

TOWN OF SCHUYLER FALLS
TOWN BOARD
REGULAR MEETING October 26, 2021

Supervisor Randall called the Regular Meeting of the Town of Schuyler Falls Town Board to order at 6:00 p.m.

<u>MEMBER</u>	<u>Present</u>
Howard Newton	X
Martin Perrotte	X
Vernon Bruno	X (Mr. Bruno arrived at 6:05)
Reginald Facteau	X
Kevin Randall	X
Donna Hamel	X
Michael McCormick	X
Michael Snider	X

PUBLIC RECOGNITION Sherm Hamel, Richard Donah, Larry & Ann Whalen, Rick Dabrowski, Harold Belanger, Grace McPherson, Barb Benkwitt, April Wood, Joleen Wood, Mary Sorrell

All Board Members were provided with a copy of the Minutes of the Regular Meeting that was held on September 28, 2021.

Mr. Newton made a motion to approve and accept the Minutes as presented; Seconded by Mr. Perrotte
AYES: Mr. Newton, Mr. Perrotte, Mr. Bruno, Mr. Facteau, Mr. Randall
ABSENT: Mr. Bruno

All Board Members were provided with a copy of the Minutes of the Work Session that was held on October 18, 2021.

Mr. Perrotte made a motion to approve and accept the Minutes as presented; Seconded by Mr. Newton.
AYES: Mr. Newton, Mr. Perrotte, Mr. Bruno, Mr. Facteau, Mr. Randall

COMMUNICATIONS 1. Memo from Charter Communications with a listing of channel add-ons and changes effective November 15th.

MONTHLY REPORTS Town Clerk, Supervisor, Woods Mills Water, Morrisonville Water, Macey Lane, Historian, Codes Enforcement

Mr. Randall made a motion to file the reports; Seconded by Mr. Newton.
AYES: Mr. Newton, Mr. Perrotte, Mr. Bruno, Mr. Facteau, Mr. Randall

RECEIPTS Town Clerk/\$1,004.00, Morrisonville Water/\$14,050.85, Macey Lane Water/\$1,735.72, Woods Mills Water/\$5,842.37 Judge Van Nortwick/2,141.00, Judge Barber/\$3,181.00, Casella Waste-3rd quarter/\$151,575.04, Taylor Rental-bid award items/\$1,138.00

Mr. Bruno made a motion to file the receipts; Seconded by Mr. Facteau.
AYES: Mr. Newton, Mr. Perrotte, Mr. Bruno, Mr. Facteau, Mr. Randall

Mr. Newton made a motion to file the minutes of the Zoning Board of Appeals meeting dated September 20, 2021. This motion was seconded by Mr. Facteau and was Unanimously Approved.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS Councilman/ Mr. Facteau told the Board members that a concern he heard while campaigning was the amount of money spent for the NYC training. He asked if a limit can be placed on the number of employees that attend. As the information on the conference just came in the mail, no one has expressed an interest at this time. It was said that there are some classes that are mandatory for certain employees. It was also mentioned that a lot would depend on the Coronavirus numbers at that time.

Mr. Facteau stated that he was against the proposed 25% pay raise that is being presented for the Supervisor position. He stated that the Councilmembers are not putting in for a raise this year and did not take one last year. He feels that the amount of \$24,000 presented for the Supervisor position is a lot. That is why he will not be voting yes on that item. It was said that the Supervisor spends a great amount of time at the offices during regular business hours and after hours. Mr. Randall added that this increase in salary was for the position and not the person as the residents will be deciding on the position of Supervisor on election day.

Mr. Facteau said he had requested some documents regarding the \$60,000 that was received for the insurance claim for the damages to the Woods Mills Playground and the Playground at the Town Hall. The Town Clerk asked him to submit the requested documents to her office under the Freedom of Information Law.

