## TOWN OF NEW BALTIMORE, COUNTY OF GREENE REGULAR TOWN BOARD MEETING

### DECEMBER 10, 2018 AGENDA

## Please turn off all cell phones and electronic devices.

## **Pledge of Allegiance**

# Update by Robert Flores from Delaware Engineering on Wastewater Treatment Plant Upgrade Bid Opening Today at 1PM

## **Approval of Minutes**

- November 26, 2018 Town Board Work Meeting
- December 6, 2018 Town Board Special Meeting

# **Public Comment Period**

## New Business

- Resolution Authorizing Supervisor to Execute Agreement with Columbia-Greene Humane Society
- Resolution to Set Organizational Meeting Date
- Motion to Close Town Hall at 12:00 PM on December 24, 2018
- Discussion on Justice Court Grant
- Audit of Claims

# **Upcoming Meetings**

- December 25, 2018 Happy Holiday
- December 26, 2018 Town Board Work Meeting at 7 PM
- January 1, 2019 Town Board Organizational Meeting at 2 PM
- January 2, 2019 Zoning Board of Appeals Meeting at 7:30 PM If Needed
- January 10, 2018 Planning Board Meeting at 7 PM
- January 14, 2019 Town Board Regular Meeting at 7 PM
- January 21, 2019 Town Hall Closed for Martin Luther King Day
- January 28, 2019 Town Board Work Meeting at 7 PM

## **Public Comment Period/Community Events**

## Adjournment

\*\*\*\* Agenda Subject to Change\*\*\*\*

## GUIDELINES FOR PUBLIC CONDUCT DURING TOWN BOARD MEETINGS

- 1. The Supervisor shall preside at the meetings of the Town Board. In the absence of the Supervisor, the Deputy Supervisor shall be the acting Supervisor. In the event both the Supervisor and the Deputy Supervisor are absent, the other members shall designate one of their members to act as temporary chairman. A majority of the Board shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business, but a lesser number may adjourn.
- 2. Town residents who wish to speak shall fill out a card at the entrances of the meeting room listing their name, contact information, and the subject matter in which they would like to speak. These cards will be collected prior to the beginning of the Town Board meeting and given to the Town Supervisor or Deputy Supervisor in the absence of the Supervisor.
- 3. Speakers must be recognized by the presiding officer and then proceed to the lectern and state their name and address. They must limit their remarks on official town business to up to three minutes on a given topic and may not yield any remaining time to another speaker. They must address their remarks to the Board as a body and not to any member thereof and not to other members of the audience in the form of a debate.
- 4. Speakers should present their remarks in a courteous manner and may not make disparaging remarks or personal comments about public officials, town residents, or others. All speakers will observe the commonly accepted rules of courtesy, decorum, dignity, and good taste with no cursing, swearing, clapping, booing, finger pointing, bullying, whispering, or talking that disrupts the proceedings of the business of the Town Board.
- 5. Any speaker who disregards the directives of the presiding officer in enforcing the rules, disturbs the peace at a meeting, makes impertinent or slanderous remarks, or generally conducts themselves in an inappropriate manner shall be barred from further participation and will forfeit any balance of time remaining for their comments.
- 6. After a final warning, if a speaker willfully refuses to step down, the Town Supervisor shall contact the appropriate authorities to remove the speaker from the meeting room and to restore order.
- 7. The Town Supervisor, or in their absence the Deputy Supervisor, shall ensure compliance with these rules.

This policy will be amended by Majority vote of the Town Board.

## **OPENING OF REGULAR MEETING**

Supervisor Ruso opened the meeting at 7:00 PM and the Pledge of Allegiance was said. Also attending Deputy Supervisor Dellisanti, Councilmembers Briody, Irving, Van Etten, Tal Rappleyea Esq., Town Clerk Finke, and 4 members of the public who signed the attendance book. Absent: Councilmember Downes and Tax Collector Jordan

**Supervisor Ruso**: We have a treat tonight from Mr. Robert Flores from Delaware Engineering and this is to go over our Wastewater Treatment Plant Bid Opening that happened today at 1 PM. So, the floor is yours, sir.

