

**DRAFT MINUTES OF THE TOWN OF SARATOGA
TOWN BOARD MEETING
12 SPRING ST., SCHUYLERVILLE, NY
July 11, 2022 6:00
P.M.**

Supervisor Thomas Wood opened the meeting at 6:00 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll call: Town Clerk, Linda McCabe, called the roll: Supervisor Thomas Wood- present, Councilman Michael McLoughlin – present, Councilwoman Ruth Drumm – present, Councilman Gary Squires – present, Councilwoman Maxine Lautenberg – present.

Also present: Deputy Clerk Michelle Conover, Building Inspector/Zoning Officer Gil Albert, Fiona Farrell, Ian Murray, Pat Temple and Wendy Lukas.

Recognitions/Presentations/ Bid openings/Public Hearings: Michelle DeGarmo, Flatley Read, addressed the Board on the Mobile & Manufactured Home Replacement Program. She stated she held a public hearing on this program earlier this evening. She proposed to the Board to apply for another CDBG grant as the funds are now being pushed through quickly. Due to the drastic increased costs of mobile homes, they now will be replacing them with modular homes, as the price difference is only \$50,000 – \$60,000. The state is encouraging the program, as the public funding will be used for building more sustainable housing. At this time, there is no waitlist, but they can only replace two mobile homes as costs have risen dramatically. If stick built homes are cheaper, they’ll go that way, if not, it will be modular homes. This is the 5th year of mobile home replacements with the Town of Saratoga.

Supervisor Thomas Wood said it’s a very positive program, a team effort to keep it going. He then asked if there were any Board questions; there were none. He stated the resolution will come later in the meeting for this project.

Supervisor Thomas Wood then stated one of the most pleasurable aspects of his job is when he can recognize a resident’s 100th birthday, and Ruth Hayes has just turned 100 years old. On a motion by Supervisor Thomas Wood, seconded by Councilmember Michael McLoughlin, read the following **Resolution #22-63 – Honoring the 100th Birthday of Ruth Hayes**, was adopted by vote: Supervisor Thomas Wood - aye, Councilman Michael McLoughlin – aye, Councilwoman Ruth Drumm – aye, Councilman Gary Squires - aye, Councilwoman Maxine Lautenberg - aye. **Carried 5 – 0**

WHEREAS, the Town of Saratoga wishes to recognize and honor Ruth Hayes on her 100th birthday; and

WHEREAS, Ruth Hayes was born on July 7, 1922, in Porters Corners, NY; and

WHEREAS, Ruth Hayes was one of eight Rowland children, consisting of six boys and two girls; and

WHEREAS, Ruth Hayes lived on Hayes Road in the Town of Saratoga; and

WHEREAS, Ruth Hayes was married to Walter Hayes Sr. on November 29, 1942 and had five children, fifteen grandchildren, twenty two great grandchildren and one great, great grandchild; and

WHEREAS, Ruth Hayes graduated from Saratoga High School in June, 1940 and

WHEREAS, Ruth Hayes worked her entire life, raising her children, working at Skidmore College as a housekeeper, from 1961 – 1975 worked at Oneida Markets in Schuylerville, from 1975 – 1978 at the Big N in Greenwich and from 1978 – 2005 was selfemployed as a painter and wallpaper hanger and was one of the best in this area; and

WHEREAS, Ruth Hayes was active in the Dutch Reformed Church and enjoyed conducting garage sales to raise money for the Dutch Reformed Church; and

WHEREAS, Ruth Hayes demonstrated in her daily life the qualities and attributes which are highly desired and valued by our society; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the longevity and quality of the life of Ruth Hayes be honored, recognized and remembered by the Town of Saratoga, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the day of July 7, 2022, is hereby dedicated to the life of Ruth Hayes in grateful recognition by the Town Board of the Town of Saratoga on behalf of all the residents of the Town.

