

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

**DECEMBER 23, 2019  
AGENDA**

*Please turn off all cell phones and electronic devices.*

**Pledge of Allegiance**

**Presentation by David Wells, Director of Community Solar, New York Nexamp**

**Reports**

Supervisor

County Legislator

Town Clerk

- December 9, 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)

- Resolution to Adopt Certificate of Redemption
- Resolution Authorizing Supervisor to Execute Agreement with Columbia-Greene Humane Society

Assessment (Chair VanEtten/Member Ruso)

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

- Resolution to Authorize the Supervisor to Enter Into an Agreement for Photocopying/Printing Equipment at Town Hall

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

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

- Letter from Mark Evans, President of the Greene County Emergency Medical Systems, Inc.

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)

- Resolution to Amend Compensatory Time Policy

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

Seniors (Chair VanEtten/Member Ruso)

Technology/Website (Chair Briody/Member Downes)

- Resolution to Authorize the Supervisor to Sign Annual Agreement for IT Services

Town Courts Liaison (Chair VanEtten/Member Briody)

- Revised Resignation Letter from Town Justice Thomas Meacham

Veterans and Memorials (Chair VanEtten/Member Irving)

Wastewater Treatment (Chair Irving/Member Briody)

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

- Resolution Authorizing Councilmember VanEtten and Supervisor Ruso to Apply for 2020 Greene County Youth Grant
- Resolution Authorizing the Supervisor to Execute a One-Year Lease Extension for Hannacroix Preserve and Hudson River Interpretive Trail Parking Area

## **Public Comment Period/Community Events**

- January 1, 2019 2PM Swearing-In Ceremony for Supervisor, Councilmembers, Highway Superintendent, and Town Justice followed by Organizational Meeting
- January 8, 2020 ZBA Meeting at 7:30 PM
- January 9, 2020 Planning Board Meeting at 7 PM
- January 13, 2020 Town Board Regular Meeting at 7 PM
- January 20, 2020 Town Hall Closed for Martin Luther King Day
- January 27, 2020 Town Board Work Meeting at 7 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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**COUNTY OF GREENE**                              **Adopted 1/13/20**  
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**OPENING OF REGULAR MEETING**

Supervisor Ruso opened the meeting at 7:00 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 4 members of the public who signed the attendance book. Absent: Councilmember Downes and Tax Collector Jordan

***Presentation by David Wells***

I'm with Nexamp and we're working with the State of New York to help them achieve their renewable energy goals. So by 2030 they want 70 percent of their energy needs to be met by renewable resources and Community Solar will play a big role in that and Nexamp is working to develop a number of Community Solar sites across the State and then we're also acquiring Community Solar sites from other developers and are positioning ourselves to manage those for the full life cycle of the project. So these are offsite projects that are typically anywhere from 10-30 acres in size; anywhere from 2-6 megawatts in energy production and can serve anywhere from 400 to about 800 customers depending on the size of customers in the mix that we bring on-line. So these are offsite projects that are meant to be able to serve homeowners, small businesses, towns, and folks within the community without them having the need to put panels or have to worry about maintenance of panels on their own property or on their roof or anything like that. So it gives homeowners and customers a chance to participate in solar, participate in the state's renewable energy goals and help support those efforts without the need to have to pay anything upfront or cover any costs or worry about any maintenance over the full life cycle of the projects. The projects last about 25 years. At least that's kind of the stated life cycle of the projects and customers who sign up can stay enrolled for the full time or they can cancel at anytime with three months' notice so that the utility, Central Hudson Gas & Electric, can stop issuing the credits. When customers subscribe, they basically receive unbilled credits directly on their Central Hudson Gas & Electric bill. Target about 90 percent of their cost over the course of the year to try to cover all those costs without giving them too many credits and then they buy those credits at a 10 percent discount. So basically receiving \$1 of credits on their utility bill for \$0.90 on the dollar and that participation helps to support these projects, helps to support the state's renewal energy goals, and is gonna play a big role in the State achieving those goals over the next several years. We have a number of different approaches to try to reach customers. We do a lot of marketing on our own and one of the things that Javier talked about is the number of joint marketing efforts that we've done so far specifically with towns where we've built projects, but now we're looking to expand that effort and work with different towns where we can enroll some of the electric accounts that you have here if you're interested, but then also work with you to basically just reach the folks that live within your Town, to help them understand what's available, give them a phone number and a website that they can go to to learn more and then help them through the process if they decide that it's a good fit for them. So in working kind of our partnership with GoodEnergy is to kind of coordinate this effort with some of the Towns where Javier and that organization has relationships to help them understand who Nexamp is, kind of give you an introduction of who we are and what we're doing, and then help you understand the process that we can help the Town through to try to reach the folks that live within the Town. And our approach which we've used in a few cases here in New York so far and a number of cases in Massachusetts is really just a cosign letter that kind of explains the opportunity that's sent to all the homeowners. We cover all the mailing costs, all the printing costs, and then we take care of all the costs for any kind of marketing – flyers, postings that we might do -- in different places in the Town, and then social media advertising that we do as well. And it's really just to make homeowners aware of Community Solar, how it works, how they can participate in the savings that they'll see, and then give them the ways that they can contact Nexamp, speak with somebody at our offices at our headquarters, and then learn more about the program and then hopefully sign up so they can be a part of the different projects that we have here within this territory. So I want to kind of give you a chance to ask any questions that you have.

