



NEW PALTZ VILLAGE BOARD & TOWN COUNCIL  
MINUTES

Regular Joint Meeting of Wednesday, July 8th, 2020

Remotely Held and Recorded -- 7:00 PM

[Click here to view the meeting](#)

**Present:** Mayor Rogers, Deputy Mayor Tobin, Trustee Wheeler Murray, Trustee Wojcik, Trustee Zipp; Supervisor Bettez, Deputy Supervisor Torres, Councilperson Brownstein

**Also Present:** Ariana Basco, Assistant to the Mayor; County Legislator Eve Walter

**Absent:** Councilperson Baer, Councilperson Seyfert-Lillis,

**Call to Order:** Mayor Rogers called the regular joint meeting of the Village of Board of Trustees and Town Council to order at 7:00 PM

- Pledge of Allegiance
- Land Acknowledgment

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## ADMINISTRATIVE BUSINESS

### 1. Approval of Agenda

- a. The following items were added to the Joint Business Agenda:
  - i. Police Commission
- b. The following items were added to the Town Business Agenda:
  - i. Authorize and approve purchase orders
- c. The following items were added to the Village Consent Agenda:
  - i. Accept the only bid for alum sludge removal and disposal from Wind River Environmental in the amount of \$0.25 per gallon. This will be for a three year contract
  - ii. Accept Robin Ward's resignation from the Landlord Tenant Relations Council
  - iii. Approve Records Destruction Request
  - iv. Time Warner Cable remove Property Tax request
- d. The following items were added to the Village Business Agenda:
  - i. Yoga with NP Rock Yoga in Hasbrouck Park

Mayor Rogers moves to approve the agenda as amended. Trustee Wojick seconds. . **(Passes 5-0)**  
Councilperson Brownstein moves to approve the agenda as amended. Deputy Supervisor Torres seconds. **(Passes 3-0)**

### 2. Announcements

- a. John Oliver House preservation project is coming together
- b. New stop signs
  - i. at the corner of Tricor and Hasbrouck
  - ii. At the corner of Southside and Pencil Hill Road

- c. This Sunday at the New Paltz Open Air Market from 10am to 3pm will be a tenants rights and responsibilities popup
- d. DO THE CENSUS!!

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## **PUBLIC COMMENT**

1. None

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## **JOINT BUSINESS AGENDA**

### **1. Climate, Equity, and Justice Related Items**

- a. Short term rentals
- b. Re-imagining and experimenting with Public-Private Spaces to promote outside activities, community, and the local economy
- c. Mass Gatherings
- d. Use of Police: Village code inventory
- e. [Joint Resolution # of 2020 Support for Local Groundwater](#)
- f. Chapter 191 Shade Tree Commission code changes
- g. Skatepark project update and 3D rendering proposal

### **2. County Discussion Items**

- a. County Legislator Eve Walter joins the board
  - i. Anti Danskammer Resolution
    1. still in committee
  - ii. Update on the Sales Tax Resolution
    1. other communities were persuaded that it would be worse for them if there was only a one year agreement
    2. It did not receive enough votes
  - iii. Short Term Rental Update
    1. was approved to go to public hearing and New Paltz should weigh in
    2. This would change how the revenue is handled
    3. The village/town conversation will be focused on short term rentals owned by commercial businesses vs homeowners
  - iv. Mental Health Update - it passed and they are working on gaining clarity from Healthy Alliance
  - v. A new Public Defender will be appointed
  - vi. Executive's commission is planning and police reform town hall

### **3. Approve the [06-04-2020 Joint Meeting Minutes](#)**

Mayor Rogers moves to Approve the 06-04-2020 Joint Meeting Minutes. Trustee Wheeler Murray seconds. . **(Passes 5-0)**

Councilperson Brownstein moves to Approve the 06-04-2020 Joint Meeting Minutes. Deputy Supervisor Torres seconds. . **(Passes 3-0)**

#### 4. Short term rentals

- a. Distinction between long term rentals and short terms rentals
  - i. Changes the character of the community
  - ii. Prices people out by making things less affordable
- b. Types of short term rentals
  - i. Income property
  - ii. Owner occupied
  - iii. Local property owners that have multiple properties
- c. Permanent and year round residents support local businesses, they cannot just rely on tourism. The beautiful tourist days will always bring in business, but the rainy day in February is when businesses rely on locals.
- d. Next Steps
  - i. Draft law - Ariana will work on this and circulate to all

#### 5. Re-imagining and experimenting with Public-Private Spaces to promote outside activities, community, and the local economy

- a. Public Square concept
- b. Making it easier for shutting down the street for a block party so people can socialize distantly
- c. These discussions are an opportunity to try out new things and experiment with what works, and what doesn't
- d. Making our local parks available for classes like yoga and karate
- e. Closing Church Street to traffic from the guardrail by Barner Books to the corner of Academy
- f. Allowing businesses to take over the parking spaces in front of their building
- g. Hours of operation for street closures where the street is open to traffic during the day and open to pedestrians at night and businesses could use the space for tables, chairs, or racks of clothes
- h. This is a very unique opportunity - we have green lights from NYSDOT
- i. Community members and businesses should feel free to come forward with ideas
  - i. Ariana will create a google form survey to send to the business community

#### 6. Mass Gatherings

- a. The problems and answers are still the same
- b. We want to allow for safe, outdoor gatherings
- c. We want to allow for free speech
- d. Having a march means needing police protection
- e. Police protection costs thousands of dollars in overtime
- f. If the police don't provide traffic safety, and someone gets hurt, that creates a whole other issue

