

**TOWN OF BRUNSWICK
REGULAR TOWN BOARD MEETING
February 8, 2024, 7:00 P.M.
TOWN HALL**

Board Members Present: Supervisor Herrington, Councilman Christian, Councilman Cipperly, Councilman Balistreri, and Councilman Sullivan.

Also Present: Town Attorney, Thomas Cioffi, Planning Board Attorney, Andrew Gilchrist, and Town Clerk Rebecca Del Gaizo.

Supervisor Herrington called the meeting to order at 7:03p.m.

All joined in with the salute to the flag.

RESOLUTIONS

RESOLUTION NO. 25 OF 2024

Mr. Gilchrist presented the resolution. Ronald LaBerge, engineer, conducted general review where it was determined there would be small to no impact for environment impact. Any subsequent project subject to review from the Planning Board will be subject to full SEQRA determination.

The foregoing Resolution, offered by Supervisor Herrington and seconded by Councilman Sullivan, was duly put to a roll call vote as follows: Councilman Cipperly, Voting Aye; Councilman Christian, Voting Aye; Councilman Sullivan, Voting Aye; Councilman Balistreri, Voting Aye; Supervisor Herrington, Voting Aye. The foregoing Resolution was thereupon declared duly adopted.

RESOLUTION NO. 26 OF 2024

RESOLUTION APPROVING THE PETITION SEEKING REZONE TAX MAP PARCEL NO. 80.00-2-2.12 FROM THE IND-L ZONING DISTRICT TO THE B-15 ZONING DISTRICT.

The foregoing Resolution, offered by Councilman Christian and seconded by Councilman Balistreri, was duly put to a roll call vote as follows: Councilman Cipperly, Voting Aye; Councilman Christian, Voting Aye; Councilman Sullivan, Voting Aye; Councilman Balistreri, Voting Aye; Supervisor Herrington, Voting Aye. The foregoing Resolution was thereupon declared duly adopted.

INTRODUCTORY LOCAL LAW 2 OF 2024

A LOCAL LAW AMENDING THE ZONING LAW OF THE TOWN OF BRUNSWICK AND THE ZONING MAP OF THE TOWN OF BRUNSWICK TO REZONE TAX MAP PARCEL NO. 80.-2-2.12 FROM THE INDUSTRIAL LIGHT ZONING DISTRICT TO THE B-15 ZONING DISTRICT.

The foregoing Resolution was introduced by Councilman Sullivan. A Public Hearing for March 14th, 2024 at 6:45 pm was scheduled. Unanimously agreed upon.

VISITORS WHO WISH TO SPEAK:

Kim Jensen, Roberts Drive, wanted an update regarding the proposed citizen's advisory board. She stated the citizen's advisory board would be a partnership with residents, board members, and government resources. There is a lack of partnership and lack of buy in from state resources

and bringing together the board and community should help with that. She asked the board to consider approving the citizen's advisory board.

Vanessa Bongiorno, Tamarac Road, asked where residents can find out about the agenda and resolutions in advance of the meeting. She was advised the resolutions are posted on the bulletin board outside and on the calendar on the Town's website. Agendas are printed for the meeting. Jennifer Mann, Hill Road, asked if there has been any consideration for the citizen's advisory board. Ms. Mann said she would like it to be made official to be able to reach out to the DOT, etc. Mr. Herrington said he wants to leave politics out of the conversations. Ms. Mann wants productive solutions with the board. She also asked if there has there been any discussion regarding the moratorium for commercial corridor.

BUSINESS MEETING:

MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING:

Councilman Christian made a motion to approve the minutes of the Public Hearing on January 11th, 2024, followed by the January 11th, 2024 Regular Town Board Meeting, and Bid Opening on January 30th, 2024. Motion was seconded by Councilman Sullivan. Unanimously approved.

REPORTS:

Town Clerk: Rebecca Del Gaizo

Ms. Del Gaizo gave the report for the month of January. \$7,406.02 will be remitted to the Supervisor's office. Rounding numbers, recycling fees accounted for \$4,381, Community Center fees for \$2,075.00, Dog License fees for \$406.00 and \$328.00 in miscellaneous fees making up the balance. The Community Center had 12 new reservations. Our share of \$1,512.24 in DEC sales was \$35.00. Motion to accept the report was made by Councilman Christian and seconded by Councilman Cipperly. Unanimously approved. A copy of the written report is on file in the Town Clerk's Office. Ms. Del Gaizo announced a Town Yard Sale event scheduled for June 1st with June 8th as a rain date and will be held at the Community Center. Participants must register at the Town Clerk's office.

