



**Public Hearing- Accessory Apartments (ADU)  
Public Hearing-Building Construction & Fire Prevention  
Public Hearing-Battery Energy Storage Systems (BESS)  
Town Board Meeting  
February 15, 2024, 7:00 p.m.  
59 N. Putt Corners & Via Videoconference**

**Present:** Supervisor Neil Bettez, Councilwoman Julie Seyfert, Councilwoman Kitty Brown

**Absent:** Councilwoman Esi Lewis

At 7 p.m. a motion was made by Supervisor Bettez to open the Town Board Meeting. Seconded by Councilwoman Brown, all aye votes cast, motion carried.

At 7:01 p.m. a motion was made by Supervisor Bettez to open the public hearing on Accessory Apts (ADU). Seconded by Councilwoman Brown, all aye votes cast, motion carried.

At 7:01 p.m. a motion was made by Supervisor Bettez to open the public hearing on Building Construction and Fire Prevention. Seconded by Councilwoman Seyfert, all aye votes cast, motion carried.

At 7:01 p.m. a motion was made by Supervisor Bettez to open the public hearing on Battery Energy Storage Systems (BESS). Seconded by Councilwoman Brown, all aye votes cast, motion carried.

-Pledge-

**Agenda:** A motion was made by Supervisor Bettez to adopt the agenda. Seconded by Councilwoman Brown, all aye votes cast, motion carried.

**Public Comment:**

Amanda Gotto spoke in favor of the BESS Law and offered a few suggestions. Thanked Joe Londa and the Town Board for working on it.

**BESS Presentation-Joe Londa:**

Mr. Londa made a presentation explaining how the Battery Energy Storage Systems work. Supervisor Bettez indicated that all the public hearings will be left open.

**Interview-Housing Smart Communities Initiative:**

The Town Board interviewed Susan Denton.

**Consent Agenda:**

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

- a. Approval of minutes: Town Board, February 1, 2024
- b. Authorization to refund the remaining escrow balance due Mohonk Preserve Foothills Amendment to Site Plan Construction Escrow account CP18-01 in the amount of \$6,015.00
- c. Authorization to release \$22,000.00 standby Letter of Credit to Mohonk Preserve Foothills Amendment
- d. Request authorization to pay Butler Construction – Pay Application #9 in the amount of \$613,320

**Liaison Reports:**

Councilwoman Brown gave an update on what the PATV Committee is currently working on.

**Town and Village Consolidation Discussion:**

Supervisor Bettez announced that the Village is putting out an RFQ for the Development of a 2024 CREG Grant, Consolidation Agreement and implementation Assistance.

**Resolution-20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Same-Sex Marriages:**

A motion was made by Councilwoman Brown to adopt the following resolution. Seconded by Supervisor Bettez, all aye votes cast, motion carried.

**WHEREAS**, the Village of New Paltz made history on February 27, 2004 when the Honorable Mayor Jason West performed same-sex marriages in Peace Park

And **WHEREAS**, Ulster County District Attorney Donald A. Williams charged Mayor West with 19 misdemeanors

And **WHEREAS**, Judge E. Michael Kavanagh issued a permanent injunction stopping Mayor West from solemnizing marriages without a duly issued marriage license

And **WHEREAS**, On March 6, 2004, in New Paltz, New York, two ordained ministers of the Unitarian Universalist Church, KATHERINE GREENLEAF and DAWN SANGRE, performed marriage ceremonies for 13 same-sex couples who did not have marriage licenses, and were charged with a crime for solemnizing marriages without licenses,

And **WHEREAS**, the Town of New Paltz made history when Town Justices Jonathan Katz and Judith M. Reichler dismissed both cases citing numerous examples in which New York's highest court has consistently extended rights and benefits to same-sex partners.

