

UNION VALE TOWN BOARD MEETING FEBRUARY 19, 2025

249 DUNCAN ROAD, UNION VALE, NEW YORK

UNION VALE TOWN HALL 7:30 PM

PRESENT: Supervisor Steve Frazier

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

Town Clerk: Andrea Casey

Highway Superintendent: Ed Kading

Town Attorney: Ian Lindars

Supervisor Frazier 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 January 15, 2025 meeting minutes which was seconded by Councilman Durland and all were unanimously in favor.

Supervisors Report

- Asked for an executive session at the end of the meeting for a personnel interview, motioned by Councilman Welsh, seconded by Councilman Durland, all in favor.
- Working on annual reports due to the various state agencies that govern the Town
- Spoke about the shortage of salt being a national issue, not a local issue, due to storms holding up shipping of salt overseas. The Town is in contract through Dutchess County with salt supplier and that supplier has not been able to produce the salt as quickly as originally anticipated. As of now the Town is restocked.
- Snow in roads is prohibited and unsafe, reminder to residents to speak to plow contractor

Board Member Reports

Councilman Welsh- looked into the salt shortage, is a widespread problem, commended highway for their efforts and the excellent shape the roads are in, even in Connecticut they had to close school due to the shortage.

Councilman Harrington – commented on the salt and noted this storm was very treacherous with the ice and freezing temperatures. He has also been following the library issues

Councilman McGivney- Town passed an exemption for volunteer fire freighters and EMS – sent a letter to the school districts to encourage them to implement the exemption.

Town Clerk Report

Clerk Casey stated the annual “valentines for veterans” card making event was this past weekend. Thank you to Damar Osika for donating supplies. Reminded the volunteers the paperwork for the exemption is available at town hall, these are all due by March 1.

Highway Report

Superintendent Kading reported the salt ordered on the 6th of February arrived the 17th the shed is only at 50% capacity due to the damage of the shed, orders have to come in when ordered, as per the contract the company has 5 business days and they took 11 days. This is a breach of contract and he is reviewing options, hopeful for refunds.

Truck #9 has a bad EGR cooler and related parts estimated repair \$12,500, requests approval.

Supervisor Frazier advised there is \$40,000.00 in the highway repair line.

Superintendent Kading is looking for 2, new to the dept, plow blades as the current are about 30 years old. Will be putting aside funds for this. Would like to revisit abandoning roads that are driveways. The new attorney will work on this issue.

Motion for Highway Truck Repair

Councilman Welsh motioned to allocate \$12,500 for EGR cooler repair on truck #9, seconded by Councilman Harrington all were unanimously in favor.

Tax Collector Report

Tax Collector Saglibene stated as of now we have 34% collected, last year at this time at 39% for reference. Waiting for escrow, typically gets mailed last minute. Reminder March 1 all exemptions are due. February 28th is the last day to pay without penalty encourages all to have the envelope hand stamped so it can be counted on time.

Recreation Report, submitted by Maggie Collins, Recreation Director

Our Traditional Camp program is officially sold out for all four sessions, and there are few seats left for our Teen Leadership and Kids Camp programs. We have started waitlists for any full programs; parents/guardians can call the Park Office to be put on the waitlist.

As we get closer to Spring, information for Public Swim Lessons and Pool Memberships will be posted on our Social Media pages and the Parks and Recreation website around the end of March.

Our team is already starting to plan our Egg Hunts for All event, scheduled for Saturday, April 19th. Be on the lookout for registration/information on the event as well as our annual volunteer egg stuffing date on our Social Media pages and our website within the coming weeks.

Park Report, submitted by Park Manager, Vincent Germano

- We are still taking down Christmas decorations. We have refinished the sign for the senior center entrance.
- We have started taking down trees and clearing brush along the creekside past the concrete bridge towards the Furnace Pond hiking trail.
- Our dump truck is currently in the shop waiting on parts so we are still borrowing the highways truck to deal with the large amount of ice we have gotten. With the shortage of salt we are experiencing, please be careful of icy areas around the parks.
- We are still looking for a weekend maintenance person, we will be conducting some interviews this week but people can still apply through the indeed posting.

