

**TOWN OF BRUNSWICK  
REGULAR TOWN BOARD MEETING  
September 12, 2024, 7:00 P.M.  
TOWN HALL**

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

**Also Present:** Attorney, Thomas Cioffi, and Town Clerk, Rebecca Del Gaizo.

Supervisor Herrington called the meeting to order at 7:07 p.m.

All joined in with the salute to the flag.

**BUSINESS MEETING:**

**MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING:**

Councilman Balistreri made a motion to approve the minutes of the Town Board Meeting on August 8<sup>th</sup>, 2024 and Special Meeting on August 20<sup>th</sup>, 2024. Motion was seconded by Councilman Christian. Unanimously approved.

**REPORTS:**

*Town Clerk:* Rebecca Del Gaizo

Ms. Del Gaizo gave the report for the month of August. \$7,537.07 will be remitted to the Supervisor's office. Rounding numbers, recycling fees accounted for \$3,819.20, Rental fees for \$1,000.00, Dog License fees for \$513.00, and \$1,677.93 in miscellaneous fees making up the balance. The Community Center had 6 new reservations. Our share of \$41,158.06 in DEC sales was \$526.94. Motion to accept the report was made by Councilman Christian and seconded by Councilman Sullivan. Unanimously approved. A copy of the written report is on file in the Town Clerk's Office. Ms. Del Gaizo mentioned an uptick in E-ZPass tags since posting a sign on the electronic sign board. She also promoted the upcoming Household Hazardous Waste Day event on September 14<sup>th</sup>, 2024 in which registration is required and will be accepted until the morning of the event.

*Highway Superintendent:* Michael Bayly

Mr. Bayly gave his report for the month of August. Work included: mowing; ditching work; patching; recycle pulls; picking up brush/leaves bags; shop work; closing up from summer camp; repairing recycling shed; roadside mowing; brush chipping; cleaning culverts and grates from storm; storm cleanup; sealing road cracks; milling Humiston Avenue and Bleakley Avenue; and paving Humiston Avenue and Bleakley Avenue. Motion to accept the report was made by Councilman Christian and seconded by Councilman Sullivan. 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 monthly report for August 2024. The water and sewer bills went out on August 26<sup>th</sup>, 2024. There was a water main break on Lansing Avenue and other service line repairs completed. The service main supplying water to Lumax Run is not in good shape. When one leak is repaired, another shows up. There are storm water compliance issues with the builders of the new homes in the Sharpe Road subdivision. Brunswick and North Greenbush are withholding building permits until they are compliant with the SWPPP. The Water Department had to install a new sewer lift pump at Keyes Lane Community Center. The deadline is

approaching to have our Lead and Copper inventory submitted to the NYSDOH. So far, over half of the curb stops in the system have been located. This is an ongoing project, until all services have been identified and documented and all lead services have been removed. The department is also working on additional mapping of the storm water system, as well as organizing the updates in the Town's Storm Water Plan. The first deadline for this program is in October. 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.

Code Enforcement:

No one was present to present the monthly report. The report showed \$9,879.65 was collected for Building Permits and Zoning and Planning Board Fees. 29 building permits were issued or renewed, 82 building/property inspections were performed, and active permits totaled 341. The department had 2 code call outs with inspections, 10 code complaints, 6 code complaint inspections, 16 follow up complaint inspections and 1 fire inspections, and 1 additional vacant/abandoned property was identified. There are 9 Planning Board projects open or approved and 6 with the Zoning Board. 7 FOIL requests were received as well as other 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 August. He attended and participated in meetings with staff and outside counsel for various matters at the town office, or by conference call on August 9<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup>, 13<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup>, 20<sup>th</sup>, 21<sup>st</sup>, 26<sup>th</sup>, 27<sup>th</sup>, 28<sup>th</sup>, September 6<sup>th</sup>, and September 11<sup>th</sup>; Attended and participated in a Special Meeting on September 20<sup>th</sup> regarding a personnel matter, and prepared the required Special Meeting notice; Prepared resolutions and two local laws for tonight's meeting; Attended and participated earlier tonight in two public hearings for two introductory local laws intended to expand eligibility for senior citizens tax exemption and disabled homeowners tax exemption; Prepared the Public Hearing notices for the two introductory local laws; Working with outside counsel on several matters of pending litigation; Working with the Building Department regarding pending and perspective code enforcement matters, including interpretation issues; Working with the Supervisor's office on personnel matters; Working with various departments on responding to outstanding Freedom of Information Law requests; Worked with Mr. Bradley regarding issues pertaining to a revised water supply agreement with the Town of Poestenkill; Worked with Mr. Bradley and our outside engineering consultants on issues pertaining to obtaining easements required for the Vanderheyden Dam project; Attended mandatory Sexual Harassment and Workplace Violence Prevention training on August 20<sup>th</sup>; Performed legal research, provided legal opinions, reviewed or prepared legal documents as requested by town officials and employees. Motion to accept the report was made by Supervisor Herrington and seconded by Councilman Christian. Unanimously approved.

