

## **UNION VALE TOWN BOARD WORK SESSION JULY 20, 2022**

**249 DUNCAN ROAD, UNION VALE, NEW YORK**

**UNION VALE TOWN HALL 7:30 PM**

**PRESENT: Supervisor Betsy Maas**

**Town Council: Kevin Durland, Perry Gusikoff, Kevin McGivney, John Welsh**

**Town Clerk: Andrea Casey**

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Supervisor Maas called the meeting to Order and Salute to the Flag at 7:30 PM

**Motion Approve Minutes:** Councilman Welsh made a motion to approve the June 20, 2022 meeting minutes, seconded by Councilman Durland and all were unanimously in favor.

### **Supervisor Report**

- Town Board members have received the list of warrants/abstracts; cash receipts, escrow reports, Building Dept. report, performance vs budget report and lists of all deposits made in both the General Fund and Highway Fund.
- Cash Flow: 4% over budget on cash in and at 83% of expenses
- General Fund Balance: \$2,911,045 Highway Fund Balance: \$504,714 including the \$148,075 in reserve
- Thanks to Mary Jean Calvi & family for gifting the Town a granite 9-11 Memorial stone
- Thank the residents of High View Road, John, John & Pierre who have been a huge help to alerting the Supervisor's office when wires are down in the area. The Town also has a new Verizon area manager who promptly responded to areas of problem
- The Town of Beekman Annexation case is still in process, Attorneys had oral arguments
- Cell Tower Appeal from Town of Beekman will be scheduled soon
- Two areas of resident concerns are fireworks and running stop signs
- Annual Constable training is scheduled for August 2022

### **Town Board Reports**

*Councilman Welsh* has been involved in the library discussions with the consultant and annexation

*Councilman Durland* nothing to report at this time

*Councilman McGivney* nothing to report at this time

*Councilman Gusikoff* – Recycling booth is almost complete, they are waiting on materials that are on backorder but should be completed by Autumn

### **Highway Report**

Superintendent Kading reported that W. Clove Mountain Road has been graded and resurfaced with the use of highway created material and the new, york rake. They are repairing catch basins around town subdivisions and having issues with cinder block risers. He is putting up speed signs but they cannot be enforced, roadsides are getting shaggy but due to increased fuel costs they will be efficient

### **Town Clerk**

Town Clerk Casey reminded everyone that shredding day is on August 3<sup>rd</sup>. Please check the website the day before for a time. There have been many calls about black bear sightings. The advice from DEC is to keep garbage inside until the morning of pick up, for more tips please see the Facebook post on the Town's page.

### **Public Comments**

*Glenn Morrison*, Bloomer Road- asked about the process for the criteria for zoom and residents participating. He also wanted to hear about discussion with Alex Cohen, he is also requesting a plan.

*Helga Weiss*, Barmore Road: She was not notified this was going to happen (building a library), why were the taxpayers not informed that this was going to be a project, and with the money it would cost. She is not in favor of building the library, thinks it would be more cost effective to pay the other surrounding libraries.

*John McGivney* – Sat on a library board in Kent, his experience it was difficult to get volunteers, the budget tripled right off the bat and he is worried this will cost the town too much money and he feels it is not needed and feels it will be a burden on the tax payers.

*Mary Jane Zukowski*-Highview Road, relates to what people have said and spoken her concerns. She worries about future taxation and as a retired person she appreciates the things the library has to offer but worries about the cost. She also asks the board to keep the idea open about a dog park

*Corrinna Kelley-W.* Clove Mtn Rd: Questioned the ethics of the group of citizens who set up the Library as Councilman Gusikoff was part of that and also a Town Board Member. She is also concerned that the building of the library is not of the town residents' interest and worries it will be a financial liability.

Supervisor Maas replied that the 5013C was set up ethically and under the advice of council, Councilman Guikoff was part of that prior to being elected.

*Pat Cartalemi*, Rose Ct. – thank you for all that you have done in terms of the library as a father of young children he appreciates moving forward and thinks this is something the town should be proud of and not demonized.

