

**COUNTY OF GREENE
TOWN OF NEW BALTIMORE
REGULAR TOWN BOARD MEETING
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Supervisor Louis called the meeting to order at 7:45 p.m. and the Pledge of Allegiance was said. Also attending: Councilwoman McKeon, Councilmen Kuenster, Norris, and Byas, Attorney for the Town Wukitsch, Highway Superintendent Jordan, Town Clerk Brooks, and 6 members of the public. Absent: Tax Collector Stuart.

Supervisor Louis welcomed all attending.

MINUTES

Postponed until next month.

CORRESPONDENCE

From **Greene Industrial Development Agency (IDA)**, a press release announcing the newly-authorized Supplemental Generic Environmental Impact Statement (GEIS), seeking open dialogue with the public, and announcing a public information session on February 12, two community workshops hosted by Mediation Matters on February 27 and March 1, and a formal State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQR) hearing on April 7, 2008. The Supplemental GEIS and completion of the GEIS process is expected to be complete by end of May 2008. In addition, for those who are interested in attending a planning session for the community workshops, Mediation Matters will have a planning session open to the public on February 13 at Cocksackie-Athens Middle School cafeteria.

From **Greene County Youth Bureau**, notice of a \$300 increase, a total of \$1,287, in state aid funding for 2008.

From **Hudson River Valley Greenway**, an offer of **kayak storage racks** for designated Hudson River Greenway water trail sites; Supervisor Louis has referred the offer to New Baltimore Conservancy to determine level of interest to install and maintain them. There would be no cost to the Town.

OLD BUSINESS

Proposed Local Law 2 of 2008 – Authorizing a Partial Real Property Tax Exemption for Reconstruction, Alterations or Improvements Made to One and Two Family Residential Buildings

Supervisor read, having held public hearing and heard comment.

LOCAL LAW 2 OF 2008

**A LOCAL LAW TO AUTHORIZE A PARTIAL REAL PROPERTY TAX
EXEMPTION FOR RECONSTRUCTION, ALTERATIONS OR
IMPROVEMENTS MADE TO
ONE AND TWO FAMILY RESIDENTIAL BUILDINGS**

BE IT ENACTED by the Town Board of the Town of New Baltimore as follows:

Section 1 - Title

This Local Law shall be known as the "Real Property Tax Exemption for Capital Improvements to Residential Property Law"

Section 2 – Legislative Intent

The Town Board of the Town of New Baltimore, Greene County, New York hereby finds that it is necessary and desirable to authorize a partial exemption from real property taxation of the increase in assessed value attributable to reconstruction, alterations, or

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improvements made to one and two family residential buildings. This authorization for exemption is set forth in Section 421-f of the New York State Real Property Tax Law.

Section 3 – Eligibility for Exemption

- A. Eligibility for such an exemption is set forth in § 421-f of the New York State Real Property Tax Law. This exemption is limited to a minimum increase of \$3,000 in market value and a maximum increase of \$80,000 in market value. The market value of the new construction is calculated by dividing the increase in assessed value attributable to the new construction by the latest state equalization rate or special equalization rate, unless such rate is 95% or more, in which case the increased assessed value will be deemed to equal market value
- B. Property must be used as a residence for not more than two families. In the event that a building granted such exemption ceases to be used as a residence for one or two families, or if title to the property is transferred to other than heirs or distributees of the owner, the granted exemption shall cease.
- C. In order to obtain the exemption, the greater portion of the residence, as measured by square footage, after the capital improvement, must be at least five years old.
- D. This exemption applies to reconstruction, alterations, or improvements; it does not apply to ordinary maintenance or repairs.
- E. Provided all eligibility requirements are met, such exemption shall be granted only upon application by the owner of such property on a form prescribed by the New York State Board of Real Property Services, to be made available by the Sole Assessor. The application shall be filed with the Sole Assessor on or before the March 1st taxable status date.

