



**Public Hearing-Critical Environmental Areas**  
**Town Board Meeting**  
**May 20, 2021, 7 p.m.**  
**Via Videoconference**

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

At 8:25 p.m. a motion was made by Supervisor Bettez to open the Public Hearing on Critical Environmental Areas (CEAs) Seconded by Councilman Torres, all aye votes cast, motion carried.

Ingrid Haeckel, Town EnCB made a brief presentation on the proposal.

**Public Comment:**

Jane Schanberg, Town Planning Board, gave a majority consensus opposed to the original proposed CEAs. The PB, it's attorney and consultant feel it adds an additional layer of time and money for the applicants. Ms. Schanberg personally supports the Shawangunk Ridge designation but does not feel the Plutarch Woods and Wetlands is necessary.

Tom Denton had a question about the property for sale at 330 Plutarch Rd.

Maggie Veve spoke about the need for affordable housing.

Rich Whitney, Linda Brotman, Tom O'Dowd and Dan Schniedewind all provided written comments in support of the designation of CEAs.

A motion was made by Supervisor Bettez to continue the public hearing on June 17<sup>th</sup> at 7 p.m. Seconded by Councilman Brownstein, all aye votes cast, motion carried.

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**Town Board Meeting:**

At 9:01 p.m. a motion was made by Supervisor Bettez to open the meeting with the pledge. Seconded by Councilman Torres, all aye votes cast, motion carried.

**Agenda:** +Discussion on scheduling Joint Town & Village meetings

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

**Public Input:**

Edgar Rodriguez, Town resident, urged the Board to unanimously adopt the resolution in Support of the Compassionate New York Legislative Agenda.

Tom Denton spoke about the housing crisis in New Paltz.

**Discussion-New Paltz Rescue Squad:**

Chief Matt Goodnow provided an update from the past year. Calls were down from 2,500 to 2,000. One older used ambulance has been added to the fleet for special events. There was no change in personnel. They are waiting to hear back about expanding their Certificate of Need, which would allow them to contract financially with Towns that are using the NPRS regularly.

**Water bill dispute:**

Frank Pecora spoke on behalf of his mother-in-law, he believes there is a problem with her water meter and her bill was higher than usual. Supervisor Bettez indicated he was told there was no problem with the meter and its possible there was a leak. Mr. Pecora requested proof that there is no problem with the meter.

**Consent Agenda:**

A motion was made by Supervisor Bettez to approve and/or authorize the following as part of the consent agenda. Seconded by Councilman Torres, all aye votes cast, motion carried.

- a. Approval of minutes: Town Board May 6, 2021
- b. Authorization for Supervisor to sign E-Verify Memorandum of Understanding for Employers
- c. Authorization to hire Guillermo Olivieri as a part-time Court Officer
- d. Authorization for Supervisor to sign Peak Power Systems contracts for generator maintenance

e. Authorization to hire the following employees for the 2021 Moriello Pool season:

Emily Barbato	\$ 15.50	Lifeguard (3) / WSI
Ashley Benkert	\$ 14.50	Lifeguard (3)
Emily Benkert	\$ 16.50	HG-2 / WSI
Sean Benkert	\$ 15.50	Lifeguard (3) / WSI
Lucas Brady	\$ 13.50	Attendant / Lifeguard (1)
April Cook	\$ 15.50	Lifeguard (3) / WSI
Antonia DeMassio	\$ 15.50	Lifeguard (3) / WSI
Ava DeMassio	\$ 15.50	Lifeguard (3) / WSI
Alex Demis	\$ 14.50	Lifeguard (3)
Alexandra Dratch	\$ 17.50	<u>HG-1</u> / WSI
Maxwell Easton	\$ 14.50	Lifeguard (3)
Alexandra Hekking	\$ 17.50	<u>HG-1</u> / WSI
Josie LaPolt	\$ 16.50	HG-2 / WSI
Tessa LaPolt	\$ 13.00	Attendant (2)
Emily Lawrence	\$ 13.00	Attendant (2)
Kendall Lucchesi	\$ 15.50	Lifeguard (3) / WSI
Michael Messina	\$ 14.50	Lifeguard (3)
Zachary Musso	\$ 14.50	Lifeguard (3)
Quinn Ratynski	\$ 15.50	Lifeguard (3) / WSI
Luke Roberts	\$ 14.50	Lifeguard (3)
Paige Sarvis	\$ 14.50	Lifeguard (3)
Brady Saunders	\$ 14.50	Lifeguard (3)
Tuari Schenker	\$ 15.50	Lifeguard (3) / WSI
Zofia Trzewik-Quinn	\$ 15.50	Lifeguard (3) / WSI
Samantha Vos	\$ 14.50	Lifeguard (3)
John Weber	\$ 13.30	Attendant *
Jedidiah Weires	\$ 15.50	HG-2

