

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

MAY 23, 2022

Please turn off all cell phones and electronic devices.

Reports

Supervisor

County Legislator

Town Clerk

- May 9, 2022 Town Board Regular Meeting

Historian

Agriculture/AgFest (Chair Boehlke/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 Boehlke)

Building Inspector/Code Enforcement Officer (Chair Downes/Member Ruso)

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

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

Greene County Planning Board (Boehlke)

Highway (Chair Ruso/Member Downes)

Insurance (Chair Ruso/Member Downes)

Personnel (Chair Ruso/Member VanEtten)

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

Seniors (Chair VanEtten/Member Downes)

Technology/Website (Chair Downes/Member Boehlke)

Town Courts (Chair VanEtten/Member Ruso)

Veterans and Memorials (Chair VanEtten/Member Irving)

Wastewater Treatment (Chair Irving/Member Boehlke)

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

Upcoming Meetings

- May 30, 2022 Town Offices Closed for Memorial Day
- June 1, 2022 Zoning Board of Appeals Meeting at 7:30 PM
- June 4-5, 2022 AgFest at the VanEtten Farm
- June 9, 2022 Planning Board Meeting at 7 PM
- June 15, 2022 Town Board Regular Meeting at 7 PM
- June 27, 2022 Town Board Work Meeting at 7 PM

Public Comment Period/Community Events

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.

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OPENING OF WORK MEETING

Supervisor Ruso opened the Work Meeting at 7:00 PM and the Pledge of Allegiance was said. Also attending Councilmembers Boehlke, Downes, Irving and VanEtten; Deputy Supervisor Dellisanti; Town Clerk Finke; Highway Superintendent VanWormer; and 5 members of the public who signed the attendance book. Absent: County Legislator Linger

Supervisor Ruso: The monthly financial reports for April have been sent out, I have mine right here, and has everyone had a chance to look them over? I'll make a Motion to accept the financials for April.

Councilmember Downes: Second.

AYES: Ruso, Boehlke, Downes, Irving, VanEtten

NAYS:

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT:

Motion Carried

Supervisor Ruso: The second part of what I'm going to say is that we're prepared to get our Solar Committee that we set at the last meeting, I'm looking to have a meeting on the first week of June and I have a few people to coordinate that with. But so we don't have that today. A couple things have come up that Greene County has decided, they're putting forth a law that is going to put a PILOT charge on every solar project including those in New Baltimore and they're anticipating getting \$8,000 per kW. Well, the 5 MW, that would come to \$40,000 a year is what the Solar company will pay, but at the same time the Greene County has decided to divvy up the \$40,000 -- and other places will be larger or smaller based upon the size of the solar operation -- and the Town will get 12 percent of \$40,000 which is \$4,800.

Councilmember Boehlke: Twelve percent of 12 percent.

Supervisor Ruso: No, 12 percent of \$40,000 which comes to \$4,800. The County will get \$18,000-and-coins and the School District will get about \$7,000 and I have written to the Greene County Legislature as well as to the Greene County Real Property Tax organization objecting strongly to this. And the reasons as I'll express here publicly for the cameras and everybody else and that is the Town does the siting. We have multiple meetings in the Planning department for this. Multiple meetings in the Zoning department, Zoning Board. We have our Building Inspector goes out and does the site work. The Town Board, myself personally, has been in on the phone with the developers multiple times. So everybody's got a little bit of work to do. Furthermore, the Town gets the complaints when the mud is all over the road and the noise is driving people crazy. The County does nothing and they get 18, 19 percent. The School does nothing and they get 70 percent and the Town gets 12 percent. And who came up with this plan? The County. I have objected everywhere which way and backwards and I'll go nose to nose with them about it. I might not win, but I'll do what I can. There's also something called a Community Host Agreement and this is common that an upfront payment will be made to the host community. It's a CHA -- Community Host Agreement -- and the County negotiated on behalf of the School District a \$25,000 upfront one-time payment and \$0 on behalf of the Town. And, furthermore, both of these projects that are on the table right now are in the Coxsackie-Athens District. The one that's over behind your house off of 9W and the one that's over by the hot shops, they are going to help reduce or pay for things on behalf of Coxsackie-Athens residents, only a small portion of which live in New Baltimore. So much of the PILOT money will be going to other Towns that we do get. So, again, I object strongly and I'm surprised that none of the Town Supervisors in Greene County have one issue with it whatsoever except for me. Having said that, thank you very much.

Ellie Alfeld: I think that should be in the newspaper, your letter.

Supervisor Ruso: I think maybe I shall write a Letter to the Editor.

Ellie Alfeld: Really, let the rest of the Supervisors in this County know what you think and how they feel.

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Councilmember Boehlke: Well, if this was the State of New York doing this to the County, there'd be a lot of noise coming out of the County.

Supervisor Ruso: Greene County is one of seven is it, Nick, seven?

Deputy Supervisor Dellisanti: Eight counties.