Section 4 – Exemption Percentages

The value of an improvement qualifying for an exemption shall receive the following exemption percentages:

Year	Exemption Percentage
1	100%
2	87.5%
3	75%
4	62.5%
5	50%
6	37.5%
7	25%
8	12.5%
9	0%

Section 5 – Required Construction Start Date or Other Time Requirements

Reconstruction, alteration, or improvement of the property must have begun after the effective date of this Local Law.

Section 6 - Validity

The validity of any word, section, clause, paragraph, sentence, part, or provision of this Local Law shall not affect the validity of any other part of this Local Law, which can be given effect without such invalid part of parts.

Section 7 - Interim Suspension of Other Laws

All ordinances, local laws or provisions of the Code of the Town of New Baltimore and any and all parts thereof which may be in conflict with the provisions of this Local Law

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are hereby suspended to the extent necessary to give this Local Law full force and effect during its effective period. This Local Law is intended to invoke the supersession provisions of Section 10(1)(ii)(d)(3) of the Municipal Home Rule Law and to supersede, during the effective period of this Local Law, any inconsistent provisions of the Town Law, including Article 16 thereof and Sections 276(5), 274-a(8), 267-a(4) through(9) and 274-b(6), and 278 thereof.

Section 8- Effective Date

This local law shall take effect immediately upon filing in the Office of the New York Secretary of State.

**RESOLUTION
FEBRUARY 11, 2008**

**RESOLUTION TO ADOPT LOCAL LAW 2 OF 2008 AUTHORIZING
A PARTIAL REAL PROPERTY TAX EXEMPTION FOR
RECONSTRUCTION, ALTERATIONS OR IMPROVEMENTS MADE TO
ONE AND TWO FAMILY RESIDENTIAL BUILDINGS**

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of New Baltimore does hereby adopt Local Law 2 of 2008 Authorizing a Partial Real Property Tax Exemption for Reconstruction, Alterations or Improvements Made to One and Two Family Residential Buildings.

Assessor Bennett offered that there were local options: the maximum value of improvement, Sec 3A, could be adjusted from \$80,000 down to a minimum of \$5,000; the types of improvements could be specified. Supervisor Louis said it had been drafted under the broad provisions under the law without having heard preferences, it would not be changed at this meeting without being put out for another public hearing, and if the Board wished to make specifications they may pull it back. Councilman Byas stated that it is the desired law. Hearing no further comment, Councilman Norris moved, seconded by Councilman Byas. No further discussion.

Roll Call Vote	Kuenster-AYE	McKeon-AYE	Norris-AYE
Adopted	Byas-AYE	Louis-AYE	

NEW BUSINESS

In the 2008 Budget, the Town Justices asked for money for a position to fill periods of absence of the Justice Clerks, whether illness, vacation or other. The Justices have recruited a Town resident and, although hiring authority rests with the Justices, budgetary authority rests with the Town Board to appoint. At the request of Justices, there is a resolution.

**RESOLUTION
FEBRUARY 11, 2008**

RESOLUTION TO APPOINT PART-TIME DEPUTY COURT CLERK

RESOLVED, that pursuant to the request of the Town Justices, the Town Board hereby appoints Kathleen Connor as a Part Time Deputy Court Clerk at a salary of \$11.00 per hour, effective January 29, 2008.

Councilman McKeon moved to adopt, seconded by Councilman Kuenster. No discussion.
Adopted Ayes-5 Kuenster, McKeon, Louis, Norris, Byas
Nays-0

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Contract Renewal for the Boarding of Stray Animals

Councilwoman McKeon reported that Councilman Byas had received a figure from **Mohawk and Hudson River Humane Society (MHRHS)**. In the past a fee of approximately \$800 was paid, regardless of number of animals. This year, Option #1 rate is \$288/day for stray holding period is being discussed with the Animal Control Officer. The redemption period for identified dogs is 7 days, or 9 days if served by mail. The redemption period for dogs with no identification is 5 days. They hold them and determine if they can be put up for adoption. Option #2 rate is \$58/day for 24-48 hours, and was recommended to Councilman Byas by the MHRHS based on usage. There is a chargeback if someone claims their own pet. There are separate rates for cats. The Town paid \$868 last year for 1 dog and 38 cats. **Columbia-Greene Humane Society** charges \$305/day for the same redemption period. **Hannacroix Kennels** wants to provide the service, but doesn't have sufficient kennel space now.

