

TOWN BOARD MEETING – JANUARY 22, 2025

The Town Board Meeting was held on Wednesday, January 22, 2025 at 7:00 p.m. at the Frank D. Greco Multi-Purpose Building located on the corner of Market and Robinson Streets in the Village of Saugerties. The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance with the following members present:

Councilwoman Peg Nau
Councilwoman Leeanne Thornton
Councilman Mike Ivino
Councilman Zach Horton
Supervisor Fred Costello

PRIVILEGE OF FLOOR:

Margo McGilvrey and neighbors spoke about drainage issues in Barclay Heights, specifically 33-35 Kalina Drive. This is definitely a safety concern; this is caused by erosion with stormwater drain, hole has been getting bigger. There may be grant money available.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD:

Joanne Pagano Weber – opposed to having Brandon Schiller appointed to the Planning Board; he is very vocal regarding Winston Farm and he is rude to people who are against it. Must have dialog with these topics in the town.

Michelle Aizerstat – feels the same as previous speaker; can't be on a board if you can't listen to others opinions.

Tim Scott – is opposed to Brandon Schiller and quoted him from September 2024 meeting as saying the board is a joke. Do not appoint him.

Janet Asian – against appointment of Brandon Schiller because of name calling, bias and open support of Winston Farm project. Gave comments from Nejla Liias.

Marty Martin – different views require lots of talking; supports Brandon Schiller and the Winston Farm project.

SUPERVISOR'S COMMENTS: none

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Motion made by Supervisor Costello, seconded by Councilwoman Nau to approve the minutes of the Organizational Meeting of January 8, 2025, carried.

APPROVAL OF BILLS:

Motion made by Supervisor Costello, seconded by Councilman Ivino to approve the bills as presented, carried.

General Fund	\$550,199.33
General Outside Village	46,076.13
Highway	178,606.57
Capital Projects	244,703.00
Ambulance District	135,542.74
Lighting District	6,876.72
Sewer O&M	10,783.76
Water O&M	12,643.35
Central Hudson	32,435.24

DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS:

Ray Mayone – Market Street in Glasco has been stabilized and also has had two engineers out to investigate Kalina Drive; looking into grant money, this is a safety issue. Mowing along road and putting in new storm drains being done during the regular work week.

Greg Chorvas – brush cutting and large trees need to be taken down and contracted out; Police Department is being revamped; Village of Saugerties is using the same deicer and the Ice Rink has exceeded previous numbers of attendees.

BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Councilwoman Nau – nothing to report

Councilwoman Thornton – Repair Café is returning on February 1st; the Olympic Torch Relay will be held January 26th; CPC meets January 23rd and STAC met January 13th regarding Market Street and Simmons Court intersection.

Councilman Ivino – gave end of year Building report

Councilman Horton – CAC and CSTF met and have “housekeeping” motions on agenda tonight

MOTIONS & RESOLUTIONS:

Motion made by Councilman Ivino, seconded by Supervisor Costello to approve the retirement of Brenda Doyle from the Assessor’s Office, effective January 18, 2025.

Discussion: Supervisor Costello added that it was an honor to work with Brenda and we thank her for her 35+ years of service. Congratulations!

Vote: Adopted – 5 Yes

Motion made by Councilman Horton, seconded by Supervisor Costello to accept the resignation of Owen Miller from the Water & Sewer Department, effective January 24, 2025.

Discussion: Supervisor Costello clarified that he is going back to private enterprise.

Vote: Adopted – 5 Yes

Motion made by Councilwoman Nau, seconded by Councilman Horton to hire Darryl R. Wood as a Water & Sewer Department Laborer at a pay rate of \$25.00 per hour, effective January 21, 2025.

Discussion: Supervisor Costello added that Darryl has experience and a CDL license.

Vote: Adopted – 5 Yes

Motion made by Councilwoman Thornton, seconded by Supervisor Costello to hire Jessica Cosme as an Assessor's Aide in the Assessor's Office with a pay rate of \$23.24 per hour, effective February 3, 2025.

Vote: Adopted – 5 Yes

Motion made by Supervisor Costello, seconded by Councilman Horton to appoint Linda Armour as the Climate Smart Task Force Coordinator for 2025.

Discussion: Councilman Horton added that this should have been done at the Organizational Meeting.

Vote: Adopted – 5 Yes

Motion made by Councilman Ivino, seconded by Councilwoman Thornton to recognize Mary O'Donnell as Chairperson Emerita of the Conservation Advisory Commission for 2025.

Discussion: Councilman Horton added that Mary has been a volunteer for decades and a leader in Ulster County.

Vote: Adopted – 5 Yes

Motion made by Councilman Horton, seconded by Supervisor Costello to declare surplus and no longer of use to the Town of Saugerties two (2) fifty three foot (53') box trailers previously donated in the 1990's, as per the recommendation of the Parks & Buildings Superintendent.

Note: Box trailers when donated where used units and no serial or model numbers are evident/available.

Vote: Adopted – 5 Yes

Motion made by Councilwoman Thornton, seconded by Councilman Horton to dispose of the aforementioned box trailers via the most revenue generating means which may include metal salvage reclamation, as per the recommendation of the Parks & Buildings Superintendent.

Vote: Adopted – 5 Yes

Motion made by Councilwoman Nau, seconded by Councilman Horton to appoint the following individual Brandon Schiller to serve on the Planning Board as an alternate with a one (1) year term to expire on December 31, 2025.

Discussion: Supervisor Costello explained that the board has had conversations with folks regarding the vacancy on the Planning Board and five people were interested. Gina Kiniry went from alternate to permanent vacancy, which left the alternate open. Wanted to go with someone who has served on a town committee before. Councilman Ivino said that Brandon Schiller is retired from the Sheriff's Department with a decorated career and made sure laws were enforced. This is the 4th appointee that I have advocated for and have 100% faith in him. Councilman Horton said that he does not envy the Planning Board and ZBA positions, thank you to all for time and dedication. Supports Brandon Schiller, which has expressed interest in the Planning Board before the Winston Farm project came to light.

Vote: Adopted – 3 Yes (Councilwoman Thornton & Supervisor Costello voting No)

Motion made by Councilman Ivino, seconded by Councilman Horton to enter Executive Session to discuss discipline of a particular person or persons at 7:56 p.m., carried.

Motion made by Supervisor Costello, seconded by Councilwoman Thornton to exit Executive Session and adjourn Town Board Meeting at 9:02 p.m., carried.

NEXT SCHEDULED MEETINGS:

Wednesday, February 12, 2025

Pre-Board Meeting

6:30 p.m.

Town Board Meeting

7:00 p.m.

The meeting closed in memory of Al Hopf, Mary Ann Perks and Wayne Freer.

Town Clerk