

**TOWN OF NORTH EAST
REGULAR TOWN BOARD MEETING MINUTES
FEBRUARY 10, 2022**

Meeting was held at the North east Library Annex, 7pm. The Change of Venue notice was posted on the Clerk's board, the Post Office board and the Town website

Call to Order, Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call

SUPERVISOR KENNAN	HERE
COUNCILMAN FEDELE	HERE
COUNCILMAN MIDWOOD	HERE
COUNCILWOMAN MORRISON	HERE
COUNCILMAN COOPER	HERE

Acceptance of Agenda

Motion was made by Councilman Fedele and seconded by Councilman Midwood.

Vote taken:

Ayes- 5 (Kennan, Fedele, Midwood, Morrison, Cooper)

Nays- 0

Supervisor Comments

Meeting technology. The Town hopes to move to having in-person meetings with an interactive video link, at some point in the not-too-distant future. Councilman Midwood and North East town citizen Meg Winkler are working on it. They have visited other towns to look at their technology, and will be bringing a recommendation to the Town Board soon.

The NY State Covid-19 masking mandate expired today. The statistics on the Dutchess County website dashboard are encouraging. We have had two successful distributions of Covid-19 test kits in partnership with the Village. We now have test kits at the Town Hall in the Town Clerk's office, free of charge to residents.

New legislative districts have been created in Dutchess County. Assemblywoman Didi Barrett and Senator Sue Serino will still represent the Town of North East. However the Town will now be in a new Congressional District. Representative Sean Patrick Maloney of District 18, currently south of us, will be our Representative. Congressman Antonio Delgado will move to the west of us. Supervisor Kennan reported he has invited Congressman Maloney to come visit our town in our corner of Dutchess County.

Broadband accessibility was discussed at the last meeting. A Columbia County company, Broadband Solutions, has submitted a \$4000 proposal to do an assessment of internet connectivity in the town, and they actually follow wires throughout the Town to determine the status of internet access for our citizens. There is ARPA money designated for this purpose.

The Highway Garage construction project has been put out to bid. Contractors have been picking up bid documents on www.BidnetDirect.com. There have been a couple of addendums. All bids are due by March 7th. We are planning to offer a site visit next week.

An article in The Poughkeepsie Journal on February 10, (shared with Board members), about Affordable Housing and a new 80 unit proposal in the town of Pawling. Mr. Ken Kearney is the developer of that project. Supervisor Kennan intends to reach out to him and invite him to visit our area.

Our Tri-Town Coalition, which focuses on affordable housing issues in Pine Plains, North East and Amenia, has been looking for ways to encourage affordable housing projects. The Foundation for Community Health, facilitated by Hudson River Housing, is planning to offer mini grants for work on this issue. The Town plans to apply for this so we can participate in an event to better help the Town Board understand the different tools we have that could help us attract affordable housing.

Department and Committee Reports

Police- Chief Veeder reported 41 calls, 28 in the Village and 13 in the Town for January. Future reports will be more detailed. The current report will be posted on the Town website.

Highway- Superintendent Bob Stevens reports the focus is on snow and ice removal and minor breakdowns.

Assessor- Assessor Katherine Johnson reminded us that the exemption deadline is March 1. That is also the "Taxable Status" day. People are invited to come in and check their data records. The real-estate market has been exploding. Her office is analyzing the numbers and estimates that property values have gone up 15-20%.

This increase will have to be reflected in next year's assessment roll. However, she reminded us that an increase in assessment doesn't necessarily equal an increase in taxes. She will cross reference her analysis with NY State analysis. The data is always available for review and Johnson will be presenting at the March Town Board Meeting. Kennan thanked her and her office for their wonderful job.

Planning, Zoning, & Building Department- Reports were sent to the Board.

Town Clerk- Reports were sent to the Board

Board Committee Activity

Highway Committee- see Supervisor comments

Police Services Committee- No report

Recreation Committee- No report

Cemetery Committee- No report

Public Discussion regarding snow and ice-covered road clearing

Mary Lynn Kalogeras presented a compilation of research as to the corrosive nature of salt to structures and the ecosystems in our environment. She acknowledged the critical need to melt roadway ice, and shared a Cary Institute Report that offers innovative alternatives. Both Superintendent Bob Stevens and Climate Smart Task Force leader Kathy Chow have attended recent talks offered at the Institute. Kalogeras is worried about the environment. She would like the Village and Town to work together before next winter. Stevens said he knew Rhinebeck started brining this year, but was not sure about the equipment. Supervisor Kennan said he could work with the Village, and added that the Village gets salt from the Town. Any solution has to be financially doable.

