

DATE: OCTOBER 12, 2023

KIND OF MEETING: TOWN BOARD

WHERE HELD: SCHODACK TOWN HALL

CLERK: DEBRA L. CURTIS

PRESIDING OFFICER: CHARLES J. PETER

MEMBERS PRESENT: JAMES E. BULT
SCOTT SWARTZ
TRACEY REX

MEMBERS ABSENT: MICHAEL KENNEY

ATTORNEY: CHRISTOPHER LANGLOIS, ESQ.

COMPTROLLER: PAUL HARTER

OTHERS PRESENT:

Supervisor Peter called the October 12, 2023 Town Board Meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance and dispensed with roll call. All present as noted above.

Briefing of the Agenda

S. Peter gave a brief review of all resolutions on the agenda. He explained that the price of the Chevy Tahoe had originally been listed at \$67,000.00; however, an additional cost for outfitting the vehicle with lights and a cage brought the price to \$77,000.00 (2023-276). Chief Natale mentioned that he had contacted a company to outfit the vehicle at a lower cost. He anticipated the total vehicle price to drop to around \$70,000.00. C. Bult asked if the resolution should be amended to better reflect the cost but allow for any potential increase. He felt \$72,000.00 would be best. All board members agreed to amend resolution 2023-276 to reflect the new price. The Supervisor stated that the remaining resolutions were as follows: 2023-277 related to the hiring of Cory Morales as an Operator 2 at the Highway Department, 2023-278 would allow for the installation of two stops signs as there were currently no signs at the two intersections listed, 2023-279 established a right away for the new Water Tower to feed the Route 9 Water South project, 2023-280 authorized the transfer of six vacant properties from Rensselaer County to the Town, 2023-281 allowed for the hire of an onsite engineer for the sewer project on Maple Hill Road and 2023-282 authorized the Justice Court to seek a FCAP grant. All other resolutions were self-explanatory.

Board/Public Comment: None.

Departmental Reports: The following monthly departmental reports were read and/or posted and filed in the Office of the Town Clerk: Building Department, Historian, Tax Receiver and Town Clerk.

Review of Abstracts of Claims and Budget Amendments: The Board reviewed claims #23-1515 to #23-1673 on Abstract No. 2023-10 in the amount of \$1,258,211.05, including the claims paid prior (\$16,828.73).

Adoption of Resolutions

EXPLANATION: Bracketed and strikethrough indicates language that was stricken from the resolution when adopted. Underlined indicates language that was added to the resolution when adopted. A WITHDRAWN resolution is so noted and italicized.

C. Bult made a motion to adopt the following resolution, as amended, seconded by C. Swartz:

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE TOWN BOARD
OF THE TOWN OF SCHODACK DOES HEREBY:**

- 2023-276** Ratify and affirm authorizing the purchase of a 2023 Chevy Tahoe 4x4 Police vehicle based on NYS OGS mini bid at a cost not to exceed ~~\$77,421.00~~ \$72,000.00. [Capital Reserve Fund]
4 Ayes 0 Noes. **MOTION CARRIED.** Ayes – J. Bult, S. Swartz, T. Rex, C. Peter. Noes – 0.

C. Swartz made a motion to adopt the following resolution, seconded by C. Rex:

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE TOWN BOARD
OF THE TOWN OF SCHODACK DOES HEREBY:**

- 2023-277** Pursuant to Article 7 Section 140 of the Highway Law, the Highway Superintendent hereby appoints Cory Morales, subject to final approval by the Rensselaer County Civil Service Commission, as an Operator 2, at an hourly rate as set forth in the Year 2023 adopted budget. Said appointment is effective as of October 16, 2023.
4 Ayes 0 Noes. **MOTION CARRIED.** Ayes – J. Bult, S. Swartz, T. Rex, C. Peter. Noes – 0.

C. Swartz made a motion to adopt the following resolution, seconded by C. Rex:

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE TOWN BOARD
OF THE TOWN OF SCHODACK DOES HEREBY:**

- 2023-278** Authorize Highway Department to install Stop signs on Pinewood Avenue at the intersection of Inglewood Avenue and on Clearview Blvd at the intersection of Crescent Drive.
4 Ayes 0 Noes. **MOTION CARRIED.** Ayes – J. Bult, S. Swartz, T. Rex, C. Peter. Noes – 0.