Ellie Alfeld asked if the rates include euthanasia. [unable to understand] Richard Guthrie asked to give consideration to Hannacroix Kennels. Councilwoman McKeon clarified there is no charge if the Town doesn't bring animals. Mrs. Alfeld asked for the recommendation of the Animal Control Officer; Councilwoman McKeon explained that information was still being collected when they met with ACO. Supervisor Louis said if the average stay is under 5 days, then the daily rate is less; the Town must contract out until a local service is available. Topic is held over to March meeting.

Contract Renewal for Greene Emergency Medical Systems, Inc.

Supervisor explained that this is a two-year renewal, first year (spread across the two ambulance districts) would be \$13,393. Councilman Norris [unable to understand] Supervisor asked how much it had changed? Councilman Norris answered \$1,425. Ellie Alfeld asked about reimbursement from insurance. Supervisor Louis responded that reimbursement goes back to the ambulance district, as an offset against these charges; there is money in the budget, budgeted as revenue for the respective ambulance districts. Richard Guthrie asked if the Town was up to date with those. Supervisor Louis answered that they arrive in the next quarter; as the Town doesn't have a contract with the new Cossackie municipal system, not a not-for-profit, a formula has not been established. In Ravena the insurance reimbursement is kept, about \$3-4,000/year. Councilwoman McKeon moved to authorize Supervisor to exercise agreement with Greene Emergency Medical Systems, Inc. for a 2-year period, seconded by Councilman Norris. No discussion.

Motion Carried Ayes-5 Kuenster, McKeon, Louis, Norris
Nays-0

Boom Mower, New-Highway Equipment

Highway Superintendent Jordan said the current mower needs several repairs, totaling \$5-6,000. He recommends a new purchase rather than repairing the current; he cannot convert the unit to a rear mount, the one he recommends purchasing comes out so you can see it from a 3-point hitch. Councilman Byas asked if Alamo was being considered? Superintendent Jordan answered yes, Diamond and Challenger were expensive at \$30-35,000; Alamo has been around since the 1940's, is under state contract, and offers a model that reaches over the guiderail to the bank. Councilwoman McKeon asked about the current mower, had the retailer gone out of business? Superintendent Jordan answered yes; that model had not been available by state contract and the low bid was taken. Supervisor Louis said the original price was \$21,472, he found a 15% discount available to Towns using state contracts, and, from the distributor, reduced the price to \$18,753, about \$2,700 lower than a few days ago; Supervisor distributed a revised resolution. Superintendent Jordan said ordering as soon as possible was necessary and there is a 1-yr

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warranty. Ellie Alfeld asked if there was money left over in the Highway budget from 2007. Supervisor Louis is still closing the books for 2007; when the 2008 budget was submitted, the plan was, instead of \$15,000, to transfer a total of \$30,000 to Highway Reserve Fund and that was done in December. Additionally, the 2008 budget calls for using the money from 2007 and 2008 to address the future equipment needs of the Town, specifically, a boom mower and to consider a roller. Supervisor Louis stated that 1) this is part of the budgetary plan and not out of the boundaries of what has been planned for financially, 2) this purchase is planned for without using the 2008 operating budget for Highway, 3) order, manufacture and delivery for its seasonal use requires procurement at state contract price and avoids the time needed for competitive bids. Richard Guthrie asked that NYSDOT be reminded that the turn from State Route 144 onto New Baltimore Road has dangerous growth. Councilman Byas asked what could be done with the old mower; Superintendent Jordan suggested putting it up for bid, maybe \$3-4,000 could be gotten with head, or keep it for parts. The new mower would need to be gotten from Clinton, NY.

