

TOWN BOARD MEETING
Public Hearing
November 13, 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 & Sharon Way, Lillian Browne – The Reporter, Lora Barringer, Amy Young

Supervisor Cetta opened the Public Hearing for any persons wishing to speak in favor or against Local Law #1 or 2023 A Local Law of Impoundment of Dogs for Safe Keeping.

Resident Amy Young of 29521 St. Highway 10, Walton, NY approached the Board to question whether or not the Dog Control Officer would receive additional money as a result of the law and if the \$25.00 Administration fee would go back to the Humane Society. Supervisor Cetta stated that the DCO would not receive additional money and the fee would go into the General Fund. I explained that the Town is assessed a fee from the Humane Society for every dog received under the Town and Humane Society Agreement and this new fee would help offset that cost.

Ms. Young stated she did not feel the 7-day timeframe to redeem the dog was long enough. Councilwoman Wood explained that a time line has to be set and that it does not mean the Humane Society is going to be adopted out or euthanized on the 7th day.

With no further comments, Supervisor Cetta closed the hearing at 6:15 p.m.

Supervisor Cetta opened the Public Hearing for any persons wishing to speak in favor or against the 2024 Preliminary Budget at 6:15 p.m.

With no comments, the Public Hearing was closed at 6:16 p.m.

FLOOR TIME:

None Requested

RESOLUTION #112

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Councilman Armstrong seconded by Rodriguez-Betancourt approving the minutes of October 2, 2023 and October 16, 2023 as presented. All in favor, motion carried.

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: 11/9/2023
RE: REPORT

- ✓ The crew has been doing ditch and shoulder work, mowing and working on the fleet and preparing the fleet for winter operations.
- ✓ We have a few surplus items that I would recommend listing on Auctions International.

RESOLUTION #113

SUPRPLUS HIGHWAY EQUIPMNET

A motion was made by Councilwoman Wood seconded by Rodriguez-Betancourt to declare 2002 York truck mounted broom, old chainsaws, and string trimmers, a steel dump box off truck 8 as surplus, as these items are no longer in use or usable by the Highway Department. All in favor, motion carried.

RESOLUTION #114

INVENTORY OF HIGHWAY MACHINERY, TOOLS AND EQUIPMENT

A motion was made by Councilman Armstrong, seconded by Govern to accept the Inventory of Highway Machinery, Tools and Equipment as required under Highway Law, Section 142 (3). All in favor, motion carried.

Informed the Board that a truck has been at Rober Greene's for quite some time now and will call again to try and narrow down a return date.

ASSESSOR REPORT:

November 2023

Assessor's Report to Walton Town Board

Property records: There is a new multi-factor authentication process for logging into the property records housed at the County server. So far, two days in, it is working fairly well. I am getting caught up verifying sales data, ownership records, exemptions, and building permits.

Photos: Ongoing issues. There hasn't been a resolution to the problem of not being able to add photos to the property records. The State representative and the County IT disagree on the process for uploading photos to the property records.

Sales for the year 7/2/22-6/30/23 are showing an 85% assessment ratio. Prior three to five years of sales are used to create the equalization rate.

Reassessment: I am reading and comparing costs on the three proposals for reassessment that have been submitted.

Data Collection: ongoing

Thank you.

Penny S. Haddad

Respectfully submitted

November 8, 2023

Supervisor Cetta commented on the hard work that Penny has been doing.

CODE ENFORCEMENT:

Town of Walton
Code Enforcement Office
Garrett Newbauer

Monthly Summary Report
August/September 2023

Building Permits Issued	12
Building Inspections Completed	8
Fire Inspections Completed	0
Notices of Violation Issued	0
Tickets Issued	0
Certificates Issued	8
Complaints Received	0
Floodplain Development	
Permits Issued	0
CO Searches	2

DOG CONTROL REPORT:

Martin J. Way, Jr.
Dog Control Officer, Town of Walton
129 North Street Walton,
New York 13856
October 2023
Dog Control Activity Summary

Complaints	1
Dogs Seized	0
Returned to Owner	0
Humane Society	0
Dangerous Dogs	0
Tickets Issued	6
Total Redemption Fees	0
Assistance	1
Mileage	23 Miles

FEMA COORDINATOR:

No report – projects have been closed out.

TOWN CLERK'S REPORT:

I provided the Financial Reports.

Getting ready for tax season. New this year, I will be able to accept tax payments online from our BAS software.

TOWN OF WALTON
OFFICE OF TOWN CLERK
129 NORTH ST.
WALTON, NY 13856

TO: Town Board Members
FROM: Ronda Williams, Record Management Officer
DATE: November 13, 2023
SUBJECT: Obsolete Records

The following records have met the New York State Record Retention and Disposition Schedule and are no longer required to keep. Upon your approval these records will be disposed of properly.

RETENTION

FISCAL

1992-2018 years	W-9 Vendor Forms	3
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PERSONNEL/CIVIL SERVICE

1998-2000 years	Application for Employment (When applicant not hired)	3
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PUBLIC SAFETY

2004-2018 years	Individual’s Driving and Accident Records	3
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RESOLUTION #115

Motion made by Councilman Armstrong, seconded by Rodriguez-Betancourt

Roll call vote:

Aye	Nay	Councilman Armstrong
Aye	Nay	Councilwoman Wood
Aye	Nay	Councilman Govern
Aye	Nay	Councilman Rodriguez-Betancourt
Aye	Nay	Supervisor Cetta

SUPERVISOR’S REPORT:

Presented the proposed Local Law #1 of 2023, a Local Law named Impoundment of dogs for Safe Keeping.