**Supervisor Ruso:** We've had a relationship now with Good Energy for 3½ years, July of 2016, and their program has just during 2019 come full into fruition here and we're, a lot of the Town residents are getting their energy through Good Energy. Now as Javier explained to us with that relationship with yourself and his company, it is an opt-in as opposed to the other program is an opt-out. But this in an opt-in and people sign up, they have Good Energy. With your program

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that'll give them another 10 percent discount. So we're locked in at a 5.9 cents per kilowatt hour, I hope my recollection is good, and so this would bring it down to approximately 5.3?

**David Wells:** So probably I should have started the conversation with one kind of key point in that we are not a supplier and we are not an energy services company. So we are a Community Solar developer and we actually work and we're working with Javier and GoodEnergy, but the credits actually appear and go on the Central Hudson bill not the supply bills that customers receive. So it's a credit on the energy costs that they're paying to Central Hudson and I don't know the arrangement that GoodEnergy has set up, but if customers that are part of your CCA that you have with GoodEnergy, if they just get one bill from Central Hudson that covers both distribution and the supply costs through GoodEnergy, we can actually look at that entire cost. So with Community Solar we're always just looking at what the homeowner, customer, business is paying to the distributions companies, so in your case obviously Central Hudson, and that's what we're trying to apply the credits against.

**Councilmember-Elect Boehlke:** So you really don't have a fixed rate per kilowatt.

**David Wells:** No.

**Councilmember-Elect Boehlke:** You have a 10 percent on what Central Hudson (unable to understand). So you don't have a fixed rate per kilowatt.

**David Wells:** No.

**Councilmember-Elect Boehlke:** So you have a system where you have 10 percent which comes out to be 10 percent less than what the Central Hudson rate per kilowatt happens to be for that month.

**David Wells:** Yes. So when we enroll a customer they provide us a copy of their electric bill. From that we're able to get a picture of what their usage and what their costs are over the course of the year and what they're paying for Central Hudson. We calculate the amount of credits that they can receive from one of the local projects. That's a dollar amount that's spread throughout the course of the year. So they're receiving credits that the Community Solar projects generate over the 12 months of the year. They're then buying those credits at a guaranteed 10 percent discount that stays. They're always gonna get...

**Councilmember-Elect Boehlke:** But at their rates.

**David Wells:** Credits on their bill that are applied to their utility bill and then they buy those credits at a discount. So if you're bill, and I have some slides that I can leave with the group, there's an example of a customer's bill which was \$170 over the course of the month. In that given month because of the production from the system, they received \$150 in on-bill credits, actually \$168 in on-bill credits. So in that month they pay Central Hudson just \$2-and-change. Then they get a corresponding bill from Nexamp that shows the credits that they received, so the \$168 in credits that they received, shows them their 10 percent discount, and then the payment that they make to Nexamp which in this case is \$153.

**Councilmember-Elect Boehlke:** But it's accurate to say that this is going to be a 10 percent discount on oil and gas fired...

**David Wells:** Just electric.

**Councilmember-Elect Boehlke:** Generated electric.

**David Wells:** And what they're paying to the utility.

**Supervisor Ruso:** Let me ask you a couple points. There is a Community Solar project that somehow has entered into the conversation is a 750 kw if I'm not mistaken in Town. Is there any relationship with yourselves and that developer?

