

**TOWN OF WINDHAM
TOWN BOARD MEETING
371 State Route 296, Hensonville, NY
Website: www.townofwindhamny.com**

NOVEMBER 8, 2024

Present: Supervisor: Thomas F. Hoyt
Councilmen: Wayne Van Valin, Ian Peters, Stephen Walker & Kurt Goettsche
Town Clerk: Bonnie Poehmel

Also Present: Highway Superintendent Gary Thorington, Connor Exum (Connor recorded meeting) & Mike Ryan Mountain Eagle

Absent: Ambulance Administrator Davia Montie

The Supervisor called the meeting to order at 6:50 p.m. and opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

6:50 PM NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING UPON PRELIMINARY BUDGET: Notice is hereby given that the Preliminary Budget for the Town of Windham for the fiscal year beginning January 1, 2025 has been completed and filed in the office of the Town Clerk where it is available for inspection by any interested persons at all scheduled office hours. Further notice is hereby given that the Town Board of the Town of Windham will review said preliminary budget and hold a public hearing thereon at the Town Hall at 6:50 p.m. on November 8, 2024. At said hearing any person may be heard for or against the preliminary budget as compiled or for or against any item or items therein contained. Pursuant to section 113 of Town Law, the proposed salaries of the following Town Officers are hereby specified: Supervisor: \$17,500; 4 Councilmen: (each) \$11,250; 2 Justices: (each) \$11,500; Town Clerk: \$45,500; Highway Superintendent \$63,860; Tax Collector: \$10,000. Notice is also hereby given the Regular Town Board meeting will be held November 8, 2024 immediately following the Public Hearing for the purpose of conducting any other business that shall come before the Town Board. By Order of the Town Board Bonnie Poehmel Town Clerk Dated: October 24, 2024

Supervisor Hoyt asked if anyone had comments on the preliminary budget, hearing none the public hearing for the preliminary budget was recessed at 6:54 pm with a motion by Councilman Peters, 2nd by Councilman Van Valin, with all in favor.

Supervisor Hoyt made a motion at 7:04 pm to re-open public hearing for the preliminary budget. A motion to re-open public hearing was approved by Councilman Peters, 2nd by Councilman Van Valin, with all in favor.

Supervisor Hoyt asked if anyone had any comments on the preliminary budget. Connor Exum had a few questions. Supervisor Hoyt explained to Connor Exum. A motion to close the public hearing on the preliminary budget @ 7:06 pm was made by Councilman Peters, 2nd by Councilman Walker, with all in favor.

TOWN BOARD MEETING was opened at 7:06 pm.

THE MINUTES OF THE OCTOBER 24, 2024, TOWN BOARD MEETING were approved as typed on a motion by Councilman Goettsche, 2nd by Councilman Peters, with all in favor.

1.SGY. JAMES F. CARTER D.S.C.-VFW POST 1545 would like to request permission to hold tag day on Saturday, November 9, 2024 for Veterans Day weekend from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm at the intersection of State Route 23 and 296. A motion to approve was made by Councilman Walker, 2nd by Councilman Peters, with all in favor.

2.LOOKING FOR PERMISSION to place the Menorah for Channukah at the Centre Property. This year Channukah is December 25, 2024 through January 2, 2025 (8 days). Stephen & Ronnie Bendernagel and Jan Whiteley would like to place the Channukah on the Centre Property starting December 5, 2024 through the end of the holiday January 2025 (30 days). A motion to approve was made by Councilman Walker, 2nd by Councilman Goettsche, with all in favor.

3.TOWN BOARD RESOLUTION #130 OF 2024: to authorize the Supervisor to use \$370.07 from Unanticipated Revenue to balance the accounts in the Streetlighting Fund accordance with the Town Board Resolution #131 of 2024. A motion to adopt this resolution was made by Councilman Van Valan, 2nd by Councilman Peters, with all in favor. TOWN BOARD RESOLUTION #131 OF 2024: the following resolution was proposed to transfer funds to balance the Streetlighting District accounts. A motion to adopt this resolution was made by Councilman Peters, 2nd by Councilman Goettsche, with all in favor. TOWN BOARD RESOLUTION #132 OF 2024: the following resolution was proposed to transfer funds to balance the Sewer District accounts. A motion to adopt this resolution was made by Councilman Goettsche, 2nd by Councilman Peters, with all in favor. AMBULANCE FUND RESOLUTION #17 OF 2024: the following resolution was proposed to transfer funds to balance the Ambulance Fund accounts. A motion to adopt this resolution was made by Councilman Peters, 2nd by Councilman Goettsche, with all in favor. HIGHWAY FUND RESOLUTION #7 OF 2024: the following resolution was proposed to transfer funds to balance the Highway Fund accounts. A motion to adopt this resolution was made by Councilman Peters, 2nd by Councilman Goettsche, with all in favor. GENERAL FUND RESOLUTION #23 OF 2024: the following resolution was proposed to transfer funds to balance the General Fund accounts. A motion to adopt this resolution was made by Councilman Goettsche, 2nd by Councilman Peters, with all in favor.

WATER DISTRICT FUND RESOLUTION #8 OF 2024: the following resolution was proposed to transfer funds to balance the Water District Fund accounts. A motion to adopt this resolution was made by Councilman , 2nd by Councilman , with all in favor.

4.TOWN JUSTICE REPORT for October 2024 Justice McCarthy \$1,917.00 was noted by the Board.

5.AMBULANCE REPORT: Ambulance Administrator Davia Montie was not present. Supervisor Hoyt stated shifts are being filled without a problem.

