

**Town of Charlton
Saratoga County
Town Board Meeting**

December 12, 2022

The Regular Meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Charlton, Saratoga County, New York was held at the Town Hall, 758 Charlton Road, Charlton, NY and called to order by Supervisor Grasso at 7:36 p.m.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Roll Call: Councilman Glavin, Councilman Robbins, Councilman St. John, Supervisor Grasso.

Excused: Councilman Tasse

Also present: Town Clerk Brenda Mills, Attorney Craig.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION #178

Approval of Minutes

Motion by Councilman Glavin

Seconded by Councilman Robbins

BY MOTION the Town Board approved the minutes of the Town Board Meeting on November 28, 2022.

Vote: All Ayes, No Nays. **CARRIED**

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR FOR AGENDA ITEMS

No one chose to speak.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Town offices will be closed December 23rd through December 26th for the Christmas holidays.

The next Town Board meeting will be held on Tuesday December 27th at 7:30 p.m.

SUPERVISORS REPORT

Supervisor Grasso said that he serves on the County Trails and Open Space Committee. The Committee received \$750,000 in grant applications but only had \$400,000 to award. The Town's application for Mill Pond Park was not awarded, however, the application from the David and Kathy Arnold was conditionally awarded in the amount of \$220,000. The conditions for the award are: 1) that the snowmobile trail continue to be allowed on the property, and 2) contingent on the Arnolds obtaining a State grant award for the remaining property.

Supervisor Grasso said that Board of Supervisors will vote on the County 2023 budget this week. The budget includes investments in infrastructure, County Health Department, capital reserve funds and has a 5% reduction in the property tax rate. Saratoga County is the fastest growing/lowest tax rate in New York State.

The Sales Tax revenues are up \$113,000 year-to-date over the budgeted amount, which is 8% above projections. For 2023, the Board has budgeted \$1.55 million in Sales Tax revenue.

The Charlton Court system collected \$10,162.00 in October, of which \$3,310 was collected by Judge Ketchum and \$6,852 was collected by Judge Hart.

COMMUNICATIONS

National Grid has notified the Town that they plan to begin a 30-month project of utility pole maintenance. They plan to begin in February 2023.

Supervisor Grasso said that the Town has received a memo from the Saratoga County Office of Aging and Youth seeking one of our Town Board members to serve on the 2023 Advisory Committee.

The Glenville Hills Garden Club notified that Town that they were going to lay a wreath in Gideon Hawley Park on December 10th. The Supervisor offered thanks.

Supervisor Grasso received a resignation from Tricia Hasbrouck as the Confidential Secretary to the Supervisor.

Supervisor Grasso received a resignation from Marv Schorr effective December 31st, 2022 from the Environmental Conservation Committee (ECC). Mr. Schorr served on the ECC for 47 years and has lived in Charlton for 48 years. The Supervisor said that the Town has tremendous gratitude for all of Mr. Schorr's efforts and years of service. Mr. Schorr said in his letter that he considers living in Charlton that same as living in heaven, and expressed his great love of the Town.

DEPARTMENT, COMMITTEE & COUNCILMAN REPORTS

Town Clerk – Clerk Mills reported that her office took in \$1,030.50 for the month of November. \$546.19 was paid to the Supervisor's office as revenue, and \$484.31 was paid to other Governmental agencies.

Town of Ballston Library – Director Rebecca Darling reported that they are almost done with construction. The local history room is done. They are working on updating their charter and how the special district operates. Friends of the Library will be bringing back that Library mini golf fundraiser.

Highway – Superintendent Heritage read the following report:

1. Had our leaf pick up week
2. Ditching roads
3. Screening top soil
4. Plowing snow
5. Finished our paving
6. Trucks ready for winter
7. Cleaning the garage
8. Covered the air conditioner at the community center
9. Maintenance on all chain saws
10. Mixing salt/sand
11. Truck 17 received four back tires
12. Set up the Christmas tree in the gazebo
13. Dig safe locations were 11

Parks – David Pohl confirmed with the Town Board that it is time to put the chains across the entrance to Elmer Smith Park for the winter.

Councilman Robbins said that Tree Lighting event on December 4th was well attended by over 100 residents. A long line of children waited to visit with Santa. He thanked Courtney Pettis for doing a great job of

organizing the event and getting food donations. He also thanked Marshall Heritage, Torben Aabo, Marty Wilson, Dairy Princess Riley Wadsworth, the school chorus and Jeff Voight for their participation.

