

**TOWN OF SARATOGA TOWN BOARD  
DRAFT MEETING MINUTES  
12 SPRING ST., SCHUYLERVILLE, NY  
November 7, 2024  
7:00 P.M.**

Supervisor Ian Murray opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance at 7:03 p.m.

**Roll call:** Deputy Town Clerk, Emilee Jones, called the roll: Supervisor Ian Murray- present, Councilman Michael McLoughlin – present, Councilwoman Ruth Drumm – present, Councilman Gary Squires – present, Councilwoman Maxine Lautenberg – absent.

**Also present:** Linda McCabe, Zoning Officer/Building Inspector Gil Albert, Highway Superintendent Ryan Campbell and other interested parties.

**Recognitions/Presentations/ Bid openings/Public Hearings:**

Supervisor Ian Murray presented the family of Merrill Stewart Patrick with Resolution #24-73, Honoring World War II Veteran Merrill Stewart Patrick. He then read the following: On a motion by Supervisor Ian Murray and seconded by Councilmember Michael McLoughlin, the following **Resolution #24-73, Honoring World War II Veteran Merrill Stewart Patrick**, was adopted by vote: Supervisor Ian Murray - aye, Councilmember Michael McLoughlin – aye, Councilmember Ruth Drumm – aye, Councilmember Gary Squires -aye, Councilmember Maxine Lautenberg - absent.

**Carried 4–0.**

*WHEREAS*, Merrill Stewart Patrick was the son born to Claude and Carrie Patrick on June 18<sup>th</sup>, 1917 in West Rupert, Vermont; and

*WHEREAS*, Merrill attended Schuylerville schools; and

*WHEREAS*, prior to serving honorably in World War II, Merrill served in the Civilian Conservation Corp., entering at the age of 17 on October 4<sup>th</sup>, 1934, and was discharged on May 15<sup>th</sup>, 1937; and

*WHEREAS*, Merrill was a proud member of the Greatest Generation who served honorably in World War II. He entered active duty on April 9<sup>th</sup>, 1941 and served with Company G, 28<sup>th</sup> Infantry Regiment, 8<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division. Merrill landed on Utah Beach on July 4<sup>th</sup>, 1944 and was wounded in Normandy, on July 12<sup>th</sup>, 1944, earning him a Purple Heart. Merrill was hospitalized and eventually transferred back to the United States, where he recovered from his wounds, until his discharge. For his service, Merrill was also awarded the Good Conduct Medal, the European African Middle Eastern Campaign Ribbon with Bronze Campaign Star, and Combat Infantryman Badge; and

*WHEREAS*, Merrill was married to his lovely wife, Marvil, in 1951 and together they raised two sons and two daughters, John, Mike, Patty and Lois; and

*WHEREAS*, Merrill worked at United Board and Carton Corporation in Thompson, for 35 years, as a Beater Operator; and

*WHEREAS*, he also worked at Schuylerville Central School for 10 years, retiring in 1978; and

*WHEREAS*, he served in many organizations in the community, including Old Saratoga Post #278 American Legion, Committeeman for the Boy Scouts and Cub Scouts and served as a Coach for the Little League Program in Schuylerville for many years; and

*WHEREAS*, Merrill passed away on November 4, 1990, at the age of 73, now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED**, that the Town of Saratoga extends our belated condolences to all the family and friends of the Patrick family; and be it further

**RESOLVED**, that the Town of Saratoga hereby recognizes and honors, to the highest degree possible, Merrill Stewart Patrick for his patriotism, devotion, service and sacrifice for his country and community; and be it further

**RESOLVED**, that the Town of Saratoga will never let his name and the sacrifice he made for his country be forgotten. He will always be held in the highest esteem and remembered as a member of the Greatest Generation and one of the Town of Saratoga's best.