**Robert Flores**: Thank you. I gave everybody a handout that summarizes the proposal and the bids were set up so we have two prime contractors, a General Contractor and an Electrical Contractor. So that's why you have two sheets. Really the project is driven by the General contact. So what we decided to do with the General contract is what the Electrical kind of follows. So again it tells you the dollar values right? Going back, because this project's been around awhile, you have a bond resolution which establishes your maximum amounts to spend and that you have financing, 0% on it, and then you were awarded a WIAA grant, which is 25% of that. So that's the financing package as we stand right now. So the other thing is there's a base bid and then there's a bunch of Bid Alternates because some of the things were like nice to have if there was enough money kind of things and the base bid is the core. You have to have to do it. And the way the bids were set up is the Board can award the base bid plus any combination of the Bid Alternates. If you just look at the whole row total numbers, of the low bidder for the General Contractors and Electrical Contractors, that puts us roughly \$600,000 above our bond limit, where you want to be is that right? So it's roughly equal to your grant amount so it's just perspective there. Going into it the goal was to stay within the original bond amount and kind of achieve a net savings out of the grant. The advantage of spending more money is that you would do more improvements and that would be financed at 0% which 0% in itself is an overall cost savings so it's an opportunity you won't have for awhile. So that's kind of what you give up on the one hand and the other hand we gotta stay within budget. That's kind of a decision the Board really needs to make is stay within the original capital budget, total value dollars or increase it at roughly \$600,000 and do some additional improvements. I know that's really quick to kind of pinpoint you to make a decision. So that's basically where the bids came in. I looked at the bids and came up with a recommendation for you as to award in such a way as to stay within the total dollar value budget and I don't know how familiar you are with the different components, the biggest thing that you would lose by not constructing would be the Headworks, what we call the Headworks Building. So on your bid sheets that's called Bid Alternate 2 under the General Contractor and Bid Alternate 1 under the Electrical Contractor. So the Headworks is where you remove grit and remove screenings – rags and what not that come in. So today at your Plant you have an automatic screen removal system. So that does exist today. You don't have a true grit removal system so what happens to your grit is that it ends up in your equalization tank, that's the steel tank you first see when you drive in the Plant. So your grit settles out in there. So that's what's happening today and if you build the Headworks Building, you would build something that's set up to settle the grit and then also a scoop conveyor that takes it out. So that's what you've giving up, but you can see it's a good chunk of change. Did I leave that number off?

Supervisor Ruso: You left the top line off, yes.

**Robert Flores**: The key number right, too many variations though. But for Eastman, which was the low bidder on the GC, that number is \$324.895.

Supervisor Ruso: Does that get added over on the far right too, that \$324,000?

**Robert Flores**: Let me add this up. Your total bid would be \$2,000,000 and change.

Supervisor Ruso: Basically \$324,000 on top of what you have indicated here.

Robert Flores: This one got the full, the top line's got everything filled out.

**Councilmember Briody**: Do you recall our bond was at \$1.6?

**Robert Flores**: It should be \$2.6. It's not exactly \$2.6; but it's \$2.6 something. The top line's got bid Alternate 2 in there and the overall total. This is a summary of your budget today of the project; \$2,610,00 was your bond amount. So this goes all the way back to when we fixed the Pump Station almost five years ago now. If you have any specific questions on what both contractors – Eastman and Stilsing – are contractors that are in the business, we've done several projects with them so we have no reservations of working with either one of them.

**Deputy Supervisor Dellisanti**: I have a question. The total budget was \$2,610,000 and based on what you're presenting tonight with the two vendors that you think should do the job for us is \$2.478. Is that correct? So we're underbudget. As of today, we're underbudget.

Robert Flores: Before construction starts, we would be under budget right.

Supervisor Ruso: By about \$140,000.

**Supervisor Dellisanti**: So if there are a couple of cost overruns, you still have \$140,000 in that number.

**Robert Flores**: As you can imagine if you gotta do basically \$2 million worth of construction, something's gonna come up.

Deputy Supervisor Dellisanti: Sure, it always does.

Councilmember Briody: What's a typical, 10% contingency?

**Robert Flores**: That's a reasonably number. You typically, when you do a retrofit which is what you're doing is higher than building from scratch. So 5-10 and since it's a retrofit, I would say towards the higher side.

Ellie Alfeld: Where are these outfits from?

Robert Flores: Eastman's out of Oneonta and Stilsing ...

Tal Rappleyea Esq.: Rensselaer.

Robert Flores: Rensselaer.

Eilleen Vosburgh: How much is going to be paid by the State or the Federal?

**Robert Flores**: The whole thing is going to be financed through the State which is their Clean Water State Revolving Loan Fund and 25 percent of that is grants. So 75 percent is being financed by a 0 percent loan. Of the \$2.6 million, \$625,000 of that is grant and then the difference is being financed with 0 percent interest.

Elleen Vosburgh: How many years?

Robert Flores: Thirty years. The State calls that hardship financing which you qualify for.

**Tal Rappleyea Esq.**: Then there's always a possibility of getting more grants as time goes by. It's just you gotta wait and see where you are in loans.

