

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

AUGUST 28, 2023

Please turn off all cell phones and electronic devices.

Reports

Supervisor

- Resolution to Authorize the Supervisor to Sign Collective Bargaining Agreement with Teamsters Local 294

County Legislator

Town Clerk

- August 14, 2023 Town Board Regular Meeting

Historian

Agriculture/AgFest (Chair Boehlke/Member Irving)

Animal Control (Chair Irving, Member Ruso)

Assessment (Chair VanEtten/Member Ruso)

- Resolution to Place Advertisement for Members of the Board of Assessment Review

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

- September 6, 2023 Zoning Board of Appeals Meeting at 7:30 (If Needed)
- September 11, 2023 Town Board Regular Meeting at 7 PM
- September 14, 2023 Planning Board Meeting at 7 PM
- September 16, 2023 Townwide Yard Sale at 9 PM
- September 20, 2023 Senior Committee Picnic at Cecil Hallock Park at 12 PM
- September 25, 2023 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 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 11 members of the public who signed the attendance book. Absent: George McHugh, Esq.

Supervisor Jeff Ruso

The monthly financials for July were forwarded to all Board members. Has everyone had a chance to review? I'll make a Motion to accept the July financial reports.

Motion by Supervisor Ruso seconded by Councilmember VanEtten to accept the July financial reports.

AYES: Ruso, Boehlke, Downes, Irving, VanEtten

NAYS:

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT:

Motion Carried

Supervisor Ruso: Our budget season has begun. We have started deliberating on cost of things and meeting with our department heads to get some input from them regarding the 2024's budget. So I don't have the dates before me, but our first presentation of the budget will be the second meeting of September.

Councilmember Downes: The 25th.

Supervisor Ruso: This is something I forwarded to each of the Town Board members on Saturday so they had an opportunity to review this multi-page document.

TOWN OF NEW BALTIMORE, COUNTY OF GREENE

RESOLUTION 99-2023

AUGUST 28, 2023

RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE SUPERVISOR TO SIGN COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENT WITH TEAMSTERS LOCAL 294

WHEREAS the Town Highway employees have selected Teamsters Local 294 as their bargaining organization, and

WHEREAS the attached Collective Bargaining Agreement developed through multiple negotiation sessions has been presented to the Board for their review and approval.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Supervisor is hereby authorized to sign the attached agreement.

Motion by Supervisor Ruso seconded by Councilmember Boehlke

Councilmember VanEtten: Now I'm curious, standoff, how did that resolve itself? Having a hard time getting it done. How did it resolve itself?

Supervisor Ruso: Well, that's a lengthy story, but we were, and I've expressed it here, frustrated by not hearing back from multiple emails and so forth and so I through personal contacts, I know the family of the President of the Union, and I gave him a call. Well, I didn't give him a call, he called me and so he came down and got the ball rolling and in terms of the frustrations that we had, how do I put it I don't want to get too personal here, some of the frustrations went away when he told me what the delays were and the lead negotiator, which I think is known, the lead negotiator had serious medical issues and foremost on his mind was not the bargaining agreement with the Town of New Baltimore and he has since succumbed to that diagnosis. So that put everything off, a level of understanding on behalf of him, but anyway I've actually had an opportunity to talk to Tom, Tom Quackenbush is the President, I talked to his

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wife and I expressed some frustrations with her. I said ‘I don’t know why no one’s getting back to me’ and she says ‘why don’t you talk to Tom’ and I said ‘well, I like to go the chain of command. I don’t want to jump that, let Rocco have the chance.’ Well, Tom called me that evening and as soon as he was done with the UPS negotiations which were held in Washington, he said ‘we’ll come and meet.’ I mean that’s pretty much how it happened or what happened there to get the ball rolling again. So the ball was stopped and now it’s rolling and he came here and it took us an hour-and-a-half. So this is what we have here so have you guys any questions about the contents of it? You want any brief ideas? It took a lot of work to get this. How many pages is it, I can’t remember.

Councilmember VanEtten: 12.

Supervisor Ruso: Yes, I know there’s a typo, but that’s on them and I talked to him yesterday about it and I said ‘you know your logo is backwards?’ If you noticed it the horses’ heads are backwards and so are the wording. It’s like reading in the mirror. He goes ‘it’s still like that?’ I said ‘yeah, that’s on you’ because they’re the ones that provided that to us, that logo, it’s backwards. Anyway, any other questions?

Councilmember Boehlke: No, it’s very well written and believe me when I tell you that because I spent 40 years doing this kind of thing on the Railroad. We had a book that it was 150 pages of collective bargaining agreements to deal with issues and you know what’s out there right now in the industry, this is actually very good and it’s very balanced. I mean that. It’s very good to the Highway employees and it’s very good to the Town. It really is. I see it as a win-win for both sides I really do.