**Supervisor Ian Murray opened the Public Hearing for adopting proposed Local Law #4, 2024, Repealing and Replacing Chapter 199 of the Saratoga Town Code, at 7:12 p.m.**, asking those wishing to speak to please stand at the podium, state their name, address and direct their comments to the Board. The following addressed the Board:

Dio Kaufman, Rt. 9P, asked the Supervisor to explain this.

Supervisor Ian Murray responded the proposed law doesn't change the Town Codes, the Town would just update and adopt the State Law. He then asked if there were any other comments or questions; there were none. **Seeing as no one further wished to speak, Supervisor Ian Murray closed the public hearing at 7:13 p.m.**

**Supervisor Ian Murray opened the public hearing for Adoption of the Annual 2025 Town Budget at 7:13 p.m.**, asking anyone wishing to speak, to please stand at the podium, state their name, address and direct their comments to the Board. **Seeing as no one wished to speak, Supervisor Ian Murray closed the public hearing at 7:14 p.m.**

**Approval of Minutes:** A motion was made by Councilmember Gary Squires and seconded by Councilmember Ruth Drumm, **to accept the minutes of the October 9, 2024 Regular Town Board meeting as written.** Supervisor Ian Murray - aye, Councilmember Michael McLoughlin - aye, Councilmember Ruth Drumm - aye, Councilmember Gary Squires - aye, Councilmember Maxine Lautenberg - absent.

**Carried 4 – 0**

**Town Clerk's report for October 2024:** Fees paid to the NYS Dept. of Agriculture and Markets for the Animal Population Control Program \$ 39.00. Fees paid to New York D.E.C. for hunting and fishing licenses \$535.75. Fees paid to the New York State Health Department for Marriage licenses \$ 0. Dog license fees to Supervisor Ian Murray \$178.00 Clerk fees to Supervisor Ian Murray \$211.25 Total State and Local Revenues received were \$964.00.

**Zoning Officer's report for October 2024:** 4 Building Permits, 5 Building Inspections, 0 Certificates of Occupancy, 0 Junkyard Permits, 0 Complaints, 0 Fire Inspections, 0 Order to Remedy, 6 misc., 3 Building Permit Renewal and 0 Property Maintenance Inspections. A check for \$2,056.65 was given to Supervisor Ian Murray.

**Dog Control Officer's report for October 2024:** Ed Cross, Dog Control Officer answered 15 complaints, took 0 dogs to the shelter, 0 bite case, traveled 62 miles, issued 5 warnings and issued 1 summons.

**Town Court report for October 2024:** Closed Traffic Tickets - 29, Closed Criminal/Penal Law cases - 1, Closed Civil Cases - 0, Closed Encon/DEC - 0, Closed DWI's - 1, Closed Town &

Dog cases – 1. The following checks were submitted to Supervisor Ian Murray for fines & fees: \$0 from Justice Charles Sherman and \$1,830.00 from Justice John McCarron.

**Tax Collector’s report for October 2024:** No report.

**Historian’s report for October 2024:** No report.

**Assessor’s report for October 2024:** No report.

**Highway Superintendent’s report for October 2024:**

- ❖ Mowing ditch lines & Right of ways.
- ❖ Hauled in sand for winter.
- ❖ Took down 250<sup>th</sup> Banners throughout the Town and Villages.
- ❖ Completed paving project in Schuyler Hills.
- ❖ Completed culvert replacements & shimming on Burke Rd. and shimming on Rucky Tucks Rd.
- ❖ Replaced driveway culvert at 113 Condon Rd.
- ❖ Regraded & compacted Farnan Rd.
- ❖ Crack sealed Haas, Trombley, Nielson & Chapman Hill Roads
- ❖ Completed transmission work on Pick-up #2. Brakes, rotors, u joints & oil changes completed on trucks #2, 3 and 4.
- ❖ Assisted Town of Easton with shimming on Cheese Factory Rd.

Supervisor Ian Murray questioned Highway Superintendent Ryan Campbell on the location of the removed 250<sup>th</sup> Banners. Ryan Campbell responded he removed the poles but left the mounts up. Supervisor Ian Murray stated he wants them neatly rolled up and hung from the rafters in the garage for safe keeping, as they’ll be used again.