Alexander Barbato	\$ 14.00	Lifeguard (2)
Nina Brady	\$ 12.70	Attendant (1)
Riley Burdick	\$ 13.50	Lifeguard (1)
Hailey Donohue	\$ 14.00	Lifeguard (2)
Morgan Dunn	\$ 14.00	Lifeguard (2)
Taishan Fontes-Janus	\$ 13.50	Lifeguard (1)
Sophie Gallo	\$ 13.50	Lifeguard (1)
Fallon Geisler	\$ 13.50	Lifeguard (1)
Sean Geisler	\$ 15.50	Lifeguard (3) / WSI
Campbell Heiz	\$ 13.00	Attendant (2)
Megan Loughran	\$ 14.50	Lifeguard (3)
Rebecca Lucchesi	\$ 12.70	Attendant (1)
William Mergl	\$ 13.00	Attendant (2)
Samantha Musso	\$ 15.00	Lifeguard (3) / WSI
Joshua Pappace	\$ 13.50	Attendant / Lifeguard (1)
Logan Pece	\$ 14.50	Lifeguard (3)
Andie Psilopoulos	\$ 13.50	Lifeguard (1) / <u>Attendant</u>
Alyssa Puleo	\$ 13.50	Lifeguard (1) / <u>Attendant</u>
Ava Rosen	\$ 15.50	Lifeguard (3) WSI
Griffin Santos	\$ 13.50	Lifeguard (1)
Savanna Stoddart	\$ 13.50	Lifeguard (1)

**Resolution:**

A motion was made by Councilman Torres to approve the following resolution:  
“In the mutual public interests of both the Village and the Town and in line with the Monroe County case and its balancing of the public interests test, motion to exempt the “New Paltz Well Water Project with Mohonk Preserve” as immune from the Town’s Zoning laws (exclusive of approval for the required lot line revision included within the definition of “subdivision” in the Town’s Code), including area and bulk requirements, site plan application and review and requirements for Steep Slope Protection and Clearing and Grading Controls”

Seconded by Councilwoman Seyfert-Lillis, all aye votes cast. Councilman Brownstein abstained. Motion carried.

**Authorization to hire part-time police officers:**

A motion was made by Supervisor Bettez to hire Tiffany Claud, Tyler White and Michael Vespe as part-time police officers. Seconded by Councilman Torres, all aye votes cast, motion carried.

**Authorization to hire part-time dispatchers:**

A motion was made by Supervisor Bettez to hire Matt Gallucci, Shan Vitarius and Alyssa Coonrod as part-time dispatchers. Seconded by Councilman Torres, all aye votes cast, motion carried.

**Authorization to auction vehicles:**

A motion was made by Supervisor Bettez to authorize the auction of 2 NPPD vehicles. Seconded by Councilman Brownstein, all aye votes cast, motion carried.

**Warrant:**

A motion was made by Supervisor Bettez to approve the May Warrant in the amount of \$1,519,734.84. Seconded by Councilman Torres, all aye votes cast, motion carried.

**Set Public Hearing:**

A motion was made by Supervisor Bettez to set the public hearing for the acquisition of County lands at auction using CPF funding for June 3<sup>rd</sup> at 7 p.m. Seconded by Councilman Brownstein, all aye votes cast, motion carried.

A motion was made by Supervisor Bettez to engage the services of Walden Engineering to conduct a Phase I Environmental Review. Seconded by Councilman Brownstein, all aye votes cast, motion carried.

