

TOWN BOARD MEETING

March 4, 2024

6:00 P.M.

PRESENT: Councilpersons: Kevin Armstrong, Patty Wood, Leonard Govern, Supervisor Joseph Cetta, Highway Superintendent, Jeff Offnick and Town Clerk Ronda Williams

ABSENT: Luis Rodriguez-Betancourt, Attorney Carly Walas,

OTHERS PRESENT: Rusty and Sharon Way, Cindy Ray, Rolland Boomer Bojo, Patrick White

FLOOR TIME:

UHS Delaware Valley President and Chief Executive Officer Rolland Bojo along with Community Relations Cindy Ray approached the Board with future expansion information on the hospital facility. He explained that they have applied for a transformation grant to transform health care in this area. He stated Delaware Valley Hospital is out of space and they need to expand.

Mr. Bojo explained that this expansion would offer primary and specialty care and a skills lab. Their vision would include a living facility to aid patients to live on their own before sending them home. He stated this area lacks transportation and it is hard for patients to travel outside the area to get the care they need.

He feels this grant would bring in resources and allow for employees and patients the ability to obtain specialty care without having to take a whole day off for travel. "They would be able to get this care right here in Walton."

Mr. Bojo requested a letter of support from the Town of Walton to include with their grant application. The grant request is for 20 million dollars and additional funds will need to be raised through other grants and other means to complete the project.

Cindy Ray added that this will be a game changer for health care in our area. "Improve patient care to make the quality of life better."

The Walton Board was in agreement to supply a letter of support.

**RESOLUTION #53**

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

A motion was made by Councilman Govern, seconded by Wood approving the minutes of February 12, 2024 as presented. All in favor, motion carried.

ASSESSOR REPORT:

No report

CODE ENFORCEMENT:

Town of Walton  
Code Enforcement Office  
Garrett Newbauer

**Monthly Summary Report**  
Month of February 2024

Building Permits Issued	4
Building Inspections Completed	21
Fire Inspections Completed	1
Notices of Violation Issued	0
Tickets Issued	0
Certificates Issued	3
Complaints Received	1
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  
February 2024  
Dog Control Activity Summary

Complaints	13
Dogs Seized	1
Returned to Owner	0
Humane Society	1
Dangerous Dogs	0
Tickets Issued	6
Total Redemption Fees	\$0.00
Assistance, Police	1
Mileage	61 Miles

Rusty mentioned to the Board that it is illegal to have your dog run a large, this includes the Village parks. He stated that a Village Trustee, during a Facebook post allowed for his dog to run at large. This has caused problems at Austin Lincoln with others thinking they can allow their dogs to run at large.

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:** 3/4 /2024  
**RE:** REPORT

- ✓ The crew has been plowing and sanding as needed, repairing the fleet and cutting brush.

Reported that he received a shared service agreement from the Town of Delhi.

Reported that he will be ordering a reflective double arrow sign to be placed at the Seeley Wood Spur intersection.

TOWN CLERK'S REPORT:

Financial Reports will be provided upon completion

I provided an updated ARPA report to the Board. We currently have spent \$144,903.73 awarded. We have until the end of 2024 to expend the remaining funds. We have allocated additional funds to cover the generator at the Baptist Church, funds for the flower garden at Veterans Plaza and hopefully we will have a meeting concerning the green space grant soon so that we have a better idea of what may be necessary to complete that project. Should additional funds remain, I would recommend replacing the parking lot.

Reported that I am 79% collected. For those that have not paid their taxes yet, the second notices will be mailed out the end of this month.

**RESOLUTION #54**

**USE OF FACILITY**

A motion was made by Councilman Armstrong, seconded by Govern to grant permission to the Walton Chamber of Commerce to hold a Market on the Green on the firsts Fridays starting June 7, 2024 through September 6, 2024. All in favor, motion carried.

Reported on the Talk of the Towns magazine, stating there is an interesting topic concerning Renters Chime in on Top Reasons for or against short term rentals.

**SUPERVISOR’S REPORT:**

Reported that he has spoke with Delaware County Planning Sean Leddy concerning the Green Space grant. There are many documents that will need to be completed by the Village, as the property is in the Village. He will follow up with the development of a committee with the mayor.

Reported that he was approached by Joshua Choquette from the NYS DEC. Mr. Choquette requested a verbal agreement to continue to allow the restocking program at the Old Breakey Motors property. With the Boards permission, Supervisor Cetta will sign a simple consent.

**RESOLUTION #55**

**NYS DEC FISHERY SIMPLE AGREEMENT**

A motion was made by Councilman Armstrong, seconded by Wood to grant Supervisor Cetta permission to sign a NYS DEC Fishery Simple Agreement allowing for the continued release of fish at the former Breakey Motors site. All in favor, motion carried.