Supervisor Ruso: Eight counties that take 100 percent of the sales tax. The other 56 counties don't. I think there's 62. So we're one of eight that takes it all. Furthermore, they also have something called chargebacks which folks have heard me say where they are allowed to charge the Town for the cost of elections. Not just the space sent here and the people who work the machines on Election Day, but also the cost of what they do in the Board of Elections down in Catskill. They charge us multiple thousands of dollars every year. Most counties don't. Albany County doesn't charge the Town of Coeymans. Greene County does it. Furthermore, there's also the Real Property Tax people who back-charge to the Towns in Greene County. So what we have here is when I see people proudly announce that our sales tax revenue has exceeded expectations by \$3,000,000, which I think was last year, why are you having to charge us for the cost of elections and the cost of Real Property? Because they can. Why are you taking all the sales tax? Because we can. And why are you taking all the solar money now? It's because we can. So I'm having some major objections with them and maybe that's why Pat's not here tonight. Nevertheless, Pat knows my perspective; I'm not throwing mud at him. I'm throwing mud at the whole place and the whole thought process that goes on down on Main Street in Catskill. So I hope this gets some people irritated and I don't care.

County Legislator Pat Linger

I am not in attendance tonight due to a meeting conflict, but as usual I am available by phone or email for any concerns anytime. I continue to improve medically, and have returned to work full-time. We held a workshop this month to discuss general business for this year. Some of the takeaways from this meeting were the use of \$2 million in ARPA funds for broadband build out, gas tax, and property taxes. Our broadband maps are some of the most complete, and useful, in NYS. We are ready to put an RFP out and begin filling in the gaps left by the NYS Broadband For All program. We will start with the Town of Durham and the mountaintop this year, and the other 10 towns when the State has their program up and running. We are committed to see 100% broadband availability across the County. Another item discussed was sharing the ARPA funds with all towns and villages through grants of \$100,000. We believe this will be the best way to help get some significant projects completed where a towns own funds fall short. Requests for funds will be going out soon. It was decided that a gas tax reduction would not benefit local drivers in any meaningful manner, but may harm property taxpayers in the end. Sales taxes on gasoline are paid by many people who don't live here, but contribute to our fund balances. We believe it's better for our residents to realize a property tax savings by continuing to add to fund balance. In a year that has seen 8.5% inflation, holding property taxes flat is an important goal for us. We passed Local Law Number 1 Of 2022, The Greene County Solar Energy System PILOT Law. This law will maintain 15-year property tax exemption, and sets the PILOT rate at \$8,750 per KW produced. This law was made necessary by the removal of NYSERDA recommendations and undervalued assessments statewide. Greene County was part of the recent opioid lawsuits and subsequent settlements. As a result, we have established a new capital project fund for the opioid settlement funds. Greene County will receive \$473,000 in 2022, and annual payments for 16 years. A second settlement will provide additional funds for 6 years beginning in 2025. There are very specific uses tied to these settlement funds, and we will use them to fight addiction and provide necessary services. We completed paving in the Cairo Town Park under a partnership agreement with the Town of Cairo. Given the recent crisis in EMS with a shortage of EMT's, we approved \$8,000 to cover the cost of EMT class for up to 10 students this year. We awarded bids for highway materials and washed/crushed stone. We approved \$286,000 to purchase in-car and body cameras for Sheriff deputies. \$44,000 of this will come from a DOJ grant. We awarded bids to purchase 2 single axle 2-wheel drive, and 2 dual axle 4-wheel drive plow trucks (15-month lead-time). Once again, the \$994,000 cost of these trucks will be covered using reserve funds, not bonds. Sales tax is up about 19% over 2021. The County paid out \$9.36 million this year to cover back taxes for villages and school districts. Our 1st in-rem auction since 2019 is scheduled for October. At this time, there are nearly 600 properties on the list. That number is expected to drop significantly. I attended a joint budget meeting with

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CGCC and Columbia County to begin working on a new budget formula. The high and low fluctuations have become difficult to plan and budget for. We recognized Mary Lou Nahas from Durham as our 2022 Senior Citizen of the year, and Linda Sutton, also from Durham, as the recipient of the 2022 GC Outstanding Contribution by a Senior Citizen Award. This month, I also attended our Honor a Veteran ceremony and presented a proclamation in honor of SSGT Rudolph Phillips from East Durham.

Town Clerk Barb Finke

1 CO Search Compliance Residential \$125, 1 Site Plan Review 10 Acres and Less than 25 \$1,000, 11 Building Permits \$4,230, 1 Garage \$179.20, 1 New Septic System \$50, 5 CO Searches \$250, 4 Fishing Licenses \$13.40, 25 Dog Licenses \$192, 1 Late Dog Licenses \$5, 1 Marriage License \$17.50, 1 Beer Permit \$20, 1 Non-Resident Park Rental \$50, 1 Resident Park Rental \$25, 1 Mobile Home-Double \$225, 1 In-Ground Swimming Pool \$100, 5 Certified Copies \$50, State, County & Local Revenues \$6,770.20, to New York State Agriculture and Markets for Spay/Neuter Program \$39, to New York State Department of Health for Marriages \$22.50, to New York State Department of Environmental Conservation for Hunting/Fishing Licenses \$176.60, Total to Supervisor \$6,532.10. I attended the Town Clerk's 40th Annual Conference at the Desmond Hotel from Sunday, April 24 to Wednesday, April 27. Classes included Notary Public Instruction Class, the Opening Ceremony/ Banner Parade, Annual Meeting, Town Clerk Hot Topics, Notary Refresher, the One Stop State Shop for Local Government Officials: The Department of State's Division of Local Government Services, From Belligerent Resident to Active Shooter, Town Clerk and NYS Comptroller Relationship, NYS Retirement Reporting, NYS Archive Basics, and Gain the Upper Hand: The Science Behind Human Connection. On an interesting note, I met Candace McHugh, Coeymans Town Clerk, at the Archives Basic class. She happened to sit next to me when I stepped out of the room. We began talking and I asked her where she was from and she said about 30 minutes south of Albany. Laughter followed. I stopped by her office to drop off her certificate and I am sure we will be getting together again soon!

