



Town Board Regular Meeting

Tuesday, November 1, 2022

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

CALL TO ORDER

Supervisor Parete called the meeting to order at 6:00pm and Councilwoman Foote lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL

Town Clerk Moody took roll call:

Supervisor Parete – Present

Councilwoman Foote – Present

Councilman LaFera – Present

Councilman Davenport – Present

Councilman Tim Hunt – Present

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

PUBLIC HEARING 2023 GENERAL, HIGHWAY & SPECIAL DISTRICTS BUDGET:

- At 6:02pm a motion was made by Councilman LaFera seconded by Councilman Davenport to open the public hearing on the proposed 2023 General, Highway and Special Districts Budget, 5-0 Aye, motion carried.
- Supervisor Parete stated Town Clerk Moody had legally noticed the public hearing in the Daily Freeman on October 23rd. The legal notice as also posted on the town website and the Town Clerk's Community Board.
- Bill Terpening, resident, read a prepared statement and submitted same with Town Clerk Moody on his comments on the 2023 budget with some comparisons to the 2022 budget. Mr. Terpening suggested adding a column to the budget to show percent increase/decrease of expenses from the previous year. He also suggested increasing the total of the appropriated surpluses or using some of the Covid Relief Fund to help reduce the increase in our property taxes. A copy of the statement will be on file with the minutes in the Town Clerk's Office.
- At 6:06pm there being no further comments or questions on the proposed 2023 General, Highway & Special Districts Budget Councilman LaFera made a motion, seconded by Councilman Hunt to close the public hearing on the 2023 budget, 5-0 Aye, motion carried.

PUBLIC HEARING 2023 HIGH FALLS WATER DISTRICT BUDGET:

- At 6:08pm a motion was made by Councilman LaFera seconded by Councilwoman to open the public hearing on the proposed 2023 High Falls Water District Budget 5-0 Aye, motion carried.
- Supervisor Parete stated Town Clerk Moody had legally noticed the public hearing in the Daily Freeman on October 23rd. The legal notice as also posted on the town website and the Town Clerk's Community Board.

- At 6:09pm there being no further comments or questions on the proposed 2023 High Falls Water District Budget Councilman Davenport made a motion, seconded by Councilman Hunt to close the public hearing on the 2023 budget, 5-0 Aye, motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT

- Bill Terpening, resident, read and submitted a statement that said that the 2023 tentative and preliminary budgets were not on the website. He also mentioned that the resolution to set the public hearing notice was on the preliminary budget and that was improper and unacceptable process. Terpening added that last year the tentative budget was on the website on 10/7/21 almost a month before the public hearing. Adding he felt that the public hearing should be adjourned until 11/15/22. Town Clerk Moody told Mr. Terpening that she had just pulled up the budget on the website and she would be happy to help him navigate the website and if he had any questions about the website to contact her. Mr. Terpening's statement is on file in the Town Clerk's office and is part of the minutes.

APPROVAL OF VOUCHERS & AMENDMENTS

Town Clerk Moody stated there were no amendments to the vouchers from 10/18/2022.

Town Clerk Moody submitted the following vouchers for approval:

<u>November 1, 2022</u>	<u>Vouchers</u>	<u>Total Payment</u>
General Fund	V#712-723	\$2,750.41
Highway Fund	V#341-350	\$6,216.26
High Falls Water District	V#92	\$238.00
RMC	V#	\$
Marbletown Fire Protection District #1	V#	\$

A motion was made by Councilman Davenport and Seconded by Councilman LaFera to approve these vouchers.

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

5-0; motion carried.

MEETING MINUTES:

Councilman Hunt made a motion, seconded by Councilwoman Foote to approve the meeting minutes from 10/18/2022. **5-0; motion carried.**

RESOLUTION #110-2022; TO ADOPT GENERAL, HIGHWAY, & SPECIAL DISTRICTS 2023 TOWN BUDGET, FINAL

The following Resolution was offered by Councilwoman Foote and seconded by Councilman LaFera
WHEREAS, the Preliminary Budget for the Year 2023 has been duly prepared by the Supervisor and Town Board and a duly publicized public hearing was held on the 1st day of November 2022 at 6:00 o'clock P.M.; and

WHEREAS, at which time all persons desiring to be heard were heard; now therefore be it
RESOLVED, that, pursuant to Section 109 of the Town Law of the State of New York, the Town Board of the Town of Marbletown hereby

ADOPTS THE PRELIMINARY BUDGET, as amended, altered, and revised, as the Budget for the Town of Marbletown for the Year 2023.

