

TOWN OF CLIFTON PARK TOWN BOARD

October 7, 2024

The meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Clifton Park was held in the Town Office Building at 7:05 p.m. Supervisor Barrett presiding.

Pledge of Allegiance

Present: Supervisor Barrett
Councilman Morelli
Councilwoman Reid
Councilwoman Walowit
Councilman Manir
Town Clerk Brobston

Also Present: Town Attorney Pelagalli
Mark Heggen, Comptroller
Daniel Clemens, Director of Parks, Buildings & Recreation
Dahn Bull, Highways Superintendent
John Scavo, Director of Planning & Zoning
Norah Hofer, Communications and Technology Coordinator
Jennifer Viggiani, Open Space Coordinator

MINUTES

MOTION by Councilwoman Walowit, seconded by Councilman Morelli, to approve the Town Board minutes of September 16, 2024, as presented.

ROLL CALL VOTE

Ayes: Councilman Morelli, Councilwoman Reid, Councilman Manir,
Councilwoman Walowit, Supervisor Barrett

Noes: None

MOTION CARRIED

ANNOUNCEMENTS & COMMUNICATIONS

Supervisor Barrett reminded residents of the upcoming annual Town and Starpoint Church sponsored Trunk or Treat will take place on Friday, October 25 from 4-6 PM on the Clifton Common. Registration required on cliftonpark.org.

Supervisor Barrett announced an opportunity for residents to donate basic goods/non-perishable goods for the recent Western North Carolina hurricane flood relief victims. Drive-thru drop off at the Clifton Park Senior Community Center on the Clifton Common October 10 and 11th, 3-7 PM. Donation items listed on cliftonpark.org.

Supervisor Barrett stated the recent Shredding Day was very successful. Supervisor thanked the Neville Family for their past and present partnering with the Town offering this service. Donations of basic food were collected for the Jonesville Food Pantry for the service provided. Neville's have sold the company since and are hoping to continue the service with the new company.

PRESENTATIONS- Agriculture & Farmland Protection Plan Update

Dan Mathias, Co-Chair Town Agriculture & Farmland Protection Plan Advisory Committee, stated the Town was awarded funding from NYS Dept. of Agriculture & Markets to help local governments plan for farmland protection plan in the future for their communities. Consulting support has been acquired. A map of all farmlands in Clifton Park was presented showing a significant amount of farming land in the Town. Next step to the project is to create a community

vision with goals and objectives with what the Town wants agriculture/farming to look like in the future. He explained that public participation is extremely important.

Jennifer Viggiani, Open Space Coordinator explained a new website was created at www.cliftonparkfarm.com. Currently there is a Town-wide public survey located on the website for everyone to take part in. The website maintains basic information for the project. So far 190 responses have been created, hoping to hear from more residents. Farmer interviews are currently underway. Focus groups meeting with large farmland owners will be scheduled to gain information to help set the goals. A public open house is in the planning stages. Public project updates will continue. The survey will be closing in the next week.

RESOLUTIONS

Resolution No. 221 of 2024, a resolution authorizing the purchase of a Toro Turf Aerator for the Barney Road Golf Course.

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

WHEREAS, Daniel Clemens, Director of Buildings, Parks & Recreation, requested authorization to purchase a Toro Turf Aerator for use at the Town-owned golf course and playing fields at the Common, and

WHEREAS, Grassland Equipment & Irrigation Corporation, Latham, NY, as an authorized Toro Dealer, has the Turf Aerator, per the attached quote, at a total cost not to exceed \$11,212 for purchase under New York State Contract #PC69682, and

WHEREAS, Mr. Clemens has recommended the turf aerator be purchased from Grassland Equipment & Irrigation, pursuant to the New York State Contract identified above; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Town Board hereby authorizes the Director of Buildings, Parks & Recreation to purchase the Toro Turf Aerator from Grassland Equipment & Irrigation Corp., in a total amount not to exceed \$11,212, from A-7190-200 (General Fund – Barney Road Golf Course – Equipment).