Approval of Minutes: A motion was made by Councilmember Ruth Drumm and seconded by Councilmember Michael McLoughlin, **to accept the minutes of the June 9, 2022 agenda meeting and the June 13, 2022 regular meeting.** Supervisor Thomas Wood - aye, Councilman Michael McLoughlin – aye, Councilwoman Ruth Drumm – aye, Councilman Gary Squires - aye, Councilwoman Maxine Lautenberg - aye.

Carried 5 – 0

The following reports were submitted:

Town Clerk’s report for June 2022: Fees paid to the NYS Dept. of Agriculture and Markets for the Animal Population Control Program \$58.00. Fees paid to New York D.E.C. for hunting and fishing licenses \$141.72. Fees paid to the New York State Health Department for Marriage licenses \$22.50. Dog license fees to Supervisor Thomas Wood \$265.00. Clerk fees to Supervisor Thomas Wood \$185.78. Total State and Local Revenues received were \$673.00.

Zoning Officer’s report for June 2022: 7 Building Permits, 23 Building Inspections, 5 Certificates of Occupancy, 0 Junkyard Permits, 0 Complaints, 0 Fire Inspections, 0 Orders to Remedy, 3 misc., 8 Building Permit Renewals and 0 Property Maintenance Inspections. Supervisor Thomas Wood received a check in the amount of \$2,878.25.

Dog Control officer’s report for June 2022: The following report was submitted by DCO Ed Cross: Dog Control Officer answered 17 complaints, took 1 dog to the shelter, 0 bite case, traveled 83.6 miles, issued 12 warnings and 0 summons.

Town Court report for June 2022: 42 Traffic tickets closed, 2 Criminal/penal law case closed, 1 civil case closed, 5 Encon/DEC closed, 1 DWI cases closed, 0 Town and Dog cases closed. Supervisor Thomas Wood received the following checks: \$60.00 from Justice Daniel Waldron

\$3,323.00 from Justice Charles Sherman, for a total amount of \$3,383.00.

The Court office applied for and received a JCAP grant in the amount of \$11,855.94.

Highway Superintendent’s report for June 2022

- ✦ Garage cleaning, mowing and pot hole patching
- ✦ 50 hours + break-in maintenance on boom mower tractor ✦ Picked up truck 5 replacement (2013 Freightliner)

- ✦ Prepped truck 5 for hauling and inspection
- ✦ Brake cans replaced on truck 1
- ✦ Shimmed on Hathaway and Hayes roads with our paver
- ✦ Blacktopped Hayes Rd. with Kubricky, Rt. 32 to Burgoyne
- ✦ Used Northumberland, Wilton, Moreau, Greenfield and Malta for hauling top
- ✦ Schuylerville for traffic control
- ✦ Sent two trucks to Northumberland for millings then blacktop
- ✦ Sent one truck to Stillwater for blacktopping
- ✦ Had black top area at Schuyler Park fog sealed
- ✦ Mowed at Towpath and Rt. 4 trails
- ✦ Moved soil piles at Schuyler Park for a batting cage
- ✦ Removed old fencing and building debris from Rt. 29 property
- ✦ Had building inspection by our insurance provider, all was good

Supervisor’s report for June 2022:

SUPERVISOR’S REPORT JUNE 2022

GENERAL FUND – TOWNWIDE (A FUND)

Balance on hand 6/1/2022		\$ 1,211,615.03	
Revenues	+ 88,638.23	Disbursements	-
<u>81,585.59</u>			
Balance 6/30/2022		\$ 1,218,667.67	

GENERAL FUND – OUTSIDE VILLAGE (B FUND)

Balance on hand 6/1/2022		\$2,094,031.46	
Revenues	+ 85.07		
Disbursements	- <u>7,671.25</u>		Balance
6/30/2022	\$2,086,445.28		

HIGHWAY FUND – OUTSIDE VILLAGE (DB FUND)

Balance on hand 6/1/2022		\$1,136,204.68	
Revenues	+ 279,490.03	Disbursements	=
<u>139,900.84</u>			
Balance 6/30/2022		\$ 1,275,793.87	

