



**Town Board
Town of North Greenbush
Meeting Minutes
March 13, 2025
7:00 p.m.**

Supervisor Bott called the meeting to order @7:18 P.M. immediately following the Public Hearings. Supervisor Bott led the Pledge of Allegiance, he then asked the Town Clerk, Janice Hannigan Kerwin, to call attendance. The following Board Members were present.

Supervisor Bott	<u>Present</u>
Councilwoman Hoffman	<u>Present</u>
Councilman Sabo	<u>Present</u>
Councilman Gordon	<u>Present</u>
Councilwoman Merola	<u>Absent</u>

Also present at meeting:

Town Clerk, Janice Hannigan Kerwin
Deputy Clerk, Janet Dickinson
Town Attorney, Nia Cholakis

Announcements from Supervisor:

Supervisor Bott announced that the new playground is complete. We will be looking into marking out the parking lot and the rental of Porta Potties.

Discussion:

Restricting tobacco and cannabis products on municipal property (outside)

Supervisor Bott asked Councilperson Sabo to begin the discussion on tobacco, as this was placed on the agenda by her. She read through the packet on restriction of tobacco use on municipal property. (copy attached for permanent records) Currently there are laws that are clear, but we do not have any kind of restrictions for smoking and vaping of any kind on town property outside or inside other than the state Clean Indoor Air Quality Act. Some communities in the county have passed resolutions for added protection to residents. Councilwoman Hoffman mentioned the



**Town Board
Town of North Greenbush
Meeting Minutes
March 13, 2025
7:00 p.m.**

Sunday Concert Series that smoking was an issue, and it will be taken for discussion to a Public Safety meeting. Councilperson Sabo added that we should consider a fine if caught smoking or vaping, as The Town of East Greenbush does to their violators.

Floodplain Management Committee

Supervisor Bott stated that the Flood Zone Map has changed, and we need to formulate a plan. This has a timeline, and this needs to be done efficiently and I would like to consider hiring La Berge.

Councilperson Sabo commented that we could hire LaBerge for the technical issues, but she has created a committee with 3 qualified people who have expertise in this area. Councilperson Hoffman asked if she put it on the website that she was looking for candidates for the committee? Councilperson Sabo said no.

Eric Westfall, Town Engineer, said the FEMA maps are being updated, and the insurance companies are aware of the big change, and he feels LaBerge would be for their expertise in the verbiage that needs to be changed in the law.

Supervisor Bott agrees that LaBerge should be involved with the permit process they need. We need to start now with the change in legislation that is required and is needed to change the law.

Councilperson Sabo stated the committee that she created is all trained in the environmental process and are willing to help and feels LaBerge and this committee will be beneficial. She then stated she knows that the board does not want her to be in charge. Councilperson Hoffman said it has nothing to do with her being in charge. Councilperson Gordon said this is an added item to the Building Department and Eric has asked for additional expertise in this matter for help, as he has multiple issues, and he has too much to do for 1 person. He needs to get ahead of this before it is too late.

Eric Westfall, Town Engineer, stated that we do a lot internally in the Building Department first and then ask for help and in this instance, he wants help now not later.

Councilperson Hoffman agreed and would like to get the resources for Eric so that it is done properly and efficiently.



**Town Board
Town of North Greenbush
Meeting Minutes
March 13, 2025
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Public comments on Agenda Items:

Johanna Flannigan, Bently Ave. Wynantskill, hopes that restrictions on smoking and vaping will be made for the safety of the children. Councilwoman Hoffman agreed with her and will discuss this at the next Public Safety meeting.

New Business:

Supervisor Bott made a motion to **table** 4 resolutions listed below:

- 1.) Resolution 2025-03-21:** In the matter of adopting a Negative Declaration relating to and amendment to Local Law #1 of 2020
- 2.) Resolution 2025-03-22:** In the matter of adopting the amendment to Local Law #1 of 2020
- 3.) Resolution 2025-03-26:** In the matter of authorizing and directing the Supervisor to execute the Household Hazardous Waste Collection Program agreement with the County
- 4.) Resolution 2025-03-28:** In the matter of establishing a Floodplain Management Committee

Councilperson Gordon seconded the motion. All board members present voted Aye, except for **Councilperson Sabo** who voted Aye to all but **Resolution 2025-03-28**, she voted Nay; motion carried 3 to 1.

Resolution 2025-03-20: **Supervisor Bott** made a motion in the matter of adopting Local Law #1 of 2025 (Terms), seconded by **Councilperson Gordon**. All board members present voted Aye; motion carried.

Resolution 2025-03-23: **Councilperson Hoffman** made a motion in the matter of authorizing the Supervisor to sign and execute an agreement with National Grid, seconded by **Supervisor Bott**. All board members present voted Aye; motion carried. Chief Keevern spoke about the cost of this resolution. The cost of purchase was paid through a grant of \$105,000 and it will only pay \$70.20 a pole, we are saving a tremendous amount of money with the grant. We should be up and ready with the permit process by this May.