Approval of Town of North east Complete Streets Policy

Recommended by the Climate Smart Task Force, this is the same resolution approved last year. The purpose addresses any new street planning.

**RESOLUTION #122022
ESTABLISHING AND ADOPTING A SUSTAINABLE
"COMPLETE STREETS" POLICY**

WHEREAS, "Complete Streets" are defined as streets that are safe, convenient and comfortable for all ages and abilities using a variety of modes of transportation (motor vehicle, public transportation, foot, bicycle, etc.); and

WHEREAS, Sustainable Complete Streets are defined as Complete Streets with elements of design, construction and operation that also serve environmental sustainability; and

WHEREAS, Complete Streets design features and practices include, but are not limited to sidewalks, paved shoulders suitable for cycling, designated bike lanes, lane striping, "share the road" signage, crosswalks, curb ramps, audible pedestrian crossing signals, pedestrian crossing signage, traffic calming measures such as curb bump-outs, center islands and pavement markings, sidewalk snow removal, and routine shoulder and bike lane maintenance; and

WHEREAS, streets that support and invite multiple uses, including safe, active, and ample space for pedestrians, bicycles, and public transportation, are more conducive to public life and the efficient movement of people than streets designed primarily to move automobiles and trucks; and

WHEREAS, promoting pedestrian, bicycle, and public transportation travel as an alternative to the automobile reduces negative environmental impacts, promotes healthy living, and is less costly to the commuter; and

WHEREAS, the full integration of all modes of travel in the design of streets and highways can increase the capacity and efficiency of the road network, reduce traffic

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congestion by improving mobility options, limit greenhouse gas emission and improve the general quality of life; and

WHEREAS, Complete Streets has been recognized and adopted as policy at Federal, State, County, Town, village, and city levels of government in the interest of improving safety and accessibility for all users and

WHEREAS, the Town of North East could explore the maintenance and enhancement of pedestrian, bicycle and trail connections within the Town and address issues of these amenities as needed; and

WHEREAS, the design and construction of new and existing roads in the Town of North East should anticipate future demand for hiking, biking, walking and other alternative modes of transportation; and

WHEREAS, Sustainable Complete Streets programs are supported by the Institute of Traffic Engineers, the American Planning Association, the American Public Health Association, the State of New York and many other transportation planning and public health professionals,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town of North East will, to the extent practical, reasonable, and affordable, view all transportation improvements as opportunities to improve safety, access, and mobility for all travelers in the Town of North East and recognizes bicycle, pedestrian, and transit modes as integral elements of the transportation system; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Town of North East will make Complete Streets practices an important part of everyday operations, will approach every transportation development project and program as an opportunity to improve public streets and the transportation network for all users, and will work in coordination with other department, agencies, and jurisdictions to achieve Complete Streets; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Town of North East will consider incorporating Complete Streets design features and practices in the planning, design, approval and implementation process for any construction, reconstruction, retrofit, maintenance, alteration, or repair of streets, bridges, or other portions of the transportation network whenever feasible; and will consider Complete Streets opportunities at each Town Board meeting where the Highway Superintendent, Zoning Board of Appeals, or Planning Board initiates a planning project or presents planned work, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that every year by September 30, the Highway Superintendent will prepare a list of planned road construction or reconstruction. At its next scheduled meeting, the Town Board will review planned road work for adherence to Complete Streets principles, identifying and encouraging appropriate Complete Streets design opportunities such as those attached here as Exhibit A. Unplanned repairs and maintenance throughout the year will continue to be the responsibility of the Highway Superintendent, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that exceptions may be considered when:

1. The cost of providing accommodation is excessively disproportionate to the need or probable use.
2. The existing and planned population, employment densities, traffic volumes, etc. around a particular facility is so low as to demonstrate an absence of current and future need.
3. The work is routine maintenance that does not change the facility's operations, such as mowing, sweeping, and spot pavement repair. Capital road projects: (e.g., resurfacing, pavement markings, overlays, etc.) are not exempted, as they may provide opportunities for improvements to shoulder widths and/or conditions, pavement markings and signage.
4. There is a reasonable and equivalent project near the facility under consideration that is already programmed to provide the accommodations promoted by this Guideline.
5. The accommodations are not practical in the context of the project under consideration.
6. In its review of a project, the Planning Board, Zoning Board of Appeals or Town Board has determined that this Guideline, in part or in its entirety, cannot be implemented, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this Resolution shall take effect immediately.