Town Historian: Tracy Broderick

Ms. Broderick was unable to attend the meeting. The monthly report was not available at the time of the meeting. Should it become available, it will be on file in the Town Clerk's office.

Recycling Coordinator: Thomas Engster

Mr. Engster gave his report for the month of August. Revenues totaled \$4,720.00 and expenses \$4,846.25. 40.24 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 August. Last month there were 3,915 physical checkouts, 2,545 walk in visitors, 2,401 digital checkouts, 164 Wi-Fi users (18/day average), assisted with 80 technical usages and 274 reference questions were addressed. 1,016 people participated in various programs, and 12 passports were processed. Ms. Hopkins noted Newsbank stats are still not available. Motion to accept the report was made by Councilman Sullivan and seconded by Councilman Christian. Unanimously approved. A copy of the written report is on file in the Town Clerk's Office. Ms. Hopkins said she will be absent for the October meeting due to an award ceremony scheduled the same evening. The Legal Aid Society of Northeastern New York is presenting the Brunswick Community Library with the Community Partner Award for the name change clinics they held in July.

**RESOLUTIONS**

**RESOLUTION NO. 58 OF 2024**

**RESOLUTION ADOPTING TOWN OF BRUNSWICK LOCAL LAW NO. 3 OF THE YEAR 2024**

The foregoing Resolution, offered by Councilman Balistreri and seconded by Supervisor Herrington, 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. 59 OF 2024**

**RESOLUTION ADOPTING TOWN OF BRUNSWICK LOCAL LAW NO. 4 OF THE YEAR 2024**

The foregoing Resolution, offered by Councilman Christian 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. 60 OF 2024**

**RESOLUTION APPROVING AND AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF AGREEMENTS FOR PERPETUAL DAM ACCESS AND WATER LINE EASEMENTS IN CONNECTION WITH THE REHABILITATION OF THE VANDERHEYDEN RESERVOIR DAM**

The foregoing Resolution, offered by Councilman Christian 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. 61 OF 2024**

**RESOLUTION REQUESTING NATIONAL GRID TO INSTALL A NEW STREET LIGHT AND AUTHORIZING NATIONAL GRID TO ADD THE NEW STREET TO THE TOWN'S ACCOUNT**

The foregoing Resolution, offered by Supervisor Herrington 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.

RESOLUTION NO. 62 OF 2024

**RESOLUTION ACCEPTING THE WATER AND SEWER MAINTENANCE ROLL FOR THE PERIOD OF 01/01/2024 THROUGH 6/30/2024 - AUGUST BILLING 2024, WATER, SEWER AND SEWER 6 ROLL**

The foregoing Resolution, offered by Councilman Sullivan and seconded by Councilman Christian, 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. 63 OF 2024

**RESOLUTION ACCEPTING THE WATER AND SEWER MAINTENANCE ROLL AS AMENDED FOR THE PERIOD OF 07/01/2023 THROUGH 12/31/2023 - FEBURARY BILLING 2024, WATER, SEWER AND SEWER 6 ROLL**

The foregoing Resolution, offered by Councilman Christian and seconded by Supervisor Herrington, 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.

