

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

**AUGUST 22, 2022**

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

**Reports**

Supervisor

County Legislator

Town Clerk

- Resolution to Authorize the Supervisor to Execute an Agreement with Value Payment Systems for Online and In-Person Payments at the Town Clerk's Office
- August 8, 2022 Town Board Regular Meeting

Historian

Agriculture/AgFest (Chair Boehlke/Member Irving)

Animal Control (Chair Irving, Member Ruso)

Assessment (Chair VanEtten/Member Ruso)

- Resolution to Authorize the Supervisor to Execute an Agreement for Legal Services for Notice of Verified Petition Filed by Serta Simmons Bedding, LLC and SSB Manufacturing Company

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)

- Resolution to Authorize the Supervisor to Execute an Agreement with Greene County Emergency Medical Systems, Inc.

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)

- Resolution to Authorize the Supervisor to Sign an Agreement for a Computer Lease for the Town Clerk
- Resolution to Authorize the Supervisor to Sign an Agreement for a Computer Lease for the Assessor
- Resolution to Authorize the Supervisor to Sign an Agreement to Replace Two Wireless Access Points at Town Hall

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**

- September 7, 2022 Zoning Board of Appeals Meeting if Needed
- September 8, 2022 Planning Board Meeting at 7 PM
- September 12, 2022 Town Board Regular Meeting at 7 PM
- September 17, 2022 Townwide Yard Sale at 9 AM
- September 26, 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; County Legislator Linger; Town Clerk Finke; Highway Superintendent VanWormer; and 6 members of the public who signed the attendance book.

**Supervisor Ruso:** The monthly financial reports for July have been forwarded to all members. Have you had the opportunity to review them? Good, I would like to make a Motion to accept the July financial reports.

**Councilmember Downes:** I'll second that.

AYES: Ruso, Boehlke, Downes, Irving, VanEtten

NAYS:

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT:

**Motion Carried**

***County Legislator Pat Linger***

We had Youth Fair that just concluded the end of last week. I was able to honor Gabe Hoglund got an award for the Chairman's Choice Award. He's a local here on High Rock Road. We also had the Public Hearing for the budget on Columbia-Greene Community College which passed during the subsequent legislative meeting. I got an update from the IDA late last week. It looks like they have two competing offers for the motel that we were hoping to get in Catskill off the Exit 21 Thruway exit. So I believe they're gonna make an announcement shortly as to awarding one of those developers. It looks like it should be about an 80-room hotel. We've been after that for quite awhile. When COVID hit, the developer that was involved there actually pulled out so we've been waiting a little while. I think the only other big announcement, we did reappoint the County Administrator to another three-year term. Anybody have any questions?

**Eilleen Vosburgh:** The Jail how many beds are being used and how many are vacant?

**County Legislator Linger:** We maintain between 34 and 42 for population. We have not completed yet the extra beds that we have in the pod that we left empty, the upstairs of the pod. We will be doing that which is gonna add 16 beds. So our total capacity on the male side will be 64 when those are completed and then we will have 16 on the female side.

**Eilleen Vosburgh:** And you have 34 to 42?

**County Legislator Linger:** Yeah, depending on what day it is, but I don't have any females in there right now because we don't have enough COs. We are ten COs short right now.

**Councilmember Downes:** Is there an exam coming up or is it just an open call?

**County Legislator Linger:** We've had four exams. One of them got cancelled with COVID, but other than that we've had three other exams since then. It's not easy. We're short in Highway, we're short in Mental Health, we are short in Public Health. It's the same story.

**Councilmember Downes:** No, I just didn't know if it was an exam issue or how they...

**County Legislator Linger:** It does not appear to be.

**Councilmember Downes:** Is there another exam coming up around the corner?

**County Legislator Linger:** Yeah, I don't know the date of it. I know the Sheriff's Department has an exam coming up September 12<sup>th</sup>.

**Councilmember Downes:** Did people already have to be signed up at this point for that exam?

**County Legislator Linger:** I believe the 25<sup>th</sup>.

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**Councilmember Downes:** Of this month?

**County Legislator Linger:** I think is the deadline if I'm not mistaken. You'll have to check the Civil Service website.

**Supervisor Ruso:** That's if you're not already a certified police officer.

**County Legislator Linger:** Yes, and a State resident.

**Councilmember Downes:** Do you have to be a County resident for that?

**County Legislator Linger:** You have to live either in Greene County or a contiguous County. So we can do somebody from Columbia, Albany or Dutchess, Ulster. They could live there. We have gotten a couple people actually from Ulster County recently.

**Councilmember Downes:** That's gotta be a little bit easier being a Greene County Sheriff than down in Ulster County with Kingston and that type of thing.

**County Legislator Linger:** I would assume. The other thing that we did was a contract change in the Sheriff's Department I believe last year was that we're now allowed to start off any Deputies that are hired, we can use them as COs as well which was not in place before.

**County Legislator Downes:** So if I took the exam as a Sheriff, wanted to become a Sheriff, would I have the option to go to CO or is it just where you would place me?

**County Legislator Linger:** It's gonna be based on need. We're hoping to get enough COs that we can fill those spots. Just so far it has not come to fruition.

**Supervisor Ruso:** I almost think if someone wants to be a Police Officer but knows that they have to work the prison, they might not become a Police Officer.

**County Legislator Linger:** I got a lot of them that will take every bit of that as overtime as they could possibly can.

**Supervisor Ruso:** Oh, sure. There are those.

**Ellie Alfeld:** Makes a difference.

**County Legislator Linger:** And they're Sheriff's Deputies and they'll say 'yeah, I'll work that overnight' or 'yeah, I'm supposed to be off that day' because they work 12-hour shifts so they're off three to four days a week depending on what they're week is. So they'll work a shift or two then they're off.