C. Swartz made a motion to adopt the following resolution, seconded by C. Rex:

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE TOWN BOARD
OF THE TOWN OF SCHODACK DOES HEREBY:**

- 2023-279** Authorize Supervisor Peter to execute and administer easement and purchase agreement with Kristina Macyowskie for a water tower location in conjunction with the Route 9 Water project being undertaken by the County, and to file necessary documents in Rensselaer County Clerk's Office when appropriate.
4 Ayes 0 Noes. **MOTION CARRIED.** Ayes – J. Bult, S. Swartz, T. Rex, C. Peter. Noes – 0.

C. Swartz made a motion to adopt the following resolution, seconded by C. Rex:

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE TOWN BOARD
OF THE TOWN OF SCHODACK DOES HEREBY:**

- 2023-280** Authorize Supervisor Peter to execute and administer NYS Department of Taxation and Finance RP-5217 and TP-584 and any other necessary paperwork to transfer titles of six vacant land parcels to the town of Schodack from Rensselaer County for the purpose of public use as per correspondence dated September 22, 2023.
4 Ayes 0 Noes. **MOTION CARRIED.** Ayes – J. Bult, S. Swartz, T. Rex, C. Peter. Noes – 0.

C. Swartz made a motion to adopt the following resolution, seconded by C. Rex:

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE TOWN BOARD
OF THE TOWN OF SCHODACK DOES HEREBY:**

- 2023-281** Authorize Supervisor Peter to execute and administer Addendum Number 2023112-00 for professional services from the Laberge Group to assist the Town of Schodack for Construction Oversight related to Maple Hill Road Sewer extension in an amount not to exceed \$15,000.00 plus reimbursable expenses.
4 Ayes 0 Noes. **MOTION CARRIED.** Ayes – J. Bult, S. Swartz, T. Rex, C. Peter. Noes – 0.

C. Swartz made a motion to adopt the following resolution, seconded by C. Rex:

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE TOWN BOARD
OF THE TOWN OF SCHODACK DOES HEREBY:**

- 2023-282** The Board of the Town of Schodack authorizes the Schodack Town Court to apply for a FCAP grant in the 2023-24 grant cycle up to \$30,000.00.
4 Ayes 0 Noes. **MOTION CARRIED.** Ayes – J. Bult, S. Swartz, T. Rex, C. Peter. Noes – 0.

C. Swartz made a motion to adopt the following resolution, seconded by C. Rex:

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE TOWN BOARD
OF THE TOWN OF SCHODACK DOES HEREBY:**

- 2023-283** Authorize the Comptroller's recommendation to direct the Town Supervisor to pay the claims #23-1515 to 23-1673 on Abstract No. 2023-10, in the amount of \$1,258,211.05, including the claims paid \$16,828.73.
4 Ayes 0 Noes. **MOTION CARRIED.** Ayes – J. Bult, S. Swartz, T. Rex, C. Peter. Noes – 0.

C. Swartz made a motion to adopt the following resolution, seconded by C. Rex:

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE TOWN BOARD
OF THE TOWN OF SCHODACK DOES HEREBY:**

- 2023-284** Authorize the September 2023 budget modifications, interfund loans and interfund transfers as provided in document dated October 2023 and recommended by the Comptroller.

BUDGET MODIFICATIONS

	Fund / Department #	Fund / Department Name	Increase	Decrease
2023				
74	A-960-1320.4000	Auditor - Contractual	78.00	
	A-960-1315.4000	Comptroller - Contractual		78.00
	To modify the budget for 2022 financial statement audit services			
75	A-960-1440.4000	Town Engineer - Contractual	15,000.00	
	A-960-1990.4000	Contingency - Contractual		15,000.00
	To modify the budget for Engineer feasibility Study for potential future projects			
76	A-960-3120.1012	Police Grant - PTS	363.35	
	A-509-4320.9999	Federal Aid Public Safety	363.35	
	To modify the budget for PTS grant awards			
77	A-960-3120.2000	Police - Equipment	6,731.03	
	A-960-3120.1000	Police - Personal Services		6,731.03
	To modify the budget for purchase of live scan for Police Department			
78	A-960-7110.1001	Parks - Rensselaer County Work	468.30	
	A-960-7110.1000	Parks - Personal Services		468.30
	To modify the budget for Park Manager work at RensCo Park			