**Robert Flores**: I don't know if you remember, but this grant that we got here didn't exist four years ago and as soon as it was created by the State Legislature we applied.

Supervisor Ruso: Jumped on it.

**Robert Flores**: We didn't get it the first year, but got it the second year. Basically the way the grants program works, if you're not done with construction, you can keep applying.

Deputy Supervisor Dellisanti: Now for the next question, what's the construction timeframe?

**Robert Flores**: So 2019 just about everything will get built. We consider substantial completion which means you achieve beneficial use of it and then 2020 spring, they'll be some cleanup. There might be some final restoration both pavement and grass is what I foresee.

Supervisor Ruso: But operationally, we'll be done by the end of next year.

## Robert Flores: Right.

Supervisor Ruso: I heard an April start, we conversed about.

**Robert Flores**: We're actually bidding this, if you could just stand back and have the perfect bidding time, that's what we're doing. So bids came in now -- so we got really competitive bids – we got one guy a little more competitive than the rest, that worked out, so we get signed contracts -- if we wanted to we could have signed contracts by the end of this year or very beginning of next year – so the contractor can start ordering parts and all that kind of stuff.. The sooner he mobilizes, the sooner he finishes it and I know we have some equipment that's currently not working so the sooner we get going the better.

Eilleen Vosburgh: What do you anticipate the cost to the taxpayer?

**Robert Flores**: I didn't bring that number with me so the net cost per user, this is the number you're asking about. I don't have that figure in front of me.

Supervisor Ruso: It was on points and all that. Like rough is what she's looking at.

Eilleen Vosburgh: Guestimate.

Robert Flores: I'll call back tomorrow, I'll get your number, unless somebody remembers it.

**Deputy Supervisor Dellisanti**: If I recall that the number was slightly less than what the taxpayers were paying for the 35 year-old facility based on these numbers that you have at \$2.6 million.

Supervisor Ruso: It's not much less, but a couple pennies less per point.

Eilleen Vosburgh: There's really going to be no change or in addition to.

Deputy Supervisor Dellisanti: It should be flat.

**Supervisor Ruso**: Basically, we're retiring one debt and adding a new one and it's slightly less. It's like if you bought a car for \$30,000 and the next car you bought for \$28,000. You're slightly less.

**Robert Flores**: Right now what the Town has is what they call a short term loan which is a construction loan basically and that's also 0 percent interest. So that's the money you've been using to pay engineering, it's the money you'll use to pay the monthly applications with contractors and then when you're done doing that, then you'll roll into the 30 year long term loan.

Supervisor Ruso: I think the real change in the cost per point was the 0% interest.

Robert Flores: That was the big savings.

Supervisor Ruso: That was a big drop in savings that we applied for what three-four years ago.

**Robert Flores**: I don't know, does the Board have a feeling which way they'd like to go -- stick with the overall dollar budget or up the budget?

**Supervisor Ruso**: You know these outfits better than I do. What would make me do something different than the low bidder?

**Councilmember Briody**: He's asking as far as the Alternate Bid, you have to take a look and say okay are we going to stay within the \$2.6 or are we gonna expand it out to what would be \$2.77.

Councilmember VanEtten: At 0 percent financing.

**Councilmember Briody**: And I think you would have to first go after upgrading the bond.

Robert Flores: Yes, if you exceed that number, you have to redo your bond resolution.

**Councilmember Briody**: So the question comes down to if we were to assume a 10 percent contingency of overage, which is not unheard of, that's gonna be about \$164,000 more than what we were geared toward as far as the budget.

**Deputy Supervisor Dellisanti**: You have \$140,000 right now.

Councilmember Briody: The 160 is over that 140.

**Supervisor Ruso**: He's looking at 10 percent of \$2.6 million which is another \$260,000 of which \$140,000 is within that.

Councilmember Briody: Right.

**Robert Flores**: So right now we're saying based on, I forget which numbers are you looking at, the overall?

**Councilmember Briody:** I'm just using, alright to make it real clean, we're using the lowest bidder for both the GC and the Electrical contractor, but assuming that let's look at the full value, the total bid, so total bid you got \$2 million and \$500,000, so we're roughly at \$2.5 million , but if you add 10 percent overage, which is not unheard of, you're at \$2.77 which means that we would have to increase the bond by \$164,000 assuming that they stayed within that 10 percent contingency.

Robert Flores: Actually it's more than that. You're looking at this sheet here?

Councilmember Briody: I took the total amount for GC line 1 all the way out here.

Robert Flores: Because there's another \$686,000 that's already accounted for.

Councilmember VanEtten: Yeah, that's part of the grant.

Councilmember Briody: The grant you're saying.