Animal Control Report Supervisor Frazier received but forgot to print, will be reported next meeting

Public Comment Agenda Items- None

Recycling Center Manager- Supervisor Frazier explained this was absorbed when the former manager resigned. He would like to reinstate this position as there is much paperwork and Peter Poltrack is already fulfilling this role and asks for a stipend as there is much paperwork and state reports that have to be filed. The entire Board agreed, he is excellent employee. Supervisor Frazier will look into an appropriate figure.

Salt shed Update

Engineer Tom Harvey drew up proposed plans with replacement in the same location and size with the addition of 4 bays on the side to protect equipment. The concept is poured concrete with pole barn, as it is not only a building but a retaining structure to keep the salt dry. This may be ready as soon as 2 weeks to put out for bid. This proposal includes \$35,000 of inhouse labor from the highway dept employees this whole project runs around \$400,000 plus the possibility of contingencies.

Supervisor Frazier said between capital improvement fund and the \$50,000 grant this can be covered without extending credit. Councilman Welsh agreed this is well beyond its usable life and always a better idea to pay “cash”. Mr. Harvey also spoke about an alternative idea with a precast structure that is not as durable but has some cost savings however has more cons than pros. This is estimated as a 50-year lifespan building. Out to bid by march 11th 2-month window, potential award at may board meeting and building could occur by June and finish at the latest by September. Everyone agreed to move forward with haste.

Motion for Salt Shed Bid Packet

Councilman Harrington made a motion to authorize the Town Engineer to create a bid package together based on plans received, seconded by Councilman Welsh and all were unanimously in favor.

Little League Sponsorship

Supervisor Frazier asked the board about sponsoring 3 little league teams, spoke with town attorney, this is past practice, this can be spared 7989.4, as a recreation program and give an opportunity to local children. The Board agreed this is tradition that should be kept.

Motion to Sponsor LaGrange Little League

Councilman McGivney made a motion to spend \$750.00 to sponsor 3 teams with LaGrange Little League which was seconded by Councilman Harrington and all were unanimously in favor.

Public Comment Town Issues

Heidi Tucci- Bloomer Road, speaking to bring awareness and inspire activism for our Veterans close acute care unit at the Castle Point VA hospital, this unit saves lives and this is specialized care that cannot be found at local hospitals as well as comradery. She urges the Town and residents to write letters to advocate for this cause. Information can be found at Town Hall for those who would like to participate. The Town Board agreed to post this on the website.

Mike McPartland- representing the Library Trustees, clarified the cost of the library. 2023 budget: \$112,500.00 spent approximately \$48,000.00 with \$65,000 left over 2024 budget: \$227,900 spent \$77,193 with over \$150,000.00. He spoke of the encumbrance and noted it was not needed for the next year and not used. Therefore around \$250,000.00 was reabsorbed back into the general fund into the town, not spent by the library. Over the past 2 years the library has cost on average \$62,500.00 which are all on file. He further spoke about the budget gap for 2025 and offered to work with the town board to assist.

Jean Moore, Darren Road, spoke about funding for the library and the estimate costs and urged the Town Board members to review her correspondence regarding what surrounding libraries cost the local towns and noted it was between \$400,000.00 to \$600,000.00 range and assured the town board those numbers are accurate.

Executive Session Councilman Welsh made a motion to enter executive session for a personnel interview, which was seconded by Councilman Durland and all were unanimously in favor.

Executive Session Councilman Welsh made a motion to exit executive session to resume the regular meeting which was seconded by Councilman Harrington and all were unanimously in favor. Supervisor Frazier advised that no decisions were made and no money allocated.

Motion for Resolution for Hire

Supervisor Frazier made a motion to ask the Town Attorney to draft a resolution to hire Mr. William Dempsey as Deputy Building Inspector which was seconded by Councilman McGivney and all were unanimously in favor.

Approve Budget Adjustments, Transfers, Warrants, Pay Bills

Councilman Welsh made a motion to pay the bills and which was seconded by Councilman McGivney and all were unanimously in favor.

Next Meeting March 5, 2025 at 7:30pm

Motion to Adjourn At 8:33PM Councilman Welsh made a motion to adjourn the meeting which was seconded by Councilman McGivney and all were unanimously in favor.

Respectfully Submitted,



Andrea Casey, Town Clerk