

**UNION VALE TOWN BOARD MEETING DECEMBER 20, 2023**

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

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

**PRESENT: Supervisor Betsy Maas**

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

**Highway Superintendent Ed Kading**

**Town Clerk: Andrea Casey**

**Town Attorney: Attorney Jeff Battistoni**

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

**Motion Approve Minutes:** Councilman Welsh made a motion to approve the December 6<sup>th</sup> Work Session seconded by Councilman Durland and all were unanimously in favor. Supervisor Maas advised the November 15<sup>th</sup> meeting minutes would be emailed out later this week.

**Supervisors Report**

- Not all the financials are completed as the bank statements still have not arrived due to a change in systems at the bank
- FEMA submissions are done, range for reimbursement on the W. Clove Mtn bridge is between 300k and 680K, salt shed has not been announced
- Cell Tower lawsuit recap and Homeland Towers lease has been signed, next step is Parkland Alienation
- MS4 letter was sent requesting a waiver to be removed, letter was received that they would review
- Furnace Pond Dam, boring test could not be completed, dam needs a decision
- Financials will be reviewed at the end of the meeting during budget transfers
- Check \$232,862 for CHIPS was received
- Check for Comp Alliance (WC Company) \$2,064 for safe workplace award
- Workers comp award, there was some confusion and the Supervisor wanted to make clear she summarized that the premiums went up to \$75,000 from \$15,400. The issue was 2 outstanding cases, after discussion the County asked the Town pay \$176,000 to be released the Town ended up in mediation. Premiums were \$49,945, going down to 36,000 due to good habits with workers comp. In the end the Town saved the taxpayers a total of \$179,151.13 due to the Towns persistence.
- 2010-2015 there was a negative cash flow, and in 2015 the taxes went up through the tax cap, 2016 and 2017 things started to turn around since 2018 the Town has been running positive in net income to date
- An E-mail was received from Peter Krulewitch offering to pay the library lease from the 501C3 in the amount of \$99 from the Union Vale Library Fund

**Board Member Reports**

*Councilman McGivney*- with the holidays approaching he reminded everyone to remember those less fortunate and donate to a food pantry

*Councilman Durland* – finishing up year end items and thanked the Supervisor for all her financial assistance throughout her time here.

*Councilman Welsh* – reviewing the budget in detail for the upcoming year, writing is one part following it is another. He has also been reviewing candidates for a vacancy on the Town Board.

**Highway Report**

Superintendent Kading thanked Supervisor Maas for her 6 years of guidance and assistance during his time here. He reported Storm this past weekend with down trees, roadsides are saturated from excess rainwater turning into black ice. Driveways are also leaking into the road and he asks homeowners to ensure their driveways are not creating runoff water turning into ice creating a dangerous situation for drivers. He will oil and chip roads in 2024 that need attention to further preserve the roads without a total renovation. The 5-year plans will be added to the website for resident review keeping in mind the Superintendent can make priority changes as needed. The Highway Materials bid opening was last week, he recommends we approve all bids but was disappointed there was not more responses.

### **Motion to Accept Highway Materials Bid for 2024**

Councilman Durland made a motion as per the Highway Superintendents recommendation to accept all material bids for 2024 which was seconded by Councilman Welsh and all were unanimously in favor.

### **Town Clerk Report**

Clerk Casey noted as the Town Board was aware of the petition received regarding the permissive referendum on the library lease last Wednesday. The Town contacted an expert attorney in the field for legal advice to assist in validating the petition and received a letter in response which she read aloud. It was determined due to the reasons listed in the letter, the Town is not validating the petition / authorizing the referendum. This letter is on file in the office of the Town Clerk. Secondly, the 2024 Recycling passes are available for sale.

### **Public Comment**

Jean Moore, spoke in response to the petition not being validated and the funds that were donated for the lease. She also read an email from the Supervisor regarding the Town Library.

Supervisor Maas responded the items mentioned that she felt needed an explanation.

### **Union Vale Library**

Dr. Watkins offered that she and the Board of Trustees do not have all the answers but hope to work towards a peaceful collaboration. She reported that all documents have been submitted for the chartering and now they will wait for a reply. She also noted that the current Library Director of the Town has unfortunately resigned. They are currently seeking applications for a Community Engagement position to assist in gathering ideas for programs our residents would like. Dr. Watkins summarized her interaction with the Beekman Library President which was positive. She apologizes for any negativity but promises it is with great pride they serve on the Library Board and hopes they can come to a place in harmony.