AgFest

Councilmember VanEtten: It's coming together and it's on for the 4th and 5th.

Supervisor Ruso: Anything special this year. We're back up and running I suppose.

Councilmember VanEtten: We're back up and running, I guess that's special. We're having the dinner.

Councilmember Downes: Who ended up doing the dinner?

Councilmember VanEtten: Tommy Frese.

Recycling Coordinator Kirk Trombley

April 27-May 23, 2022, 10 Tires up to Including 16" Without Rims \$40, 60 Gallon Bags of Plastic (No Hard Plastics) 6, 9 Bundles of Magazines and Phone Books, 35 Bags and Bundles of Newspaper, 331 Boxes and Bundles of Cardboard, 5/21 1 Air Conditioner, 5/7 1 Washer, Total Income \$40.

Code Enforcement Officer Allan Jourdin

Summarization of Code Enforcement Officer activities for April, 2022, is as follows: Building Inspections: 24, Total Permits Issued: 10, Building Permits Renewed: 1, Building Permit Renewal Letters Sent: 3 Second Notices, Total Number of Certificates of Compliance Issued: 2, Certificate of Occupancy/Compliance Issue (Residential): 1, Certificates of Occupancy Issued: 1, Certificate of Occupancy Search Requests: 4, Demolition Permit Applications Received: 1, Demolition Permits Issued: 1, Manufactured (Mobile) Home Permit Applications Received: 1, Total New Applications Received: 10, New Building Permit Applications Awaiting Permit Issuance: 10, Open Building Permits: 182, Pool Permit Applications Received: 1, New Septic System Applications Received: 1, New Septic System Permits Issued: 2, Application Fees for April, 2022: \$4,883.00, Total Fees for Year to Date: \$14,937.45

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Greene County EMS Representative Nick Dellisanti

The regular monthly meeting was held on Tuesday, May 17, 2022. There were 7 EMS calls in April for a total of 33 for this year 2022. We had 110 calls for all of 2021.

Deputy Supervisor Dellisanti: So we are basically under where we were last year which is a good sign for New Baltimore calls.

Grants/Promotions/Economic Development

Supervisor Ruso: I continue to have correspondence with Emma and she works with Senator Hinchey's Office about the renovations of the front of the building. Well, we're looking at some electrical system upgrades including a television, yes.

Ellie Alfeld: When the work is done on the Town Hall you mean?

Supervisor Ruso: Yes, part of the grant.

Ellie Alfeld: So we gotta wait that long that's what I'm asking about.

Supervisor Ruso: No, not quite because under the SAM grants, the Town has to purchase the repairs or the products and then we get the money back.

Ellie Alfeld: And then get reimbursed.

Highway Superintendent Alan VanWormer

Highway Report April 25th to May 23, 2022 Cut two leaning trees on Roberts Hill Road with Town of Athens Bucket Truck.; Finished sweeping roadsides; Finished engine replacement job on 1985 International, runs excellent, no issues. I can't thank County Highway enough for allowing one of their mechanics assist un on an as needed basis. Between him and our crew we saved around \$14,445.00 in labor costs. 107 hours @ \$135.00 per hour; Picked up garbage from Town Hall; Swept Town Hall Parking Lot; Patched holes with winter mix; Removed and washed plastic sanders from two small trucks and put away for the summer; Took plows off trucks; Saw cut roads, and replaced 7 old metal culvert pipes on Deans Mill Road; Mowed all parks, Town Hall, and around ag-fest tractor sign; Cut fallen tree on Alcove Road; Took load of scrap tires to Catskill Transfer Station; Cleaned dump bodies on two International 10 wheel dump trucks, and assisted the Town of Coxsackie with paving.; Replaced throttle cable on plate tamper; Spread graded, and rolled item 4 on School Hill Road; Picked up 38 tires dumped on Shady Lane and took to Catskill Transfer Station picked up 10 others in various locations throughout Town; Replaced tie rod end on 2011 F350 truck #1; Cleaned debris from culvert on Jennings Road; Replaced stolen street sign at Jennings Road and sarles Road intersection; Put signs back up on Washington Ave, Huckle Hill Lane, and Hillcrest and staco roads; Replaced lights on rear of 1985 International and had inspected; The Highway Department took part in the Cornell Hook and Ladder community day, brought 4 pieces if equipment down for children to have photos taken with; Picked up dead deer on Old Kings Road; Pulled out old guiderail posts on New Street; Checked all drains and culverts before heavy rain; Picked up orange bags from roadside cleanup; Picked up and installed bee trap at recycle center; Cleaned blocked ditch on East Honey Hollow Road; Picked up tires dumped on Medway Earlton, Lime Kiln, and Kings Road; Cleaned ditch, and removed some shoulders on Flatbush Road prior to paving; Serviced both roadside mowing tractors; Changed oil and filter on 2011 f350 truck #1; Had an issue with a camper parked in the roadway on Reservoir Road in the area of the Coxsackie Sportsman's club. I visited the owners twice to have it removed with no action taken, so I called the Sheriffs Office , and with only one visit it was moved. Had a discussion with the Supervisor regarding the purchase of a piece of equipment for the highway department known as an asphalt hot box. This is a trailer mounted unit used to keep blacktop hot while in use. We located a used one, which turned out to be in very poor condition, we then found out that for around \$15,000 more we could get brand new. There is also a municipal lease program available to us if we would like to take that route. This unit is parked outside if anyone would like to take a look at it. Councilman Boehlke met with me Saturday morning to look it over. If this purchase is approved we would like to move on it as quickly as possible, as this is the last stock unit available, or we will have to wait for another one to be manufactured. This unit is available to us under soursewell, which means we do not have to go through the bidding process, and was also less than State Contract.

