

**TOWN OF SARATOGA TOWN BOARD  
DRAFT MEETING MINUTES  
12 SPRING ST., SCHUYLERVILLE, NY  
December 9, 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 – absent, Councilman Gary Squires – present, Councilwoman Maxine Lautenberg – present.

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

**Recognitions/Presentations/ Bid openings/Public Hearings:** None

**Approval of Minutes:** A motion was made by Councilmember Michael McLoughlin and seconded by Councilmember Gary Squires, **to accept the minutes of the November 7, 2024 Regular Town Board meeting as written.** Supervisor Ian Murray - aye, Councilmember Michael McLoughlin – aye, Councilmember Gary Squires - aye, Councilmember Maxine Lautenberg – aye, Councilmember Ruth Drumm – absent.

**Carried 4 – 0**

**Town Clerk’s report for November 2024:** Fees paid to the NYS Dept. of Agriculture and Markets for the Animal Population Control Program \$ 31.00. Fees paid to New York D.E.C. for hunting and fishing licenses \$342.06. Fees paid to the New York State Health Department for Marriage licenses \$0. Dog license fees to Supervisor Ian Murray \$140.00 Clerk fees to Supervisor Ian Murray \$199.94. Total State and Local Revenues received were \$713.00.

**Zoning Officer’s report for November 2024:** 5 Building Permits, 17 Building Inspections, 11 Certificates of Occupancy, 0 Junkyard Permits, 0 Complaints, 0 Fire Inspections, 0 Order to Remedy, 64 misc., 2 Building Permit Renewal and 1 Property Maintenance Inspections. A check for \$1,483.00 was given to Supervisor Ian Murray.

**Dog Control Officer’s report for November 2024:** Ed Cross, Dog Control Officer answered 9 complaints, took 0 dogs to the shelter, 0 bite case, traveled 40 miles, issued 6 warnings and issued 4 summonses.

**Town Court report for November 2024:** Closed Traffic Tickets - 28, Closed Criminal/Penal Law cases – 0, Closed Civil Cases –1, Closed Encon/DEC – 2, Closed DWI’s – 0, Closed Town & Dog cases – 1. The following checks were submitted to Supervisor Ian Murray for fines & fees: \$0 from Justice Charles Sherman and \$0 from Justice John McCarron.

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

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

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

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

- ❖ Mowing ditch lines & right-of-way.
- ❖ Cleared trees & large branches from highways & Town right-of-way.
- ❖ Repaired/replaced damaged or missing road signs throughout the Town.
- ❖ Removed vet banners from Villages & installed holiday banners.
- ❖ Removed grizzly loading dock.
- ❖ Cleared Town parking lots & Town roads of snow & ice.
- ❖ Completed shimming on Walsh Rd.
- ❖ Completed work projects at the highway garage.
- ❖ Winter services completed on tandems, installed winter equipment on fleet; lights, frames, chains, plows, wings, spinners etc.
- ❖ Replaced: box chain on Truck 1, damaged wing cable on Truck 3, exhaust on Pick-up 3 and installed mirrors on Pick-up 4

**Supervisor’s report:**

**SUPERVISOR’S REPORT NOVEMBER 2024**

**GENERAL FUND – TOWNWIDE (A FUND)**

Balance on hand 11/1/2024	\$ 492,114.86
Revenues	+ 268,898.00
Disbursements	- (401,017.27)
Balance 11/30/2024	\$ 359,995.59

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

Balance on hand 11/1/2024	\$ 2,283,942.00
Revenues	+ 51,026.13
Disbursements	- (12,634.05)
Balance 11/30/2024	\$ 2,322,334.08

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

Balance on hand 11/1/2024	\$ 528,072.15
Revenues	+ 195,426.05
Disbursements	- (219,923.75)
Balance 11/30/2024	\$ 503,574.45

SCHUYLER PARK 11/30/2024	\$ 58,614.96
YOUTH RECREATION & SERVICE 11/30/2024	\$ 8,673.85
HIGHWAY EQUIPMENT RESERVE 11/30/2024	\$ 60,781.84
BUILDING RESERVE 11/30/2024	\$483,901.54
CDPHP & HRA 11/30/2024	\$ 3,807.58
AHC HOME IMPROVEMENT 11/30/2024	\$ 5,845.00
SCENIC BY WAYS QRTRLY 11/30/2024	\$ 312.37
PARKS RESERVE 11/30/2024	\$ 376,956.55
GFNB Certificate of Deposit 11/30/2024	\$ 794,303.08

NYCLASS 11/30/2024

\$ 783,919.43

1. **November 2024 Total Mortgage Tax Received** – \$18,959.64
2. **November 2024 Sales Tax Received** - \$ 162,664.00
3. **(AUC) Adult Use Cannabis Tax Received** – \$0
4. **End of Year Audit meeting – December 30, 2024 at 1 p.m.**

**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.

**QSFD & WEMS Reports:** no report.

**Old business:** None.

**New business:** Supervisor Ian Murray stated the annual AOT training for 2025, is upcoming in February. He asked if any Board members were interested in going and Councilmember Maxine Lautenberg stated she will be attending the training in NYC.

Supervisor Ian Murray also stated that the Saratoga County Planning and Zoning Conference is going to be held on February 5<sup>th</sup>, 2025.

Supervisor Ian Murray then stated **Resolution #24-75** will be taken up later in the meeting, once the Board enters and exits Executive Session.