**Robert Flores**: The numbers are very similar. So Contract 1 which was the Mill Street Pump Station and all the engineering, and bond counsel, that kind of stuff accounts for \$686,000 so on top of that you have...

**Councilmember Briody**: You're saying that \$686,000 is already off the top of that \$2.6.

Robert Flores: That's right.

Councilmember Briody: Oh, well, that makes a big difference.

Robert Flores: It's just that that number is kind of similar to the grant amount number.

**Councilmember Briody**: So we're really talking \$850K is what you're telling me.

Robert Flores: If you want to accept all the Bid Alternates on both contracts.

Councilmember Briody: That's a big difference

Robert Flores: And be safe, have contingency.

**Deputy Supervisor Dellisanti**: I thought it had the contingencies on the \$686? That's already gone.

Supervisor Ruso: That's already done.

Councilmember VanEtten: That's gone.

**Councilmember Briody**: No, I didn't realize that that \$686,000 was basically being put against that \$2.6. That's where I missed that.

Supervisor Ruso: That's money gone.

**Councilmember Briody**: So essentially what we're talking about is there's certain Bid Alternates and that we would need to really scrutinize over to get us back down to the original bond.

**Robert Flores**: Right so the number that I'm recommending to you is the combination of Bid Alternates that gets you to \$1.8 million so that you're overall \$2.478 and that would leave you a contingency for the unforeseen.

**Supervisor Ruso**: You have our General contract down to \$1.4 almost \$1.45 and you've done that by picking and choosing from the various columns.

**Robert Flores**: They're not strictly in order, so the biggest one is the one I left out on the first thing I gave you was the Bid Alternate 2 which is the Headworks, that's where I was talking about the grit removal.

**Supervisor Ruso**: So you're saying Eastman let's say for Bid Alternate 2, but when you go to some of the other columns, you're suggesting we go with the lower cost bidder like for instance Bid Alternative 5 for UV Building. You're suggesting we go to Jurson for that?

**Robert Flores**: You have to pick one, you can't like pick and choose. We have to pick a contractor and then pick an amount.

**Councilmember Briody**: So let's back up a second and walk me through. Okay Contract 2G, to get to the \$1.4 right so you take the base bid and what did we bolt on to the top of that?

Robert Flores: That's this handout.

Councilmember Briody: You basically picked Eastman, here's where you did all the...

Robert Flores: All of those numbers are Eastman then on that sheet.

**Councilmember Briody**: So we're talking about Alternate 1, 3, 5.

Councilmember VanEtten: We're taking out 2 and 4.

Councilmember Briody: Right, we've eliminated 2 and 4 to get to the \$1.44.

Councilmember VanEtten: And 6.

**Robert Flores**: 2, 4 and 6

**Councilmember Briody**: And then for the Electrical Contractor to get to \$342,000 so it looks like if you got rid of the Headworks you don't need that so that's out.

Councilmember VanEtten: We don't need 2, 4, and 6.

**Robert Flores**: The clarifier also matches, the clarifier digester matches and then Bid Alternate 5 under the Electrical contract, not a lot of money this \$14,000. It's replacing the lights inside the existing system control building so that's an option that's available to you.

**Councilmember Briody**: So that's not in this one though. Only 2 and 3 are into the base bid for the Electrical contractor.

**Robert Flores**: That's right. The Generator is kind of a big item, it goes with the Electrical work. You have an existing generator but it's the original generator for the Treatment Plant, so if we don't do it now we might end up in a situation in the next five years where you need a \$100,000 generator. The other advantage of a new generator is that you can install it at the elevation that's above the 100 year flood elevation where today your existing one is below it. It's kind of a smart thing to do. You won't be able to operate the Plant.

Councilmember Briody: Is there any risk of not having the Headworks, Bid Alt 2?

Robert Flores: The Headworks that you have today will continue in the future.

Councilmember Briody: Sediment building up in the tanks.

**Robert Flores**: So the plan which never really happened was every so often, like once a year, every two years, you drain the tank, vacuum out the grit. Now if you don't do it, like today there's like 18 inches of grit, grit throughout the whole floor, so now it's a huge job. If you did it every year, maybe it wouldn't be such a huge job.

Supervisor Ruso: What about these other items? The clarifier and...

Tal Rappleyea Esq.: The clarifier is pretty important.

**Robert Flores**: So those are the existing, it's a little misleading. You have an existing clarifier digester and we're building a new clarifier, which is part of the base bid. So this is refurbishing the building and equipment that's in it, converting what's today a clarifier into a digestor so you would end up with two digestors. So if you don't do anything, then you stay with the one digestor.