*Elfriede Tillman* – Shaugnessey Road – we do not need a library, please look at the costs presented by the Town and others. Consultant Alex Cohen was brought in and she was unaware he was presenting and questioned if that was the final report, and asked if he was coming to future meetings. She also asked if it would be advertised – she thinks it will be too expensive

*Betty Albrecht*, Perkins Lane: 45 yearlong resident, as someone who knew the Connor family personally, she feels they would appreciate this and if the town can afford it why not, thanks for thinking and hopes they approve the creation of a library and feels this is something the residents should fully enjoy. She spoke about the history and how there was supposed to have been a cultural center as part of building the Town Hall on the Park parcels.

**Recycling Center:** Supervisor Maas spoke about the idea of a Recycling Center fieldtrip to view others and gain ideas for new design flow for ours to improve the experience.

**Parks, Submitted by Park Manager, Jake Gosnell:** Community night was a great success, I want to thank all of our food trucks that came out as well as everyone who came out and enjoyed the beautiful evening and fireworks

Summer is in full swing. I want to thank the entire parks and recreation staff for working as hard as they do and making Tymor Park a great place to be  
The maintenance staff has been hard at work on multiple projects throughout the park that we are super excited to see finished as well as all of the normal things that come along with summer ie: summer camp and the pool.

**Recreation, Submitted by Maggie Collins, Recreation Director:** Our summer camp programs are in full swing down at the park. We have enjoyed welcoming back former campers and meeting new friends. Campers have had fun at our various organized activities, swim lessons at the pool, and our special theme days. Our first session was met with positive feedback from parents and campers, and campers got to watch a “Mad Scientist” show at the park put on by Mid-Hudson Mad Science. This session campers had fun with a friendly game of kickball against Hillcroft Summer Camp - thank you to Hillcroft for helping us organize the meet. The pool has been enjoyed by our camp programs as well as by the public during the weekdays and weekends. Our Aquatics team has been working hard for public and camp lessons, and continues to ensure everyone enjoys the pool in a fun and safe environment.

**Constable Report submitted by George Treadwell, Constable in Charge: June 2022:**  
Patrolled 570 miles of road including all town properties filling the Ford Explorer with 19.5 gallons of gas. 3 Court dates with 49 Cases, 28 actual appearances and 6 cases dismissed for failure to prosecute due to officer absence. No issues to report during patrols. June 15- right rear tire repaired, June 24- provided parking for community night, June 28- annual peace officer training scheduled for August 22 and assisted animal control with issuance of 3 appearance tickets for dog issues.

**Animal Control Report:** Submitted by ACO, Mary Jean Calvi. July 2022: 1 lost dog, 2 complaints and 1 prior complaint went to Town Court.

#### **Land Use Moratorium to Review Town Center Zone & Private Roads**

This has been extended. Planning Chair Cartalemi and others have been working hard on this and have met with applicants to gain their feedback. One important recommendation from the

Town Planner is that any kind of subdivision and make it into a conservation subdivision where the houses are closer and 50% of the property is kept green and include trails.

### **Town Gift of Land from Redl Family – Status Update Town Gift of Land**

The Town Attorney advised that the family is waiting on the appraisal and then documents can be executed. The Town hopes to get a proposal from DPW in August on how to make that corner safer.

### **Library Consultant – Union Vale Library Study Completed**

The study is 30 pages and can be viewed on the town's website. There was a lengthy discussion during the work session and advised that the status quo is not working, based on what has been gathered during the research portion between Albany, MHLS, and the residents he feels this situation cannot be fixed. There is an opportunity since the town already owns a building and this will give everyone library services. Supervisor Maas further recapped the history that led to this point. Councilman Welsh brought up financial issue maybe soon capacity issue with our Town's needs growing, the surrounding library's may not be able to serve our town in the future. Councilman Gusikoff noted that we have the resources, this would be efficient, ¾ of the discussion was about not raising taxes with revenue building to keep costs low. Councilman Durland agreed and emphasized this unique opportunity and how much it would benefit the town. Further discussion on this topic ensued.

### **Playground at Godfrey Park – County MIG Grant Update**

Supervisor Maas advised that the MIG grant announcement will happen Friday.

### **Hudson Valley Animal Rescue and Sanctuary – New Partnership**

This is a new agreement which replaces the SPCA. Supervisor Maas pointed out the new contact information for HVARSA can be found on the town website.

### **Review Capital Projects List and Available Quotes**

Capital projects discussion was tabled until next month.

