

**TOWN OF NEW BALTIMORE, COUNTY OF GREENE
TOWN BOARD WORK MEETING**

JUNE 24, 2019

AGENDA

Please turn off all cell phones and electronic devices.

Pledge of Allegiance

Reports

Supervisor

- Greene County Department of Human Services Pride Day at the Dutchman's Landing in Catskill for LGBTQ youth on Friday June 28 from 10AM-2PM.
- Jim Bingham, Liquor License Specialist, on behalf of AGM Associates LLC for a Request for Waiver of 30-Day Notice Period for a Liquor License located at 12800 US Route 9W

County Legislator

Town Clerk

- Approval of June 10, 2019 Town Board Regular Meeting Minutes

Tax Collector

Historian

Agriculture (Chair R. VanEtten/Member Irving)

Ag Fest Liaison (Member Irving)

Animal Control (Chair Irving/Member Ruso)

Assessment (Chair VanEtten/Member Ruso)

Audit and Budget (Chair Ruso/Member Downes)

Buildings & Grounds/Recycling (Chair Irving/Member Briody)

Building Inspector/Code Enforcement (Chair VanEtten/Member Briody)

Fire, EMS & Law Enforcement (Chair Dellisanti/Member Downes)

Grants/Promotions/Economic Development (Chair VanEtten/Member Ruso)

Greene County EMS (Representative Dellisanti/Deputy Ruso)

Greene County Planning Board (Member Irving)

Highway (Chair Ruso/Member Briody)

Insurance (Chair Ruso/Member Downes)

Personnel (Chair Ruso/Member VanEtten)

Planning Board/Zoning Board of Appeals (Chair Irving/Member Ruso)

Seniors (Chair VanEtten/Member Ruso)

Technology/Website (Chair Briody/Member Downes)

Town Courts Liaison (Chair VanEtten/Member Briody)

Veterans and Memorials (Chair VanEtten/Member Irving)

Wastewater Treatment (Chair Irving/Member Briody)

Youth, Parks and Recreation (Chair VanEtten/Member Briody)

Public Comment Period/Community Events

- July 3, 2019 Zoning Board of Appeals Meeting at 7:30 PM (If Needed)
- July 4, 2019 Town Hall Closed
- July 8, 2019 Town Board Regular Meeting at 7 PM
- July 13, 2019 Planning Board Meeting at 7 PM
- July 22, 2019 Town Board Work Meeting at 7 PM
- September 21, 2019 Townwide Yard Sale at 9 PM

Audit of Claims

Adjournment

****** Agenda Subject to Change******

GUIDELINES FOR PUBLIC CONDUCT DURING TOWN BOARD MEETINGS

1. The Supervisor shall preside at the meetings of the Town Board. In the absence of the Supervisor, the Deputy Supervisor shall be the acting Supervisor. In the event both the Supervisor and the Deputy Supervisor are absent, the other members shall designate one of their members to act as temporary chairman. A majority of the Board shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business, but a lesser number may adjourn.
2. Town residents who wish to speak shall fill out a card at the entrances of the meeting room listing their name, contact information, and the subject matter in which they would like to speak. These cards will be collected prior to the beginning of the Town Board meeting and given to the Town Supervisor or Deputy Supervisor in the absence of the Supervisor.
3. Speakers must be recognized by the presiding officer and then proceed to the lectern and state their name and address. They must limit their remarks on official town business to up to three minutes on a given topic and may not yield any remaining time to another speaker. They must address their remarks to the Board as a body and not to any member thereof and not to other members of the audience in the form of a debate.
4. Speakers should present their remarks in a courteous manner and may not make disparaging remarks or personal comments about public officials, town residents, or others. All speakers will observe the commonly accepted rules of courtesy, decorum, dignity, and good taste with no cursing, swearing, clapping, booing, finger pointing, bullying, whispering, or talking that disrupts the proceedings of the business of the Town Board.
5. Any speaker who disregards the directives of the presiding officer in enforcing the rules, disturbs the peace at a meeting, makes impertinent or slanderous remarks, or generally conducts themselves in an inappropriate manner shall be barred from further participation and will forfeit any balance of time remaining for their comments.
6. After a final warning, if a speaker willfully refuses to step down, the Town Supervisor shall contact the appropriate authorities to remove the speaker from the meeting room and to restore order.
7. The Town Supervisor, or in their absence the Deputy Supervisor, shall ensure compliance with these rules.

This policy will be amended by Majority vote of the Town Board.

