

Town Board
Town of North Greenbush
MINUTES
July 8, 2021
7:00 p.m.

Supervisor Bott called the meeting to order @ 7:02 PM, asking all to rise for our Pledge of Allegiance. Roll call was taken with the following Board Members present.

Supervisor Bott
Councilwoman Hoffman
Councilwoman Sabo
Councilman Rogers
Councilwoman Merola

Comments from Residents:

Supervisor Bott asked if the Town Clerk, Janice Kerwin, received any comments from the public through email. She stated none were received. He then asked the public attending the meeting if they had any comments on the Agenda. No one from the meeting spoke up.

Announcements:

Supervisor Bott announced that the Sunday Concerts will begin this Sunday, July 11th and run through August 29th. He mentioned that this year we will be having Food Trucks at the concerts every Sunday so the town residents will have food and beverage choice throughout the concerts.

The Tuesday Food Truck Event is still going strong. He wanted to remind everyone that for the months of July & August the event on Tuesdays will only be on the 2nd & 4th Tuesday. We will feature 2 or 3 trucks every Sunday @ our concerts. If you want you can come on their Tuesday's off and catch them at the Sunday Concerts between 6:00PM – 8:00 PM.

Supervisor Bott briefly gave an update on the Route #4 project. He stated that it is running smooth with only a few snags and is moving along on schedule.

Today was the Ground Breaking Ceremony for the New Rensselaer County Training Tower, located on Macha Lane. The County will be building a new Tower and classroom for training. He wanted to thank the County for their hard work and dedication throughout Covid and keeping the time line for the new training facility.

Supervisor Bott was very pleased to announce North Greenbush Summer Camp will start this Monday, July 12th, as we received and hired enough staff to open.

Supervisor Bott proceeded to ask the board if they had any comments on the Agenda, none were spoken, so he continued on to the business of the Agenda.

A motion was made by **Supervisor Bott** to add an additional resolution to the Agenda, seconded by **Councilwoman Hoffman**. All Board Members voted Aye, motion carried.

New Business:

Presentation started @ 7:07 PM, given by Ingrid Haeckel, DEC, Ingrid has been working with the town's Open Space Committee. She has prepared Habitat Summary maps that relate to the Town's NRI. The presentation ended @ 7:19 PM. The presentation will be placed on the town's website for anyone to watch.

Resolution 2021-7-63: **Supervisor Bott** mad a motion In the Matter of Commending Brigid Mack for Receiving the Girl Scout Gold Award, seconded by **Councilman Rogers**. All Board Members voted Aye, motion carried.

Councilwoman Sabo spoke of Brigid's extraordinary vocals and that she is in the top of her class at Columbia High School. Supervisor Bott wanted to congratulate her and also agreed with Councilwoman Sabo. He also mentioned that he grew up with Brigid's mom and wanted to thank her family for their support in all her endeavors. Councilwoman Hoffman has known the family for years and recalls Brigid coming to Gardner-Dickinson and working in the classrooms and also working with young children on mask wearing. The Board wanted to wish Brigid well in College, as she is headed off to study music.

Resolution 2021-7-64: **Councilwoman Hoffman** made a motion In the Matter of Approving RPTL Settlement, seconded by **Councilwoman Merola**. All board members voted Aye, motion carried.

Fred Kirwin, Town attorney, stated that this in our best interest and in the long run saves us money.

Resolution 2021-7-65: **Councilwoman Merola** made a motion In the Matter of appointing Summer Staff, seconded by **Supervisor Bott**. **Councilman Rogers** Abstained, the remaining Board Members voted Aye, motion carried.

Resolution 2021-7-66: **Supervisor Bott** made a motion In The Matter of Authorizing Implementation, and Funding in the First Instance 100% of a Federal-Aid and State "Marschiselli" Program-Aid Eligible Costs, of a Transportation Federal-Aid Project, and Appropriating Funds, Therefore for the Route 4 Highway Traffic and Pedestrian Improvement Project (PIN1089.75), seconded by **Councilwoman Hoffman**. **Councilwoman Sabo** Abstained, the remaining Board Members voted Aye, motion carried.

Supervisor Bott asked Anthony Germano, Town Comptroller for a quick summary. Tony described the Federal Highway Money; this is the 4th time we have done this and we will most

likely have to do it again. Usually this is from additional construction and right away costs. He wanted to make it clear that this is not for the water reconstruction for the exposed 30 year pipe we will be replacing with 550 feet of new lines that he spoke of last month at the June Board meeting.

