

Minutes of the Town Board Meeting held on August 17, 2023 at 7:30PM

Present: Thomas Burke, Supervisor
Brandon Calore, Tyler Etzel and Timothy Finnegan, Council
Absent: Kathryn Luciani, Councilmember

Update from Engineer – Ongoing Projects:

Engineer Pitingaro provided the following update on projects they have been working on:

- Brickley Field Playground – he spoke about the type of products to choose from for the ground coverage, recommending the tile type product. Supervisor Burke noted the contractor also recommended the tile as well. He added a significant elevation to the ground needs to be done due to the flooding that is experienced at this location. Engineer Pitingaro added all of the improvements being done will be ADA compliant. Supervisor Burke noted the basketball court there is about NBA regulation size and there are plans being researched to reduce the size to enable more parking. Engineer Pitingaro stated he looked into costs for the ground surface and formal bidding will be needed. Councilmember Calore added the tiles were discussed at the Parks Committee meeting and the fact they can be replaced easily and Engineer Pitingaro stated he feels they are a sensible option.
- Ridge Road Bridge - Engineer Pitingaro stated notification was received that a grant has been awarded to the Town under their culvert program in the amount of \$2.9 million. He noted it does take some time for the grant to be received. In the meantime, an application has been made for a permanent permit due to the time needed to wait for the grant funds. The designing phases are progressing.
- Interior Work at Courthouse - Engineer Pitingaro stated one beam is not stable and needs to be replaced. When that work is done it will enable the use of the second floor for storage.
- Bathrooms at Reservoir - Engineer Pitingaro stated the roof was tested for asbestos and it needs to be removed by a specialized contractor so that it can be disposed of properly.

The full presentation can be seen here: <https://www.youtube.com/@woodburyorangecountyny6836>

Public Comment on Agenda Items:

The following individuals spoke:

- Maria Hunter asked about the Safe & Sound invoice for the Gatehouse which Supervisor Burke confirmed they are a company used at that location. Mrs. Hunter, regarding the renewal of the liability insurance, stated the Central Valley Library is listed on the policy and she asked if there would be a refund if it comes is removed and Clerk Potvin stated there would be. Mrs. Hunter then noted the Library Board minutes monthly list that the Town Board has not responded to the IMA request for the Highland Mills Library. In addition, they are doing an event on September 30 as a fundraiser for the animal shelter. She asked if the Police Department or Animal Control is aware of the fundraiser and if there has been any communication between the entities.

Comments available at the following link: <https://www.youtube.com/@woodburyorangecountyny6836>

Administrative Business:

a. Acceptance of Minutes:

Motion was offered by Councilmember Etzel, seconded by Councilmember Calore, to accept receipt of the minutes from meeting held on July 27, 2023.

ADOPTED AYES 4 Burke, Calore, Etzel, Finnegan
NOES 0

b. Approval of Abstract:

Motion was offered by Councilmember Calore, seconded by Councilmember Etzel, to approve Abstract 17 containing vouchers 231403 – 231488 and totaling \$238,945.73.

ADOPTED AYES 4 Burke, Calore, Etzel, Finnegan
NOES 0

c. Budget Modification(s):

Motion was offered by Councilmember Calore, seconded by Councilmember Finnegan, to approve modifications to the 2023 budget as follows:

- Buildings & Grounds – increasing A1620.451 (Tree Maintenance) by \$2000, A1620.452 (Vehicle Maintenance) by \$4000, A599 (Appropriated Fund Balance) by \$6000.

ADOPTED AYES 4 Burke, Calore, Etzel, Finnegan
NOES 0

d. Acceptance of Resignation – Kamren Hudson:

Motion was offered by Councilmember Calore, seconded by Councilmember Etzel, to accept the resignation of Kamren Hudson from her position of Animal Control Officer effective September 13, 2023.

ADOPTED AYES 4 Burke, Calore, Etzel, Finnegan
NOES 0

e. Appointment of Part-Time School Resource Officer:

Motion was offered by Councilmember Finnegan, seconded by Councilmember Calore, to appoint Loretta Bonney as a part-time Police Officer (SRO) with a starting rate of \$35.3875 and a start date of September 5, 2023.

ADOPTED AYES 4 Burke, Calore, Etzel, Finnegan
NOES 0

f. Appointment of Full-Time Police Officer:

Motion was offered by Councilmember Finnegan, seconded by Councilmember Calore, to appoint Michael Ambrose as a full-time Police Officer with a starting rate of \$35.3875 with a start date of September 2, 2023

ADOPTED AYES 4 Burke, Calore, Etzel, Finnegan
NOES 0

g. Appointment of Part Time Dispatcher:

Motion was offered by Councilmember Finnegan, seconded by Councilmember Calore, to appoint Nicholas Loblanco as a part-time Dispatcher with a starting rate of \$25.4418 with a start date of September 6, 2023.

ADOPTED AYES 4 Burke, Calore, Etzel, Finnegan
NOES 0

Old Business:

a. Authorize Supervisor to sign – Project Escrow Agreement:

Motion was offered by Councilmember Calore, seconded by Councilmember Finnegan, to authorize the Supervisor to sign the Project Escrow Agreement with Congregation OHR Moshe of Woodbury.