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OPENING OF REGULAR MEETING

Supervisor Ruso opened the meeting at 7:01 PM and the Pledge of Allegiance was said. Also attending Councilmembers Briody, Irving, and VanEtten, Deputy Supervisor Dellisanti, County Legislator Linger, Town Clerk Finke, Highway Superintendent VanWormer, and 7 members of the public who signed the attendance book.
Absent: Councilmember Downes (Work) and Tax Collector Jordan

Supervisor

The monthly financial reports for May were forwarded to all Board members. Has everyone had a chance to review them? Motion by Councilmember VanEtten seconded by Councilmember Irving to accept the May financial reports.

AYES: Ruso, Briody, Irving, VanEtten

NAYS:

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT: Downes (work)

Motion Carried

Greene County Department of Human Services Pride Day at the Dutchman's Landing in Catskill for LGBTQ youth on Friday, June 28 from 10AM-2PM.

Letter from Jim Bingham, Liquor License Specialist, on behalf of AGM Associates LLC for a Request for Waiver of 30-Day Notice Period for a Liquor License located at 12800 US Route 9W

Supervisor Ruso: I want to have the Board aware of this request. AGM Associates, who is the owner of the Truck Stop, has requested a waiver of the 30-Day notice period for the renewal of their license for liquor and I have some correspondence that reads to this and I don't know if the Board is okay with me sending them a letter telling them that we're not going to waive the 30-day notice period. This was dated June 13, received by us on the 20th. Some of the issues are our Code Enforcement Officer continues to find numerous code violations which is not a surprise by anybody. There are some other issues. There's a Mike Webber from the New York State Department of Health in Oneonta has some serious concerns about the violations there beyond that in the motel and restaurant, including the need for a new septic system and the water system has issues as well. It says 'he almost felt it was near the point where they should be shut down.' And our Attorney has weighed in and said that 'I do not believe there should ever be a waiver. You need to allow discussion by the board and possible public input. You bring undue criticism if you grant the waiver.' There's almost no reason to give these folks consideration. If there's an operating business that follows the regulations and 'woops, we forgot and didn't get the license in on time,' but these folks have been in violation of code after code after code. I'm just gonna send them a letter and say we're not gonna waive that if that's okay with yourselves.

Councilmember VanEtten: I agree.

Supervisor Ruso: It doesn't have to be a formal vote, but I just want to make sure you're aware of it. I mean they haven't earned any consideration as far as I'm concerned.

Councilmember VanEtten: No, I don't either.

Supervisor Ruso: I don't want people shut down, but I want them to do it right. Their hotel has already been shut down, been shut down for quite awhile.

Ellie Alfeld: Is that the new name? I believe that there's just initials now.

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Supervisor Ruso: AGM Associates, 12800 US 9W, New Baltimore, New York. So I'll be sending them a letter unless you folks have anything you want me to add and we're gonna keep it simple. 'No, I'm sorry your request for a waiver is not approved and they have to go through the process they should have done in the first place.' Again, I run a company and you can lose track of little things. You earn a little bit of consideration because you do things the right way generally speaking. If you earn a little consideration then maybe you gain some. I'm not a fan of doing that. Thank you, everybody.

County Legislator Pat Linger

The last 8 weeks have been extremely busy in Greene County. We have held public hearings, special meetings, a pre-construction meeting with bid award winners regarding the new jail, and have had multiple conference calls with our architect and NYS Commission of Correction. We have seen another class graduate from CGCC, posthumously honored WWII Veteran US Army SSGT Michael Gabriele at our annual Honor a Vet Memorial ceremony, began our 2020 budget workshops, had many conversations with our State representatives regarding pending legislation, and welcomed Dr. Carlee Drummer as the new President of CGCC with the retirement of out-going President Jim Campion. We honored Robert Hoagland of Tannersville as our 2019 Greene County Senior Citizen of the Year, and Peg Snyder of Athens as the recipient of our 2019 Outstanding Contribution by a Senior Citizen Award. Our 2019 Employee of the year, Karen Schmatz from DSS, was honored at a special ceremony along with Maria D'Errico of HR with the Chairman's Award. The jail has consumed an immeasurable amount of my time. A small but vocal group is opposed to GC building a jail and has made many attempts to derail the project. Those attempts include filing a lawsuit, which we won, attempting to pause the project with no clear path forward, and convincing downstate lawmakers to introduce bills in both houses of the State Legislature, specific to GC, without the consent of our board. Our local media has given this group a platform without investigating law, or measures taken by our board. For the record, we approved building a facility with up to 80 beds. Competitive bids were awarded to the low bidders of seven different contracts in March. Since the passing of the State budget on April 1st, we have taken steps to reduce the total bed count from 80 to 48, based on new Criminal Justice Reform and Bail Reform laws and their effects on our particular population. The Commission of Correction has unequivocally denied our design, in writing, and insists we have a 2nd male pod to meet separation requirements, regardless of total population. With this in mind, we now have a design submitted for a 60-bed facility comprised of one female, and two male pods. It is not what we had hoped for, but still should save a significant amount nonetheless. In all of this, I think what bothers me the most is a Brooklyn Assemblyman and a Bronx Senator introduced bills on Greene County's behalf, without so much as a phone call or conversation with our Administration or our own elected representatives. The bills died in committee but policy and procedure was completely disregarded, and that should concern all of us. Given the current state of the bond market, we have pulled the contracts back from the USDA scrutiny and have opted to take the bond to market. We believe we can save nearly a full percentage point of interest off the USDA rate of 3.5 percent, saving hundreds of thousands of dollars in annual interest. I would like to address CR 61 for a minute. This particular road, between Cole Lane and the Cocksackie Creek Bridge has been a problem area for many years. This year, the slide that has plagued us in the past has reared its ugly head in grand fashion, creating a very rough road that demands immediate attention. Engineers have been on site several times over the last few weeks and are in the process of designing several alternatives to first stop the slide and prevent further damage. Follow-up repairs are being investigated as well. As bad as this section of road seems to us, we do have another slide on CR 2 in Prattsville that's worse. The wet weather and rain-soaked ground has not been friendly to our highways this year. The Household Hazardous Waste collection event was held on June 8th with nearly 400 vehicles attending the successful drop off. We will have a special workshop on June 26th to hear an update on our Solid Waste facility improvements. The Hunter and Catskill facilities are first on the list, followed by the Cocksackie Transfer Station. These improvements will allow our solid waste to be shipped directly to the landfill from 3 of our facilities, rather than having to transport everything to Catskill for processing before shipping out. This will leave a more efficient operation