**Eileen Vosburgh:** So when the jail is complete it's 80 people?

**County Legislator Linger:** Yes.

**Councilmember Downes:** Something has come to my attention regarding emergency housing such as New Baltimore or Medway that if something happens like the heat, there were cooling stations at one point, if we get a hurricane comes through.

**Supervisor Ruso:** Power outage.

**Councilmember Downes:** Power outages that type of thing. I've been asked to find out if we have it so that we have to feed people, these stations have to feed people, is there a fund at the County level that we would get the money back or are we supposed to be setting up a food fund for this type of thing or how does that work?

**County Legislator Linger:** Not that I'm aware of. I know our firehouse down here is actually a Red Cross shelter so we will do the cooling and we will do heating stations, we will feed. I know in the past when there's been a FEMA declaration, we've been able to reimburse through

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that. As a matter of fact I think Alan does a lot of that on the Town side as well, but I'm not aware of a specific fund.

**Councilmember Downes:** So it would be up to the station at that point. It would come out of their funding.

**County Legislator Linger:** Yeah, any of those declarations come from the State. So if the State declares an emergency, then that's when the reimbursement would be eligible I guess. There are thresholds, thought. You have to meet certain expense thresholds to be eligible.

**Councilmember Downes:** Right, right. And at one point Medway was put on the list with having, the generator wasn't up to par. That has been redone. We've got a brand new generator on there. So I don't know who we need to touch base with or who to tell that to at the County level so that we're out there as a...

**County Legislator Linger:** John Farrell is the Emergency Services Office, so John Farrell or Dan King, either one of them, would be able to take care of it.

**Councilmember Downes:** Because I guess when it came up we got like a check, it wasn't a good enough generator, but now we've got a new generator so we just wanted to check that out, but we weren't sure about the money issue and the President of the Ladies they were just told that we may have to do food and we're like 'where does that money come from, what we're supposed to do' and that type of thing. But it would only come if a FEMA situation happens.

**County Legislator Linger:** Not necessarily only, but, yeah, that's typically what will happen.

**Councilmember Downes:** Basic

**Supervisor Ruso:** Perhaps it wouldn't be a bad idea if we had an opportunity to sit with Pat and Alan, he's our Town Emergency Management Officer, and maybe even Mr. Farrell. I mean it doesn't need to be all five of us, but it wouldn't be a bad idea just to coordinate some of those things. But at this moment I don't have any idea, what is the capacity of each site?

**County Legislator Linger:** Offhand I couldn't tell you.

**Supervisor Ruso:** These are things we should establish that kind of thing. Obviously, we want to have a generator, we want to have food service capability and of the like.

**County Legislator Linger:** Yeah, and we've done it. We've don't it at both firehouses.

**Supervisor Ruso:** I'm sure it exists, we've had to do it for different reasons.

**Ellie Alfeld:** We used Gill Road Fire Department many years ago when we had the electric was blacked out and we moved some of the seniors, wasn't it mostly seniors, down in the firehouse. We put out the word if they wanted to come down that's what we did.

**Highway Superintendent VanWormer:** Pat, if I'm not mistaken I think you were cc'd on the email from Dan King regarding our annex to the County's Hazardous Mitigation Plan. That was done and turned in today. I finished it up, we're all good there.

***Town Clerk Barb Finke***

1 Special Use Non-Commercial \$100, 8 Building Permits \$1,067.37, 8 Certificate of Occupancy Searches \$400, 1 E-Z Pass Tag \$25, 3 Fishing Licenses \$4.30, 30 Dog Licenses \$204, 7 Late Dog Licenses \$35, 1 Marriage License \$17.50, 2 Beer Permit \$40, 3 Resident Park Rentals \$75, 14 Certified Copies \$140, 10 Photo Copies \$2.50, State, County & Local Revenues \$2,244.87, to New York State Agriculture and Markets for Spay/Neuter Program \$38, to New York State Department of Health for Marriages \$22.50, to New York State Department of Environmental Conservation for Fishing Licenses \$73.70, Total to Supervisor \$2,110.67. I attended the New York State Municipal Clerks Institute sponsored by the Rockefeller College for a total of 40 hours -- 28 in-person from July 10-13 at the Desmond and 12 on-line from July 18-20. Classes

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included Report Writing 1&2; Introduction and Learning Action Plan; Principles of Customer Service; Census Bureau Data: Understanding and Finding it for Municipal Governments; A Practical Approach for the Development and Implementation of an Electronic Records Program; Transitioning from Peer to Supervisor; Grant Writing-Identifying and Writing Grants; The Front Office as a Front-Line to Economic Development; The Nature of Network Governance; Managing Electronic Records; Annual Banquet; Inclusive Customers Service; Can You See Me? A Discussion on Identity and Bias; Pivot Tables-Visualizing your Data; Digital Transformation; Records Management-Creation and Maintenance; Open Government; Empathy; Smart Cities and Communities; and the Freedom of Information Law: Refresher and Update. I am working to complete my Certified Municipal Clerk designation which I should have next year.

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

**RESOLUTION 117-2022**  
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**RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE THE SUPERVISOR TO EXECUTE AN  
AGREEMENT WITH VALUE PAYMENT SYSTEMS FOR  
ONLINE AND IN-PERSON PAYMENTS AT THE TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE**

**WHEREAS** the Town of New Baltimore wishes to accept debit, credit card, and e-check payments for property taxes; sewer and water fees; building permits; and other licensing services for the convenience of residents.

