  
**Chief Waste Water Operator** Brian Ritching

**Also Present:** Earl Gould Jr, John Swinton

Supervisor Wood called the meeting to order at 8:30 A.M. with a salute to the Flag.

**Public Participation:**

None

**REQUEST TO APPROVE CONCRETE SIDEWALK REPLACEMENT 2024 BID PACKAGE AND ADVERTISEMENT**

**RESOLUTION # 92 -2024**

**INTRODUCED BY:** Councilperson Gero

**WHO MOVED ITS ADOPTION**

**SECONDED BY:** Councilperson Donaldson

**WHEREAS,** the Town of Schroon requests to approve concrete sidewalk replacement 2024 bid package and advertisement

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT**

**RESOLVED,** that the Town Board of Schroon hereby approves the concrete sidewalk replacement 2024 bid package and advertisement

**DULY ADOPTED APRIL 23, 2024 BY THE FOLLOWING VOTES:**

**AYES:   3   NAYS:   0**

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

**REQUEST TO APPROVE HIRING TOM MORTON AS SEASONAL LABORER**

**RESOLUTION # 93 -2024**

**INTRODUCED BY:** Councilperson Gero

**WHO MOVED ITS ADOPTION**

**SECONDED BY:** Councilperson Donaldson

**WHEREAS**, the Town of Schroon seeks to approve hiring Tom Morton as Seasonal Laborer grade 3, effective 4/24/2024 at a rate of \$18.51/ hour.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT**

**RESOLVED**, that the Town Board of Schroon hereby approves the hiring Tom Morton as Seasonal Laborer grade 3, effective 4/24/2024 at a rate of \$18.51/ hour.

**DULY ADOPTED APRIL 23, 2024 BY THE FOLLOWING VOTES:**

**AYES:   3   NAYS:   0**

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

**REQUEST TO APPROVE LOGAN MITCHELL AS TRANSFER STATION ATTENDANT**

**RESOLUTION # 94-2024**

**INTRODUCED BY:** Councilperson Gero

**WHO MOVED ITS ADOPTION**

**SECONDED BY:** Councilperson Donaldson

**WHEREAS**, the Town of Schroon seeks to approve hiring Logan Mitchell as Transfer Station Attendant, grade 2 at a rate of \$18.51/ hour, effective 5/01/2024

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT**

**RESOLVED**, that the Town Board of Schroon hereby approves hiring Logan Mitchell as Transfer Station Attendant, grade 2 at a rate of \$18.51/ hour, effective 5/01/2024

**DULY ADOPTED APRIL 23, 2024 BY THE FOLLOWING VOTES:**

**AYES:   3   NAYS:   0**

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

**REQUEST TO APPROVE APPOINTMENT OF MARY EGAN FOR DEPUTY TOWN CLERK**

**RESOLUTION # 95 -2024**

**INTRODUCED BY:** Supervisor Wood

**WHO MOVED ITS ADOPTION**

**SECONDED BY:** Councilperson Donaldson

**WHEREAS**, the Town Clerk seeks to approve appointing Mary Egan as Deputy Town Clerk at a pay rate of \$ 17.76 per hour, effective 4/24/2024

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT**

**RESOLVED**, that the Town Board of Schroon hereby approves the appointment of Mary Egan as Deputy Town Clerk at a rate of \$17.76 per hour effective 4/24/2024

**DULY ADOPTED APRIL 23, 2024 BY THE FOLLOWING VOTES:**

**AYES:   3   NAYS:   0**

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

**REQUEST TO APPROVE SANTORE/ NIGHT SKY RODUCTION FIREWORK CONTRACTS**

**RESOLUTION # 96-2024**

**INTRODUCED BY:** Councilperson Gero

**WHO MOVED ITS ADOPTION**

**SECONDED BY:** Councilperson Donaldson

**WHEREAS**, the Town of Schroon requests approve Santore/ Night Sky Productions fireworks contracts for 7/4/2024 at a rate of \$ 10,250 and 8/31/2024 at a rate of \$6,000