Highway Superintendent: Mike Bayly

Mr. Bayly gave his report for the month of January. Patching; recyclables hauling; ditching; brush cutting; putting up street signs; spot salting after storms; mail box repairs; Christmas tree pickups; cleaning trucks after storms; sidewalk clearing; 5 plowing storms; repairing the retaining wall at the Town Beach. Motion to accept the report was made by Councilman Balistreri and seconded by Councilman Christian. Unanimously approved. A copy of the written report is on file in the Town Clerk's Office.

Water & Sewer: Bill Bradley

Mr. Bradley gave his report for the month of January. Completed meter reading and water bills will be going out at the end of February and will reflect the new increased rates. Several water main breaks, a couple of service line repairs, meter replacements, an online survey for water line service going into residents home is on the website. Motion to accept the report was made by Councilman Cipperly and seconded by Councilman Balistreri. Unanimously approved. A copy of the written report is on file in the Town Clerk's office.

Code Enforcement: Charles Golden

Mr. Golden gave his report for the month of January. The report showed \$4,921.25 was collected for Building Permits and Zoning and Planning Board Fees. 15 building permits were issued or renewed, 64 building/property inspections were performed, and active permits totaled 307. The department had 3 code call out with inspections, 8 code complaints, 10 code complaint inspections, 9 follow up complaint inspections and 12 fire inspections, 4 additional vacant/abandoned properties were identified. There are 5 Planning Board projects open or

approved and 5 with the Zoning Board. 5 FOIL requests were received as well as zoning inquiries. A copy of the written report is on file in the Town Clerk's Office.

Town Attorney: Thomas Cioffi

Mr. Cioffi gave his report for the month of January. He attended and participated in meetings with staff and outside counsel on various matters at Town Hall and by conference calls or video meetings on January 12th, 15th, 19th, 22nd, 23rd, 24th, February 5th, 6th, and 7th; Prepared resolutions and other documents related to tonight's meeting, continued to work with outside council on two pending CPLR proceedings in connection with FOIL; worked with outside counsel in connection with an appeal process from a determination by the Zoning Board of Appeals regarding issues of a stop work order, and denial of a building permit by the Building Department; worked with the Building Department on pending and prospective enforcement matters; worked with supervisor's office on personnel matters; worked with representatives of Pure Sky Energy, the developers of Tamarac Solar, putting together a decommissioning agreement; worked with Bill Bradley preparing easements to be obtained from certain properties adjacent to Vanderheyden Dam, to complete rehabilitation of the dam required by NYS DEC; worked with various departments responding to FOIL requests; performed legal research, provided legal opinions, prepared legal documents as requested by town officials and employees. Motion to accept the report was made by Councilman Sullivan and seconded by Supervisor Herrington. Unanimously approved.

Town Historian: Tracy Broderick

Ms. Broderick researched two general stores. The first general store is the Rotelli Brothers Market brothers in Sycaway. The store was in business from 1950-2016. Alexander Rotelli was born in Italy in 1892 and immigrated to the US in 1910. He found his way to Brunswick 1925. In or around 1950, Mr. Rotelli became the owner of the Rotelli's Grocery Store until his sudden death in 1952. After his death, his two sons took over the store and renamed it the "Rotelli Brothers Market". They also owned a small garden center across the street where they sold flowers, plants, and garden supplies. The brothers passed away in 2010 and 2014. The building is still standing at the corner of Derrick Ave. and Hoosick Rd. The second store Ms. Broderick researched is the Rifenburg Store/Pleasant Valley Store. In 1886, Edward McChesney converted a hotel in Cropseyville into a general store. He sold the business in 1905 to Charles Rifenburg. Charles Rifenburg ran the store until he died in 1933. Mr. Rifenburg's wife and son took over the business after his passing. For over 40 years, they sold everything from house paint and hot dogs. They retired in 1970 after being in business over 65 years. We don't know exactly when it finally closed. It is still standing today and has been converted into a home. Motion to accept the report was made by Supervisor Herrington and seconded by Councilman Christian. Unanimously approved. A copy of the written report is on file in the Town Clerk's office.

Recycling Coordinator: Thomas Engster

Mr. Engster gave his report for the month of January. Revenues totaled \$4,508.12 and expenses \$2,277.05. 29.51 tons of materials were recycled and landfilled. Motion to accept the report was made by Councilman Christian and seconded by Councilman Sullivan. Unanimously approved. A copy of the report is on file in the Town Clerk's Office.