**WHEREAS** two proposals were procured, three Towns were contacted with recommendations, and the Town Clerk is recommending Value Payment Systems.

**WHEREAS** the service is 100 percent funded by the convenience fee charged to the cardholder which is 2.5% for both debit and credit cards, \$1.95 for E-checks with a minimum of \$1.95 for nontax payments and \$3.95 for tax payments.

**RESOLVED** the Town Supervisor is authorized to enter into an Agreement with Value Payment Systems

Motion by Supervisor Ruso seconded by Councilmember VanEtten

**Councilmember VanEtten:** I think it's a great idea. I think it's gonna be great for residents not to have to come all the way down just to pay taxes and they're the ones that are paying for it, not an expense of the Town.

**Town Clerk Finke:** Right, there's no cost. There was another company called Forte that I did do research on and they were the same except you had to pay for the terminals which get to be quite expensive because we needed two and all that. And with VPS there's no charge at all, they provide them. I asked that question about twenty times I think he's tired of talking to me. I did reach out to three Towns – I reached out to Coeymans, which actually Candace told me when we had our training, that's what she used. And Greenville and the other one was Hunter. She's a good friend of mine and she's been the Town Clerk there for 25 years so I asked her with some experience.

**Councilmember Boehlke:** Sounds good.

**Councilmember Downes:** So it's \$1.95 for e-checks with a minimum of \$1.95 for non-tax payments at \$3.95.

**Town Clerk Finke:** Dog licenses.

**Councilmember Downes:** So I'm just a little confused. If they use an E-check, they're going to get charged \$1.95 no matter what?

**Supervisor Ruso:** On top of whatever the check was.

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**Councilmember VanEtten:** But if the check is for a tax, then they're gonna get charged \$3.95.

**Town Clerk Finke:** And they're both the same. The Agreement is there if you want to look through it.

**Councilmember Downes:** Oh, no, that's alright. I just wanted to clarify it, that was all.

**Supervisor Ruso:** Now I have a card here, Public Comment. I know it's not our Public Comment Period, but it related to the topic. Would you like to stand up and enter in.

**Ellie Alfeld:** Well, I got a chance to read the Agreement that Barbara I believe has on her desk there from cover to cover. First of all my problem with it is this, I don't believe that even half the people in this Town know anything about this and yet we're gonna be doing something that we're not knowledgeable about.

**Councilmember VanEtten:** I lot more people than you think use it e-checks and debit and credit cards.

**Town Clerk Finke:** Yes.

**Ellie Alfeld:** That may be fine and dandy, but I'm gonna tell you this is another way... first of all we're gonna take any payments away from this office is that it? No more cash payments.

**Many Responded:** No, no, no.

**Town Clerk Finke:** You have to opt into the program. You want to do it, you know how to do it, and you just go ahead and do it.

**Councilmember VanEtten:** It's an option.

**Town Clerk Finke:** And I get a statement every morning that says who actually did it.

**Ellie Alfeld:** I want to pay my property tax to you, I bring it in, I give you a check. That's gonna be the end of it right?

**Supervisor Ruso:** Right.

**Councilmember VanEtten and Town Clerk Finke:** Yes.

**Ellie Alfeld:** Do you have any idea how bad it is when you're adding \$3.50?

**Councilmember Downes:** But you're not gonna get \$3.50.

**Councilmember VanEtten:** But if you don't want to pay it, then you can come in.

**Ellie Alfeld:** Not me, I'm talking about the people that don't know any better so they're gonna use their credit card.

**Town Clerk Finke:** You'd be surprised. You would be surprised how many people call and ask if they could use their credit card.

**Supervisor Ruso:** Quite frankly, there are people requesting to use a credit card.

**Town Clerk Finke:** It does take four months for this to...

**Ellie Alfeld:** Go into effect.

**Town Clerk Finke:** Go into effect. We do have a Newsletter coming out and that will be in there.

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**Ellie Alfeld:** Okay and that's what I need to know is being handled or appreciated by because as far as I'm concerned we don't get enough notice of what goes on whether it's on a town level or a state level and we find out the day after.

**Supervisor Ruso:** Well, a lot of the folks here, certainly those of us who live right here in Town, the convenience of coming to the Town Hall is ever-present and it's easy, but there are people who have property here, this is their second home for instance and that's what they're looking for and for some of these people either they can drive up here from wherever they are or they can pay \$3.95.

**Ellie Alfeld:** I understand that. Can I mail my check for my property tax?

**Supervisor Ruso:** Absolutely.

**Town Clerk Finke:** Yes.

**Ellie Alfeld:** So we're gonna main the status quo.

**Supervisor Ruso:** Everywhere else, yes.

**Councilmember Downes:** But this is just another option.

**Councilmember VanEtten:** Right, an option and if you don't want to pay that extra \$3.95, you don't have to take the option, you can mail it in.

**Ellie Alfeld:** Shelly, my thought is this I've got enough seniors in this town, right now we're losing seniors faster than we're gaining youth, and they can't really afford to keep adding these \$3 here and \$5 there.

**Councilmember VanEtten:** They can just mail it then and there wouldn't be any extra charge.

**Ellie Alfeld:** That's what I'm saying, they have to be made aware.

**Supervisor Ruso:** Well, the standard system will still be in place. That's why I thought I would address your issue while we had the resolution.

**Ellie Alfeld:** Thank you. I appreciate that.

**Town Clerk Finke:** I've also gone to peoples' houses and picked up their checks.

**Ellie Alfeld:** Barbara, I'm not doubting...

**Town Clerk Finke:** So it's what you want, the way you want to handle it. They're all there.

**Ellie Alfeld;** No, I don't disagree that Barbara does do her job and then some, but I'm afraid the people that don't hear the news that goes on in this village.