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that saves fuel and wear and tear on our vehicles. In other business, bids were awarded for highway purchases, stone, and fuel oil. I would like to remind everyone that there are still 3 rabies clinics available in Greene County this year. They will be held on 8/21 in Cairo, 9/11 in Freehold, and 10/23 in Hensonville. All events are 6pm to 8pm and are free of charge to County residents. We have issued a Public Health Order requiring measles immunizations for attendees of summer camps in Greene County, including staff. Due to recent changes in NYS law, religious exemptions for immunizations have all but been removed so parents with school-age children should be aware of this as well. I awarded Wayne C. Speenburgh grants to the NB Agfest and to the RC Sportsman's club for both their Youth Fishing Derby and their Youth Archery Program.

County Legislator Linger: Two things that I did not have in here we had scheduled two public hearings both in regards to the Community Development Block Grant and those changes on July 17 beginning at 6:20 PM. I can take any questions if anyone has them.

Supervisor Ruso: I don't think so. Thank you, Pat.

Town Clerk Barb Finke

5 Building Permits \$948, 1 Septic System Replacement \$40, 3 CO Searches \$45, 4 Hunting/Fishing Licenses \$9.45, 38 Dog Licenses \$270, 8 Late Dog Licenses \$40, 2 Beer Permits \$40, 1 Demolition Permit \$75, 3 Park Rentals \$75, 1 Mobile Home-Single \$150, 3 Certified Copies \$30, 24 Photocopies \$6, Recycle Fees \$2, 1 Zoning Commercial \$200, State, County & Local Revenues \$2,118, to New York State Agriculture and Markets for Spay/Neuter Program \$52, to New York State Department of Environmental Conservation for Hunting/Fishing Licenses \$135.55, Total to Supervisor \$1,930.45
There were seven families/organizations who signed up at Town Hall for the Town Roadside Clean-Up Day and 70 orange bags were distributed. I appreciate the Town Board's approval of my attendance at the New York State Town Clerks Annual Conference in Syracuse from May 5-8. Meetings and courses included the Opening Ceremony; Annual Business Meeting; Association of Towns General Session 'A Town Clerk's Work is Never Done: Trending Topics in Towns;' Understanding the Alcoholic Beverage Control Law-A Guide for Municipalities; Dog Licensing & Dog Control; Managing Multiple Priorities, Projects & Deadlines; Local Governments Records Management Improvement Fund: Planning for 2020; and Find Your Happiness Button. Susan Haag of Austerlitz, one of the Members of our Columbia-Greene Town Clerks Association, was installed as our new President. This was such a very proud moment for Sue, her family and friends, and our Organization.

