

TOWN OF CLIFTON PARK TOWN BOARD

October 3, 2022

The meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Clifton Park was held in the Town Office Building at 7:00 p.m. Supervisor Barrett presiding.

Present: Supervisor Barrett
Councilwoman Flood
Councilwoman Standaert
Councilman Morelli
Councilwoman Walowit
Town Clerk Brobston

Also Present: Town Attorney McCarthy
Mark Heggen, Comptroller
Matt Andrus, Information Specialist
Wade Schoenborn, Director of Building & Development
Michael O'Brien, Collection System Manager
Terri Cook, Animal Control Director

MINUTES APPROVAL

MOTION by Councilwoman Walowit, seconded by Councilman Morelli, to approve the minutes of the September 12 and 19 meetings as presented.

ROLL CALL VOTE

Ayes: Councilwoman Flood, Councilwoman Standaert, Councilman Morelli,
Councilwoman Walowit, Supervisor Barrett

Noes: None

MOTION CARRIED

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND COMMUNICATION

Supervisor Barrett highlighted a few items on the proposed 2023 Budget:

Taxes

Proposed budget will remain under the tax cap

No Town general fund tax will continue

Highway and EMS taxes will stay relatively flat

ARPA funds

Sewer Camera

\$130,000 extra for paving

\$925,000 for various park improvements including access to the 41 Acres along the River, splash park, new playground on the Clifton Common and pickleball courts

\$75,000 toward the veterans' project on the Clifton Common

\$100,000 various improvements on the Clifton Common

3% salary increase for the two CSEA units and non-union personnel

\$36,000 Parks & Recreation software

\$200,000 slip lining

\$37,000 Household Hazardous Waste collection

6% increase in health insurance

Councilman Morelli reminded residents, during Supervisor Barrett's budget highlights, of the initiative to revitalize the Veterans Memorial on the Clifton Common. The initiative allows residents in Clifton Park to purchase engraved bricks for \$100 each, for use at the Town Veterans and Military Service Walkway. Construction to begin in 2023. This is an opportunity to recognize and honor individuals, units, ships, etc. who have served or are currently serving in the military. 110 bricks have been sold so far.

Councilwoman Flood reminded residents of the upcoming event to be held at the Historic Grooms Tavern, this Friday, October 7. The Tri-City NY Paranormal Society will present an evening of para-normal exploration.

Councilman Morelli announced the Town Board will be meeting with the individual department heads for their input on the proposed budget, in the upcoming week. He commented that the Town Board has done a great job with the budget over the years improving the quality of life for residents.

RESOLUTIONS

No one wished to be heard.

Resolution No. 242 of 2022, a resolution approving appointments to the Industrial Development Agency.

Introduced by Councilwoman Flood, who moved its adoption, seconded by Councilwoman Standaert.

WHEREAS, with the resignation of Jean Mahserjian as counsel to the IDA, a vacancy exists for the Counsel to the Industrial Development Agency, and

WHEREAS, Supervisor Barrett recommends Jonathan Schopf, 611 Bruno Road, Clifton Park, to fill the position, and

WHEREAS, as of September 30, 2022, Jonathan Schopf has resigned as a member and the Chairman of the IDA, and vacancies now exist for both the Chairman and a member, and

WHEREAS, the Supervisor also recommends that Derek Brown, member since 2017 and current Vice Chairman, be appointed as Chairman of the IDA for the remainder of the term to expire on December 31, 2022, and

WHEREAS, Supervisor Barrett also recommends that Dennis Brobston, with his extensive experience in economic development and marketing in the Capital Region, be appointed to fill the remainder of the three-year term vacated by Mr. Schopf, term to expire December 31, 2023, and

WHEREAS, each of these appointments will confer a benefit to the Town of Clifton Park; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that Jonathan Schopf, is hereby appointed to the Industrial Development Agency as Counsel, and be it further

RESOLVED, that Dennis Brobston is hereby appointed to fill the unexpired term of Jonathan Schopf, term to expire December 31, 2023; and be it further

RESOLVED, that Derek Brown is hereby appointed Chairman of the Industrial Development Agency.