**Supervisor Ruso:** I have to tell you that a lot of younger people, not my age and I'm not going yours, they deal with nothing but their card. Nothing. They'll buy a can of soda with their card.

**Ellie Alfeld:** I buy everything with my card.

**Councilmember VanEtten:** But, also, you've got a bunch of kids and they don't want to come down, they'd rather pay \$3.95.

**Eilleen Vosburgh:** But if you're using your card or your debit card are you not getting charged another 2.5 percent?

**Town Clerk Finke:** That's your choice.

**Eilleen Vosburgh:** What do you mean that's your choice?

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**Many Speaking:** If you don't do it, you can pay using your card or your debit card. You can bring it in. That's your choice

**Eilleen Vosburgh:** Say I was going to pay my taxes it would be \$3.95 plus the 2.5%?

**Councilmember Downes:** No, that's not what that says. It says 2.5% for both debit and credit cards, \$1.95 for e-checks. So if you do an e-check, you get charged the \$1.95 or \$3.95.

**Councilmember VanEtten:** So that is the 2.5%, \$1.95 or \$3.95.

**Councilmember Downes:** E-checks is different than credit and debit cards. E-check I'm assuming you punch in your routing number and then your account. It's just like with the state when you put your taxes in.

**Eilleen Vosburgh:** But if somebody didn't know the difference between the e-check and just thought 'well, I'll just use my debit card' are then not charged that 2.5%?

**Supervisor Ruso:** Yes, they would be.

**Eilleen Vosburgh:** Well, I think that that has to be made really clear because I'm not sure people would understand that.

**Councilmember Downes:** But if people are using their debit and credit cards, they're using it for everything. That's standard.

**Town Clerk Finke:** Not just this.

**Ellie Alfeld:** I will take exception. I use my Discover card for everything I do. I don't pay extra for the use of, my card charges the merchants that.

**Councilmember VanEtten:** Yes, but how many things do you pay online with your credit card?

**Ellie Alfeld:** None.

**Councilmember VanEtten:** Then that's the difference.

**Councilmember Downes:** That's the difference.

**County Legislator Linger:** This is actually exactly how the school district does is, a 3.5% charge.

**Councilmember VanEtten:** It's very common.

**Eilleen Vosburgh:** By using your debit?

**County Legislator Linger:** By using your card. That's why I don't do it.

Many speaking at once.

**Councilmember VanEtten:** They have the option of mailing it or something and I don't think the people that don't understand it are going to take that option.

**Councilmember Downes:** Right, they're just gonna bypass it.

**Councilmember VanEtten:** They're just gonna go and mail it.

**Councilmember Downes:** They're gonna come in with their money and hand it in.

**Supervisor Ruso:** I think that's a better idea.

**Eilleen Vosburgh:** That would be a chunk of change if you used your debit card.

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**Supervisor Ruso:** Depends upon your taxes. If you're gonna pay \$2,000, 2.5% of that is \$50.

**Deputy Supervisor Dellisanti:** There are a lot of restaurants charging a percentage not for using your credit card.

**Councilmember Downes:** Because credit card fees are going through the roof.

**Supervisor Ruso:** I just had that someplace and I can't remember where. Here's the cost for a credit card, here's the cost for cash. I can't remember where that was.

**Eileen Vosburgh:** But if you punched in your checking account number the whole thing then it's only these other changes.

**Councilmember Downes:** And I'm sure when it comes up and they try to pay it online, it's gonna come up here's your options. You can pay 2.5%, or you can pay \$3.95, \$1.95.

**Supervisor Ruso:** Listen we've had some good dialogue here, it's something that's a little different. I think that's good to have a bit of a conversation. So we have a Motion that was made and seconded. Any further discussion? Thank you very much.

AYES: Ruso, Boehlke, Downes, Irving, VanEtten

NAYS:

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT:

**Motion Carried**

The August 8, 2022 Town Board Regular Meeting submitted by Town Clerk Finke Moved by Supervisor Ruso and was seconded by Councilmember VanEtten. 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**

***Assessment***

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

**RESOLUTION 118-2022**

**AUGUST 22, 2022**

**RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE THE SUPERVISOR TO EXECUTE AN  
AGREEMENT FOR LEGAL SERVICES FOR NOTICE OF VERIFIED PETITION  
FILED BY SERTA SIMMONS BEDDING, LLC AND  
SSB MANUFACTURING COMPANY**

**RESOLVED** that Dreyer Boyajian LLP is hereby retained to provide legal services in connection with Notice and Petitions regarding the assessments for Serta Simmons Bedding, LLC and SSB Manufacturing Company at the hourly rate of \$350 for attorneys and \$125 for paralegal/law clerks.

Motion by Supervisor Ruso seconded by Councilmember Downes

**Supervisor Ruso:** For those that don't know Serta has filed a petition to challenge the assessment.

**Ellie Alfeld:** Is that assessment part of Serta?

**Supervisor Ruso:** Yeah, Serta Simmons SSB, I mean it's separate, ancillary. This is a little more complicated than most others because Serta pays a PILOT and they want the assessment

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reduced so that they don't have a pay a PILOT and as I've spoken to people in different outfits, the Town of New Baltimore is not the biggest beneficiary of this PILOT. One of the bigger ones, there's other, the school and so forth. I can't remember the dollar figures except that every one of the other people are very much in favor of us fighting this and having the legal fees associated, but they're not interested in sharing the legal fees including which is the IDA does not get their cut of the PILOT if the PILOT is reduced. They will opt to go to assessment instead of paying the higher PILOT fees. That's what they're looking to do. So it's not your standard 'I want my taxes to come down' as you would have with the Board of Assessment Review. It is a little bit different. Just like the last one the Town gets as a taxing body is about 12 percent of the total tax that a property owner has and so forth and yet we have the legal fees. So that's why...

