

**TOWN OF NORTH EAST  
TOWN BOARD  
REGULAR MEETING  
FEBRUARY 11, 2021**

**Councilpersons present:**

Supervisor Christopher Kennan  
Councilman Ralph Fedele  
Councilman George Kaye  
Councilman John Midwood  
Councilwoman Lana Morrison

**Councilpersons absent:**

*The February 11, 2021 meeting was held via Zoom web conference.*

**Call to Order & Pledge of Allegiance:**

Supervisor Kennan called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m. and followed with the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Acceptance of Agenda:**

**RESOLUTION #0332021  
Acceptance of Agenda**

Supervisor Kennan mentioned he wanted to remove item numbers 5 and 10 from the agenda.

**RESOLVED**, to approve the agenda as amended.

Motion by Councilman Kaye and seconded by Councilwoman Morrison.

AYES – 5 (Kennan, Fedele, Kaye, Midwood, Morrison)  
NAYS – 0

The Resolution was adopted on February 11, 2021.

**Supervisor Comments:**

- Review of the current COVID-19 statistics within Dutchess County.
- There is a website, provided by Dutchess County, pertaining to vaccine availability.
- The Town has new servers and other computer updates and is currently in the process of changing e-mail addresses. E-mail communications will be automatically forwarded to the new and more secure “.gov” e-mail addresses.
- The Town has allocated some recreation funds to the rehabilitation of the Millerton Park.

**Department and Committee Reports:**

**Police** – Supervisor Kennan stated a copy of the report will be sent to the Town Board when it is received. The report will also be available on the Village’s website.

**Highway** – Superintendent Stevens was available but did not have a report for this month.

**Assessor** – Assessor Johnson stated the exemption deadline is March 1. The Taxable Status Date, for the upcoming roll, is also March 1. The last reassessment was in 2011, so there will be wide-spread assessment changes this year. Assessor Johnson plans to make a presentation next month.

**Planning, Zoning & Building Dept.** – Reports for Zoning Board of Appeals and the Building Department were submitted to the Town Board.

**Town Clerk** – Reports were submitted to the Town Board.

**Town Board Committee Reports:**

**Highway** – Councilman Kaye stated the fencing has been added along Route 22. The sand and salt shed is working out well. The current project is working with CPL on the RFPs for the main highway building.

**Police Services** – Councilwoman Morrison stated the comments made at the public hearing on Monday were compiled for discussion at the joint committee meeting last night. Plans from other municipalities are being reviewed and three other meetings are to be held by April 1.

**Recreation** – No report.

**Cemetery** – Councilman Fedele mentioned a goal to have a \$5,000 grant from the Daughters of the American Revolution. He would also like an RFP to seek monument conservation companies to send bids. Attorney to the Town Replansky is to review the Town’s responsibility for the cemetery. Supervisor Kennan asked to review the grant application.

**Motion to Approve Supervisor to Sign Contract with Endeavor Municipal Development, Inc. for Grant Writing:**

This item was removed from the agenda.

**Motion to Approve Establishment of a Town of North East Broadband Access Advisory Committee:**

Clerk Wheeler read the following:

**RESOLUTION #0342021  
TOWN BOARD OF THE TOWN OF NORTH EAST**

**RESOLUTION CREATING THE TOWN OF NORTH EAST BROADBAND ACCESS  
ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**WHEREAS**, the Town of North East currently has significant gaps in its broadband internet coverage; and

**WHEREAS**, the Town’s recently Amended Comprehensive Plan identifies the need to help improve broadband coverage as one of its goals; and

**WHEREAS**, lack of access to the internet in this day and age, and especially during the Covid crisis, can be a significant disadvantage for families who work remotely and for children who need to attend school remotely; and

**WHEREAS**, neighboring municipalities have commenced the process of researching ways to improve broadband coverage within their borders and have indicated a willingness to share the results of their research with a comparable committee from the Town of North East; and

**WHEREAS**, a number of residents of the Town of North East have volunteered to serve on a Broadband Access Advisory Committee.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** as follows:

1. That the Town of North East hereby creates the Broadband Access Advisory Committee; and be it further
2. That this Committee shall function in an advisory capacity only.
3. That the Committee shall undertake investigation and research of ways in which the Town can improve its broadband coverage and shall perform such other functions and duties as it determines, with the advice and direction of the Town Board, are appropriate.
4. The Chairman of this Committee shall be Rich Stalzer, a resident of the Town with substantial professional expertise in this area.
5. That Andrew Stayman, John Merwin, Claire Goodman and Kristin Panzer are hereby appointed to serve on this Committee with the Town Board reserving the right to appoint such other additional members as it deems appropriate.
6. That the Committee shall periodically report back to the Town Board on its work and recommendations, but the first step shall be the conduct of a survey of the Town residents to establish and determine the amount and areas of gap in the Town's broadband coverage.

This motion was offered by Town Board member John Midwood and was seconded by Town Board member Lana Morrison.

MOTION: Councilman Midwood

SECOND: Councilwoman Morrison

SUPERVISOR KENNAN	Voted AYE
COUNCILMAN FEDELE	Voted AYE
COUNCILMAN KAYE	Voted AYE
COUNCILMAN MIDWOOD	Voted AYE
COUNCILWOMAN MORRISON	Voted AYE

The Resolution was carried by a 5-0 vote of the Town Board members on February 11, 2021.

**Presentation by Rich Stalzer on Behalf of Town Broadband Access Advisory Committee:**

Rich Stalzer spoke about his background, the meaning of broadband, as well as, the goals of the new committee.

**Motion to Approve North East Fire District for Fueling Privileges at Town Highway Garage:**

Clerk Wheeler read the following:

**RESOLUTION #0352021  
TOWN BOARD OF THE TOWN OF NORTH EAST**

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE TOWN SUPERVISOR TO EXECUTE AN  
INTERMUNICIPAL AGREEMENT FOR THE USE OF THE TOWN'S FUEL  
DISPENSING SYSTEM BY THE NORTHEAST FIRE DISTRICT**

**WHEREAS**, the Northeast Fire District has requested that the Town enter into an Intermunicipal Agreement with the Fire District to allow the Fire District to refuel certain of their Fire District vehicles at the Town's highway garage fueling station; and

**WHEREAS**, the Town Board is desirous of entering into an IMA with the Fire District for that purpose; and

**WHEREAS**, a proposed IMA has been prepared by the Attorney to the Town and presented to the Town Board which has reviewed and approved the same in form and substance; and

**WHEREAS**, the Town Board has determined that the execution of this agreement is in the best interests of the Town of North East and its citizens; and

**WHEREAS**, this is a Type II action under SEQRA which does not require environmental review.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, be it

**RESOLVED**, that the Town Board hereby authorizes the Supervisor to enter into the Intermunicipal Agreement for the use of the Town's fuel dispensing system by the North East Fire District in the same, or substantially similar, form as submitted to the Town Board for its approval.

This motion was offered by Town Board member George Kaye and was seconded by Town Board member Lana Morrison.

MOTION: Councilman Kaye

SECOND: Councilwoman Morrison

SUPERVISOR KENNAN	Voted AYE
COUNCILMAN FEDELE	Voted AYE
COUNCILMAN KAYE	Voted AYE
COUNCILMAN MIDWOOD	Voted AYE
COUNCILWOMAN MORRISON	Voted AYE

The Resolution was carried by a 5-0 vote of the Town Board members on February 11, 2021.

#### **Update on Town Insurance Renewals:**

Supervisor Kennan stated he was in contact with the insurance agent and a proposal will be submitted for the meeting in March.

#### **Discussion of Unified Solar Permit:**

This item was removed from the agenda.

#### **Public Comments Period:**

Daniel Goldhagen recommended having the ability to see County and State police reports, in addition to the Village report. After hearing about a painted swastika on a garbage can at Monday's public hearing on police reform, he also recommended working with the Dutchess County Human Rights Commission of which he is a member.