**Supervisor’s report:**

**SUPERVISOR’S REPORT OCTOBER 2024**

**GENERAL FUND – TOWNWIDE (A FUND)**

Balance on hand 10/1/2024	\$ 421,084.08
Revenues	+ 266,964.83
Disbursements	- 195,934.05
Balance 10/31/2024	\$ 492,114.86

**GENERAL FUND – OUTSIDE VILLAGE (B FUND)**

Balance on hand 10/1/2024	\$ 2,283,357.71
Revenues	+ 5,241.09
Disbursements	- (4,656.80)
Balance 10/31/2024	\$ 2,283,942.00

**HIGHWAY FUND – OUTSIDE VILLAGE (DB FUND)**

Balance on hand 10/1/2024	\$ 645,590.06
Revenues	+ 75.00
Disbursements	- (117,593.80)
Balance 10/31/2024	\$ 528,072.15

SCHUYLER PARK 10/31/2024 \$ 102,324.04

YOUTH RECREATION & SERVICE 10/31/2024	\$ 8,673.85
HIGHWAY EQUIPMENT RESERVE 10/31/2024	\$ 160,770.10
BUILDING RESERVE 10/31/2024	\$ 483,863.31
CDPHP & HRA 10/31/2024	\$ 5,279.16
AHC HOME IMPROVEMENT 10/31/2024	\$ 52,240.00
SCENIC BY WAYS QRTLRY 10/31/2024	\$ 312.37
PARKS RESERVE 10/31/2024	\$ 376,956.55
GFNB Certificate of Deposit 10/31/2024	\$ 794,303.08
NYCLASS 10/31/2024	\$ 780,992.31

1. **September 2024 Mortgage Tax Received** – \$9,936.50
2. **September 2024 Sales Tax Received** - \$ 180,239.00
3. **(AUC) Adult Use Cannabis Tax Received** – no update
4. **Saratoga County Sherrif's update** – no update

**Public comments on agenda items:** No one spoke.

**Committee reports:**

**Landfill:** no report.

**Insurance:** no report.

**Youth:** no report.

**Park Committee:** no report.

**Office of Emergency Management (OEM):** no report.

**WEMS Report:** no report.

**Old business:** None.

**New business:**

On a motion by Councilmember Michael McLoughlin and seconded by Councilmember Gary Squires, on **Resolution 24-71, Adopting Local Law #4, 2024, Repealing and Replacing Chapter 199 of the Town of Saratoga Town Code for the Administration and Enforcement of the State Uniform Codes**, was adopted by vote: Supervisor Ian Murray - aye, Councilmember Michael McLoughlin – aye, Councilmember Ruth Drumm – aye, Councilmember Gary Squires -aye, Councilmember Maxine Lautenberg – absent.  
**Carried 4 – 0.**

**WHEREAS**, Town Code Chapter 199 currently recognizes the offices of Code Enforcement and Inspectors establishes the process by which these offices are filled and also sets forth certain substantive requirements pertaining to enforcement of the New York State Uniform Fire Prevention and Building Code and the State Energy Conservation Construction Code; and

**WHEREAS**, the New York State Department of State has adopted certain regulatory changes that impact the substantive requirements applicable to local Code Enforcement programs necessitating amendment of Chapter 199; and

**WHEREAS**, to best facilitate these changes, the Town Board wishes to replace Chapter 199 to comply with the State regulatory changes concerning the Town's Code Enforcement program; and

**WHEREAS**, the Town Board has conducted a Public Hearing on November 7<sup>th</sup>, 2024, concerning Local Law 4 of 2024 which, if adopted, would replace current Chapter 199; and

**WHEREAS**, at that time, the Town Board heard from all members of the public present that wished to be heard on the issue of adoption of this Local Law; and