**Moriello Bridge Project:**

A motion was made by Councilman Brownstein to authorize the Supervisor to put the Moriello Bridge Project out to bid. Seconded by Councilman Torres, all aye votes cast, motion carried.

**Resolution:**

A motion was made by Councilman Torres to adopt the following resolution:

**WHEREAS**, all residents of New York State, regardless of economic, racial, religious, or ethnic background or immigration status ought to be granted the fundamental rights of healthcare, housing, due process, and personal freedom, and

**WHEREAS**, millions of residents of New York State are currently uninsured or underinsured, meaning that they go without the medical treatment they desperately need, or they will pay exorbitant costs through premiums, co-pays, and deductibles for the treatment they do receive, thus saddling them with an enormous amount of medical debt, and

**WHEREAS**, moving to a single-payer system would reduce healthcare costs by eliminating administrative waste and the profit incentives of insurance companies, as well by expanding preventative care, and therefore reducing the strain on hospitals and emergency rooms, and

**WHEREAS**, millions of New York families are currently at risk of eviction, are housing insecure, or are paying untenable shares of their income towards their housing needs, and

**WHEREAS**, affirming a renter's right to renew their lease without good cause, as well as protecting them from undue rent increases, would help alleviate the fear of eviction felt by families across the state, as well as the \$2.2 billion in rental debt these families collectively owe, and

**WHEREAS**, the criminal legal system of the United States and the State of New York has in many cases been weaponized against those most marginalized, especially lower income people and people of color, and the system unduly emphasizes punishment and lengthy prison sentences instead of rehabilitation, and

**WHEREAS**, over 6,300 New Yorkers incarcerated in state prisons, comprising nearly 20% of the state prison population, have contracted COVID-19, posing a humanitarian crisis in an already immoral criminal legal system, and

**WHEREAS**, The New York State Parole Board annually denies thousands of incarcerated New Yorkers their freedom, punishing them, their families and communities for years and decades beyond their minimum sentence, and

**WHEREAS**, Millions of New Yorkers convicted of crime, after having served their prison sentences, continue to face discrimination: barriers to housing and jobs, and potential deportation and ICE detention, and

**WHEREAS**, Reforming the New York State Parole system would save New York State hundreds of millions of dollars annually, and allow formerly incarcerated people to fully integrate back into their communities,

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the Town Board of the Town of New Paltz calls on the New York State Legislature to move forward the Compassionate New York Legislative Agenda: The New York Health Act (S5474), guaranteeing healthcare as a right to all New Yorkers, regardless of immigration status; The

Good Cause Eviction Act (S3082), affirming a tenant's right to renew their lease and protecting them from unconscionable rent increases; The Fair and Timely Parole Act (S1415), granting discretionary parole reviews for eligible and community ready incarcerated people; The Elder Parole Act (S15A), granting parole for elderly incarcerated people; The Clean Slate Act (S.1553A), ensuring people are not punished beyond their sentences and can be full and fair participants in economic and civic life. Seconded by Supervisor Bettez, all aye votes cast, motion carried.

**EPG Grant Resolution:**

A motion was made by Supervisor Bettez to adopt the following resolution:

**CERTAIN ACTIONS TO DESIGNATE AN AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE AND APPROPRIATE THE MINIMUM LOCAL MATCH REGARDING GRANT AGREEMENT**

**WHEREAS**, the Town Board of the Town of New Paltz (Town) desires to enter into a Grant Agreement with the New York State Environmental Facilities Corporation regarding the Town's Engineering Planning Grant Application Number 105460 for a Wastewater Disinfection and Consolidation Study as part of the 2021 Consolidated Funding Application process;

**WHEREAS**, the Town Board of the Town of New Paltz desires to designate Supervisor Neil Bettez as authorized to execute a Grant Agreement; and.