**RESOLUTION
FEBRUARY 11, 2008**

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS
FROM THE HIGHWAY EQUIPMENT FUND OF THE TOWN OF
NEW BALTIMORE FOR THE PURCHASE OF A BOOM MOWER
FOR USE BY THE TOWN HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT**

WHEREAS the Town Board of the Town of New Baltimore established a capital reserve fund on December 10, 1991 of the general type for the purchase of highway equipment to be called the Highway Equipment Fund; and

WHEREAS the Town Superintendent of Highways has recommended the purchase of an Alamo Boom Mower available on New York State Contract for the cost of \$18,753.00 from Keil Equipment Company to be used by the Town Highway Department.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board hereby authorizes that the amount of up to \$18,753.00 be expended from the Highway Equipment Fund towards the purchase of a boom mower, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this Resolution shall be subject to permissive referendum as provided by law.

Councilman Kuenster moved to adopt, seconded by Councilwoman McKeon.
Adopted **Ayes-5 Kuenster, McKeon, Louis, Byas, Norris**
 Nays-0

Water District No. 4

Supervisor stated he did not see how the Water District 4 project could move forward as the cost per household could not be brought down. NYS Environmental Facilities Corporation and US Department of Agriculture Rural Development have contacted him as to whether the Town would be closing on the 0% interest loan and must be informed in writing of the intentions of the Town.

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**RESOLUTION DIRECTING SUPERVISOR TO ADVISE STATE AND
FEDERAL AGENCIES REGARDING INABILITY TO COMPLETE LONG
TERM FINANCING FOR NEW BALTIMORE WATER DISTRICT NO. 4**

WHEREAS, the Town Board of the Town of New Baltimore established New Baltimore Water District No. 4 by its final order of May 16, 2005, said order establishing a maximum cost of \$3,048,000, and

WHEREAS, a critical component of the financing of the cost for New Baltimore Water District No. 4 consisted of a zero interest loan in the amount of \$3,048,000 to be provided by the New York State Environmental Facilities Corporation from the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund, and

WHEREAS the provisions of said loan set a deadline of June 30, 2008 to complete the long term financing of said loan, and

WHEREAS the progress of the Town towards meeting the requirements to complete the long term financing of said loan was delayed by litigation filed against the Town Board that challenged the legality of the establishment of New Baltimore Water District No. 4, said litigation being dismissed at all levels of the New York State Judicial System, and

WHEREAS, the delay in progress caused by said litigation resulted in an increase in the estimated total maximum cost to construct the improvements for New Baltimore Water District No. 4, and

WHEREAS, the Town Board sought to increase the total maximum cost of New Baltimore Water District No. 4, but failed to obtain the necessary majority vote of the property owners in a referendum held in November, 2006 to obtain said increase in the total maximum cost of New Baltimore Water District No. 4, and

WHEREAS, the Town Board has no legal authority to proceed with the construction of the improvements for New Baltimore Water District No. 4, and cannot meet the requirements for completing the long term financing of the above referenced loan.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Supervisor is hereby directed to provide written notification to the New York State Environmental Facilities Corporation and the United States Department of Agriculture – Rural Development Office that the Town of New Baltimore will be unable to complete the long term financing for the zero interest loan offered to the Town for New Baltimore Water District No. 4 before the June 30, 2008 deadline.

Councilwoman McKeon moved, seconded by Councilman Byas. Councilwoman McKeon asked about federal line item requested from Congresswoman Gillibrand; Supervisor said line items from this congressional district that were included in the budget were funded at an average of 10-15% of the requested amount. Councilwoman McKeon asked if the Board authorizes this resolution, is the Water District No. 4 established? Supervisor answered that Water District No. 4 was established with a maximum cost of \$3,048,000; any cost increase in the scope of a project that would exceed that cost would require legal authorization, that authorization could be accomplished with a new petition of a majority of property ownership, or an action of the Town Board where a suitable financial package has been put together and subject to another referendum.

Adopted **Ayes-5 Kuenster, McKeon, Louis, Byas, Norris**
 Nays-0

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2007 Budget Amendments

Supervisor asked for waiver of reading of budget amendments.
Councilman Kuenster moved to waive reading, seconded by Councilwoman McKeon.
Motion Carried Ayes-5 Kuenster, McKeon, Louis, Byas, Norris
Nays-0

Supervisor Louis summarized.

