

December 30, 2024

Schultzville, NY

The Annual Clinton Town Board meeting was held on this day in the Town Hall. Present were Supervisor Mike Whitton, and Charlie Dykas, Eliot Werner, and Katherine Mustello. Councilwoman Marion Auspitz was absent. Also present was Town Clerk Carol Mackin. There were six people in the audience.

## **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

At 6:30 PM, Supervisor Whitton called the meeting to order and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

## **APPROVE MINUTES**

MM Deputy Supervisor Werner, 2nd Councilwoman Mustello to approve the December 9, 2024 STR public hearing minutes. All aye except Councilwoman Auspitz who was absent. Motion carried.

MM Deputy Supervisor Werner, 2nd Councilwoman Mustello to approve the December 9, 2024 Ruskey Lane PH meeting minutes. All aye except Councilwoman Auspitz who was absent. Motion carried.

MM Deputy Supervisor Werner, 2nd Councilman Mustello to approve the December 9, 2024 Town Board meeting minutes. All aye except Councilwoman Auspitz who was absent. Motion carried.

## **PUBLIC DISCUSSION – agenda topics only**

none

## **BUSINESS**

### **1. Resolution to Approve 2023 Payables, Encumbrances and Receivables**

MM Deputy Supervisor Werner, 2nd Councilwoman Mustello that the Town Board approves the following resolution: BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board approves **Resolution No. 44 of 2024** titled: **Resolution to Authorize the Budget Officer to List Payables, Encumbrances and Receivables for Proper and Appropriate accounting of the 2024 Budget**. All aye except Councilwoman Auspitz who was absent. Motion carried.

### **2. ARPA Update – Whitton**

Supervisor Whitton reviewed the ARPA spreadsheet, attached, which lists the projects using the funds. In addition, Supervisor Whitton is able to recode certain purchases for geothermal to show it using ARPA funds to utilize all of the ARPA funds.

### **3 Resolution to Amend Budget and Transfer Funds**

MM Deputy Supervisor Werner, 2nd Councilwoman Mustello to approve the following resolution: BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board approves **Resolution No. 45 of 2024 titled Resolution to amend the 2024 Town Budget and Transfer Funds at the December 30, 2024 Annual Town Board meeting.** All aye except Councilwoman Auspitz who was absent. Motion carried. Supervisor Whitton commented that there is a \$500,000 surplus in general fund and \$150,000 in highway fund.

### **4. Approve petroleum bulk storage compliance vendor – Dykas**

MM Councilman Dykas, 2nd Councilman Werner to approve the following resolution: BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board approves awarding the bid for petroleum bulk storage compliance to American Petroleum at a bid price of \$500.00 per quarter. All aye except Councilwoman Auspitz who was absent. Motion carried.

### **5. Discuss Planning Board Escrow Deposits – Mustello**

Councilwoman Mustello discussed that the Planning Board has been working to create an escrow schedule so there is a rubric laid out for applicants to know what to expect with their application. This will also assist with having the planner come to more meetings using the escrow funds.

The Granicus letters (letters sent to STR owners) will start again, MCEI Jeff Newman will update letter for more teeth. She is meeting with others in the department to discuss ways for the employees to keep the workflow moving.

### **6. Discuss updates: CAC, Zoning related- Mustello**

Regarding using the NRI maps, members of the CAC, PB, Deputy Supervisor Werner and Councilwoman Mustello are working to incorporate the NRI for our use which will require a change to our Town Code.

Other:

Mike Whitton gave an update on the status of the zoning law. In an attempt to save money Supervisor Whitton sent half of the law to be reviewed by town attorney in 2024 and the other half will be sent to him in 2025 and then to county planning for review.

### **7. Discuss Playground Equipment at Friends Park – Werner**

MM Deputy Supervisor Werner, 2nd Councilwoman Mustello to approve the following resolution: BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board approves the purchase of playground equipment for Friends Park to the lowest responsible bidder: All Things Recreation, at a cost not

to exceed \$13,800.00 from ARPA funds. All aye except Councilwoman Auspitz who was absent. Motion carried.

**8. Discuss Animal Control Officer – Whitton**

Supervisor Whitton said we have an intermunicipal agreement for a dog control officer and it has been ok, except the officer does not work weekends. We have not renewed for 2025, nor have we renewed the dog housing agreement as we are considering another choice. Supervisor Whitton has found a local person to be dog control officer who will put a kennel on their property, but it is expensive: \$8000. The potential dog officer will look for a more affordable dog kennel.

**9. Warrants**

MM Councilman Mustello, 2nd Councilman Werner to approve the following resolution BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board approves the:

**December 30 General Fund Warrant**, vouchers numbered 657 through 700, totaling \$ 45,905.05;

**the December 30 Highway Fund Warrant**, vouchers numbered 318 through 348, totaling \$ 168,468.68; and

**the December 30 Capital Fund Warrant, vouchers numbered 3 totaling \$ 3271.90.**

All aye except Councilwoman Auspitz who was absent. Motion carried.

**PUBLIC DISCUSSION –**

MM Deputy Supervisor Werner, 2nd Councilwoman Mustello to open the floor to public discussion. All aye except Councilwoman Auspitz who was absent. Motion carried.

Rich Morse – questioned the board regarding the \$16/hr. wage paid to a recently appointed employee; it is very low and not a living wage for a person to reside in the Town. Suggests we have a bipartisan committee to look at wages to pay our employees a wage they can live-on in the Town. We should be proud to lead the way to pay our employees a living wage rather than compare wages to what other Town's pay.

Paul Thomas – agrees with Rich Morse on the wages issue; re the escrow issue, MPV our planner's contract, ends in Dec 2024. Asks Board to extend contract. On the wetlands issue, it is important that wetlands law should not overlap with DEC jurisdiction. If DEC has jurisdiction, the Town's responsibility ends, and our law should change to reflect that. The DEC maps are no longer going to be updated. Instead, they created classifications of

wetlands that need protection, and applicants will apply to the DEC for permits and approvals, which we should accept.

MM Deputy Supervisor Werner, 2nd Councilwoman Mustello to close public discussion and return to the regular order of business. All aye except Councilwoman Auspitz who was absent. Motion carried.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

At 7:02 PM, MM Supervisor Whitton, 2nd Councilwoman Mustello that the Town Board adjourns the meeting. All aye except Councilwoman Auspitz who was absent. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Carol-Jean Mackin".

Carol-Jean Mackin  
Town Clerk