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New employee is working out very well, and he also is a very good machanic, who was taught by Harry Albright, who was formerly in charge of the mechanic shop at Greene County Highway.

Supervisor Ruso: I know that you wanted to have some conversation about the machine. I gave it a looksee, very nice, got lights and everything. It's not yellow, it's orange. Does anyone here have any thoughts or questions for Mr. VanWormer?

Councilmember Boehlke: Well, I looked it over Saturday morning there and we talked about it and then I got thinking and talking and had some other questions about it, too, because it is \$35,000 also, Alan. So some of the things I was considering was number one is that where this may pay for itself in the long term? I think we may have some more pressing issues that would probably take precedent over this as far as funds go because looking at our fleet of trucks, I know we got a new one on deck here, but we're still dealing with two vehicles that are 30-plus years-old almost, Alan. And the other thing is I don't know the particulars of all this, but we had a much higher than normal downtime and repair incidents with the trucks this past winter, Alan, and you know we do need to be careful about keeping money in reserve for these kind of things because we don't want to have go to bond or go to borrow or anything else to do what is considered maintenance which can fluctuate according to mishaps. We have a lot of new drivers and we have a lot of people that don't have a lot of experience of plowing either and we're going to keep running into that because as we were taking about there's labor shortages everywhere and every industry and so I'm just having second thoughts about it as far as the priority of it when we have these other issue upfront. They're my concerns about it.

Councilmember VanEtten: I agree. I think my concern is that we have a lot of old trucks. We've only bought one new plow truck since I've been in office for nine years and if something goes, are we gonna have enough money then in the fund to have a buy a new one? I think that was money that would be better spent to replace some of the older plow trucks.

Supervisor Ruso: I was going to refresh everyone's recollection, we've already ordered a new plow truck last August is that right? Do we have any knowledge of it's delivery date?

Highway Superintendent VanWormer: The last I heard the build date, they were supposed to start building on May 5.

Supervisor Ruso: Build date, delivery date is a few months I'm guessing. So that's already money set aside for, we're ready to pay for. It's all there. So you're right, the next newest truck is 2012 so I just want to make sure everyone knew what everyone was talking about here. I think that you asked about the money, Bill, and there is...

Councilmember Downes: Right now left in their budget is \$55,000.

Supervisor Ruso: This is \$35,000-ish.

Councilmember Boehlke: Well do you have any idea what the delivery price of this would be with tax and everything?

Highway Superintendent VanWormer: No, we don't pay tax. Right around \$34,900. I have it over there.

Councilmember Downes: As you know, Alan, I've been looking trying to get you guys equipment inventory up and running so that we have something that's steady. At this point we have 37 items on our equipment and 14 out of those items are poor to fair. That and we have 14 that are excellent and 9 that are good, but we have a high number of equipment things that we're using continually that are not in good shape basically and I think we need to really start putting our efforts into some of those items because that's a high amount, that's almost half of our inventory is not of good quality at this point. I think that's something we really need to look into. This hot box, what is it going to save us on? I don't know how much potholes we do? On your time if you could give me we 'oh, we do 20 percent and this is gonna cut down 20 percent of their time' or something. For us to recoup the money that we're gonna be putting...

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Highway Superintendent VanWormer: I don't know that it's gonna be as much a time saver as it will be a money saver because you're not gonna waste any blacktop with this thing. It goes in and it stays hot til right down to the last shovelfull and you can use it all. Another thing that is nice about it is say we're out patching in the pouring rain, you can come back to the Garage, I was talking to Bill about this, Rensselaer County bought one, they built a form out of 2x6s and made it into like individual squares so if you get caught out in the rain during a rainstorm and you're patching, you bring that material back, you pour it in this form, you level it off, you let it get cold, pick up the form move it out of your way, those blocks of blacktop are now reusable. You can stack 'em up just like firewood and you get another day when it's nice out and you want to go out and patch, you take these blocks that we already bought so it didn't get wasted, throw them back in the machine, light the heater, let it run for like four hours and you're ready to go back out, let's start patching again. You can actually reuse old blacktop, you can patch in the winter.

