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TOWN OF WINDHAM
TOWN BOARD MEETING **DECEMBER 26, 2024**
371 State Route 296, Hensonville, NY
Website: www.townofwindhamny.com

Present: Supervisor: Thomas F. Hoyt
Councilmen: Wayne Van Valin, Ian Peters, Stephen Walker & Kurt Goettsche
Town Clerk: Bonnie Poehmel

Present on the phone: Town Attorney Tal Rappleyea & Mike Ryan Mountain Eagle

Absent: Ambulance Administrator Davia Montie &Highway Superintendent Gary Thorington

The Supervisor called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

THE MINUTES OF THE December 12, 2024, TOWN BOARD MEETING were approved as typed on a motion by Supervisor Hoyt, 2nd by Councilman Walker, with 3 in favor, 2 abstain Councilmen Peters and Goettsche were absent.

1.CEDARWOOD ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES: Wastewater System Operating Contract for February 1, 2025 –January 31, 3030. Every five years the contract is renewed. A motion to accept the contract renewal and allow the Supervisor to execute was made by Councilman Goettsche, 2nd by Councilman Peters, with all in favor.

2.TOWN BOARD RESOLUTION #143 OF 2024: **WHEREAS,** the provisions of the Real Property Tax Law allows a municipality to establish a Senior Citizen's Tax Exemption (RPTL §467) as well as the Persons with Disabilities and Limited Income Tax Exemption (RPTL §459-c); and **WHEREAS,** the Town Board of the Town of Windham hereby establishes the maximum income limit for a 50% exemption would be adjusted to $36,000.00 with full sliding scales for both exemptions; and **NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED,** the Town Board of the Town of Windham hereby establishes the maximum income limit of $36,000.00 for the year 2025 for Senior Citizen's Tax Exemption as well as the Persons with Disabilities and Limited Income Tax Exemption Maximum Income Limit that are residents of the Town of Windham. A motion to adopt this resolution was made by Councilman Goettsche, 2nd by Councilman Walker, with all in favor.

3.COLUMBIA-GREENE HUMANE SOCIETY/SPCA contract renewal for 2025: This is an annual contract January 1, 2025 through December 31, 2025; between Columbia-Greene Humane Society/SPCA and the Town of Windham. A motion to accept the contract renewal and allow the Supervisor to execute was made by Councilman Peters, 2nd by Councilman Van Valin, with all in favor.

3.TOWN CLERK REVENUE FOR NOVEMBER 2024: $2,486.68 a motion to approve was made by Councilman Walker, 2nd by Councilman Peters, with all in favor.

4.TOWN BOARD RESOLUTION #144 OF 2024: to authorize the Supervisor to use $1,534.19 from Unanticipated Revenue to balance the accounts in the Streetlighting Fund in accordance with Town Board Resolution #145 of 2024. A motion to adopt this resolution was made by Councilman Peters, 2nd by Councilman Goettsche, with all in favor. TOWN BOARD RESOLUTION #145 OF 2024: the following resolution was proposed to transfer funds to balance the Streetlighting Fund accounts. A motion to adopt this resolution was made by Councilman Peters, 2nd by Councilman Goettsche, with all in favor. TOWN BOARD RESOLUTION #146 OF 2024: the following resolution was proposed to transfer funds to balance the Sewer District accounts. A motion to adopt this resolution was made by Councilman Goettsche, 2nd by Councilman Peters, with all in favor. AMBULANCE FUND RESOLUTION #20 OF 2024: the following resolution was proposed to transfer funds to balance the Ambulance Fund accounts. A motion to adopt this resolution was made by Councilman Peters, 2nd by Councilman Goettsche, with all in favor. GENERAL FUND RESOLUTION #26 OF 2024: the following resolution was proposed to transfer funds to balance the General Fund accounts. A motion to adopt this resolution was made by Councilman Goettsche, 2nd by Councilman Peters,

with all in favor. HIGHWAY FUND RESOLUTION #8 OF 2024: the following resolution was proposed to transfer funds to balance the Highway Fund accounts. A motion to adopt this resolution was made by Councilman Goettsche, 2nd by Councilman Peters, with all in favor.

5.AMBULANCE REPORT: Ambulance Administrator Davia Montie was absent. The Ambulance Director will have two (2) crews on as needed for the holiday week and the future upcoming weekends. The ambulance building had a heater issue on the weekend and it has been reset and reprogrammed again.