ROLL CALL VOTE

Ayes: Councilwoman Flood, Councilwoman Standaert, Councilman Morelli,
Councilwoman Walowit, Supervisor Barrett

Noes: None

DECLARED ADOPTED

Supervisor Barrett thanked IDA Attorney Jean Mahserjian for her time and service over the years on this board.

Resolution No. 243 of 2022, a resolution authorizing the promotion of John DeSimone to the position of Chief, Bureau of Fire Prevention.

Introduced by Councilwoman Standaert, who moved its adoption, and seconded by Councilwoman Walowit.

WHEREAS, due to the promotion of Wade Schoenborn, a vacancy exists for the position of Chief, Bureau of Fire Prevention, and

WHEREAS, the Chiefs position represents a critical function in the Town's Building and Development Department, and is responsible for the review of plans and specifications for new construction and re-construction projects, as well as inspection of all existing commercial structures within the Town for fire code compliance, in addition to other duties and responsibilities, and

WHEREAS, Wade Schoenborn, Director of Building and Development, has recommended the promotion of John DeSimone to the position, and

WHEREAS, John DeSimone has worked for the Town for over 17 years, and has the education, training and experience necessary to perform the duties and responsibilities of the position; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that John DeSimone, is hereby promoted to Chief, Bureau of Fire Prevention, at Grade 10, Step 3, Year 1, \$42.99/hour, effective immediately, and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Comptroller is authorized to transfer A-3620-E0603 (General Fund – Building & Dev. – S. Myers) to A-3620-E0275 (General Fund - Building & Development-Employee) to cover the increase for the remainder of the year; and be it further

RESOLVED, that John DeSimone is hereby authorized to approve purchases per the Procurement Policy.

ROLL CALL VOTE

Ayes: Councilwoman Flood, Councilwoman Standaert, Councilman Morelli,
Councilwoman Walowit, Supervisor Barrett

Noes: None

DECLARED ADOPTED

Resolution No. 244 of 2022, a resolution changing the position of Victoria Hanna in the Animal Control Office to a full-time position.

Introduced by Councilwoman Standaert, who moved its adoption, seconded by Councilwoman Walowit.

WHEREAS, by Resolution No. 8 of 2018, the Town Board appointed Victoria Hanna to permanent status as an Animal Control Officer for the Town of Clifton Park, per the Civil Service certification, as of December 29, 2017, and

WHEREAS, Victoria Hanna has been employed part-time by the Town since 2016, and

WHEREAS, Director of Animal Control Terri Cook, advises that the duties and responsibilities of the office have continued to expand, and that a need exists for a second full-time position within the Animal Control Office; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that Victoria Hanna is hereby appointed as full-time Animal Control Officer for the Town of Clifton Park, Grade 3, Step 3, Year 1, effective immediately; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Comptroller is authorized to transfer \$12,400 from A-914 (Unassigned Fund Balance) to A-3510-Exxxx (General Fund - Animal Control - Employee).

ROLL CALL VOTE

Ayes: Councilwoman Flood, Councilwoman Standaert, Councilman Morelli,
Councilwoman Walowit, Supervisor Barrett

Noes: None

DECLARED ADOPTED

Resolution No. 245 of 2022, a resolution authorizing the purchase of a new sewer inspection camera for the Sewer Department from Joe Johnson Equipment, pursuant to a Sourcewell contract.

Introduced by Councilwoman Standaert, who moved its adoption, seconded by Councilwoman Flood.

