



**Joint Town & Village/Town Board Meeting  
August 1, 2019  
Community Center, 3 Veterans Dr.  
7 p.m.**

**Present (T):** Supervisor Neil Bettez, Councilwoman Julie Seyfert-Lillis, Councilman David Brownstein and Councilman Marty Irwin. Absent: Councilman Dan Torres

**Present (V):** Mayor Tim Rogers, Trustee Michelle Zipp, Trustee William Murray, Trustee KT Tobin, Trustee Alex Wojcik.

At 7:02 p.m. a motion was made by Supervisor Bettez to open the meeting with the pledge. Seconded by Councilman Irwin, all aye votes cast, motion carried.

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

**Public Comment:**

Don Kerr spoke about communication with volunteers and Body-worn cameras used by the Police Department regarding the Paul Echols case.

**Recognition of Francois Barcomb:**

Senator Jen Metzger presented a Proclamation to Francois Barcomb who won the Jeopardy Teachers Tournament.

**Conversation with Senator Jen Metzger:**

The Town and Village Board members discussed various issues with Senator Metzger such as changes to AIM funding, County Sales Tax, Marijuana Legislation, the NY Health Act, Tick-Borne Illnesses, Tenants Rights, the 2020 Census and the Community Preservation Act for Ulster County.

At 8 p.m. Mayor Rogers left the meeting.

**Joint Resolution:**

A motion was made by Supervisor Bettez and Trustee Tobin, seconded by Councilman Irwin and Trustee Wojcik to adopt the following resolution in support of the NY Health Act. All aye votes cast, motion carried.

**RESOLUTION OF THE VILLAGE BOARD OF THE VILLAGE OF NEW PALTZ URGING THE STATE LEGISLATURE TO ADOPT SINGLE-PAYER HEALTH LEGISLATION IN NEW YORK**

**WHEREAS**, every person in New York State and the United States deserves access to affordable, quality healthcare; and  
**WHEREAS**, the current system that depends upon private insurance companies, HMO's and pharmaceutical companies results in many New Yorkers being uninsured or underinsured, and unable to afford adequate healthcare and medicines; and  
**WHEREAS**, in Ulster County alone, over 16,200 residents (9% of the population) are without health insurance, according to data collected by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Program; and

**WHEREAS**, under the current system, both the insured and uninsured can incur financially crippling medical charges, coupled with sometimes life-threatening delays in obtaining ongoing, essential healthcare; and

**WHEREAS**, statistics show that the greatest barrier to good health is poverty, and that denied access to adequate healthcare diminishes people's ability to work, prosper and promote their overall well-being; and

**WHEREAS**, New York is ranked the sixth highest in the nation in per capital healthcare costs, according to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, making health insurance unaffordable for many, and creating an unsupportable financial burden for our residents, small businesses and local governments; and

**WHEREAS**, over the past decade, the cost of employer-sponsored family health insurance premiums in New York rose by an average of 92%; and

**WHEREAS**, rising premiums put downward pressure on wages and lead to a reduction in benefits and more restrictive healthcare eligibility; and

**WHEREAS**, in the same decade, employee's required premium contributions as a percentage of their income roughly doubled; and

**WHEREAS**, total healthcare expenditures are expected to increase by over \$100 billion between 2013 and 2020, or by 53%, and that such rising costs are unsustainable for our residents and small businesses; and

**WHEREAS**, a single-payer healthcare system would significantly reduce the cost of public health programs like Medicaid and government-paid health plans for New York State employees, by eliminating the costs generated by high administrative overhead, excessive executive compensation, and profit-driven practices in the private health insurance industry; and

**WHEREAS**, a single-payer system would generate savings by replacing the complicated and costly claims procedures currently employed by thousands of public and private insurance providers, with a simple, one-stop single-payer system for all claims; and

**WHEREAS**, a single-payer system could generate additional savings by leveraging the buying power of 20 million New Yorkers to negotiate reductions in drug prices, which are currently estimated at 60% higher in the United States than in Europe and Canada; and

**WHEREAS**, a single-payer system would eliminate deductibles and co-pays and provide affordable, comprehensive

healthcare for all New Yorkers, with access to medical services and providers of their choice, without regard to age, income, health or employment status.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Village of New Paltz Board of Trustees and the Town Board urge the New York State Legislature to adopt A.4738/S.4840 in the 2019 session, enabling universal healthcare in New York State; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Boards direct the Town Clerk to send copies of this resolution to the offices of Governor Andrew Cuomo, Senate Majority Leader Andrea Stewart-Cousins, Senator Jen Metzger, Assembly Speaker Carl Heastie, and Assembly Member Kevin A. Cahill.

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**Town Board Meeting:**

**Consent Agenda:**

A motion was made by Supervisor Bettez and seconded by Councilman Irwin to approve and/or authorize the following items as part of the consent agenda. All aye votes cast, motion carried.

1. Approval of Minutes: Police Commission 7/18/19; Town Board 7/18/19; Special Town Board meeting 7/29/19
2. Authorization to hire Anthony Stenta as a part-time Court Officer at the rate of \$18.00/hr beginning August 2, 2019
3. Authorization for the Water Department to adjust the billing for Acct. #23, Gullickson, 24 Duzine Rd., to remove the penalty of \$182.48 and extend the payment period to 12 months to pay off the remaining balance without penalty.
4. Authorization for the Supervisor to sign the Contract for Traffic Control Services for the NPPD-UC Fair

A motion was made by Supervisor Bettez and seconded by Councilman Brownstein to approve and/or authorize the following items as part of the consent agenda. Aye votes cast, motion carried.

5. Authorization of purchase of 2020 Freightliner M2-160 Chassis and equipment, reimbursable by CHIPS funds, for a total cost of \$148,501.29
6. Authorization of Conference Request, Assessor: Attendance at Annual Assessors' Association Conference 9/22-9/25/19, for a total cost of \$862.00
7. Conference Request: Finance: Sexual Harassment Training 8/7/19 for a total cost of \$120.00

**Resolution in support of the Shawangunk Scenic Byway:**

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

**In Support of Development of a Tourism Management Plan for the Shawangunk Mountains Scenic Byway Partnership**

**WHEREAS**, the Town of New Paltz is a member of the Shawangunk Mountains Scenic Byway Partnership; and **WHEREAS**, a proposal has been submitted to the Shawangunk Scenic Mountains Byway Partnership to develop a tourism management plan which would take inventory of tourist attractions and services available along the Shawangunk Mountains Scenic Byway; and

**WHEREAS**, the tourist management plan would include programs through both the SUNY New Paltz Business Department and the Marist College Technology Department; and

**WHEREAS**, the Shawangunk Mountains Scenic Byway Partnership supports the development of a tourism management plan to benefit the local businesses in the municipalities that are included within the Shawangunk Mountains Scenic Byway Partnership.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Town Board of the Town of New Paltz supports the Shawangunk Mountains Scenic Byway Partnership.

**Discussion-Community Education Coordinator:**

Supervisor Bettez indicated that the Community Education Coordinator has requested an increase in hours from 30 to 35 hours a week. Councilman Brownstein will ask Phoenix to come to a Town Board meeting and speak about what can be done with the increase in hours.

At 8:15 p.m. a motion was made by Councilman Irwin to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Councilman Brownstein, all aye votes cast, motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted,

Rosanna Rosenkranse  
Town Clerk