Supervisor Ruso: Now some of the process will be the two parties have to approve this and that would be the employees and the Town Board. So timing is everything and the Town Board seems like it is going first. We have a semblance, not an agreement let’s say, but I haven’t seen anything official signed off on by the Union, but we’re gonna go ahead and sign off. And as I said the President called me yesterday morning. He gave me the impression it was going to move forward on their side.

Councilmember Boehlke: In their hands right and they’ve got to ratify it.

Supervisor Ruso: After we get something from the employees, then we move forward. Okay, so that’s where it is. Do you have anything to say, Mr. Irving?

Councilmember Irving: No, just to further the discussion like you said earlier was that it was held up for some time but you explained it.

Supervisor Ruso: Yeah, there was a personal delay.

Councilmember Boehlke: Well and you didn’t mention, Jeff, that the head negotiator had died.

Supervisor Ruso: Well, yeah, that’s who had the serious medical issue. He died two weeks ago.

Councilmember Boehlke: And so that was a last-minute lapse tragically.

AYES: Ruso, Boehlke, Downes, Irving, VanEtten

NAYS:

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT:

Motion Carried

County Legislator Pat Linger

As the summer winds down, we have been very busy. Sometimes, it seems we spend an inordinate amount of time opposing what our State government is attempting to force upon us or mandate. We unanimously approved a Resolution urging The Governor to veto a bill to move certain local elections to even-numbered years. We also unanimously approved a resolution

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opposing An Act To Amend The Uniform Justice Court Act, The Town Law And The Village Law, In Relation To Requiring Certain Town And Village Justices Be Admitted To Practice Law In The State. We also unanimously resolved to oppose Senator Hinchey's Bill S6637 Regarding Amending Section 606 Of The Tax Law, creating a tax credit for people who have to relocate to New York State in order to receive, or provide reproductive care or gender-affirming care. We approved establishing Capital Project #140 - Community Services Building. This will allow us to begin engineering studies on the current building, as well as potentially new sites. We approved contracts with all school districts within Greene County to provide appropriately trained Sheriff Deputies as School Resource Officers. Each SRO comes at a cost of \$66,000 to the school district, but the benefits they receive are priceless. Our SRO's are mentors whose on-site presence is appreciated immensely. We were presented with the 23-24 Budget from CGCC, followed by a public hearing prior to our regular meeting where the budget was approved. The total sponsor contribution remains unchanged from last year, but due to Greene County's successful grant programs, our student enrollment percentage has increased, leading to a \$120,000 increase in our share of the cost. The NYS budget continues to fund less of our community college. We also had a 2024 Budget presentation from Greene EMS. The request is a 12% increase over 2023 due to many factors including inflation, increased pay rates, and vehicle replacements. Greene EMS was recently awarded 2 regional awards in the 11 county region and ALS provider of the year was awarded to Shane Merchant. We approved the purchase of 1 new excavator for Solid Waste. In accordance with our fleet replacement program, we will trade in a 2019 excavator and receive \$65,000 in trade value. Historically, we would use this equipment until it was useless and had no trade value. This replacement plan has cut down maintenance costs and downtime for Solid Waste and Highway significantly. We approved the purchase of 4 new trucks with snow and ice removal equipment. These trucks come with a guarantee to be delivered by the 4th quarter of 2024. The total cost of the excavator and 4 trucks is \$1.162 million, and will be paid for from reserve funds dedicated for this purpose. For the time being, we were able to get the lawsuit from NYC Mayor Adams moved out of NYC and into the more appropriate venue of the 30+ counties who were sued. Greene County's Emergency Declaration and Emergency Orders remain in effect. I will be meeting with the County Administrator again this week to finalize the preliminary 2024 budget. At this point, the goal is to have no increase to the tax levy. Given the inflationary rates nationwide and rising costs, this has been a challenging goal to say the least. I believe we will get there. In September, I will undergo surgery that will require approximately 6 weeks recovery time. Until I can return, please feel free to call the County Administrators office at 518-719-3270 for any county related issues.

Supervisor Ruso: Just a question about the SRO. Are they also using officers from the different communities aside from Sheriff's?

County Legislator Linger: No, all the SROs now, all the officers in schools now, are all Sheriff's Deputies. They're all trained School Resource Officers. Coxsackie was using Village Police and Catskill was using an outside security firm. They didn't have officers. So these are Deputies that are trained in School Resource Officer tactics so they're more about deescalating situations and thing like that, just more connecting with kids on one-on-one basis, kind of getting to know the kids and working with the kids.