ADOPTION OF MINUTES

The June 10, 2019 Town Board Regular Meeting submitted by Town Clerk Finke, Moved by Councilmember VanEtten and was seconded by Councilmember Briody. The adoption of the foregoing Motion was duly put to a vote and vote was as follows:

AYES: Ruso, Briody, Irving, VanEtten

NAYS:

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT: Downes (work)

Motion Carried

Tax Collector Diane Jordan

I would like to thank the board for letting my deputy Hilary Schrauf and myself attend the Tax Receiver/Collector's annual Training Seminar on June 9th thru the 12, in Lake Placid. The speakers were great, and we came away from this training with new knowledge. Property/County Tax—There is a 5% penalty added to unpaid bills until the June 30, please have the bills to the post office and post marked on or before the 30, of June. After this date there will be another 1% penalty added to the bills that are still due. Sewer District # 1 Sewer #1 now has a 10% penalty added to the bill and are due by July 15, after this date there will be another 2% penalty added to the unpaid bill. Second billing for Sewer #1 will be out again in July or August 15 payment. Water District #2

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Also Water #2 bills now has a 10% penalty and are due by June 15, Bills unpaid by then will have another 2% penalty added to the unpaid bill. Water bills will also be sent out in July for an August 15, payment. Anyone with questions please call me at (518)756-6671 x2 and I will be happy to help you any time.

Historian

No Report

Agriculture

No Report

Ag Fest Liaison

No Report

Animal Control

Councilmember Irving: We've had quite a few animal complaints, a little bit (unable to understand) and I've been on the telephone with those people and our Animal Control Officer has dealt with them and they're in progress and we're taking care of them. They're taken care of promptly.

Assessment

BOARD OF ASSESSMENT REVIEW: Grievance Day was held on Tuesday May 28th from 4:00-8:00pm, with a very light turn out. Donna Degnen was elected as Chairperson, and all BAR Members were in attendance. The Board had 4 Complaints on Real Property filed, which included 2 stipulations. The Verified Statement was received from the Board, changes made to the assessment roll according; copies given to the Town Clerk along with Real Property Tax Services. The Change of Assessments was mailed out to the property owners/representatives on May 29th, 2019 which will be effective for the September 2019 school tax bills. The 2nd meeting of the BAR is scheduled for August 6th and 3rd meeting October 8th **FINAL ASSESSMENT ROLL:** The new file (after the Grievance Day procedure) was sent to Greene County Real Property Tax Services on June 12th for preparation of the 2019 Final Assessment Roll. The legal notices will be completed and filed accordingly, along with the required posting on the Town Board bulletin board. The 2019 Final roll will be filed on or before July 1st
NYS TAXATION & FINANCE WEBINAR: Had a webinar in regards to the forthcoming Law changes pertaining to the STAR exemption, for the upcoming rolls. The State is sending out letters to property owners in the near future of the exemption vs. the STAR Credit, etc. (More information will be forth-coming) The State is also issuing reports on the STAR for the Assessor's Offices to update their files i.e., taxpayers whom voluntarily switched from the exemption to the STAR Credit; income over the new limit of \$250,000

Audit and Budget

Supervisor Ruso: The budget season will be begun about this time in July. We usually start mid to late July. It's a slow process, but there's no reason to go in a rush over it.

Buildings & Grounds/Recycling Operator Kirk Trombley

60 Gallon Bags of Plastic (No Hard Plastics) 14, 18 Bundles of Magazines and Phone Books, 69 Bags and Bundles of Newspaper, 33 Boxes and Bundles of Cardboard

Building Inspector/Code Enforcement Officer Allan Jourdin

Summarization of Building Inspector/Code Enforcement Officer activities for May, 2019, is as follows: Building Inspections: 22; Total Number Building Permits Issued: 7; Building Permits (Miscellaneous) Renewed: 4; Building Permit Renewal Letters Sent: First Notice: 8; Second Notice: 3; Certificates of Compliance Issued: 7; Certificates of

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Occupancy Issued: 1; Certificates of Occupancy Searches: 3; Temporary Certificates of Occupancy Issued: 1; Complaint Forms Received: 1; Demolition Permit Applications Received: 1; Demolition Permits Issued: 1; Manufactured (Mobile) Home Permits Issued: 1; New Building Permit Applications Received: 6; New Building Permit Applications Awaiting Permit Issuance: 3; Open Building Permits: 92, Pool Permit Applications Received: 1; Pool Permits Issued: 1 ; Septic Tank Replacement Application: 1; Septic Tank Replacement Permits: 1; Application Fees for May, 2019: \$1,073.00 Total Fees for Year to Date: \$3,243.20

Fire, EMS & Law Enforcement

No Report

Grants/Promotions/Economic Development

Councilmember VanEtten: We got two grants from The Bank of Greene County -- \$750 for the Children's Program and \$500 for the Veterans -- and we are very grateful to them for that.

Supervisor Ruso: I have the checks right here. They just came.

Councilmember VanEtten: The ceremony was last week.

Greene County EMS Representative Nick Dellisanti

The regular monthly meeting was held on Tuesday, June 18, 2019. There were 10 EMS calls in May for a total of 35 for this year 2019, and we had 102 calls for all of 2018. As of June 18, 2019 there is a projected year-end balance of \$600,000.