**WHEREAS**, on June 26, 2015, the Supreme Court of the United States ruled in Obergefell v. Hodges, 135 S. Ct. 2584, that same-sex couples have a constitutional right to marry  
 And **WHEREAS**, the Town and Village are united in their belief that everybody has the right to love, marry, and create a family with the partner of their choosing,  
 And **WHEREAS**, in recognition of this fundamental right, the Town and Village of New Paltz have proudly celebrated the Annual New Paltz Pride March & Festival since June of 2005,  
**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED**, that the Town of New Paltz joins the Village of New Paltz in acknowledging with pride, respect, and gratitude, the courage and passion for human rights of Mayor Jason West, Ministers Katherine Greenleaf, Dawn Sangrey, Town Justices Jonathan Katz and Judith Reichler, all of the couples who joyously exchanged vows in front of an equally joyous crowd of well-wishers, for their role in advancing the rights of the LGBTQ+ community, forever affirming New Paltz as a community that makes “good trouble.”  
**And be it further RESOLVED**, that the Town Clerk is directed to send a copy of this resolution to U.S. Senator Kirsten Gillibrand, U.S. Senator Charles Schumer, U.S. Congressman Pat Ryan, Governor Kathy Hochul, State Senator Michelle Hinchey, State Assemblymember Sarahana Shrestha, Ulster County Legislator Limina Grace Harmon, and Ulster County Legislator Megan Sperry.

**Approve sale of jointly owned Highway equipment:**

A motion was made by Supervisor Bettez to approve the Highway Department’s sale of the 2006 Gradeall that is jointly owned with the Town of Lloyd-due to the cost of maintaining this piece of equipment and the proceeds will be split between the two Towns. The Highway Department asks that New Paltz’s portion be put in the equipment reserve fund. Seconded by Councilwoman Brown, all aye votes cast, motion carried.

**2023 Budget Modifications for Cost Overruns:**

A motion was made by Supervisor Bettez to approve authorization to modify the 2023 adopted budget for cost overruns. Councilwoman Seyfert, all aye votes cast, motion carried.

<b>TO:</b>				<b>FROM:</b>			
A	9030.800	Social Security	2,798.00	A	9060.800	Medical Insurance	<b>64,968.00</b>
A	9720.700	Stat Install Bond-Int.	52,526.00				
A	9901.900	Transfer to Other Fund	<u>9,644.00</u>				
			64,968.00				

<b>TO:</b>				<b>FROM:</b>			
B	980-3789	Other Economic Opportunity	<b>2,490.00</b>	B	980-2089	Other Culture & Rec	<b>2,490.00</b>

Request authorization to **increase** the 2023 adopted budget for unanticipated revenue as follows:

<b>INCREASE:</b>			
B	960	Appropriations	4,182.00
B	7110.210	Parks-Moriello Equip-Vill	1,692.00
B	7110.400	Parks-Moriello CE-Vill	<u>2,490.00</u>
			4,182.00

<b>INCREASE:</b>			
B	510	Estimated Revenues	4,182.00
B	980-3789	Other Economic Opportunity	4,182.00

<b>INCREASE:</b>			
SSA	960	Appropriations	3,882.00
SSA	1440.400	Engineering, CE	3,882.00

<b>INCREASE:</b>			
SSA	510	Estimated Revenues	3,882.00
SSA	980-3989	State Aid	3,882.00

<b>INCREASE:</b>			
SSE	960	Appropriations	2,560.00
SSE	1440.400	Engineering, CE	2,560.00

<b>INCREASE:</b>			
SSE	510	Estimated Revenues	2,560.00
SSE	980-3989	State Aid	2,560.00

<b>INCREASE:</b>			
SSF	960	Appropriations	17,112.00
SSF	1440.400	Engineering, CE	17,112.00

<b>INCREASE:</b>			
SSF	510	Estimated Revenues	17,112.00
SSF	980-3989	State Aid	17,112.00

**Authorization to approve “Seasonal Workers” at Moriello Pool:**

A motion was made by Supervisor Bettez to approve the following seasonal workers for Moriello Pool Pre-Season 2024 at \$17.00/hour with a start date of February 25, 2024, and an end date of May 18, 2024. Seconded by Councilwoman Brown, all aye votes cast, motion carried.

