

Catskill Town Board Monthly Meeting
Catskill Town Hall
November 7, 2023 6:30 PM

PRESENT: Dale Finch, Supervisor
 Patrick McCulloch, Councilman
 Jared Giordiano, Councilman
 Dawn Scannapieco, Councilwoman

Supervisor Finch opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance. He welcomed all in attendance.

PUBLIC HEARING 2024 Preliminary Budget – The Clerk read the notice.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON THE PRELIMINARY BUDGET

Notice is hereby given that the Preliminary Budget for the Town of Catskill for the fiscal year January 1, 2024 has been completed and filed in the Office of the Town Clerk, 439 Main St., Catskill, NY where it is available upon inspection by any interested person during office hours 9 am to 4 pm Monday through Friday. Further notice is given that the Town Board of the Town of Catskill will meet and review said Preliminary Budget and will hold a public hearing thereon at Town Hall, 439 Main St., Catskill, NY on Tuesday, November 7, 2023 at 6:30 pm. Pursuant to Section 108 of Town Law the proposed salaries of the following offices are hereby specified as follows: Supervisor \$16,480; Councilman (1) \$10,300; Councilman (3) \$8,240 (\$24,720 total); Town Clerk \$60,804; Highway Superintendent \$68,681. By Order of the Catskill Town Board, Elizabeth Izzo, Town Clerk

Supervisor Finch gave a brief overview of the budget. The town is \$35,000 under the tax levy limit. He feels the board did a great job with this year's budget. He stated for a house assessed at \$100,000 in the town, the tax increase is \$21.00. He asked if anyone had any questions.

Councilman McCulloch stated throughout the years the town was able to build some fund balance and this is a good budget. Councilman Giordiano stated it is another good budget. Councilwoman Scannapieco stated things are looking good. With no further comment a motion to adjourn the public hearing was made by Councilman Giordiano second by Councilwoman Scannapieco. The public hearing ended at 6:39 pm.

Regular meeting convened 6:39 pm

Supervisor Finch asked for a motion to accept the 2024 preliminary budget as the 2024 final budget. *Resolution # 107-2023 on motion of Councilman McCulloch second by Councilwoman Scannapieco to adopt the 2024 Preliminary Budget as the 2024 Final Budget. Adopted Vote: 4 Yes 1 Absent (Vosburgh)*

MINUTES:

October 3, 2023	Town Board Monthly Meeting with Public Hearings
October 10, 2023	Budget Workshop Meeting
October 12, 2023	Budget Workshop Meeting
October 18, 2023	Town Board Committee Meeting with Public Hearing and Budget Meeting

Ayes 4, Nays 0 Absent 1 (Vosburgh); carried.

CORRESPONDENCE:

October 6, 2023 memo from Shaun Groden, GC Administrator regarding County-Wide Ambulance Service review. *Supervisor Finch stated it is good to have a review.*

November 3, 2023 memo from Shaun Groden, GC Administrator requesting budgetary information from towns for the countywide ambulance system review process.

Greene County Resolution 331-23 establishing equalization rates. Town of Catskill 36.25%.

Greene County invitation Honor a Vet, Veteran of the Year Ceremony, November 7th for US Army Sgt Enrico Formica.

Notification to Municipality Office of Cannabis Management Microbusiness – Cory Clanton, 98 Wilson Rd., Crystal & Jacob Hodor, 7397 Route 9W, Alexander Farmsworth, 335 Main St., Catskill.

Letter from Young Sommer LLC regarding Champlain Hudson Power Express Extended work hours Fall of 2023.

Letter from GC Attorney Ed Kaplan regarding the Town's FOIL request related to 911 calls for 4880 Route 32, Catskill.

Notice of submission of Segment 10 EM & CP for the Champlain Hudson Power Express. Map shows 10 segment locations. Toll-free number established for questions about project. 1-800-991-2473.

Bank of Greene County 2023 annual shareholder meeting and branch, November 4, 2023.

Letter from NYSDEC regarding public comment for draft policy to implement environmental justice provisions of the statewide Climate Leadership and Protective Act – Permitting and Disadvantaged Communities available on DEC website. Town of Catskill is identified as disadvantaged for purposes of Section 7(3) CLCPA.