Greene County Planning Board

No Report

Highway Superintendent Alan VanWormer

May 27-June 24 2019: Built pull bars for trucks to work with chip seal machine; Got 2 10 wheel dump trucks inspected; Washed trucks; Mowed all parks and Town Hall as needed; Mowed and weed whacked cemeteries; Grader patched Saw Mill Road; Moved Picnic Tables for ag-Fest; June 3,4,and 5 Alan and Scott attended Highway School, I would like to Thank the Board for allowing us to attend, it was well worth the trip; Picked up truck from Ag_Fest and dumped garbage; Brought picnic tables back to district 3 park; Cleaned up fallen tree on Paradise Hill Road; Finished ditching on Shady lane prior to paving; Continued mowing along roads; Swept Alcove road before chip sealing; Replaced two control cables on Case International mower tractor; Wednesday June 12, chip sealed Alcove Road, came out very well; Called County Highway to help remove a dangerous hanging tree limb on Paradise Hill Road by Ways; Cut and removed three large trees from the roadway on Mathews Point Road; Repaired exhaust on 1991 International dump truck; Got NYS inspection done on 2006 F350; Cleaned up large pile of sweeping debris at intersection of Roberts Hill Road and High Mount Road; Took two hydraulic cylinders from grader to mooradians to be rebuilt; Repaired collapsed storm drain on Washington Ave; Picked up large tree stump on Deans Mill Road; Mowed and weed whacked around Town Garage; Installed 60' x 12" culvert at intersection of Acquetuck Road and Deans Mill Road; Installed two new Watch for Children Signs on Kings; Repaired road edge on Kreitmier Road where a truck ran off; As of today, the schedule for our paving was supposed to be Monday and Tuesday, July 1st and 2nd. Well today that was moved back another day so it will be Tuesday the 2nd and Wednesday the 3rd of July.

Supervisor Ruso: What I'm finding a little odd here is did someone dump a large tree stump on Deans Mill Road?

Highway Superintendent VanWormer: No, we actually cut a tree and the stump was still left there and we had to go back and pick it up.

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Insurance

No Report

Personnel

No Report

Planning Board Chair Rob VanEtten

The Planning Board met on June 13, 2019, with the following business transacted:
...Following a brief discussion with Jim Brockett owner of J. B. Car Services, Inc. located on Flatbush Road, resolution was passed renewing his Special Use Permit for J.B. Car Services, Inc. for the one-year period ending June 30, 2019. ...Held a discussion with a New Baltimore Road property owner regarding the need for a boundary line adjustment as the result of his neighbor having had a property survey completed. The property owners involved will be submitting application and returning to the Planning Board once the necessary maps and deeds are ready for Board review pursuant to Chapter 114 of the Code of the Town of New Baltimore.

Zoning Board of Appeals Chair Pat Linger

The Zoning Board of Appeals met on June 5, 2019, with the following business transacted: The Board heard the application presented by Lee Davis, attorney, representing Matthew and Donna Taormina for a Use Variance for their business, Honey Hollow Brewing, Inc., located on East Honey Hollow Road. Required Public Hearing on the application will be held at 7:30 p.m., July 3, 2019.

Seniors

Councilmember VanEtten: I'm assuming the picnic went very well.

Ellie Alfeld: It did, it went very well and we are going to start setting up or thinking about meeting so that we can start working on the Christmas Party.

Councilmember VanEtten: Okay, just let me know.

Technology/Website

Councilmember Briody: We actually have quite a bit of stuff that we're working on. First thing is we got four pc's that are on lease that are going to come up due in August. Then a year from now we got two others and then there's five pc's that we own that we're gonna need to look into because they are Windows 7 and it's at end of life and it's no longer going to be supported. So we gotta think about a strategy to replace those. Also I think we are aware that router, wireless, and networking stuff all needs to be upgraded which we have the equipment here onsite that we can implement. So I gotta work with ITS to get that done. So I'll work on a strategy on this stuff and report back at a later date with finding other computers.

Town Courts Liaison

No Report

Veterans and Memorials

Councilmember VanEtten: For the Veterans we are busy planning the picnic will be coming up in August. I talked to Wayne Parks from Coxsackie Transport and the Veterans Wall is coming at the end of August, it's the 22-30, I can't remember the exact dates, but something in there. And so he is going to work with us on getting a bus to get some of our veterans to go down for it. So that's nice.

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Ellie Alfeld: They're also mentioning an escort of the Wall by the townspeople and motorcycles and everything so it's in the planning stages, but it looks very promising.

Councilmember VanEtten: Yeah, it does and we're hoping our County Legislator can help us with the parking and stuff and how we're gonna work that kind of thing out .