Councilmember Downes: I guess I don't know because I don't know, but how much blacktop are we losing today without this machine? Like are we losing \$1,000 worth of blacktop a year or are we losing...?

Highway Superintendent VanWormer: I would say more than that. What I'm trying to do is to get away from the grater patching because grater patching is okay, but you waste a lot of material you really do. But if you get a bad spot here and a bad spot there and a bad spot there, you're gonna dump a pile of blacktop. You're gonna push it and you're gonna put it from here to there. You're not just gonna put it where it needs it, where this thing we can actually put a millhead up on our Bobcat skid steer, grind out the old stuff, get it out of there because it's obviously no good and put fresh blacktop in there and the whole while we're doing the milling and getting it cleaned up, the blacktop is in the hot box staying hot at 325°.

Councilmember VanEtten: So much are you estimating that we would save about in a year's time?

Highway Superintendent VanWormer: In a year's time, hard to say.

Councilmember VanEtten: Well, about. I mean I know it's rough.

Supervisor Ruso: It's lumped into a larger line item so it's hard to say how much.

Councilmember Boehlke: The money savings from this is important and I think Kelly kind of pointed out what's actually more important is that we upgrade our existing equipment and especially in preparation for the coming winter which I mean honestly is not that far away, Alan, right? It's really not that far away and we had the unfortunate occurrence last winter where we actually lost a truck. I mean it went down and it stayed down and it's out now. I think to be prudent about this, that may be an item to keep on the list, but it probably should go on the waiting list right now. I mean that would be my suggestion. I do think we need to put our money in I guess more important places which is our existing equipment. I mean what do you feel about it?

Highway Superintendent VanWormer: If that's what we're gonna do, that's what we're gonna do. I mean, but I don't want to come back over here and say 'Hey, I found this truck. We need a truck. You know we need to replace some trucks.' and 'sorry we're not gonna do that right now, we don't have the money' or whatever.

Councilmember Irving: It looks like from this list of equipment, the shape that it's in though, Alan, you're gonna be in front of us again anyway and what you're talking about and I agree with you it's a nice to have, but that's the way I label it, it's nice to have it, but I think we need to watch our budget and be prepared for other equipment failures.

Supervisor Ruso: Do we have enough holes? How much use is this gonna get? Is it gonna be used ten times a year? Twenty-five times a year?

Highway Superintendent VanWormer: Once our paving is done, we're gonna use it probably the rest of the summer.

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Supervisor Ruso: I didn't know if this was something which I wouldn't find this a bad idea if this would be something that could be bought by a group of us, other municipalities, three or four towns in the local area that we could all split it, that type of thing. That's just thinking out of the box.

Highway Superintendent VanWormer: And another place we'll save money with it is you can also use this thing, it's triple-walled insulated, you can use it in the wintertime to patch holes. Instead of paying \$115 a ton for winter mix which is a band-aid patch, you throw some of them blacktop blocks that we talked about, you heat them up until you're ready to use and you go out and do permanent pothole patching in the wintertime instead of winter mix is \$115 a ton where the blacktop is \$64 a ton right now for us to buy it.

Supervisor Ruso: I just thought I'd bring up some information as it relates to some of our expenses last year, this was all for Repairs, I'm trying to think of anything aside from repairs of Machinery, Equipment Contractual Expenses, we had budgeted \$79,000 and we actually spent \$80,000, so it all went toward repairs. This year we've also budgeted \$80,000. We kept it pretty flat, the budget.

Highway Superintendent VanWormer: This year we brought Repairs up \$20,000. We took \$20,000 from the Road Repairs and put it into the maintenance to bring it up to...

Supervisor Ruso: Right. That's because last year we spend \$80,000, but we'd only budgeted \$55,000 so we're \$25,000 over on Equipment and that's why brought it up to \$80,000 this year because of last year's expenses.

Highway Superintendent VanWormer: Right, we had those two major truck breakdowns last year. They were \$13-grand a piece.

Supervisor Ruso: To some extent, I'm hearing the Board, I'm gonna ask a question. We already have a truck, major size truck \$210,000, whatever it was...

Highway Superintendent VanWormer: \$208,000 and change.

Supervisor Ruso: That's on order, ready for delivery or hopefully so, are we talking about a second truck? Another new truck?

Councilmember Downes: I mean if you look at these figures that I had looked at three out of five trucks that we have have already outlived their useful life.

Councilmember Boehlke: We've got an '87.

Supervisor Ruso: An '85.

Councilmember Downes: So we're gonna be looking at buying a new truck soon.

Councilmember Boehlke: It's coming.

Councilmember Downes: It's coming.

Councilmember Boehlke: It's coming. We should be saving for it.

Councilmember Downes: I just can't personally I can't justify buying something that is helpful but is not of high priority need.