Supervisor Ruso: And what would be the shortcomings for doing that, what would be the risks?

**Robert Flores**: Well, capacity-wise, you have sufficient, because actually your equalization tank has a compartment so there's a piece of it at the bottom which is about a quarter of the tank is also a digester. You actually don't use it because you don't have enough sludge to need it, but in the future if you got to capacity then you would have it. It doesn't affect your treatment, it doesn't affect your actual capacity of the Plant, but you're doing a major investment so now would be the time to redo that building.

Supervisor Ruso: You also took off the SCADA. Can you explain that better?

**Robert Flores**: SCADA is the instrumentation, it connects all different pieces of the treatment plant into a computer. So it's all monitored and controlled into a central computer and then that computer can be, with the right password, anybody with a laptop can access. So your wastewater operator when he gets an alarm, open up his laptop, sees what's happening at the Wastewater Plant.

Councilmember Briody: So it's for remote access and remote control.

**Robert Flores**: For the type of Wastewater Plant that you have which is the old 'keep it simple,' so it's really the first thing I would recommend you not do.

Councilmember Briody: That's nice to have but not needed.

Deputy Supervisor Dellisanti: It's like a \$200,000 item.

#### Supervisor Ruso: \$184,892.

**Councilmember Briody**: Nice to have, not needed. The sediment mediation, do you have an idea roughly like if you were to clear out that thing once a year, what the cost might run?

**Robert Flores**: Basically what it comes down to is you drain the tank which you can do with your own equipment, so there's no cost for draining. Then you are left with some water and sludge. Then it's basically a septic hauler truck coming to pump it out, 2,000 gallons of a truck is like \$500. I'm just guessing let's just say you need 10 of those trucks, it could be less, but if you budgeted say somewhere \$2,000-\$3,000.

## Supervisor Ruso: Every year.

**Councilmember Briody**: So let's just say your return on investment, so if you say \$3,500 a year and what are we figuring a 30-year Plant, so you're only going to spend \$105,000 for what would be a \$400,000, so you're saving \$300,000 by pumping it out.

Supervisor Ruso: Over the course of thirty years.

Tal Rappleyea Esq.: You still have to stay on top of it.

Robert Flores: You have the electrical cost too on top of it.

**Councilmember Briody**: Right. I agree with that. I would just stick with what we got, pump it out, have it on an annual schedule.

**Councilmember Irving**: The efficiency of the Plant as far as the electrical usage is going to be, excluding that, is going to be a little bit better.

**Robert Flores**: The things we included in there to improve electrical efficiency was the new pumps come with variable frequency control drives so they can control speeds so they don't overpump and the same thing with the rotors. So the rotors in the oxidation ditch, they'll be controlled by speed based on the dissolved oxygen. So that's just basically spinning at maximum speed nonstop 24/7, slow down and speed up as needed. Actually the lights that we talked about a little while ago, which was the 5<sup>th</sup> Alternative for Electrical Contractor, that was to put in LED lights in the existing building. That's what that \$14,000 is for. If I'm reading the Board correctly, you want to stay with the original budget amount.

#### Supervisor Ruso: Prefer that, yes.

**Robert Flores**: \$2.6 million. I believe the Board understands what we're giving up by not taking all the Bid Alternates. So given that we have two contactors which are experienced on the good side and so that gives us Contract 2 is roughly \$1,449,000 and Contract 2 would be \$342,000 so that goes to that budget sheet, the smaller price of paper. So when I was looking at these numbers this afternoon that's what I would recommend to the Board. I think we crossed off the appetite to doing a bigger project.

**Supervisor Ruso**: Well we certainly want it to be adequate and we want it to be longstanding, we don't want to undercut ourselves.

**Robert Flores**: I think the other advantage of having a contingency there, the difference between the \$2.4 and \$2.6 is that as we get into construction say September and we still have extra money, if you want to call it extra money, there might be some other things we could do to improve what's not going to be fixed to help out longevity of things. So we could revisit some things.

Ellie Alfeld: You just said construction to start in September.

Robert Flores: No, once construction is well underway.

Ellie Alfeld: I just want to clarify that.

**Supervisor Ruso**: I think he was talking about the tail end of construction or approaching the tail end.

**Robert Flores**: The biggest difficulty, the most expensive piece of this construction is the new clarifiers. That's going to be a substantial excavation, digging deep next to the river so you can imagine. So once we get past that, there are things a major piece of equipment gets installed, we'll see if there's something that we can come back and revisit the things we passed. For example, you have an existing screen system so an alternative would be maybe we just replace the screen so you start off with a new one in the same place instead of a new building and everything. Again, I guess this could never stop until the end.