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**David Wells:** Not with that project that I'm aware of. There are a number of developers across the State, some large some small. We're developing, we have 8 projects that are online as of today and then we have another 15-20 projects that we're in different stages of development across the State as we speak. We're also acquiring projects from other developers. I'm not aware of a relationship with that developer, but there could be. But we've bought projects from even some of the larger developers like Borrego and some of the other entities that are really just kind of in this business to develop projects and don't want to own and maintain them for the long term. We are one of if not the only full-scale developer that manages the entire process from start to finish.

**Supervisor Ruso:** Anybody else have a question? Thank you for coming out Christmas Eve eve, I appreciate it very much.

**David Wells:** I have just a couple things. There's a short deck that explains who Nexamp is and how Community Solar works and kind of the proposed relationship with the Town and what we cover. There's an example of a letter that we did with another town, and then there's kind of an informational FAQ that we give to customers so folks here can have it, there's a phone number that they can call. When we set up an arrangement like this, we cobrand everything even the landing page that customers can go to online is cobranded so there's a specific landing page for the Town of New Baltimore and we can bring in GoodEnergy if we want. It's really kind of what works best for you all.

**Supervisor Ruso:** Very good. Thank you, sir. Thank you, Mr. Wells.

***Supervisor***

The monthly financial reports for November have been forwarded to all Board members. Has everyone had a chance to review them? I will entertain a Motion to accept the November financial reports. Motion by Supervisor Ruso seconded by Councilmember Briody

AYES: Ruso, Briody, Irving, VanEtten

NAYS:

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT: Downes

**Motion Carried**

**Supervisor Ruso:** I also received a new letter and email from Jeffrey McGurn, P.E. and it is the public meeting concerning the replacement of the bridge over the Hannacroix Creek on Route 144 has been rescheduled for Tuesday, January 7 at 6PM at the Coeymans Town Hall, 18 Russell Avenue, Ravena.

***County Legislator Pat Linger***

As we begin to close 2019 in the Legislature, we held several public hearings, special committee meetings, and two special meetings of the Legislature in addition to our regular schedule. There is concern about being able to find enough GC residents to test and hire for the new jail next year. With a test scheduled for February, we have now removed the residency requirement through LL #2 of 2019, which will allow applicants from contiguous counties to apply.

Preference will still be given to GC residents if they are reachable on the list. This will now be in effect for all uniformed personnel of the Sheriff's Department and all uniformed personnel of the Jail. We also adopted Local Law Number 3 of 2019 relating to Exemption From Real Property Taxes Of Property Owned By Persons With Disabilities And Limited Incomes. We are now at the maximum statutory limit and cannot increase again without a change in State legislation. The increase raises the limit to \$29000. Following discussions on the subject and marketing toward children, we passed a resolution supporting prohibition of the sale and distribution of flavored e-Liquid for use in e-cigarettes. We approved two union contracts this month. The first approved an agreement with Local 968 AFSCME, AFL-CIO, Council 66 (GC Highway department) through Dec. 31, 2023. These employees have been without a contract since Dec 31, 2014. This agreement now puts all County employees on the deductible insurance plan, saving taxpayers money. The second contract authorized was with the GC Deputies Association and is in effect through December 31, 2022. We do have several open positions throughout the County, including laborers and operators in the Highway Department. The new jail is progressing on schedule, and more importantly, on budget. All structural steel has been placed and roof decking

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is being installed now. Concrete floors will be poured and masonry walls will start to go up over the next few weeks. The water line has been completed and tested, and temporary heat has been established at the site. We authorized the establishment of the Greene-Ulster Regional Technical Rescue Team to apply for \$150,000 in State funding for Regional shared services. These two teams currently exist on their own but typically respond together for any incidents in both counties when high angle rope rescue is needed. The Organizational meeting for the year 2020 has been set for 6pm on January 6, in the Legislative Chambers. We have approved The Times Union as the official newspaper for 2020. The GC Planning Board awarded five Ellen Rettus Planning Achievement Awards for 2019. One award was for a Natural Resource Inventory done by Greene Land Trust. This link is now posted to our website for use by Planning and Zoning officials throughout the County, and contains different information than the DEC mapper provides. The Governor's office announced last week that Greene County projects would receive \$4,690,899 from Consolidated Funding Application for Economic Development. The Town of Hunter will receive \$1.4 million, The Town of Coxsackie will receive \$2 million, and the Town of Catskill \$1.29 million. In addition, the Village of Catskill will receive additional funding of \$2.9 mil towards its estimated \$4,857,198 Drinking Water improvement project under the Water Infrastructure Improvement Act (WIIA) through the Environmental Facilities Corporation. This is a total \$7.6 million for projects within Greene County. It's good news to finish a successful year. I hope to be able to report more good news to start 2020 regarding the old Quality Inn property by February. Merry Christmas!