County Legislator Linger: I did notice Heather and Patty you were going to set up a bus to go down from here.

Councilmember VanEtten: Okay, great. Thanks, Pat.

Wastewater Treatment

No Report

Youth, Parks and Recreation

Councilmember VanEtten: We have hired all our Counselors and our Park Director and our Assistant and we're looking forward to another great year.

Public Comment Period

Eileen Vosburgh: I wasn't here at the June meeting when Gordon Bennett gave his presentation and I wasn't able to call him today because I wanted some more information on what is exactly going on with the STAR program?

Supervisor Ruso: He'll be in tomorrow.

Councilmember VanEtten: You'll have to call him tomorrow.

Eileen Vosburgh: Okay, I will call him tomorrow, but from what I understand and what I've read, it's more than just the exemption. It is for people's income \$250-\$500,000 that they will automatically go to the exemption. It's also that if you don't go from the exemption, I'm sorry \$250,000-\$500,000 will go automatically to the rebate once they get their information. For people under the \$250,000, if you don't change from the exemption which normally comes right off on your school taxes to the rebate, you may not get the 2% deduction from the savings that the school tries to save. So I thought 'geez I better call Gordon, talk to him about it,' but like I said I didn't get time so I went on the state website looking for more information and on the website I was looking for 'okay, what's the date of that, when do you have to make that change?'

Councilmember VanEtten: Well, you have to call Gordon. He said he's going to be sending out information.

Eileen Vosburgh: I'm going to tell you what the state says right now that for the Town of New Baltimore, it goes by the county and what town you live and what school district, you had to make that change by June 17th -- two weeks prior to July 1st which is I find that unacceptable that the townspeople did not know.

Councilmember VanEtten: You have to talk to Gordon.

Eileen Vosburgh: I'm trying to let you know that this is a big issue in the Town not only about the other changes from the rebate and the exemption and the income levels. It's been in the *Times Union*, but people needed to know that. Maybe it's a couple hundred dollars, maybe it's \$50, but that's very important to people. So now people won't be able to get that reduction until next year.

Councilmember VanEtten: Well, I wish you would have made the June meeting when Gordon was here to question him on...

Eileen Vosburgh: I was sick, but I wish I had too.

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Supervisor Ruso: That was a lot of information, rather detailed information. Gordon spoke for quite awhile, a half hour.

Eileen Vosburgh: Once again the townspeople are not informed of important information like this.

Supervisor Ruso: We did put it once again on the website, we posted it on the Town... I mean your suggestion is we mail something to everybody, is that what you're suggesting?

Town Clerk Finke: I think the State is going to do that. I think they took away the Town's authority from what I understand.

Supervisor Ruso: Right, this is all state-mandated stuff.

Councilmember VanEtten: And Gordon is also, like he said in the presentation, he's sending out information.

Eileen Vosburgh: At this point it's too late for that rebate.

Supervisor Ruso: I don't know what the suggestion is about our informing the Town residents. Are you suggesting that we mail something to everybody?

Eileen Vosburgh: I'm not suggesting that I'm suggesting there should be more information on the Town's website about it. So on to number two, the CCA. I got your letter dated June 14 about the Community Choice Aggregation, but I didn't get it til today. I live in the hamlet and I didn't get it today. At that public hearing it was promised...

Ellie Alfeld: It was not a public hearing I believe.

Town Clerk Finke: It was not.

Ellie Alfeld: It was an informational meeting.

Councilmember VanEtten: Right. It was.

Ellie Alfeld: I just want to clarify that because...

Eileen Vosburgh: That's fine.

Supervisor Ruso: Public hearing has a different process. It was open to the public.

Ellie Alfeld: Exactly and that's why you can't use the wrong terminology.

Eileen Vosburgh: Okay. At the information session they did promise that they would have another public information session.

Councilmember VanEtten: Right.

Supervisor Ruso: Yeah, they did.

Eileen Vosburgh: When is that?

Supervisor Ruso: I don't have a date. They also promised they're going to meet with various groups such as the Seniors and of the like.

Ellie Alfeld: There have been no communications from them.

Supervisor Ruso: I haven't heard anything about that. They were talking about going to the Senior Center.

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Councilmember VanEtten: In Coxsackie.

Ellie Alfeld: And they have not been there because I've been there for that as well.

Eileen Vosburgh: I got a lot of phone calls about this. People want more information.

Town Clerk Finke: They should call us, have them call us.

Supervisor Ruso: I received two today.

Councilmember VanEtten: And there's a number right on there to call Community Choice, too, if they have any questions. I don't know why they would call you.

Ellie Alfeld: Might I also say we received letters from Central Hudson, anybody that is a Central Hudson person.

