

## **UNION VALE TOWN BOARD MEETING FEBRUARY 18, 2021**

**VIA ZOOM VIDEO CONFERENCE 7:30 PM**

**PRESENT: Supervisor Maas**

**Town Council: Kevin Durland, Kevin McGivney, Steven Frazier, John Welsh**

**Town Clerk: Andrea Casey**

**Highway Superintendent: Ed Kading - Absent**

**Town Attorney: Absent**

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Call to Order and Salute to the Flag at 7:30PM

### **MOTION TO APPROVE MINUTES**

Councilman Welsh made a motion to approve the Town Board Meeting minutes from January 21, 2021 and December 21, 2020 as written, which was seconded by Supervisor Maas and all were unanimously in favor.

### **Supervisor's Report**

Supervisor Maas asked for a moment of silence for the hope that our County and Federal Government are able to provide vaccines for all those in need. Due to inclement weather the library architect was unable to do the presentation tonight so that will be moved until the March 18<sup>th</sup> meeting. From a financial perspective, January 2021 is \$130,000 and ahead of what we did in 2019 and is aside from what was collected for property taxes. We collected \$559,000 in property taxes which is behind what is normally collected this time of year but Supervisor Maas feels this will increase over the next few months. Cash balances, general fund in total with investments and checking, savings, etc. we are at \$2,678,540.00 and Highway fund \$422,000.00 totaling \$3,100,576.00.

Supervisor Maas received a nice compliment from one of the Fire Commissioners for the Park's efforts in making sure both firehouses are clear of snow. The team is headed by Park Manager Jake Gosnell and includes Tom St. Onge and Adam Pratt.

There was also another email from a resident praising George Kolb for exceptional service and dedication in his job as Building Inspector.

In other correspondence the US Census is asking us to do our boundary and an annexation survey which will be taken care of. Central Hudson is reminding all municipal officials to remind the residents to dig safely by calling 811 or going to [digsafelyny.com](http://digsafelyny.com). Lastly, Supervisor Maas reported she attended the virtual Association of Towns meeting and will share much of the informative information she found helpful.

### **Board Member Reports**

*Councilman Welsh* – reported he has been delving into information from AOT that is pertinent to our Town. In addition, he has been reviewing the Town of Beekman website and their Comprehensive Plan in relation to our annexation project and is trying to get good insight as to what they have in writing and what their plans are in the past and future so we have a better handle on how to approach completing the annexation process.

He also added the highway crew has been doing a fantastic job keeping the roads clear and as a first responder he really appreciates it.

*Councilman McGivney* would like to give praise to Ed and the guys for keeping the roads safe, he knows they are out tonight for yet another storm and he appreciates all their hard work.

*Councilman Durland* –Spoke about the flag at the recycling center, a resident would like to be part of a fundraiser to erect a new flagpole and fly a larger flag at the recycling center or across the street. Supervisor Maas said the solar company liked the idea and offered to work with the Town for best placement as to not shade any of the panels.

*Councilman Frazier* – Echoed about the highway and parks department with a busy snow season and he appreciates the work they do for us.

### **Highway Report**

Ed Kading, Highway Superintendent could not attend due to the ongoing storm but did pass along information Supervisor Maas communicated. The Highway Dept is mixing sand in with the salt to cut the salt down 25% for traction and to make it less wear and tear on vehicles. Their staff is also down 25% of staff so Ed and the guys are sharing the additional work load. He will soon be looking to make a hire to replace this position. Superintendent Kading is working on the Highway-284 and has share his thoughts but has not yet finalized the document as he is waiting

to hear about the Govender budget for CHIPS reimbursements. They are also working on doing an inventory of older trees and culverts as to assess what can be done. This will tie in with the ongoing Climate smart community projects, the more we line up the more points and the more points the more funding we have access to.

### **Town Clerk Report**

Town Clerk Casey reported on the recycling center. The month was an outstanding influx of permit purchasing and these were the totals: 183 resident permits, 81 Sr. Resident Permits, 105 Non-Resident and 6 Firefighter permits totaling \$29,631.00 for the month of January.

### **Public Comments**

None

### **Animal Control Report**

As submitted by ACO, Mary Jean Calvi. January 2021: 1 lost dog 1 found dog, 2 animal complaint calls and 1 miscellaneous wildlife call.

### **Conservation Advisory Council CAC**

Akiko Bush, Chair, gave a update on the current projects. They have come up with text narratives for the 19 Union Vale NRI maps. They are also working on section's regarding soils, topography, aquifers, wildlife habitats and as always, the challenges are about data collection to provide the text narratives. She would like to congratulate CAC member, Jen Rubbo who was awarded the new world foundation local champion grant to support climate smart communities. She will be assisting by working down the checklist for Union Vale to obtain Bronze certification. The CAC is already preparing for summer events potentially on invasive species and a walk through Tymor.

### **Worker's Compensation**

Supervisor Maas reported that Dutchess County has not been in touch yet regarding a response to our latest correspondence.

### **Solar Development on Route 55**

Supervisor Maas is happy there is a plan for an American Flag as she did get a complaint about the Recycling center flag being weak. They will be up and running soon and there is talk of a ribbon cutting ceremony. We were originally told we had 400-500 slots for community households that could join the project but during the prior Board meeting it was mentioned there was 175 slots. Supervisor Maas spoke with Malcom Bliss and he reported we are down to 75 slots since so many residents had signed up.