**WHEREAS**, the Town Board of the Town of New Paltz desires to authorize and appropriates a minimum (20%) local match as required by the Engineering Planning Grant Program (EPG) for the 'Ohioville WWTP (New Paltz) Disinfection Improvement Study'. Under the EPG program, this local match must be at least 20% of the EPG grant award of \$23,000. The source of the local match, and any amount in excess of the required match, shall be Administrative and Technical Force resources (in-kind staff/labor) and certain expected legal, materials and equipment uses. The maximum local match shall not exceed \$5,800 based upon a total estimated maximum project cost of \$28,800. The Supervisor may increase this local match through the use of in-kind services without further approval from the Town Board.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Town of New Paltz Town Board hereby:

1. **Designates** that Supervisor Neil Bettez is authorized to execute a Grant Agreement with the NYS Environmental Facilities Corporation and any and all other contracts, documents, and instruments necessary to bring about the project and to fulfill the Town of New Paltz's obligations under the Grant Agreement.
2. **Declares** that the Town of New Paltz authorizes and appropriates a minimum (20%) local match as required by the Engineering Planning Grant Program (EPG) for the 'Ohioville WWTP (New Paltz) Disinfection Improvement Study'. Under the EPG program, this local match must be at least 20% of the EPG grant award of \$23,000. The source of the local match, and any amount in excess of the required match, shall be Administrative and Technical Force resources (in-kind staff/labor) and certain expected legal, materials and equipment uses. The maximum local match shall not exceed \$5,800 based upon a total estimated maximum project cost of \$28,800. The Supervisor may increase this local match through the use of in-kind services without further approval from the Town Board.

Seconded by Councilman Torres, all aye votes cast, motion carried.

A motion was made by Supervisor Bettez to adopt the following resolution:

**WHEREAS**, the Town Board of the Town of New Paltz (Town) desires to enter into a Grant Agreement with the New York State Environmental Facilities Corporation regarding the Town's Engineering Planning Grant Application Number 105460 for a Wastewater Disinfection and Consolidation Study as part of the 2021 Consolidated Funding Application process;

**WHEREAS**, the Town Board of the Town of New Paltz desires to undertake the necessary review of such Wastewater Disinfection and Consolidation Study under the State Environmental Quality Review Act ("SEQRA"); and

**WHEREAS**, Title 6 of the New York Code of Rules and Regulations (6 NYCRR) Section 617.5 under the State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQR) provides that certain actions identified in subdivision (c) of that section are not subject to environmental review under the Environmental Conservation Law.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT**

**RESOLVED** that the Town of New Paltz Town Board hereby determines that the proposed Wastewater Disinfection and Consolidation Study is a Type II action in accordance with the listed 6 NYCRR Section 617.5(c) (1), (2), (13) (24) or (27) and constitutes the

- (1) maintenance or repair involving no substantial changes in an existing structure or facility;
- (2) replacement, rehabilitation or reconstruction of a structure or facility, in kind, on the same site, including upgrading buildings to meet building, energy, or fire codes unless such action meets or exceeds any of the thresholds in section 617.4 of this Part;
- (13) extension of utility distribution facilities, including gas, electric, telephone, cable, water and sewer connections to render service in approved subdivisions or in connection with any action on this list;

(24) information collection including basic data collection and research, water quality and pollution studies, traffic counts, engineering studies, surveys, subsurface investigations and soils studies that do not commit the agency to undertake, fund or approve any Type I or Unlisted action; or

(27) conducting concurrent environmental, engineering, economic, feasibility and other studies and preliminary planning and budgetary processes necessary to the formulation of a proposal for action, provided those activities do not commit the agency to commence, engage in or approve such action.

and is therefore not subject to further review under 6 NYCRR Part 617.

Seconded by Councilman Brownstein, all aye votes cast, motion carried.

**Acceptance of Donation:**

A motion was made by Supervisor Bettez to accept the donation of \$20,000 to the Town specifically for the playground at 59 N. Putt Corners Rd. with the stipulation that the Town uses APC Play as the vendor as part of the means of donation. Seconded by Councilwoman Baer, all aye votes cast, motion carried.

**Discussion-Scheduling Joint Town & Village Meetings:**

Councilman Torres suggested meeting every other month and cancelling the joint portion if there are no action items. If something comes up in between meetings, the Boards can schedule to meet. The Board was in agreement. The Supervisor will discuss this with the Mayor.

At 10:22 p.m. a motion was made by Supervisor Bettez to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Councilman Torres, all aye votes cast, motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted,

Rosanna Rosenkranse  
Town Clerk