Motion made by Councilman Midwood, and seconded by Councilman Cooper.

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A vote followed:

SUPERVISOR KENNAN	AYE
COUNCILMAN FEDELE	AYE
COUNCILMAN MIDWOOD	AYE
COUNCILWOMAN MORRISON	AYE
COUNCILMAN COOPER	AYE

The Resolution was carried by a 5-0 vote of the Town board and was declared duly adopted.

EXHIBIT A

This document is to be used as an aid in incorporating Complete Streets design features and practices into the workings of the Town of North East.

COMPLETE STREETS PRINCIPLES

Sustainable Complete Streets are defined as Complete Streets with elements of design, construction and operation that also serve environmental sustainability. Keep in mind the following principles while considering their implementation into a project. Will it:

- Encourage multi modal transportation
- Improve accessibility
- Improve bicycle safety
- Improve pedestrian safety

COMPLETE STREETS DESIGN CONSIDERATION CHECKLIST

When in planning, design, approval and implementation process for any construction, reconstruction, retrofit, maintenance project, consider if the following, Complete Streets Design features, but not limited to, could be included:

- Sidewalk with ADA compliant curb ramps
- Marked crosswalk with signage
- Signalized crosswalk
- Reduced speed limit
- Speed bumps
- Visual street markings
- Audible signals
- Shared lane markings / signs
- Bike lanes
- Multi-use path physically separated from motor vehicle traffic
- Bicycle parking
- Narrower traffic lanes
- Landscaping including street trees
- Street furniture

Appointments to the Town of North East Climate Smart Task Force

Deborah Maier and Carrissa Whitehead (Webutuck student)

Public Comments Period 7:38-7:40

Mary Lynn Kalogeras- need new faces on committees and added the importance of continued participation of Bill Kish. In particular the maps he has created as an asset to the town.

Supervisor's Report

RESOLUTION #132022

Approval of Abstract

RESOLVED, to approve Abstract dated December 30th, 2021, totaling \$1618.94, broken down as follows:

A Fund	\$882.10
DB Fund	\$736.84

Motion to accept the Abstract was made by Councilman Fedele, and seconded by Councilman Cooper

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Vote

Ayes- 5 (Kennan, Fedele, Midwood, Morrison, Cooper)
Nays- 0

RESOLUTION # 142022
Approval of Special Abstract

RESOLVED, to approve Special abstract dated February 7, 2022 totaling \$843.41 broken down as follows:

A Fund	\$843.41
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Motion to accept the Special Abstract was made by Councilwoman Morrison and seconded by Councilman Midwood.

Vote

Ayes- 5 (Kennan, Fedele, Midwood, Morrison, Cooper)
Nays- 0

RESOLUTION #152022
Approval of Abstract

RESOLVED, to approve Abstract dated February 10, 2022 totaling \$100,930.19 broken down as follows:

A Fund	\$42,486.50
B Fund	\$103.50
DB Fund	\$57,981.60
Capital Projects H1	\$110.00
Payroll T&A	\$248.59

Motion to accept the Abstract was made by Councilman Cooper and seconded by Councilman Fedele

Vote

Ayes- 5 (Kennan, Fedele, Midwood, Morrison, Cooper)
Nays- 0

Voucher Committee for March 2022: Councilman Fedele & Councilman Cooper

Approval of Minutes from Meeting of January 13, 2022

A motion was made by Councilman Fedele and seconded by Councilwoman Morrison to approve the minutes

Vote taken:

Ayes- 5 (Kennan, Fedele, Midwood, Morrison, Cooper)
Nays- 0

Executive Session

Motion to enter into executive session with the Assessor was made by Councilman Midwood and seconded by Councilwoman Morrison.

Ayes- 5 (Kennan, Fedele, Midwood, Morrison, Cooper)
Nays- 0

Motion to exit from executive session made by Councilwoman Morrison and seconded by Councilman Cooper

Ayes- 5 (Kennan, Fedele, Midwood, Morrison, Cooper)
Nays- 0

Adjournment at 8:15 pm Motion to made by Councilman Midwood and seconded by Councilman Fedele

Ayes- 5 (Kennan, Fedele, Midwood, Morrison, Cooper)
Nays- 0

Respectfully submitted,
Tilly Strauss
Town Clerk

Approved: 2/10/2022