Councilmember Boehlke: But, Alan, you are more familiar with all this machinery that's under your care that we certainly are. Is there any way you can give us like a priority list of what we need as far as our existing equipment being either repaired, replaced? Is that something possible you can do?

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Highway Superintendent VanWormer: Yeah, I think the next one that's gonna have to be replaced is probably the '97. The '85 we just did the motor in so that will last us a little while longer, or the '96 I mean. That's having transmission issues right now. We're just running it. It has one gear out of it, we just skip that gear and go to the next one. That's what we're doing for now just to keep moving, keep working it. But that's a tandem so that's gonna be a big expense because that's a tandem.

Councilmember Downes: And our new purchase, I mean we did really well. We are not going to have the same amount of time to raise or save the money for that next new truck.

Supervisor Ruso: That truck will have to be bonded.

Councilmember Downes: It will have to be bonded and I just think we need to be more realistic about holding back on the funds on one's that we don't need.

Supervisor Ruso: We didn't put enough money away for two trucks, but we did for one and the next one I think we'll have some residual in our Reserve Account that could be applied towards the balance, but it's not gonna..., maybe you'll get 10 percent of it.

Councilmember Downes: No, but \$35,000 would be a nice little basis.

Supervisor Ruso: That actually presumes that there would be money left over to go towards that truck, but we don't know if there will be money because of repairs.

Councilmember Downes: We don't know. I understand the repair part, but this is an outright purchase and I think we have some control over that. Repairs we don't have control over, we have to fix the repairs. We have to do the repairs. We have to do that.

Councilmember Boehlke: Yeah, we're gonna need funds for both.

Supervisor Ruso: Alright, well I guess I kind of got a sentiment from the Board. I don't know if we need to vote on it, it wasn't a resolution or a Motion in any way, shape, or form. It was more of a discussion and let others in on the conversation and I'm gonna summarize there's a lot of concerns about our equipment needs and most of these I know you know better than we do and share so I think I've got pretty much a sentiment that we at the best case scenario we'd want to do a wait and see and perhaps go through this list.

Councilmember Boehlke: It will also give us some time over the next several months to research this out also this idea of using a hot box because it is a major purchase, but aside from that it's not a 'yeah' or 'nay' of the box, it's really a matter of priorities of what Kelly's pointing out is true. We have to prioritize a very limited budget.

Planning Board Chair Rob VanEtten

The Planning Board met on May 12, 2022, with the following business transacted: **Old Business**
Lime Kiln Farms - Alessandro Voglino was present to discuss with the Board the change in activities, some deleted and new ones being added, since the time of submission of their Special Use Permit/Site Plan Application in 2018 with subsequent approval. Copy of current New York State Department of Agriculture and Markets Food Processing License was presented for the file. It was not felt the activity changes were sufficient enough to warrant a new Special Use Permit/Site Plan application process but rather just an addition(s) to current application on file with approval of an expanded resolution. Resolution will be presented for formal approval at June Meeting. **Cheema Petro, LLC** - Jason Singer was again present to continue discussion on the proposed gas station/convenient store project. It was quickly determined that Mr. Singer did not have any new information to offer or answers to the questions the Board had posed at the March meeting. He was advised that the Board could not move forward with any application consideration until that information was received. **Solar Generation Solar Project** – The Board revisited one of the conditions of an earlier Site Plan application approval, in particular the retaining of a tree buffer line on the east side of the property. Question has arose regarding whether the buffer remains or has been removed by the Solar Company, Central Hudson and/or CSX. This will be addressed with project developers. **New Business** Edwin Schultz presented

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application for two-lot minor subdivision of property owned on Scheller Park Road. Additional information, in response to questions raised by the Board, will need to be presented before the Board can move forward on the application.

Zoning Board Chair Pat Linger

The Zoning Board of Appeals did not meet on May 4, 2022, since there were no applications to come before the Board.

Town Court

The following is the Town of New Baltimore Court monthly report for March 2022.

- Total March monies received was \$39,806.00
 - Judge Huff \$39,806.00
 - State/County Share* Town Share*
- Total 2022 (January-March) monies received \$62,913.00
 - State/County Share * Town Share *
- Total New Cases Received 122

*State report not available at this time.

In the process of appointing new Judge Anthony Konsul Jr., and hiring new part-time court clerk Asia Irizarry.

The following is the Town of New Baltimore Court monthly report for April, 2022.

- Total April monies received was \$24,272.00
 - Judge Huff \$24,272.00
 - State/County Share* Town Share*
- Total 2022 (January-April) monies received \$87,185.00
 - State/County Share* Town Share*
- Total New Cases Received 183

*State report not available at this time.

Wastewater Treatment Plant

Supervisor Ruso: I did receive a complaint from someone who lives nearby the Wastewater Treatment Plant and some things that I've been going through forms, some papers and, Councilwoman Downes, if you and I could sit together I'd like to do an audit of the Wastewater Treatment Plant in terms of all costs and monies and I'd like to get that in the next couple months. We're set in stone the process for this year, but I want to have it ready for 2023 any revisions and we did pay off the old bond and we have the new bond started so there probably should be some revisions in charges.