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT**

**RESOLVED**, that the Town Board of Schroon hereby approves Santore/ Night Sky Productions fireworks contracts for 7/4/2024 at a rate of \$ 10,250 and 8/31/2024 at a rate of \$6,000

**DULY ADOPTED APRIL 23, 2024 BY THE FOLLOWING VOTES:**

**AYES:   3   NAYS:   0**

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

Supervisor Wood stated; we have been using Santore for our fireworks for many years. They are one of the few companies that service our area that has a barge. Santore recently split their business into to entities, one side that does the fire works and the other side that manages the business. That is why there are two entities listed in this resolution. One contract is for August 31<sup>st</sup>, the Saturday of Labor Day Weekend, one contract for each entity, as well as the 4<sup>th</sup> of July, with one contract for each entity.

**REQUEST TO PURCHASE SUPPLIED FOR GOLF COURSE**

**RESOLUTION # 97- 2024**

**INTRODUCED BY:** Councilperson Gero

**WHO MOVED ITS ADOPTION**

**SECONDED BY:** Councilperson Donaldson

**WHEREAS,** the Golf Course Superintendent requests to purchase new supplies for \$1,108.50 from

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT**

**RESOLVED,** that the Town Board of Schroon hereby approves the purchase of golf course supplies for # 1,108.50 from

**DULY ADOPTED APRIL 23, 2024 BY THE FOLLOWING VOTES:**

**AYES:   5   NAYS:   0**

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

Supervisor Wood States; our town clerk is at the Town Clerk Association Annual Conference, and her Deputy Town Clerk has to start her work day in the library at 10AM, so we are going to appoint Councilperson Donaldson to finish the remainder of this meetings minutes.

**REQUEST TO APPROVE 2024 GOLF COURSE RATES AND FEES**

**RESOLUTION # 98- 2024**

**INTRODUCED BY:** Supervisor Wood

**WHO MOVED ITS ADOPTION**

**SECONDED BY:** Councilperson Gero

**WHEREAS,** the Town of Schroon requests approve the 2024 golf course rates and fees of

2024 Rates

\$20.00 – Nine Holes

\$30.00 – Eighteen Holes

\$10.00 – After Hours

\$15.00 – Per person, carts, nine holes

\$20.00 – Per person, carts, eighteen holes

NONE –MEMBER MUST RENT CARD

HAND-PULL CARTS – FREE

\$550.00 – Membership- Single

\$1,000.00 – Membership, couple

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- \$120.00 -Membership, senior 80+
- \$110.00 -Membership, student
- \$10.00 – Junior /Day. 16 and under
- \$15.00 – Club Rental

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT**

**RESOLVED**, that the Town Board of Schroon hereby approves the 2024 golf course rates and fees

**DULY ADOPTED APRIL 23, 2024 BY THE FOLLOWING VOTES:**

**AYES:   3   NAYS:   0**

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

**DISCUSSION: GOLF COURSE**

Supervisor Wood stated: We want to talk about the fees, the management and the overall plans for the golf course this year. Here we have an income and expense report from last year. The golf course did very well last year. The actual expenses for the golf course last year were \$10,488.70 less then we expected. We had budgeted for receipts of \$115,000 and we actually received \$ 3,868.28 more then that. So we had a pretty good year last year. We sold 316.75 cents worth of food. We sold \$1,670.50 worth of merchandise. We have budgeted for this year an expense of 145,458. We budgeted this year an income of 120,000. I hope we can do the same this year and not have a loss. That would help a lot when we budget in October for 2025.