### **Recreation, submitted by Recreation Director Maggie Collins**

At the top of the month we hosted our annual Grand Illumination event. Family and friends enjoyed warm drinks, roasting marshmallows, a visit from Santa, and watched the park light up for the first time of the season! We want to thank our friends at Hudson Valley Portuguese Churrasqueira for serving delicious refreshments throughout the evening, our hardworking staff and volunteers for putting on another amazing light display and event, and to everyone that donated a toy for the Hope Through Pope Toy Drive for the Children's Home of Poughkeepsie. This Friday we will host our annual TGTT Winter Party. Students K-5th can enjoy their first day off for winter break at Tymor Park and join in on Winter themed crafts and games with friends, fresh air in the park, and more! Registration is open for the party and the following days off for the ACS D winter break leading into the New Year. Parents/guardians can find more information at our Parks and Rec website. Our staff looks forward to hitting the ground running into the New Year and will keep residents up to date on information on Summer Camp, annual events, and special programming through our website and social media pages.

### **Parks Report 11/15/23 Submitted by Vincent Germano**

The work on #2 Tymor Park Road has finished with the replacement of the broken furnace and the repair of broken cast iron waste pipe. Thank you to the tenant for being patient and understanding about the work being done. The Preparation for the Grand Illumination went well, and we were able to make the park look really nice for the event thanks to the entire parks department. The event itself seemed to be popular and well-liked by those that came, thank you to Nick for working a long day for the event, the various town employees that volunteered, and the owners of Hudson Valley Portuguese BBQ for pouring drinks. The new playground at Godfrey park has mostly been completed, other than one part that is on order. Thank you to the installers at miracle for working around the rain to get it installed, to the park workers that have assisted in various tasks, and the community for helping finish the build and being patient with the rain and setbacks.

### **Constable Report Submitted by George Treadwell, CIC**

Below is the Constable Report for November 2023:

Constables patrolled approximately 584 miles of town roads including all properties filling the explorer with 46.2 gallons of gasoline. The (3) town court dates totaled 27 cases on the dockets with 14 actual appearances and 6 defendants responded by mail or phone. There were no issues

to report. Constables reported the following during patrols:

\* 11/17 - Removed deer from roadway on Clove Road.

Additional Note: \* 11/24 - Constables began nightly Bloomer Rd Holiday Lights Display traffic control detail.

**Animal Control, submitted by ACO, Mary Jean Calvi November 2023**

During the month of November there were two found dogs, one was re-united with her owner. The other was brought to our shelter and after the required waiting period will be placed up for adoption. There were no lost dogs and no dog complaints.

**Godfrey Park Playground Update**

Supervisor Maas said they are waiting for one cupola and needs to adjust 1 slide for water pooling, a sun shade has been ordered and there is room for future investments for toys or equipment.

**Cell Tower – Update & Revenue Clarification (to Town Parks)** progressing forward wanted to make sure that both parks were included referenced Resolution 19-2018 which referenced “park and facilities” for both Tymor and Godfrey

**Motion to Approve Parental Leave**

Councilman Welsh made a motion to approve the Parental Leave Policy for inclusion into the Employee Handbook which was seconded by Councilman Durland and all were unanimously in favor. (Policy attached)

**Hot Air Balloon Festival / Gaelic Festival – dates are secured 2024**

The Board reviewed the finances for rental, safety and traffic control. Both organizers are Town residents and have agreed to the rate presented to the Board.

**Motion to Approve Event Dates**

Councilman Durland, made a motion to approve both the Balloon and Gaelic Festival dates for 2024 at the rates presented to the Board which was seconded by Councilman Welsh and all were unanimously in favor.

**Intermunicipal Agreement with T/o Washington for BAR Members**

Supervisor Maas summarized the agreement, if Town of Washington BOAR members or out BOAR members want to grieve their own taxes they would be permitted to be seen in the opposite Town. Supervisor Maas advised they could adopt it now or later but it was a straightforward document.