Councilmember VanEtten: Customer.

Ellie Alfeld: Making you aware of the anticipation. The following day I believe it was I received a letter from choices as well.

Eileen Vosburgh: I haven't received anything from Central Hudson.

Town Clerk Finke: I did.

Councilmember VanEtten: I did, too.

Councilmember Briody: It should have come right in your bill.

Ellie Alfeld: It was a separate letter.

Councilmember VanEtten: It was a separate letter, it was a separate letter.

Councilmember Briody: Because we got it.

Councilmember VanEtten: I've had people bring it to me, too.

Ellie Alfeld: If you are one of those signed up with a different provider of electric power other than Central Hudson, you would not have received a letter I can tell you that.

Eileen Vosburgh: They also at that information session promised that a 11% decrease in...

Councilmember VanEtten: As averaged out over...

Supervisor Ruso: Rule of thumb, I think is how they described it.

Councilmember VanEtten: It was averaged out over a year I think.

Eileen Vosburgh: 17 months right.

Councilmember VanEtten: Seventeen months, it was an average.

Eileen Vosburgh: I didn't see that in here. Is that still true though?

Councilmember VanEtten: It's an average.

Eileen Vosburgh: But I know I didn't see the 11% promised.

Supervisor Ruso: That's what he said three weeks ago.

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Supervisor Ruso: Alright, you have something for Town Highway? Oh, Solar Generation, I'm sorry.

Eileen Vosburgh: Any update?

Supervisor Ruso: There are numerous organizations who are applying for or in the process of applying for solar generation. There's certainly the Community Solar which is well down the path. It's been to the Planning Board. I'm trying to remember the names of the various places, but I'll give you the locations instead. I know there's been surveying and on the property that's on the west side of 9W just above the Creek, this side of the Creek. There's also another one that is really kind of by the Thruway rest area back on 144 and I've heard conversations of others, but I don't have anything official about any others. Is there anything else that's come forward, Barb that... Not that I'm aware of. But, there's three solar projects in the Town. Last week, two weeks ago tonight actually our Attorney and Gordon and I sat and met and we discussed various things such as the Town's PILOT that would be applied to such programs. It's all based on megawatts that they would generate. So, it was more of a strategy session that I can't divulge now because we don't want them to know our strategy.

Eileen Vosburgh: So you're considering giving these some companies a PILOT?

Councilmember VanEtten: That the law.

Supervisor Ruso: That's NYSERDA's regulation. There is no taxing ability on this property aside from where it is already taxed as vacant land or whatever the price is, however, once it's developed you would think that the taxes would go up, but that's not what the regulations are. The regulations are we have to work with the producer to come up with a PILOT and there's a bit of a formula and a bit of strategy about getting the highest level of PILOT that would be paid to the Town of New Baltimore. Again that's not true with the CCA because that's under 750 kilowatts. However, once you're over that 750 figure, then there's a PILOT, but you can't tax it. We're not mandated to do a PILOT and it would be three parties involved. I would be the Town of New Baltimore...

County Legislator Linger: The school district.

Supervisor Ruso: The school district that is pertinent to the land, and, of course, the Company itself. So the three of us have to be in concert on this.

County Legislator Linger: The County has to sign off on it.

Supervisor Ruso: Oh, yes, County, too.

County Legislator Linger: And that's Real Property Tax Law 487 that provides the exemption for solar. If you don't opt out, it's automatically exempt for 15 years. And I don't think there's a Town in Greene County that opts out and you can't differentiate between personal and residential. It's all or nothing.

Supervisor Ruso: And this is all part of a program that's meant to encourage more solar generation throughout the State. Really at the end of the day that's why these processes exist.

Eileen Vosburgh: At what point will the residents be able to apply for like the Solar Generation had subscriptions. Are these gonna have subscriptions too?

Supervisor Ruso: No, these other ones will not be subscriptions.

Eileen Vosburgh: Okay

Supervisor Ruso: They're just gonna feed into the grid.

Eileen Vosburgh: And how is that going to help the residents? Is it gonna be lower?

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Supervisor Ruso: The Community Solar Program is supposedly giving us another 10% discount to whoever is a subscriber. That was actually part of the conversation we had with the CCA people that they suggested an 11%. But if you're part of the Community Solar Program, that's an additional 10% discount. So that's where we are with that. The other ones, the larger programs that I described that are over one megabyte where the PILOTs would exist, there is no direct benefit to anybody who lives in the Town unless you may be a shareholder in the company.

Ellie Alfeld: Lessee or lessor.

Supervisor Ruso: Yeah, lessee and all that stuff, unless you're a principal to that transaction. These are projects that are just gonna feed into the grid and I think part of the State is suggesting that they would rather see some of these as opposed to other whether it's fuel or fossil fuel-fired plants or nuclear plants. They want to have some expansion of the electrical generation in the State. That's what that's all about. Anway Town Highway?