**County Legislator Linger:** When does their PILOT expire?

**Supervisor Ruso:** I think they got like 8 years maybe more. But if their assessment is lower, that's what they're looking at having their assessment lowered, and that's what they'll jump to. That's just part of the system. So it doesn't behoove the Town to save money on behalf of everybody else because we can pay a lot more in attorney fees instead of doing a settlement at \$350 an hour.

**Councilmember Boehlke:** Cheaper just to drop their assessment right?

**Supervisor Ruso:** We have a Motion made and seconded, any further discussion?

AYES: Ruso, Boehlke, Downes, Irving, VanEtten

NAYS:

ABSENT:

ABSTAIN:

Motion Carried

### ***Audit and Budget***

**Supervisor Ruso:** Our budget season has already begun. We've already had meetings with our Court Justices, our Town Highway Superintendent, we have some more conversations to go. We've already developed a lot of figures to put in there. The basis of the budget certainly is what have we experienced in times gone by, last year, this year, and so forth, also anticipating any changes in our revenue or expenses and that's what we're staring at. I'd say we're well underway even though our date of the Tentative is the first week of September that we sent in with the Tentative so we're well underway on that. Also in the Audit and Budget, we have started an audit of our Sewer District and the charges related to the Sewer District. We have started an audit on that and all the finances and we may have a nice surprise for the people in the Sewer District in the hamlet. To give you a rough idea we have on hand 225% of our annual budget on hand. About \$360,000. Our annual budget's about \$160,000 and we have another \$35,000-\$40,000 in our Reserve Account for the Sewer which closes in on \$400,000. And we're going to switch some money into our Reserve Account and we're also gonna make an early payment on our EFC loan of about \$100,000. That should reduce some of the cost for the residents down there. So that will still leave us with \$100,000. We're gonna have a problem \$200,000 over by the time we're done. We haven't figured out all the dollars yet, but we're working on that and I just want to give an update to the Town Board particularly. So we're getting there.

]

**Councilmember Boehlke:** Encouraging with everything else.

**Supervisor Ruso:** It's good. Who doesn't want to have extra money because we know the experience we had in the Water District. When you needed it, it wasn't there. The Sewer District doesn't have that OMG-type of an issue.

**Ellie Alfeld:** Is there a ceiling? I know on some businesses and things there is a ceiling on how much you can have in Reserve. Is there one for this?

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**Supervisor Ruso:** No, not really. There are recommendations, guidelines. There's not anything cast in stone. There are guidelines in terms of how much above and beyond you should have, but we're probably over that in that group. We have enough for two years of operation at 225 percent.

**Councilmember Downes:** Yeah, because we have to keep in mind Got forbid people don't pay so we need to have that Reserve so that we can keep operations up.

**Supervisor Ruso:** Or a line breaks.

**Councilmember Downes:** A line breaks, right, but we need to have that money in Reserve.

**Supervisor Ruso:** A lot of people would have to not pay in order for us to dip too far into that. In any event so we're doing good.

***Code Enforcement Officer Allan Jourdin***

Summarization of Code Enforcement Officer activities for July, 2022, is as follows: Building Inspections: For June: 27; For July 28; Total Building Permits Issued: 5; Building Permits Renewed: 3; Building Permit Renewal Letters Sent: 2 First Notice; 1 Second Notice; Certificates of Compliance Issued: 2; Certificate of Occupancy Search Requests: 8; Commercial Site Fire Inspections: 1; Do Not Occupy: 1; New Building Permit Applications Received: 10; Building Permit Applications Awaiting Permit Issuance: 18; Open Building Permits: 192; Pool Permit Applications Received: 2; Pool Permits Issued: 1; Application Fees for July, 2022: \$817.37; Total Building Permit Fees for Year to Date: \$21,460.57, Commercial Fire Inspection Fees for July: \$250.00, Total Commercial Fire Inspection Fees for Year: \$250.00

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

The regular monthly meeting was not held on Tuesday, August 16, 2022 (Summer Vacation). There were 20 EMS calls in July for a total of 82 for this year 2022. We had 120 calls for all of 2021.

**Deputy Supervisor Nick Dellisanti:** This is the highest number of calls we've ever had. Last month I reported there were 18 calls so our numbers are going up. We also had two strokes in New Baltimore this month. We now have a total of 82 calls for this year, we had 110 calls for all of 2021. I do have the new budget for next year which isn't as bad as I thought it was going to be. For 2022 our bill was \$19,821 for \$243.05 per call and for 2023 our bill is \$20,231. It's about a \$400 increase which is not bad at all for the service that we get from Greene County EMS. And the average call will cost approximately \$255.20.

**Supervisor Ruso:** If I may ask, will that cost go up if our call numbers continue to raise?

**Deputy Supervisor Nick Dellisanti:** No, this is our budget for 2023 right now. They do the calculations, I'm giving you an annual report from January to December. They do the calculations like July to July and that's what do their formula on.

**Ellie Alfeld:** Nick, can I ask you about ambulance service in relationship to calls?

**Deputy Supervisor Nick Dellisanti:** That's not part of this, but yes.

**Ellie Alfeld:** I happened to get a chance to see ambulance calls on two occasions and the price they charge. It's astronomical. The first call I think was almost \$1,200 that the patient's family got. One call was for same person, two different calls, one came out of Coxsackie, one came out of Ravena, the difference in price was unreal.

