

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

February 13, 2023

The Regular Meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Charlton, Saratoga County, New York was held at the Charlton Town Hall, 758 Charlton Rd, Charlton NY and called to order by Supervisor Grasso at 7:30 p.m.

Present: Supervisor Grasso, Councilman Glavin, Councilman Robbins, Councilman St. John, Councilman Tasse.

Also present: Town Clerk Brenda Mills, Attorney Craig.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION #71

Approval of Minutes

Motion by Councilman Robbins

Seconded by Councilman Tasse

BY MOTION the Town Board approved the minutes of the Town Board Meeting on January 23, 2023.

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

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR FOR AGENDA ITEMS

No one chose to speak.

TOWN CLERK'S REPORT

Town Clerk – Clerk Mills said for the month of January, her office took in \$1,069.52. \$976.90 was paid to the Supervisor's office as revenue, and \$92.62 was paid to other Governmental agencies.

SUPERVISORS REPORT

Supervisor Grasso offered condolences to the family of longtime resident Walt Schmidt who recently passed away.

The Animal Control Report will now include dog transports, as the Town has recently purchased an SUV for the Charlton Police/Animal Control officer.

The Town Board had their annual property insurance workshop with Amsure/NYMIR representative, Dave Meager on February 13th to review coverages and risk management.

Supervisor Grasso said that the County has some upcoming County Grants (Economic Development, Trails, Open Space/Farmland Protection available. He asked the Board to consider the Economic Development grant as \$7,100 has been earmarked for each Town in the County. The other two grants are competitive grants.

Supervisor's Financial Report for January 2023:

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MONTHLY REPORT OF SUPERVISOR**TO THE TOWN BOARD OF THE TOWN OF CHARLTON:**

Pursuant to Section 125 of the Town Law, I hereby render the following detailed statement of all moneys received and disbursed by me during the month of January, 2023:

DATED: February 8, 2023

SUPERVISOR

	Balance 12/31/2022	Increases	Decreases	Balance 01/31/2023
A GENERAL FUND - TOWNWIDE				
CASH - CHECKING	1,113,637.81	0.00	0.00	1,113,637.81
PETTY CASH	900.00	0.00	0.00	900.00
Park Fees Reserve	49,226.60	8.36	0.00	49,234.96
TOTAL	1,163,764.41	8.36	0.00	1,163,772.77
DA HIGHWAY FUND				
CASH - CHECKING	395,971.33	0.00	58,765.37	337,205.96
TOTAL	395,971.33	0.00	58,765.37	337,205.96
F WATER #1 FUND				
CASH - CHECKING	266,280.95	550.00	57,676.00	209,154.95
CASH, SPECIAL RESERVES	207,244.80	35.20	0.00	207,280.00
TOTAL	473,525.75	585.20	57,676.00	416,434.95
H CAPITAL PROJECTS				
	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
TOTAL	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
SW WATER #2 FUND				
CASH - CHECKING	27,519.84	0.00	215.30	27,304.54
TOTAL	27,519.84	0.00	215.30	27,304.54
TA TRUST & AGENCY				
CASH - CHECKING	10,358.54	66,555.65	67,332.90	9,581.29
TOTAL	10,358.54	66,555.65	67,332.90	9,581.29
TOTAL ALL FUNDS	2,071,139.87	67,149.21	183,989.57	1,954,299.51

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Supervisor's Financial Report for 2022 – The 2022 books have been closed and the Town has finished in a stronger position. In summary, this is because of the \$400k that the Town received in ARPA funding and how the Board started applying the money to smart spending projects and how the Board has stayed within budget. The Town has low debt. We had 3 bonds that the Town owes on the Town Hall of which 1 bond was recently paid off and 2 of the bonds on the Town Hall and will be paid in full later this year. Our 4th bond is for a Highway Department truck. The Board has done a good job of taking a long-term view on finances, which a major part is looking at and projecting Highway equipment purchases. The Highway Department has been keeping up with a schedule of replacing and updating equipment and they are in good shape currently.