**RESOLUTION
FEBRUARY 11, 2008**

RESOLUTION TO AMEND 2007 BUDGET

RESOLVED, that the following amendments to the 2007 budget are hereby adopted:

GENERAL FUND EXPENDITURES:

ACCOUNT	CURRENT BUDGET	AMENDED BUDGET	CHANGE
A1620.4 BUILDINGS CONTRACTUAL	20,000	20,625	625
A1670.4 CENTRAL PRINTING	5,200	7,104	1,904
A5010.4 SUPT. OF HIGHWAYS CONTRACTUAL	100	166	66
A5132.4 GARAGE CONTRACTUAL	34,000	34,381	381
A7310.4 YOUTH PROGRAMS CONTRACTUAL	1,200	1,502	302
A8160.4 REFUSE AND GARBAGE CONTRACTUAL	3,300	3,485	185
TOTAL CHANGE			3,463

GENERAL FUND REVENUES:

A3005 MORTGAGE TAX	74,858	78,321	3,463
TOTAL CHANGE			3,463

HIGHWAY FUND EXPENDITURES:

DA5110.1 GENERAL REPAIRS PERSONAL SERVICE	183,800	188,279	4,479
DA5130.4 MACHINERY CONTRACTUAL	85,000	88,683	3,683
DA5140.1 BRUSH AND WEEDS PERSONAL SERVICE	18,100	4,779	(13,321)
DA5140.4 BRUSH AND WEEDS CONTRACTUAL	2,000	2,173	173
DA5142.1 SNOW REMOVAL PERSONAL SERVICE	60,000	61,186	1,186
DA5142.4 SNOW REMOVAL CONTRACTUAL	57,000	62,808	5,808
TOTAL CHANGE			2,008

HIGHWAY FUND REVENUES:

ACCOUNT	CURRENT BUDGET	AMENDED BUDGET	CHANGE
DA2680 INSURANCE RECOVERY	0	1,772	1,772
DA2401 INTEREST EARNINGS	15,000	15,236	236
TOTAL CHANGE			2,008

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SEWER DISTRICT 1 EXPENDITURES:

SS8130.2 TREATMENT/DISPOSAL CAPITAL	28,775	28,875	100
SS8130.4 TREATMENT/DISPOSAL CONTRACTUAL	28,000	29,696	1,696
TOTAL CHANGE			1,796

SEWER DISTRICT 1 REVENUES:

APPROPRIATED FUND BALANCE	4,572	6,368	1,796
TOTAL CHANGE			1,796

Councilwoman McKeon moved to adopt, seconded by Councilman Byas.
Adopted Ayes-5 Kuenster, McKeon, Louis, Byas, Norris
Nays-0

Contract Renewal for Parks Mowing

Councilwoman McKeon stated that 2 years ago in March the Town had put parks mowing out to bid, 5 or 7 bids were received. The contract was for two years, renewable each year. No complaints heard, a great job done, he has asked for a \$375 increase. Supervisor reminded those attending, in the past this was done by a Town employee but with equipment difficulty, and the scale of the equipment needed, there was an opportunity for the Board to make a decision to contract out. Councilwoman McKeon had a local inquiry, gave the individual the scope of the job, but there was no interest.

**RESOLUTION
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**RESOLUTION TO EXTEND AGREEMENT
FOR MOWING OF TOWN PARKS**

WHEREAS, the Town Board, by Resolution dated April 10, 2006, 2006, authorized the Supervisor to enter into an agreement with Triple L Landscaping as the lowest bidder for mowing services for the Town parks, at an annual rate of \$8,025 per year, and

WHEREAS, Triple L Landscaping has provided parks mowing services for 2006 and 2007, said services having met the expectations of the Town, and

WHEREAS, Triple L Landscaping has offered to continue providing parks mowing services to the Town for 2008 at an annual rate of \$8,400, which includes a reasonable increase over its original price offered two years earlier, and

WHEREAS, the Town Board hereby finds that the rate being offered by Triple L Landscaping is significantly less than any other bid submitted in 2006, and lower than any other prospective contractor has offered for 2008, and that the price offered by Triple L Landscaping has been determined to be reasonable.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board does hereby accept the offer of Triple L Landscaping to provide mowing services for Town Parks for the amount of \$8,400.00, pursuant to the same terms and conditions in the original contract executed in 2006.

