

TOWN BOARD MEETING

May 13, 2024

6:00 P.M.

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

ABSENT: Patty Wood

OTHERS PRESENT: Rusty and Sharon Way, Lillian Browne – The Reporter, Pastor Seneschal

FLOOR TIME:

None requested

RESOLUTION #64 APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Councilman Armstrong, seconded by Rodriguez-Betancourt approving the minutes of April 8, 2024 as presented. All in favor, motion carried.

ASSESSOR REPORT:

- The tentative roll was published and filed on May 1. The following are the estimated total taxable values for 2024 compared with the 2023 final taxable totals.

COUNTY	TOWN	SCHOOL	VILLAGE	
2024	378,405,809	376,896,744	380,744,465	133,275,892
2023	376,567,836	375,002,877	379,027,508	132,830,190
difference	+1,837,973	+1,893,867	+1,716,957	+445,702

- John Wolham has offered to attend a Board meeting and or public informational meetings held as part of the reassessment process. The end result of the reassessment process is dependent upon John’s office verifying the new assessed values as accurate. Would the Board like to have him come to the June Board meeting to be available to answer any questions about the reassessment process? He is holding the June 10th date open until he hears back from me. Please let me know if you’d like John to attend next month’s Board meeting and how long he should plan on. I’m certain he can keep the talk as long or as short as you like.
- I received 2 applications for employment as a data collector for the Town. I recommend to the Board that we hire Gina Smith-Scheidegger for the position.

A motion was made by Councilman Rodriguez-Betancourt, seconded by Govern to hire Gina Smith-Scheidegger as a Data Collector for the Town of Walton. This position will be effective May 14, 2024 – December 31, 2024 at the current budgeted rate of \$20.00 per hours up to 10 hours a week. All in favor, motion carried.

- I have heard from County IT and the County Department of Real Property Tax Services that K LW has been granted access to the County server and to Walton’s property records file. I expect we will be finalizing the format of the data mailers for residential, commercial and farm properties and submitting the .pdf files for printing to the County Department of Real Property Tax Services this week or next. I believe the mailers will be returned to Walton for posting.

CODE ENFORCEMENT:

None report provided.

Supervisor Cetta stated Garrett was away at a training this past week.

DOG CONTROL REPORT:

Martin J. Way, Jr.
 Dog Control Officer, Town of Walton
 129 North Street Walton,
 New York 13856
 April 2024
 Dog Control Activity Summary

Complaints	7
Dogs Seized	1
Returned to Owner	0
Humane Society	1
Dangerous Dogs	0
Tickets Issued	5
Total Redemption Fees	\$0.00
Assistance, Police	0
 Mileage	 6 Miles

Councilman Rodriguez-Betencourt questioned whether or not the dog attack that he witnessed and his neighbor witnessed has been taken care of. Dog Control Officer Way stated he had not received a complaint from the person that was attacked or a written complaint from anyone else.

Councilman Rodriguez-Betancourt stated that he filed a verbal complaint to the DCO. DCO Way stated in order

for it to go before the Judge in would need a written statement.

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: 5/13 /2024
RE: REPORT

- ✓ We have completed the Pines brook stream bank project.
- ✓ The crew has been mostly doing ditch and shoulder work.

Reported to the Board that the highway department has equipment that is no longer in use or needed by the department and would like to declare it surplus.

Councilman Rodriguez-Betancourt questioned the value of the equipment and that the highway department should consider holding onto some of it.

Supervisor Cetta explained that two items had previously been listed and did not sell.

Highway Superintendent Offnick explained that the department used all parts possible and the other equipment would no longer be used by the department.

RESOLUTION #66

HIGHWAY EQUIPMENT DECLARED SURPLUS

A motion was made by Councilman Armstrong, seconded by Govern to declare the following items surplus that are no longer needed by the Walton Town Highway: 2003 International Chassis, 1986 Chevy K30 pickup, 2002 York Broom (truck mounted), 1994 York Broom (tow behind), Dump body, misc. tires/rims. All in favor, motion carried.

NYSEG has made contact with Jeff Offnick concerning the request for the new electric service at the highway facility. NYSEG is requesting an easement be signed and returned prior to the work commencing.

RESOLUTION #67

NYSEG EASEMENT AGREEMENT

A motion was made by Councilman Govern, seconded by Armstrong granting Supervisor Cetta permission to sign and execute a NYSEG easement agreement for a new electric service at the highway facility. All in favor, motion carried.

TOWN CLERK’S REPORT:

Financial Reports have been provided

Reported that I am done with tax collection and have collected 92% of my total warrant. I have collected \$3,968,153.30 of my total warrant and \$327,737.32 has been returned to the Delaware County Treasurer for collection.

The online tax payments were a success. I think this technology is expected now a days and I am happy to continue to move the town forward and keep up with the changing times. I commented, to think back when I started 20 years ago, we were still making tax roll books and some tax collectors did not use computers at all.

Reported that the grant I submitted under Congressman Marc Molinaro for a proposed salt shed in the amount of \$250,000 was not successful, as they had over 100 applicants and could only award 15 projects. I will continue to look for other funding as well as work with the Congressman’s Office for help.

