



## **Town Board Regular Meeting**

**Tuesday, April 16, 2024**

**This regular meeting was held in person and began at 6:00pm**

### **CALL TO ORDER**

Supervisor Parete called the meeting to order at 6:01pm and Councilman Davenport lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

### **ROLL CALL**

Town Clerk Moody took roll call:

Supervisor Parete – Present

Councilwoman Foote – Present (arrived 6:04pm)

Councilman Davenport – Present

Councilman Tim Hunt – Present

Councilwoman Van Benschoten – Present

**Also, Present:** Heather Moody; Town Clerk/Tax Collector

### **MEETING MINUTES:**

Councilman Hunt made a motion, seconded by Councilman Davenport to approve the meeting minutes from 4/2/24 4-0 Aye, 1 Absent; motion carried.

- Town Clerk Moody stated on the draft minutes sent out to the town board Councilman Davenport had been listed as absent when he was at the meeting. The correction has been made to the meeting minutes.

6:04pm Councilwoman Foote arrived.

### **APPROVAL OF VOUCHERS & AMENDMENTS**

Town Clerk Moody submitted the following Amendment from the 4/2/2024 meeting:

**4/2/2024**

**General Fund**

**Vouchers**

**V#209**

**Total Payment**

**\$3,570.30**

**\$97,368.65**

**4/2/2024**

**High Falls Water District**

**Vouchers**

**V#45**

**Total Payment**

**\$510.00**

**\$6,445.36**

Town Clerk Moody submitted the following vouchers for approval:

**4/16/2024**

**General Fund**

**Vouchers**

**V#210-258**

**Total Payment**

**\$62,354.73**

**Highway Fund**

**V#83-101**

**\$35,607.09**

<b>High Falls Water District</b>	<b>V#46-57</b>	<b>\$9,757.23</b>
<b>RMC</b>	<b>V#44-67</b>	<b>\$14,329.12</b>
<b>Marbletown Fire Protection District #1</b>	<b>V#5</b>	<b>\$51.92</b>
<b>Community Preservation Fund</b>	<b>V#9-10</b>	<b>\$4,766.00</b>

A motion was made by Councilwoman Van Benschoten and Seconded by Supervisor Parete to approve these vouchers.

Councilman Davenport	Voting <u>Aye</u>
Councilwoman Foote	Voting <u>Aye</u>
Councilman Hunt	Voting <u>Aye</u>
Supervisor Parete	Voting <u>Aye</u>
Councilwoman Van Benschoten	Voting <u>Aye</u>

**5-0; motion carried.**

- Councilwoman Foote asked what the voucher for AKT was for? Supervisor Parete responded that was the plumbing company that went to the park to fix the toilet.
- Councilman Davenport stated after looking at the quarterly financials it looks like the revenues were more than the expenses which is a good sign.

**SARAH ROBERTSON, PROGRAM MANAGER FROM THE STONE RIDGE LIBRARY:**

- Ms. Robertson took a moment to thank the town for all the support to the library through the Yoga, Zumba and Trails programs over the past year. She has come to the town board meeting to see if the town would consider supporting a community garden. She has reached out to the Cornell Cooperative to see how to possibly make this happen and what it would entail. The thought would be to reach out to the Hudson Valley Seed company and maybe they would donate seeds. Maybe have something at the new Osterhoudt property or somewhere else in town. Ms. Robertson said if the town would agree she would help lead the program. Councilwoman Foote said the one concern she has would be access to water. Foote added this a great conversation to have. Supervisor Parete thanked Ms. Robertson and said the town board would discuss further and let her know.

**NICK MARTIN, CEO CYBER GUARDIAN CONSULTING GROUP:**

- Nick Martin, CEO of Cyber Guardian Consulting Group, which is the company that takes care of all the town's IT needs, came to discuss the need for an upgrade to the server, which is 21 years old. Martin is suggesting that the town migrate the tax server and file server to AWS, leveraging the benefits of cloud computing while minimally disrupting the daily operations. Martin suggested this would also enhance the overall security posture of Marbletown's IT infrastructure. The one-time charge estimate provided by Cyber Guardian would be \$24,000 and then there would be a server hosting monthly fee of \$449.00. Supervisor Parete told Mr. Martin the town board would discuss it further and get back to him.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

- No public comments on the resolutions for this meeting.

**COXING ROAD ISSUE:**

- Supervisor Parete turned the floor over to a group of residents from Coxing Road who came to ask the town for help with a neighboring property.
- Taylor M., resident of Coxing Road, stated the group would like an update of the situation on Coxing Road with the People's Cauldron? Taylor stated she did not feel safe in her own home adding there were rats, roosters and loud music and it is getting to the point of being unbearable. Garbage is everywhere and it's scary and dangerous to be outside. Attorney Tracy Kellogg said the eviction process can often take up to a year and they have served them several times. They have also tried to gain access to the

property a few times. The town is about to file with the court. Kellogg added that if any of the people here tonight would like to give and sign affidavits that would help with the process. Supervisor Parete added they have reached out to the County Department of Health also.