Ellie Alfeld: The \$66,000 is that including the Sheriff budget or is this an additional monies outside of his budget?

County Legislator Linger: This is within his budget, but this is money that comes back to the County from the school districts for the use of the SRO. A full-time employee with benefits is probably closer to \$90,000 maybe \$100,000 for us so the school district pays \$66,000 and then we still have use of that Deputy when they're not at school -- summertime and those sort of things, we can use them as road patrol.

Ellie Alfeld: Thereby the \$30,000.

County Legislator Linger: Right. We pay about a third of the cost and the school pays two-thirds.

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Eilleen Vosburgh: Wasn't there a plan at one point to bring a medical facility to, wasn't it to New Baltimore?

County Legislator Linger: There was and this isn't from the Legislature's side, this is from the Zoning Board of Appeals side, there was an application that we had gone over with somebody who wanted a medical facility at the old TFRs property. I'm not sure, I never saw an application come through, we just had it brought up.

Eilleen Vosburgh: I thought it was from the County.

County Legislator Linger: No, the last that I heard was last year Columbia-Greene had gotten grant money from the Governor. They were looking to do a facility over here in Greene County somewhere. Originally they were looking at the 21 West property down in Catskill. They opted not to purchase that property and from what I understand they were looking at property here in Kalkberg Park. I don't know where that stands. That's not our money, it's not our grant, it's not our facility. That was a partnership with CMH, Albany Med, and New York Oncology and Hematology. So that I'm not really sure where all that stands yet.

Deputy Supervisor Dellisanti: It's dead right now.

County Legislator Linger: That's the most recent info anyway.

Town Clerk Barb Finke

6 Building Permits \$1,135.45, 1 Deck and Porch \$75, 2 New Septic System \$100, 17 Dog Licenses \$126, 4 Late Licenses \$20, 1 Beer Permit \$20, 1 Non-Resident Park Rental \$50, 2 Park Rentals \$50, 10 Certified Copies \$100, 2 Photo Copies \$0.50, Recycle Fees \$4, Total State, County & Local Revenues \$1,705.95, \$25 to New York State Department of Agriculture and Markets for the Spay/Neuter Program, Total to Supervisor \$1,680.95. I appreciate everyone's patience during the last few months. Not only have we had scheduled vacations and appointments, but we worked through extended military duty, ongoing recuperation from surgery, hospitalization, etc. In many instances one person was handling multiple departments -- Town Clerk and Tax, Building/Planning/Zoning, and Assessor Offices. We have more days like this to go in September and will do what we can to continue to serve our residents. Thank you everyone again and we certainly do have the best staff at Town Hall.

ADOPTION OF MINUTES

The August 14, 2023 Town Board Regular Meeting submitted by Town Clerk Finke, Moved by Supervisor and was seconded by Councilmember Downes and VanEtten. The adoption of the foregoing Motion was duly put 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 100-2023

AUGUST 28, 2023

**RESOLUTION TO PLACE ADVERTISEMENT FOR MEMBERS
OF THE BOARD OF ASSESSMENT REVIEW**

WHEREAS the Town of New Baltimore is seeking applicants for the Board of Assessment Review and the Town Board approves the advertisement of said position(s).

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RESOLVED the wording of the advertisement has been approved by the Attorney for the Town and following approval from the Town Board, the advertisement will be submitted to the Town Clerk for publication in the *Times Union* for one week.

The Town of New Baltimore is seeking applicants for the Board of Assessment Review where training is required. Applicants must be residents of the Town of New Baltimore. Members will receive \$200 and the Chair \$250 for Grievance Day in May of each year.

Motion by Supervisor Ruso seconded by Councilmember Boehlke

AYES: Ruso, Boehlke, Downes, Irving, VanEtten

NAYS:

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT:

Motion Carried

Recycling Center Operator Kirk Trombley

07/26/23-08/28/23 3 Tires Up to and Including 16” Without Rims \$12, 60 Gallon Bags of Plastic (No Hard Plastics) 11, 8 Bundles of Magazines and Phone Books, 45 Bags and Bundles of Newspaper, 106 Boxes and Bundles of Cardboard, Total Income \$12; 07/26 1 Refrigerator, Large; 08/09 1 Dryer 1 Refrigerator, Large, 1 Washer; 08/12 2 Microwave Ovens, 1 Stove

Supervisor Ruso: I noticed that the dumpster was taken away so we will be receiving a check from Baroni rather soon. I haven't seen it yet.

Town Clerk Finke: We did. It was \$352.80.

