

TOWN BOARD MEETING

August 7, 2023

6:00 P.M.

PRESENT: Councilpersons: Kevin Armstrong, Patty Wood, Leonard Govern, Luis Rodriguez-Betancourt, Supervisor Joseph Cetta, Attorney Carly Walas, Highway Superintendent, Jeff Offnick and Town Clerk Ronda Williams

OTHERS PRESENT: Rusty and Sharon Way, Walter Geidel, Pastor Wilkie

**RESOLUTION #83** **APPOINTMENT**

A motion was made by Councilman Govern, seconded by Armstrong to appoint Patricia Wood to the vacant position of Councilperson that was created upon her retirement from NYS Retirement. This appointment will be effective August 7, 2023 – December 31, 2023. Aye- Armstrong, Govern, Rodriguez-Betancourt, Cetta, Noes – 0..

FLOOR TIME:

None Requested

APPOINTMENTS:

**RESOLUTION #84** **APPOINTMENT TEMP CODE OFFICER**

A motion was made by Councilman Armstrong, seconded by Govern to appoint Stephen Dutcher as Code Enforcement Officer. to fill the vacant position created upon the resignation of Jonathan Henderson. Stephen Dutcher will receive a rate of \$25.00/hour to fill the vacant position from July 17, 2023- until one can be hired. All in favor, motion carried.

**RESOLUTION #85** **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

A motion was made by Councilman Armstrong seconded by Wood approving the minutes of July 10, 2023 as presented. All in favor, motion carried.

ASSESSOR REPORT:

**August 2023**

**Assessor's Report to Walton Town Board**

**Photos:** Ongoing. I met with 3 assessors and we exchanged information about how to upload photos. There hasn't been a resolution to the problem of not being able to add photos to the property records.

**Sales** for the year 7/2/22-6/30/23 will be updated and verified by August for use in the 2024 equalization rate. The feeling from the State is that the market values are

still increasing but not at the pace it was in 2021 and 2022. There hasn't been a decrease in market values.

**Reassessment:** Joe Cetta and I met virtually with John Wolham, Regional Director from NYS Office of Real Property Tax Services. John helped fill out a Request for Proposal form that we will use to solicit bids on a town-wide reassessment. John will continue to assist as we make decisions about what services are required.

I have joined the **MYSTATEMLS** system for a year at \$380. Our local Multiple Listing Service to access real estate listings disbanded earlier this year.

Thank you.  
Penny S. Haddad  
Respectfully submitted  
August 2, 2023, 2023

Councilman Rodriguez-Betancourt questioned the purpose of another re-evaluation. Attorney Walas explained to keep the assessed valuation at 100% and to have an equal distribution of tax.

CODE ENFORCEMENT:

Town of Walton  
Code Enforcement Office  
Stephen L. Dutcher

**Monthly Summary Report**  
Month of July 2023

Building Permits Issued	1
Building Inspections Completed	14
Fire Inspections Completed	0
Notices of Violation Issued	0
Tickets Issued	0
Certificates Issued	5
Complaints Received	0
Floodplain Development	
Permits Issued	0
CO Searches	0

DOG CONTROL REPORT:

Martin J. Way, Jr.  
Dog Control Officer, Town of Walton  
129 North Street Walton,  
New York 13856

July 2023

Dog Control Activity Summary

Complaints	12
Dogs Seized	1
Returned to Owner	1
Humane Society	0
Dangerous Dogs	0
Tickets Issued	14
Total Redemption Fees	\$10.00
Assistance, Police	1
 Mileage	 57 Miles

FEMA COORDINATOR:

TOWN OF WALTON  
FEMA COORDINATOR REPORT  
DR-4397  
August 7, 2023

Project #151549, PW#462, “Management Costs” Version #1: The final reimbursement check has been received.

All documents that were in my possession both written and electronically pertaining to disaster DR-4397 have been turned over to the Town Clerk for retention as all administrative duties are complete to the best of my knowledge.

I would like to thank you all for your support thru the process of “closing out” all of the projects. For your information, I have attached a spreadsheet of all Federal Disaster Declarations in Delaware County since 1970. There are some that were declared that the Town of Walton did not have any expenses or damages associated with, hence no reimbursement.