***Town Clerk***

1 Site Plan Review 25 Acres and Less than 50 \$2,000, 3 Building Permits \$562.60, 2 E-ZPass Tags \$50, 8 Hunting/Fishing Licenses \$18.70, 22 Dog Licenses \$150, 6 Late Dog Licenses \$30, 18 Park Rentals \$450, 1 Lot Line Adjustment \$50, 2 Minor Subdivisions \$60, 1 Solar Residential \$50, 10 Certified Copies \$100, 8 Photocopies \$2, 1 Site Plan Review Up to 10 Acres \$300, Total State, County & Local Revenues \$4,145.60, to New York State Agriculture and Markets for Spay/Neuter Program \$28, to New York State Department of Environmental Conservation for Hunting/Fishing Licenses \$294.30, Total to Supervisor \$3,823.30 I met with a Rebecca Brodeur from the United States Census 2020 and more information will be forthcoming.

**ADOPTION OF MINUTES**

The December 9, 2019 Town Board Regular Meeting submitted by Town Clerk Finke, Moved by Supervisor Ruso 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

**Motion Carried**

***Tax Collector***

Property/County Tax – Tax Bills will be arriving to you soon. Please send the entire tax bill with your payment to me and I will send you back your receipt. Looking forward to seeing those who come to the town hall to pay in person. If you do not receive a bill by the first week in January, please call me so I can get the bill to you as soon as possible. Tax bills are due by January 31, 2020 without penalty. Mailings this year are being sent by the printing company and not by myself as in past years. Sewer District #1 – Sewer #1 bills will be going out the middle of January and are due by February 15, 2020. Water District #2 Water # 2 bills will also be going out in the middle of January and is due February 15, 2020. Wishing everyone a Merry Christmas and a great New Year. 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

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***AgFest***

No Report

***Animal Control Officer Joe Tanner***

Month of November I had 6 dog calls, 2 livestock calls, traveled 131 miles

**Supervisor Ruso:** What kind of dog calls, bites, barks?

**Animal Control Officer Tanner:** Roaming, stray, barking, attacking chickens.

**Councilmember VanEtten:** And what, the livestock get out?

**Animal Control Officer Tanner:** The livestock, a lot of people will go by like in 9W. You see animals that are outside, it's below freezing weather, and they're concerned about how they get warm and I tell them livestock all you need is a row of trees and they don't like that, but that's the truth. Primarily that's it.

**Supervisor Ruso:** Thank you and we look forward to seeing you. Thank you for coming. Any questions for Joe?

**TOWN OF NEW BALTIMORE, COUNTY OF GREENE**

**RESOLUTION 172-2019**  
**DECEMBER 23, 2019**

**RESOLUTION TO ADOPT CERTIFICATE OF REDEMPTION**

**WHEREAS** the Animal Control Officer brings dogs to the Columbia-Greene Humane Society/SPCA following calls from law enforcement or residents where the owner cannot be located.

**WHEREAS** the Town is charged daily impoundment fees that are sometimes uncollected when dogs are redeemed and the owners have not paid said fees.

**RESOLVED** the Town of New Baltimore hereby adopts a Certificate of Redemption to be obtained by dog owners upon payment of impoundment fees that is subsequently given to the Columbia-Greene Humane Society/SPCA before a dog can be released to the owner.

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**TOWN OF NEW BALTIMORE**  
County of Greene  
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Telephone: (518) 756-6671  
TDD/TTY: (800) 662-1220  
Fax: (518) 756-8880  
Web: [www.townofnewbaltimore.org](http://www.townofnewbaltimore.org)

*This is to Certify that on \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_,*  
*\_\_\_\_\_ ,owner*  
*of \_\_\_\_\_*  
*\_\_\_\_\_ (name and description of*  
*dog) has paid \$\_\_\_\_\_ to the Town of New Baltimore, which*  
*represents the Redemption Fee for said dog. The signature below*  
*is authorization for the Columbia-Greene Humane Society/SPCA*  
*to release the dog to the above-named.*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Printed Name*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Signature*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Title*

*Seal*

Motion by Supervisor Ruso seconded by Councilmember VanEtten

**Animal Control Officer Tanner:** That’s the correct way it should be.

**Supervisor Ruso:** I’m trying to recall the price per day.

**Councilmember VanEtten and County Legislator Linger:** \$35.

**Supervisor Ruso:** \$35 a day. Person comes gets their dog, the Town gets the bill. This way they pay the bill which is what we needed for quite some time.