Account balances:

General Unreserved Fund balance: end of 2021: \$392k. end of 2022: \$916k.

Highway Fund balance: end of 2021: \$231k. end of 2022: \$395K.

Water 1 Fund balance: end of 2021: \$529k. end of 2022: \$500k.*

Water 2 Fund balance: end of 2021: \$27k. end of 2022: \$27k.

*Water 1 – balance a little lower, in 2022 water tax rates were purposely not increased.

The January 2023 Sales Tax received was \$133,288. The Town's anticipated budget amount was \$129,167.

On Sunday, January 12th the Supervisor led a tour of the Town Hall for a local Cub Scout Pack. The Scouts also enjoyed getting to see our police cars and hear from our Constables.

Supervisor Grasso said that the Corbin Estate is a home and barns sitting on 115 acres on Maple Avenue near the corner of Packer Road. The Corbins, a former prominent couple, are deceased and their will is held by Trustco Bank. The Bank is responsible for caretaking of the property, which has fallen into disrepair. The Town has engaged conversation with the Bank about the condition of the property. The Town has no legal interest in the property. If a time comes where the Town can take more action, the public will be notified.

Supervisor Grasso noted that the Town received a Special Use Application from Carrie Shea on Maple Avenue for a small in-home antique store. The Board will review the application and decide if they will refer the application to the Zoning Board of Appeals.

Announcements:

The Town offices will be closed on February 20th in observance of President's Day. The Planning Board will still meet on January 20th

The Town currently has open position postings for a part-time Clerk to the Assessor, Part-time Constable and Town Justice. Job descriptions are listed on the Town website.

Any resident interested on serving on the Town Environmental Conservation Committee can contact Supervisor Grasso.

The Charlton VFD Installation Banquet will be held Sunday, February 19th at 5:00 PM.

DEPARTMENT, COMMITTEE & COUNCILMAN REPORTS

Councilman Tasse, Liaison:

Land Use Review Committee Meeting.

- Attended the meeting held on 2/23/23. There was limited discussion of Solar at this meeting (was informed last couple meetings were heavy on solar. Appreciated the strong turnout, engagement of members, and depth of information reviewed and discussed. Look forward to seeing the committee develop further.

Town of Ballston Library • Small Town big Reads. Kickoff 2/16/23 6:00 pm, signup online or by calling.

- Representatives from the Library and Town are meeting w/Sen. Tedesco and Assemblywoman Walsh to discuss the library charter and legislation 2/16/23

- Library Mini Golf will be held on 2/24/23 9 am – 5 pm and 2/25/23 9 am – 1 pm. Golfers of all ages encouraged to attend, \$5 for 18 holes, \$3 for nine

- Next Board of Trustees meeting 2/25/23

National Broadband Survey Participation

- Want to thank everyone who participated in the survey, our engagement on these matters are important and make a difference

OYA Renewables • Registered for Webinar 2/16/23 @ 1 pm on "THE CASE FOR IMPLEMENTING ELECTRIC VEHICLE (EV) CHARGING INFRASTRUCTURE: ASSESSING THE EARLY ADOPTER BENEFITS"

Department Audits • Working with Councilman Glavin and departments to schedule audits of the Tax office and the Water Department.

Councilman Robbins, Liaison:

Highway – Superintendent Marshall Heritage submitted the following report for the month of January:

1. Maintenance on the Chipper
2. Covered the windows at the Community Center with plastic
3. Plowing and sand salting roads
4. Mixing salt/sand
5. Pushed backed snow banks at the Town Hall and the Community Center
6. Cutting /trimming trees
7. Picking up Christmas trees
8. Filling potholes
9. Cleaned up a downed tree on lower Sweetman Road which knocked out power
10. Repaired an oil leak on truck 14
11. Dealing with pot holes on the dirt roads

Party in the Park – The Town is looking for volunteers to help with the event. Contact Councilman Robbins.

