

Catskill Town Board Committee Meeting
Catskill Town Hall
June 19, 2024 6:30 pm

PRESENT:	Patrick McCulloch,	Supervisor
	Jared Giordiano,	Councilman
	Dawn Scannapieco,	Councilwoman
	Steven Espel,	Councilman
	Brian Kozloski,	Councilman

Supervisor McCulloch opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

EXECUTIVE SESSION – Councilman Giordiano motioned to enter executive session to discuss personnel issues and invited Jamie Story and Kay Saracione into the meeting. Councilman Kozloski seconded the motion. The executive session began at 6:31 pm.

Motion to exit the executive session and resume the meeting was made by Councilman Giordiano, second Councilman Kozloski. The regular meeting reconvened 7:05 pm.

VEHICLE BID – One bid was submitted for the 2024 or newer BEV ½ ton crew cab pickup truck. RC Lacy Inc. submitted a bid in the amount of \$49,266.00. *Resolution # 70-2024 on motion of Councilwoman Scannapieco, second Councilman Espel to award the bid for the 2024 BEV to RC Lacy Inc. in the amount of \$49,266.00. Adopted 4 Yes 1 Abstention (Giordiano)*

CHPE – Rene VanSchaack gave an update on the PILOT with Champlain Hudson Power Express line which is coming through now. He reviewed segments of the PILOT agreement and the guidelines for the funds to be used, i.e., cannot be used to lower taxes. He would like to have a discussion with two board members who can report back to the board about what to use the monies for. The money will be available in 2026.

Exit 21 project – Stewarts are in a holding pattern as Verizon has a pole where the stormwater pond is and they have been unable to get a date when they will move it. The hotel project is moving forward but there is a hurdle with DEC on the sewer connection.

AMBULANCE – Supervisor McCulloch stated the amendment to the MOA for Shift Supervisor included a pay differential. He asked if the board would like to approve or table for further discussion. Tabled until the next meeting.

JUSTICE – Justice Jacobs wishes to attend the NYS Magistrate’s Conference held in Niagara Falls this year. *Resolution # 71-2024 on motion of Councilman Giordiano second Councilman Espel authorizing the Town Justices attend this year’s Magistrate’s Conference, September 22-25. Adopted Vote: 5 Yes*

RC BALLFIELD – Supervisor McCulloch received a request to use the ballfield from Joe Napolitano, Bull Dogs Baseball. They are a collegiate summer baseball team. *Resolution # 72-2024 on motion of Councilman Giordiano, second Councilwoman Scannapieco authorizing use of the RCF by Bull Dogs Baseball. Adopted Vote: 5 Yes*

PRIVELDGE OF FLOOR – CACHE (Catskill Artists and Creatives for Housing Equity) presenter Cricket Lane approached the board regarding the housing crisis (supply and affordability) and applying for a CDBG grant on behalf of the town to perform a vacancy study to determine if the Town of Catskill qualifies for the enactment of the Emergency Tenant Act of 1974. The process of applying for the grant was discussed and the first step is a public hearing. *Resolution # 73-2024 on motion of Councilman Giordiano, second Councilman Kozloski to schedule a public hearing for the purpose of hearing public comment on applying for a CDBG (Community Development Block Grant) in the amount of \$50,000 to facilitate a vacancy study in the Town of Catskill for Tuesday, July 2, 2024 at 6:30 pm, Town Hall. Adopted Vote: 5 Yes*

COMPREHENSIVE PLAN – Supervisor McCulloch asked for a motion for authorization to sign a contract with Delaware Engineering to apply for grant funds from NYSDOS which may fund up to \$100,000 with a 10% match. Resolution # 74-2024 on motion of Councilman Kozloski, second Councilman Giordiano authorizing the Supervisor sign the contract with DE to solicit grant funds from NYSDOS. Adopted Vote: 5 Yes

RESOLUTIONS – Resolution # 75-2024 on motion of Councilwoman Scannapieco, second Councilman Espel to change the employment status of Joshua Mattice from PT EMT to FT EMT effective June 30, 2024 and to promote Aaron Cook from FT AEMT to Paramedic effective June 30, 2024. Adopted Vote: 5 Yes

The Highway Superintendent has received bids for those items which were deemed surplus. Resolution # 76-2024 on motion of Councilman Giordiano, second Councilman Espel to accept the bids from Auctions International on various surplus equipment. Adopted Vote: 5 Yes

BOND – Supervisor McCulloch stated the ambulance bond's last payment will be in August. We have one ambulance on order and discussed two options to either pay for the ambulance or proceed with revaluation. Will be discussed further at the July meetings.

The capital improvement bond will be up next year and do we wish to take out another bond for improvements to the Ambulance and Senior Center buildings? Councilman Giordiano stated he is tired of dumping money in these old buildings and we should look at a new facility.

OLD BUSINESS – Supervisor McCulloch stated there are no updates on the condemned building on Route 23A. Matt is working with DEC on the demolition of the house on Cauterskill Road as there is question as whether to remove the septic tank or bury it.

COUNTY ARPA FUNDING – Supervisor McCulloch stated the county is giving towns and villages \$25,000 in ARPA funds and at the last meeting it was decided to use the money to upgrade the scoreboard at the Ricky Cramer Field. Councilman Giordiano is working on quotes.

An audience member discussed the need for public transportation. Mr. Matos stated we need county support and further discussion about the need for transportation and how to achieve it.

BOARD COMMENTS: Supervisor McCulloch mentioned the letter from Laurie Schmidt and her concerns about hot fill and the environmental impacts of Reid Mower and WB Enterprises' fill and build of dirt pads in the Leeds Flats. She has filed a formal complaint with the NYS Attorney General's Office.

Councilwoman Scannapieco wished to publicly thank Mark Haden for donating the banner done by Upstate Ink for the Senior Center. It is appreciated.

PUBLIC COMMENT – An audience member asked why the board entered executive session at the beginning of the meeting. Supervisor McCulloch stated the personnel issue needed to be addressed immediately.

Mr. Matos asked why the board decided to have their meeting on a holiday and not reschedule or cancel. Councilman Giordiano stated we hold our meetings on Election Day too and if they are not held, the next meeting is too far out. Mr. Matos asked to consider having the meeting on a different day next year as there are celebrations on Juneteenth.

With no further comment, a motion to end the meeting was made by Councilman Giordiano second by Councilman Espel. The meeting ended at 8:09 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Elizabeth Izzo
Town Clerk