**Deputy Supervisor Nick Dellisanti:** I got a call at my own house for \$1,972 from Coxsackie.

**Councilmember Boehlke:** We're talking people just being transported between St. Peter's and Albany Med for over \$1,200.

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**Highway Superintendent VanWormer:** When my wife went it was \$670 just for mileage from my house to the hospital.

**Councilmember Downes:** And they do tell you you need to go in by ambulance because if you don't you'll just be sitting there.

**Ellie Alfeld:** You're even sitting there then.

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

**RESOLUTION 119-2022**  
**AUGUST 22, 2022**

**RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE THE SUPERVISOR TO EXECUTE AN AGREEMENT WITH GREENE COUNTY EMERGENCY MEDICAL SYSTEMS, INC.**

*RESOLVED* that the Town Board does hereby authorize the Supervisor to execute an agreement with Greene County Emergency Medical Systems, Inc. for the period January 1, 2023 to December 31, 2023 for \$20,231.

Motion by Supervisor Ruso seconded by Councilmember VanEtten

AYES: Ruso, Boehlke, Downes, Irving, VanEtten

NAYS:

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT:

**Motion Carried**

***Highway Superintendent Alan VanWormer***

Monday July 25<sup>th</sup> checked all roads for debris, heavy rain and wind at night; Mixed up sand and salt and put in shed; Picked up 2013 International from Greene County Highway, A/C stopped working, they hooked it to their computer diagnostic machine for us to figure out why, Compressor failed and had to be replaced; Installed stop sign at Taylor Road and Flatbush Road intersection; Repaired two signs on Roberts Hill Road; Sent two trucks and one extra man to assist the Town of Athens oil and stone; Spread new mulch on playground at District 2 park; Put picnic table and benches together for Cornell Park; Cut brush around bridges on New Baltimore Road; Blew rear tire on Mower tractor, still waiting to order new ones; Hauled in washed screenings from Callanan for winter use; Replaced rear brakes on 1996 international truck #8 in house; Mowed parks and Town Hall as needed; Picked up bags of leaves on Mill Street; Washed and greased John Deere Loader; Called McCarthy Tire and InterCity Tire for prices on rear tractor tires; Measured New Street for repairs, and construction of a retaining wall.; Washed and greased John Deere Excavator; Serviced 1997 International Truck # 14; Dropped off 1996 International at W&W for transmission estimate which appears to be around \$8500.00 for transmission and remove and replace.; Serviced 2013 International truck # 7; Serviced 2002 International truck #3; Took 2017 F 350 to VanKleek Tire for new tires; Serviced 1993 International Truck #4; Installed new A/C compressor on 2013 International truck #7; Serviced 2012 International truck #13; Wednesday August 10 sent two trucks to help Village of Cossackie mill in Sunset Blvd; Mowed along roads; Hauled in large concrete blocks for repairs on Shady Lane; Friday August 12 sent in chips paperwork for September reimbursement; Cut leaning tree on Flatbush Road; Patched in recently installed culverts on South Ridge Road, Lime Kiln Road, and Aquetuck Road with blacktop; Started mill and Fill patching on Aquetuck Road and West Deans Mill Road; Installed new belts on case/international roadside mower; Picked up skid steer with mill head from County Highway; Took 2012 f350 to Albrights for inspection truck #1; Took 2002, and 1991 Internationals to Albrights for inspection trucks # 3 & 5; Picked up two dead deer on Roberts Hill Road; Picked up couch and two chairs dumped on Roberts Hill Road; Received several call for vehicles not stopping at the four way stop at the intersection of Aquetuck Road and Deans Mill Road, we have installed reflective white stop lines on all four sides of the intersection along with painting STOP on all four sides in white. Sheriffs Office has also been advised as this is now an enforcement issue. Also received call about speeders on East Honey Hollow Road which is posted at 30mph. I checked the area to make sure all posted speed

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limit signs were in place where they should be, and they are, also contacted the Sheriffs Office regarding this, and Captain Quine advised that she have increase patrol presence in that area.

**Highway Superintendent VanWormer:** The Fire Company would also like to ask for permission to park two trucks in the stone parking lot over here either on September 13 or 14 while the parking lot at the firehouse is being sealed.

Motion by Supervisor Ruso to allow the Fire Department to park their vehicles on whichever day the paving occurs, seconded by Councilmember VanEtten

AYES: Ruso, Boehlke, Downes, Irving, VanEtten

NAYS:

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT:

**Motion Carried**

**Supervisor Ruso:** Can I ask you to do me a favor going forward, Alan? You speak of the '96 International, the '91 International, the '90 International, the '92 International, 2013 International, looking at this I have no idea if it's a plow truck or it's a dump truck. Can you just add whichever it might be so that I can say 'oh, our dump trucks are running and our plows are running here in August.'

**Highway Superintendent VanWormer:** Oh, yeah, I can do that. All of our plow trucks are serviced, those are the ones that we service. They're all serviced and ready to go.

**Councilmember VanEtten:** You're starting the paving tomorrow on West Deans Mill?

**Highway Superintendent VanWormer:** Just patching.

**Councilmember VanEtten:** Just patching so you can get through.

**Councilmember Downes:** I see that you did some work down at District 2 and at Cornell Park, I know we've got a grant going on out at District 3. How much of the work that needs to be completed for that grant has been done up there?

**Highway Superintendent VanWormer:** Not a lot. Some of the digging for the concession stand, I think that's about it right now. We should be winding down on our blacktopping here soon so we'll have most of the fall we can spend some time out there.

**Councilmember Downes:** So we'll make it in time so that we don't lose... I'm more worried about losing that grant money.