Golf Course Superintendent Tyrell stated: as far as the accessories go, our logo was last touched in 2018. Our sticks are broken our cups are in tough shape. What I was hoping to do is to touch up the label. Make it something simpler and some thing clean. It would be a classier cleaner look. Cups that will have interchangeable inner liners, we should be able to get two or three years out of them. I know we have done red for front cup placement, white for middle cup placement and blue for back cup placement. Our greens are so small; I don't think we really need to get three different sets of flags, in three different colors. I think we should just go with the red, and get a couple extras as spares just in case something goes wrong. Most people that play have range finders anyways. That's my plan for that.

Supervisor Wood stated; so we have the cups, the ever white sleeves, the flags and the sticks for \$1,108.50.

Councilperson Gero stated: we talked the other day this quote will be a little higher if you do get an extra flag. Do you think we should get an extra flag incase one gets damaged?

Golf Course Superintendent Tyrell stated: The minimum that I can order is 12, so we will have extras no matter what.

Councilperson Gero stated; I am all for it. I like the logo. We are going in the right direction. You have done a tremendous job with the golf course.

Golf Course Superintendent Tyrell stated: I know there is also concern about the flooring in the club house. I think we are all in agreement that we can better utilize our club house then we are now. What I am thinking is to lets see what its going to look like for a year or two before we go and redo the floor. There is a lot of space in the back of that club house. There is the potential to use that space for other purposes. I would hate to put money into it and then change our plans in a year or two and then have to re-do everything anyways. Let's take some time to think this over, lets do it right, but lets have a solid plan first. The floor is outdated but it is ok for use right now.

John Swinton stated: I think the biggest thing is that the locker rooms are underutilized and that's a lot of space that isn't being used. Golf courses generally don't make money; they make money off of food and alcohol sales. I know we do not sell alcohol but we have such a big space, we could take a couple walls out and then have room for something else? I agree with Ethan, I would have to put flooring in there right now and then a couple years down the road develop a new plan for the extra space and then have to redo it all again. There are a lot of areas in the club house that are not being used.

Golf Course Superintendent Tyrell stated: I think this is because of the type of golf course we are; we are a 'pay and play' type of course. We are a municipal owned course, not a private course. Most of our members come already dressed and just head straight to the greens. We do have a few members that use the locker rooms but it's minimal. So I think we can adapt to the needs of our players and think about offering them a space with something that they will use more. Just an idea would be to use that space to expand the bathroom area and make the bathroom area nicer. Currently the cleaning duties fall on who ever is there for the day as well. I think we need to really outline what is expected, in terms of cleaning. I know there are days that we are super busy and there just isn't time in the day

Supervisor Wood stated; we have been looking into adjusting your duties to include the clubhouse. So you can have more input in these types of things and have someone to manage the golf course as a whole. To be the contact person for day to day questions and decision making. Do you see any need for us to be advertising for any more help?

Golf Course Superintendent Tyrell stated; no I think we are all set.

John Swinton stated; I wanted to talk about the rates and fees as well. Ethan is going to speak about some membership fee and I just wanted to say that I am in full support of it. I know what we have with this golf course; I know these new numbers are worth it. I know we will have some push back from some people but I still think it's worth it. The condition of the greens, right now, is not because of Mother Nature. It is from hard work, it is from mowing, seeding,

chemicals and soil. This golf course doesn't operate on Mother Nature; we need money to run it and to keep it up to expectations. We need to buy chemicals, equipment, sand, topsoil and our time to make the place better. Everything is going up as well, nothing is going down, and we have to be able to afford to maintain the golf course. I know there are other courses in the area that may be cheaper but they have half the course we have, we put so much time and energy into making our golf course the best we can offer. I have been at this golf course for 24 years now, I've been here long enough to see a lot of changes, both good and bad and we are defiantly going in the right direction and we are going to keep moving forward.

Councilperson Donaldson stated; who will be maintaining the flower garden or shrubs up there?

Supervisor Wood stated; that's something we need to think about, historically it has been managed by volunteers, but those volunteers are getting older. Our volunteers are ageing out.

Golf Course Superintendent Tyrell stated: I spoke to Susan about getting some wildflower seeds, something a little more natural and something that requires little to no maintenance. There are ways to beautify the landscape without costing a lot of money.