ROLL CALL VOTE

Ayes: Councilman Morelli, Councilwoman Reid, Councilman Manir,
Councilwoman Walowit, Supervisor Barrett

Noes: None

DECLARED ADOPTED

Resolution No. 222 of 2024, a resolution authorizing the expansion of an agreement with MJ Engineering and Land Surveying for engineering services associated with a project to upgrade playground equipment in Martin Jewitt Park, within the Longkill 1 Park District.

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

WHEREAS, by Resolution No. 164 of 2024, the Town Board authorized the Supervisor to execute an agreement with MJ Engineering and Land Surveying, P.C. for consulting services for the playground upgrade project, and

WHEREAS, Daniel Clemens, Director of Buildings, Parks & Recreation, has received correspondence and a proposed supplemental agreement from MJ Engineering and Land Surveying, which states that the Martin Jewitt Park needs to be redesigned to address safety, security and functional impediments, as outlined in the attached, and

WHEREAS, Mr. Clemens recommends that the proposed supplemental agreement from MJ Engineering and Land Surveying be accepted and executed, and

WHEREAS, the Supervisor is authorized to procure the services of professional engineering and consulting firms by the Town's procurement policy and by Resolution No. 1 of 2024; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that Mr. Clemens is authorized to notify MJ Engineering to proceed on the project as quoted in their September 3, 2024 correspondence, attached; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Supervisor is authorized to sign a contract with MJ Engineering and Land Surveying P.C., consistent with their quote as attached, to be paid with a transfer of \$21,500 from SP5-915 (Longkill I – Assigned Fund Balance) to SP5-7123-135 (Longkill I – Longkill I – Engineering).

ROLL CALL VOTE

Ayes: Councilman Morelli, Councilwoman Reid, Councilman Manir,
Councilwoman Walowit, Supervisor Barrett

Noes: None

DECLARED ADOPTED

Resolution No. 223 of 2024, a resolution authorizing the sale of equipment declared surplus by the Town Board and authorizing the Buildings and Grounds Department to sell the surplus equipment at public auction.

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

WHEREAS, Director of Buildings, Parks, and Recreation, Daniel Clemens, has identified items within the Department, and within the Sewer Department, as noted on the attached Schedule A, as surplus property, and

WHEREAS, based upon the recommendation of Mr. Clemens, the Town Board declares the items on Schedule A as surplus; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Town Board authorizes the Buildings and Grounds Department to sell the surplus equipment noted on the attached Schedule A, as is, through an upcoming online public auction.

ROLL CALL VOTE

Ayes: Councilman Morelli, Councilwoman Reid, Councilman Manir,
Councilwoman Walowit, Supervisor Barrett

Noes: None

DECLARED ADOPTED

Resolution No. 224 of 2024, a resolution authorizing the purchase of a Bobcat Compact Track Loader.

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

WHEREAS, Daniel Clemens, Director of Buildings, Parks & Recreation, has identified a need to trade in the Building & Grounds Department's 2018 compact track loader and purchase a 2024 compact track loader, and

WHEREAS, Clark Equipment Co, dba Bobcat Company, West Fargo, ND, has a 2024 T770 T4 Bobcat Compact Track Loader, under NYS Contract #PC69396, as per the attached Quotation Number: LR697364, at a total cost not to exceed \$51,761, which reflects the trade-in value of the 2018 track loader, and

WHEREAS, Mr. Clemens has recommended the equipment be purchased from Bobcat Company pursuant to the New York State Contract identified above; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Town Board declares surplus the 2018 track loader and authorizes disposal via trade-in; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Town Board hereby authorizes the Director of Buildings, Parks & Recreation to use the Department's 2018 Bobcat Track Loader as a trade-in and purchase the 2024 T770 T4 compact track loader from Bobcat Company, in a total amount not to exceed \$51,761, to be paid from A-7110-200 (General Fund – Buildings & Grounds – Equipment).