Mr. Facteau again mentioned the hefty amount of money that the Town is paying for the Highway Department uniforms. He stated that the bill was \$147.00 this week. He suggested giving the highway employees a stipend instead of supplying them with uniforms. It was said that the company has forwarded an amendment to the present contract that would lower the cost of the uniforms. If the Town were to approach the company or terminate the contract, it might be considered a breach of the contract, as a five -year contract was signed.

Highway/ Mr. Snider reported that all the salt has been put up for the winter. His crew is working to get the trucks ready for the winter months.

Town Clerk/ The preliminary budget has been given to all Councilman tonight. All necessary notices for the meetings will be sent to the paper.

Supervisor/ Mr. Randall filled out a Servia lead by the Lake Champlain Regional Planning Board. He had handouts containing the results of the study to the Town Board.

JCEO is going to purchase their own fax, scanner-copier to hook up to the internet. They will be interviewing for possible hires for the position at the Town office.

Mr. Garso has compiled a new updated presentation for the new website. He will present it at a work session. He said that he would honor the price quoted to the Town last year.

Mr. Randall passed out handouts for the garage floor drain project. This project is almost ready to put out to bid. Discussion followed on the best time to start the project as the winter months are approaching.

Work is still being done on the DASNY grant. It was suggested that the Town complete a perk test for the size of the sand filter and leach field needed. He will obtain three quotes.

The ARPA report deadline has been changed from 10/20 to 4/22. Mr. Randall received a contract price of \$125.00 from the LaBerge Group. This will assure that all proper documentations are completed as the Town moves to allocate this money per fund reporting rules. Mr. Randall said that a contract is needed to have the LaBerge Group's professional service regarding ARPA Program Guidance and Administration. Mr. Newton made motion to enter into an agreement with the LaBerge Group to administer the proposal regarding the ARPA Program Guidance and Administration at a rate of \$125.00 an hour plus reimbursement expenses with a cap budget of \$4,500 through December 31, 2021. This motion was seconded by Mr. Perrotte and was approved by all Councilman with the exception of Mr. Facteau who voted no. His reasoning was that this proposal was only until the end of the year and no other firms were contacted to find out what they would charge and if there was an interest to submit a proposal.

Brian Lapier, an agent from Selective Insurance, met with Mr. Randall to review the Town's policy. It was told to Mr. Randall that every three years a full market review of the Town's insurance is done. At least five companies have to participate for an overall competitive bid. If a change in policies is warranted, Mr. LaPier would then contact the Town to discuss this.

Macey Lane interim water report has been completed. Final recommended solutions will be given after the following final series of tests on the system is concluded; hydrant flow test, valve exercising, meter vault and PRV to possible increase allowable downstream pressure in increments of 5psi.

RESOLUTIONS

RESOLUTION #21-60

MOTION BY: Mr. Newton

RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Schuyler Falls authorizes the Supervisor to sign the Service Agreement with Employee Assistance Services, contract attached, retroactive date of November 1, 2021 through October 31, 2022, with an agreed fee of \$40.00 per annum per covered employees (6).

SECONDED BY: Mr. Bruno

DISCUSSION: Mr. Facteau thought that this should cover all employees or at least elected officials. Mr. Randall explained what and who the service is for.

AYES: Mr. Newton, Mr. Perrotte, Mr. Bruno, Mr. Randall, Mr. Facteau

RESOLUTION #21-61

MOTION BY: Mr. Perrotte

RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Schuyler Falls authorizes the Supervisor to enter into the Snow and Ice service agreement with the County Highway Department for the 2021-2022, 2022-2023 and 2023-2024 seasons.

SECONDED BY: Mr. Facteau

AYES: Mr. Newton, Mr. Perrotte, Mr. Bruno, Mr. Randall, Mr. Facteau

RESOLUTION #21-62

MOTION BY: Mr. Perrotte

RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Schuyler Falls approves the following Highway Fund Budget Transfers.

From: DA.5110.420 General Repairs Culverts	\$ 500.00
To: DA.5110.410 General Repairs Signs	\$ 500.00

To cover the cost of expenses for 2021.