Councilwoman McKeon moved, seconded by Councilman Byas. No discussion.
Adopted Ayes-5 Kuenster, McKeon, Louis, Norris, Byas
Nays-0

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PUBLIC COMMENT

Guthrie expressed thanks to Central Hudson for resolving a recent power outage.

MONTHLY REPORTS

Supervisor Louis reported that vouchers, appearing on the abstracts prepared for this February meeting, were being approved by the Town Board, advising the Board that at the work meeting will be the closing of the books for 2007 and annual financial report.

County Legislator Jim Van Slyke reported that the Greene County Legislature will phase out **college chargebacks** at a rate of 25% a year, and thanked Supervisor Louis for the speech he gave, in November, to the Legislature in a year when spikes occurred in other towns. Announced a new program, **Buy In Greene County (BIG)**, that may provide help with the farmers' market. Also, from County Highway Superintendent came a promise to work on CR61, put in a second culvert in and raise the roadbed up a foot. Superintendent Jordan said a foot is not enough; closed 3 times last year. Councilman Byas asked to stabilize it. Also CR51, 3-4 projects were presented to Congresswoman Gillibrand, New Baltimore's Main Street included. Superintendent Jordan asked for CR26 at Honey Hollow Road by the church. Legislator Van Slyke was told that snow plowing routes had been changed; Supervisor Louis asked would Legislator VanSlyke and Superintendent Jordan go together to resolve the routes, it may be personnel or different drivers. Richard Guthrie asked if there would be a county **hazardous waste disposal** day, and any news on 24-hour coverage by a Greene County Sheriff; Legislator VanSlyke said on April 1 four sheriffs will be freed up from security duty at courthouse. Councilman Byas has inquired for space at Medway, Gill Road, and at Station 2; the Sheriff would need phone, internet and place for a car. Councilman Byas will call commissioners this week, giving them first refusal, [unable to understand]; once a site is found, a Sheriff would report to work at that site and serve Cocksackie, New Baltimore and Greenville. Supervisor asked Councilman Byas to keep the Board advised as options are explored within next month or so; Superintendent Jordan stated there was no room inside the Highway garage. [unable to understand] Spirited discussion.

Town Clerk Brooks reported 3 Certificate of Occupancy searches; Permits: 1 sign, 2 building, 21 dog licenses, 5 certified copies, 13 photocopies, recycling fees \$11.50; total revenue to Town Supervisor of \$480.53 and non-local revenue disbursed of \$40.72.

Highway Superintendent Denis Jordan reported: January 1: Called in all men at 8am worked until 4:30 pm for snow; Repaired backup lights on 1980 Oshkosh; Put new plow blades on trucks where needed; Painted V-Plow purchased from Thruway; Built new tire chains for 1989 International; Replaced radiator in 1993 International; Greased and washed all trucks; Painted plow on 1980 Oshkosh; Changed oil in both air compressors; Took sanders off F550 and 1989 International and washed underneath; Replaced hydraulic belt on F350; Replaced tires on front of F550; Jan 14 all in at 4am for snow; Tightened sander chains on sanders where needed; Jan 15 called all in at 6pm to 9pm for snow; Mounted new truck tires on rims; Picked up Christmas tree from Town Hall and put on burn pile; Jan. 18 called all in at 4am for snow; Called Thruway about large icicles under tunnel on New Baltimore Road; Replaced wing cables on 1985 Oshkosh; Replaced brakes on 2002 pickup; Replaced fuel shutoff on Ford backhoe; Worked on gallion grader made all necessary repairs.

