



**Public Hearing-2022 Town Budget  
Public Hearing- "Rental and Vacant Residential Properties"  
Public Hearing- SEQRA for Landfill Solar Lease  
Town Board Meeting  
November 18, 2021, 7:30 p.m.  
Via Videoconference**

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

At 8:06 p.m. a motion was made by Supervisor Bettez to open the public hearing on the 2022 Town Budget, the public hearing on Rental and Vacant Residential Properties and the public hearing on SEQRA for Landfill Solar Lease. Seconded by Councilman Torres, all aye votes cast, motion carried.

**Public Input:**

-Maggie Veve spoke in support of the about the Rental Law but noticed Agricultural Housing was excluded, asked the Board to reconsider. Supervisor Bettez indicated the Town is not permitted to regulate that.

-Edgar Rodriguez indicated that the mother of a child that goes to the ABCD program in New Paltz refuses to work at a local farm because of the substandard living conditions.

-Tom Jelliffe spoke about the budget and was happy to see the consistent increases to the Youth Center and the Office of Community Wellness budgets over the years.

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**Town Board Meeting:**

At 8:14 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.

At 8:14 p.m. a motion was made by Supervisor Bettez to close all three public hearings. Seconded by Councilman Torres, all aye votes cast, motion carried.

**Agenda:** +Temporary appointment to Sgt., +Vote to pass the Rental law

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

**Public Input:**

-Daniel Schniedewind, resident, spoke in opposition of the petition from Trans-Hudson to extend water/sewer districts.

**Set Public Hearing:**

A motion was made by Supervisor Bettez to set the public hearing on the petition from Trans-Hudson for December 2, 2021 at 7 p.m. Seconded by Councilman Torres, all aye votes cast, motion carried.

**Solar on the Landfill presentation:**

Ted Nitza and members of the ad-hoc committee presented its' recommendation and a resolution for a long-term lease agreement between the Town and a solar developer to establish a solar installation on the closed landfill.

A motion was made by Supervisor Bettez to adopt the Resolution Declaring the Town Board Lead Agency and Declaring a Negative Declaration under SEQRA. Seconded by Councilwoman Seyfert-Lillis, all aye votes cast, motion carried.

A motion was made by Supervisor Bettez to adopt the resolution to enter into a lease agreement with SL New Paltz Solar I, LLC. Seconded by Councilman Brownstein, all aye votes cast, motion carried.

**Budget discussion and vote:**

Supervisor Bettez indicated that he and the Comptroller were able to make further cuts to bring the tax increase down to 3.6%.

A motion was made by Supervisor Bettez to pass the 2022 Town Budget with the modifications sent by the Supervisor. Seconded by Councilwoman Baer, all aye votes cast, motion carried.

**Local Law #3/2021-Ch. 34 “Police Commissioners, Board of”:**

A motion was made by Supervisor Bettez to close the public hearing on the proposed law. Seconded by Councilman Torres, all aye votes cast, motion carried.

A motion was made by Supervisor Bettez to adopt the law as Local Law #3 of 2021. Seconded by Councilman Brownstein, all aye votes cast, motion carried.

**Establishing the Mission Statement for the Police Commission:**

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

**WHEREAS**, the New Paltz Town Council adopted an Anti-Racism Statement on September 2, 2021, to evaluate the policies and ordinances implemented to guard against racial bias and systemic racism of any kind in Town government, among other things and;

**WHEREAS**, the New Paltz Town Council adopted local law number 3 of 2021 to repeal Chapter 34, “Police Commissioners, Board of” of the Code of the Town of New Paltz and to add a new Chapter 34, “POLICE COMMISSIONERS, BOARD OF” on November 18, 2021;

**WHEREAS**, the New Paltz Reform and Reinvention Committee recommended, among other things, the establishment of a civilian police commission;

**WHEREAS**, the New Paltz Town Council is committed to continuing to work with the New Paltz Police Department and the community at-large to create better dialogue around policing activities within the Town of New Paltz, updating policing policies, and modernizing the department to meet the equity-in-policing needs of the community;

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the New Paltz Town Council is committed to appointing members to serve in the capacity of Police Commissioner who show a dedication to anti-racism, diversity, justice, and the ability to fulfill the commission’s responsibilities as defined by local law number 3 of 2021;

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the New Paltz Town Council is committed to providing needed resources to the New Paltz Police Commission to ensure that they have the tools needed to both fulfill the commission’s responsibilities and grant them the opportunity to provide an additional voice for the community related to police affairs;

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the New Paltz Town Council is committed to holding members of the New Paltz Police Commission to the same rules currently imposed upon members of the New Paltz Planning Board related to attendance, removal, and ordinances related to training and continuing education;

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the New Paltz Town Council establishes the following as the mission statement of the New Paltz Police Commission,

*We, the members of the New Paltz Police Commission, are committed to empowering and enhancing the voices of residents in everyday policing affairs. We serve to bring an additional layer of citizen oversight on policing for the purposes of promoting anti-racism, transparency, accountability, and diversity to the department. We commit to conducting ourselves with the highest ethical standards to maintain public confidence and represent the voices of the residents of the Town of New Paltz.*

Seconded by Supervisor Bettez, all aye votes cast, motion carried.

**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 November 4, 2021
- b. Authorization for PlugIn Stations Online, LLC to perform site work and install concrete piers for EV charging station installation at 59 N. Putt Corners Rd; to be paid from capital project funds in the amount of \$10,230.00.
- c. Authorization for the Supervisor to sign NPPD -Trailways contract for services for traffic control on Tuesday, November 23
- d. Authorization for the Supervisor to sign Consignment Agreement with US Used Equipment/Vermeer Mid-Atlantic, LLC
- e. Authorization of escrow release for PB# 19-110-111-113-114 in the amount of \$0.00
- f. Approval of bids from Absolute Auctions for Highway equipment in the amount of \$1,350.00 and \$1,900.00 for a total of \$3,250.00
- g. Authorization of escrow release for PB# 21-93; 215 Huguenot St. Site Plan; in the amount of \$3,400.00
- h. Authorization of escrow release for PB# 21-134; 215 Huguenot St.; in the amount of \$1,947.50

**Approve hire for Youth Center:**

A motion was made by Supervisor to approve the hiring of Sophie Gross as a full-time Youth Program staff member effective November 19, 2021 at the rate of \$15/hr. Seconded by Councilman Torres, all aye votes cast, motion carried.

**Approve Temporary Appointment to Sgt.:**

A motion was made by Supervisor Bettez to approve the temporary appointment of Channon James to Sgt. Seconded by Councilwoman Baer, all aye votes cast, motion carried.

**Local Law #5/2021 - "Rental and Vacant Residential Properties":**

A motion was made by Supervisor Bettez to adopt the law as Local Law #4 of 2021. Seconded by Councilwoman Baer, all aye votes cast, motion carried.

**Warrant:**

A motion was made by Supervisor Bettez to approve the November Warrant in the amount of \$1,760,827.28. Seconded by Councilman Torres, all aye votes cast, motion carried.

At 8:56 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