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

5 Aye; Resolution #110-2022 was thereupon adopted.

- Councilman Hunt asked what the building line was for? Supervisor Parete responded that will be the maintenance person for the trails, mowing, etc. Councilman Davenport added we really need this person.
- Councilman Hunt asked about page 5-line A8010.1? Supervisor Parete responded that is the line for Shawn Marks who works ¼ of the time as the Planning Secretary, ¼ of the time as the Zoning Secretary and ½ the time in the Building department.
- Supervisor Parete explained that engineering costs are going down as there not as many projects going on right now.
- Councilman Davenport asked about the fire district budgets. Town Clerk Moody stated she would scan and email all the fire district budgets to the town board.
- Supervisor Parete said salaries are up and a lot of the staff need to be recognized for their work.
- Councilman Davenport mentioned that when people talk about taxes being high it is actually the school taxes that are taking all the money, not the town.
- Councilman Hunt added that liked Mr. Terpening's ideas on how to be transparent and have a comparison column.
- Councilman LaFera added he feels citizens get a bargain in this Town with all the volunteers that do not get paid. Parete added our volunteers are amazing.
- Councilwoman Foote said she would like to use the Covid Relief money to soften the blow (*lower taxes*) and Parete reminded her we are not allowed to use that money to offset tax levy. Councilman Hunt added he would like to be proactive with our (*planning for*) Covid money.

RESOLUTION #111-2022: TO ADOPT 2023 HIGH FALLS WATER BUDGET

The following Resolution was offered by Councilwoman Foote and seconded by Councilman LaFera:

WHEREAS, the Preliminary High Falls Water Budget for the Year 2023 has been duly prepared by the Supervisor and Town Board and a duly publicized public hearing was held on the 1st day of November 2022 at 6:05 o'clock P.M.; and

WHEREAS, at which time all persons desiring to be heard were heard; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that, pursuant to Section 109 of the Town Law of the State of New York, the Town Board of the Town of Marbletown hereby

ADOPTS THE PRELIMINARY BUDGET, as amended, altered, and revised, as the Budget for the High Falls Water District for the Year 2023.

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>
Councilman Lafera	Voting <u>Aye</u>
Councilwoman Foote	Voting <u>Aye</u>
Councilman Hunt	Voting <u>Aye</u>

Supervisor Parete Voting Aye

5 Aye; Resolution #111-2022 was thereupon adopted.

- Supervisor Parete said that the taxes for this district have stayed that same.
- Councilman LaFera asked if the budget reflected the water meter installation. Parete responded no it did not, we'll have to get a bond after we go out for bid.

RESOLUTION #112-2022; VETERANS COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS

The following Resolution was offered by Councilwoman Foote and seconded by Supervisor Parete:

WHEREAS, on August 6, 2019, the Marbletown Town Board created a Veterans Committee, and

WHEREAS, the Town of Marbletown wishes to promote and support veteran's ceremonies, events and other activities in the Town of Marbletown, and

WHEREAS, a Veterans Committee would assist veterans and their families, as appropriate, in cooperation with other organizations and agencies, and

WHEREAS, a Veterans Committee would create awareness of the issues faced by veterans and maintain a forum for Town veterans to give feedback on issues that affect their lives, and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Town of Marbletown Town Board approves the appointments of Kathy Fallon, Heather Stokes, Bruce Ean, Bruce Fallon, and Kristie Wikane to serve on the Veterans Committee.

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

Councilman Lafera Voting Aye

Councilwoman Foote Voting Aye

Councilman Hunt Voting Aye

Supervisor Parete Voting Aye

5 Aye; Resolution #112-2022 was thereupon adopted.

- Supervisor Parete said this Committee was created in 2019 and serves at the pleasure of the town board. The Legion has lost a lot of members and they are working with Youth and Recreation and Stone Ridge Fire Department to assist with their events.

RESOLUTION #113-2022: APPOINTMENT TO ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION COMMISSION

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

WHEREAS, Nikita Oarcea has indicated a desire to be appointed to the Marbletown Environmental Conservation Commission, and

WHEREAS, the Environmental Conservation Commission (ECC) has met and recommends Nikita Oarcea be reappointed to the ECC, and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board of the Town of Marbletown appoint Nikita Oarcea to the Environmental Conservation Commission for a term to expire on 12/31/2025.

