

**Present:**

**Town Supervisor:** Meg Wood

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

**Town Clerk:** Erica Hedden

**Wastewater Chief:** Brian Ritching

**Also Present** Hunter Allison, Sue Drescher, Jim Kowolka, Ethan Thompson, Ian Coryea, Chris Stone

Supervisor Wood called the meeting to order at 9:00 A.M. with a salute to the Flag.

**Public Participation:** None

Ian Coryea presented Health Insurance presentation to the Town Board.

Brian Ritching stated; I have here a quote for the board to review from EMCOR regarding my boiler. I have a two-boiler system and one is currently down. The single boiler should be enough to heat for the winter but without a backup boiler, if something were to go wrong, we would have a major problem. I would like to have EMCOR fix the broken boiler. We have two options; we can go with the lower quote to replace just the seal which is what they believe is broken. The higher quote is for a totally new boiler. These boilers are older, though still fully functional, you still never know what we will find when it is opened. The risk is, if we open it up, we could discover that we need to replace more than the seal, and if that's the case then we will have to address the additional need for more repairs, and we will have to wait for the item to come in before replacing it, as well as the additional cost. They told me the turnaround time if they find it needs replacement is 5 to 7 business days. I would also like to do an RFP for a sand filter. When the sewer department was built, they installed only one sand filter. I do not know why, there is no way to by-pass it, or take it offline with a backup. I would like to look into and RFP for a new sand filter setup.

Supervisor Wood stated; go ahead and do an RFP, and we will walk to the County to see if they have any guidance or input.

Brian Ritching stated; Also, to note for next year, the DEC is concerned about forever chemicals. They will be wanting additional testing for 2025. They will want a 4-quarter study, which involves tests that are expensive. For the study they want to know what is coming in the plant in terms of forever chemicals, and what is leaving the plant. Each test is \$1,500 dollars. We are in the Adirondack Park, this is unavoidable. I would like to plan for these tests to be started in 2025, even though I do not have a start date, simply because without an amount set aside, this would be a big hit to my budget if we didn't plan for it. I do not know if this will be starting in 2025 or 2026, or potentially starting in 2025 and continuing into 2026. Rogers Brook Project is still on going, I have no new information regarding this, as far as I know we are waiting on DEC. I have no major projects I would like to tackle in 2025; besides the sand filter, I will go ahead and get an RFP together for that.

**REQUEST TO APPROVE EMOR SERVICES CONTRACT FOR WASTEWATER BOILER REPAIR**

**RESOLUTION # 209-2024**

**INTRODUCED BY:** Councilperson Welch

**WHO MOVED ITS ADOPTION**

**SECONDED BY:** Councilperson Donaldson

**WHEREAS**, the Wastewater Department seeks to approve EMCOR Services contract of \$8,995.00 for Boiler repair.

**WHEREAS**, repairs to include, Isolate boiler and drain, provide all applicable gasketing for water and flue side, assemble boiler and torque to spec with new draw rods, Hydro test and leak check/test

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT**

**RESOLVED**, that the Town Board of Schroon hereby approves EMCOR Services contract of \$8,995.00 for Boiler repair.

**DULY ADOPTED OCTOBER 22, 2024 BY THE FOLLOWING VOTES:**

**AYES:**   5   **NAYS:**   0  

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

Jim Kowolka presented his recommendation for computer software/hardware and security upgrades.

Supervisor Wood stated; Hello Joe, one thing I would like to see start is the Highway Department and all departments for that matter, to start ordering in bulk. In terms of gloves, eye protections, cleaners, bug spray, oil and such items that are used regularly. I think it would save us a little to order in bulk as well as the time it takes to place orders.

Highway Superintendent Flores stated; we can get that started. We are exploring some new options for maintenance with the truck we are starting to use K&K in Chestertown.

Supervisor Wood stated; we need to stress to them that we need to have a breakdown in the invoice. Also, that they are not to buy parts, they can tell us what they need, we will purchase the parts. That all purchases or orders need to go through you.