**Deputy Supervisor Dellisanti:** Six years for us.

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**Supervisor Ruso:** Go prior to that.

**Deputy Supervisor Dellisanti:** I mean for us.

AYES: Ruso, Briody, Irving, VanEtten

NAYS:

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT: Downes

**Motion Carried**

**TOWN OF NEW BALTIMORE, COUNTY OF GREENE**

**RESOLUTION 173-2019**

**DECEMBER 23, 2019**

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING SUPERVISOR TO EXECUTE AGREEMENT WITH  
COLUMBIA-GREENE HUMANE SOCIETY**

*RESOLVED* that the Town Board does hereby authorize the Supervisor to execute an agreement with the Columbia-Greene Humane Society/SPCA for the period January 1-December 31, 2020 for shelter services at a rate of \$35 per dog per day for the first ten days of housing and \$300 will be added on the eleventh day where the dog will become responsibility of the Columbia-Greene Humane Society/SPCA.

Motion by Supervisor Ruso seconded by Councilmember Irving

**Animal Control Officer Tanner:** I got a call from the Shelter today and that has to be signed and given to them by the 1<sup>st</sup> or we have nobody.

**Supervisor Ruso:** I'm prepared to sign it today.

**Town Clerk Finke:** I told them that too.

AYES: Ruso, Briody, Irving, VanEtten

NAYS:

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT: Downes

**Motion Carried**

***Assessor Justin Maxwell***

**November** Sale Transfers: 8 Building Permits: 6 Notes: There are a handful of field reviews I will have to do next to get up to date. Reminder, if you speak with any residents about exemption applications or renewals, they are due March 1<sup>st</sup>. **December** Sale Transfers: 7 Building Permits: 8 Notes: Started to get up to date with Field Review ahead of taxable status day (March 1<sup>st</sup>), but a lot more to do. All Exemption renewal notices have been mailed out, and they have started trickling in. January through March will be a much busier period for the office.

***Audit and Budget***

No Report

***Building and Grounds/Recycling Center Operator Kirk Trombley***

November 26, 2019-December 23, 2019 60 Gallon Bags of Plastic (No Hard Plastic) 11, 24 Bundles of Magazines and Phone Books, 69 Bags and Bundles of Newspaper, 39 Boxes and Bundles of Cardboard

**TOWN OF NEW BALTIMORE, COUNTY OF GREENE**

**RESOLUTION 174-2019**  
**DECEMBER 23, 2019**

**RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE SUPERVISOR TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT  
FOR PHOTOCOPYING/PRINTING EQUIPMENT AT TOWN HALL**

*WHEREAS* the current lease has expired and a replacement copier/printer and lease is necessary for the continued operation of Town business.

*WHEREAS* the Procurement Policy adopted by the Town Board on January 1, 2019 requires two quotes for equipment and two were secured.

*RESOLVED* that the Supervisor is authorized to enter into an Agreement with Repeat Business Systems, the lowest responsible bidder, for monthly service and a five-year lease of equipment.

Motion by Councilmember VanEtten seconded by Supervisor Ruso

**Councilmember VanEtten:** Just to let you know, we did receive two quotes. One was from Repeat Business and one was from Eastern Managed Print Network. We decided on the Ricoh from Repeat Business. The Ricoh is faster – 25 pages per minute vs. 22 pages per minute; all toner is included on both, but we don't have to pay shipping with Ricoh; Ricoh will go into the copier and get the copy count and order supplies automatically when low, staff won't have to remember to do that every month as we currently do with Eastern; and Repeat Business guarantees service within four hours. If the call is late in the day, service will be first thing in the morning.

AYES: Ruso, Briody, Irving, VanEtten

NAYS:

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT: Downes

**Motion Carried**

***Building Inspector/Code Enforcement Officer Allan Jourdin***

Summarization of Code Enforcement Officer activities for November, 2019, is as follows: Building Inspections: 22 Building Permits Issued: 5 Certificates of Compliance Issued: 5 Do Not Occupy: 1 New Building Permit Applications Received: 3 New Building Permit Applications Awaiting Permit Issuance: 2 Open Building Permits: 105 Application Fees for November, 2019: \$612.60 Total Fees for Year to Date: \$25,113.42

***Greene County EMS Representative Nick Dellisanti***

The regular monthly meeting was held on Tuesday, December 17, 2019. There were 11 EMS calls in November for a total of 82 for this year 2019. We had 102 calls for all of 2018.