Infrastructure – Councilman Glavin gave the following report:

Town Water System:

- 1) Councilman Glavin reported at last meeting that the Town engineering firm, Environmental Design Partnership, LLP., provided the Town Supervisor an engineering report reflecting the Town Water System Improvement Study, previously requested by the Town in a task order. Councilman Glavin had briefed the Town board that he had received comments from the board as requested and had completed about 90% of his review. His review was finished this past week and he provided comments to the Town Supervisor. He sent the Town Board his comments today 12/12/22 via e-mail for information. Councilman Glavin asked EDP for an editable version of the study as he will mark up the study with the Towns comments and questions within a week of receiving the editable file and get the marked-up study back to EDP for disposition of comments.
- 2) Councilman Glavin is requesting that the Town Water Commissioners, Water Superintendent, Water Clerk, and Town Engineer meet within the next 45-60 days to review history of the water system, the EDP study findings, state of the water system invoice payments, and discuss opportunities for improvements and cost savings to the town as well as addressing system vulnerabilities and associated future budgets. Supervisor Grasso suggested scheduling a meeting in the mid-January timeframe.

Town Electrical Costs of Electricity:

1. Councilman Glavin met with Omni Energy, Sam Doubleday to discuss electricity cost reduction opportunities by contracting with them for participation in solar farms / solar credits from a solar Project in Western NY such that the Town could see a 10% reduction in its annual electricity costs (currently ~ \$14,000-15,000) resulting in an estimated savings of between \$1,400-1,500. Councilman Glavin stated that he is in favor of it and will provide a copy of the agreement to the Town Supervisor, and TB members this week for info and to our Town Board legal counsel for review.

Councilman St. John stated that he feels it is disingenuous since we don't want to have solar farms in the Town of Charlton.

Dog Control – In November, there were 8 calls received, and one dog seized.

Constables – In November, there were 28 patrols, 16 complaints received, 14 911 calls, 3 accident/ 7 EMT/2 EID calls responded to, and 25 tickets were issued (8 on Route 67).

Planning Board – Councilman St. John reported that the Mancini 4-lot subdivision was approved. The Ward application for another subdivision is moving forward, but there are many items needed.

Land Use Committee – The Committee continues to meet and is narrowing their focus.

MOTIONS, RESOLUTIONS & AUTHORIZATIONS

MOTION #179

MOTION TO ACCEPT THE RESIGNATION OF TRICIA HASBROUCK

Motion by Councilman Robbins

Seconded by Councilman St. John

BY MOTION, the Town Board accepted the resignation from Tricia Hasbrouck for her position as Confidential Secretary to the Supervisor.

Vote: All Ayes, No Nays. **CARRIED**

MOTION #180

MOTION TO ACCEPT THE RESIGNATION OF MARV SCHORR FROM THE ECC

Motion by Councilman Robbins

Seconded by Councilman Glavin

BY MOTION, the Town Board accepted the resignation from Marv Schorr as Chairman and member of the Environmental Conservation Committee effective December 31, 2022.

Vote: All Ayes, No Nays. **CARRIED**

Supervisor Grasso said that the Town offers the Blue Shield Highmark Insurance Plan to employees and the increase in premiums is 10.8% for next year. The Board has decided to offer an alternative plan which will have an increase of 6.1% in premiums over this year's rates. The alternative plan is a CDPHP Gold Embrace EPO plan.

MOTION #181

MOTION TO APPROVE THE OFFERING OF INSURANCE PLANS TO EMPLOYEES

Motion by Councilman Glavin

Seconded by Councilman Robbins

BY MOTION, the Town Board approved the offering of a Blue Shield Highmark Insurance Plan, CDPHP Gold Embrace Insurance Plan and Delta Dental Insurance to eligible employees, and to keep the same employee buy-out options for 2023.

Vote: All Ayes, No Nays. **CARRIED**

ABSTRACT OF CLAIMS

MOTION #182

Approval of Abstract of Claims

Motion by Councilman Robbins

Seconded by Councilman St. John

BY MOTION, the Town Board approved the processing of Abstract 123, voucher numbers 648-683 in the amount of \$48,317.37 which was audited by Town Board members.

Vote: All Ayes, No Nays. **CARRIED**

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR

Suzanne Voigt, resident, said that she was concerned with the overlapping of 3 activities going on in Town all on the same day. The tree lighting ceremony, West Charlton Fire Department Christmas party and the Charlton Fire Department Christmas with Santa were all held on the same day and she suggested that someone coordinate this next year.

MOTION #183

Motion to adjourn the Town Board meeting.

Motion by Councilman Glavin

Seconded by Councilman Robbins

BY MOTION the Town Board adjourned the Town Board Meeting at 8:27 p.m.

Vote: All Ayes, No Nays. **CARRIED**

Respectfully submitted,

Brenda Mills
Town Clerk