### **Dog Park in Tymor Park**

There have been 2 residents' emails, one in favor one not. The Town Board will still do research and speak with residents to determine the outcome of deciding to move forward with this project.

### **Large Trucks and Local Road Damage - Discussion**

Trucks have been damaging local roads due to speed and other issues. Town board can pass a resolution per 1660 highway law, and designate county roads and town highways, not state, as through highways order stop signs and flashing signals. Further discussion on this topic ensued.

### **Library Budget & Immediate Plan**

Supervisor Maas said based on the advice from the consultant and Albany, they advised that you cannot go below \$32 per capita for a library budget and the average is \$67. The Supervisor worked with \$55 per capita which would equal a \$250,690 budget. She also covered asking for sustainable donations on an annual basis. They are hopeful for 15% in donations to add to that and a total revenue of \$291,000. She estimated 51% for labor expenses for 2-part timers and 1 director. She further spoke about the tentative budget document, based on a study of 20 other libraries and the timeline of this future endeavor.

### **Resolution 31-2022 Authorizing the Establishment of a Public Library (See Resolutions)**

Discussion – Councilman McGivney received 3 emails all voicing concerns about the cost to the taxpayers exceeding what we are being asked to pay now. You cannot guarantee donations and he shares the concerns of the residents regarding a financial burden.

### **Motion to Pay Bills**

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

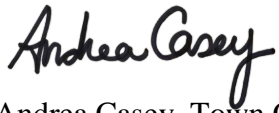
### **Public Comment on Town Issues**

asked about the names of the people who want to have a library.

**Motion to Adjourn**

At 9:25 PM Councilman Welsh made a motion to adjourn the meeting which was seconded by Supervisor Maas and all were unanimously in favor.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Andrea Casey". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Andrea Casey, Town Clerk

**TOWN OF UNION VALE TOWN BOARD  
RESOLUTION NO. 31-2022: AUTHORIZING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A  
PUBLIC LIBRARY**

**RESOLUTION**

The following Resolution was offered by Councilman Welsh and seconded by Councilman Gusikoff:

**WHEREAS**, the Town of Union Vale, founded in 1827, in Dutchess County, NY, being in possession of a beautiful 500-acre municipal park called "Tymor" does not have its own public library to honor the wishes of our benefactors, Ralph and Jean Webster Connor; and

**WHEREAS**, in Dutchess County, the last newly established public library was nineteen years ago in the Town of Clinton, NY thereby making Union Vale the last town in Dutchess without guaranteed and consistent full access to library services; and

**WHEREAS**, the Town Board of the Town of Union Vale is interested in creating a positive change and improving the quality of life for all residents in the Town by establishing a non-profit educational organization where children, teens, adults and seniors can be exposed to and enjoy cultural arts, reading, printed and electronic materials and media, conversation, camaraderie, exciting programming in entertainment and education; where one can pursue new careers, host and attend meetings, record podcasts, make movies and enjoy any tools that develop the mind and make life interesting; and

**WHEREAS**, the State of New York through its Department of Education provides a governing structure and supports a network of Library Systems designed to provide many independent education services, resources and financial grants that a Union Vale Library and residents of Union Vale can benefit from; and

**WHEREAS**, the Town Board of the Town of Union Vale feels that the guidance, oversight and support provided by the Department of Education, along with the requirement that the Town Board appoint five to fifteen Trustees to oversee Library management, means that a new institution would be carefully nurtured and along with the the Town of Union Vale support these important resources in the best interest of the public; and

**WHEREAS**, this proposed appointment of Trustees involves no physical project or action requiring an environmental review, which review will be conducted as required before the formulation of any proposed action;

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Town Board of the Town of Union Vale, according to Education Law 255 does hereby take this historic step on behalf of all residents and authorizes the establishment of a public library to be known as the Union Vale Library; and

**NOW BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Town Board of the Town of Union Vale, according to Education Law 260, will solicit applications for, interview and appoint five trustees for staggered terms of five years, to see our new library through the chartering process, hire a director and properly guide our newest institution forward.

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

Councilman Durland	Aye
Councilman Gusikoff	Aye
Councilman McGivney	Nay
Councilman Welsh	Aye
Supervisor Maas	Aye

DATED: Union Vale, New York  
July 20<sup>th</sup>, 2022

  
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Andrea Casey, TOWN CLERK