**Councilmember VanEtten:** So that we don't lose the money.

**Highway Superintendent VanWormer:** Yes. As long as we show progress right we'll be fine.

**Supervisor Ruso:** What's the deadline on that grant?

**Deputy Supervisor Dellisanti:** We got the grant in 2017. I applied for it in 2017. We got it in 2019. We lost two years because of COVID

**Supervisor Ruso:** I know they extended it.

**Deputy Supervisor Dellisanti:** They haven't given any expiration dates yet. They keep looking for dates of improvement, a progress report

**Councilmember VanEtten:** So as long as you're making progress.

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**Highway Superintendent VanWormer:** Yeah, we'll be out there. Like I said we're gonna be freed up here shortly. We should be able to have quite a bit of fall time out there.

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

**RESOLUTION 120-2022**  
**AUGUST 22, 2022**

**RESOLUTION TO APPROVE EMERGENCY REPAIR TO**  
**1996 INTERNATIONAL 10-WHEEL DUMP TRUCK**

*WHEREAS* the Town of New Baltimore Highway Superintendent has identified the need to replace the transmission on the 1996 International Dump Truck.

*WHEREAS* the estimate for repair and replacement is \$8,500 from Heavy Duty Automatics, Inc.

*WHEREAS* the Highway Superintendent has certified that this project is an Emergency Purchase according to the Town of New Baltimore Procurement Policy, pursuant to Section 103(4) of the General Municipal Law.

*NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED*, that the Town Board of the Town of New Baltimore authorizes the removal and replacement of the transmission on the 1996 International 10-wheel dump truck by Heavy Duty Automatics, Inc.

Motion by Supervisor Ruso seconded by Councilmember Downes

**Councilmember Downes:** Alan, this is the truck we're going to replace right with the new one that we're buying.

**Highway Superintendent VanWormer:** Before I put a transmission in we're gonna keep this one and we're gonna replace the '85.

**Councilmember Downes:** Just wanted to double-check.

**Councilmember Boehlke:** So which one's the one you put the floor in the frame underneath the cab? You had a bad frame underneath the cab.

**Highway Superintendent VanWormer:** Oh, that was the '97, the plow truck. That one's done. And, unfortunately, this transmission we can't do inhouse, it's just too big,

**Councilmember Downes:** I just couldn't remember which one we were replacing with this.

**Councilmember Boehlke:** A standard vehicle transmission is half this.

AYES: Ruso, Boehlke, Downes, Irving, VanEtten

NAYS:

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT:

**Motion Carried**

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

**RESOLUTION 121-2022**  
**AUGUST 22, 2022**

**RESOLUTION TO APPROVE PURCHASE OF**  
**2023 INTERNATIONAL DUMP TRUCK**

*WHEREAS*, the Town of New Baltimore Highway Superintendent has identified the need to replaced aging equipment in the Highway Department, and

*WHEREAS* the Town of New Baltimore Highway Superintendent has indicated that our needs would be met by the purchase of a 2023 International Model HX620 truck with a 500 horsepower Cummins diesel engine, and

*WHEREAS*, the Town of New Baltimore will apply the pricing under the Onondaga County Contract (#8998) thus eliminating the need for the Town to request bids, and

*WHEREAS*, the total delivered price of this truck is \$206,479.00.

*NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED*, the Town Board of the Town of New Baltimore authorizes the purchase of a 2023 International Model HX620 at the price provided.

Motion by Supervisor Ruso seconded by Councilmember Downes

**Councilmember Downes:** Now this is the tandem truck that we are receiving \$100,000 from Greene County.

**Supervisor Ruso:** We are applying to Greene County for \$100,000 anticipating we'll get it. So just to refresh everyone's knowledge, we have already under commitment the purchase of a 2023 plow truck. We already have under agreement a plow truck that is going to be paid for out of our Reserve Account. We already have the money there. Now we have this, this one's \$206,000. We don't have \$206,000, we have a few dollars. How much we'll have at the time of purchase I won't say at this moment, but it depends upon the cost of the winter ahead of us and of the like. The \$100,000 is going to offset much of that cost, approximately 50 percent. So we're going to replace two of our aging vehicles. We have two vehicles that are 1985s -- almost 40 years old. We've got to do something. In any event that's my opinion on that last part.

**Councilmember Boehlke:** How many yard box on that, Alan? Do you know offhand?

**Supervisor Ruso:** Why don't you get back to us later on. Anyone else want to stump Alan?

**Councilmember Downes:** I just want to make sure everybody knew everything that's all.

AYES: Ruso, Boehlke, Downes, Irving, VanEtten

NAYS:

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT:

**Motion Carried**

***Planning Board Chair Rob VanEtten***

The Planning Board met on August 11, 2022, with the following business transacted: **...Public Hearing** was held on the Sydney Owens Special Use Permit Application for a 24kW residential ground mount solar system. ...In the **Regular Monthly Meeting** that followed: The Owens' Special Use Permit Application was approved. New Baltimore Conservancy representative was present to advise the Board of their planned September 10, 2022, special event at Longview Park, at which they would like to have music. Per condition of their Special Use Permit, required resolution granting permission for the music was passed. Minor Subdivision Application was presented by Surveyor Jeff Ostertag for the two-lot subdivision of the Charles J.

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Haegele, Jr. property at 3918 County Route 51. Required Public Hearing on the application is scheduled for 7 p.m., September 9. Discussed with a property owner his proposed plans to purchase part of an adjoining parcel with the acreage to be added to parcel currently owned by the altered lot line application process. Because of the number of acres in the proposed transaction, the acquisition will have to be handled through a minor subdivision rather than the altered lot line process.