**Councilmember Briody**: Let me ask you a question. The Headworks Building, what happens with the sediment there?

**Robert Flores**: So there it settles into a hopper, goes through a channel, settles in the hopper, and then there's a scoop conveyor, it takes the grit from the bottom of the hopper to the top, it dumps into a wheelbarrow or dumpster and that's disposed of like regular trash.

**Supervisor Ruso**: You folks have any other questions? I think what we'll do is we'll take our paperwork and we'll all consider it, and put together a resolution on our next meeting and be prepared to vote on it. Certainly I know our two Committee members who are in charge of the Sewer Plant, and that would be Scott and Chuck, we'll take a lot of lead from yourselves. Any thoughts on that plan? Everybody okay with that?

Councilmember VanEtten: Yes, I think it's fine.

**Robert Flores**: I'll prepare the necessary paperwork too so you'll have it for your next Board meeting.

Supervisor Ruso: Alright and that will be on the 26<sup>th</sup>.

Robert Flores: You changed the date.

**Supervisor Ruso**: We moved it to Wednesday. We didn't want to do it on the 24<sup>th</sup>. Thank you, Robert, I appreciate you coming.

Robert Flores: Thank you for all the work.

#### **ADOPTION OF MINUTES**

The November 26, 2018 Town Board Work Meeting submitted by Town Clerk Finke, Moved by Supervisor Ruso and was seconded by Councilmember VanEtten. The adoption of the foregoing Motion was duly put to a vote and vote was as follows: AYES: Ruso, Briody, Irving, VanEtten NAYS: ABSTAIN: ABSENT: Downes **Motion Carried** 

The December 6, 2018 Town Board Special Meeting submitted by Town Clerk Finke, Moved by Supervisor Ruso and was seconded by Councilmember Briody. The adoption of the foregoing Motion was duly put to a vote and vote was as follows: AYES: Ruso, Briody, Irving, VanEtten NAYS: ABSTAIN: ABSENT: Downes **Motion Carried** 

## **Public Comment Period**

Ellie Alfeld: The reason I'm addressing the Board tonight is to respond to how the luncheon went for the Seniors. We had a Christmas luncheon at Pegasus with 70 people attending. I want to thank the members of the Committee for their donations along with Barbara Finke. She gave some beautiful wreaths and people were ready to fight over them. And also I'd like to thank C.A. Albright, they made monetary donation that we were able to raffle off as we do with everything. I can't thank Maria, the owner, and her staff. They're fantastic. They were in a bind that day because they had an extra ten people on the Rotary on the other side of the building show up and so they were very apologetic to us for being a little bid late. And everybody was so happy to be there. I mean the interaction. I'm so pleased because we had people from Scheller Park. We had it from Districts 3, 2, 1. We covered the whole Town as far as Seniors and we went everywhere from a 90+ years old, in fact there were two or three, to 70's and one of the comments I heard was one of the Meyer's boys got me on the side and said 'Ellie, I can't believe I'm talking to people and seeing people I haven't seen and yet they were like neighbors to me.' And that was the whole idea of this whole thing for the Seniors. I hope the Board is happy with how things turned out. I know all the Seniors were very complimentary. I look forward to next year's because the only problem we have is getting the word out and again we had more phone calls than we could handle and that's gotta be a problem we've got to fix. So, thank you very much.

Supervisor Ruso: Thank you, Ellie.

**New Business** 

#### TOWN OF NEW BALTIMORE, COUNTY OF GREENE

### **RESOLUTION 181-2018 DECEMBER 10, 2018**

## RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING SUPERVISOR TO EXECUTE AGREEMENT WITH COLUMBIA-GREENE HUMANE SOCIETY

**RESOLVED** that the Town Board does hereby authorize the Supervisor to execute an agreement with the Columbia-Greene Humane Society/SPCA for the period January 1-December 31, 2019 for shelter services at a rate of \$35 per dog per day for the first ten days of housing and \$300 will be added on the eleventh day where the dog will become responsibility of the Columbia-Greene Humane Society/SPCA.

Motion by Supervisor Ruso seconded by Councilmember VanEtten AYES: Ruso, Briody, Irving, VanEtten NAYS: ABSTAIN: ABSENT: Downes **Motion Carried** 

#### TOWN OF NEW BALTIMORE, COUNTY OF GREENE

#### **RESOLUTION 182-2018 DECEMBER 10, 2018**

#### **RESOLUTION TO SET DATE OF 2019 ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING**

**RESOLVED** that the Town Board of the Town of New Baltimore will hold the 2019 Organizational Meeting on January 1, 2019 at 2:00 PM at the Town Hall, 3809 County Route 51, Hannacroix, New York.