***Supervisor Bott** made a motion to amend the dollar amount from \$4,500 to \$3,000 in the



**Town Board
Town of North Greenbush
Meeting Minutes
March 13, 2025
7:00 p.m.**

Resolution 2025-03-24, seconded by **Councilperson Hoffman**. Supervisor Bott stated that he lake association went back and negotiated a better price for the treatment, so it is only \$3,000.00. All board members present voted Aye; motion carried.

Resolution 2025-03-24: Supervisor Bott made a motion in the matter of authoring a payment to The Snyder's Lake Association to treat Snyders Lake, seconded by **Councilperson Gordon**. Councilwoman Sabo asked why does it keep coming back in the lake? Mike Martinez spoke up saying he believes that the weeds are brought in by other boats and they need to have someone checking each boat that is launched. Supervisor Bott explained that it is treated, and weeds do come back, but it seems to be in certain areas of the lake. A long-term treatment plan is needed this round, he added that there are grants that Paul Tonko has for clean water. All board members present voted Aye; motion carried.

Supervisor Bott said that this is an important step to have the lake treated to keep it under control

***Resolution 2025-03-25: Councilperson Sabo** made a motion in the matter of granting approval to accept a bid to install gas generators. Supervisor Bott was about to second the motion, but then stated he was not comfortable with this resolution, as they only received 1 bid for the work and would like to put it out to bid once again, there is nothing to compare to.

Supervisor Bott then made a motion to **table Resolution 2025-03-25**, seconded by **Councilperson Gordon**. All board members voted Aye; motion carried.

Resolution 2025-03-27: Councilperson Gordon made a motion in the matter of a referral of proposed policy regarding smoking, vaping and tobacco use on town property, seconded by **Councilperson Hoffman**. All board members present voted Aye; motion carried.

Resolution 2025-03-29: Councilperson Hoffman made a motion in the matter of approving an agreement with The United Public Service Employees Union (UPSEU), seconded by **Supervisor Bott**. All board members present voted Aye; motion carried.



**Town Board
Town of North Greenbush
Meeting Minutes
March 13, 2025
7:00 p.m.**

Councilman Gordon announced information on the County Water Project. The water loop from Pershing to Macha Lane to increase water pressure should be starting on April 1st and that is only 3 weeks away and residents in the surrounding areas will have a positive impact to water pressure. The new Emergency Services Building saw lots of water use down on Macha Lane, so pressure was an issue. The County is paying for the project completely. Supervisor Bott added that Edwards Road and Birch Hill are to be included in the roads that Councilperson Gordon mentioned also.

Department Reports:

Supervisor Bott asked the board to review the Departmental reports at their leisure.

Approval of Minutes:

Councilwoman Hoffman made a motion for the approval of the February 13, 2025, Regular Meeting Minutes, seconded **Councilman Gordon**. All members present voted Aye; motion carried.

Discussion from public on town business:

Michael Carey, West Sand Lake Road, Wynantskill, NY. Spoke of a problem he believes with lots 10, 11 & 12 from a discovery dated back to February of 2024. He Foiled (Freedom of Information Request) the information through the Town Clerk's office. Supervisor Bott asked if he owns these properties, and Mr. Carey stated he did at one time and he called Dig Safety NY, they made the discovery with Keith Hankle. There is a manhole that the end that is flushing the Sanitary System, easements are needed. He explained how everyone has a grinder pump based off the square footage of the homes. Lot 11 has a gray water turbulence accumulative. He's feels he's been gaslighted by the Building Department and the sanity sewer does not comply. He spent time explaining and describing the issue to the board and wanted it fixed with the Rensselaer County Health Department approval. He has been waiting 141 days now on the final answers from his foil. Councilwoman Hoffman asked who was originally supposed to do everything he has stated. He answered the builder and then he read the reply from our Town Engineer. Councilman Gordon asked what needs to be done to make this right, Mr. Carey said Fix It. Let's get this fixed, where do we go? Eric Westfall, Town Engineer, said he has paperwork on his desk



**Town Board
Town of North Greenbush
Meeting Minutes
March 13, 2025
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and at this time everything is working and the Health Department said it is fine, and it is the town's responsibility to go forward. Mr. Carey read a letter from the Rensselaer County Health Department he received and stated it needs a vacuum valve and rerouted laterals. Eric said they are doing easement paperwork for this.

Joseph Styczynski, Hillview Court, Wynantskill, NY doesn't think a year and a half is appropriate time to get Mr. Carey's concerns resolved. He hopes the town can get this done soon with a quick resolution of the problems and the town should confirm with Rensselaer County Health. Councilman Gordon asked for a compiled solution and a commitment for next month's meeting. Mr. Styczynski then asked if Heminway could get paved, as it hasn't been since 2008. He also commented on the nice job done here in the Annex with the remodel and upgrades, but could the town finish the outside windows, as they have been unfinished for a while and all you see is green insulation instead of the new windows.

Adjournment:

Supervisor Bott made a motion to close the meeting and was seconded by **Councilperson Sabo**. All members of the board voted Aye; motion carried. The meeting was adjourned @ 8:27 P.M.

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

Respectfully Submitted,

Janice Hannigan Kerwin
Town Clerk, Town of North Greenbush