General discussion ensued regarding the following rates.

2024 Rates

\$20.00 – Nine Holes

\$30.00 – Eighteen Holes

\$10.00 – After Hours

\$15.00 – Per person, carts, nine holes

\$20.00 – Per person, carts, eighteen holes

NONE –MEMBER MUST RENT CARD

HAND-PULL CARTS – FREE

\$550.00 – Membership- Single

\$1,000.00 – Membership, couple

\$120.00 -Membership, senior 80+

\$110.00 -Membership, student

\$10.00 – Junior /Day. 16 and under

\$15.00 – Club Rental

Golf Course Superintendent Tyrell stated; another question was because we have a new logo now; my thought was to get those of us that work there, hats or shirts. Then see if there is any public interest in them as well. We could get a price form Paradox Crafts

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Councilperson Gero stated; yes absolutely, I think we should order a dozen and put them for sale and see how it goes, I think they will see quickly.

Supervisor Wood stated; I got an email the other day from a gentleman who wants to ride his bike instead of using a golf cart.

Golf Course Superintendent Tyrell stated; I am torn, I have no problem with one person doing it but the problem is that it's either a yes to all or a no to all. If damage does occur to the course from people using their bicycles, then how to we address it after the fact?

Councilperson Gero stated; you have put so much time and effort into making this golf course great, id hate to see it sustain damage. If we do start this, we can't allow some and not all.

Supervisor Wood stated; I think your right. I understand why he wants to do it, it's another way to get some more exercise in, but I think our golf course just isn't set up for it. We are not ready for that yet, and we shouldn't be making exceptions.

Golf Course Superintendent Tyrell stated; I had also previously mentioned getting a roller this year. We had a donation of \$1,600 dollars for the purchase of one; the money was set aside for us. I found one in Massachusetts for \$3,800. They can ship. I purchased a pump, a submersible pump for the pond. I also need to get a blower; I'll get three quotes together for that.

**REQUEST TO APPOINT COUNCILPERSON DONALDSON TO TAKE REMAINDER OF TOWN BOARD**  
**MEETING HELD 4/23/2024 MINUTES**

**RESOLUTION # 99-2024**

**INTRODUCED BY:** Supervisor Wood

**WHO MOVED ITS ADOPTION**

**SECONDED BY:** Councilperson Gero

**WHEREAS**, the Town Clerk requests to Appoint Councilperson Donaldson to take remainder of Town Board Meeting held on 4/23/2024 minutes.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT**

**RESOLVED**, that the Town Board of Schroon hereby approves Councilperson Donaldson to take the remained of the Town Board Meeting minutes held on 4/23/2024

**DULY ADOPTED APRIL 23, 2024 BY THE FOLLOWING VOTES:**

**AYES:   3   NAYS:   0**

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

Supervisor Wood stated; our Town Clerk is away at the New York State Town Clerk Association annual Conference and our deputy town clerk needs to leave at 10AM to go up to the library to start her day up there. So we will need to pass a resolution that one of the board members can finish taking the meeting minutes, for this session only



**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**INTRODUCED BY:** Supervisor Wood

**SECONDED BY:** Councilperson Gero

Supervisor Wood moved a motion to go into executive session at 9:57 AM to discuss medical, financial, credit or employment history of a particular person or corporation, or relating to appointment, promotion, demotion, discipline or removal, seconded by Councilperson Gero

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**INTRODUCED BY:** Supervisor Wood

**SECONDED BY:** Councilperson Donaldson

Supervisor Wood moved a motion to return to regular session at 10:55 AM, seconded by Councilperson Donaldson; carried