79	B-960-8160.1100	Refuse & Garbage - Overtime	383.13	
	B-960-8160.4000	Refuse & Garbage - Contractual		383.13
	To modify the budget to cover 7/29 Hazardous Waste Collection Day Overtime			
80	B-960-8340.2000	Trans & Distrib - Equipment	329.66	
	B-509-2655.9999	Minor Sales	329.66	
	To modify the budget to cover water meter sales			
81	B-960-9060.8100	Hospital Insurance - Retiree Benefits	2,500.00	
	B-960-9060.8000	Hospital Insurance - Employee Benefits		2,500.00
	To modify the budget to adjust previous modification to Employee medical insurance			
82	DB-960-5110.1350	General Road Repairs - DB work for W/S	93.98	
	DB-960-5110.1000	General Road Repairs - Personal Service		93.98
	To modify the budget for B Hempstead to help assist Shawn on 9/1/23			
83	DB-960-5130.1400	Machinery - DB Police Work	340.56	
	DB-960-5130.4000	Machinery - Contractual	7,596.73	
	DB-960-5110.1000	Highway - Genl Road Personal Services		7,937.29
	To modify the budget for purchase of parts and work on Town vehicles			

BUDGET MODIFICATIONS

	Fund / Department #	Fund / Department Name	Increase	Decrease
2023				
84	DB-960-5140.1000	Brush & Weeds - Personal Services	4,060.29	
	DB-960-5140.1351	Brush & Weeds - O/T W/S Work	269.61	
	DB-960-5110.1000	Highway - Genl Road Personal Services		4,329.90
	To modify the budget for R Lindheimer 9/4 callout with Shawn			
85	DB-960-9060.8100	Highway - Medical Insurance - Retiree	25,000.00	
	DB-960-5110.1000	Highway - Genl Road Personal Services		25,000.00
	To modify the budget for increased retiree benefits due to 2023 retirements			
86	SW3-960-8340.1000	Maple Crest Water Dist - Personal Services	146.13	
	SW3-960-8340.1100	Maple Crest Water Dist - Overtime		146.13
	To modify the budget for Employee work in district			
	4 Ayes 0 Noes. MOTION CARRIED. Ayes – J. Bult, S. Swartz, T. Rex, C. Peter. Noes – 0.			

Presentation – Larkin Hill Farm Conservation Easement

Chris Krahling, Senior Project Manager for the Agricultural Stewardship Association (ASA), addressed the board regarding a conservation easement for Larkin Hill Farm. He explained that the ASA was a not-for-profit land trust with a goal of protecting farmland within Rensselaer and Washington Counties. To facilitate that goal, the land trust purchases properties through conservation easements which limit incompatible development of the land and promote farming. The property is still owned and operated by the landowner, but the easement is monitored by the ASA annually through land and air survey to ensure there is compliance with the terms of the easement. The purchase of the property is done by utilizing grants offered by the NYS Farmland Protection Program through the Division of Agriculture and Markets. He noted that they were currently in round 1 of the grant process to purchase a portion of lands owned by Margaret Hutchison on Woodward Road. For the application process, a letter of support is needed from the Schodack Town Board for the project. He added that the town would not be involved beyond the letter of support. C. Swartz asked if the tax rate would remain the same. Mr. Krahling said yes. It would be up to the Assessor to make any changes. S. Peter asked if the Rensselaer County Farm Protection Board had met regarding the project. Mr. Krahling said and they agreed to send a letter of support as well.

Open Discussion

Paving – Town Hall Parking Lot: S. Peter reminded the board that HMA Paving would begin milling the parking lot on October 13th and pave on October 14th, weather pending. He welcomed all members to check the progress throughout the weekend.

ADJOURNMENT

As there was no further business before the Board, C. Bult made a motion to adjourn the 10/12/23 Town Board meeting at 7:13 p.m., seconded by C. Swartz. Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,

Debra L. Curtis
Schodack Town Clerk