WHEREAS, Collection System Manager Michael O'Brien, has requested authorization to purchase a new sewer inspection camera to replace outdated equipment that is no longer able to be repaired from Joe Johnson Equipment, pursuant to a competitive procurement process through the Sourcewell Service Cooperative, for use by the Sewer Department, and

WHEREAS, pursuant to General Municipal Law §103(16), municipalities are authorized to purchase materials, equipment or supplies through publicly bid contracts of another state or political subdivision thereof, and

WHEREAS, Sourcewell is a service cooperative created under Minnesota Statute §123A.21, and provides cooperative purchasing contracts to public entities under Minnesota Statute 471.59, to participating agencies and governments, and

WHEREAS, American Rescue Plan Act Funds are available to pay for such sanitary sewer infrastructure expenditures, and

WHEREAS, Mr. O'Brien advises that the sewer inspection camera available through Sourcewell Contract# 120721-EVS, issued following a Request for Proposal using best value criteria, will best meet the needs of the Department; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Sewer Department is authorized to purchase the HD Rovver X System referenced above, in an amount not to exceed \$101,488.18; and be it further

RESOLVED, the Comptroller is authorized to transfer \$101,488.18 from ARPA funds received to G7-8111-200 (Clifton Park Sewer District #1 – Equipment).

ROLL CALL VOTE

Ayes: Councilwoman Flood, Councilwoman Standaert, Councilman Morelli,
Councilwoman Walowit, Supervisor Barrett

Noes: None

DECLARED ADOPTED

Resolution No. 246 of 2022, a resolution ratifying a memorandum of agreement with the Civil Service Employees Association, Inc., AFSCME Local 1000, AFL-CIO, representing Town of Clifton Park General Unit of Saratoga County Local 846.

Introduced by Councilwoman Standaert, who moved its adoption, seconded by Councilman Morelli.

WHEREAS, the Supervisor and Councilman Morelli have met with representatives of Civil Service Employees Association, Inc., and the Town General Unit, in contract negotiations over several months, beginning in late 2021 and continuing through the summer, and

WHEREAS, an agreement has been reached in principle, on an extension of the existing Collective Bargaining Agreement covering the period from January 1, 2022, to December 31, 2024, with salary increases of 3.5% for 2022, retroactive to January 1, 2022 and subsequent cost of living increases of 3% each year for 2023 and 2024, and

WHEREAS, the Agreement has been memorialized in the attached Memorandum of Agreement and Supervisor Philip Barrett, as well as representatives of CSEA, AFSCME, Local 1000, AFL-CIO for the Clifton Park General Unit, have signed the agreement, and

WHEREAS, on September 21, 2022, the membership within the general unit of the collective bargaining group met and voted to approve and ratify the agreement; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Town Board hereby approves and ratifies the attached Memorandum of Agreement with the Civil Service Employees Association, Inc. unit representing Town of Clifton Park General Unit, copy of which is annexed hereto as Exhibit "A", all provisions to be incorporated into a new contract as appropriate, and be it further

RESOLVED, that the provisions in the previous contract not modified by this Memorandum of Agreement, to remain; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Comptroller is authorized to issue salary adjustments for non-union employees and Department Heads retroactive to January 1, 2022, consistent with the CSEA agreement.

ROLL CALL VOTE

Ayes: Councilwoman Flood, Councilwoman Standaert, Councilman Morelli,
Councilwoman Walowit, Supervisor Barrett

Noes: None

DECLARED ADOPTED

Resolution No. 247 of 2022, a resolution issuing permits to serve alcoholic beverages, per the attached Special Alcohol Use Permits.

Introduced by Councilwoman Standaert, who moved its adoption, seconded by Councilman Morelli.

WHEREAS, the following applicants have submitted Special Alcohol Use Permit Requests to the Clifton Park Senior Community Center, to be allowed to serve alcohol, in the form of beer and wine, for gatherings on the following dates, with locations as listed on the applications:

Larry Syzdek, resident of CP (Pokingbrook Morris Dancers), 10/15/22, 5:00-9:00PM
Kasey Weidman, resident of CP, 11/5/22, 5:00PM-10:00PM

; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Town Board hereby authorizes the Special Alcohol Use Permit Requests submitted by Larry Syzdek, on behalf of the Pokingbrook Morris Dancers, and Kasey Weidman for gatherings, as indicated.