On a motion by Councilmember Michael McLoughlin and seconded by Councilmember Gary Squires, the following **Resolution 24-76, Authorization to Purchase a Kubota LX 4020 HSD Compact Tractor**, was adopted by vote: Supervisor Ian Murray - aye, Councilmember Michael McLoughlin – aye, Councilmember Gary Squires -aye, Councilmember Maxine Lautenberg – aye, Councilmember Ruth Drumm – absent.

**Carried 4 – 0.**

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Town Board of the Town of Saratoga, authorizes the purchase of a new Kubota LX4020 HSD Compact Tractor from Salem Farm Supply. The tractor and equipment include: front end loader with bucket, 72” mid-mount mower, 64” commercial snow blower, to maintain Town property and trail system. Total price not to exceed \$44,688.00.

On a motion by Councilmember Michael McLoughlin and seconded by Councilmember Maxine Lautenberg, the following **Resolution 24-77, Authorization to Purchase a BWISE EHD 20-17 Deck Over Equipment Trailer**, was adopted by vote: Supervisor Ian Murray - aye, Councilmember Michael McLoughlin – aye, Councilmember Gary Squires -aye, Councilmember Maxine Lautenberg – aye, Councilmember Ruth Drumm – absent.

**Carried 4 – 0.**

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Town Board of the Town of Saratoga, authorizes the purchase of a new BWISE EHD 20-17 Deck Over Equipment Trailer from Capital Tractor, to haul equipment needed to maintain Town property and trail system. Total price not to exceed \$13,900.00, delivery included.

Councilmember Michael McLoughlin spoke to the Board concerning John Still's, (owner of The Cove and The Alley Bar & Grill) water chestnut problem on the Hudson River. He said John is interested in applying for a grant to help with the removal and control of the dense pockets of water chestnuts, and is asking for a letter of support from the Town Board in order to do so. The Board agreed to supply a letter of support once they receive the information needed from Mr. Still.

**Privilege of the floor:** Rick Burke addressed the Board.

**Upcoming meetings:** End of Year Town Audit meeting – Monday, December 30, 2024 at 1:00 p.m.

**Audit the Bills:** On a motion by Councilmember Michael McLoughlin, seconded by Councilmember Gary Squires, the following **Resolution #24-78 Approving the Payment of Bills in Abstract 12G of 2024**, was adopted by vote: Supervisor Ian Murray - aye, Councilmember Michael McLoughlin – aye, Councilmember Gary Squires - aye, Councilmember Maxine Lautenberg – aye, Councilmember Ruth Drumm – absent.

**Carried 4 – 0**

**RESOLVED**, by the Town Board of the Town of Saratoga to authorize payment of the bills listed in **Abstract 12G of 2024 in the following amounts:**

<b>General Fund DB</b>	<b>No. 710, 728 - 744</b>	<b>\$135,818.83</b>
<b>General Fund A</b>	<b>No. 703 – 706, 708, 711, 715, 745 - 767</b>	<b>\$ 66,404.78</b>
<b>General Fund B</b>	<b>No. 709, 716, 768 - 770</b>	<b>\$ 17,198.71</b>
<b>General Fund H</b>	<b>No. 707, 710-0773</b>	<b>\$ 43,452.89</b>
<b>General Fund HPO</b>	<b>No. 701 – 702</b>	<b>\$ 46,395.00</b>
	<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>\$309,270.21</b>

A motion was made at 7:42 p.m. by Maxine Lautenberg, seconded by Gary Squires, **to Enter into Executive Session to discuss matters relating to proposed, pending or current litigation and to discuss matters leading to the appointment, employment, promotion, discipline, suspension, dismissal or removal of a particular person or corporation.** Supervisor Ian Murray - aye, Councilmember Michael McLoughlin – aye, Councilmember Gary Squires - aye, Councilmember Maxine Lautenberg – aye, Councilmember Ruth Drumm – absent.

**Carried 4 – 0**

A motion was made by Maxine Lautenberg, seconded by Gary Squires, **to Exit Executive Session at 8:12 p.m. No Board action was taken.** Supervisor Ian Murray - aye, Councilmember Michael McLoughlin – aye, Councilmember Gary Squires - aye, Councilmember Maxine Lautenberg – aye, Councilmember Ruth Drumm – absent.

**Carried 4 – 0**

Seeing as Code Enforcement Officer Gil Albert has been trying to rectify a code violation situation since 2017, the Board agreed to the following:

On a motion by Councilmember Michael McLoughlin, seconded by Councilmember Gary Squires, the following **Resolution 24-75, Authorizing Code Enforcement Officer to Initiate Litigation against Town Resident for Violation of Town Building Ordinance**, was adopted by vote: Supervisor Ian Murray - aye, Councilmember Michael McLoughlin – aye, Councilmember Gary Squires -aye, Councilmember Maxine Lautenberg – aye, Councilmember Ruth Drumm – absent.

**Carried 4 – 0.**

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Town Board of the Town of Saratoga, authorizes Town of Saratoga Code Enforcement Officer, Gilman Albert, to pursue legal remedies for apparent violation of the Town’s Zoning/Building Laws. Resident has ignored several Orders to Remedy for building a pavilion without a permit in the Town’s right-of-way, and has now started building a house without a permit.

A motion was made by Councilmember Maxine Lautenberg, seconded by Councilmember Michael McLoughlin, **to adjourn the meeting at 8:16 p.m.** Supervisor Ian Murray - aye, Councilmember Michael McLoughlin – aye, Councilmember Gary Squires - aye, Councilmember Maxine Lautenberg – aye, Councilmember Ruth Drumm – absent.

**Carried 4 – 0**

**Meeting Adjourned**

Respectfully Submitted,

Linda McCabe  
Clerk Pro Tem