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

The ZBA did not meet on August 3, 2022, since there were no applications to come before the Board.

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

**RESOLUTION 122-2022**  
**AUGUST 22, 2022**

**RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE THE SUPERVISOR TO  
SIGN AN AGREEMENT FOR A COMPUTER LEASE FOR THE TOWN CLERK**

**RESOLVED** that the Town Supervisor is authorized to sign an agreement for a five-year lease of a laptop, dock and monitor for the Town Clerk at the quarterly cost of \$195 and one-time cost of \$99.99 for hardware and \$413 for configuration, Quote JW004712 v1.

Motion by Supervisor Ruso seconded by Councilmember VanEtten

AYES:

NAYS:

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT:

**Motion Carried**

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

**RESOLUTION 123-2022**  
**AUGUST 22, 2022**

**RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE THE SUPERISOR TO SIGN AN AGREEMENT  
FOR A COMPUTER LEASE FOR THE ASSESSOR**

**RESOLVED** that the Town Supervisor is authorized to sign an agreement for a three-year lease of a desktop computer for the Assessor at the quarterly cost of \$112.50 and one-time cost of \$99.99 for hardware and \$413 for configuration, Quote JW 004701.

Motion by Supervisor Ruso seconded by Councilmember Boehlke

AYES:

NAYS:

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT:

**Motion Carried**

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

**RESOLUTION 124-2022**  
**AUGUST 22, 2022**

**RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE THE SUPERVISOR TO SIGN AN AGREEMENT  
TO REPLACE TWO WIRELESS ACCESS POINTS AT TOWN HALL**

**WHEREAS** the current donated wireless access points at Town Hall installed three years ago have reached their end of life.

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**RESOLVED** that the Town Supervisor is authorized to sign an agreement for two Ubiquiti Unifi UAP AC PROs for \$339.98, WatchGuard 3 Year Renewal at \$1,125, and \$204.60 for configuration, Quote JW004677 v1.

Motion by Supervisor Ruso seconded by Councilmember Downes

**Councilmember Boehlke:** What's the watchguard? Is that like a VPN or something?

**Councilmember Downes:** Isn't that the thing that blocks them?

**Many Responded:** Firewall.

**Ellie Alfeld:** Is this gonna improve Barbara and the rest of the people at Town Hall's access?

**Councilmember Downes:** With the new firewell, we'll better protected so that personal information, their information, and they should speed up everything and make it easier.

**AYES:** Ruso, Boehlke, Downes, Irving, VanEtten

**NAYS:**

**ABSTAIN:**

**ABSENT:**

**Motion Carried**

### ***Town Court***

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

- Total July monies received was \$15,912.06
  - Judge Huff                      \$15,584.00
  - Judge Konsul                \$328.00
  - State/County Share\*              Town Share\*
- Total 2022 (January-July) monies received \$150,905.06
  - State/County Share \*              Town Share \*
- Total New Cases Received 168

\*State report not available at this time.

**Supervisor Ruso:** I think it needs to be pointed out that as always the Town actually gets to receive or keep approximately one-third. There are some variables, but it's approximately one-third.

### **Upcoming Meetings**

- September 7, 2022 Zoning Board of Appeals Meeting if Needed
- September 8, 2022 Planning Board Meeting at 7 PM
- September 12, 2022 Town Board Regular Meeting at 7 PM
- September 17, 2022 Townwide Yard Sale at 9 AM
- September 26, 2022 Town Board Work Meeting at 7 PM

### **Public Comment**

**Ellie Alfeld:** I'd like to say one thing for the benefit of the Town. I don't know if you're aware Buddy Melick who has been a resident here for many, many years, gave up his time for helping the seniors when we were active, has passed away, of course.

**County Legislator Linger:** They're planning a memorial service on the 13th or 14th of September.

**Ellie Alfeld:** Buddy was an enjoyment and again we're losing our seniors.

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**County Legislator Linger:** Can I just add one thing to your calendar. The County, it's actually run by Veterans Services but it's called the Guardians of Greene, they're gonna be doing an Open House whatever it is down at the Point on August 31, it's a Wednesday, 10AM-6PM. It's vendors and services that are available that have to do anything with veterans, fire, EMS, police all those sort of things. It's a new event that Michelle Deyo has spearheaded.

**Supervisor Ruso:** Is there any published material on this?

**County Legislator Linger:** The only thing that I've seen is on Facebook. They've done some scheduling.

**Supervisor Ruso:** That would be Greene County Facebook page?

**County Legislator Linger:** Greene County Veterans Services.

**Councilmember VanEtten:** And you said 10-4? I can call some of the veterans and let them know so they can pass the word around.

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

**RESOLUTION 125-2022**  
**AUGUST 22, 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-08-01 to 2022b-08-33, it is

*RESOLVED* that the Supervisor is hereby authorized to pay claims 2022b-08-01 to 2022b-08-33.

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

Motion by Supervisor Ruso seconded by Councilmember Downes

AYES: Ruso, Boehlke, Downes, Irving, VanEtten

NAYS:

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT:

**Motion Carried**

General \$26,447.14, Highway \$30,518.49, Sewer 1 \$1,757.42, Street Lighting 1 \$2,029.26, Total \$60,752.31

**Highway Superintendent VanWormer:** The truck has a 17.6 cubic yard body.

Motion by Councilmember Downes seconded by Councilmember VanEtten to adjourn the meeting at 8:04 PM.

AYES: Ruso, Boehlke, Downes, Irving, VanEtten

NAYS:

ABSTAIN

ABSENT:

**Motion Carried**

Respectfully Submitted,

Barbara M. Finke RMC, Town Clerk