

Town of North East
Town Board
Town Hall
Millerton, New York
December 12, 2024, 7:00 P.M.

Call to Order, Pledge of Allegiance

Roll call

SUPERVISOR KENNAN	ABSENT
DEPUTY SUPERVISOR MORRISON	HERE
COUNCILMAN FEDELE	HERE
COUNCILWOMAN WINKLER	HERE
COUNCILMAN MAYVILLE	HERE

Acceptance of Agenda

Amend to include approval for the minutes dated November 19, 2024.

Motion to accept the Agenda as amended made by Councilman Mayville and seconded by Councilwoman Winkler. Votes taken.

AYES- 4 (Morrison, Fedele, Winkler, Mayville)

NAYS- 0

ABSENT- 1 (Kennan)

The Agenda, as amended, is accepted.

Deputy Supervisor Comments

Deputy Supervisor Lana Morrison fills in for absent Supervisor.

The Village of Millerton is hosting a Winter Walk from 4-7 with exclusive events at local businesses.

The Town Hall will be closed at 12:30 pm December 24th Christmas Eve day and all day Christmas the 25th. We will also be closed at 12:30 pm December 31st and all day January 1st.

A motion was offered by Councilwoman Winkler and seconded by Councilman Fedele to close the Town Hall early on the 24th and the 31st. Votes taken.

AYES- 4 (Morrison, Fedele, Winkler, Mayville)

NAYS- 0

ABSENT- 1 (Kennan)

The early Town Hall Holiday closings were approved.

Morrison added that the Town Clerk's office will be closed Tuesday the 24th and reopen Monday the 30th.

Department and Committee Reports

Highway: Bob Stevens, Highway Superintendent, reported that the crew was busy taking care of clearing brush and drainage, as well as snow and ice control as needed.

Town Clerk: Planning, Zoning, & Building Departments- Tilly Strauss, Town Clerk sent Department reports previously to the Board

Town Board Committee Activity

Personnel- Deputy Supervisor Morrison reported that the Town had advertised in the Millerton News and posted on the website about an open secretary position for the Planning Board. Councilman Fedele added that two very qualified candidates applied and were interviewed for the position. Katie Cariello will begin on January 1, 2025.

The Personnel Committee also reviewed the Employee Manual and does not recommend any changes to be made.

Housing- Councilwoman Winkler reported that the Habitat House building project on Rudd Pond Road is in the final stages of completion. A final volunteer day is scheduled for December 14th from 10am-2pm. There will be a celebration scheduled for the Wednesday following so that the family can move in by the holidays.

Winkler attended a States Plus One ADU Financing webinar hosted by the NYS Governor. It was very informative but with a short timeline. Municipalities need to sponsor up to 4 home owners of low to moderate income to apply, who are interested in building an ADU (Accessory Dwelling Unit) or fix one up. They will be eligible for funding up to \$125K. This is a collaboration with a not-for-profit. The County has opted out of sponsoring at this time. It's a struggle for tiny Towns to administer this program by itself. The deadline is in January. Winkler hopes that we can participate next year. Eighty five million dollars has been designated to be dispersed through the program over the next five years.

Buildings and Grounds- The New Town Hall mold remediation and inspection has been done. We are waiting for a final report.

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Zoning Review- No report.

Resolution to approve the Supervisor signing a contract with Northern Dutchess Paramedics

Councilwoman Winkler said that the Town Board had an opportunity to see the rough draft this afternoon. They previously agreed to the first year amount demanded. In light of the major increases in years two and three, Winkler asked the Town Attorney if we had the option to get out of the contract. Warren Replansky, the Town Attorney, said that there is a clause in the contract that allows us to terminate the contract at any time and therefore we would not be bound for increases next year. He continued that emergency service costs everywhere are skyrocketing. This was the best deal we could negotiate. We hope to get some assistance to reduce the financial cost next year, but this is what we are stuck with if we want to provide ambulance service. Councilman Fedele pointed out that we are a small and aging community. We need the service. It is not an option for us not to sign the contract. The State has to realize that smaller communities need help supplying EMS qualified people for the few calls that come. Cities with high turnover have it cheaper. Right now we will take money out of our reserves, but we have to get help. Replansky noted that we negotiated very hard with the three municipalities, (North East, Dover Plains, and Amenia), and inquired about other possibilities. Empress was much more expensive. The only other alternative is not to provide ambulance service.