Supervisor Ruso: When did that come in, today?

Town Clerk Finke: No, a week-and-a-half ago.

Highway Superintendent Alan VanWormer

Highway Report July 24 to August 28th 2023 Tood load of dirt to Mill Street for large wash out due to heavy rain; Picked up more brush and bagged leaves in the hamlet; Cleaned up large fallen tree limb on Roberts Hill Road; Replaced battery on 2011 F350 unit #1; July 25th Started paving on High Rock Road; July 26th finished paving High Rock Road and paved Roberts Hill Road; Cleaned partially blocked ditch on School Hill Road; Started to back up driveways on High Rock and Roberts Hill Roads; Started to haul in washed screenings for winter use; Mowed all parks and Town Hall as needed; Assisted the Town of Coeymans with grader patching with blacktop with our grader; Had some hydraulic issues with the new haul truck, they have been resolved and truck is back in service; Replaced stolen street name sign at Medway Earlton and Paradise Hill Road intersection; Continued roadside mowing, had two mowers out for a couple weeks trying to get caught up; Spread two loads of item 4 on School Hill Road; Assisted the Village of Ravena, and Village of Coxsackie with two small milling projects; Cleaned up remaining brush and trees from Mathews Point from previous storms; Replaced starter on 2011 F350 Unit #1; Welded broken parts on both roadside mowers; Tightened blades on zero turn mower; Weed whacked all of District two park; Cut and removed large fallen tree on Mill Street Put up Townwide yard sale signs; Ordered and received 70 tons of salt, and mixed with sand for winter use; Replaced bearing on roadside boom mower; Picked up garbage from Town Hall; Patched holes on Hillcrest Road and North Ridge Road; Brought excavator back to garage and piled up sand in shed; Moved large tree from Road on Route 54 by the park with our loader for County Highway; Ordered another 110 tons salt to mix with sand; We had spoken at the regular meeting about replacing our very aged roadside boom mower with a new one, and putting it on our existing tractor. I received several quotes on new units which were anywhere from 36 to 40 thousand dollars. I was able to find a very good used one that is the same model that we currently have on Auctions International that was being sold by the Town of Gallitan in Columbia County. I went and looked it over, and we were able to purchase it for \$4600.00 saving the town \$30,000.

Councilmember Boehlke: What'd they say was wrong with it?

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Highway Superintendent VanWormer: There isn't a thing wrong with it. It was time for it to go so they bought a new one.

Supervisor Ruso: So these repairs on the various mowers were not on that one.

Highway Superintendent VanWormer: Correct on the old one.

This unit should easily last the remaining life of the tractor. I received a call on Friday August 25th regarding a lost set of keys at Cornell Park, I contacted Jim Meade, our part time mower operator, who also does metal detecting, and asked if he would be able to check the area when he had a chance. He went there Friday afternoon and checked the entire park but unfortunately was not able to find them.

Councilmember Boehlke: I was gonna mention, Alan, I drive that Roberts Hill Road quite often and they did an excellent job on that road.

Highway Superintendent VanWormer: Yeah, it came out really good. I'm really happy with that.

Councilmember Boehlke: They really did and they widened that anywhere from 8" to almost a foot-and-a-half in a lot of areas.

Highway Superintendent VanWormer: Yeah, nice work on both of those. They did a great job.

Councilmember Boehlke: It's a big difference. They went above and beyond. That's good.

Supervisor Ruso: Where are we on the new pickup truck?

Highway Superintendent VanWormer: A bid was sent from DePaula. The day I got back from vacation, I got back on a Thursday, I talked to him on Friday and he said he had sent it.

Supervisor Ruso: Okay, well we haven't receive it, but probably short coming. Alright, thank you sir.

Planning Board Chair Rob VanEtten

The Planning Board met on August 10, 2023, with the following business conducted: Old Business...Continued discussion commenced at July meeting with Teichos representatives regarding a further one-year extension of Site Plan approval for the Hannacroix Solar Project. Having received the Code interpretation from the Town's attorney that further extension could be granted, resolution was presented and passed extending Hannacroix Solar' Site Plan until December 8, 2024. This added extension was granted to allow for NYSDEC's completion of review of Hannacroix Solar's pending Incidental Take Permit Application. New Business ...Received Minor Subdivision Application for a three-lot minor subdivision of property owned by Doris Myers on Sunset Hill Road. Required Public Hearing on the application was scheduled for 7 p.m., September 14. ...Discussed with a Town property owner the possible options for the changing of a boundary line between two parcels which would move a garage from one parcel to the other. Discussion will be continued at a future meeting.