Historian – Marv Livingston said that he has two programs that he uses to work on the Town genealogy. He has created a Charlton tree on Ancestry.com, and he also uses Roots Magic. He reported on his personal family tree and found that he is related to a lot of people in Charlton. Anyone interested in looking at the genealogy on Ancestry can access it under: charlton ny tree.

Town Hall – The board is going to bid for boilers (equipment only) for the Town Hall. They would like to replace both boiler if the Town can afford them both this year.

Councilman Glavin, Liaison:

Water:

1. Provided Town Engineering Firm EDP Town of Charlton Water Dept and TB Comments in January. Awaiting resolution and final report, expected to be transmitted to the Supervisor in the next 2 weeks.
2. We will be entering into the next 10-year agreement with the TO Glenville to provide water to the TO Charlton. I am recommending that we take the next steps to make the necessary changes to the agreement, to reflect changes discussed at the meeting held between the TO Charlton and the Town of Glenville representatives on 1/17/23, and that we get agreement with the town of Glenville, and then move to schedule a public hearing on adoption the agreement, followed by preparation of resolution shortly thereafter to adopt the agreement.

Town Electricity/ Energy:

1. The Town Board will be presented with a resolution to enter into an agreement with OYA Renewables that will provide a cost savings for electricity to the town equating to approximate 10% savings year over year or roughly \$1500 annually.
2. On 1/31/23, I attended an OYA sponsored webinar on Community Solar for Towns and Counties. I learned that if residents want to enter into an agreement (10 or more homes) from the Town or municipality, that a grant up to \$5000 can be awarded to the municipality for use as desired. If the Town Board is interested in hearing more about this, councilman Glavin is willing to seek more information and detail on requirements.
3. Councilman Glavin Registered for the Webinar 2/16/23 @ 1 pm on “THE CASE FOR IMPLEMENTING ELECTRIC VEHICLE (EV) CHARGING INFRASTRUCTURE: ASSESSING THE EARLY ADOPTER BENEFITS”

Annual County Planning Meeting:

Attended the annual Saratoga County planning meeting held on 2/1/23. I appreciate the opportunity to be invited and participated in the following educational forums throughout the day: Regulation of Land Uses, Proposed, Protected, or Promoted, Community Solar, Farmland and Open Space Preservation, and The SEQR process and how to implement for meeting review.

Department Audits:

I sent out a request to all TB members on 1/16/23 requesting input on recommended town department audits/assignments. I received feedback from Councilmen St John and Tasse'. Trying to schedule Property Tax, and Water for Wednesday afternoon along with Bldg. Dept tomorrow evening.

Councilman St. John, Liaison:

Constables – In January , there were 3,000 miles traveled, 31 patrols,14 complaints, 11 911 calls and 3 accident/5 Fire calls responded to, and 46 tickets were issued (19 on Route 67).

Dog Control – In January, there were 7 calls received, 1 dog was returned to owner.

Planning Board – The Ward Subdivision – 2049 Route 67 and Maple Ave. 31.85 acres. Proposed 3 lot subdivision and lot line change. 1) 4.46 acres 2) 8.86 acres and 3) 18.5 acres. There will be a Public Hearing: February 20th at 7:30 pm.

Finkle subdivision – Jockey Street. Previously approved by the Planning Board in June of 22. Health issues on the part of the applicant prevented the applicant from completing the subdivision process. The PB will consult the town engineer and the County PB to determine next steps.

Land Use Committee: February 2nd meeting, continue to have good discussions, collect data on resident opinions for future land use, continue to narrow our focus on the things we can change and what needs to be updated.

Ambulance Business: Attended the February 4th Galway Emergency Medical Service Installation banquet. Honored Chad Jaswinski who passed away last fall – The Galway Ambulance Board Meeting room will be named in his honor. Event was well attended – members were recognized including Amy Seidel for 30 years of service.