**CORRESPONDENCE:**

Capital Agway- submitted a notice of intent declining renewal of their contract for sheltering stray dogs with the Town of Brunswick.

Dr. Sabita Smail- sent an email on behalf of the “North Forty” neighborhood. She is looking for the town to help install pet waste stations, and assist with trash removal of said waste stations.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

None.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

Councilman Balistreri said the Town Public Safety Committee will meet again later this month and will report about it in October.

**WARRANTS:**

Warrants No. 240885 through 241009, No. 81624001 through 81624006, No. 83024001 through 83024009, and No. 91324001 through 91324006 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	\$	152,023.74
Highway	\$	134,505.03
Water	\$	29,483.49
Sewer	\$	629.70

Special Sewer District #6	\$	257.35
Special Fire Districts	\$	10,628.24

**VISITORS WHO WISH TO SPEAK:**

Kenneth Hines, Brunswick Meadows Way, asked for the status of upgrading the streetlights, a project Chuck Golden was working on before his resignation. Supervisor Herrington said it is something the town is pursuing. Also, Kenneth asked about the pump house generator located at Brunswick Meadows Way. He said they have not heard the generator turn on in a few years and was wondering if it is working. Bill Bradley responded he manually checks it occasionally and will look into if it's working properly. Mr. Hines also asked about the Brunswick Meadows Way HOA request for the town to take over their roadway. He said at one point he talked to Councilman Christian, who said it's not going to happen. He also heard from Councilman Sullivan who expressed the same lack of interest in taking over the roadway maintenance. Mr. Hines has asked for a letter or email to show the neighbors. Town Attorney Thomas Cioffi sent a letter detailing the proper procedures for such a request. Mr. Hines said Brunswick Meadows Way doesn't want to spend the \$350 application fee if it's clear two councilmen have already said the request won't be approved. Councilman Sullivan reminded Mr. Hines they cannot write a letter denying anything until he follows the proper steps.

Michael Mullahey, Russell Court, said he is a Speigletown Volunteer Firefighter and has concerns with Brunswick's EMS response times. He said the Town of Schaghticoke has a paid ambulance service and great response times. For example, this past Sunday, they received a Delta emergency call on Plank Road and Wagar Road. It took 53 mins for Mohawk Ambulance to arrive on scene. This has been a big issue for a long time. Mr. Mullahey said Brunswick has way more money here in Brunswick compared to Schaghticoke and they can afford paid ambulance services.

Sue Vitolins, Miller Road, said earlier this year a neighbor came to the meeting to ask about a specific catch basin, located between Ms. Vitolins' home and a neighboring property. At the time it was filled in and covered over. The town came and cleaned it out. She said it needs some repair, that it looks like there's concrete along the edges that have lifted up, and she is not sure if the grate is secure. Michael Bayly said it's just a catch basin and there is no outlet. He said he would stop by to check it out.

Mary Ellen Adams, Cooper Avenue, reported the community traffic group met this past Monday, however she was unable to attend. She thanked Councilman Balistreri and Councilman Christian for attending this week. Ms. Adams asked for a follow up about communications with the Department of Transportation (DOT) regarding synchronizing traffic lights. Mr. Bonesteel responded to her inquiry by stating he has attempted to reach out to the person who handles traffic signal operations and has not been successful. He said he will continue trying to get in touch with the person. Ms. Adams asked the board if they would write a letter to DOT since we are not getting anywhere with the traffic signals. Ms. Adams mentioned the Comprehensive Plan and how projects may not be consistent with the comprehensive plan goals. She suggested the town look at land use and zoning for all projects. She also mentioned that while the town may not have time to update the comprehensive plan, she would like to see some direction or a vision for the town.

Supervisor Herrington made a motion to enter into Private Session to seek legal advice from the Town attorney, seconded by Councilman Sullivan. The Board entered into private session at 7:58 p.m.

Councilman Cipperly made a motion to return to regular session, seconded by Councilman Christian.

No action was taken during Private Session; only legal advice was discussed.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Councilman Balistreri made the motion to adjourn. Motion was seconded by Councilman Cipperly. Unanimously approved. The meeting adjourned at 8:39 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Rebecca Del Gaizo  
Town Clerk