**Supervisor's Report:**

**Budget Adjustment –**

**RESOLUTION #0362021  
Approval of Budget Adjustment #1 of 2021**

**RESOLVED**, to approve Budget Adjustment #1 of 2021 as follows:

In A Fund – General Town-wide, there is an expense increase of \$3,000 minus an expense decrease of \$3,000 resulting in a net of \$0.

Motion by Councilman Fedele and seconded by Councilman Midwood.

AYES – 5 (Kennan, Fedele, Kaye, Midwood, Morrison)  
NAYS – 0

The Resolution was adopted on February 11, 2021.

**RESOLUTION #0372021  
Approval of Budget Adjustment #10 of 2020**

**RESOLVED**, to approve Budget Adjustment #10 of 2020 as follows:

In B Fund – General Town Outside, there is an expense increase of \$4,531 minus an expense decrease of \$4,531 resulting in a net of \$0.

Motion by Councilwoman Morrison and seconded by Councilman Kaye.

AYES – 5 (Kennan, Fedele, Kaye, Midwood, Morrison)  
NAYS – 0

The Resolution was adopted on February 11, 2021.

**Monthly Bills Abstract/Special Abstracts –**

**RESOLUTION #0382021  
Approval of Special Abstract Dated January 26, 2021**

**RESOLVED**, to approve Special Abstract, dated January 26, 2021, totaling \$970.53, broken down as follows:

A Fund - \$970.53

Motion by Councilman Kaye and seconded by Councilwoman Morrison.

AYES – 5 (Kennan, Fedele, Kaye, Midwood, Morrison)  
NAYS – 0

The Resolution was adopted on February 11, 2021.

**RESOLUTION #0392021  
Approval of Special Abstract Dated December 30, 2020**

**RESOLVED**, to approve Special Abstract, dated December 30, 2020, totaling \$17,199.04, broken down as follows:

A Fund - \$9,953.26  
B Fund - \$4,531.00

DB Fund - \$2,364.78  
T&A2 Escrow - \$350.00

Motion by Councilman Midwood and seconded by Councilwoman Morrison.

AYES – 5 (Kennan, Fedele, Kaye, Midwood, Morrison)  
NAYS – 0

The Resolution was adopted on February 11, 2021.

**RESOLUTION #0402021**  
**Approval of Abstract Dated February 11, 2021**

**RESOLVED**, to approve Abstract, dated February 11, 2021, totaling \$74,682.78, broken down as follows:

A Fund - \$42,345.55  
B Fund - \$23.50  
DB Fund - \$32,150.07  
Payroll T&A - \$163.66

Motion by Councilman Fedele and seconded by Councilman Kaye.

AYES – 5 (Kennan, Fedele, Kaye, Midwood, Morrison)  
NAYS – 0

The Resolution was adopted on February 11, 2021.

**Voucher Committee for March 2021 –**

The Voucher Committee for March is George Kaye and Ralph Fedele.

**Approval of Minutes from Previous Meetings:**

**RESOLUTION #0412021**  
**Approval of January 14, 2021 Minutes**

**RESOLVED**, to approve the minutes of January 14, 2021.

Motion by Councilman Midwood and seconded by Councilwoman Morrison.

AYES – 5 (Kennan, Fedele, Kaye, Midwood, Morrison)  
NAYS – 0

The Resolution was adopted on February 11, 2021.

**Meeting with Counsel, if Needed:**

**General Legal Matters** – No general legal matters.

**Executive Session** – Supervisor Kennan stated there would not be an executive session; however, there would be an attorney/client session after the meeting adjourned.

Town of North East  
Town Board  
Minutes  
February 11, 2021

**Adjournment:**

**RESOLUTION #0422021  
Adjournment of February 11, 2021 Meeting**

**RESOLVED**, to adjourn the meeting at 8:20 p.m.

Motion by Councilwoman Morrison and seconded by Councilman Kaye.

AYES – 5 (Kennan, Fedele, Kaye, Midwood, Morrison)

NAYS – 0

The Resolution was adopted on February 11, 2021.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/

Gail J. Wheeler  
Town Clerk

Approved: 03/11/2021