**RESOLUTION No. 116
ADOPTION OF LOCAL LAW
NO. 1 OF 2023
ANIMALS: IMPOUNDMENT OF DOGS FOR SAFE KEEPING**

At a meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Walton, Delaware County, New York, held at 129 North Street, Walton, NY 13856, on the 13th day of November, 2023, there were:

Supervisor Joseph Cetta
Councilman Kevin Armstrong
Councilman Leonard Govern
Councilwoman Patricia Wood

Councilman Luis Rodrigue-Betancourt

Councilperson Wood offered the following resolution and moved for its adoption:

**“LOCAL LAW NO. 1 OF 2023
IMPOUNDMENT OF DOGS FOR SAFE KEEPING”**

WHEREAS, a proposed local law for Impoundment of Dogs for Safe Keeping was presented to the Town Board on October 2, 2023; and

WHEREAS, a public hearing on the proposed local law was held on November 13, 2023 at 6:00 p.m. in accordance with the notice of hearing duly posted and published in the manner prescribed by law; now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, that said local law is hereby adopted to read as follows:

In the event a dog is turned over by law enforcement to the Town of Walton Dog Control Officer for reasons of safe keeping and where no other violation of this Chapter exists and wherein law enforcement is unable to find suitable care for the dog, the Dog control Officer may assist and hold dog(s) for safe keeping at the Town’s contracted shelter for no more than seven days from the date of pick up. If the seventh day falls on a day where the owner is unable to redeem the dog(s) due to the Town Hall or Shelter being closed, the owner will be given until the next business day to redeem. The owner will be responsible for a \$25 administration fee, per dog, to the Town plus prevailing charge per shelter contract. If the owner or agent acting on the owner’s behalf does not redeem the dog and pay all fees associated with the dog’s impoundment by the close of business of the Town Hall office on the final redemption day, they will have released ownership of the dog(s) to the Town for adoption or euthanasia. The owner will be responsible for all fees and costs incurred by the Town.

This Local Law shall take effect immediately upon filing in the office of the New York State Secretary of State in accordance with Section 27 of the Municipal Home Rule Law.

On a motion by Wood, seconded by Govern, the resolution was adopted on a roll call vote, the results which follow:

Supervisor Joseph Cetta	Aye/ Nay
Councilman Kevin Armstrong	Aye/ Nay
Councilman Leonard Govern	Aye/ Nay
Councilwoman Patricia Wood	Aye/ Nay
Councilman Luis Rodrigue-Betancourt	Aye/ Nay

RESOLUTION #117

MOVE THE 2024 PRELIMINARY BUDGET TO THE 2024 BUDGET

A motion was made by Councilman Rodriguz-Betancourt, seconded by Wood to move the 2024 Preliminary Budget to the adopted 2024 Budget. All in favor, motion carried.

Letter of Support was received from Headwaters Emergency Medical Services requesting a letter of support. The Board was in agreement for Supervisor Cetta to send a letter of support for Headwaters Emergency Medical Services to establish an emergency medical service for the Stamford, Harpersfield and Kortright area. Councilman Govern stated it will be nice that they will have their own service.

Supervisor Cetta informed the Board that the CWC is ready to transfer the Breakey's property over to the Town. Councilwoman Wood question what will we be able to do with this property now? Supervisor Cetta stated we will be able to join this with the Greenspace walking trail.

Councilman Rodriguez-Betancourt expressed his concern about additional liability insurance. Attorney Walas explained that it would not require additional liability, the Town already has liability insurance.

Supervisor Cetta informed the Board that he attended a meeting in Downs ville over the ATV/UTV use on town roads. He stated that with a town law, you can't force them to join a club so a registration fee will need to be collected.

Councilman Rodriguez-Betancourt stated even with a town law, you still need to get the property owners on board. He suggested holding a meeting and invite them to ask questions and obtain information.

Councilman Govern felt there was an obligation since we allowed snowmobiles on town roads.

Councilman Armstrong stated he was in favor of this but felt there needs to be support from the State Representatives to get the DMV law changed to be able to register the UTV's. He stated he was willing to pay \$200 for a registration fee and felt that this recreation activity was very popular.

RESOLUTION #118

ACCEPT DONATION OF TABLES

A motion was made by Councilman Armstrong, seconded by Rodriguez-Betancourt to accept the donation of 5 picnic tables from Courtnie Russell. All in favor, motion carried.

COMMITTEE REPORT:

Councilwoman Wood informed the Board that Kelly Bartosh donated the Santa and bell arch to the Chamber of Commerce.

Councilman Armstrong stated he is working on a float for the Walton Town Board to participate in the Christmas Parade on November 24, 2023 at 5:30 p.m.

APPROVAL OF BILLS:

RESOLUTION #119

APPROVAL OF BILLS

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

General Fund A	#165-215	\$87,845.66
General OV B	#15-17	\$561.68
General HWY DA	#80-87	\$33,275.89
OV HWY DB	#45-47	\$29,234.02

With no further business before the Board, the meeting was adjourned 7:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Ronda Williams
Town Clerk