ROLL CALL VOTE

Ayes: Councilwoman Flood, Councilwoman Standaert, Councilman Morelli,
Councilwoman Walowit, Supervisor Barrett

Noes: None

DECLARED ADOPTED

Resolution No. 248 of 2022, a resolution authorizing a professional services agreement for wetlands delineation services for the Maple Hill Farm Conservation Easement Project appraisal.

Introduced by Councilwoman Standaert, who moved its adoption, seconded by Councilman Morelli.

WHEREAS, by Resolution No. 150 of 2019, the Town Board authorized a master grant contract for a Farmland Implementation Protection Grant for the acquisition of an interest in the Maple Hill Farm, and

WHEREAS, by Resolution No. 264 of 2019, Environmental Design Partnership was authorized to perform a preliminary survey of the property, and

WHEREAS, by Resolution No. 187 of 2022, the Town Board authorized the retention of CNY Pomeroy Appraisers, Inc. Manlius, NY, to perform an appraisal of the Maple Hill Farm Conservation Easement application, pursuant to a request for proposals for professional appraisal services, and

WHEREAS, Open Space Coordinator Jennifer Viggiani, advises that wetlands delineation will provide further objective information for the appraiser to utilize in the analysis of the developable acreage on the property for valuation purposes, and

WHEREAS, sufficient funds remain in the Open Space Incentive Reserve account to offset the cost of the wetlands delineation services necessary for the work; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Planning Department is authorized to engage Environmental Design Partners for wetlands delineation services, at a cost not to exceed \$2,500 to be paid from A-8050-0135 (General Fund - Open Space Committee – Engineering); and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Comptroller is authorized to transfer \$2,500 from A-0873 (Reserve -Open Space Incentive) for the wetlands delineations.

ROLL CALL VOTE

Ayes: Councilwoman Flood, Councilwoman Standaert, Councilman Morelli,
Councilwoman Walowit, Supervisor Barrett

Noes: None

DECLARED ADOPTED

Resolution No. 249 of 2022, a resolution transferring the maintenance and operation costs of the Burning Bush/Country Knolls Pool facility (hereinafter Country Knolls Pool) from the Longkill 1 Park District to the General Fund.

Introduced by Councilman Morelli, who moved its adoption, seconded by Councilwoman Walowit.

WHEREAS, by Resolution No. 10 of 1998, the Town Board, "sitting as Commissioners of the Longkill I Park District", authorized the Supervisor to sign a purchase and sale contract for the acquisition of the swimming pool constructed by Country Club Acres, the developer of the Country Knolls subdivision, and operated at that time, in conjunction with the Country Knolls Civic Association, as an amenity to residents residing within the neighborhood, in the amount of \$25,000, and

WHEREAS, the Country Knolls Pool now has expanded its membership base to serve residents throughout the Town on an annual membership fee basis, in the same manner as the Town operated swimming pools at Locust Lane and Barney Road, and all three facilities are popular with residents and families throughout the Town during summer months, and

WHEREAS, while Country Knolls Pool and related real estate, is currently deeded to the Town of Clifton Park, the maintenance and operational expenses for the pool have been paid through membership fees collected and allocated to the Longkill I Park District, and

WHEREAS, by Resolution No. 153 of 2022, the Town Board authorized a contract with Patterson-Stevens Inc. to replace the pools liner, for an amount up to \$363,000 after competitive bidding, and

WHEREAS, the Longkill I Park District has requested that the Town assume responsibilities for the maintenance and operation of the pool, in order to more equitably share the cost of the maintenance and repair of the pool among all users throughout the Town, and all membership fee revenue now be available to the Town to offset the costs of maintenance, operation and repair, and

WHEREAS, the Town seeks to integrate the membership fee base of all three pools, in order to benefit from the economy of scale as well as, to provide an enhanced ability for residents and families to enjoy the benefits of all three pools interchangeably; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the operational responsibility of the Country Knolls Pool is transferred from the Longkill I Park District to the Town of Clifton Park for further administration, operation and maintenance; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Town Board recognizes that the Country Knolls Pool is located in a neighborhood in close proximity to residential housing, and will endeavor to continue to operate the Country Knolls Pool on an annual membership fee basis, and will continue to consult with Park District and neighborhood representatives prior to implementing any significant changes in membership and/or operating procedures, so as to minimize adverse impact to the surrounding neighborhood.

