

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

**MAY 11, 2020
AGENDA**

In consideration of COVID-19, the open meeting of the Town Board regularly scheduled for May 11th has been postponed. Our goal, as articulated by the CDC and the NYS DOH, is to mitigate against the spread of the virus and reduce its rate of transmission. This action will allow the Town of New Baltimore to exemplify infection control procedures to prevent the continued and pervasive spreading of disease.

Per communication from NYCOOG (New York Committee on Open Government):

The New York State Committee on Open Government issued guidance regarding the “Open Meetings Law ‘In-Person’ Requirement and the Novel Coronavirus.” The guidance acknowledges that there is no process for waiving the Open Meetings Law’s “in-person” requirement for conducting meetings. Furthermore, the Committee conceded that there is no jurisprudence regarding the ability of local governments to forego or waive the “in-person” meeting requirement. Nonetheless, the Committee opined that judicial review of alleged violations of the Open Meetings Law will likely take into consideration the public body’s desire to protect the public health while continuing to perform necessary government functions. However, the Committee urges that if a public body determines that limiting public in-person access to an open meeting is necessary in response to the COVID-19 virus, that the public body limit discussions and actions taken to those matters for which harm would be caused by delay in order to mitigate potential impact of constituents.

That being said, Town Hall has not allowed entrance of the public to this facility as of Monday, March 16th. Meeting of the Town Board and Town Clerk will occur on the evening of May 11th at 7 PM, however, said meeting will be held in a very limited extent to enable the monthly bills to be reviewed and paid. A special meeting may be scheduled, pending DOH recommendations for continued ‘social distancing’ at a later date. Minutes will be posted within a few days.

Per orders by the Office of Court Administration, all court proceedings are suspended until further notice. Should you have any questions, please contact Court Clerk Kimberly Ruby at (518) 756-2079.

Officials will hold regular hours, and all business will continue to occur via telephone and email. This being a time when tax payments are still being collected, and cash cannot be refused, please contact Tax Collector Diane Jordan at (518) 756-6671 Ext. 2 should you require a cash transaction. Please consider mailing your payment in check form or delivering in a sealed envelope through the mail slot on the red door of the Meeting Room. Receipts will be sent and a confirmation call will be made if requested.

The Highway Department has a skeleton crew and can be reached at (518)756-2078.

Thank you for your understanding and assistance; please stay well.

Jeff Ruso, Town Supervisor, Town of New Baltimore jruso@townofnewbaltimore.org, (518)756-6671, Ext. 7 or (518)337-9238

Pledge of Allegiance

New Business

- Audit of Claims

Upcoming Meetings

- May 27, 2020 Town Board Work Meeting at 7 PM

Adjournment

TOWN OF NEW BALTIMORE **Draft 5/12/2020**
COUNTY OF GREENE **Adopted 6/24/2020**
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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 Boehlke, Downes, Irving, and VanEtten, Deputy Supervisor Dellisanti, and Town Clerk Finke.

Supervisor Ruso: Everybody tonight is another meeting that we're holding that's a closed meeting under the restrictions imposed upon us by Governor Cuomo in relation to the ongoing pandemic. We'd like to be as open as you'd like us to be, but unfortunately at this time we cannot. It's a closed meeting, Board members only, it's on tape and we hope you'll review this and if you have any questions, you can please call us. So we have a very limited agenda. Our business today is Audit of Claims and so we're gonna proceed with that.

New Business

TOWN OF NEW BALTIMORE, COUNTY OF GREENE

RESOLUTION 74-2020
MAY 11, 2020

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 2020-05-01 to 2020-05-33, it is

RESOLVED that the Supervisor is hereby authorized to pay claims 2020-05-01 to 2020-05-33.

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

Motion by Supervisor Ruso seconded by Councilmember Downes and VanEtten

AYES: Ruso, Boehlke, Downes, Irving, VanEtten

NAYS:

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT:

Motion Carried

General \$6,931.05, Highway \$6,889.12, Sewer 1 \$9,521.01, Sewer 2 \$33.34, Lighting 1 \$1,675.33, Lighting 2 \$174.56, Total \$25,224.41

Upcoming Meetings

- May 27, 2020 Town Board Work Meeting at 7 PM

Supervisor Ruso: Let me talk about some upcoming meetings, particularly upcoming meeting of May 27, Town Board Meeting at 7 PM. That's a Wednesday is it not?

Town Clerk Finke: Yes, it is.

Supervisor Ruso: It's a Wednesday in light of Memorial Day. So that will be here and as of this moment it appears that that meeting shall also be closed, but if it is open we'll make sure that it is announced accordingly. Thank you. In the meantime, I did receive something today that was sent to me from the Ravena-Coeymans-Selkirk Library and it's called a 'Dear Stranger' which is a letter-writing program where people throughout the community are invited to write a letter about their experiences as we go through this pandemic. It could be personal, it could be business, it could be family, it could be neighborhood, it could be anything worthy of notation for historical purposes if not for the rest of the community to know currently. So you're welcome to write a letter and the letters go to the RCS Community Library at 95 Main Street, Ravena, NY 12143. So please feel free to write a letter and express your circumstances and perhaps some of us here on the Town Board will do the same. We got enough things to write about, we all do.

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Adjournment

Motion by Councilmember Downes seconded by Councilmember VanEtten to adjourn the meeting at 7:06 PM

AYES: Ruso, Boehlke, Downes, Irving, VanEtten

NAYS:

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT:

Motion Carried

Respectfully Submitted,

Barbara M. Finke RMC
Town Clerk