Upcoming Meetings

- May 30, 2022 Town Offices Closed for Memorial Day
- June 1, 2022 Zoning Board of Appeals Meeting at 7:30 PM
- June 4-5. 2022 AgFest at the VanEtten Farm
- June 9, 2022 Planning Board Meeting at 7 PM
- June 15, 2022 Town Board Regular Meeting at 7 PM
- June 27, 2022 Town Board Work Meeting at 7 PM

Public Comment Period/Community Events

Eileen Vosburgh: I was just wondering do you have an update for the Hannacroix bridge?

Supervisor Ruso: It's odd you will say this because I called Mr. Reed, I don't know his last name, actually I didn't call him, I sent him an email on Thursday of last week and I said 'I've not heard anything, what is going? This was supposed to start in 2023.' So I have not got a response yet, but I did only send that Thursday so I don't have an absolute answer for you. But your question came up organically the same timeframe that mine did.

Eileen Vosburgh: So it's '23 it's not '22?

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Supervisor Ruso: '22 excuse me. They were way behind because of '20 and '21 so they had told me last year that they anticipate doing it in '22, but that depends on whether they get people in to work. But I wanted an update; he said he would update me during the year and he has not. So there's a long answer to a short question.

Eileen Vosburgh: There's been a lot of truck traffic in the hamlet, a lot of Carver dump trucks on 144 and New Baltimore Road. Do you know anything what's going on with that?

Supervisor Ruso: I've not heard anything about New Baltimore Road itself.

Highway Superintendent VanWormer: Carver was hauling fill to High Bridge Road. They were digging somewheres and the people that live down there, Scott and Sherry Wells, wanted the fill so they gave to them, and they were hauling it in, a big hole or something they're filling in up there.

Supervisor Ruso: That was project-based.

Eileen Vosburgh: It was like two weeks, though, people said they were going...

Highway Superintendent VanWormer: They were digging somewhere. I think they put up a new building and they had to dig a lot of fill out. Scott and Sherry Wells knew somebody there (unable to understand). It was all clean fill, it was just dirt.

Supervisor Ruso: There was another question that I have had outreach to DOT about the truck traffic on behalf of another person on 144 and that was also done on Thursday because I just wanted to try to clear the air and find out what can be done and what can't be done. I spoke with a fellow and I think the biggest issue at that time was the turn right there by the Church and he suggested that they can't change the truck traffic, but they can if enough residents want to. They can adjust the lane of traffic to make the turn better and I said 'I can't image how that is' and they said that if enough residents would really desire this and he'd have to hear it out, it would cost a lot of money because it would basically take the front lawn of the school. But that was his only suggestion for me. That was on the phone.

Councilmember VanEtten: Didn't they do a safety study a few years ago?

Supervisor Ruso: Yeah, a number of years ago.

Ellie Alfeld: That was after the fence got taken down a couple of times.

Deputy Supervisor Dellisanti: When I was Supervisor and I got the Senator down there and DOT.

Supervisor Ruso: I asked them a number of questions, can we limit it. They said 'it's a state road' and I said 'well, what if you were to turn that road over to the Town and make us the owners' and he said that would not stop it from being a thoroughfare. Well, I don't want responsibility for that road and neither does Alan. It was an honest question because with that would come funding.

Highway Superintendent VanWormer: I had received a letter quite awhile back from the Church and from Dick Brooks I think, and Kelly Halloran asking if there was anything we could do. I said 'it's not my road, I have no jurisdiction over it, but I'd be more than happy to try to set up a meeting with State DOT and whoever needs to be involved and that was the worst part because trying to get State DOT to commit to come to a meeting.

Supervisor Ruso: Well, he has committed to setting up a meeting and it will be at 50 Wolf Road. They will not come down and it is by appointment only meaning they'll have the homeowner x and so forth. They're not going to have a meeting with 45 people. That's how he explained it. But if an individual has an issue, they'll be glad to meet with them up in Wolf Road. That's what he said. So nothing's settled, but it's not promising is kind of where we are.

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Eilleen Vosburgh: Is there room to take some of the Church parking?

Supervisor Ruso: It's hard for me to pit one property owner against another. I really don't want to get in the middle of that.

Eilleen Vosburgh: No, I don't blame you.

Councilmember Irving: How far from the center of the road of a state highway does the state own? There is a safety hazard there with the school property. I go through the hamlet, try to go through every weekend on my motor scooter and if you're gonna turn to go down the hill by the Church, those tall fir trees, you can't see the traffic coming from 9W so you're kind of racing out to go down the hill because you can't see because of those trees.

Councilmember VanEtten: You mean 144?

Councilmember Irving: 144.

Councilmember Downes: He said 144, but coming 9W.

Councilmember Irving: Trees were never that big before, now they block your view to the right if you want to go down the hill to the River.

Councilmember Downes: Is it just the fact that the trucks are using 144 or is it their speed or is it everything?

Eilleen Vosburgh: It's everything. I know people who had to jump into the school's ditch there so they don't get hit by the truck and how many times have those trucks hit Tony Wolfe's wall there?

Councilmember Downes: Right, but I didn't know if it was due to speed or if it's just the fact that the trucks are I hate to say it but too big for that road.