MOTIONS, RESOLUTIONS AND PROCLAMATIONS

RESOLUTION #72

RESOLUTION TO SET PUBLIC HEARING ON THE ADOPTION OF A LOCAL LAW REGARDING REAL PROPERTY TAX EXEMPTION FOR VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTERS AND VOLUNTEER AMBULANCE WORKERS

Motion by Councilman Tasse

Seconded by Councilman Glavin

Discussion: Attorney Craig said that the Town has had a similar law in place since 2006. The County has suggested that every Town update their law. Supervisor Grasso said that the Town exemptions would only pertain if we had a Town tax or Highway tax, of which we currently have neither.

Roll Call: Councilman Glavin: Aye, Councilman Robbins: Aye, Councilman St. John: Aye, Councilman Tasse: Aye, Supervisor Grasso: Aye. **CARRIED**

**TOWN OF CHARLTON
COUNTY OF SARATOGA
STATE OF NEW YORK**

**RESOLUTION NO. 72
February 13, 2023**

**RESOLUTION TO SET PUBLIC HEARING ON THE ADOPTION
OF A LOCAL LAW REGARDING REAL PROPERTY TAX EXEMPTION FOR
VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTERS AND VOLUNTEER AMBULANCE WORKERS**

WHEREAS, the Town Board of the Town of Charlton has proposed a local law to provide a tax exemption to qualifying volunteer firefighters and volunteer ambulance workers as set forth in Real Property Tax Law §466-a, superseding and replacing Town of Charlton Local Law No. 2 of 2006; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to New York State law, the Town must set and hold a public hearing on any proposed local law, and allow the public the opportunity to comment thereon.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Charlton hereby sets and will hold a public hearing pertaining to the proposed local law to provide a 10% tax exemption to qualifying volunteer firefighters and volunteer ambulance workers as set forth in Real Property Tax Law §466-a, which hearing shall be held on the **27th** day of **February, 2023**, at **7:30 p.m.**, at the Town Hall of the Town of Charlton, 758 Charlton Road, Charlton, New York, at which time and place all persons desiring to be heard thereon will be heard, and it is further

RESOLVED, that the Town Clerk of the Town of Charlton be and she hereby is directed to publish notification of said public hearing as required by law.

A copy of said proposed new law is on file and available at the Town Clerk's Office.

Moved by Councilman Tasse

Voting: Councilman Glavin Aye

Councilman Robbins Aye

Seconded by Councilman Glavin

Councilman St. John Aye

Councilman Tasse Aye

Supervisor Grasso Aye

The resolution was duly adopted on February 13, 2023.

Brenda Mills, Town Clerk

RESOLUTION #73

RESOLUTION TO HIRE A CONSULTANT TO MANAGE AND ASSIST WITH THE COMMUNITY CENTER RENOVATION PROJECT IN THE TOWN OF CHARLTON

Motion by Councilman Robbins

Seconded by Councilman Glavin

Roll Call: Councilman Glavin: Aye, Councilman Robbins: Aye, Councilman St. John: Aye, Councilman Tasse: Aye, Supervisor Grasso: Aye. **CARRIED**

**TOWN OF CHARLTON
COUNTY OF SARATOGA
STATE OF NEW YORK**

**RESOLUTION NO. 73,
February 13, 2023**

**RESOLUTION TO HIRE A CONSULTANT TO MANAGE AND ASSIST WITH THE
COMMUNITY CENTER RENOVATION PROJECT IN THE TOWN OF CHARLTON**

WHEREAS, the Town Community Center is a historic building within the Town and is in need of renovations and repairs due to its' age and present condition; and

WHEREAS, the Town Board has commenced with certain repairs and investigated renovation projects necessary to restore the building, make the building safe for use, and properly preserve the building for future generations; and