SCHUYLER PARK CAPITAL PROJECT 6/30//2022	\$ 158,217.30
YOUTH RECREATION & SERVICE 6/30/2022	\$ 8,673.85
HIGHWAY EQUIPMENT RESERVE 6/30/2022	\$ 95,672.66
BUILDING RESERVE 6/30/2022	\$ 483,126.77
SCENIC BY WAYS QRTRLY 6/30/2022	\$ 312.01
PARKS RESERVE 6/30/2022	\$ 426,956.55
TRUST & AGENCY 6/30/2022	\$ 48,314.31
CDBG Project 6/30/2022	\$ -
HISTORIC HUDSON HOOSICK RIVER 6/30/2022 PARTNERSHIP	\$ 3,324.28
PROPERTY TAX CAP RESERVE 6/30/2022	\$ 1,311.98
GFNB Certificate of Deposit 6/30/2022	\$ 753,691.56
NYCLASS 6/30/2022	\$ 703,269.89

June 2022 Sales Tax Received - \$160,248.00

May 2022 Mortgage Tax Received - \$25,488.50

Supervisor Thomas Wood stated he received an email from the treasurer's office concerning the Landfill Profit Sharing Program. The County determines the amount of money based on sales tax and population of each town, city and village within the County. This year, the Town of Saratoga will receive \$32,745.77 of the 2021 revenue, the Village of Schuylerville will receive \$3,246.57 and the Village of Victory will receive \$1,432.27.

Supervisor Thomas Wood added it's back to Budget season and he will be giving each department their annual budget worksheet to fill out. He said he will hold their first budget workshop at the upcoming August 4th Agenda Meeting. He said inflation has risen and County negotiations are ongoing.

He then stated that he and Bookkeeper Pat Temple have been looking at ARPA money and found the flooring project of the Schuyler Room is covered by that, so they'll put that amount of money back in the Town account. He added the money can be used for weather proofing the Town Hall and to make the building more energy efficient.

Supervisor Thomas Wood added he still has not heard back from National Grid concerning the street lighting; phone tag continues. He also stated that Ronnie Myers is coordinating the Veterans Banners in Schuylerville. He was notified that 37 Banners have been completed and will be hung up prior to the Turning Point Parade; our highway department will make their bucket truck available to help hang the banners.

Public comments on agenda items: Fiona Farrell addressed the Board.

Committee reports:

Senior Citizens: Pat Temple, Town Bookkeeper, reported that the Old Saratoga Seniors had their last meeting until autumn, at the Hideaway Restaurant on Saratoga Lake. It was their Birthday Luncheon, 39 were in attendance and Bob Haney was named Senior of the Year. September 7, 2022: They will meet at the Fish Creek Rod & Gun Club for a picnic. September 14, 2022: Bus trip to Lake George for a luncheon cruise on the Lac du Saint Sacrement boat. The bus will leave the American Legion at 10:00 a.m. sharp. The cost is \$46 per person. Contact Pat Temple at 518-338-2329 if interested and for further information.

She then reported that the Schuylerville Youth Program is going very well with 40+ in attendance on all days. They offer free lunches through Captain Youth every day and are looking for local support of water and snack donations. They have a summer program at the park on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays, filled with activities such as fishing, crafts, art classes, Legos workshops, gardening with the local garden club, cooking & baking with a wonderful local baker. Every Wednesday they make their own snacks with the Life Skills workshops. They will be making solar ovens, watching movies, walking trips along the trails and to Stewarts to get ice cream. They will be making some fun trips to the following:

Grafin Lake for the Go Fishing Program

Misci Museum of Innovation & Science

Rock Sports

Up Yonda Farm Environmental Education Center for a hike and to learn about owl pellet

Please contact Jennie Winter at Schuylervileyouthcenter@gmail.com if you'd like to help out with donations.

