

Town Board Meeting  
October 2, 2023

The Regular Town Board Meeting of the Town of Cambridge was duly called, Monday, October 2, 2023 at Cambridge Town Hall, at 7:30 PM the following were present:

Supervisor Fedler

Councilwoman Gretchen Wilmot

Councilman Robert McIntosh

Councilman Bruce Bailey

Councilman Larry Carrino

Others present: Heather Greenawalt Town Clerk, Margaret Shaw Clerk to the Supervisor, Jonathan Shambo

Meeting called to order at 7:30 pm and the Supervisor led in the Pledge Allegiance to the Flag.

### **Audit of the bills**

General	#156 – 169	\$1,137.80
Highway	#107 – 116	\$1,186.80

### **Resolution #53**

#### **Approving of the minutes**

Councilman Bailey motioned, seconded by Councilman McIntosh to approve the minutes from September 11, 2023 Town Board meeting.

Vote:                      Ayes – 5                      Noes – 0

### **Assessor Report**

Arek Gordon the Town Assessor was at the meeting to discuss the possibilities for keeping the equalization rate at 100%. He said that the Reval was a success and that a lot of the buildings were put on the role that weren't. Sales are going up and there is a chance that will not be at 100% next year if do not do something. He is hoping that can do a small trend and keep it at 100%. The trend would possibly be an increase by 5% across the board on Assessments and then in reassessment every 4 years. He did put something into the state that would possibly be doing something. He would know more in December. It is easier to put notification into the state sooner rather than later.

Things will not be as drastic if keep up with it. Arek will keep the Board up to date as soon as he hears from the county. Councilman Carrino did ask if everything has been running smoothly with the residents? He was wondering if anything had gotten out of hand?

Things for the most part were fairly calm, few residents unhappy

### **Supervisor Report**

#### **Local Law for Tax cap Override/2024 Budget**

The Supervisor went over the things that needed to be addressed at this meeting. The Tax Cap Override Law and the 2024 Budget Public Hearing must be set. She mentioned that the Budget had to be to the Town Clerk by Sept. 30<sup>th</sup> and then presented to the Town Board by Oct. 5<sup>th</sup>. This was the plan for tonight to present the budget. Therefore, next month, Monday November 6<sup>th</sup>, the Public Hearing will be held for Local Law 5 of 2023 The Tax Cap Override at 7:30 PM. The Public Hearing for 2024 Budget will be held Monday, November 6<sup>th</sup> at 7:35 PM.

### **Assessment Services**

The Supervisor mentioned that she was in favor of hiring an Assessor away from the County. Arek Gordon the current Assessor has talked at the County and he is working with the County up till the end of the year. According to NYS Arek is our designated Assessor until 2025. The Supervisor was not sure if had to go through the Appointment policy, (would letters of intent have to be submitted and interviews held)? The County was going to increase the price per parcel to the Town, and we have gone down this road before.

### **2024 Budget**

The Town Clerk handed out the 2024 budget, it has a 5.164% increase, almost half of that was insurance increase. NYMIR, Health Insurance, there was a change in the Health Insurance because the current company was going up 13%. The Town Justice decreased to \$2400. Increase in salaries, must stay competitive with other Towns wages, need to get someone hired in the Highway Department. The Supervisor went over the budget line for line and said that if anyone had any questions to talk with her or Margaret Shaw the Clerk to the Supervisor before the November 6<sup>th</sup> meeting when the Public Hearing will be held.

- The Town Supervisor mentioned that the County Budget is not good, many State Mandates, increase in costs and State unfunded mandates.
- Councilman McIntosh asked the question on the last page of the Town Budget, the 2023 Exemption Impact Report. He was questioning how the exemptions are shifting the tax base over to the rest of the residents. The Supervisor and the Town Clerk agreed that this was a question for the Town Assessor.

### **Highway Report**

- Town Highway crew has replaced more culverts and have been ditching.
- They have done some grading and added gravel to some roads
- Continued to mow back roadsides
- Cut up some down trees and trimmed back brush
- Hauling winter sand
- Highway Superintendent attended Fall Highway School

Town Clerk Heather Greenawalt mentioned that Highway Superintendent Jim Buckley had submitted and signed the 2023 Town Highway Inventory.

### **Planning Board Report**

Planning Board meeting will be held on Thursday, October 5, 2023 after the Town Board Meeting.

- Public Hearing will be held for Copses Farm LLC. (Former owner was Pat Hepp) Tax Map #288.-1-23, 97 County Rt. 74, 100.30. Proposing to subdivide out 5.25 acres with the house
- Gerald Moppert possible subdivision on property on 382 Cobble Road. Looking to subdivide out approx. 2 acres with the house.
- Have not heard back from Pamela Landi, about whether training credit accepted.
- Next Planning Board meeting will be on Thursday, November 2, 2023 at 7:00 PM.

Town Board Meeting  
October 2, 2023

**Town Clerk Report**

- Selling many hunting licenses. DMP's are closed (Doe Permits) last day was October 1<sup>st</sup>

**Town Board**

Councilman McIntosh mentioned that he had viewed the first of the 5 Solar, Sept. 28<sup>th</sup>. He had reached out to Pamela and she said that she would get C. McIntosh access.

Councilman McIntosh asked the Supervisor about the Owkill Commons grant for the Village. He was wondering if Federal Highway funding was in that grant. The Councilman wondered if Carmen Boogle, the Village Mayor had reached out to the Supervisor?

**Privilege of the Floor**

None

Councilwoman Wilmot was wondering what percentage increase was the budget last year? Councilman McIntosh said it was 2.8 % increase?

Councilman McIntosh said they are working on editing the Model Solar Energy Law. He has heard the Town of Hoosick is having 50,000 Solar panels go in. He is wondering what the Town of Hoosick has on the books? Councilman McIntosh said that he received a packet from a Solar Company on his property, which would be \$60,000 a year for income. The Supervisor mentioned that she receives these all the time.

There being no further business before the Town Board the meeting was adjourned at 9:30 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Heather Greenawalt  
Town Clerk/Town of Cambridge