WHEREAS, the Board finds that the work needed to coordinate the numerous repairs, renovations, plans, grant funding, and otherwise manage the project has become onerous and involved, so much so that the Board feels a consultant and/or manager of the project is necessary to move forward in an efficient, prudent and comprehensive manner; and

WHEREAS, the Town Board is desirous of hiring a consultant to oversee, manage, and complete the numerous Community Center building renovations and repairs; and

WHEREAS, the Town Board has solicited and considered individuals for said position, and has found Douglas Ranaletto, a former Town Board member, has the knowledge, history, experience and qualities needed as a consultant and manager for the Community Center project, and that he has further shown a unique interest in working for the Town of Charlton and serving the Community in that capacity.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Charlton hereby hires, Douglas Ranaletto, of 4027 Jockey Street, Charlton, New York, 12019, as an independent contractor to act as a consultant and manager for the Community Center restoration and renovation projects, at the initial hourly rate of \$30.00 per hour, to commence on February 14th, 2023, with his term, responsibilities, duties and hours to be set and determined by the Town Supervisor.

Moved by Councilman Robbins

Seconded by Councilman Glavin

Voting: Councilman Glavin	Aye
Councilman Robbins	Aye
Councilman St. John	Aye
Councilman Tasse	Aye
Supervisor Grasso	Aye

The resolution was duly adopted on February 13, 2023.

Brenda Mills, Town Clerk

RESOLUTION #74

RESOLUTION TO ALLOW THE TOWN OF CHARLTON TO ENTER INTO A COMMUNITY SOLAR SUBSCRIBER AGREEMENT WITH OYA SOLAR

Motion by Councilman Glavin

Seconded by Councilman Robbins

Discussion: Councilman Glavin said that OYA Solar is a 3rd party, working with land owners in Western New York. The Town will receive approximately 10% energy savings. The project that we are aligned with should go online this summer and then we will start seeing savings. There is a 90-day notice needed from cancellation from the program.

Councilman St. John said as much as he is a conservative and likes saving money, more so he values farmland, rural character and open spaces. These solar farms are on farmland and he can not promote the sacrifice of the farmland or open spaces for any kind of energy production.

Roll Call: Councilman Glavin: Aye, Councilman Robbins: Aye, Councilman St. John: Nay, Councilman Tasse: Aye, Supervisor Grasso: Aye. **CARRIED**

**TOWN OF CHARLTON
COUNTY OF SARATOGA
STATE OF NEW YORK**

RESOLUTION NO. 74

February 13, 2023

**RESOLUTION TO ALLOW THE TOWN OF CHARLTON TO ENTER INTO A
COMMUNITY SOLAR SUBSCRIBER AGREEMENT WITH OYA SOLAR**

WHEREAS, as part of the Town Board's due diligence in keeping expenses down and cutting costs, the Town Board has investigated and determined it to be in the best interest of the Town to enter into a solar subscriber agreement with OYA SOLAR NY, L.P., which has the potential and will save the Town on the costs of electrical service provided to Town owned properties on an annual basis; and

WHEREAS, the Town Boards believes this to be in the best interests of the Town and Town taxpayers, with initial estimates on savings on electrical costs to be approximately \$1,500.00 annually.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Town Board does hereby authorize, agree, and consent to allowing the Town Supervisor to enter into an Agreement with Community Solar to provide solar energy to the Town Hall and Town buildings, under the terms and conditions set forth in the Community Solar Subscriber Agreement, a copy of which along with Exhibits, is attached hereto and made a part hereof, conditioned upon approval of such by the Town Supervisor and the Town Attorney, and further hereby authorizes the Town Supervisor to execute all other needed and necessary documentation, and pay all amounts required thereunder in furtherance thereof.

Moved by Councilman Glavin

Voting: Councilman Glavin Aye
Councilman Robbins Aye
Councilman St. John Nay
Councilman Tasse Aye
Supervisor Grasso Aye

Seconded by Councilman Robbins

The resolution was duly adopted on February 13, 2023.