ROLL CALL VOTE

Ayes: Councilman Morelli, Councilwoman Reid, Councilman Manir,
Councilwoman Walowit, Supervisor Barrett

Noes: None

DECLARED ADOPTED

Resolution No. 225 of 2024, a resolution awarding a contract for installing a custom windscreen for the pickleball courts at Veterans Memorial Park.

Introduced by Councilman Morelli who moved its adoption, seconded by Councilman Manir.

WHEREAS, the Director of Buildings, Parks, and Recreation, Daniel Clemens, advertised for quotes for a custom windscreen for the pickleball courts at Veterans Memorial Park, and

WHEREAS, Bruce Fence Co., Inc, Latham, NY submitted the sole conforming quote for the custom windscreen, in an amount not to exceed \$10,217, and

WHEREAS, Mr. Clemens recommends awarding the quote to Bruce Fence Co., Inc.; now therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Director of Buildings, Parks & Recreation is authorized to accept the quote from Bruce Fence Co., Inc. to supply and install custom windscreen fencing on the pickleball courts at Veterans Memorial Park, at a cost not to exceed \$10,217, to be paid from A-07024-00200 (General Fund – Veterans Park – Equipment).

ROLL CALL VOTE

Ayes: Councilman Morelli, Councilwoman Reid, Councilman Manir,
Councilwoman Walowit, Supervisor Barrett

Noes: None

DECLARED ADOPTED

Resolution No. 226 of 2024, a resolution authorizing the acceptance of a quote to replace the driveway at 7 Fox Glen.

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

WHEREAS, there was a need for the Town Highway Department to repair a stormwater pipe which runs in close proximity to the driveway for the residence located at 7 Fox Glen, Clifton Park, and

WHEREAS, the necessary repairs were extensive, requiring removal of a considerable portion of the driveway, removal of a large tree, and removal of a basketball hoop on the property, and

WHEREAS, due to the extent of the removal of the driveway in the course of the repairs, the entire driveway must be replaced, and

WHEREAS, the Director of Buildings, Parks & Recreation, Daniel Clemens, received three (3) quotes for the driveway replacement, and

WHEREAS, Malta Asphalt has provided the lowest conforming quote to replace the entire driveway, in an amount not to exceed \$7,066, and

WHEREAS, Mr. Clemens recommends accepting the quote from Malta Asphalt; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Supervisor is authorized to accept the quote of Malta Asphalt to replace the driveway at 7 Fox Glen, Clifton Park, in an amount not to exceed \$7,066, to be charged to DA-05110-00024 (Highway Fund – General Repairs – General Maintenance).

ROLL CALL VOTE

Ayes: Councilman Morelli, Councilwoman Reid, Councilman Manir,
Councilwoman Walowit, Supervisor Barrett

Noes: None

DECLARED ADOPTED

Resolution No. 227 of 2024, a resolution scheduling a public hearing to consider a local law providing for regulation of aggressive panhandling and panhandling along roadways.

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

WHEREAS, the Town Board is aware of panhandling by individuals standing alongside roadways and soliciting from occupants of motor vehicles, and

WHEREAS, such panhandling creates safety concerns, is disruptive, and impedes the free flow of traffic, and

WHEREAS, the New York State Court of Appeals has upheld legislation which addresses these public safety concerns, and

WHEREAS, the Town Board wishes to address these concerns by proposed legislation which is consistent with the legislation upheld by the Court of Appeals; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Town Board will hold a public hearing on October 21, 2024, at 7:05pm, on a proposal to allow the Town to pass a local law providing for regulation of aggressive panhandling and panhandling along roadways.