RESOLUTION #862024

**AUTHORIZING THE SUPERVISOR TO EXECUTE A
THREE-YEAR EXTENSION CONTRACT FOR AMBULANCE SERVICE WITH
NORTHERN DUTCHESS PARAMEDICS, INC.**

WHEREAS, the Towns of North East, Amenia and Dover entered into an Ambulance Services Agreement with Northern Dutchess Paramedics, Inc. (“NDP”), a full service medical transportation corporation, with offices located at PO Box 672, 3 Hook Road, Rhinebeck, New York 12572, on or about December of 2019; and

WHEREAS, this agreement, by its terms, expires on December 31, 2024; and

WHEREAS, the three Towns through their Supervisors and Attorneys have negotiated a renewal agreement for three years at an annual fee for North East of \$511,558.00 for 2025; \$696,345.00 for 2026; and \$746,345.00 for 2027; and

WHEREAS, the Town Board has reviewed the proposed contract and have been provided with legal advice from the Attorney to the Town and have been notified that the Towns of Amenia and Dover will be obtaining approvals by resolution of their respective Town Boards for renewal of the contract for the three municipalities for a three-year period; and

WHEREAS, this is a Type II action under SEQRA, not subject to environmental review.

NOW, THEREFORE, be it

RESOLVED, that the Town Board hereby authorizes the Town Supervisor to execute the proposed agreement in the same form, or substantially the same form, as submitted to the Town Board and approved by the Supervisor and Attorney to the Town without further review and approval of the Town Board.

This motion was offered by Town Board member Fedele and was seconded by Town Board member Mayville.

MOTION: Councilman Fedele

SECOND: Councilman Mayville

SUPERVISOR KENNAN	Absent
DEPUTY SUPERVISOR MORRISON	Voted AYE
COUNCILMAN FEDELE	Voted AYE
COUNCILMAN MAYVILLE	Voted AYE
COUNCILWOMAN WINKLER	Voted AYE

The Resolution was carried by a 4-0 vote of the Town Board members on December 12, 2024.

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Approval of changes to Town of North East Building Department Fee Schedule effective 1-1-25

Councilwoman Winkler objected. Councilman Mayville stated that if we are reviewing a proposed change and the rationale for proposed increases is referencing to align with neighboring Towns, it is important to review the comparable information so that we have a point of reference. Deputy Supervisor Morrison tabled the Agenda item for the next meeting.

Approve the date for Town Board Re-Organization meeting for 1-2-25, and a snow date of 1-3-25

RESOLUTION #872024

DATE AND TIME FOR 2025 RE-ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING

The Annual Re-Organizational Meeting of the North East Town Board for the year 2025 will be held on Thursday, January 2, 2025 at 5:00 p.m. at the Town Hall, 19 N. Maple Ave, Millerton, New York.

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that, in case of cancellation due to inclement weather, the Annual Re-Organizational Meeting will be held on Friday, January 3rd at 5:00 p.m. at the Town Hall, Millerton, New York.

BY ORDER OF THE NORTH EAST TOWN BOARD

On a motion by Councilman Mayville, seconded by Councilman Fedele the date for the 2025 Re-Organization meeting was set.

ADOPTED – AYES – 4 (Morrison, Fedele, Winkler, Mayville)
NAYS – 0
ABSENT- 1 (Kennan)

Motion to approve Town Supervisor to sign contract with Town of Pine Plains for dog kennel

The Town Clerk explained that the annual contract for sheltering dogs that have been picked up by the Animal Control Officer has not changed from last year.

RESOLUTION #882024

AUTHORIZE THE SUPERVISOR TO RENEW THE CONTRACT WITH THE TOWN OF PINE PLAINS SHELTER

On a motion by Councilwoman Winkler, seconded by Councilman Fedele, the Town Supervisor is authorized to renew the contract with the Town of Pine Plains for dog kennel usage. Votes taken.

ADOPTED – AYES – 4 (Morrison, Fedele, Winkler, Mayville)
NAYS – 0
ABSENT- 1 (Kennan)

Motion to approve RFP for fencing of new Town Highway Garage, and placing notice on BidNet.

RESOLUTION #892024

APPROVE THE RFP FOR FENCING AT THE NEW TOWN HIGHWAY GARAGE AND AUTHORIZE THE NOTICE TO BE POSTED AND PLACED ON BIDNET

On a motion by Councilman Mayville, seconded by Councilwoman Winkler, the Request for Proposals (RFP) for fence installation at the new Town Highway Garage was approved to be posted and placed on Bidnet. Voted Taken.