**Motion to adopt the IMA with Town of Washington**

Councilman Welsh made a motion for the Supervisor to sign the Intermunicipal Agreement with the Town of Washington for the BOAR which was seconded by Councilman Durland and all were unanimously in favor.

**Use of Town Gift from Ed Sharkey**

Town Resident Isabelle Morton, a longtime friend was asked and she said he would have liked it to be used for one of the Parks. The Godfrey grant did not encompass a basketball court and it was suggested that they could resurface and reline the court with new backboards and nets in the spring for the \$10,000 that was given by Mr. Sharkey.

**Motion to use town funds for basketball court in Godfrey**

Councilman Welsh made a motion to use the funds donated by Mr. Edward Sharkey for a basketball court for Godfrey park which was seconded by Supervisor Maas and all were unanimously in favor.

**Motion for Filling a Vacancy on the Town Board**

Supervisor Maas noted that they interviewed 9 people and a 10<sup>th</sup> had a family emergency. Councilman Durland made a motion to nominate Pat Cartalemi to fill the vacancy as a long time Planning Board member and Chair who would bring that experience, energy and skill to the Town Board. Councilman Welsh seconded the motion, nothing he is very well versed in Town Code. The motion carried with Supervisor Maas, Councilman Welsh and Councilman Durland in favor. Councilman McGivney voted Nay.

Supervisor Maas noted that he is extremely experienced and knows the information now.

Councilman McGivney made a motion to table this as there has been no Board discussion since Sunday. He cited the recent election and the vote count totals. This is why he feels it should be tabled for further discussion. Councilman Welsh stated this is an interim appointment and will be voted on next November. There was further discussion on this topic.

**RESOLUTION NO. 35 of 2023 ENCUMBERING FUNDS FOR UNPAID COMMITMENTS FROM 2023**

**RESOLUTION NO. 36 OF 2023 RESOLUTION CONFIRMING SOURCE OF FUNDS FOR LIBRARY LEASE AND RENOVATION OF PREMISES**

**Motion to Approve Security Camera Quote**

Councilman Welsh made a motion to approve the quote from Blue Dragon Connections for, Town Hall: \$8,900 Parks: \$4,558 Highway: \$2572 totaling \$16,030 which was seconded by Councilman Durland and all were unanimously in favor.

**Approve Budget Adjustments, Transfers, Warrants, Pay Bills**

Supervisor Maas summarized the attached document. Councilman Welsh made a motion to pay the bills and which was seconded by Councilman Durland and all were unanimously in favor.

Supervisor Maas thanked everyone for the opportunity to be Town Supervisor, we have the most wonderful town employees and noted everyone's devotion. Also thanked Councilman Welsh as Deputy Supervisor who has been there from advice, to help.

**Motion to Adjourn** At 8:58 PM Councilman Welsh made a motion to adjourn the meeting which was seconded by Supervisor Maas and all were unanimously in favor.

Respectfully Submitted,

Andrea Casey, Town Clerk

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



TOWN OF UNION VALE TOWN BOARD  
RESOLUTION NO. 35 of 2023:

ENCUMBERING FUNDS FOR UNPAID COMMITMENTS FROM 2023

Councilman Welsh proposed the following Resolution, which was seconded by Councilman Durland.

**WHEREAS**, the Town Board of the Town of Union Vale authorized the Union Vale Public Library in July of 2022; and

**WHEREAS**, fifty percent of the expected annual operating budget was included in the 2023 town budget; and

**WHEREAS**, the Union Vale Library Trustees have been outfitting the Senior Center with collections of books and DVDs to build a base for the public to utilize so the chartering process can move forward; and

**WHEREAS**, the encumbering of unused 2023 funds to pay for the additional commitments made for furniture, system upgrades for Libby and the barcoding of books as well as equipment for audio visual presentations which will complete the new programming needs, will alleviate pressure on the 2024 library budget;

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Town of Union Vale 2024 Budget shall be amended to provide for encumbrances rolled forward in order to provide for the funding of the aforementioned projects;

<b>FUND:</b>	<b>ENCUMBER:</b>
A7410	\$93,000 (current balance)

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, the amounts of these combined encumbrances provided for above will be enumerated by invoice for each specific project. If the actual amount of the total expenditures are lower than the encumbrance, the unspent amount will be returned to the fund balance for 2024.

