

**TOWN OF NORTH EAST  
TOWN BOARD  
REGULAR MEETING  
November 10, 2021**

Town Supervisor Chris Kennan called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

**Roll Call:**

Town Clerk Tilly Strauss conducted a Roll Call of Town Board members:

SUPERVISOR CHRIS KENNAN:	HERE
COUNCILMAN RALPH FEDELE:	HERE
COUNCILMAN GEORGE KAYE:	HERE
COUNCILMAN JOHN MIDWOOD:	HERE
COUNCILWOMAN LANA MORRISON:	HERE

A quorum was present.

**Acceptance of the Agenda:** A motion was made by Councilwoman Morrison, seconded by Councilman Kaye to approve the Agenda.

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

All in favor to accept the Agenda.

**Supervisor Kennan Comments:**

A Fire house meeting, to follow at 7pm, addressing the tragic fire in the Village that resulted in loss of lives and housing this week.

On November 6<sup>th</sup>, Kennan attended a meeting in Sharon, CT regarding the closing of the Sharon Hospital Maternity Unit by Nuvance Health. Sharon Hospital is very important to our community and he is proposing a resolution to express our concern about the closing, in terms that reflect our solidarity with the vigorous effort of our community neighbors and nearby towns to reverse the course of the decision.

The Village of Millerton is creating a new waste water district and working with Tighe and Bond Engineering to create a map plan for the village. We will also be creating a waste water district and down the road our two systems will be joined. We have reached out to Erin Moore, who is working with the Village, to see if she would work with us for our own Town Map Plan. The Town is hoping to work with the Village to join and operate out of the waste water plant, which the Village is going to build, in the future. A lot needs to happen before this. There are funds already in the budget with ARPA funding.

American legion has been having conversations with permission from Central Hudson to hang banners for home town heroes. This will be announced at tomorrow's Veteran's day celebration at 11am in Veteran Park.

**Department and Committee Reports:**

Police report submitted and will be posted on the Town website.

Highway Superintendent, Bob Stevens, presented the material bid results with his recommendations to be approved by the board. He reported that gravel and blacktop prices had gone up, which is not unexpected. Councilman Kaye motioned that we accept the bids, seconded by Councilman Fedele.

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AYE- 5 (Kennan, Fedele, Kaye, Midwood, Morrison)  
NAY- 0

Planning, Zoning, and Building reports were given to Board members prior to the meeting.

Town Clerk reports were given to the Town Board members prior to the meeting.

The Assessor had nothing to report.

There was no Recreation report.

The Police Services Committee reports they have reached out three times to the Village members of the committee, and not heard a word back. Supervisor Kennan said he had spoken to the Village Mayor.

The Personnel Committee reports that they are looking to revise and update the employee handbook. Hope to have it ready by the start of 2022.

**Resolution Approving the application of the Village of Millerton for a grant towards revitalization of Eddie Collins Memorial Park**

**RESOLUTION #1332021  
RESOLUTION APPROVING AND ENDORSING THE APPLICATION  
OF THE VILLAGE OF MILLERTON FOR A GRANT UNDER THE  
HUDSON RIVER VALLEY GREENWAY PLANNING GRANT PROGRAM  
TOWARDS THE PLANNING OF PHASE 2 OF THE REDEVELOPMENT OF  
MILLERTON COMMUNITY PARK**

**WHEREAS**, the Village of Millerton is applying to the Hudson River Valley Greenway for a grant under the Hudson River Valley Greenway Planning Grant Program for a project entitled Eddie Collins Memorial Park Revitalization Phase 2 Planning Project, to be located in Millerton, NY; and

**WHEREAS**, a modern, handicapped-accessible recreational park is of great importance to the residents of both the Village of Millerton and the Town of North East; and

**WHEREAS**, the Village of Millerton has and maintains Eddie Collins Memorial Park for this purpose; and

**WHEREAS**, the Village of Millerton is applying to the Hudson River Valley Greenway Grant Program for a grant in support of planning for Phase 2 of the Park's revitalization; and

**WHEREAS**, the Town of North East is in full support of the Village's efforts to redevelop and improve Eddie Collins Park.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, be it

**RESOLVED**, that the Town Board of the Town of North East, New York, hereby does approve and endorse the application for a grant under the Hudson River Valley Greenway Planning Grant Program for a project known as Eddie Collins Memorial Park Revitalization: Phase 2 Planning Project and located within this community.

This motion was offered by Town Board member Ralph Fedele and was seconded by Town Board member George Kaye.

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.

**Motion to accept Highway Dept. Irondale Rd Drainage bid from Colarusso & Sons, Inc**

The Town Board had invited sealed proposals for the furnishing of all materials and labor necessary for storm-water drainage work at the Intersection of NYS Route 22 and Irondale Road. It is a substantial project with two culverts.

Only one sealed proposal was received by the Town Clerk at the Town Hall, on October 28, 2021 at 11:00 AM. CPL (Architects, Engineers, Landscape Architect and Surveyors) reviewed the bid and recommended that the project be awarded to Colarusso & Sons, Inc. in the amount of \$65,800. Colarusso has worked with the Town in the past on numerous projects. All portions of the bid prepared by the contractor appear to have been correctly executed.

A Motion to accept the bid from Colarusso & Sons was made by Councilman Midwood and seconded by Councilwoman Morrison.