**Deputy Supervisor Dellisanti:** What that tells me is that for our budget for 2021, our numbers are gonna be flat or a little bit lower than we were for '20, so we're in very good shape

Letter from Mark Evans, President of Greene County Emergency Medical Systems, Inc. 'Dear Supervisor Ruso: You may have read that Greene County EMS has been approved for funding to add a 5<sup>th</sup> On-duty Paramedic Response Vehicle to our fleet. The Greene County Legislature has added funding for this vehicle in the 2020 county budget. Greene County EMS is purchasing and equipping the vehicle (\$85,000) as a contribution to the expansion. Greene County Legislature has agreed to provide all of the future funding for this vehicle, there will be no additional cost to any town. The present contract and 2020 budget amount will remain the same. "Medic 8" will be added to the mountain area for primary coverage on or about April 1, 2020. Our system utilizes System Status Management, which means our trucks move regularly as calls are dispatched, remaining available trucks re-locate and position for the next potential call. All five of our trucks will be available to the entire county at any time. We are pleased to be able to add this additional resource for EMS.'

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***Greene County Planning Board Representative Jean Horn***

The Greene County Planning Board presented the Ellen Rettus Awards at the Greene County Legislator's December Meeting to 5 Recipients. A Planning Board meeting was not held due to lack of a quorum. Bob Knighton, President of Greene Land Trust, and receiver of one of the Ellen Rettus Awards, gave a short presentation on Greene County's Natural Resources Inventory to the attending Planning Board Members.

***Highway Superintendent Alan VanWormer***

Highway Report November 25 to December 23, 2019 Washed all plow trucks; Checked roads for wind debris; Picked up bagged leaves in the Hamlet; Cut and removed leaning tree on Dugway Lane adjusted sander chain on 2013 International truck number 7; Installed two LED backup lights in 1997 International plow truck number 14; Sunday December 1<sup>st</sup> called in all for snow worked until 4pm on Monday plowing and sanding all roads; Tuesday December 3, called all in at 12am for heavy snow continued to plow and sand all roads; Picked up plow blade from Northern Supply for 2011 International truck number 13, and replaced; Replaced broken wing push arm on 1985 Oshkosh truck number 6; Removed high snow banks at 9w and 51 intersection for County Highway due to visibility issues; Cleaned snow from bridges on New Baltimore Road and Deans Mill Road; Pushed snow banks back at New Baltimore and Medway Grapeville Firehouses with loader; Replaced 4 wheel brakes on 2006 F350 truck number 10; Pushed back snowbanks in Hamlet with big plow truck; Cut and cleaned up fallen tree limb on Honey Hollow Road; Moved large snow bank on Rt 9w and east Hawley Lane; Repaired knocked down mailbox on West Deans Mill Road; Saturday December 7 called all in at 7:30 am for light ice, sanded all roads; Hauled in some more road sand from Callanan; Cut leaning trees on Kings Road, and Flatbush Road; Took 2011 International truck number 13 to Ben Funke for regeneration problem; Dug up septic tank at highway garage and had pumped; Straightened leaning sign on Scheller Park Road by bus garage; Serviced 1985 International truck number 9; Replaced idler pull on 2012 f350 truck number 1; Checked trucks over for more snow coming; Repaired rust spots on body of 2012 f350 truck number 1; Replaced passenger side mirror on 1993 International truck number 4; Tuesday December 17 called all in at 4am for snow, plowed and sanded all roads; Replaced front wing cable on 1985 Oshkosh truck number 3; Replaced leaking hydraulic hose on 2013 International truck number 7; Wednesday December 18 called all in at 4am for snow, plowed and sanded all roads; Replaced bent wing push arm on 2013 International, and replaced wing blade, truck number 7; Thursday December 19 snow out back but not in the valley, called in three drivers to plow and sand routes out back; Tightened sander chains on 1997 International and 1993 international truck numbers 4 and 14; Washed all trucks and loader again; Patched some hole with winter mix. I would like to Thank The Public for their outpouring of support, and kindness during all of the recent snow storms. We received everything from phone call, to emails saying what a great job the crew was doing, to food and drink deliveries to the highway garage, it was all greatly appreciated.