AYES – 4 (Morrison, Fedele, Winkler, Mayville)

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NAYS – 0
ABSENT- 1 (Kennan)

The RFP was approved and the Town Clerk will post a legal notice in the Millerton News as well as post on her signboard and on the Town website. It will also be submitted to Bidnet.com

Public Comments:

Tyler Graham, resident of Cooper Road, spoke about ongoing issues on Cooper Road and the illegal dwelling of the Vitiello's. He asked why the Town Board is not responding, and he wanted more minutes. Played a recording of yelling.

Ed Covert, Vitiello neighbor, ceded his minutes so Mr. Graham could continue playing his recording.

No other comments.

Mr. Graham and Mr. Covert proceed to exit the meeting room loudly.

Supervisor's Report

Budget Adjustment

RESOLUTION #902024
Budget Adjustment #10 OF THE YEAR 2024

A Fund- An expense increase of \$9,364, less an expense decrease of \$9,364 for a net change of \$00

B Fund- An expense increase of \$2,724, less an expense decrease of \$2,724 for a net change of \$00

DB Fund- An expense increase of \$20,000, less an expense decrease of \$20,000 for a net change of \$00

Motion made by Councilwoman Winkler and seconded by Councilman Fedele to approve the Budget Adjustment. Votes taken.

AYES- 4 (Morrison, Fedele, Winkler, Mayville)

NAYS- 0

ABSENT- 1 (Kennan)

The Budget Adjustment was approved.

RESOLUTION #912024
Special Abstract dated November 20, 2024 totaling \$1,097.55

A Special abstract dated November 20, 2024 totaling \$1,097.55 broken down as follows:

A Fund- \$1,097.55

Motion to accept the Special Abstract was made by Councilman Mayville and seconded by Councilwoman Winkler. Votes taken.

AYES- 4 (Morrison, Fedele, Winkler, Mayville)

NAYS- 0

ABSENT- 1 (Kennan)

The Special Abstract was accepted.

RESOLUTION #922024
Special Abstract dated December 2, 2024 totaling \$75,176.00

A Special Abstract dated December 2, 2024 totaling \$75,176.00 broken down as follows:

A Fund- \$31,906.42

B Fund- \$ 7,467.46

DB Fund- \$28,512.12

Water Dist. SW1 \$ 7,290.00

Motion to accept the Special Abstract was made by Councilman Fedele and seconded by Councilwoman Winkler. Votes taken.

AYES- 4 (Morrison, Fedele, Winkler, Mayville)

NAYS- 0

ABSENT- 1 (Kennan)

The Special Abstract was accepted.

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RESOLUTION #932024
Abstract dated December 12, 2024 totaling \$160,294.57

Abstract dated December 12, 2024 totaling \$160,294.57 broken down as follows:

A Fund-	\$82,137.27
B Fund-	\$ 3,955.56
DB Fund-	\$67,300.77
ARPA-	\$ 6,275.00
T&A2 Escrow-	\$ 367.50
Payroll T&A-	\$ 258.47

Motion to accept the Abstract was made by Councilman Fedele and seconded by Councilman Mayville. Votes taken.

AYES- 4 (Morrison, Fedele, Winkler, Mayville)
NAYS- 0
ABSENT- 1 (Kennan)

The Abstract was accepted.

Voucher Committee for January 2025: Fedele & Winkler

Approval of Minutes from Town Board Meeting of 11-14-24

Motion made to approve the minutes was made by Councilman Fedele and seconded by Councilman Mayville. Votes taken.

AYES- 4 (Morrison, Fedele, Winkler, Mayville)
NAYS- 0
ABSENT- 1 (Kennan)

The Minutes of November 14, 2024 were approved.

Approval of Minutes from Town Board Special Meeting 11-19-2024

Motion made to approve the minutes was made by Councilman Mayville and seconded by Councilman Fedele. Votes taken.

AYES- 3 (Morrison, Fedele, Mayville)
NAYS- 0
ABSTAIN- 1 (Winkler)
ABSENT- 1 (Kennan)

The Minutes of November 19, 2024 were approved.

Meeting with Counsel, if necessary- No meeting requested.

Adjournment

Motion made by Councilwoman Winkler and seconded by Councilman Mayville to adjourn. Votes taken.

AYES- 4 (Morrison, Fedele, Winkler, Mayville)
NAYS- 0
ABSENT- 1 (Kennan)

The meeting was adjourned at 7:40 PM.

Submitted by

/s/: Elizabeth Strauss, Town Clerk

APPROVED: 12/19/24