Zoning Board of Appeals Chair Pat Linger

The Zoning Board of Appeals did not meet on August 2 since there were no applications to come before the Board.

Seniors

Councilmember VanEtten: The Seniors Picnic will be held on September 20 at Noon in Hallock Park.

Supervisor Ruso: Yeah, we gotta get some posters up and of the like and flyers out, but they'll be food for everybody.

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Councilmember VanEtten: We do. There will be.

Town Court

The following is the Town of New Baltimore Court monthly report for June 2023.

- Total June monies received was \$16,575.00
 - Judge Huff \$9,205.00
 - Judge Konsul \$7,370.00
 - State/County Share* Town Share*
- Total 2023 (January-June) monies received \$89,877.00
 - State/County Share * Town Share *
- Total New Cases Received 84

*State report not available

The following is the Town of New Baltimore Court monthly report for July 2023.

- Total July monies received was \$14,038.00
 - Judge Huff \$6,446.00
 - Judge Konsul \$7,592.00
 - State/County Share* Town Share*
- Total 2023 (January-July) monies received \$103,915.00
 - State/County Share * Town Share *
- Total New Cases Received 88

*State report not available

Town Clerk Finke: I have some more information. We have a July report in there as well, but I have the breakdown from January to June. Judge Huff was \$49,508 Judge Konsul \$40,369, for a total of \$89,877. The State received \$52,851 and the Town received \$37,026. That's from January to June.

Supervisor Ruso: That represents actually a rather large change in the Town's share from previous years. It looks like we'll be well under budget in that income.

Councilmember VanEtten: Barb, do you have any idea why those figures aren't on the reports?

Town Clerk Finke: I have no idea. They get the same report I do. I just haven't gotten July's yet because that's the bill.

Councilmember Downes: Before we go any further, though, did we not receive anything from the Code Enforcement Officer?

Town Clerk Finke: No, Marjorie told me today she's been working on this FOIL and Alan's on vacation this week so when he gets back...

Councilmember Downes: It's not a big deal, he usually gives it.

Councilmember VanEtten: That's one FOIL, Barb?

Town Clerk Finke: That's part of one FOIL.

Councilmember VanEtten: And we've had a ton of FOILs.

Town Clerk Finke: A very small part of, yes.

Youth, Parks and Recreation

Town Clerk Finke: 'Notice is hereby given that sealed bids to furnish and install a New Ballfield Facility at Silver Lake Park will be received by the Clerk until August 28, 2023 at 4 PM, at the Town Clerk's office, Town of New Baltimore, 3809 County Route 51, Hannacroix, New York 12087. All sealed bids will be opened at the Work Meeting on August 28, 2023 at

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7 PM and will be publicly opened and read aloud at that time.’ We received one bid today at 9:58 AM.

Elie Alfeld: How often is that ballfield used?

Supervisor Ruso: Which one?

Ellie Alfeld: Silver Lake.

Supervisor Ruso: It’s not used at all.

Councilmember VanEtten: There’s no ballfield around.

Ellie Alfeld: I realize that’s why we’re making one, but since the cricket players left have we had use of that park?

Supervisor Ruso: Not much. It’s tore up right now.

Ellie Alfeld: We’ve also put in sometimes the lavatories or porta-pots have we not or water facilities?

Supervisor Ruso: That’s not in yet, no.

Ellie Alfeld: It’s not so we have to do all of that too.

Supervisor Ruso: How much was that grant for that Park?

Deputy Supervisor Dellisanti: \$100,000.

Supervisor Ruso: Paid for with a grant. We’re trying to keep the costs, of course with contractors these days keeping those costs within that (unable to understand).

Ellie Alfeld: It just seems we spend a lot of money on our Parks and I don’t resent paying for parks that are having use okay.

Councilmember VanEtten: That’s what we have grants for.

County Legislator Linger: District 2 didn’t get used before it was redone either.

Ellie Alfeld: No, but District 2 now gets a lot of use.

Councilmember Downes: Because it was redone.

Councilmember VanEtten: But we got grants for all the Parks.

Supervisor Ruso: Well, of course, it’s the anticipation that they will be used.

Ellie Alfeld: Gotta have some kids ‘cause I don’t think we’ve got that many.

Councilmember Downes: I’ve got four buses that go past my house every day.

Ellie Alfeld: For school?

Councilmember Downes: For school.

Councilmember VanEtten: We’ve got quite a few kids now in the...

Supervisor Ruso: Well, the Park over here, they had a gate up and it was chain locked.

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Ellie Alfeld: I remember what District 2 Park was like and I know about the difference of what the play equipment cost, and how we got the money for that, but it seems that we are putting a lot of money into Parks and a lot of people don't get the use of them from the Town I mean.