ADOPTED AYES 4 Burke, Calore, Etzel, Finnegan
NOES 0

EXTRA ITEM – Agreement for Polar Plunge:

Motion was offered by Councilmember Finnegan, seconded by Councilmember Calore, to authorize the Supervisor to sign an agreement with the Special Olympics for a “Polar Plunge” to be held in October 2023.

ADOPTED AYES 4 Burke, Calore, Etzel, Finnegan
NOES 0

New Business:

a. Authorize Supervisor to send letter – Request “No Passing” Zone on NYS Route 32:

Motion was offered by Councilmember Finnegan, seconded by Councilmember Calore, to authorize the Supervisor to send a letter to the New York State DOT regarding a no passing zone on Route 32 within Woodbury boundaries.

ADOPTED AYES 4 Burke, Calore, Etzel, Finnegan
NOES 0

b. Approve Renewal – 2023-2024 Liability Insurance Policy:

Motion was offered by Councilmember Etzel, seconded by Councilmember Calore, to approve the renewal of the 2023-2024 Liability Insurance with Marshall and Sterling.

ADOPTED AYES 4 Burke, Calore, Etzel, Finnegan
NOES 0

Department Reports/Committee Minutes:

a. Supervisor Report -

Motion was offered by Councilmember Finnegan, seconded by Councilmember Etzel, to approve the July 2023 Supervisor’s Report with receipts totaling \$1,072,530.02 and disbursements totaling \$1,421,836.43.

ADOPTED AYES 4 Burke, Calore, Etzel, Finnegan
NOES 0

b. Town Clerk’s Report – July 2023

c. Animal Control Report – July 2023

d. Police/Communications Report – Not received

e. Buildings/Grounds Report – July 2023

f. Parks and Recreation Committee Minutes – July 18, 2023

g. Library Director Report – July 2023

h. Library Board Minutes – July 12 and 25, 2023

i. Beautification Committee Minutes – July 6, 2023

j. Budget vs. Actual – July 2023

Public Comment:

The following individuals spoke:

- Elan Luding spoke about the library events held this summer: the summer reading program had more attendance this year over last year, 144 children participated in reading programs, 44 programs were held with over 1100 participants. She announced that next week is “Back to School Week” and there will be events held daily. Regarding Mrs. Hunter’s question about the library and the shelter, she clarified the library will have a table and will be collecting food donations for the shelter. Supervisor Burke stated the shelter does accept food donations but noted they do have a budget to purchase food when needed. He asked about the second annual mermaid event held at the pool recently and Mrs. Luding stated she did not have any information regarding that event.

- Jimmy Ng stated he is not present to attack anyone, but he is very vocal about his opinions to protect his family and his way of life. Regarding the properties that were proposed to be sold by Councilmember Etzel, he read the letters that were written by Mayor Giacomazza and Councilmember Etzel, but he feels we should be preserving and saving our area. He understands the views of Councilmember Etzel but feels he needs to also think ahead of what that property could become when sold as he does not want to see anymore development. He thinks it is great to bring more commerce to the area but the resources are being drained. He looked into the properties and he believes they are buffer zones.
- Maria Hunter thanked the Board for having a project escrow agreement for the eruv request proposed at a previous meeting. On Nininger/Dunderberg she saw there were poles erected and she asked the Board confirm they are not on town property. She then thanked Engineer Pitingaro, the Buildings/Grounds Department and Town Board for continually investing in upgrades to our parks. She read recently that a Board member is not in favor of spending funds to invest in our park which she disagrees with. The grant Councilmember Calore obtained from the County for \$4999 to be used to market Woodbury thru the Chamber – the Chamber sub-committee is working on it. The clock at the police station is not working properly because parts are needed to be replaced. She then noted she attended the July 25 Library Board meeting and it was uncomfortable, upsetting and she was appalled of how the Chairperson conducted herself towards a resident. Supervisor Burke stated he did speak to the individual involved with the discussion and she told him Mrs. Hunter was very helpful to her. Mrs. Hunter then announced the project the Beautification Committee is working on for the Veteran Memorial Banners to be erected in Town. The cost will be \$100 and the Beautification Committee will assume the hardware costs.

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Board Member/Department Comment:

- Director Gianzero noted tomorrow is the last day of Camp Rez. He thanked the staff that made camp a great success again this year. He thanked all the emergency services for spending a day with the campers. He then announced the “annual camp out” will be August 26 at the Reservoir. Supervisor Burke thanked Director Gianzero for all that he has done this year at the parks.
- Chief Watson thanked the Board for the appointments this evening. He believes they will be assets to Woodbury.
- Councilmember Calore thanked Attorney McKay and his team for all their help getting the agreement completed for the Polar Plunge. He thanked all the camp staff for the great program they put on this summer. He wished Mrs. Hudson the best in her future endeavors.
- Supervisor Burke congratulated one of the Parks employees on the birth of her daughter. He agrees the camp was a great event again this year.

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Adjournment:

With no further business to discuss or comments received, a motion was offered by Councilmember Etzel, seconded by Councilmember Calore, to adjourn the meeting at 8:30.

ADOPTED AYES 4 Burke, Calore, Etzel, Finnegan
NOES 0

Desiree Potvin, Town Clerk