6.ASSESSOR'S REPORT: The following report was submitted to the Town Board by Richard Tollner, Assessor. "1. Computer issues still abide in office. Some reviews and software issues addressed by NYS ORPTS. Work continues, but at times a very slow pace...Can you recommend a person or company to install the three wall brackets for my flatscreens. I can't seem to find one? 2. The office remains busy with paperwork traffic and requests. Lost a little drive around time, but not too much to slow my progress. Bette Rhoades cleared some of my filing back log with Jessica Leto recently, granting Jessica a lesson in the "assessing" world. Thanks Bette Rhoades. 3. Preparation begun for 2025 Tax Roll, cataloging and labelling by S/B/Ls, for parcels without any changes or permits, or construction. Working on generating Building Permit and CC and C of C and Demo Permits filing. Manual labor consumes a lot of labor dollars....4. Plans on next year's Taxpayer Exemption Traffic being set up, with our own postcard. Previous two years' postcards wasted over \$1,000 each year. Those postcards annually brought in phone calls from over a 100 parties, who did not need the postcard, therefore consuming my time as well as the *frustrated* taxpayer's time. This year we will send out the postcard to a few hundred VS more than 2,000 households. 5. Special Projects running successfully. We supply local businesses with RPS data and more, to promote projects, and

locations in Town of Windham over other locations. We now have cataloged our TOW Photo File's parcels by some features. Now we can assist taxpayers with views of garages or decks or construction or by time periods, or even by neighborhoods. Likely the first in the region to do so. Additionally our other efforts with applicants or inquirers wanting to build/rehab has eased stress at Planning Board meets with better educated applicants. 6. Laptop ability in my vehicle, my Toyota Tacoma has been stalled by mounting issues with the Tacoma's design, will fabricate the solution with a welder. Eventually we will have the ability to data enter and download site photos on-site.... at no new expense. This eventually will delete the need for my having to write down info then keyboard it in later. 7. Researching RPS on IPAD opportunity, more next summer 2025? Lots of questions to be answered.... before offering any recommendations....8. Years ahead on my continuing Education requirements. While NYS only allows one year advanced credits to additional volumes of courses, I have generously saved my office time and updated many taxpayers. This has kept me abreast of the latest Real Estate trends. This offers opportunity to develop a larger tax base volume which works to *decrease* tax rates."

7.HIGHWAY REPORT: Highway Superintendent Gary Thorington was present. Highway Superintendent Gary Thorington has amended the 284 Agreement (This is legal paperwork. It must match in writing what has been done). Westwind road has been reshaped and the pot holes have been repaired. The Cat skidsteer has issues with the gear box and this has been taken to Milton Cat for repair. Greene County Highway Association is having a "Pet Drive"; all food, pet supplies and monetary donations can be made to the Columbia/Greene Humane Society. Delivery will be on November 20, 2024.

8.COMMITTEE REPORT: **Councilman Walker** has attended a SWAC Meeting on October 28, 2024. **Councilmen Van Valin, Goettsche and Peters** have nothing to report on at this time. **Supervisor Hoyt** Greene County Highway is working on the paving of County Route 65 here at the blinking light in Hensonville and the lower end of County Route 65A. CD Lane Park is closed for the season. John Garzone will be closing the little league building for the season. The Police Union and the Town have come to a tentative agreement; it was good working with them.

Supervisor Hoyt would like a motion to adopt the Preliminary Budget for the Town of Windham for the fiscal year beginning January 1, 2025. A motion to approve was made by Councilman Goettsche, 2nd by Councilman Peters, with all in favor.

GENERAL FUND WARRANT #21-G contained vouchers #681-711, totaling \$31,047.76 was audited and approved for payment on a motion by Councilman Van Valin, 2nd by Councilman Goettsche, with all in favor.

HIGHWAY FUND WARRANT #21 contained vouchers #201-212, totaling \$21,143.99 was audited and approved for payment on a motion by Councilman Van Valin, 2nd by Councilman Goettsche, with all in favor.

SEWER DISTRICT FUND WARRANT #21 contained vouchers #279-295, totaling \$15,634.39 was audited and approved on a motion by Councilman Goettsche, 2nd by Councilman Van Valin, with all in favor.

STREETLIGHTING FUND WARRANT #11 contained vouchers #81-90, totaling \$1,988.78 was audited and approved for payment on a motion by Councilman Goettsche, 2nd by Councilman Van Valin, with all in favor.

AMBULANCE FUND WARRANT #21 contained vouchers #206-214, totaling \$3,593.44 was audited and approved for payment on a motion by Councilman Goettsche, 2nd by Councilman Van Valin, with all in favor.

GENERAL FUND PAYROLL WARRANT #22-P for **General** contained 7 claims, totaling \$10,196.18 was audited and approved for payment on a motion by Councilman Van Valin, 2nd by Councilman Goettsche, with all in favor. **Ambulance** payroll contained 16 claims, totaling

\$20,705.68 was audited and approved for payment on a motion by Councilman Van Valin , 2nd by Councilman Goettsche, with all in favor.

HIGHWAY PAYROLL WARRANT #22-P contained 5 claims, totaling \$9,340.37 was audited and approved for payment on a motion by Councilman Van Valin, 2nd by Councilman Goettsche, with all in favor.

SEWER DISTRICT FUND PAYROLL WARRANT #22-P contained 1 claim, totaling \$71.19 was audited and approved for payment on a motion by Councilman Goettsche, 2nd by Councilman Van Valin, with all in favor.

9.COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC: No one had any comments.

The meeting adjourned at 7:17 p.m. on a motion by Councilman Peters, 2nd by Councilman Goettsche, with all in favor.

SUPERVISOR COUNCILMAN COUNCILMAN

COUNCILMAN COUNCILMAN TOWN CLERK