Councilmember VanEtten: But a lot of people do, too. I understand that the seniors don't use the Park as much as the children.

Ellie Alfeld: The seniors don't have options for too many things.

Councilmember Boehlke: Shelly, speaking of kids, how did we make out at the Youth...?

Councilmember VanEtten: Pretty good.

Deputy Supervisor Dellisanti: Just so you know, Ellie, this field over in District 2 is 60' bases and the new field will be 90' bases because they're all graduating from 60' bases and they need another place to play. Otherwise they will be going out of Town (unable to understand). Right now they're playing in the Village of Coxsackie.

Ellie Alfeld: Is this the same outfit like the Owls and whatever?

Many speaking at once.

Eileen Vosburgh: But that's not from New Baltimore.

Councilmember Downes: It's Countywide.

Councilmember VanEtten: It's Countywide which most people think are.

Unable to Understand.

Deputy Supervisor Dellisanti: It's the Greene County Little League Organization.

Highway Superintendent VanWormer: Shelly, I got a call (unable to understand). I don't know if you're aware Russ Albertson took his kids to play at District 1 Park and said (unable to understand).

Councilmember VanEtten: I spoke to Russ, thank you. Somebody stole it.

Supervisor Ruso: Yes, someone stole some of the Park equipment particularly the seat. You know, thank you so much.

Councilmember Irving: Zip line seat.

Councilmember VanEtten: Yes.

Eileen Vosburgh: Is the Park finished?

Councilmember VanEtten: Yes.

Supervisor Ruso: There's come cleaning up, but it's done, but now we have to order another seat.

Councilmember VanEtten: Well, they should be responsible for it because it should have been installed. I'm going to talk to George about that so it shouldn't have been able to be stolen, but we'll see. I'll talk to George.

Supervisor Ruso: I don't know if people who want to steal things, they'll find a way is what I'm getting at.

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Councilmember VanEtten: We need to get cameras there because you would think that if somebody took that much time to get it undone that somebody would have saw it.

Highway Superintendent VanWormer: We had cameras at District 2 Park and they stole the cameras and never got on camera.

Councilmember VanEtten: Somebody has got to know who's doing this kind of vandalism. I mean this is ridiculous.

(An information discussion ensued regarding Pickleball courts.)

Supervisor Ruso: I've already been in contact with the Pickleball Association. We've gotten a total of \$300,000 in grants go back so that money's been well-spent and we've had a lot of donated equipment and work, volunteers have helped put together the various parts. It's all come together well with assistance of a lot of people.

Councilmember VanEtten: And parks do make the Towns desirable. People want to come to Towns that have nice parks.

Supervisor Ruso: This is the bid to do all the work at Silver Lake Park, submitted on 8/26. Let's see I'll just go down some of the places. Mobilization (Max. 5% of total) N/A; Survey & Layout for new Ballfield N/A; Concrete Foundations for concession stand & dugouts \$9,750; Cut 12" from the Infield, Screen the material to be used on the outfield/new contours \$14,400; Furnish, Install, compact & fine grade all Infield, turf & plans \$33,000; Furnish & Install all field accessories including bases, home plate, pitcher's rubber, anchors, plugs, concrete, foul poles, ball-stops, & backstop/plans N/A; Furnish & install, rough & fine grade and compact all onsite screened material added to the outfield/the new contours \$12,000; Furnish & install all seeded turf areas for the infield, outfield/the plans \$13,000; Bid Total of All Items #1-8 \$82,150. So I think what we'll have to do is we'll have to sit down and go over the details of this. Do we need approval of this today?

Town Clerk Finke: No, no.

Councilmember VanEtten: I'm curious why things are...

Supervisor Ruso: That's one of the things that we'll have to discuss. Maybe that's some of the things they can't provide and we have no other bids. Any other things that were in here, I'm just double-checking. Alright, we'll review them.

Eileen Vosburgh: Who was the contractor?

Supervisor Ruso: Bycom Inc.

From where? Do they have a home office?

Supervisor Ruso: Yes, they do, closer than you think. I saw the address.

Councilmember Downes: They're in New Baltimore.

Supervisor Ruso: 3972 Route 51, Hannacroix, NY,

TOWN OF NEW BALTIMORE, COUNTY OF GREENE

RESOLUTION 101-2023
AUGUST 28, 2023

RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE SUPERVISOR TO PAY AUDITED CLAIMS

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

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WHEREAS the Town Board has audited claims 2023b-08-01 to 2023b-08-39, it is

RESOLVED that the Supervisor is hereby authorized to pay claims 2023b-08-01 to 2023b-08-39.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Town Clerk will prepare and abstract and hold it for public review until September 30, 2023.