CONTINUING BUSINESS:

Senior Center Rental Agreement 2024– GC Human Services – *Resolution # 108-2023 on motion of Councilman Giordiano, second by Councilwoman Scannapieco authorizing the Supervisor sign the 2024 rental agreement with Greene County Human Services for use of the Robert C. Antonelli Senior Center for the meals program. Adopted Vote: 4 Yes 1 Absent (Vosburgh)*

Update – Hickory Notch Cabins/unsafe building. *Supervisor Finch stated this in the process of demolition as a demo permit was issued. We will still need to monitor and if there is no progress, by the next meeting, it will be a concern.*

NEW BUSINESS:

Memo from George June, Ambulance Administrator regarding promotion of two employees and new hire for Billing Clerk position. *Resolution # 109-2023 on motion of Councilwoman Scannapieco, second by Councilman Giordiano changing the employment status of Brittany Sterritt from PT-EMT to PT-AEMT and of Aaron Cook from FT-EMT to FT-AEMT effective November 5, 2023. Adopted Vote: 4 Yes 1 Absent (Vosburgh)*

Resolution # 110-2023 on motion of Councilman McCulloch, second Councilwoman Scannapieco authoring the hiring of Stephen Darling as Part-time Ambulance Billing Clerk effective November 13, 2023. Adopted Vote: 4 Yes 1 Absent (Vosburgh)

Discussion regarding the purchase of a new ambulance in 2024. There is \$60,000 available with the potential of using ARPA monies for the balance. Resolution # 111-2023 authorizing the Supervisor to sign an intention to purchase an ambulance from North East Rescue Vehicles in 2024 at a price not to exceed \$214,675. Adopted Vote: 4 Yes 1 Absent (Vosburgh)

Memo Audre Higbee regarding Senior Citizen & Disabled Tax Maximum Income Limits. Greene County remains with the State's definition of income and has increased the maximum income limit for a 50% reduction to \$35,100. It is the recommendation of the Assessor to follow suit. *Resolution # 112-2023 on motion of Councilwoman Scannapieco, second by Councilman Giordiano to schedule a public hearing for Local Law 6-2023 Senior Citizen & Low-Income Disability Tax Exemption for Tuesday, December 5, 2023 at 6:30 pm at Town Hall. Adopted Vote: 4 Yes 1 Absent (Vosburgh)*

Copier Lease – Town Hall. *Councilman McCulloch reviewed the three quotes which were received and his recommendation is to continue with Metroland Business Machines. Resolution # 113-2023 on motion of Councilman Giordiano, second Councilwoman Scannapieco to enter a five (5) year lease for five (5) copier machines through Metroland Business at a monthly expense of \$472/machine. Adopted Vote: 4 Yes 1 Absent (Vosburgh)*

Insurance Town Employees. *Resolution # 106-2023 on motion of Councilman Giordiano, second by Councilwoman Scannapieco to offer to eligible employees in UPSEU, CSEA, and Town, CDPHP including the 2023-2025 insurance companies as articulated in the union agreements reimbursement into a HRA covering 100% of the high deductible amount for employee, employee/child, employee/spouse, or family. Adopted Vote: 4 Yes 1 Absent (Vosburgh)*

SUPERVISOR COMMENTS:

Supervisor Finch stated at the next meeting there will be discussion regarding a permit for fences and the security upgrades at the Senior Center, approving the expenditure for the town hall renovations (*Resolution # 114-2023 on motion of Councilwoman Scannapieco second by Councilman Giordiano authoring the payment of \$1,587.24 for blacktop from Peckham for the back town parking lot. Adopted Vote: 4 Yes 1 Absent (Vosburgh)*), and updates to the employee handbook.

Supervisor Finch asked if there was any public comment. Tiffany, representing the Daily Mail, asked the board how they felt about the budget passing. Councilwoman Scannapieco stated it is an excellent budget. Supervisor Finch stated the budget is a lot of hard work and feels the fund balance is healthy and the revenue stream good and he hopes this can continue in the future.

With no further comment a motion to end the meeting was made by Councilman Giordiano second by Councilman McCulloch. Meeting ended 7:11 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Elizabeth Izzo
Town Clerk