Community Library: Sara Hopkins

Ms. Hopkins gave her report for the month of January. Last month there were 3,720 physical checkouts, 1,969 walk in visitors, 4,366 digital checkouts, 135 Wi-Fi users (17/day average), assisted with 84 technical usages and 268 reference questions were addressed. 380 people participated in various programs, and 15 passports were processed. Ms. Hopkins announced upcoming events including: 2/13 Herbs for Winter Wellness class, 2/14 Valentine Book Sale and Upcycled Valentine Book Garlands, 2/19 Indoor Drive-In Movie program, and 2/27 Nature Classroom with Ms. Heather. Motion to accept the report was made by Councilman Balistreri

and seconded by Councilman Sullivan. Unanimously approved. A copy of the written report is on file in the Town Clerk's Office.

CORRESPONDENCE:

Rimkunas family, Kestner Lane, are thankful for the Highway department replacing their mailbox after a recent storm and plow incident.

OLD BUSINESS:

None.

NEW BUSINESS:

None.

Supervisor Herrington met with CDTC recently in a video meeting. CDTC is preparing to launch an online survey and an in-person public workshop in March.

WARRANTS:

Warrants No. 240101 through 240202, No.11924001 through 11924009, and No. 20224001 through 20224006 were presented. Motion to approve the warrants was made by Councilman Christian and seconded by Councilman Sullivan. Unanimously approved. Individual fund expenses were as follows:

General	\$	256,018.63
Highway	\$	53,035.13
Water	\$	24,913.65
Sewer	\$	941.92
Special Sewer District #6	\$	618.79

FURTHER VISITORS WHO WISH TO SPEAK:

Jim Tkacik, Brunswick Road, found it virtually impossible to find information on the Hoosick Road study and requested it be posted on the Town website. He also asked about town hiring practices. Referring to the Water Department Assistant, there was no posting or advertising for this job. Supervisor Herrington explained what happened with filling this vacancy. Mr. Bradley said he wants to take the department to the next level with more computer involvement. Supervisor Herrington heard about the candidate and suggested he come in for an interview. Mr. Bradley was satisfied with the skills the candidate offers and decided to hire this person right away. He admitted the vacancy should have been posted but he had made up his mind based on personal references and skills. Mr. Tkacik asked if the town got any ARPA money last year and what the money was spent on. Mr. Bradley said it is earmarked for the Vanderheyden reservoir. Mr. Tkacik asked if the Town has applied for grants for lead remediation in water pipes. Mr. Bradley said the town does not qualify for the grants. Mr. Tkacik inquired if the Town incurs expenses related to lead pipes, is it absorbed by water districts or throughout the Town. Mr. Bradley said as of right now, it is a water district expense.

Bonnie Fucci, Killock Avenue, checking status of court case for the proposed road behind Aldi. Mr. Cioffi said the case was dismissed at lower level and they did file an appeal. He noted the case has nothing to do with the road, but it was included in a project.

Lisa Schnyder, Pinewoods Avenue, asked if the Capital District Transportation Council and the Capital District Transportation Committee are the same. She was advised there was a name change recently, it is still CDTC. Supervisor Herrington said there are two workshops with East

Greenbush and why is ours only online. Supervisor Herrington said there will be in-person public workshop in March.

Jamie Ashe, South Lake Avenue, asked if there has been a response if there was any further discussion on the development moratorium. Supervisor Herrington said the CDTC has been studying the traffic with DOT and does not feel a moratorium is needed since the traffic is being studied. She implored the Board to consider approving the citizen's advisory board. Supervisor Herrington said he has been invited by the City of Troy Mayor Carmella Mantello to meet with NYS Senator, 3 DOT representatives, and Assemblyman John McDonald, to talk about Chick-Fil-A. Maybe they will come up with a solution. Ms. Ashe also mentioned the Town's Summer Camp and had concerns it is not properly staffed. Ms. Del Gaizo advised Ms. Ashe that the Town works very closely with the Department of Health, which requires a certain amount of staff per child. She advised that we cannot be open if it is not properly staffed. The water is tested 2-3 times during the season. Ms. Ashe asked Mr. Bradley if the fluoride will be removed from the water. Mr. Bradley said he has a friend that is on the American Dental Association where conclusive studies show social economic areas benefit from fluoride and have far fewer cavities and dental issues.

ADJOURNMENT:

Supervisor Herrington made the motion to adjourn. Motion was seconded by Councilman Sullivan. Unanimously approved. The meeting adjourned at 8:29p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Rebecca Del Gaizo
Town Clerk