Motion by Supervisor Ruso seconded by Councilmember Downes

AYES: Ruso, Boehlke, Downes, Irving, VanEtten

NAYS:

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT:

Motion Carried

General \$20,327.32, Highway \$20,385.21, Sewer 1 \$2,315.98.49, Sewer 2 \$120.13, Total \$43,148.64

Upcoming Meetings

- September 6, 2023 Zoning Board of Appeals Meeting at 7:30 (If Needed)
- September 11, 2023 Town Board Regular Meeting at 7 PM
- September 14, 2023 Planning Board Meeting at 7 PM
- September 16, 2023 Townwide Yard Sale at 9 ~~PM~~ AM
- September 20, 2023 Senior Committee Picnic at Cecil Hallock Park at 12 PM
- September 25, 2023 Town Board Work Meeting at 7 PM

Public Comment/Community Events

Janet Kash: Jeff, the Budget meeting you talked about is that the one on September 25?

Supervisor Ruso: Yes

Ellie Alfeld: Two of the things I wanted to bring up before the Board. I was here at the last Board meeting and this room was almost I would say completely filled with the main project being the Highway Department and how far it was going from here. I would like to stand on the record as having at least ten years of wondering when this was going to be settled and I kept saying you people were not realistic in the amount of money you were asking these people to accept as in income to support their families and themselves. When you think of what their share of their medical insurance took and all the other things. I don't know if you know the difference between a regular truck operator or a CDL operator and what you find as being a fair income. And I mention this in many meetings prior to this that just a CDL that some of these driver had to have or needed in order to get the job cost them money every time. I don't think you're aware now of the changes that have been put upon them by the New York State Motor Vehicle even as to getting upgrades in their CDLs. That comes out of their pocket unless you can assure me that the Town is picking up the cost of this added endorsement for their licenses. I hope and I know, Jeff, that you say you have had talk with this President -- whoever he is, I don't care who he is. I want to see a definite agreement signed because every time we meet it's another two weeks that these people are waiting.

Councilmember Downes: And once again it was their choice. This is what happens when you go through negotiations, Ellie. It wasn't Jeff and Nick who were holding up negotiations.

Ellie Alfeld: I never accused any...

Councilmember Downes: That's what everybody continues to accuse us like we're holding it up. We did not hold up anything. They chose, they had a Memorandum of Agreement, they chose...

Ellie Alfeld: Kelly, I'm going back way before you even went through this having to go for the union. It was not fair ten years ago and it doesn't impact just them it impacts their whole family

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and in turn impacts me, a taxpayer because I depend on their services. That's my first gripe. I'm hoping that you'll get this thing done soon.

Councilmember Downes: Once again, it is in their lap. If they vote it down, we cannot do anything.

Ellie Alfeld: I realize that.

Councilmember VanEtten: And it wasn't just all about the money.

Councilmember Downes: Exactly.

Ellie Alfeld: Well, my second thing I want to bring up is this Champlain Hudson Power Express. I spoke to Jeff about this because it's coming our way and it may not impact I don't think anybody, well, Jeff is on the Board. Other than that it's not gonna impact any of you. This is a copy of the map that I got and when I spoke to Jeff he's got the same map. Well, I have news for you this thing you couldn't understand and read if you wanted to with a magnifying glass okay. The thing I'd like to recommend to Jeff and the rest to the Board, if you think that this is acceptable when this is what Jeff as the head of the Board has received, I think you're missing the boat. If we can expect to the Planning Board and the Board of Assessment Review and the other Boards, big maps that show you what's going on I think we should expect them to present that to us so we know since they're gonna be touching, right, Jeff, some of our properties.

Supervisor Ruso: I would like to be certain and I have reached out to the IDA multiple times who has taken this whole thing away from the Town of New Baltimore in terms of any discretion or decisions.

Ellie Alfeld: Well then I think they should stick...

Supervisor Ruso: Unfortunately, the IDA is in control of this.

Ellie Alfeld: Well, I think the IDA should come down to your property and my property and stand there and see how much destruction is gonna be going on.

Supervisor Ruso: Right. Well, that will happen soon. Thank you. It's a power project that's going along the Thruway.

Ellie Alfeld: It is coming from Canada as electric service for New York City that's the bottom line and they are going to put in underground wiring.

Supervisor Ruso: Along the railroad tracks.

Ellie Alfeld: Alright and we're not gonna get a thing out of it okay. Nothing. The other thing I've heard through the grapevine is a lot of people heard, but this isn't the end. There's another thing coming and you haven't heard it either.