SUPERVISOR CHRISTOPHER KENNAN	Voted AYE
COUNCILMAN RALPH FEDELE	Voted AYE
COUNCILMAN GEORGE KAYE	Voted AYE
COUNCILMAN JOHN MIDWOOD	Voted AYE
COUNCILWOMAN LANA MORRISON	Voted AYE

**Resolution to oppose NuVance Health's intention to close maternity care unit.** Supervisor Kennan spoke about the impact the closing would have on our Town's expectant mothers and the potential danger of critical added time and distance to the next closest facility. He felt it important for Nuvance to know about our community concern.

**RESOLUTION #1342021**

**RESOLUTION EXPRESSING OPPOSITION OF THE TOWN OF NORTH EAST TO THE STATED INTENTIONS OF NUVANCE HEALTH TO CLOSE ITS MATERNITY UNIT AT SHARON HOSPITAL**

**WHEREAS**, for many decades the residents of Millerton and North East have been served by Sharon Hospital in Sharon, CT for a wide variety of in-patient and out-patient medical services; and

**WHEREAS**, Sharon Hospital’s Maternity Care unit has provided labor and delivery services to residents of Millerton and North East; and

**WHEREAS**, the availability of labor and delivery services within a reasonable distance and in a timely way can mean the difference between life and death for expectant mothers and their babies; and

**WHEREAS**, Sharon Hospital has announced plans to cease providing labor and delivery services at Sharon Hospital.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, be it

**RESOLVED**, that the Town Board of the Town of North East, New York, hereby does hereby express its deep concern regarding the termination of labor and delivery services at Sharon Hospital, and calls on Sharon Hospital to revise its Sharon Hospital Transformative Plan to permit the continuation of labor and delivery services at Sharon Hospital.

This motion was offered by Town Board member COUNCILMAN MIDWOOD and was seconded by Town Board member COUNCILMAN KAYE.

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.

**Public Hearing on the 2022 Budget:**

Supervisor Kennan and Councilwoman Morrison delivered the Budget October 1<sup>st</sup>. The priorities were to consider the burden of taxpayers, a 4% increase in Town employee salaries. Last year all Town employees elected not to get a raise in light of the global hardship.

At 6:22 pm a motion was made by Councilman Fedele, seconded by Councilman Midwood, to open the Public Hearing.

There was no comment.

At 6:24 pm a motion was made by Councilwoman Morrison and seconded by Councilman Kaye to close the Public Hearing.

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

**Motion to authorize the List of Properties in the Town of North East water District #1 with Unpaid Water Bills to be sent to Dutchess County**

**RESOLUTION #1352021**

**Authorize the List of Properties in the Town of North East Water District #1 with Unpaid Water Bills to be sent to Dutchess County for Collection in the Amounts Listed by the Village of Millerton and Town of North East**

**RESOLVED**, to send unpaid water bills to the County for collection.

Motion by COUNCILWOMAN MORRISON and seconded by COUNCILMAN MIDWOOD

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

NAYS –0

The Resolution was adopted on November 10, 2021.

**Motion to accept North East Community Council contract renewal regarding the Recreation Hall and Social Services provided.**

Supervisor Kennan commented that the roll of the Center is very important and is currently very involved in helping the displaced families from the fire. Our support is symbolic.

Motion was made to accept the contract by Councilwoman Morrison, seconded by Councilman Fedele.

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

NAYS –0

The motion was passed 5-0.

**RESOLUTION #1362021**

**Approval of the 2022 Town Budget**

Motion to adopt the budget was made by Councilman Kaye, seconded by 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 adopted on November 10.

**Public Comment:**

Andrew Stayman spoke of his previous interest in mounting banners with the Village and Townscape. Hopes the brackets for the American Legion banners could be used for other purposes.

No Board Member comments

**Supervisor Report:**

**Budget adjustment (A FUND):** Expense increased \$2,153. Motion to approve the adjustment made by Councilman Fedele, seconded by Councilman Midwood

All in favor AYE- 5 (Kennan, Fedele, Kaye, Midwood, Morrison)

NAY- 0

**Special Abstract November 1** totaling \$450.38. Motion to accept by Councilman Midwood, seconded by Councilwoman Morrison

All in favor AYE- 5 (Kennan, Fedele, Kaye, Midwood, Morrison)

NAY- 0

**Special Abstract November 10** totaling \$189,096.50. Motion to accept Councilman Kaye, seconded by Councilman Fedele

All in favor AYE- 5 (Kennan, Fedele, Kaye, Midwood, Morrison)

NAY- 0

**Voucher committee** for December 2021; John Midwood and Lana Morrison

**Meeting with Council:**

Warren Replansky spoke briefly on the Town precedent of the Clerk and tax Collector being the same person. To change the tax collector to another and separate job would require a resolution, referendum and possible Town vote. A simpler, and quicker procedure, is to have the Town Clerk appoint a deputy Clerk to be tax Collector. That can be done with a simple board vote on a referendum. He will start crafting a resolution for a special Board meeting in the near future.

Also of note he shared that Pine Plains was hosting a zoom on Monday the 15th at 7pm on Sewage.

**Motion to adjourn**

Motion by Councilman Midwood and seconded by Councilwoman Morrison.

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

Meeting was adjourned at 7:59 PM

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Elizabeth Strauss  
Town Clerk

Approved: 12/10/2021