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 McGivney	Nay
Councilman Welsh	Aye
Supervisor Maas	Aye

DATED: Union Vale, New York  
December 20, 2023

  
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Andrea Casey, TOWN CLERK

**TOWN OF UNION VALE**  
**RESOLUTION # 36 OF 2023**  
**RESOLUTION CONFIRMING SOURCE OF FUNDS FOR LIBRARY LEASE**  
**AND RENOVATION OF PREMISES**

WHEREAS, the Town of Union Vale, as Landlord, executed a Lease with the Union Vale Public Library, for the lease of space at 8 Tymor Park Road for library purposes; and

WHEREAS, said Lease requires the Town of Union Vale to perform the renovation of the leased premises and to pay for the cost and expense of that renovation; and

WHEREAS, a not-for-profit corporation was formed known as the Union Vale Library Fund, Inc., which has been duly recognized by the Internal Revenue Service as an exempt organization for income tax purposes (often referred to as a 501(c)(3) organization) and said corporation intends to raise funds and pay for the lease costs and renovation costs described in said Lease;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Town Board hereby confirms that the source of funds for the lease costs and the renovation costs described in said Lease will be funds obtained from the Union Vale Library Fund, Inc., and that there is no intent to pay for such costs from the general revenue or fund balance of the Town.

The preceding Resolution was offered by Councilman Durland, who moved its adoption, seconded by Councilman Welsh.

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 McGivney	Nay
Councilman Welsh	Aye
Supervisor Maas	Aye

DATED: Union Vale, New York  
December 20, 2023

  
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ANDREA CASEY, TOWN CLERK



**Town of Union Vale Employee Handbook**

**Updated Section: 4.5 Sick Days**

**Recommendation:**

**Add section 4.5.1 – Parental Leave**

**“Full time Employees, scheduled for 8 hours daily, will be eligible for paid parental leave upon the birth or adoption of a child after having served at least one year in Town of Union Vale Employment. Salaried employees will be paid 8 weeks straight salary and hourly employees will be paid for their average scheduled hours over the most recent 12 to 24 month period. This benefit is intended to assist new parents with bonding with a newly born or adopted infant child.**

**Time may be taken in one-hour increments but use of paid parental leave expires after twelve (12) weeks from the birth or adoption of the child.”**

## SUMMARY OF TRANSFERS DECEMBER 2023 BOARD MEETING

### SUMMARY OF BUDGET TRANSFERS FOR 2023:

<u>From Account</u>		<u>To Account</u>		
<u>Number</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Amount</u>
A1440.4	Engineer CE	A1420.4	Attorney CE	\$ 19,718
A1990.4	Contingent Account	A1950.4	Taxes on Property	\$ 630
A3620.2	Building EQ	A3620.4	Building CE	\$ 350
A7141.1	Summer Camp PS	A7141.4	Summer Camp CE	\$ 179
A7410.4	Library CE	A7410.1	Library PS	\$ 30,016
A7410.4	Library CE	A7410.2	Library EQ	\$ 1,342
D5110.4	General Repairs CE	D1980.4	MTA Tax	\$ 4
D5142.4	Snow Removal CE	D5130.2	Machinery EQ	\$ 19,545
D5142.4	Snow Removal CE	D5130.4	Machinery CE	\$ 8,911
D5142.4	Snow Removal CE	D5112.4	Perm Improvements / CHIPS	\$ 56,419

### SUMMARY OF BUDGET AMENDMENTS FOR 2023:

<u>Fund Bal / Revenue Increase</u>		<u>Expenditure Increase</u>		
<u>Number</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Amount</u>
A1090	Int & Penalties on Real Prop Tax	A1675.4	Chargebacks CE	\$ 609
A2001.6	Recreation Charges - Equestrian	A7182.2	Equestrian EQ	\$ 5,809
A2001.6	Recreation Charges - Equestrian	A7182.4	Equestrian CE	\$ 711
D3501	St Aid - CHIPS	D5112.4	Perm Improvements / CHIPS	\$ 40,997
A2001.1	Facility Rentals	A7180.1	Pool PS	\$ 7,226
A2001.1	Facility Rentals	A7180.4	Pool CE	\$ 8,827