#### 7. Use of Police: Village code inventory

- a. [Walter Scott, Michael Thomas Slager, and the Myth of Police Reform](#)
- b. [VONP Code Police Divestment Project](#)
  - i. There are 44 references to the police in the Village Code
    1. Many have to do with noise
    2. Mass Gatherings permit

- ii. There is a reference of the Village Board appointing someone to the police commission
- iii. Open container law has many other laws that cover the related issues to drinking in public
  - 1. Littering laws
  - 2. Drunk and disorderly conduct laws
  - 3. Karen laws
- iv. Looking at the problems, which are social, and seeing that police are not the solution anymore. Force is not the response, community is and social workers, and drug abuse counselors.
- v. Using laws like noise ordinances eclipses the idea of community and gets rid of the need to know your neighbors
- c. Police Commission
  - i. New York State has required any entity with a police department to conduct a comprehensive review and reimagine
  - ii. By the end of the month there will be enough people to hold the first committee meeting
  - iii. The committee will look at overarching issues such as systemic racism
  - iv. Deadline to render a report is April 1st
  - v. Ideally people who are on the committee will be representatives of their respective communities

Mayor Rogers moves to appoint Deputy Mayor Tobin to serve as the Village Board's representative on the Police Commission. Trustee Wojcik seconds. **(Passes 5-0)**

#### **8. Joint Resolution #30 of 2020 Support for Local Groundwater**

Mayor Rogers moves to adopt Resolution #30 of 2020 Support for Local Groundwater. Trustee Zipp seconds. **(Passes 5-0)**

Supervisor Bettez moves to Resolution #30 of 2020 Support for Local Groundwater. Councilperson Brownstein seconds. **(Passes 3-0)**

### **TOWN BUSINESS AGENDA**

#### **1. Authorize and approve purchase orders**

Supervisor Bettez moves to approve the purchase orders. Trustee Brownstein seconds. **(Passes 3-0)**

Town portion of the Joint Meeting ends at 8:50 PM

### **VILLAGE CONSENT AGENDA**

1. Approve the [06-24-2020 Meeting Minutes](#)
2. Approve Payments
  - a. [VNP-191 Payment #1 for \\$67,108.95 dated 6-19-2020](#)
  - b. [VNP-192 Payment #1 for \\$90,000.00 dated 6-22-2020.](#)
3. Approve Event Application

- a. [HHS 2020-08-01 Road Closure Application - Artists on the Street.pdf](#)
- 4. [Accept the only bid for alum sludge removal and disposal from Wind River Environmental in the amount of \\$0.25 per gallon. This will be for a three year contract](#)
- 5. [Accept Robin Ward's resignation from the Landlord Tenant Relations Council](#)
- 6. [Approve Records Destruction Request](#)
- 7. [Time Warner Cable remove Property Tax request](#)

Mayor Rogers moves to approve the consent agenda. Trustee Wheeler-Murray seconds. **(Passes 5-0)**

## VILLAGE BUSINESS AGENDA

1. [Chapter 191 Shade Tree Commission code changes](#)
  - a. Item not discussed
  
2. **Skatepark project update and 3D rendering proposal**
  - a. [Conceptual Skatepark Design, 3-D Rendering and Costs Estimates](#)
  - b. [PTR Inc 2020](#)
  - c. Having a rendering will keep the momentum going and make raising money much easier
  - d. There are rec fee funds that can be used for this purpose
  - e. Location discussion
    - i. Currently planned for Hasbrouck Park in the corner where the playground was
    - ii. Behind the DPW garage location had been discussed, but it would likely cost more because the asphalt would have to be torn up
  - f. To get public buyin, visibility is key
  - g. **The skatepark is not permeable, but we are building a stormwater bioretention garden adjacent to it**

Trustee Wojcik moves to accept the proposal from Place to Ride with a total cost of \$7,000 for the design plan for the skate garden project with funds coming from the Recreation Fund. Mayor Rogers seconds. **(Passes 5-0)**

### 3. Deputy Village Clerks One Year Appointment: Nicole Manco; Ariana Basco; Heather Nielson

Mayor Rogers moves to approve the following appointments: Deputy Village Clerks One Year Appointment: Nicole Manco; Ariana Basco; Heather Nielson. Trustee Wheeler-Murray seconds. **(Passes 5-0)**

### 4. **Yoga with NP Rock Yoga in Hasbrouck Park**

Mayor Rogers moves to approve the park use request for Yoga with NP Rock Yoga in Hasbrouck Park. Trustee Zipp seconds. **(Passes 5-0)**

Mayor Rogers moves to waive the park use fees for local businesses that would like to offer classes in the park such as yoga or karate. Trustee Zipp seconds. **(Passes 5-0)**

**5. [Resolution #31 of 2020 Bills & Claims](#)**

Mayor Rogers moves to adopt Resolution #31 of 2020 Bills and Claims. Trustee Wheeler Murray seconds. **(Passes 5-0)**

**6. Planning Board report from VB Liaison**

- a. In need of new members
- b. Discussion on a pre-submission for a new building where NAPA auto used to be
- c. Stewart's discussion about handing over the house on their property for preservation and remembrance
- d. VB thoughts on the PB potentially allowing Stewart's to get their CO before the traffic light is installed
  - i. The Mayor states that it is a reasonable request because of covid and construction delays and Stewart's being 100% committed to installing the light on that corner
  - ii. The Mayor is comfortable with the Planning Board modifying the language of their resolution

**7. Zoning Board of Appeals report from VB Liaison**

- a. Nothing to report
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**ADJOURNMENT**

Trustee Wheeler Murray moves to adjourn the regular meeting of the Village Board of Trustees at 9:30pm. Trustee Wojcik seconds. **(Passes 5-0)**