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

Councilman Lafera Voting Aye

Councilwoman Foote Voting Aye

Councilman Hunt Voting Aye

Supervisor Parete Voting Aye

5 Aye; Resolution #113-2022 was thereupon adopted.

RESOLUTION#114-2022: APPOINTING ULSTER COUNTY ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT COUNCIL MEMBER

The following Resolution was offered by Councilman LaFera and seconded by Councilwoman Foote:

WHEREAS, appointment to the Ulster County Environmental Management Council requires the recommendation of the Town of Marbletown,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Town of Marbletown Town Board recommends the appointment of Nikita Oarcea to the Ulster County Environmental Management Council, for a term starting November 1, 2022 ending October 31, 2025.

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

Councilman Lafera Voting Aye

Councilwoman Foote Voting Aye

Councilman Hunt Voting Aye

Supervisor Parete Voting Aye

5 Aye; Resolution #114-2022 was thereupon adopted.

- Supervisor Parete said that Eric Stewart's term had ended, and this would fill his position. UC EMC advises local towns on preserving the environment and recommends to the County Legislature.

RESOLUTION #115-2022: RECOMMENDATION OF THE APPOINTMENT OF TOWN OF MARBLETOWN REPRESENTATIVE TO THE ULSTER COUNTY PLANNING BOARD

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

WHEREAS, the Ulster County Legislature requests a formal recommendation from the Marbletown Town Board as to the name of an individual to represent the Town of Marbletown for a Four (4) year term on the Ulster County Planning Board; and

RESOLVED that the Marbletown Town Board hereby recommends to the Ulster County Legislature that Harry Hansen be the representative for the Town of Marbletown on the Ulster County Planning Board to complete a Four (4) year term, commencing upon approval from the Ulster County Legislature and ending December 31, 2026.

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

Councilman Lafera Voting Aye

Councilwoman Foote Voting Aye

Councilman Hunt Voting Aye

Supervisor Parete Voting Aye

5 Aye; Resolution #115-2022 was thereupon adopted.

RESOLUTION #116-2022: RMC BUILDING MANAGER APPOINTMENT

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

WHEREAS, The Towns of Marbletown and Rosendale share an employee to manage the Rondout Municipal Center (RMC), and

WHEREAS, the employee will work for the Town of Rosendale and be reimbursed 50% of salary and benefits by the Town of Marbletown, and

NOW THEREFORE BE RESOLVED, that the Town of Marbletown approves the hiring of Joseph LaFera as RMC Building Manager, and

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the hiring becomes effective when both the Towns of Marbletown and Rosendale approve.

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

4 Aye, 1 Abstain; Resolution #116-2022 was thereupon adopted.

- Supervisor Parete stated that our current building manager had taken another job elsewhere. We advertised and interviewed a couple of candidates. Joe LaFera will be a Rosendale employee and Marbletown will pay 50% of his salary. Supervisor Parete mentioned that Councilman LaFera and Joe are cousins, but there is no conflict. For this reason, Councilman LaFera will abstain from voting.

OTHER TOWN BUSINESS:

- Supervisor Parete reminded everyone the town offices would be closed on Tuesday November 8th for Election day and Friday November 11th for Veteran's Day.
- Supervisor Parete announced that at the next meeting, Nov. 15th would be the public hearing for the dissolution of the Marbletown fire district which would follow the public hearing that the Marbletown Fire District would be having on the same day.
- Councilman Hunt asked about the quotes that had been submitted for the new heating system for the Community Center. Councilman LaFera said he would follow up and maybe they should consider doing mini splits at the Community Center.
- Councilman Hunt said the town park will be closing for the winter on 11/15 and we reopen again on 4/1/23. The new shed is in place and looks good. Winter LaFinca will not be happening at the park this winter.
- Supervisor Parete announced, again, that the Ethics Board is still looking for one more volunteer and the Housing Commission is looking for volunteers.
- Town Clerk Moody said that Trunk or Treat was a great success! Councilwoman Foote added that maybe next year we could do a parade.

PUBLIC COMMENT

- Bill Terpening, resident, read and submitted a public comment regarding the Town Board's adoption of the Code of Ethics at the 10/18/22 meeting. Mr. Terpening listed numerous changes that were added to the draft. Terpening added a public hearing is lawfully required to be held on the final form of the Code of Ethics. Additionally, the version of the Code of Ethics was not given beforehand to the Town Board members for the required minimum number of days as required in Municipal Home Rule Law. Mr. Terpening's statement is on file in the Town Clerk's office and is part of the minutes.

Motion to adjourn: There being no further discussion Councilman LaFera made the motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Councilman Davenport; 5-0 Aye; motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 7:12pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Heather Moody, Town Clerk/Tax Collector

FINAL