Motion by Supervisor Ruso seconded by Councilmember Irving AYES: Ruso, Briody, Irving, VanEtten NAYS: ABSTAIN: ABSENT: Downes **Motion Carried** 

**Supervisor Ruso**: I would like to make a Motion to close Town Hall at 12 noon on Christmas Eve, December 24, so our employees can enjoy the holidays with their families. Do I have a second?

Councilmember VanEtten: I'll second.

**Ellie Alfeld**: Why isn't it possible to close it for the whole day on the 24<sup>th</sup> since I think that's a Monday isn't it and Christmas being on Tuesday, it would give them a really good vacation and it's only costing you four hours.

Supervisor Ruso: I don't know. It really depends upon work that needs to be accomplished.

Town Clerk Finke: It's what we've done in the past.

**Supervisor Ruso**: We've always done a half day. It's a thought, but it's just contrary to what we've done for I don't know how many years.

Ellie Alfeld: Well, there's always room for changes.

**Supervisor Ruso**: Well, nevertheless, we still have a Motion on the Table. I mean if anyone wants to amend that Motion. I guess I could hear it. We actually have a Motion made and seconded. Any more discussion? What's the Board think about what was tossed about here?

Councilmember VanEtten: I wouldn't know how much they have to get done or what...

**Supervisor Ruso**: Or what is left hanging out there. Why don't we proceed with the Motion made.

AYES: Ruso, Briody, Irving, VanEtten NAYS: ABSTAIN: ABSENT: Downes **Motion Carried** 

#### **Discussion on Justice Court Grant**

**Supervisor Ruso:** We have our stuff on the Court Grant and I was anticipating someone from the Court being here tonight.

Councilmember VanEtten: Did they give us the paperwork that we asked for?

Town Clerk Finke: No.

Councilmember VanEtten: No.

**Supervisor Ruso**: Okay, that kind of leaves us behind the 8 ball on this. We've asked the Court Justices to come and join us this evening as we did last Thursday night and they're not here and last I heard that they were coming.

**Councilmember VanEtten**: I don't know. We told them what we needed, what needed to be done, it wasn't that much to be corrected and they didn't do it so.

Supervisor Ruso: I'll give a call to them again unless you want to make the call.

Councilmember VanEtten: I just talked to him on Saturday.

**Supervisor Ruso**: I guess we'll have to table that until the next meeting. It was a number of points, an explanation that we were asking the Court to provide us, the Justices to provide us. I spoke with Justice Meacham, it was two weeks ago today and we set a Special Town Board meeting that met on Thursday with the anticipation that they were going to be here and discuss the details as it relates to the Procurement Policy particularly and they didn't come. So we were anticipating them coming here tonight. So we don't have them here so I don't know what kind

of discussion we can have without them being here. So I'll reach out to them again and see if they'll come on the 26<sup>th</sup>. That's the best I can do at this point.

### **Audit of Claims**

## TOWN OF NEW BALTIMORE, COUNTY OF GREENE

#### **RESOLUTION 183-2018 DECEMBER 10, 2018**

# **RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE SUPERVISOR TO PAY AUDITED CLAIMS**

WHEREAS the Town Clerk has presented claims to the Town Board for audit and review, and

WHEREAS the Town Board has audited claims 2018-12-01 to 2018-12-52, it is

*REVOLVED* that the Supervisor is hereby authorized to pay claims 2018-12-01 to 2018-12-52,

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Town Clerk will prepare an Abstract and hold it for public review until January 31, 2019.

Motion by Supervisor Ruso seconded by Councilmember VanEtten AYES: Ruso, Briody, Irving, VanEtten NAYS: ABSTAIN: ABSENT: Downes **Motion Carried** 

General \$18,962.91, Highway \$19,692.30, Sewer 1 \$203.79, Lighting 1 \$1,674.60, Lighting 2 \$157.21, Total \$44,032.44

#### **Upcoming Meetings**

- December 25, 2018 Happy Holiday
- December 26, 2018 Town Board Work Meeting at 7 PM
- January 1, 2019 Town Board Organizational Meeting at 2 PM
- January 2, 2019 Zoning Board of Appeals Meeting at 7:30 PM If Needed
- January 10, 2018 Planning Board Meeting at 7 PM
- January 14, 2019 Town Board Regular Meeting at 7 PM
- January 21, 2019 Town Hall Closed for Martin Luther King Day
- January 28, 2019 Town Board Work Meeting at 7 PM

#### **Public Comment Period/Community Events**

**Eilleen Vosburgh**: I was not aware of any scheduled meetings for the Judges to meet with you about the Court.

Supervisor Ruso: Come here to the meeting.