ROLL CALL VOTE

Ayes: Councilman Morelli, Councilwoman Reid, Councilman Manir,
Councilwoman Walowit, Supervisor Barrett

Noes: None

DECLARED ADOPTED

Resolution No. 228 of 2024, a resolution scheduling a public hearing to amend Town Code Chapter 182-14 relating to tax exemptions for volunteer firefighters and volunteer ambulance workers.

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

WHEREAS, the New York State Legislature passed an amendment to the Real Property Tax Law (RPTL) adding § 466-1, which authorizes a municipality to adopt a local law to extend a real property tax exemption to any volunteer firefighter or volunteer ambulance worker who resides in the municipality and provides such volunteer services to a neighboring city, village, town, county, or school district, and

WHEREAS, § 182-14 of the Town Code extends the exemption only to Town residents who volunteer as firefighters or ambulance workers who provide such volunteer services within the Town of Clifton Park, and

WHEREAS, Governor Hochul has signed the amendment to the RPTL into law, and

WHEREAS, the Town Board wishes to amend the Town Code to provide the tax exemption to Town residents who provide such volunteer services to a neighboring city, village, town, county, or school district, effective the next calendar year for the assessment roll; now therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Town Board will hold a public hearing on October 21, 2024, at 7:08pm to consider the annexed proposed amendment to § 182-14 of the Town Code.

ROLL CALL VOTE

Ayes: Councilman Morelli, Councilwoman Reid, Councilman Manir,
Councilwoman Walowit, Supervisor Barrett

Noes: None

DECLARED ADOPTED

Resolution No. 229 of 2024, a resolution scheduling a public hearing to amend Town Code Chapter 208-7, Definitions, relating to the definition of Community Residences.

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

WHEREAS, several community residences are located within the Town of Clifton Park, and

WHEREAS, while there is a need for community residences, as defined and permitted in the Town Code, there are no restrictions as to where, within a District, that a community residence may be located, and

WHEREAS, establishing a community residence in close proximity to a Town school, childcare facility or park is not an appropriate location, and

WHEREAS, the Town Board wishes to amend the Town Code Community Residence definition to include location restrictions for such a residence; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Town Board will hold a public hearing on October 21, 2024, at 7:11pm, to consider the annexed proposed amendment to §208-7 of the Town Code.

ROLL CALL VOTE

Ayes: Councilman Morelli, Councilwoman Reid, Councilman Manir, Councilwoman Walowit, Supervisor Barrett

Noes: None

DECLARED ADOPTED

Resolution No. 230 of 2024, a resolution to authorize the replacement of the rectangular rapid flash beacon array at the intersection of Grooms and Vischer Ferry Roads.

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

WHEREAS, the Town installed a Rectangular Rapid Flash Beacon (RRFB) signal array at the intersection of Grooms Road and Vischer Ferry Road to enhance pedestrian safety and visibility, and

WHEREAS, the RRFB equipment and breakaway pole was recently struck and damaged by a vehicle and is no longer operational, and

WHEREAS, the Town’s Highway Department has assessed the damage and recommends the replacement of the RRFB array and pole with a similar system to ensure continued pedestrian safety at the intersection, and

WHEREAS, the Town recognizes the importance of maintaining traffic and pedestrian safety infrastructure in good working condition, especially at busy intersections, and

WHEREAS, the Director of Planning and Zoning, John Scavo, has received a proposal from Stilsing Electric, Inc. for the replacement of the RRFB, pole and base with wiring at a cost not to exceed \$10,800, and

WHEREAS, Mr. Scavo recommends purchasing the new RRFB from Stilsing Electric, Inc.; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, the Town Board authorizes the Superintendent of Highways, Dahn Bull, to execute all necessary documents with Stilsing Electric, Inc. for the purchase and timely installation of a new rectangular rapid flash beacon array, at the intersection of Grooms and Vischer Ferry Roads, in an amount not to exceed \$10,800, to be paid with a transfer from A-00914 (General Fund – Unassigned Fund Balance) to A-03310-00200 (General Fund – Traffic Safety – Equipment).