**WHEREAS**, the Town Board has reviewed the draft Local Law and considered any comments provided at the Public Hearing, and finds that it would be appropriate and desirable to adopt the Local Law;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that adoption of these Local Laws constitute a Type II Action pursuant to the State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQRA) and therefore no SEQRA review is warranted; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Saratoga Town Board hereby adopts Local Law No. 4 of 2024, repealing and replacing Chapter 199, incorporating the changes made to State regulations concerning the substantive requirements of the Town's local Code Enforcement program; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Town Clerk is hereby authorized and directed to file such Local Laws with the New York Department of State; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Town Board authorizes and directs the Town Supervisor, Town Clerk and/or Town Counsel to execute any required documents and take any and all actions necessary to effectuate all terms of this Resolution.

Duly adopted this 7th day November, 2024.

On a motion by Councilmember Michael McLoughlin and seconded by Councilmember Gary Squires, **on Resolution 24-72, Adopting the Annual Town Budget for 2025**, was adopted by vote: Supervisor Ian Murray - aye, Councilmember Michael McLoughlin - aye, Councilmember Ruth Drumm - aye, Councilmember Gary Squires - aye, Councilmember Maxine Lautenberg - absent. **Carried 4 - 0.**

**WHEREAS**, the Town of Saratoga Town Board, having on November 7, 2024 at 7:00 p.m., duly held a public hearing on the preliminary budget approved by this Board and filed with the Town Clerk for the fiscal year commencing January 1, 2025. Having heard all persons desiring to be heard in the matter of the budget for this Town for said fiscal year, and having been fully discussed and considered; now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED**, that said preliminary budget approved and filed as aforesaid, is hereby adopted and established as the annual budget for this Town, for the fiscal year beginning January 1, 2025, and that such annual budget as so adopted is detailed in the minutes of the proceedings of this Town Board; and be it further

**RESOLVED**, that the Town Clerk of this Town shall prepare and certify as provided by law, duplicate copies of said annual budget hereby adopted, and deliver one of such copies to the Supervisor of the Town and he shall present such copy to the Board of Legislators of the County, as required by law.

**Privilege of the floor:** The following addressed the Board: Dio Kaufman, Robert Dougal and Susan Yerry.

**Upcoming meetings:** Regular Town Board meeting - Monday, December 9, 2024 at 7:00 p.m.

**Audit the Bills:** On a motion by Councilmember Ruth Drumm, seconded by Councilmember Michael McLoughlin, the following **Resolution #24-74 Approving the Payment of Bills in Abstract 11G of 2024**, was adopted by vote: Supervisor Ian Murray - aye, Councilmember Michael McLoughlin – aye, Councilmember Ruth Drumm – aye, Councilmember Gary Squires - aye, Councilmember Maxine Lautenberg – absent.

**Carried 4 – 0**

**RESOLVED**, by the Town Board of the Town of Saratoga to authorize payment of the bills listed in **Abstract 11G of 2024 in the following amounts:**

<b>General Fund DB</b>	<b>No. 630, 647 - 666</b>	<b>\$189,190.70</b>
<b>General Fund A</b>	<b>No. 631 – 632, 667 – 694</b>	<b>\$ 20,534.48</b>
<b>General Fund B</b>	<b>No. 698 - 700</b>	<b>\$ 143.99</b>
<b>General Fund H</b>	<b>No. 695 - 697</b>	<b><u>\$ 2,039.08</u></b>

**Grand Total \$211,908.25**

A motion was made by Councilmember Gary Squires, seconded by Councilmember Ruth Drumm, **to adjourn the meeting at 7:35 p.m.** Supervisor Ian Murray - aye, Councilmember Michael McLoughlin – aye, Councilmember Ruth Drumm – aye, Councilmember Gary Squires - aye, Councilmember Maxine Lautenberg – absent.

**Carried 4 – 0**

**Meeting Adjourned**

Respectfully Submitted,

Linda McCabe  
Clerk Pro Tem