Councilman Govern requested that Supervisor Cetta research option 3 – Public fishing rights easement. He felt this could be a future option.

Reported that he is looking in the refurbishing of the Village Square sign. He will reach out to a sign company for a proposal. Councilman Armstrong was in agreement as long as the businesses would buy in to advertise.

Supervisor Cetta presented a revised social media Policy to better align with the Boards desire to present information and not intended as public fora.

**TOWN OF WALTON SOCIAL MEDIA POLICIES**

**Purpose:**

The Town of Walton (the “Town”) maintains social media accounts for the purpose of communicating with the public. Social media refers to the creation and exchange of information through internet sites. Examples of social media sites include, but are not limited to: Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, and YouTube.

The Town shall establish an “official” town-wide social media site(s) and the Site Administrator, as designated by the Town Board, shall be the communications manager who shall oversee and manage social media accounts.

The Town has an overriding interest and expectation in what is published on behalf of the Town through social media and in establishing guidelines for the use of Town social media by Town officials. The Town has established the following Social Media Policies (“Policies”) for the creation and use of the Town’s social media sites.

**Content:**

The overall goal of the Town’s social media channel is to serve as an online information outsource focused on Town issues, projects, news and events, and is not intended as public fora.

The Town assumes no liability for any inaccuracies these Social Media sites may contain and does not guarantee that the Social Media sites will be uninterrupted, permanent or error-free.

The Town does not endorse any website, link, public comment or advertisement on its social media sites placed by the public or vendors and/or partners. The Town reserves the right to remove any content from its social media sites at any time.

Any individual accessing, browsing or using a Town Social Media site accepts without limitation the Town's Policies. The Town of Walton reserves the right to modify these Policies without notice. Any modification is effective immediately upon its posting on the Social Media Policy page unless otherwise stated. Continued use of a Town Social Media site following the posting of any modification shall constitute an acceptance of such modification.

All users of a Town Social Media site are also subject to the site's host's policies. The Town has no control over third-party site's policies or their modifications. The Town also has no control over content, commercial advertisements or any other postings produced by the host that appear on the Town's Social Media site as part of the site's environment.

The Town social media channels will serve to outsource news of the Town of Walton only. Any comments and/or questions or additional information on content posted to social media sites can contact the Town's Administrators located in the Town's directory at [www.townofwalton.org](http://www.townofwalton.org).

The content of Town of Walton social media sites shall only pertain to Town of Walton – sponsored or Town of Walton endorsed programs, services, and events. Content includes, but is not limited to information, photographs, videos, and hyperlinks.

All information and materials generated by the Town and provided on Town Social Media sites are the property of the Town. The Town retains copyright on all text, graphic images and other content produced by the Town and found on the page.

Any person or department who is not a Site Administrator wishing to post content to any official social media site, shall submit a request to the communications manager with all necessary information and media, including text, photos/videos and links. The communications manager has the right to approve or deny the request based on the guidelines contained herein. Only content approved by the communications manager shall be posted.

**Conduct:**

Employees representing the Town via its social media sites shall conduct themselves at all times as representatives of the Town and in accordance with the Employee Handbook and other applicable policies.

Postings may not contain any personal information, except for the names of employees whose job duties include being available for contact by the public.

Postings must contain information that is freely available to the public and not be confidential as defined by any Town policy or state or federal law.

Any employee authorized to submit items to for posting on any of the Towns's social media sites shall not express his or her own personal views or concerns through such postings. Instead, postings on any of the Town's social media sites shall only set forth facts (e.g., history of subject matter to provide access; providing relevant factual data).

The Town reserves the right to implement or remove any functionality of its social media site, when deemed appropriate by the administrators. This includes, but is not limited to, information, articles, pictures, videos or any other form of communication that is posted on the Town of Walton's social media site.

**RESOLUTION #56**

**ADOPT SOCIAL MEDIA POLICY**

A motion was made by Councilman Govern, seconded by Wood to adopt a social media Policy for the Town of Walton. All in favor, motion carried.

**COMMITTEE REPORT:**

None

**APPROVAL OF BILLS:**

**RESOLUTION #57**

**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	#32-46	\$16,039.45
General OV B	#2-	\$738.16
General HWY DA	#21-31	\$28,307.90
OV HWY DB	#3-7	\$14,863.10

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

A motion was made by Councilman Govern, seconded by Armstrong to enter into executive session for the purpose of discussing a contractual negotiation. All in favor, motion carried.

Entered 7:05 p.m.

Back in regular session at 7:45 p.m., No action to be taken

With no further business before the Board, the meeting was adjourned 7:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Ronda Williams  
Town Clerk