



**Town Board Meeting
September 3, 2020, 7:00 pm
Video Conference**

Present: Supervisor Neil Bettez, Councilwoman Alex Baer, Councilwoman Julie Seyfert-Lillis and Councilman Brownstein. **Absent:** Councilman Dan Torres

At 7:02 pm a motion was made by Supervisor Bettez to open the Town Board Meeting with the pledge. Seconded by Councilwoman Seyfert-Lillis, all aye votes cast, motion carried.

Agenda: + #7 Court Case

A motion was made Supervisor Bettez to approve the agenda as amended. Seconded by Councilman Brownstein, all aye votes cast motion carried.

Announcements:

All Town Offices will be closed Monday September 7, 2020 in observance of Labor Day. The Reuse Center will be closed Tuesday September 8, 2020.

Executive Session:

At 7:07pm a motion was made by Supervisor Bettez to go into Executive Session to discuss personnel. Seconded by Councilwoman Baer, all aye votes cast, motion carried.

At 7:25pm a motion was made by Supervisor Bettez to come out of Executive Session with no action taken. Seconded by Councilwoman Baer, all aye votes cast motion carried.

Public Input:

Emails Received:

Bonnie Brown: I live off Henry W DuBois on Millrock Road. I would like to support the concerns of the homeowners who live on and off DuBois regarding the slated project to widen and add a path. My husband and I walk along DuBois often, and we have no problem navigating and staying safe. We pass many others doing the same. The trees which are so ecologically important to our area and to the Town are not only beautiful but they keep pollution and sound at bay for the people who live along DuBois.

I urge you to reconsider this project and focus on making DuBois a more safe road for cars.

Stephanie Basch- I live by N. Manheim and Henry W. in a household that equally enjoys local walking, bike riding and driving. I signed a recent petition to halt the original proposal in support of my neighbors on HWD having not had their say, yet I am now concerned that there are many issues that the suggestion of one-way traffic on Henry W. could not have taken into account that are of big concern.

We all know what traffic on Main St. is like and diverting more traffic there is unimaginable. The streets that run between Main and Henry W. are already crowded with street parking and work trucks in both directions that can feel like a gauntlet for pedestrians, bikes and drivers alike. The corner at Manheim and Main (by the garage and middle school) is already notoriously the backed up. Emergency vehicles, UCAT and school buses use Henry W and would have to divert onto busy Main Street and/or local streets. We'd see more accidents with people driving the wrong way. Henry W. is not an expansive boulevard so we'll need to brainstorm a compromise such as the 32' option or alternative that doesn't leave residents feeling ambushed and meet the entire town's needs for safety and call to expand carbon-free travel and recreation.

Tammy Friedman- Why are we keeping the Schools open when there is no in person sessions. We are wasting energy, electric, and it's WASTEFUL.

If we are the "Energy Conservatives" then why is this happening? This goes for all the Government Buildings that are fully open with one or two people who can be working remotely without the waste.

Why are are School taxes raised when we clearly don't have a School District that is available? It's a remote School and the costs should be saved by the very people who are paying the Taxes.

What are the plans to fix the Roads? Rt 208 and N Chestnut are a mess. The Federal Government has made it clear that there is help for the needs of Towns, and Cities if they just call the Federal Government. Where is New Paltz using this as an advantage to get the much needed help? From what I hear, New Paltz is in financial need that's why the funds from every committee has been

cleaned out. Have we reached out to the County for Roads to be fixed in New Paltz? Do we have plans for local Roads?

James and Michelle Taylor- In regards to the HWD widening project as 41 year residents and property owners on HWD we have these comments and ask they be read and entered into the meeting record tonight.

In regards to the SEQRA process we strongly feel the Town should perform a full environmental impact study if this project based on the existing drainage Issues on HWD and the increased traffic.

-We take exception to the continual increase in auto, bike and pedestrian traffic and pollution caused by the impact now and future from the Enterprise State Trail and the economic development zones Stewart's megashop, Zero Place, Agway Bakery and CVS plaza.

-Safer and more scenic alternatives exist for out of town bikers and hikers.

-Consuming the entire width of the highway barrier will impact too many long established plantings and buildings on our residential street. While we are busy attracting tourists to use this space let's not forget those who live there.

-If this project proceeds I would ask that the requirement for homeowners to maintain the EST sidewalk be waived and owners indemnified from litigation arising from use of the trail. Many of us are on fixed incomes and cannot afford an additional \$2000+ a year to have it cleared plus there will be nowhere left to put the snow. I would ask that this project be minimally invasive.

-If would also ask the town to allow privacy fences higher than 4 feet since many trees and hedges will be removed.

Water and Sewer Billing Requests:

A motion was made by Supervisor Bettez to approve a payment plan for Account 301-14 in the amount of \$428.70 a month for 12 months. Seconded by Councilwoman Seyfert-Lillis, all aye votes cast motion carried.

Consent Agenda:

A motion was made by Supervisor Bettez to approve and/or authorize the following items on the consent agenda. Seconded by Councilman Brownstein, all aye votes cast, motion carried.

- a. Approval of minutes: Police Commission August 20; Town Board August 20
- b. Authorization of prepay for NPYP tuition reimbursement
- c. Authorization to expend up to \$8,000.00 in parkland funding for re-seeding and fertilizing soccer fields at Field of Dreams
- d. Approval of the following requisitions: R0000274 to Spinneweber PFV LLC for \$1,200.00; R0000287 to Global Montello Group Corp for \$4,371.51; R0000293 to Cornerstone Services Inc. for \$3,117.27; R0000298 to Earthcare for \$1,500.00; R0000302 to Peckham Industries for \$47,254.29

Approval of sale of 2010 pickup for \$11,000.00 and utility trailer for \$1,500.00 at auction:

A motion was made by Supervisor Bettez to approve the sale of a 2010 pickup truck in the amount of \$11,000.00 and utility trailer in the amount of \$1,500.00. Seconded by Councilwoman Baer, all aye votes cast motion carried.

Authorization of change to new phone service provider:

A motion was made by Supervisor Bettez to authorize the supervisor to sign new phone service provider agreement as recommended by Arlene. Seconded by Councilman Brownstein, all aye votes cast motion carried.

Court Case:

A motion was made by Supervisor Bettez to authorize the Supervisor to go to Court on September 9, 2020 and ask for a two-week adjournment so insurance matters can be discussed with attorney. Seconded by Councilman Brownstein, all aye votes cast motion carried.

At 7:31pm a motion was made by Supervisor Bettez to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Councilman Brownstein, all aye votes cast, motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kristie Mazzaccari
Deputy Town Clerk