Eilleen Vosburgh: That too, that too. It's all of those things.

Councilmember Downes: I mean if it's a speed issue maybe we could talk to the County.

Deputy Supervisor Dellisanti: And the 10 miles an hour speed limit.

Supervisor Ruso: It's not a speed issue, I take that route every morning.

Councilmember Downes: But what I'm saying is if that was the issue then maybe we could talk to the State Troopers or to the Sheriff.

Town Clerk Finke: We have. We have.

Eilleen Vosburgh: They've been there.

Councilmember Downes: With a presence down there might help.

Supervisor Ruso: The Sheriff's Department and everybody. I'm just going to give you my experience driving that route. Probably once or twice a month as I come down 144 towards the Church, I have to stop and back up because a truck going very slowly trying to navigate that turn at any speed it's not gonna work is my observation and I back up to in front of where Albertson's house is and they passed, no harm no foul, but it's not about the speed is my observation.

Councilmember VanEtten: They can't do that corner very fast. Well, if they would somehow change that you know because they did the safety study and they say it was not an issue, DOT did one a few years ago, and said it wasn't an issue, but if you can get them, I don't know where they would move the road, how they would change that.

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Supervisor Ruso: Well, the greatest change happened with the further expansion and development of the Carver property. The trucks have always been there, but now there's more of them.

Councilmember VanEtten: Right, so they're either coming up Main Street in Ravena or they're going this way.

Ellie Alfeld: And Ravena doesn't want them either.

Councilmember VanEtten: Because they don't want them either. I mean they can't fly so I don't know what the answer is.

Supervisor Ruso: They seem to put out a lot of dust, too.

Councilmember VanEtten: They do and that's sure a pain.

TOWN OF NEW BALTIMORE, COUNTY OF GREENE

RESOLUTION 98-2022
MAY 23, 2022

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 2022b-05-01 to 2022b-05-26, it is

RESOLVED that the Supervisor is hereby authorized to pay claims 2022b-05-01 to 2022b-05-26.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Town Clerk will prepare an abstract and hold it for public review until June 30, 2022.

Motion by Supervisor Ruso seconded by Councilmember VanEtten

AYES: Ruso, Boehlke, Downes, Irving, VanEtten

NAYS:

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT:

Motion Carried

General \$16,348.11, Highway \$4,498.38, Sewer 1 \$193.75, Total \$21,040.24

ADOPTION OF MINUTES

The May 9, 2022 Town Board Regular Meeting submitted by Town Clerk Finke Moved by Supervisor Ruso and was seconded by Councilmember Downes. The adoption of the foregoing Motion was duly to a vote and the vote was as follows:

AYES: Ruso, Boehlke, Downes, Irving, VanEtten

NAYS:

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT:

Motion Carried

Ellie Alfeld: The comment I wanted to make was in relation to Alan's predicament and that's what I call it when you're between a rock and a hard spot. Since I came into this Town a few years ago the condition and the product that the Highway Department has had to work with and around has been shabby I think is a kind word. The trucks that they had in prior years were next to nothing but rag tag, God help us from a snowstorm or anything else. I appreciate that he wants this hot box and I understand what he's trying to tell us about it. I also understand what the Board is talking about as far as needing a new truck. I don't think you're ever going to catch up as far as the Highway Department is concerned whether you put \$80,000, I think that's the

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number you used, or what in their Highway Department in addition to what they get now. I think we actually have to look at financing a second truck even before we go anywhere for anything I mean when it comes to snowplows or rakes or whatever.

Councilmember Boehlke: So it's kinda what's up for discussion.

Supervisor Ruso: We made some mention of that. You know one good thing about the bonding process is the following: if we committed today to another brand-new plow, I don't think we're gonna get it for \$208,000 because I'm sure everybody else's prices have gone up too.

Highway Superintendent VanWormer: The next one will be a tandem so it will be significant more money.

Supervisor Ruso: Nevertheless, if we ordered it today, delivery's easily a year out, that's when we bond for it, and the first bond payment is a year from then. So our first payment if we ordered it here on the 23rd of May wouldn't be until the 23rd of May of 2024 so we'd have a little more time to prepare for it.

Councilmember Boehlke: Alan, we do a lot of equipment swapping with other Towns and including the County which you utilize really good. So what is the possibility of proposing to Greene County since they're gonna be having a wave of a new green money coming in of purchasing one of these boxes right and making it available like we do with the bucket truck to take tress down and that kind of thing. It would give us a chance to use it periodically and see how this may work, where the rubber meets the road.

Highway Superintendent VanWormer: Even if a couple other Towns want to go in, I know the Town of Cairo and the Town of Durham, I think the Town of Windham pitched in and bought a paver they share.

Supervisor Ruso: Well, he's got a great point. The County has a lot of money so what the heck why not let them buy it.

Motion by Councilmember Downes seconded by Councilmember VanEtten to adjourn the meeting at 8:03 PM.

AYES: Ruso, Boehlke, Downs, Irving, VanEtten

NAYS:

ABSTAIN

ABSENT:

Motion Carried

Respectfully Submitted,

Barbara M. Finke RMC
Town Clerk