- Mike Ponte, resident of Coxing Road, said he thinks at least three people living there and a child. Ponte added that it looks like the new building that is going up is an old fashion out house.
- Supervisor Parete said the town would keep the residents of Coxing Road up to date about what is going on and how the town plans to proceed.

#### **RESOLUTION #57-2024 SELL FIRE TRUCK TO WOODSTOCK FIRE DISTRICT**

The following Resolution was offered by Councilman Davenport and seconded by Councilwoman Foote

**WHEREAS**, The Town of Marbletown has become the owner of a 2004 International Tanker Truck; and

**WHEREAS**, The Town of Marbletown is interested in Selling the 2004 International Tanker Truck; and

**WHEREAS**, The Town of Marbletown has determined that it is in Marbletown's best interest to offer the 2004 International Tanker to a fire district in Ulster County; and

**WHEREAS**, The Woodstock FD would like to purchase the 2004 International Tanker Truck; and

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that Marbletown Town Board agrees to sell said truck to the Woodstock Fire District for \$55,000.

The question of the adoption of the foregoing Resolution was duly put to a vote on roll call which resulted as follows:

Councilman Davenport                      Voting Aye

Councilwoman Foote                        Voting Aye

Councilman Hunt                            Voting Aye

Supervisor Parete                          Voting Aye

Councilwoman Van Benschoten          Voting Aye

**5-0**; Resolution #57-2024 was thereupon adopted.

- Supervisor Parete said this is the last fire truck that the town has to sell, and the Woodstock Fire District would like to purchase it. Councilman Hunt questioned how they determined the market value? Supervisor Parete said they spoke to George Dimler and Paul Bogart, and due to the fact that the truck is 20 years old it was the price that was agreed upon. Parete added that Woodstock will have to get it on the road as the title from the Marbletown Fire District disappeared. Councilman Davenport would like it on the record that both Dimler and Bogart have been part of fire districts for many years and are still involved in the Stone Ridge Fire District and have great knowledge of fire trucks and their worth. Parete said they had advertised to all the Ulster County Fire Districts.

#### **RESOLUTION #58-2024 AUTHORIZING TOWN TO HIRE CHOICE WORDS FOR CONSOLIDATED FUNDING APPLICATION (CFA): ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION FUND GRANT PROGRAM FOR PARKS, PRESERVATION, AND HERITAGE (EPF)**

The following Resolution was offered by Councilwoman Foote and seconded by Councilwoman Van Benschoten

**WHEREAS**, the Town of Marbletown seeks to hire Choice Words grant writing services to apply for Consolidated Funding Application (CFA): Environmental Protection Fund Grant Program for Parks, Preservation, and Heritage (EPF), and

**BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED**, the Town of Marbletown hires Choice Words grant writing services for Mar-bletown at an amount not to exceed \$8,000 for grant writing, and

**BE IT ALSO RESOLVED**, that all necessary documents between the Town of Marbletown and Choice Words, be signed and authorized by the Town Supervisor.

The question of the adoption of the foregoing Resolution was duly put to a vote on roll call which resulted as follows:

Councilman Davenport	Voting <u>Aye</u>
Councilwoman Foote	Voting <u>Aye</u>
Councilman Hunt	Voting <u>Aye</u>
Supervisor Parete	Voting <u>Aye</u>
Councilwoman Van Benschoten	Voting <u>Aye</u>

**5-0;** Resolution #58-2024 was thereupon adopted.

- Supervisor Parete said both Councilwoman Foote and Dale Robbins worked very hard for over a year on the grant for the Osterhoudt property and there are more grants out there that the town would benefit from. Parete said hiring Choice Words grant writing services would assist in applying for more grants highlighting the Consolidated Funding Application (CFA) and Environmental Protection Fund Grant Program for Parks, Preservation, and Heritage (EPF).

#### **RESOLUTION #59-2024; APPOINTMENT TO HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION**

The following Resolution was offered by Councilman Hunt and seconded by Councilwoman Foote

**WHEREAS**, Erin von Holdt-Gilbert has indicated a desire to be appointed to the Historic Preservation Commission,

**WHEREAS**, the Historic Preservation Commission has met and recommended Erin von Holdt-Gilbert to be appointed, and

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the Town Board of the Town of Marbletown appoints Erin von Holdt-Gilbert to the Historic Preservation Board to a term expiring 12/31/2024.