ROLL CALL VOTE

Ayes: Councilwoman Flood, Councilwoman Standaert, Councilman Morelli,
Councilwoman Walowit, Supervisor Barrett

Noes: None

DECLARED ADOPTED

Supervisor Barrett thanked Glen Valle for his many years of work with the pools and Park District.

Resolution No. 250 of 2022, a resolution proclaiming October 2022 as Domestic Violence Awareness Month in the Town of Clifton Park.

Introduced by Councilwoman Standaert, who moved its adoption, seconded by Councilwoman Flood.

WHEREAS, October is annually recognized as National Domestic Violence Awareness Month, and

WHEREAS, although progress has been made toward preventing and ending domestic violence and providing support to survivors and their families, important work remains to be done, and

WHEREAS, there is a need to provide education, awareness, and understanding of domestic violence and its causes, and

WHEREAS, there is a need to focus on the individualized needs of domestic violence survivors, and

WHEREAS, domestic violence affects people of all genders, sexual orientations, ages, racial, ethnic, cultural, social, religious, and economic groups across the United States, and

WHEREAS, physical violence is often accompanied by emotionally abusive and controlling behavior, as part of a larger systematic pattern of control, and

WHEREAS, domestic violence can result in physical injury, psychological trauma, and even death, and

WHEREAS, domestic violence has a significant economic impact on women, throughout the country, where an estimated eight million days of paid work is lost because of domestic violence, and

WHEREAS, women are seven to fourteen times more likely to report domestic violence than men who often underreport due to fears of gender stereotypes when reports indicate that one in four men are victims in their lifetime, and

WHEREAS, domestic violence costs \$8.3 billion in expenses annually, a combination of higher medical costs (\$5.8 billion) and lost productivity (\$2.5 billion), and

WHEREAS, children exposed to domestic violence can experience long-term consequences including difficulty at school, substance abuse, behavioral problems in adolescence, and serious adult health problems, and

WHEREAS, the prevalence of domestic violence is such that everyone knows someone impacted by domestic violence, and

WHEREAS, the Town Board recognizes the vital role that all residents of Clifton Park can play in preventing and one day ending domestic violence; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Town Board of Clifton Park recognizes October 2022, and each following October, as National Domestic Violence Awareness Month in the Town of Clifton Park.

ROLL CALL VOTE

Ayes: Councilwoman Flood, Councilwoman Standaert, Councilman Morelli,
Councilwoman Walowit, Supervisor Barrett

Noes: None

DECLARED ADOPTED

Councilwoman Standaert read aloud Domestic Violence statistics and how important it is to recognize. She announced help is available 24/7 at theHotline.org or by calling 1-800-799-SAFE (7233).

PUBLIC PRIVILEGE

Darlene McGraw, Northpointe, supports the Domestic Violence Awareness resolution and commented that all family members can be abusers. She also made residents aware that October is also Disability Rights Employment Awareness Month. She requests the Town to form a Disabilities Committee to help make the Town aware of the needs of those with disabilities. Questioned if the Town has worked with the Capital District Transportation Committee in regard to a grant for an ADA Transition Plan.

Supervisor Barrett stated, in regard to the grant, the Town has applied.

MOTION BY Councilwoman Walowit, seconded by Councilman Morelli to adjourn the meeting to the next regular meeting or any other meeting necessary for the conduct of town business.

Motion carried at 8:09 PM

Teresa Brobston
Town Clerk