**DISCUSSION TENNIS COURT**

Supervisor Wood stated; Ethan and I had a discussion with Mr. Werner last week. He agreed that the average life span of painting and the lines on a tennis court is about 8 ears, we are currently on our eighth year. Our tennis court does have some cracks, but nothing that is too bad just yet. We are hoping to start by getting the court into a routine Maintenance program. We contacted Patrick O'Connor from Adirondack sports services that did part of the original project; unfortunately he has not come back with a quote, and is not returning our phone calls. We are also waiting to hear back from two other outfits as well. All of the verbal quotes I received were all in the same price range. This contract is part of the state contract, which means we do not have to go out to bid. That outfit is booked for May and June but said they could come in July and get started on our project. Once they get started, the tennis courts will have to be closed until the project is done and all the paint is dry. I spoke with Kathy Riggins who is very involved with the tennis courts; she said that she was very pleased with the town moving forward with this contract and the repairs.

Councilperson Gero stated; Kathy as well as other tennis and pickle ball players have been in contact with the town, with in-sight and updates. Kathy has been a wonderful, long standing volunteer for our community. In regards to this contract, one of the quotes involves, the lesser quote, portable pickle ball nets, which would be a cost savings of approximately \$20,000 to the town. Kathy is familiar with this set up, and she said that they were great. It was great feedback for the town to know.

Supervisor Wood stated; If we did go with the quote that has the permanent nets that would be \$98,879.00 if we went with the other quote that offered the moveable nets, it would be \$ 79,208.00. This is why we really appreciate the feedback from the folks in town that use the courts. One item can make a big difference.

Councilperson Gero stated; I know that not everyone in town plays tennis. The prior board made a sizable investment into that tennis court, they did a fantastic job. Now we are faced with a regular Maintenance program. If we don't proceed with this, everything they did eight years ago could be for nothing. We have to take care of what we have.

Supervisor Wood stated; I think we should keep today to a discussion, we don't have the entire board here today and I would like to make sure that everyone on the board is fully aware of this resolution.

**DISCUSSION: SIDE WALK BID**

Supervisor Wood stated; the sidewalk bid, we did get that together and we sent it on to the town attorney to review and he said it looked good.

**DISCUSSION: ORKIN**

Supervisor Wood stated; I did receive an email fro ORKIN about treating the town for mosquitoes and black flies. He said there are not that many places along Main Street to treat that are public land. The board will have to get together and review that.

**DISCUSSION: NATIONAL GRID**

Supervisor Wood stated; National Grid has been closely monitoring our electrical usage for the waste water plant. According to them we may be in a different billing criteria. Sue has informed me that we get 39 separate electric bills. I just want everyone to be aware of this, I do not know what this means for the Town yet, but we might see some changes in regards to our electric bills in the future.

**DISCUSSION: HIGHWAY FUEL SYSTEM**

Councilperson Donaldson stated; I should be getting a third quote later this week for a new fuel system. I was a little disappointed because there is a monthly fee attached to it. But we will have three quotes soon.

**DISCUSSION: DOCK FLOATS**

Supervisor Wood stated; Ethan came to me the other day with three quotes for floats. We passed a resolution last year to get this project done, so I contacted the Schroon Lake Marina to get this going.

The Marina was \$7,300.00

Dock Doctors were \$8,730.46

Dock Shop was \$9,042.70

**DISCUSSION: ROGERS BROOK**

Supervisor Wood stated: I have been in communication with the folks working on the Rogers Brook project with us. There have been no new developments with that. There was a little confusion over the naming of pump stations; we had to confirm which ones were which.

Waste Water Chief Operator Ritching stated; there was confusion, the dock street pump station and the Rogers Brook pump station are the same pump station. The serial numbers are the same. So it was just a labeling issue, what they were calling them. I do not have the size of them, which is the next thing that they want. I gave them everything I had.

**ADOURN MEETING AT 10:57 AM**

**INTRODUCED BY:** Supervisor Wood

**SECONDED BY:** Councilperson Gero

With no further business, this meeting was adjourned at 10:57AM, carried unanimously

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, 23rd, 2024 \_\_\_\_\_

Town Clerk