The question of the adoption of the foregoing Resolution was duly put to a vote on roll call which resulted as follows:

Councilman Davenport	Voting <u>Aye</u>
Councilwoman Foote	Voting <u>Aye</u>
Councilman Hunt	Voting <u>Aye</u>
Supervisor Parete	Voting <u>Aye</u>
Councilwoman Van Benschoten	Voting <u>Aye</u>

**5-0;** Resolution #59-2024 was thereupon adopted.

- Supervisor Parete said Councilman Hunt met her at the last meeting and Bill Merchant, Historic Preservation Chairman said she was very good. Councilman Hunt added that she is a genealogist, and her skill set will be a nice addition to the group.

#### **RESOLUTION#60-2024 TRANSFER STATION HIRE**

The following Resolution was offered by Councilwoman Foote and seconded by Councilwoman Van Benschoten

**WHEREAS**, the Transfer Station provides an alternate for residents to recycle and dispose of trash instead of contracting with a private hauler, and

**WHEREAS**, the Transfer Station has a need for three employees, and

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, the Town of Marbletown Town Board approves the hiring of Ford Protoss as Solid Waste Attendants at \$19.12 an hour, Effective April 16, 2024.

The question of the adoption of the foregoing Resolution was duly put to a vote on roll call which resulted as follows:

Councilman Davenport	Voting <u>Aye</u>
Councilwoman Foote	Voting <u>Aye</u>
Councilman Hunt	Voting <u>Aye</u>
Supervisor Parete	Voting <u>Aye</u>

Councilwoman Van Benschoten      Voting Aye  
5-0; Resolution #60-2024 was thereupon adopted.

- Supervisor Parete said now the transfer station will have 3 employees, 2 will work together at a time and 1 will be on call and will work on other employees' days off. Parete added Ford Protoss had been working at the transfer station before Covid and is willing to come back now.
- Councilman Hunt asked if this was a union position and Parete responded it is a union position, but it will be up to Protoss if he would like to join the union.

### **OSTERHOUDT FULL ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT FORM**

- Supervisor Parete said they had left off on page 6 section 'e' of the Full Environmental Assessment Form for the Osterhoudt Flats Park Master Plan at the last meeting due to some questions. Parete picked up where they had left off and finished reviewing the EAF.
- A motion was made by Councilwoman Foote and seconded by Councilman Hunt to accept the EAF.  
Councilman Davenport                      Voting No  
Councilwoman Foote                      Voting Aye  
Councilman Hunt                      Voting Aye  
Supervisor Parete                      Voting Aye  
Councilwoman Van Benschoten                      Voting Aye  
4 Aye; 1 No, motion was passed.

### **OTHER TOWN BUSINESS:**

- Supervisor Parete announced that the County would be paving Cottekill Road and it would take 2-3 days depending on the weather.
- Town Clerk Moody announced that Earth Day is April 22<sup>nd</sup> and the town clerk's office would be handing out marked contractor bags for residents to clean up on the road and then can take the bags to the transfer station, free of charge, until Sunday, April 28<sup>th</sup>.
- Town Clerk Moody said that the High Falls Civic Association will be hosting the return of the High Falls Pet Show on May 11<sup>th</sup> at 10:00am at the High Falls Community Church Parking Lot. All pets welcome!
- Councilman Hunt brought up there will be a safe disposal of household hazardous waste at the facility in New Paltz on Sat. April 27<sup>th</sup> and on June 23<sup>rd</sup> in Kingston. These events are by appointment.
- Supervisor Parete opened up a discussion about equipment needed by the Parks, Trails and Recreation department for building foot trails at the new Osterhoudt Park. Right now they are looking at a small backhoe. Parete added that they will be hiring a seasonal helper to help out with the mowing.
- Supervisor Parete stated that the town has been going through a Risk Assessment audit over the past few months and the auditor would be finishing soon. From this assessment the State will determine if they will do a full-blown audit.
- Councilman Hunt announced that the first meeting of the new Parks, Trails and Recreation Committee will be this coming up Thursday night at 6:00pm in M-15.
- Supervisor Parete mentioned that a hole was cut in the ceiling at the Community Center in order to get a better idea of what they will be dealing with and there was a second ceiling. Parete said once the construction starts at the Community Center it will have to be closed.
- Supervisor Parete turned the floor over to Tom Konrad, ECC Chairman, to discuss the NYSERDA grant money and how it should be spent. Konrad will summarize and get back to the town board.
- Supervisor Parete reminded everyone that the next meeting will be in 3 weeks on May 7<sup>th</sup>.

**Motion to adjourn:** There being no further discussion Supervisor Parete made the motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Councilman Davenport; 5-0 Aye, motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 7:58pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Heather Moody  
Town Clerk/Tax Collector

DRAFT