**Eilleen Vosburgh**: Right I did not know that they were supposed to be coming whatever, but I just want to say is that from what I understand it's a huge amount of money, \$26,353, that was approved by the Office of Court Administration for various items. I'm sure you all know what they are. I know that the Judges repeatedly addressed different issues and resolved them and then other issues came up. I feel it would be a shame to lose out on this large chunk of money. It would benefit the Town, the whole Town. So I'm asking if the Board be able to sit with the members of the Committee, to sit with the Judges sometime this week to get everything resolved?

**Councilmember VanEtten**: I've tried to meet with the Judges. I've made an appointment that Tom cancelled on me at the last minute. I've talked to him several times. He said just email me the stuff which I did. We had a Special Meeting last Thursday; they didn't come.

Eilleen Vosburgh: Were they aware of the meeting on Thursday?

Supervisor Ruso: Well, Tom was here on the night that we set the Special Board Meeting.

Councilmember VanEtten: It's on the internet.

**Supervisor Ruso**: I kind of said 'look just please come so any of these remaining questions or concerns we can address it' so somehow or other I can't remember why but there was some reason why he couldn't make it, but we had already publicly announced the meeting, but nevertheless I do think there's enough cause to reach out again in the meantime between the next meeting and here.

**Councilmember VanEtten**: Right and I did talk to them this weekend and tell them exactly what we needed' it was only two things. It's wasn't that difficult.

Supervisor Ruso: It's only two issues.

**Councilmember VanEtten**: I still haven't. It's the same thing I've been telling them for a couple weeks and still haven't gotten it.

**Supervisor Ruso**: I think the remaining issues have to do with following of the Procurement Policy, proper bidding, and that kind of thing. Those are really the nuances of barriers.

**Eilleen Vosburgh**: The other question I have is about the budget. The budget shows that Court Grant monies were received in 2016 and 2017 and also shows that they have been expended for those year, but for this year the grant money shows the grant money coming in for 2018, however, not being expended in 2018 or budgeted in 2019. So where is the grant monies being allocated?

**Supervisor Ruso**: The expenditures have been planned to be spent in 2018. Okay back when that budget was prepared the plans was it was going to be spent in 2018 so that would be the offsetting entry. 2019, we don't know what the grant will be so I don't know what they're going to put in for for 2019. That's something that's a variable based upon what they tell me. We don't have any figures from them for 2019. And besides that their intentions or anticipations of what will be the grant, if they put together a grant proposal, and sometimes the Office of Court Administration will grant a partial, sometimes in whole, but often it's reduced based upon various items so there's no way to actually budget for 2019. It does start with them. However, I have not been informed of any grant, certainly by the time the budget was completed.

**Eilleen Vosburgh**: So are you saying that the amount of money that was allocated and given to the Town is not necessarily what they will get in the end?

Supervisor Ruso: No.

Councilmember VanEtten: For next year's grant.

**Supervisor Ruso**: You asked two questions. One was about the 2018 grant. The anticipated expenditure was for 2018. They can spend it in 2019 okay and money came in in 2018, but it can be spent in 2019. So that shall be and I expect it to be a wash. I thought you were also asking about what will be budgeted for 2019 and I don't have any figures and I didn't have it by the budgeted closeout period for 2019 and that would be something I would receive from our Court.

Eilleen Vosburgh: Alright, thank you.

Supervisor Ruso: And Mr. Eckl, last but not least. good afternoon.

Jim Eckl: Thank you. I will defer for further discussion.

Supervisor Ruso: Alright thank you. By the way thank you for coming everybody.

**Ellie Alfeld**: The Church will be having their baked ham with scalloped potatoes on Wednesday, open to the public. Reservations are requested but not necessary. Donation luncheon and it's open to the general public.

Supervisor Ruso: When is this?

Ellie Alfeld: Wednesday.

Supervisor Ruso: Two days from now.

Ellie Alfeld: Second Wednesday of every month.

Supervisor Ruso: Is that for seniors?

Ellie Alfeld: No, it's for the general public and that's you.

**Supervisor Ruso**: I'm also a senior now. Alright, well I think there's one more Motion that I'll entertain here. I don't know if anyone will help me on that.

Motion by Councilmember Briody seconded by Supervisor Ruso seconded by Councilmember VanEtten to adjourn the meeting at 7:53 PM AYES: Ruso, Briody, Irving, VanEtten NAYS: ABSTAIN: ABSENT: Downes **Motion Carried** 

Supervisor Ruso: Thank you everybody.

Respectfully Submitted,

Barbara M. Finke RMC Town Clerk