SECONDED BY: Mr. Newton

AYES: Mr. Newton, Mr. Perrotte, Mr. Bruno, Mr. Randall, Mr. Facteau

RESOLUTION #21-63

MOTION BY: Mr. Newton

RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Schuyler Falls, pursuant to and in accordance with the provisions of Section 106 of the Town Law, approves and adopts the annexed detailed statement of estimated expenditure and revenues be and the same hereby as the Preliminary Budget for the year 2022. Such Preliminary Budget shall be filed forthwith in the office of the Town Clerk where it shall be available for public inspection, and

RESOLVED, THAT THE TOWN BOARD OF THE TOWN OF SCHUYLER FALLS WILL HOLD A PUBLIC HEARING TO HEAR COMMENTS FOR OR AGAINST THE YEAR 2022

Preliminary Budget on Thursday, November 4, 2021 at 5:30 p.m. at the Town Hall, 997 Mason Street, Morrisonville with a Special Meeting to follow for the purpose of adopting the 2022 Annual Budget, and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Town Clerk shall give notice of such public hearing in the official newspaper at least five days prior to the hearing and shall cause a copy of said notice to be posted on the bulletin board.

SECONDED BY: Mr. Perrotte

DISCUSSION: Mr. Facteau stated that it was his intent based on the monies coming into the Town, was to have a zero-tax rate. He pointed out that only \$86,347 needs to be raised in taxes for the General Fund. He mentioned that if the Town had a zero percent tax rate, that would be something to brag about and the Town would see more development. Mr. Randall stated that the goal is to get the budget equalized and to try not to take out money to offset it. Mr. Facteau said that possibly reducing the budget by reducing benefits and personnel might help to reach a zero- tax rate. It was discussed that the unallocated fund balance should not be deleted to achieve this.

AYES: Mr. Newton, Mr. Perrotte, Mr. Bruno, Mr. Randall

NAYES: Mr. Facteau

RESOLUTION #21-64

MOTION BY: Mr. Facteau

RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Schuyler Falls approves the following General Fund Budget Transfers.

From:	A.1220.400	Supervisor's Cont.	\$ 600.00
To:	A.1220.410	Accounting Expense	\$ 600.00
From:	A.1680.200	Central Data Processing Equipment	\$ 5,000.00
To:	A.1680.400	Central Data Processing	\$ 5,000.00
From:	A.1990.400	Contingent Account	\$ 10,000.00
To:	A.8989.410	Community Services	\$ 10,000.00

To cover the cost expenses through the 2021-year end.

SECONDED BY: Mr. Newton

AYES: Mr. Newton, Mr. Perrotte, Mr. Bruno, Mr. Randall, Mr. Facteau

RESOLUTION #21-65

MOTION BY: Mr. Perrotte

WHEREAS, Complete Streets are defined as streets that are safe, convenient and comfortable for all ages and abilities using any mode of transportation (motor vehicle, public transportation, foot, bicycle, etc.); and

WHEREAS, Sustainable Complete Streets are defined as Complete Streets with elements of design, construction and operation that also serve environmental sustainability; and

WHEREAS, Complete Streets design features and practices include, but are not limited to sidewalks, paved shoulders suitable for cycling, designated bike lanes, lane striping, share the road signage, crosswalks, curb ramps, audible pedestrian signals, pedestrian crossing signage, traffic calming measures such as curb bump-outs, center islands and pavement markings, sidewalk snow removal and routine shoulder and bike lane maintenance; and

WHEREAS, streets that support and invite multiple uses, including safe, active, and ample space for pedestrians, bicycles, and public transportation, are more conducive to public life and efficient movement of people than streets designed primarily to move automobiles and trucks; and

WHEREAS, promoting pedestrian, bicycle and public transportation travel as an alternative to the automobile reduces negative environmental impacts, promotes healthy living, and is less costly to the commuter; and

