**Town of Lexington Town Board Meeting**

**February 1, 2022 In Person & Via Zoom**

Supervisor JoEllen Schermerhorn opened the regular Town Board meeting at 6:00 pm followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag. There was a moment of silence in memory of Thomas Andreasen & Charles Cross

**Present:** Supervisor JoEllen Schermerhorn

Council Members William Pushman Bradley Jenkins

Bennett Wine

Town Clerk Charlotte Jaeger

Town Attorney Tal Rappleyea

Superintendent of Highways Kevin Simmons

**Absent:** Council Member Michael Barcone

**Others Present:** Mike Ryan from the Mountain Eagle, Larry Russ, Christine Dwon, Jack Jordan, Liza Dwon, Richard, Shelly, James, Jen Cawein, & Ron Lipton

**RESOLUTION #19-22**

**Accept December 28, 2021 End of Year Minutes**

On a motion by Council Member Bradley Jenkins, seconded by Council Member William Pushman the following was,

ADOPTED: Ayes – 4- Jenkins, Pushman, Schermerhorn, & Wine

Nays - 0

Absent- 1 Barcone

Therefore this Town Board moves to accept the December 28, 2021 minutes as presented.

**RESOLUTION # 20-22**

**Accept January 4, 2022 Minutes**

On a motion by Supervisor JoEllen Schermerhorn, seconded by Council Member Bradley Jenkins the following was,

ADOPTED: Ayes – 4 – Jenkins, Pushman, Schermerhorn, & Wine

Nays - 0

Absent- 1 – Barcone

Therefore this Town Board moves to accept the Minutes from January 4, 2022 from the

Town Board Organizational meeting as presented.

**Highway Report**

Highway Superintendent Kevin Simmons said that his first month went fairly well. One of the trucks broke down and they were waiting for it to be looked at. The Town of Halcott sent a shared service and Supervisor Schermerhorn said that she would share that information with Kevin. Council Member Jenkins asked the Town Attorney Tal Rappleyea if we should have a written contract on our end and he said that yes it would be a good idea. Council Member Wine asked about a guardrail in Spruceton and it turns out that it was not fixed yet due to the weather.

**Building Committee**

Supervisor Schermerhorn added Carl Giangrande and John Berger to the building committee.

**Zoning Board of Appeals letters of Resignation**

Jackie Coyle sent a letter of resignation as she finds her schedule to be too busy. Sarah Pellizzari sent a letter of resignation as the Zoning Board of Appeals Secretary and asked to be put on as a member of the Zoning Board of Appeals instead. The letters of resignation were accepted and Town Supervisor appointed Sarah to the Zoning Board of Appeals. This still leaves a vacancy for a Zoning Board of Appeals Secretary.

**RESOLUTION # 21-22**

**Accept NYSDOT check of $131,917.00**

On a motion by Council Member Bradley Jenkins, seconded by Council Member Bennett Wine the following was,

ADOPTED: Ayes – 4 – Jenkins, Pushman, Schermerhorn, & Wine

Nays - 0

Absent-1- Barcone

Therefore the Town of Lexington Town Board moves to accept the amount of $131,917.00 for the repairs done on North Beech Ridge Road.

**Resolution # 22-22**

**Greenway Grant for Comprehensive Planning**

On a motion by Council Member Bennett Wine, seconded by Council Member William Pushman the following was,

ADOPTED: Ayes – 4 – Jenkins, Pushman, Schermerhorn, & Wine

Nays - 0

Absent-1 – Barcone

Therefore this Town Board moves to apply for the grant from Greenway for $10,000.00 to help with the cost of updating the Comprehensive Plan.

**RESOLUTION #23-22**

**Establishing a Standard Work Day for Elected & Appointed Officers**

On a motion by Council Member Bradley Jenkins, seconded by Council Member William Pushman the following was,

ADOPTED Ayes – 4 – Jenkins, Pushman, Schermerhorn, & Wine

Nays – 0

Absent-1 – Barcone

Therefore this Town has established that 6hrs = 1 day for elected and appointed officials and 8 hrs = 1 day for the highway workers.

**Grievance Day of Property Assessment Review will be Thursday May 26, 2022**

**There will be a Public Hearing March 1, 2022 for Proposed Local Law #1 of 2022 for Board Members to participate in videoconferencing from outside of the Town of Lexington**

**Howard Road Update**

One driveway was put in and the new owner of the property next to Kenny Bloodgood is willing to cooperate with the Town to put a driveway in and for an easement. Town Attorney Tal Rappleyea has drafted the easement and he was asked to put something in that would hold the Town harmless regarding the leach field since the new owner has said where he wants the driveway to be. Town Supervisor Schermerhorn is still working to see about getting the bank stabilized.

**Municipal Heating Concerns**

Thanks to Peggy working on a Saturday it was discovered that the heat in the building was not working. The pipe in the Fireman’s room broke which affected the heat for the whole building.