Eileen Vosburgh: In April, Alan, you mentioned about a four-day work week for the Highway employees. Did that go through?

Highway Superintendent VanWormer: Yes.

Eileen Vosburgh: Is that also during the winter?

Highway Superintendent VanWormer: No.

Eileen Vosburgh: Oh, just the summer.

Highway Superintendent VanWormer: Only up until Labor Day and then we go back regular.

Eileen Vosburgh: Okay, thank you. Chuck, I was wondering did you hear anything about a dog issue at the Hannacroix Creek Preserve from the Shiloh property?

Councilmember Irving: No, I did not.

Town Clerk Finke: Yes, I received something from I think Peter Melewski sent a request to Joe directly, copied me. I also contacted Joe. I understand that he was in the hospital and I didn't know that at the time.

Ellie Alfeld: He had surgery.

Town Clerk Finke: And I did reach out to him again today. Marjorie reached out to him last week as well and said, 'Barb sent this to you, is there any update?' I haven't heard back and I did reach out to him today.

Eileen Vosburgh: Okay, thank you. Some dogs were coming off of Shiloh onto the Madison Avenue entrance of the Hannacroix Creek Preserve and I think they actually scratched one of the children and people had to go back to their cars. One more question, District 1 park is there any plan for updates to that park?

Councilmember VanEtten: Yes, we plan on it. We have a group that's been raising funds and as quickly as we can, but it takes a long time to raise these kinds of funds. We've applied for grants.

Eileen Vosburgh: What do you plan on doing?

Councilmember VanEtten: We'd like to redo the pavilion, it needs some work for drainage and put some playground equipment in.

Supervisor Ruso: Some conversation about French drains and of the like, but it's a big job.

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Councilmember VanEtten: And it takes a lot of money and we've been doing well.

Supervisor Ruso: So we've applied for some grants to help us avoid some of the costs.

Councilmember VanEtten: Right and we also have this group. The Bank of Greene County is really involved with helping us raise funds.

Eileen Vosburgh: And there's a committee about this?

Councilmember VanEtten: It's a Friends committee, it's separate from a Town committee.

Eileen Vosburgh: How do you get to be part of this committee?

Supervisor Ruso: Show up to the meeting.

Councilmember VanEtten: It's a 501c3, it's not a Town committee.

Supervisor Ruso: It's not a Town meeting, but everyone's welcome.

Councilmember VanEtten: But we meet at restaurants, usually the Boathouse.

Eileen Vosburgh: When's the next meeting?

Deputy Supervisor Dellisanti: July 17th.

Councilmember VanEtten: When we scheduled it for.

Eileen Vosburgh: At the Boathouse. What time?

Deputy Supervisor Dellisanti: 5:30.

Community Events

- July 3, 2019 Zoning Board of Appeals Meeting at 7:30 PM (If Needed)
- July 4, 2019 Town Hall Closed
- July 8, 2019 Town Board Regular Meeting at 7 PM
- July 11, 2019 Planning Board Meeting at 7 PM
- July 22, 2019 Town Board Work Meeting at 7 PM
- September 21, 2019 Townwide Yard Sale at 9 PM

TOWN OF NEW BALTIMORE, COUNTY OF GREENE

RESOLUTION 107-2019
JUNE 24, 2019

RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE SUPERVISOR TO PAY AUDITED CLAIMS

WHEREAS the Town Clerk has presented claims to the Town Board for audit and review, and

WHEREAS the Town Board has audited claims 2019b-06-01 to 2019b-06-33, it is

REVOLVED that the Supervisor is hereby authorized to pay claims 2019b-06-01 to 2019b-06-33.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Town Clerk will prepare an abstract and hold it for public review until August 31, 2019.

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Motion by Supervisor Ruso seconded by Councilmember VanEtten

AYES: Ruso, Briody, Irving, VanEtten

NAYS:

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT: Downes (work)

Motion Carried

General \$13,871.81, Highway \$22,572.21, Sewer 1 \$70.01, Total \$36,514.03

Highway Superintendent VanWormer: I got a call from Chris Tague today and the Extreme Winter Weather funding that was cut from the budget has been restored so we should have another I think it's around \$27,000 in funding coming from the State.

Supervisor Ruso: Thanks for letting us know.

Motion by Councilmember Briody seconded by Councilmember VanEtten to adjourn the meeting at 7:47 PM

AYES: Ruso, Briody, Irving, VanEtten

NAYS:

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT: Downes (Work)

Motion Carried

Supervisor Ruso: Thank you everybody.

Respectfully Submitted,

Barbara M. Finke RMC
Town Clerk