WHEREAS, the full integration of all modes of travel in the design of streets and highways will increase the capacity and efficiency of the road network, reduces traffic congestion by improving mobility options, limits greenhouse gas emission and improves the general quality of life; and

WHEREAS, many studies show that when roads are better designed for bicycling, walking and transit use, more people do so, and Complete Streets has been recognized and adopted as policy and law at federal, state, county, town, village and city levels in the interest of improving safety and accessibility for all users; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Schuyler Falls will explore the maintenance and enhancement of pedestrian, bicycle and trail connections within the hamlet center and address issues of these amenities as needed; and

WHEREAS, the design and construction of new and existing roads in the Town of Schuyler Falls should anticipate future demand for biking, walking and other alternative transportation; and

WHEREAS, Sustainable Complete Streets are supported by the Institute of Traffic Engineers, the American Planning Association, the American Public Health Association, the State of New York and many other transportations, planning and public health professionals,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town of Schuyler Falls will, to the extent reasonable and affordable, view all transportation improvements as opportunities to improve safety, access, and mobility for all travelers in the Town of Schuyler Falls and recognizes bicycle, pedestrian, and transit modes as integral elements of the transportation system; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Town of Schuyler Falls Planning Board intends to add Complete Streets concepts into all official planning documents including any Comprehensive Plan; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Town of Schuyler Falls will make Complete Streets practices a routine part of everyday operation, will approach every transportation project and program as an opportunity to improve public (and private) streets and the transportation network for all users, and will work in coordination with other department, agencies and jurisdictions to achieve Complete Streets; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Town of Schuyler Falls will consider incorporating Complete Streets design features and practices in planning, design, approval and implementation process for any construction, reconstruction, retrofit, maintenance, alteration, or repair of streets, bridges or other portions of the transportation network whenever feasible; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that per the Complete Streets Act (New York State Law Chapter 398), a Complete Streets approach is not required if the Town of Schuyler Falls determines that one or more of the following situations exist:

Use by bicyclists and pedestrians is prohibited by law, such as within interstate highway corridors
The cost would be disproportionate to the need as determined by factors including but not limited to, the following: land use context; current and project traffic volumes, and population density;
Use of design features would have an adverse impact on, or be contrary to public safety;
Nothing in this policy shall require the Town of Schuyler Falls to expend monies in accordance with Complete Streets that exceed the amount of available local, state, and federal funding for such design features.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this Resolution shall take effect immediately.

SECONDED BY: Mr. Facteau

DISCUSSION: Mr. Randall mentioned that our Town is the only Town in Clinton County that does not have this policy in place. After the adoption of this policy, the Town can receive a portion of the grant money that is offered up to \$8,000.

AYES: Mr. Newton, Mr. Perrotte, Mr. Bruno, Mr. Randall, Mr. Facteau

RESOLUTION #21-66

MOTION BY: Mr. Bruno

WHEREAS, the New York State Environmental Facilities Corporation (NYEFC), provides grants to municipalities under the NYS Water Infrastructure Improvement Act (WIIA) grant program for drinking water and clean water projects; and

WHEREAS, under said legislation, eligible applicants in the case of municipalities, are required to authorize an official representative to file the application; and

WHEREAS, the Town desires to pursue this funding mechanism for assistance in completing the Morrisonville Water Improvements Project (The Project); and

WHEREAS, the Project includes critical drinking water upgrades which will replace asbestos cement pipes by the installation of a total of 12-inch watermain along NYS Route 22B and Flat Rock Road. 8-inch watermain will be installed to replace the asbestos cement mains throughout the remainder of the Morrisonville Water District; and

WHEREAS, the total project cost has been determined to be approximately \$8,100,000; and

WHEREAS, the Town will commit to bonding of the funds required for the improvements upon notice of favorable grant award; and