Supervisor Ruso: I haven't heard it. No, no one's told me. I have one more from Deb Sottolano. Your question is 'Can you summarize the Union agreement?' It's really not overwhelmingly different than the one we had back in February. It's got more money in it. Back in February we had offered \$21.96 an hour.

Councilmember Downes: Don't we have to wait until they sign it or vote on it or no?

Supervisor Ruso: I will tell what we have before us.

Janet Kash: Kelly, just to remind you all, you detailed the MOU in the newsletter and you said that that was okay.

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Councilmember Downes: After it was rejected. There has been no vote on this contract, therefore we should not be talking about what's in it until there's a vote on it.

Supervisor Ruso: Okay, here's what I'm gonna say. We have agreed to this document. In fact we just voted on it. The variables, as I think I've pointed out, we waited for a return proposal from the Union. The last proposal we submitted I think it was February, March?

Deputy Supervisor Dellisanti: March 20.

Supervisor Ruso: We never got an answer; it was their turn to respond. So the dollars aren't overwhelmingly different. I believe the starting salaries will be \$23.25 an hour. Is that right, do I remember it right? And we actually settled for a little bit less and at the last minute the Town Board actually threw in a little bit more. So there's also longevity pay and pretty much it.

Debra Sottolano: Back wages from the retro?

Supervisor Ruso: Oh, yeah, there's retro. It does change the title of one person sometime after when this contract is signed would become the Foreman. The Deputy Highway Superintendent position will continue to exist, but will not be funded.

Debra Sottolano: And then their increases in the original Memorandum that were expected each year?

Supervisor Ruso: The contract actually will have a 2½% wage increases for the first of this year, '25, '26. The expiration date is December 31, 2027. And it's 2½ each year subsequent to now. So that's a summary of it, that's what you asked.

Councilmember Downes: And once again this isn't definite until they have their vote and sign.

Debra Sottolano: Right, understood.

Supervisor Ruso: They have to sign. They might have for all I know. I've not been informed of it, though.

Councilmember Downes: And that's why we shouldn't be talking about it.

Debra Sottolano: And then on the website you did have an explanation of the available positions and so, but then last meeting you said until this was determined you wouldn't be able to... I didn't know if you had any interest in that job or anything.

Supervisor Ruso: Interestingly enough it does not include part-time employees in the Highway Department. I don't know if you were told that.

Debra Sottolano: Okay 'cause last time you thought that the part-time person would be escalated to whatever the Union agreement was.

Supervisor Ruso: Well, we certainly have thoughts of that nature, but we're not bound to those things for the part-time or as-needed-type people, we're not bound in the contract, it's only for full-time.

Debra Sottolano: And ultimately once it's all settled, do you have an anticipation of what the size of the crew would be that you would be planning?

Supervisor Ruso: I have no prediction of that.

Debra Sottolano: I don't know if you had any plans for the size of the crew that you would be looking for.

Supervisor Ruso: I'm sure if I predicted it will come out wrong so thank you for that. I mean I don't want to jinx it so I don't want to get too far, but we do have the agreement that we

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hammered our right here in this room, everybody was okay with it and a couple tweakings here and there and I expect it won't change but you never know. You never know. By the way the next change means we go back to the bargaining table and I hope it's not gonna be six months for the next meeting. In fact I'm confident it won't, but I don't want to predict anything.

Councilmember Downes: But the size of the crew does not change because of a contract. We already know Alan has so many people and if we don't get people to put in, so it's not something we can control. We would not just increase it and most Highway Departments are based on mileage on how many people they need and that's how many people you don't have, Alan, but you have.

Highway Superintendent VanWormer: I wish I did.

Councilmember VanEtten: But it's very hard to get employees now even private businesses.

Debra Sottolano: But I know you were going through the Budget process so I didn't know if you had an expectation of how many (unable to understand).

Supervisor Ruso: Well, of course, when you budget you budget for what they're supposed to have. You don't budget for what they have. Why would you budget for only two people if we have seven openings.

Debra Sottolano: I'm not saying you would. I'm just asking what your plan was that's all.

Supervisor Ruso: Our budget is going to have to take into consideration this, but that would be helpful if we had everything signed and done with before that budget is finalized. So we'll just have to have some work to do in the meantime.

Adjournment

Motion by Councilmember Downes seconded by Councilmember VanEtten, the meeting was adjourned at 7:54 PM

AYES: Ruso, Boehlke, Downes, Irving, VanEtten

NAYS:

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT:

Motion Carried

Supervisor Ruso: Thank you. Have a good night.

Respectfully Submitted,

Barbara M. Finke RMC
Town Clerk