6.ASSESSOR'S REPORT: The following report was submitted to the Town Board for their review: "Computer issues in process in being be fixed. I purchased three new flatscreens, at my expense to improve my speeds. The paperwork and information requests have doubled since my arrival over five years ago. The extra screen space will allow quicker access to information by a few seconds, over hundred times daily, times each week x 52 weeks. It adds up. That is times EACH application = hundreds of hours saved. Additionally Seniors and Veterans and our Fire Dept people will now see their property's data side by side to their Exemption paperwork. Windham is likely the first to do this, in the county or region. Seniors love the LARGE type fonts on the screen.NYS ORPTS has fixed and updated my RPS issues. Don Murray has generously helped with software challenges. Work continues, but at times a very slow pace… looking forward to the time saving higher speed net service. (Thanks!) The office remains busy with year-end work and 2025 prep. Preparation begun for 2025 Tax Roll, months back. If I didn't start months early, we'd be behind, instead of on time. Mountain questions starting to uptick again. Sales inventory rising. Many high end listings out there. Getting calls from out of town buyer's, and out of town buyer's realtors. Would like to get Ant-Virus software for DELL 9440 laptop. Please say yes to Anti-Virus software update…. @ $100.00. Concerning my Continuing Education requirements, NYS has informed me I have completed my CE through 2026. NYS only allows one year advancement on credits. This knowledge continues to offer opportunity to develop a larger tax base volume which works to *decrease* tax rates, which has been done by this already. The goal is to pursue reductions in tax rates, a benefit for all employed or living in the Town of Windham."

7.HIGHWAY REPORT: Highway Superintendent Gary Thorington was absent. The highway department has been keeping up with all the nuisance winter storms, all the town roads are good.

8.POLICE REPORT: A new part-time police officer has been hired and will be available for January 1, 2025.

9.COMMITTEE REPORT: **Councilman Walker** has attended the most recent CWT Meeting. There is discussion that Zones 3 & 4 will no longer have land purchases; with exemptions; the discussion are still on-going. CWC Funding will be available to towns for projects. There are six (6) properties at flood level some of the properties are in Greene County. There is stewardship over streams with debris that need maintenance and will continue to discuss. There is a new commissioner Ms. Shilo Williams. **Councilmen Van Valin, Goettsche and Peters** have nothing to report on at this time. **Supervisor Hoyt** the study for the WWTP Septic program has been submitted by Deleware Engineering Broc & WWTP Operations Manager Josh Vital to CWC for a grant. **Town Attorney Tal Rappleyea** holds the escrow accounts for the projects at the Windham planning board. He will put together a report for each month concerning the escrow account projects. Project Applicants are responsible for their escrow accounts that pay the Town Attorney and Engineer for their services within that project.

Update reminder that the Organizational Meeting will be held on Thursday, January 2, 2025 @ 7:00 pm in Room 3.

10.COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC: no one was present.

GENERAL FUND WARRANT #24-G contained vouchers #798-824, totaling $21,678.61 was audited and approved for payment on a motion by Councilman Van Valin, 2nd by Councilman Gottsche, with all in favor.

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HIGHWAY FUND WARRANT #24 contained vouchers #236-244, totaling $8,986.88 was audited and approved for payment on a motion by Councilman Van Valin, 2nd by Councilman Goettsche, with all in favor.

SEWER DISTRICT FUND WARRANT #24 contained vouchers #322-330, totaling $11,162.31 was audited and approved on a motion by Councilman Goettsche, 2nd by Councilman Van Valin, with all in favor.

AMBULANCE FUND WARRANT #24 contained vouchers #231-245, totaling $4,983.92 was audited and approved for payment on a motion by Councilman Goettsche, 2nd by Councilman Van Valin, with all in favor.

GENERAL FUND PAYROLL WARRANT #26-P for **General** contained 12 claims, totaling $10,426.02 was audited and approved for payment on a motion by Councilman Goettsche, 2nd by Councilman Van Valin, with all in favor. **Ambulance** payroll contained 14 claims, totaling $19,049.73 was audited and approved for payment on a motion by Councilman Goettsche, 2nd by Councilman Van Valin, with all in favor.

HIGHWAY PAYROLL WARRANT #26-P contained 5 claims, totaling $11,382.96 was audited and approved for payment on a motion by Councilman Van Valin, 2nd by Councilman Goettsche, with all in favor.

SEWER DISTRICT FUND PAYROLL WARRANT #26-P contained 1 claim, totaling $71.19 was audited and approved for payment on a motion by Councilman Goettsche, 2nd by Councilman Van Valin, with all in favor.

The meeting adjourned at 7:15 p.m. on a motion by Councilman Walker, 2nd by Councilman Peters, with all in favor.

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SUPERVISOR	COUNCILMAN	COUNCILMAN
_____	_____	_____
COUNCILMAN	COUNCILMAN	TOWN CLERK

MERRY CHRISTMAS AND HAPPY NEW YEAR!

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