DECLARED EVENTS 1970 to Present in Delaware County

DATE	EVENT #	TYPE OF EVENT	DATE	EVENT #	TYPE OF EVENT
March 2020.	DR-4480	Covid-19	August 2004.	DR-1564	Severe Storm and Flooding
August 2018.	DR-4397	Severe Storm and Flooding	May 2004.	DR-1514	Severe Storm and Flooding
March 2017.	DR-4129	Winter Storm	August 2003.	EM-3186	Power Outage
May 2014.	DR-4322	Winter Storm	July 2003.	DR-1486	Severe Storm and Flooding
June 2013.	DR-4180	Severe Storm and Flooding	December 2003.	EM-3173	Snowstorm
October 2012.	EM-3351	Hurricane Sandy	February 2003.	EM-3184	Snowstorm
September 2011.	DR-4031	Tropical Storm Lee	May 2000.	EM-3155	Virus Threat
August 2011.	DR-4020	Hurricane Irene	June 1998.	DR-1233	Severe Storm and Flooding
April 2011.	DR-1993	Severe Storm and Flooding	November 1996.	DR-1148	Severe Storm and Flooding
December 2008.	DR-1827	Severe Winter Strom	January 1996.	DR-1095	Severe Storm and Flooding
			January 1996.	DR-1083	Blizzard

June 2007.	DR-1710	Severe Storm and Flooding
November 2006.	DR-1670	Severe Storm and Flooding
June 2006.	DR-1650	Severe Storm and Flooding
August 2005.	DR-3262	Hurricane Katrina
April 2005.	DR-1589	Severe Storm and Flooding
September 2004.	DR-1565	Tropical Depression Ivan

March 1993.	EM-3107	Severe Blizzard
April 1987.	DR-792	Flooding
July 1973.	DR-401	Severe Storm and Flooding
July 1970.	DR-290	Heavy Rain & Flooding

8 Before 2000

23 After 2000

SUPERINTENDENT OF HWY. REPORT:

**TOWN OF WALTON HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT**  
 25091 STATE HIGHWAY 10  
 WALTON, NY 13856  
 607-865-5120

**TO:** WALTON TOWN BOARD  
**FROM:** JEFF OFFNICK, HIGHWAY SUPERINTENDENT  
**DATE:** 8/7/2023  
**RE:** REPORT

- ✓ We have received one bid for a Broce broom.
- ✓

**RESOLUTION #86**

**PURCHASE A BROCE BROOM**

A motion was made by Councilman Govern, seconded by Wood to approve and award the purchase of a used Broce Broom from Warner Tractor Equipment in the amount of \$76,995. All in favor, motion carried.

- ✓ Recommendation to hire John Seward for the Mechanic position.

**RESOLUTION #87**

**APPOINTMENT OF HIGHWAY MACHANIC**

A motion was made by Councilwoman Wood, seconded by Armstrong to appoint John Seward as Highway Mechanic effective August 21, 2023 at the current Collective Bargaining Agreement rate and to waive the probationary wage reduction due to his years of experience. All in favor, motion carried.

- ✓ We plan to seek bids for a plow and sander for the new Ram 5500.
- ✓ Both mowers have been broken for weeks, but one has recently been fixed and is running daily.

TOWN CLERK'S REPORT:

Provided Financial Reports

SUPERVISOR'S REPORT:

Supervisor Cetta stated he has intentions to meet with Supervisors Layton and Merrill to discuss ATV travel on town roads.

Councilman Govern recommended establishing local laws prior to having a group pick up.

Councilman Armstrong suggested making the UTV's and ATV's to be registered and to pressure the State to change legislation so that DMV is on the same page to allow UTV's to become registered over a certain weight.

Supervisor Cetta stated Penny and himself have been working with John Wolham, Regional Director from NYS Office of Real Property Tax Services to develop an RFP for re-assessment services. He stated more to follow on this as we work through this process.

Supervisor Cetta informed the Board that interviews have concluded on the Code Enforcement Officer position and the matter was tabled at this time.

COMMITTEE REPORT:

Supervisor Cetta stated he is still waiting for quotes from contractors for the install of a generator at the Baptist Church for an established Red Cross Emergency Shelter. He expects them within the next week.

Supervisor Cetta thanked the Village DPW for all their help at Veterans Plaza.

Discussion took place over the former Breakey's Motors site as to whether or not the work is completed on the property and when will the transfer of title take place. Supervisor Cetta stated he would follow up with the CWC.

APPROVAL OF BILLS:

**RESOLUTION #88**

**APPROVAL OF BILLS**

A motion was made by Councilman Armstrong seconded by Rodriguez-Betancourt approving the vouchers as presented for payment. All in favor, motion carried.

General Fund A	#128-139	\$58,042.51
General OV B	#13-	\$49.98
General HWY DA	#58-63	\$2,039.39
OV HWY DB	#28-32	\$65,747.42

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

**RESOLUTION #89**

**ENTER EXECUTIVE SESSION**

A motion was made by Councilman Armstrong, seconded by Govern to enter into executive session for a matter relating to the hiring of a particular person. All in favor, motion carried.

Entered 6:30 p.m.

Closed executive session at 6:40 p.m.

As a result of executive session, the following resolution was presented.

**RESOLUTION #90**

**HIRE OF CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER**

A motion was made by Supervisor Cetta, seconded by Wood to appoint Garrett Newbauer to the position of Code Enforcement Officer at the rate of \$22.00 per hour until completion of training effective August 14, 2023. All in favor, motion carried.

With no further business before the Board, the meeting was adjourned 6:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Ronda Williams  
Town Clerk