Discussion:

Supervisor Bott asked to allow Pat Nolan to go 1st as he present in the meeting to do the presentation from the Lake Association. Councilwoman Sabo spoke up and agreed, as she too was just about to ask to switch the discussion items to allow Pat to go 1st. All Board Members agreed and the Lake Association went 1st.

- **Climate Smart Certification, Presentation from Pat Nolan from Lake Association**

Pat Nolan started off wanting to thank the Town for their support and partnership with the Lake Association.

He began his presentation discussing concerns with the lake. The Lake Association has dealt with Milfoil and Algae Blooms. The chemicals they applied in 2019 for Milfoil treatment has been contained. They realized when they went for a grant that DEC told them they needed a Lake Management Plan to receive any Grant monies. They now have a plan and are applying for Grants. The Plan will be entered into the permanent records of the July 2021 meeting.

Mike Donvito wanted the Board to be aware that the Charter for 1998 states that the Association would hold meeting. That is all, so what Pat & Michelle Nolan has done for the lake is beyond what was written years ago. Pat stated that it is a team effort and appreciates all the help.

Councilwoman Sabo asked if there was any way to monitor who comes in and out of the lake with their boats. Pat was also concerned about this as there are 2 Public beach launches on the lake, along with an additional carry on launch, none of which are monitored. Pat spoke of signs they have up from DEC and now they have made banners educating boaters. He feels that soon this will have to be a discussion as time goes by and more and more boaters come to the lake because it is free. Eric West fall will place the Lake Management Plan on the website for all to read.

- **Adopting an Energy Efficient Purchase Policy for town**

Councilwoman Sabo discussed the policy example she sent to the board to review. She asked Town Comptroller what he thought of the example she sent everyone last month. He wanted more time to review the policy as he stated that we get 30% off products and free shipping with Staples. He would hate to give up the discount and have to purchase items from somewhere else

and not receive them in 24 hours as Staple does. He would give it more thought and look into it more. Supervisor Bott agreed and he too would like to look into the policy more.

- **Information from Ambulance Commission Meeting**

Councilman Rogers delivered a letter to each board member and read the letter aloud from their July meeting of the North Greenbush Ambulance Commission. The letter will be placed in the permanent records of the North Greenbush July monthly meeting. Councilman Rogers read the letter with the concerns: increase of 43% on calls now that we have had a large uptick in construction development. The Ambulance had to hire an additional paid crew. Kathy Allen, President, spoke of the additional calls and cost. The Town Board needs to plan ahead with Budget time coming up. We will not be able to afford the additional staff next year She had to use the PP Grant money they received to cover the cost of the paid crew for this year and it will be gone completely by the end of this year. The need for a second garage to hold 2 vehicles on the other side of town is imperative. Calls across town are increasing and we need to have a second station for safer response time. The garage on Main Avenue is not equipped for the 4 trucks that they have now and they have done some very strategically parking of the vehicles to have them fit. Living/sleeping quarters are built only for 2 and we now have the need to have 4 on, so living space is tight.

Kathleen Allen stated that if the town cannot get the North Greenbush Ambulance the 2nd building they so desperately need. They will need to plan a major renovation of their current building for the new additional man power and vehicles they have now. Budget time is around the corner. She wants the board to be aware that the need for more tax revue will be needed for the North Greenbush Ambulance to function properly next year with high demand of calls they are now responding to.

Department Reports:

Supervisor Bott asked all Board Members to review the reports.

Approval of Minute:

Supervisor Bott made the motion to approve all minutes from June 10, 2021 Public Hearings and the Regular monthly meeting minutes, seconded by **Councilwoman Sabo**. All Board Members voted Aye, motion carried.

Comments from Public:

Michael Meyers spoke up about the Energy Star purchases from the discussion on Energy Efficient Purchase Policy. He stated that Staples does have Energy Efficient products if the Town so chooses to sign the Policy in the future.

Adjournment:

Supervisor Bott made the motion to close the meeting, seconded by **Councilwoman Merola**. All board members voted Aye, motion carried. The meeting ended @ 8:17 PM.

- **A COMPLETE ACCOUNTING OF ALL DISCUSSIONS ON THE AGENDA IS AVAILABLE TO REVIEW VIA STREAMING ON THE TOWN'S WEBSITE.**

Respectfully Submitted
Janice Hannigan Kerwin
Town Clerk, Town of North Greenbush