Insurance: Supervisor Thomas Wood updated the Board on our NYMIR Cyber Insurance policy. He said NYMIR is backing away from it and when we renew in August, they'll only go to \$25,000 instead of our \$250,000 as in the past. He explained the process all offices would have to do if we were to buy into another insurance program. For example, everyone would have to have a cell phone and call the company to get a code, given only for the day and this would have to be done every single day. Premiums for the \$1,000,000 policy run between \$4,000 - \$4,500. He said Chris Dudek, the Town's IT specialist, has built in a lot of security here. No computer impacts another for security purposes. He believes we are covered well and is very comfortable with the level of security Chris has built in. The Board agreed with him and the Town should stay with NYMIR. Supervisor Thomas Wood said he will contact Dave Meager with this information.

QSFD: No report.

WEMS: No report.

Park Committee: No report.

Old business: Supervisor Thomas Wood stated concerning the acoustics for the Schuyler Room, he has asked Drew Alberti of Flatley Read, to contact several acoustical evaluation companies for help with sound absorption of the Schuyler Room. He will have each company come into the Schuyler Room to take sound measurements and then we'll go from there. As he stated in the past, this will be a 4 phase project: evaluation, sound control, new sound system and an audio/visual zoom component. Councilmember Maxine Lautenberg said she asked her niece, an audio engineer, if she could recommend a company in this area who we could call as well, but she didn't know of any. Supervisor Thomas Wood reiterated that Drew Alberti, Flatley Read, is working on this, has contacted several companies and we'll go forward with the 4 phase project.

New business:

Supervisor Thomas Wood noted the Board has been deciding on whether or not to change the term of office of the Highway Superintendent from 4 years down to 2 years and to keep this as an elected position or go to an appointed position. Included in the Board members packets, to help the Board make their decision, he had contacted the NYS Association of Towns and had them send him a list of all towns in the state with a listing whether the position of Highway Superintendent is elected or appointed. The list shows 910 towns in the state. Out of the 910 towns, 841 towns have elected highway superintendents with only 69 towns having appointed.

Supervisor Thomas Wood then said he had spoken with the Town Attorney and was told the Board needs to decide to choose either putting the Term of Office or going from an elected position to an appointed position on the ballot, but not to have both on the same ballot. After a lengthy discussion, Supervisor Thomas Wood asked for a consensus of the Board to keep the Highway Superintendent an elected position versus appointed position on the ballot or the term of office on the ballot. Supervisor Thomas Wood - elected, Councilman Michael McLoughlin – elected, Councilwoman Ruth Drumm – elected, Councilman Gary Squires - appointed, Councilwoman Maxine Lautenberg – appointed.

Carried 3 - 2 The Highway Superintendent will remain an elected position and the Term of Office is to be on the ballot.

On a motion by Councilmember Ruth Drumm, seconded by Councilmember Michael McLoughlin, the following **Resolution #22-63 – Authorization to Enter into Contract with Flatley Read to apply for a Mobile & Manufactured Home Replacement Grant**, was adopted by vote: Supervisor Thomas Wood - aye, Councilman Michael McLoughlin – aye, Councilwoman Ruth Drumm – aye, Councilman Gary Squires - aye, Councilwoman Maxine Lautenberg - aye. **Carried 5 – 0**

WHEREAS, the Town of Saratoga Town Board finds it in the best interest of the Town to seek grant funding for community revitalization in the town of Saratoga; and

WHEREAS, NYS Homes & Community Renewal, Office of Community Renewal provides funding for such projects to municipal applicants; and

WHEREAS, the Town has determined a Mobile and Manufactured Home Replacement Program to be in the best interest of supporting community and economic revitalization in the target area; and

WHEREAS, the proposed Mobile and Manufactured Home Replacement Program will help support continued sustainable economic growth in the community by alleviating pockets of blight throughout the Town; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Saratoga has agreed to submit funding applications for Mobile & Manufactured Home Replacement, including but not limited to a Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), and as such, the Supervisor is hereby designated as the representative for the grants and is further authorized to sign such documentation and provide such information as may be required for timely completion of the application.