Kosco would not come to fix the heat because of the asbestos sign on the crawl space. We had Ambient test the crawl space and they did find that there is asbestos in the crawl space. The sheeting that was put down 20 years ago has shifted. Council Member Pushman asked how we got the heat working. Glenn Howard came right away that Saturday and shut down the water and furnace and he called Glen Thompson and he came on Sunday morning and got the heat working in the building but there is still no heat in the fireman’s room. Supervisor Schermerhorn will do some more research to find a solution regarding the asbestos.

**Short Term Rentals**

Supervisor Schermerhorn was given a letter that another Town uses regarding short term rentals and was wondering if the Town of Lexington should post it on the website and other places. She also said that they needed to get a short term rental committee together. The committee will be made up of 5 people; 1 town board member, 1 full time resident that is not a short term renter, 1 planning board member, and 2 short term rental owners that are residents plus some alternates.

**Health Officer Update**

Health Officer Liza Dwon said that the Covid numbers are still going up and that there was another death in the County. On February 8th there will be a vaccination and booster clinic at Fello Mountain Cafe in Hunter but you need to register ahead of time. She got quotes on 2 AEDS. The regular price was $3,490.00 but she was able to get the price lowered to $2,990.00 and this includes the wall mounts.

Once they come in she can do a CPR training.

**RESOLUTION # 24-22**

**Order AED units**

On a motion by Council Member William Pushman, seconded by Council Member Bradley Jenkins the following was,

ADOPTED: Ayes – 4 – Jenkins, Pushman, Schermerhorn, & Wine

Nays – 0

Absent-1- Barcone

Therefore this Town Board moves to order 2 AED units, one for the Municipal Building and one for the Highway Garage.

**Helicopter Pad**

Supervisor Schermerhorn wants to make sure that the helicopter pad is not too close to the building.

She thinks that there should be signage put up regarding the helicopter pad so that people do not park there. It was suggested that there be a place for parking on the other side of the drive in the corner.

**Bonnie’s Trail**

Council Member Bennett Wine said that the trails had been packed. There is hiking, snow shoeing, & cross country skiing. They are hoping to expand the parking area. There are some people volunteering to help with the trails.

**Municipal Utilities**

Ron Lipton had some hand outs for the Town Board Members that explained what municipal utilities are. “Municipal or community utilities are utilities that are owned and operated by the local government or another state body to provide a service to the public. It is common to see these in different parts of the country providing many services; among them electricity, water, gas, internet, telephone services, and garbage removal.” The other towns on the mountain top would have to come together in order to do this. There would be a savings of around 20% on electricity and the reason being that we wouldn’t have to deal with the public service commission. A mountain top corporation could be formed that could buy the electricity. Central Hudson would still maintain the power lines. There is one in Ulster County and Ron thought it might be a good idea to visit. Supervisor Schermerhorn said that it

would need to be researched.

**Code Enforcement Report**

The Town Board Members had reports to peruse at their convenience.

There was 1 certificate of occupancy or compliance issued, 18 C of O searches, and 1 building permit issued in January.

**Farmers’ Market**

They are looking forward to starting on Memorial Day weekend. They are looking to hire a manager for the summer. The Farmer’s Market is a separate entity from the Town.

**RESOLUTION #25-22**

**Audit Committee Report**

On a motion by Council Member William Pushman, seconded by Council Member Bradley Jenkins

the following was,

ADOPTED: Ayes – 4 – Jenkins, Pushman, Schermerhorn, & Wine

Nays - 0

Absent-1 - Barcone

Therefore this Town Board moves to approve the paying of the following expenditures.

**Highway Fund** No.1 Through No. 19 = $ 51,743.49

**General Fund** No. 1 Through No.44 = $137,423.60

**Lighting District** No. 1 Through No. 1 = $ 586.00

**Sewer District** No. 1 Through No. 8 = $ 3,451.97

**Trust & Agency** No. 1 Through No. 3 =$ 2,581.24

**Public Be Heard**

James said that he did not have much of an update on Hughes Energy. He spoke to Michelle Hincheys’ office. He asked if the Town Board of Lexington could write a letter requesting the information from Limerick to get an official report. Supervisor Schermerhorn said that she would be willing to do that.

Town Clerk Charlotte Jaeger mentioned that she has books written by Dede Terns Thorpe for sale in her office. The title is TIDBITS OF THE TOWN OF HUNTER.

**Calendar of Events**

Planning Board Meeting 02/08/22 6:30 PM

TGIF Brooks Chicken BBQ 02/11/22 3 – 6 PM

Town Board Public Hearing & Meeting 03/01/22 6 PM

**Adjourn**

On a motion by Council Member Bennett Wine, seconded by Council Member William Pushman the meeting adjourned at 7:26 pm with all in favor.

Respectfully Submitted,

Charlotte Jaeger, Town Clerk