Upon the retirement of my deputy Gladys Jaques, I would like to appoint Tamara MacDonald as my new Deputy Town Clerk. Tamara comes with a financial background as well as good customer service skills. The salary will be per the approved 2024 budget and the hours will vary upon need.

APPOINTMENT:

RESOLUTION #68

APPROVAL OF DEPUTY TOWN CLERK

A motion was made by Councilman Armstrong, seconded by Rodriguez-Betancourt to approve Tamara MacDonald as Deputy Town Clerk effective May 14, 2024 – December 31, 2027 at the current budgeted salary of \$16.00/hour. All in favor, motion carried.

Councilman Rodriguez-Betancourt expressed his concern if the town has an exit plan in place should this employee not work out. Discussion took place as to how I handle this situation should a problem arise.

Standard Work Day and Reporting Resolution

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town of Walton hereby establishes the following as standard work days for elected and appointed officials and will report the following days worked to the New York State and Local Employees' Retirement System based on the record of activities maintained and submitted by these officials to the clerk of this body:

Title	Name	Social Security Number (Last 4 digits)	Registration Number	Standard Work Day (Hrs/day)	Term Begins/Ends	Participates in Employer's Time Keeping System (Y/N)	Days/Month (based on Record of Activities)	Tier 1 (Check only if member is in Tier 1)	Not Submitted (Check box if no record of activities completed or timekeeping system)
Elected Officials									
Highway Superintendent	Jeffrey Offnick			8	1/1/2024-12/31/2025	N	22.32		
Town Clerk/Collector	Ronda Williams			6	1/1/2024-12/31/2027	N	22.26		
Appointed Officials									
Code Officer	Garrett Newbauer			6	1/1/2024-12/31/2024	Y			
Court Clerk	Kristin Beers			6	1/1/2024-12/31/2024	Y			
Attorney	Carly Walas			6	1/1/2024-12/31/2025	N	.85		

On this 13 day of June, 2024,
Date enacted: June 13, 2024

(Signature of clerk)

I, Ronda Williams, clerk of the governing board of the Town of Walton, of the State of New York, do hereby certify that I have compared the foregoing with the original resolution passed by such board, at a legally convened meeting held on the 13 day of June, 2024 on file as part of the minutes of such meeting, and that same is a true copy thereof and the whole of such original.

I further certify that the full board, consists of 4 members, and that 5 of such members were present at such meeting and that 5 of such members voted in favor of the above resolution.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and the seal of the

(Name of Employer)

RESOLUTION #69

STANDARD WORK DAY REPORTING RESOLUTION

A motion was made by Councilman Govern, seconded by Rodriguez-Betancourt approving the 2024 Standard Work Day and Reporting Resolution. All in favor, motion carried.

SUPERVISOR'S REPORT:

APPOINTMENT:

RESOLUTION #70

APPROVAL OF ALTERNATE BAR MEMBER

A motion was made by Councilman Rodriguez-Betancourt, seconded by Govern to approve Stephen Dutcher as an alternate to the Board of Assessment Review (BAR) effective May 14, 2024 – December 31, 2024 at the current budgeted salary. All in favor, motion carried.

Supervisor Cetta provided the Board with a brief update on the Filtration Avoidance Document (FAD) stemming from a meeting at the County. They are progressing on a buffer program versus the land acquisition. He stated he had asked Shelly Johnson-Bennett to attend a future meeting to give a more detailed presentation.

Councilman Rodriguez-Betancourt questioned what Supervisor Cetta's impression was as to whether or not this buffer program is in the best interest of the County or is it favorable to the city? Supervisor Cetta stated he felt it was in the best interest of the residents of those that live in a watershed.

Councilman Rodriguez-Betancourt stated NYC has supplied many large salaries like the CWC and Soil and Water and felt the city did not have us in their best interest.

Supervisor Cetta presented a CWT Ballot and through discussion, the Board agreed to the following.

Two-Year Term:

- Eric Ball – Deputy Mayor – Village of Walton
- Glen Faulkner – Supervisor – town of Middletown
- Edward H. Snow, Sr. – Mayor – Village of Walton

Alternate:

- Ritchie Gabriel – Deputy Supervisor – Town of Andes

Councilman Rodriguez-Betancourt questioned the above names roll in the CWT. Supervisor Cetta stated they sit on the Board and represent the residents in the watershed towns or villages.

COMMITTEE REPORT:

No reports

APPROVAL OF BILLS:

RESOLUTION #71

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	#86-101	\$9,478.02
General OV B	#5-	\$87.31
General HWY DA	#39-47	\$36,646.01
OV HWY DB	#11-16	\$82,370.47

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

RESOLUTION #72

EXECUTIVE SESSION

A motion was made by Councilman Rodriguez-Betancourt, seconded by Govern to enter into executive session for the purpose of discussion negotiations. All in favor, motion carried.

Entered 6:45 p.m.

Out 7:25 p.m.

With no further business before the Board, the meeting was adjourned 7:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Ronda Williams
Town Clerk