On a motion by Councilmember Gary Squires, seconded by Councilmember Michael McLoughlin, the following **Resolution #22-65 – Authorizing the Transfer of Funds**, was adopted by vote: Supervisor Thomas Wood - aye, Councilman Michael McLoughlin – aye, Councilwoman Ruth Drumm – aye, Councilman Gary Squires - aye, Councilwoman Maxine Lautenberg - aye.

Carried 5 – 0

RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Saratoga authorizes the transfer of the following funds:

- ✦ \$1,000.00 from A1990.4 Contingency, to A1670.4 Central Print/Mail Contractual, to cover the increase of postage.
- ✦ \$2,500.00 from A1990.4 Contingency, to A1680.4 Data Processing Contractual, to cover the contract cost with software company.
- ✦ \$5,000.00 from A7110.4 Parks, to A7110.1 Parks Contractual, to cover payroll for Trails maintenance.

Communications:

- ✦ Turning Point Parade will be held August 7, 2022.
- ✦ Garden Club Flower Show, July 23 & 24, 2022
- ✦ Schuylerville Alumni Banquet, 6:00 p.m. at the American Legion, August 6, 2022.
- ✦ Tasting on the Hudson, Hudson Crossing Park, October 1, 2022, 3:00 – 6:00 p.m.

Privilege of the floor: Wendy Lukas addressed the Board.

Upcoming meetings:

- ✦ Agenda meeting & Budget Workshop – August 4, 2022 at 6:00 p.m.
- ✦ Regular Town Board meeting – Monday, August 8, 2022 at 6:00 p.m.

Audit of the Bills: On a motion by Councilmember Michael McLoughlin, seconded by Councilmember Maxine Lautenberg, the following **Resolution #22-66 - Approving the Payment of Bills in Abstract 7G of 2022**, was adopted by vote: Supervisor Thomas Wood - aye, Councilman Michael McLoughlin – aye, Councilwoman Ruth Drumm – aye, Councilman Gary Squires - aye, Councilwoman Maxine Lautenberg - aye.

Carried 5 - 0

RESOLVED, by the Town Board of the Town of Saratoga to authorize payment of the bills listed in **Abstract 7G of 2022 in the following amounts:**

General Fund DB	No. 418, 440 - 456	\$165,317.93
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General Fund A	No. 419, 422, 435, 457 - 460, 463 – 491	\$ 16,806.84
General Fund B	No. 461, 492 - 494	\$ 483.01
H Schuyler Park	No. 462, 495 - 499	\$ 7,200.33
HH Hudson-Hoosic	No. 425	\$ 2,460.54
CDBG	No. 436 – 438	\$ <u>51,702.42</u>
		Grand Total \$ 243,971.07

A motion was made by Councilmember Michael McLoughlin, seconded by Councilmember Gary Squires **to Enter into Executive Session at 7:20 p.m. 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 Thomas Wood - aye, Councilwoman Ruth Drumm – aye, Councilman Michael McLoughlin – aye, Councilman Gary Squires - aye, Councilwoman Maxine Lautenberg - aye. **Carried 5 – 0**

A motion was made by Councilmember Gary Squires, seconded by Councilmember Ruth Drumm, **to Exit Executive Session at 7:42 p.m. No Board action was taken.** Supervisor Thomas Wood - aye, Councilwoman Ruth Drumm – aye, Councilman Michael McLoughlin – aye, Councilman Gary Squires - aye, Councilwoman Maxine Lautenberg – aye. **Carried 5 – 0**

A motion to adjourn was made by Councilmember Maxine Lautenberg, seconded by Councilmember Michael McLoughlin, at 7:43 p.m. Supervisor Thomas Wood - aye, Councilman Michael McLoughlin – aye, Councilwoman Ruth Drumm – aye, Councilman Gary Squires - aye, Councilwoman Maxine Lautenberg - aye.

Carried 5 - 0

Meeting Adjourned

Respectfully Submitted,

Linda A. McCabe
Town Clerk