Councilman Gero stated; can we have our mechanic take training or classes to help do more of these things in house? There are all sorts of training that these companies put out, especially with all the computer stuff and electronics. Oh, also we need to get some quotes on the shed that you would like to get.

Highway Superintendent Flores stated; there is probably some stuff we could do, there might be some equipment we need to purchase in order to make some of that possible, for example we would need a specialty computer to read all the trucks, those can be pricey.

Ethan Thompson stated; I had talked to Joe about what roads he wants to pave next year. Brookfield was a street he had his eye on. I thought we could work in conjunction with the highway department in terms of when they pave, we could do the sidewalk on those streets that are being paved. It seems reasonable to do them both at the same time. That being said, if Brookfield were to be done, the estimated cost for us to do that sidewalk to meet specs, would be approximately \$65,000. Something to consider as well though, is how much Brookfield is used. Is it the most ideal street to do right now? I think it's a good idea to do the sidewalks when the town is paving, but this might not be ideal for this coming year.

Supervisor Wood stated; there are a lot heavier traveled sidewalks in town.

Councilperson Gero stated; in my opinion I think we need to concentrate on the main line first. The most highly traveled areas first.

Ethan Thompson stated; one thing I learned with our most recent sidewalk repair, was to not do it in small sections. There is too much collateral damage, I think moving forward the best way to do it would be to pick a stretch of sidewalk and do as much as we have budgeted to do. I have given everyone a copy of the things I would like to see budgeted for. This list is a complete list for all the buildings and grounds. I have highlighted the things that I think are more pressing and of greater importance to get done sooner rather than later. I would love to see ALL these items address but I do understand that this may be a multi-year process, but those are the things that I believe should be taken care of first.

#### **RECESS MEETING AT 1:09PM**

**INTRODUCED BY:** Councilperson Donaldson

**SECONDED BY:** Councilperson Welch

With no further business, this meeting was adjourned at 1:09 PM, carried unanimously

#### **RECONVENE MEETING AT 2:01PM**

**INTRODUCED BY:** Councilperson Gero

**SECONDED BY:** Councilperson Donaldson

With no further business, this meeting was adjourned at 2:01 PM, carried unanimously

#### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**INTRODUCED BY:** Councilperson Gero

**SECONDED BY:** Councilperson Welch

Councilperson Gero moved a motion to go into executive session at 2:03 PM to discuss the medical, financial, credit or employment history of a particular person or corporation, or matters leading to the appointment, employment, promotion, demotion, discipline, suspension, dismissal or removal of a particular person or corporation; seconded by Councilperson Welch, carried.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**INTRODUCED BY:** Supervisor Wood

**SECONDED BY:** Councilperson Welch

Supervisor Wood moved a motion to return to regular session at 3:45 PM, seconded by Councilperson Welch; carried  
No decisions were made in executive session.

Supervisor Wood stated; I would like to find out if there is a financial penalty for the Town if we go over the 2% tax Cap, is there a penalty or fees from the State for us? I think we are ok and that we are going to stay under the Tax Cap, but I am just curious.

Sue Drescher stated; what time are we meeting tomorrow?

Supervisor Wood stated; 9 AM. We also heard from the Youth Commission, they said that they don't have any new plans for next year and they plan to continue with the same things for 2025. So, they are all set.

Councilperson Miller stated; I hate to leave, but I have to get to work so I am going to excuse myself.

Councilperson Miller was excused at 3:54PM

Supervisor Wood stated; We have met with almost everyone so far, I want to thank the board for all their hard work so far, budget season is almost over. Review the budget requests, we can go over any questions that we have so far if you want.

Discussion ensued regarding the Health Insurance presentation.

**ADOURN MEETING AT 4:40 PM**

**INTRODUCED BY:** Councilperson Gero

**SECONDED BY:** Councilperson Donaldson

With no further business, this meeting was adjourned at 4:40 PM, carried unanimously

**Respectfully Submitted by**

**Erica Hedden**

**Town Clerk**