***Personnel***

**TOWN OF NEW BALTIMORE, COUNTY OF GREENE**

**RESOLUTION 175-2019**  
**DECEMBER 23, 2019**

**RESOLUTION TO AMEND THE TOWN COMPENSATORY TIME POLICY**

**WHEREAS** the current comp time policy had allowed for the accumulation of comp time for employees working less than 40 hours in a week.

**WHEREAS** the Town of New Baltimore allowed such practice to continue for 2019 and evaluate the policy during 2019 and make recommendations to continue or discontinue that policy.

**WHEREAS** the Town of New Baltimore already provides ample amounts of paid benefit time off (Vacation, Holiday, Personal and Sick) that allows employees to take time off.

**WHEREAS** the Town of New Baltimore has determined the policy reduces the hours available to provide service to the residents of the Town.

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**RESOLVED** that the policy for Compensatory Time is hereby amended to include only hours worked in excess of 40 hours in a given week as Compensatory Time.

**AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Employee Handbook be amended to reflect this change.

Motion by Supervisor Ruso seconded by Councilmember VanEtten

**Supervisor Ruso:** I think you all recall when we discussed this; I think it was in January of last year and we indicated let's evaluate the purposefulness of continuing to do that. Based upon the observations that we have is that when it's over 40 hours a week, that's at overtime and the compensatory time is given at time-and-a-half as it would be if they were paid. But the use of time in hours less than overtime, less than 40 hours a week is being accumulated and additional days off are being given for the compensatory time and people are being called in to replace people or the offices are being plain old closed for those occasions. I've had some complaints from some people in the Town that 'why aren't such-and-such here' and I don't see any benefit to the Town to have additional days off that we already provide for. I don't know if anyone has any other observations or points to make, please let them known. No further discussion, I'll take a vote

AYES: Ruso, Briody, Irving, VanEtten

NAYS:

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT: Downes

**Motion Carried**

***Planning Board Chair Rob VanEtten***

The Planning Board met on December 12, 2019, with the following business transacted: Public Hearing was held on the Mansion Street Development LLC minor subdivision application for a two-lot subdivision of property owned on Route 9W. In the Regular Monthly Meeting that followed: ...Approved the Mansion Street Development LLC Minor Subdivision. ...Discussed with a property owner how he is to handle driveway placement for the two parcels he purchased from a four-lot minor subdivision; approval of said subdivision several years ago had specified driveway placement location with these locations reflected on the approved and filed subdivision map. Due to wetlands on the property, the driveway(s) cannot be placed in specified location. The Board will continue the discussion after consultation with the Town Attorney.

***Zoning Board of Appeals Chair Pat Linger***

The Zoning Board of Appeals met on December 4. Benjamin Botelho from the Murray Law Firm was present on behalf of Hannacroix Solar Facility LLC, who is proposing a five MW Solar Facility to encompass five parcels of land on w/s side of the New York State Thruway south of the New Baltimore Service area. The applicant was seeking interpretation as to whether the Town's Solar Code provisions are applicable to the Site's internal property lines when a project crosses these lines. It was the determination of the Board that the Town Code applies to parcels and not to projects. Therefore, the applicant will need to submit a Variance Application for each parcel where boundary line setback relief is sought. In addition, the applicant will need to submit a second Variance Application for the one parcel where parcel coverage will exceed the allowable 50%. Public Hearing on the five Variance Applications will be held at 7:30 p.m. on January 8, 2020.

***Seniors***

No Report

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***Technology/Website***

**TOWN OF NEW BALTIMORE, COUNTY OF GREENE**

**RESOLUTION 176-2019**  
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**RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE THE SUPERVISOR TO SIGN  
AN AGREEMENT FOR IT SERVICES**

**WHEREAS** the Town of New Baltimore will be utilizing professional IT Services for 2020.

**WHEREAS** the Attorney for the Town has determined that said services are considered professional services or services requiring special or technical skill, training or expertise according to the Town of New Baltimore Procurement Policy adopted January 1, 2019.

**RESOLVED** that the Town Supervisor is authorized to sign an Agreement with Intelligent Technology Solutions, Inc. for IT Services until December 31, 2020.

Motion by Councilmember Briody seconded by Councilmember VanEtten

AYES: Ruso, Briody, Irving, VanEtten

NAYS:

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT: Downes

**Motion Carried**

**Supervisor Ruso:** I'll sign that now.

***Town Court***

In October, Court fees were \$10,256 of which \$5,393 was sent to the State Comptroller and the Town retained \$4,863. Justice Farrell \$5,550 Justice Meacham \$4,706

Revised Resignation Letter from Town Justice Thomas Meacham 'Dear Supervisor Ruso, Please accept this letter as formal notification that I am resigning from the position of New Baltimore Town Justice on December 31, 2019 at 11:59pm. I thank you and the voters of New Baltimore for the honor of serving as Town Justice and I would like to continue but due to some very serious family health issues I am not able to continue serving in this capacity.'