WHEREAS, full environmental review of the Project is in the process of completion and the Project has been classified as a SEQR Type I Action;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Members of the Board of the Town of Schuyler Falls hereby authorize the Town Supervisor to execute and file an application on behalf of the Town of Schuyler Falls with the New York State Environmental Facilities Corporation (NYSEFC) for a Water Infrastructure Improvement Act (WIIA) grant; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the application amount requested be no more than 60% of the total project cost (\$4,860,000); and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Town of Schuyler Falls will issue a bond resolution in the amount of the full project cost and that the Supervisor is hereby authorized to enter into an agreement to retain Bond Counsel for the purposes of drafting an appropriate bond resolution; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Town Supervisor is hereby authorized and designated as the representative and to act as such in connection with the application to provide additional information as may be required including all understandings and assurances contained in the application; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Supervisor is hereby authorized and directed to execute a contract and/or agreement with the New York State Environmental Facilities Corporation in connection with the application and is further authorized to request and expend funds from NYS Government pursuant to said contact and/or agreement; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, to the extent all or any actions hereby authorized have been executed and/or performed by the Supervisor all are hereby ratified and confirmed and this Resolution take effect immediately.

SECONDED BY: Mr. Facteau

AYES: Mr. Newton, Mr. Perrotte, Mr. Bruno, Mr. Randall, Mr. Facteau

RESOLUTION # 21-67

MOTION BY: Mr. Newton

RESOLVED, that the Regular Town Board Meeting that was reschedule for Tuesday, November 30, 2021 at 6:00 p.m. be rescheduled for November 16, 2021 at 6:00 p.m. to accommodate a meeting that is needed for the completion of the NYSEFC Water Infrastructure Improvement Grant Program.

SECONDED BY: Mr. Bruno

AYES: Mr. Newton, Mr. Perrotte, Mr. Bruno, Mr. Facteau, Mr. Randall

CLAIMS

General Abstract for the Month of October	\$ 16,266.97
Highway Abstract for the Month of October	\$ 104,145.57
Morrisonville Water Abstract for the Month of October	\$ 5,276.85
Woods Mills Water Abstract for the Month of October	\$ 1,449.16
Macey Lane Water Abstract for October	\$ 596.67
Audit only Abstract for the Month of October	\$ 2,495.69

Vouchers for Claims (#202101459-202101528)

Vouchers for Audit Only (#202101448-202101458)

Payroll Vouchers (#202101415-202101447)

Mr. Newton made a motion to pay the claims, which was seconded by Mr. Randall.

AYES: Mr. Newton, Mr. Perrotte, Mr. Bruno, Mr. Facteau, Mr. Randall

PUBLIC FORUM Mr. Donah stated that he did not think the raise for the Supervisor is the right thing to do. Mr. Randall replied that it is the job title that would receive the increase in salary, not the person. He added that there is an election to go through and he might not win the election. Mr. Donah stated that he thought that the \$300.00 monthly stipend for the insurance benefit for non-union employees was expensive. Mr. Donah asked Mr. Randall if he was aware of the Hatch Act. He did not want to go into detail about individual employees.

Mr. Dabrowski commented on the culvert drain at the end of Macey Lane and Irish Settlement Road that is not working properly. Mr. Snider will contact the County as the culvert is on Irish Settlement Road and the road is a County Road. Mr. Dabrowski mentioned that the Macey Lane sign is leaning due to the ground being wet. Mr. Snider told him that he will fix it.

April Wood, a resident on Kent Falls Road, commented on her water. Mr. Randall explained what is being studied and what has been done to date to rectify the problems. NYSDEC and the NYS Health Department are working on a possible remedy. Grants have not been ruled out to alleviate the situation.

NEXT MEETING

Work Sessions (if Needed)	Monday	November 1, 2021	6:00 p.m.
	Monday	November 15, 2021	6:00 p.m.
Public Hearing/Special Meeting to follow	Thursday	November 4, 2021	5:30 p.m.
Regular Meeting	Tuesday	November 16, 2021	6:00 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT Mr. made a motion to adjourn, which was seconded by Mr.; and was **UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED. ADJOURNMENT/ 8:55 p. m.**

Donna Hamel/Town Clerk