## 2024 (Pre-Season) Laborers - Moriello Pool

(Updated 1-31-2024)

Name	Pay Rate	Position
Emily Benkert	\$ 17.00	Laborer
Jules Branitz	\$ 17.00	Laborer
Alexandra Dratch	\$ 17.00	Laborer
Campbell Heiz	\$ 17.00	Laborer
Will Mergl	\$ 17.00	Laborer
Cole Mumford	\$ 17.00	Laborer
Joshua Pappace	\$ 17.00	Laborer
Alyssa Puleo	\$ 17.00	Laborer
Brady Saunders	\$ 17.00	Laborer
Tuari Schenker	\$ 17.00	Laborer
Beckett Weires	\$ 17.00	Laborer
Jed Weires	\$ 17.00	Laborer
Koby Wulfmeyer	\$ 17.00	Laborer

### **Approve Expenditure of funds:**

A motion was made by Supervisor Bettez to approve the expenditure of ARPA funds in the amount of \$42,500.00 approved at the 11/16/23 meeting for the replacement of two mowers for the Recreation Department, along with the attachments for the Ventrac tractor for ball field maintenance. All equipment to be purchased on contract. Seconded by Councilwoman Brown, all aye votes cast, motion carried.

### **Approval to increase funds for training:**

A motion was made by Supervisor Bettez to approve the increase of the amount for the Highway Department personnel training for class A from the approved \$10,000.00 to \$13,000.00. The increase is to be taken from the 5110.2 line. The increase for the 3 employees is due to the minimum of hours of training being changed by the start from 15 hours seat time to 27 hours seat time beginning 2024. Seconded by Councilwoman Brown, all aye votes cast, motion carried.

### **Warrant:**

A motion was made by Supervisor Bettez to approve the February Warrant in the amount of \$1,918,502.91. Seconded by Councilwoman Brown, all aye votes cast, motion carried.

### **Police Promotions/Appointments/Hires:**

A motion was made by Supervisor Bettez to approve the promotion of Joseph Judge to Sergeant effective February 20, 2024 at the rate outlined in the Collective Bargaining Agreement. Seconded by Councilwoman Seyfert, all aye votes cast, motion carried.

A motion was made by Supervisor Bettez to approve the appointment of Jerome Milton to Detective effective February 20, 2024 at the rate outlined in the Collective Bargaining Agreement. Seconded by Councilwoman Seyfert, all aye votes cast, motion carried.

A motion was made by Supervisor Bettez to approve the hiring of Sandra Ksar as a part-time dispatcher effective February 20, 2024 at the rate outlined in the Collective Bargaining Agreement. Seconded by Councilwoman Seyfert, all aye votes cast, motion carried.

A motion was made by Supervisor Bettez to approve the use of up to \$1,600.00 from the department's seized asset account to pay for Lieutenant Sutton to attend the FBI-LEEDA Command and Executive Leadership Institute training classes. Seconded by Councilwoman Seyfert, all aye votes cast, motion carried.

A motion was made by Supervisor Bettez to rescind the Bond Resolution for Police Vehicles from the 2/1/24 meeting. Seconded by Councilwoman Brown, all aye votes cast, motion carried.

A motion was made by Supervisor Bettez to approve a new Bond Resolution of the Town Board of the Town of New Paltz authorizing the issuance of up to \$120,600.00 in serial bonds of the Town to finance the acquisition of motor vehicles for use by the Town of New Paltz Police Department. One of the vehicles is fully electric. Seconded by Councilwoman Brown, all aye votes cast, motion carried.

### **Interview-Housing Smart Communities Initiative:**

The Town Board interviewed Katie Hamill-Decker.

At 7:56 p.m. a motion was made Supervisor Bettez by to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Councilwoman Brown, all aye votes cast, motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted,

Rosanna Rosenkrans  
Town Clerk