### **Furnace Pond Dam Survey**

Supervisor Maas sent out a draft survey to obtain feedback from the Board. Councilman Welsh offered to add a picture of the pond when it's full for comparison purpose. Councilman McGivney stated he definitely wants resident feedback to hear their thoughts going forward. Councilmen Durland and Frazier approve the draft survey.

### **Master Fee Schedule 2021**

Supervisor Maas noted the changes that were suggested from each of the departments. As per the organizational meeting, there was an updated resolution regarding \$30/ per hour for FOIL assembling for voluminous requests. Under dog permits, ACO, Mary Jean Calvi suggested a local impoundment fee of \$25 for repeat offenders that she houses.

Building Dept: new construction has become complicated CEO, George Kolb suggested an increase from \$0.75 to \$1/sq ft and the pool fees of an increased flat fee due to multiple visits. Equestrian Center: events for things such as weddings and catered events.

Senior Pool passes reduced to \$25 for Residents \$50 for Non-Residents, 2 and under free Recreation Fee: \$4000 per lot

Town Board application fee increased from \$500/ \$1000 for map and text amendments, this fee was suggested to pass along whatever the cost that was incurred to the Town.

Councilman Frazier and McGivney wanted to review the information especially in regard to the building department fees and compare with other Towns.

- **Policies and Procedures Review**  
Credit Card Use – no changes

- Financial Control Policy- no changes
- Financial Process for Town Clerk and Tax Collector – add e-check and credit card payment options
- Procurement Policy – no changes
- Cyber Security Policy – Cyber Command center was added in the event of a data breach.

### **Motion to Approve Policies**

Councilman Welsh made a motion to approve policy and procedures as specified now during this meeting. This was seconded by Supervisor Maas and all were unanimously in favor.

### **RESOLUTION # 24 OF 2021 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING RETENTION OF COUNSEL TO INITIATE JUDICIAL ADJUDICATION AND DETERMINATION IN PROPOSED ANNEXATION OF TYMOR PARK PARCELS (See Resolutions)**

Councilman Frazier stated next logical step in this process and he feels the Town should proceed. Councilman Welsh agrees to peruse for our own benefits and the residents of Union Vale, Councilman Durland, and Supervisor Maas also agreed, she added, without our independence she does not see an end to stopping intermittent taxation, issues regarding the dam and forever protect the Union Vale Residents for the future. Councilman McGivney agreed stating it is important that we are able to manage our infrastructure and have rights and access to our Park

### **Furnace Pond Dam Survey**

Councilman Durland made a motion to approve survey for feedback on the dam which was seconded by Councilman Welsh and all were unanimously in favor.

Supervisor Maas noted the Town Board members have received the list of warrants/abstracts; cash receipts, escrow reports, Building Dept. report and lists of all deposits made in both the General Fund and Highway Fund.

### **MOTION TO PAY BILLS**

Councilman Welsh made a motion to approve budget adjustments, warrants, & pay bills which was seconded by Councilman Frazier and all were unanimously in favor.

### **Public Comments on Town Issues**

*Glenn Morrison* –asked about the library group for early adapters and asked to provide some insight on the outcome.

### **MOTION TO ADJOURN**

At 8:36 PM Councilman Welsh made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Councilman Durland and all were unanimously in favor.

Respectfully Submitted,

Andrea Casey  
Town Clerk

**RESOLUTION # 24 OF 2021**

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING RETENTION OF COUNSEL TO INITIATE  
JUDICIAL ADJUDICATION AND DETERMINATION IN PROPOSED  
ANNEXATION OF TYMOR PARK PARCELS**

WHEREAS, the Town of Union Vale has been served notice that the Town of Beekman has rejected the Town Board of the Town of Union Vale's determination that the proposed annexation of five tax parcels in Tymor Park located in the Town of Beekman is in the overall public interest; and

WHEREAS, the Town Board of the Town of Union Vale resolves to pursue by Article 17 of the General Municipal Law the annexation of the five Tymor Park parcels located in the Town of Beekman for reasons presented at the Joint Public Hearing in November of 2020 and specified in Resolution # 23 of 2021; and

WHEREAS, the Town Board of the Town of Union Vale has been made aware that to mount this legal challenge it could cost as much or more as an Article 78 defense (or \$30,000) but as of yet the expenses are still uncertain; and


WHEREAS, the Town Supervisor will report the estimates and final tally of annexation related legal expenses during the financial report section of each board meeting;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, in the matter of Union Vale's Annexation of Beekman Parcels the Town Board of the Town of Union Vale will retain Van DeWater and Van DeWater as legal counsel.

The question of the adoption of the foregoing resolution was duly put to a vote on roll call, which resulted as follows:

Councilman Frazier	Aye	Dated: February 18, 2021
Councilman Durland	Aye	Moved: Councilman Welsh
Councilman McGivney	Aye	Seconded: Supervisor Maas
Councilman Welsh	Aye	Ayes: 5 Nays: 0
Supervisor Maas	Aye	

DATED: Union Vale, New York  
February 18, 2021

  
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Andrea Casey, TOWN CLERK