ROLL CALL VOTE

Ayes: Councilman Morelli, Councilwoman Reid, Councilman Manir, Councilwoman Walowit, Supervisor Barrett

Noes: None

DECLARED ADOPTED

Resolution No. 231 of 2024, a resolution authorizing the purchase of additional Laserfiche cloud storage space.

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

WHEREAS, the Town utilizes Laserfiche for document management and digital records retention, and

WHEREAS, the current storage capacity in the Laserfiche Cloud System has reached its limit of 2,500 GB and additional storage space is necessary to continue efficient operations, and

WHEREAS, ICC-Community Development Solutions, an authorized Laserfiche vendor, has provided a quote for the purchase of additional Laserfiche cloud storage, at a rate of \$300 per year, per 100 GB, and

WHEREAS, the Town wishes to purchase 1,000 GB of additional Laserfiche Cloud Storage, at a total annual cost of \$3,000; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Town Board hereby authorizes the purchase of 1,000 GB of additional Laserfiche cloud storage from ICC- Community Development Solutions, for a total annual cost of \$3,000, to be paid with a charge of \$1,500 from A-03620-00004 (General Fund – Building Development – Computer) and \$1,500 from A-08021-00004 (General Fund – Planning Department – Computer).

ROLL CALL VOTE

Ayes: Councilman Morelli, Councilwoman Reid, Councilman Manir,
Councilwoman Walowit, Supervisor Barrett

Noes: None

Resolution No. 232 of 2024, a resolution authorizing the residents of Country Knolls, Woodstead Section, to use Willowbrook Lane for a Children's Halloween Parade.

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

WHEREAS, residents of Country Knolls have requested the use of the Town of Clifton Park roadways as specified in the attachment hereto, for the purpose of holding a Halloween Parade on Saturday, October 26, 2024, with a rain date of Sunday, October 27, 2024, and

WHEREAS, the parade will run on Willowbrook Lane, between Hatlee Road and Woodstead Road, between the hours of 2:00pm and 5:00pm, and

WHEREAS, the event will allow the children of the neighborhood to display their costumes with friends and family, and

WHEREAS, the event sponsors have coordinated with the Town's Highways Superintendent for the safe use of Town roads, as well as placing signs to notify local neighbors of the event; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Town Board hereby authorizes the residents of Country Knolls, Woodstead Section, to use Willowbrook Lane for the purpose of holding a Children's Halloween Parade; and be it further

RESOLVED, that this approval is expressly conditioned upon the roads not being closed, but neighborhood volunteers are permitted to temporarily stop traffic at each end of the parade route in the event emergency services are required.

ROLL CALL VOTE

Ayes: Councilman Morelli, Councilwoman Reid, Councilman Manir,
Councilwoman Walowit, Supervisor Barrett

Noes: None

DECLARED ADOPTED

No one wished to be heard.

PUBLIC PRIVILEGE 7:42 PM

Steven Baldwin, Schenectady, Not So Common Players Board Member, explained the public theater group has been in existence for 25 years presenting three musicals each year, in addition to organizing a children's summer camp with educational opportunities in the arts. For over a decade, they maintained a storefront space in the Clifton Park Center Mall which was generously donated for this use. The space was used for storage and rehearsals. This space was no longer available, and storage units have been rented for supplies and spaces including the Clifton Park Senior Center and the Edison Club were used for rehearsals. The group has maintained high-quality and free performances using the Clifton Common stage, the Town library and the Edison Club. An additional \$10,000 increase to their budget would allow them to continue to offer the free performances to the public, as well as offset the new financial burden of having to rent storage space and eventually new rehearsal venue. Requested the Town Board to let them be aware of any space they could be used.

No one else wished to be heard. Public Privilege closed at 7:47 PM.

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 7: 48 PM

Teresa Brobston
Town Clerk