Brenda Mills, Town Clerk

RESOLUTION #75

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASE OF A 2022 FORD F-250 PICK-UP TRUCK FOR USE IN THE TOWN OF CHARLTON HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

Motion by Councilman Tasse

Seconded by Councilman Robbins

Roll Call: Councilman Glavin: Aye, Councilman Robbins: Aye, Councilman St. John: Aye, Councilman Tasse: Aye, Supervisor Grasso: Aye. **CARRIED**

**TOWN OF CHARLTON
COUNTY OF SARATOGA
STATE OF NEW YORK**

RESOLUTION NO. 75

February 13, 2023

**RESOLUTION TO APPROVE THE PURCHASE OF A 2022 FORD F-250 PICKUP TRUCK
FOR USE IN THE TOWN HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT**

WHEREAS, the Town Highway Superintendent has advised the Town Board that it is advisable and necessary to purchase a new pick-up truck to replace one of the Highway Department's aging trucks; and

WHEREAS, the Highway Superintendent has complied with the Town's Procurement Policy, researched prices and obtained an acceptable proposal for the new vehicle purchase from Morris Ford, of 872 Saratoga Road, Burnt Hills, New York, 12027, a copy of which said proposal was presented to the Town Board by the Highway Superintendent for consideration and review; and

WHEREAS, the Highway Superintendent has recommended to the Town Board, that the Town purchase a 2022 Ford F-250 pickup truck, as described and set forth on the attached .

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Supervisor is hereby authorized to enter into contract for the purchase of a 2022 Ford F-250 pickup truck, for the sum of \$39,990.50, plus any other incidental expenses associated with such purchase, from Morris Ford, of 872 Saratoga Road, Burnt Hills, New York, 12027, as set forth and described on the attached document; and the Town Supervisor is further authorized to do all things necessary, sign all documents required, and pay all amounts essential to said purchase in order to effectuate same.

Moved by Councilman Tasse

Seconded by Councilman Robbins

Voting: Councilman Glavin Aye
Councilman Robbins Aye
Councilman St. John Aye
Councilman Tasse Aye
Supervisor Grasso Aye

The resolution was duly adopted on February 13, 2023.

Brenda Mills, Town Clerk

ABSTRACT OF CLAIMS

MOTION #76

Approval of Abstract of Claims

Motion by Councilman Robbins

Seconded by Councilman Tasse

Discussion: Supervisor Grasso said that the abstract amount was very high this month because it includes the tax levy for the Charlton Fire Department which is over \$500,000.00.

BY MOTION, the Town Board approved the processing of Abstract 103, voucher numbers 59-109 in the amount of \$729,674.85 which was audited by Town Board members.

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

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR

Torben Aabo, resident, thanked the Board for hiring a consultant for the Community Center project. He said that there is a big light outside the Community Center that is on 24/7. He calculates that electrical cost to be about \$400 per year. He said that a motion light would cost about \$35-\$40 annually. Th said that there is a light out on the side of the building as well, and asked the Board to check into replacing them both.

Josie Jackson, resident, said that she recently purchase a lightbulb that is motion sensitive and you don't have to replace the fixture. She asked when the County Public Hearing was for the exemptions for volunteer firefighters. A: February 15th at 4:30pm.

Robin Sevinsky, resident, said that she agrees that the side light at the Community Center should be fixed as the parking lot is very dark at night. She asked if the ECC meetings were open to the public. A: Yes. She said that way back, the Friends of the Historic Corbin Farm had a petition signed by 287 people to save the property. Unfortunately, the petition didn't really go anywhere. She has a summary of the history of the property which was written by Frank Lafforthun. There is a lot of history with this property and she feels that it should be saved. She offered to scan the information and share if with the Board.

MOTION #77

Motion to adjourn the meeting

Motion by Councilman Glavin

Seconded by Councilman Robbins

BY MOTION the Town Board adjourned the meeting at 8:55 p.m.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Brenda Mills
Town Clerk