**Supervisor Ruso:** For anyone interested I did confirm that all notifications to the Courts and of the like have been accomplished.

***Veterans and Memorials***

**Councilmember VanEtten:** We will be meeting soon to start to plan for the Veterans' luncheon.

***Wastewater Treatment***

No Report

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*Youth, Parks and Recreation*

**TOWN OF NEW BALTIMORE, COUNTY OF GREENE**

**RESOLUTION 177-2019**  
**DECEMBER 23, 2019**

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING COUNCILMEMBER VANETTEN AND  
SUPERVISOR RUSO TO APPLY FOR 2020  
GREENE COUNTY YOUTH GRANT**

*RESOLVED* that Councilmember Shelly VanEtten, Chair of the Youth, Parks and Recreation Committee and the Grants/Promotions/Economic Development Committee and Supervisor Jeffrey Ruso. Member of the Youth, Parks and Recreation Committee and the Grants/Promotions/ Economic Development Committee apply for a 2020 Greene County Youth Grant.

Motion by Supervisor Ruso seconded by Councilmember VanEtten

AYES: Ruso, Briody, Irving, VanEtten

NAYS:

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT: Downes

**Motion Carried**

**TOWN OF NEW BALTIMORE, COUNTY OF GREENE**

**RESOLUTION 178-2019**  
**DECEMBER 23, 2019**

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE SUPERVISOR TO EXECUTE A  
ONE-YEAR LEASE EXTENSION FOR HANNACROIX PRESERVE AND HUDSON  
RIVER INTERPRETIVE TRAIL PARKING AREA**

*BE IT RESOLVED* that the Town Board hereby authorizes the Supervisor to execute lease extension, between the Town of New Baltimore and Open Space Conservancy, Inc., for the parking area used for the Hannacroix Preserve and the Hudson River Interpretive Trail for a one-year period expiring December 31, 2020.

Motion by Councilmember VanEtten seconded by Councilmember Irving

AYES: Briody, Irving, VanEtten

NAYS: Ruso

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT: Downes

**Motion Carried**

**Audit of Claims**

**TOWN OF NEW BALTIMORE, COUNTY OF GREENE**

**RESOLUTION 179-2019**  
**DECEMBER 23, 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-12-01 to 2019b-12-45, it is

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**RESOLVED** that the Supervisor is hereby authorized to pay claims 2019b-12-01 to 2019b-12-45.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Town Clerk will prepare an abstract and hold it for public review until January 31, 2020.

Motion by Supervisor Ruso seconded by Councilmember VanEtten

AYES: Ruso, Briody, Irving, VanEtten

NAYS:

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT: Downes

**Motion Carried**

General \$22,718.37, Highway \$8,611.93, Sewer 2 \$195.00, Total \$31,525.30

**Public Comment Period**

None

**Community Events**

- January 1, 2019 2PM Swearing-In Ceremony for Supervisor, Councilmembers, Highway Superintendent, and Town Justice followed by Organizational Meeting
- January 8, 2020 ZBA Meeting at 7:30 PM
- January 9, 2020 Planning Board Meeting at 7 PM
- January 13, 2020 Town Board Regular Meeting at 7 PM
- January 20, 2020 Town Hall Closed for Martin Luther King Day
- January 27, 2020 Town Board Work Meeting at 7 PM

Motion by Councilmember Briody seconded by Councilmember VanEtten to adjourn the meeting at 7:57 PM

AYES: Ruso, Briody, Irving, VanEtten

NAYS:

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT: Downes

**Motion Carried**

**Supervisor Ruso:** Let me just add one last point before we officially adjourn and I hit the gavel. Thank you for your work with our Board, Mr. Briody. It has been a pleasure, four years. So we'll be seeing more of you we trust in one way, shape or form. We know your phone number, we know your address. But, thank you very much for your time.

**Councilmember Briody:** You bet, thank you.

**Town Clerk Finke:** I put him on retainer.

**Councilmember Briody:** I'll be here January.

**Supervisor Ruso:** Fantastic. Thank you, meeting adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,

Barbara M. Finke RMC  
Town Clerk