Wastewater Treatment Plant James Polverelli reported: January 9: high flow due to rain and snow melt; Jan 11: NYS Department of Environmental Conservation walk-through at Plant; Jan 16: received fuel for stand-by generator at Plant; Jan 19: pumped 12,445 gallons of sludge to drying beds; Jan 22: Louis Betke is hired as Temporary Back-up Operator; Jan 24: received rebuilt (spare) gear box for ditch rotors; Jan 28: NYS Rural Water Association visited to install computer program on Town Clerk's computer to

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comply with USDA Vulnerability Assessment and Emergency Response Plan; Jan 29: ordered repair parts for Pump Station control panel, working with supplier to secure parts for clarifier flights. No inquiries to date for the advertised Wastewater Trainee position.

Town Historian Clesson Bush reported he would be attending the Town of Coeymans board meeting on February 11, 2008 to hear the Historic Coeymans community group.

Code Enforcement Officer/Building Inspector John Cashin and Christian Larsen reported; Complaints: 0 -trash, 0 -open burning, 5-junk vehicle; Inspections completed: 11 -building, and 1- fire; 0 -Court appearances; 0 -tenant complaint. Also: 0-building permit applications, 0 -applications extended, 3 -building permits issued; 2 -Certificates of Occupancy, 2 -Certificates of Compliance, 1 -stop work orders; 2-Zoning violation investigations; 1-Code violation investigation. Revision of building permit application has been completed and will be on website shortly. Plan review and investigation of Jyoti SAI Hospitality building plans have been completed and the permit for the Holiday Inn Express was released on February 11; this process was approximately 10 hours, visits to site will be required daily.

Newsletter Chair Councilman Kuenster had no report. Councilman Byas and Ellie Alfeld asked for a notice, call Mrs. Alfeld if interested in establishing a senior group.

Assessor Gordon Bennett reported renewal exemptions due March 1, 2008. New this year is the Cold War Veteran exemption. Data collection is ongoing by Don Daoust. The office will be closed Mar 6, 7, and 12. It appears that the equalization rate will drop a ½ point to 64. The roll shows significant increase in assessed value.

Agriculture Committee Chair Councilman Kuenster reported having met last Thursday, a farm market committee is formed, and all are in agreement to pursue a farmland protection grant.

Planning Board Chair Lee Davis reported that a Work Meeting was held on January 24, 2008. The meeting was called to order and immediately moved into executive session for purpose of discussion regarding litigation against the Planning Board.

Zoning Board of Appeals Chair Meave Tooher reported no meeting, as there were no applications to come before the Board.

Recycling Center Operator Spencer Sebert reported receiving 1 appliance during operating hours, and revenue to Town of \$7.50. Also, he received 14 tires over 3 days from the Highway Department. For Buildings and Grounds, he reported having installed a new paper towel dispenser and patched and skim coated the ceiling in the men's room at Town Hall, and replaced fluorescent bulbs. Art will speak to Spencer about sign letters on Town Hall exterior.

Animal Control Officer Joe Tanner had no report; Also under New Business.

For Fire/EMS /Law Enforcement, Councilman Norris attended a meeting on January 15; Greene County EMS is looking to save costs by reducing insurance premiums, reducing maintenance and fuel costs. EMS has taken delivery of two new flycars and is outfitting them with communication equipment and emergency lighting. They will replace two that may now be sold off in private bid. They are also purchasing a 12 lead telemetry unit that will provide more detailed heart rhythm analysis for doctors at hospital. EMS asks citizens to have 911 address clearly visible from street in order to decrease response time.

For Parks, Councilwoman McKeon had no additional report following the resolution to renew the parks mowing contract.

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For Promotion/Economic Development Councilman Kuenster had no report.

Grants had no report.

For Website and Technology, Councilwoman McKeon reported many additions regarding the meetings of the Greene IDA, and the Board asked to use the word DRAFT across the unapproved minutes pages as they are posted to the Town website.

For Personnel, Supervisor Louis reported having asked the Assessment Committee to offer suggestion for the opening on the Board of Assessment Review. Also, waiting for Wastewater Operator Trainee position inquiries.

With no more from the Board or the public, Councilman Norris moved to adjourn, seconded by Councilman Byas.

**Motion Carried Ayes-5 McKeon, Kuenster, Louis, Norris, Byas
 Nays-0**

The meeting was adjourned at 9:30 p.m.

Respectfully,

Janet A. Brooks
Town Clerk