



## **Town Board Regular Meeting**

**Tuesday, August 1, 2023**

**This regular meeting was held in person and began at 6:04pm**

### **CALL TO ORDER**

Supervisor Parete called the meeting to order at 6:04pm and Councilman LaFera lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

### **ROLL CALL**

Deputy Town Clerk Cain took roll call:

Supervisor Parete – Present

Councilwoman Foote – Present

Councilman LaFera – Present

Councilman Davenport – Absent

Councilman Tim Hunt – Present

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

### **MEETING MINUTES:**

- Councilwoman Foote made a motion, seconded by Councilman LaFera to approve the meeting minutes from 7/18/2023 4-0 Aye, 1 Absent; motion carried.
- Councilman Lafera requested on page 4 to change the No to Not on the last public comment.

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

Town Clerk Moody submitted the following amendment for approval from the 7/18/2023 meeting:

#### **July 18, 2023**

**Highway Fund**

**Total**

#### **Vouchers**

**V#217**

#### **Total Payment**

**\$27,430.96**

**\$402,466.18**

Town Clerk Moody submitted the following vouchers for approval:

#### **August 1, 2023**

**General Fund**

**Highway Fund**

**High Falls Water District**

**RMC**

**Marbletown Fire Protection District #1**

#### **Vouchers**

**V#519-542**

**V#218-220**

**V#81-85**

**V#**

**V#16**

#### **Total Payment**

**\$12,339.32**

**\$10,964.29**

**\$1,748.95**

**\$**

**\$1,895.00**

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

Councilman Davenport Voting Absent

Councilman LaFera Voting Aye

Councilwoman Foote Voting Aye

Councilman Hunt                      Voting Aye  
Supervisor Parete                    Voting Aye

**4-0, 1 absent; motion carried.**

- Councilman Hunt inquired about the voucher for the bus. Supervisor Parete explained it was the bus for the campers going on field trips.

**RESOLUTION #71-2023; APPOINTMENT TO PLANNING BOARD**

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

**WHEREAS**, James Economos has served as alternate on the Planning Board and indicated a desire to be appointed as regular members to the Planning Board, and

**WHEREAS**, Dan Proctor recently resigned from the Planning Board, and

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Town Board of the Town of Marbletown appoints James Economos to the Planning Board for a term to expire on 12/31/2027.

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 Absent  
Councilman Lafera                    Voting Aye  
Councilwoman Foote                Voting Aye  
Councilman Hunt                    Voting Aye  
Supervisor Parete                    Voting Aye

**4-0, 1 absent; Resolution #71-2023 was thereupon adopted.**

- Supervisor Parete stated that Dan Proctor has resigned, and Jim Economos is the alternate on the Planning Board, and he will now be a full member. Economos has attended every meeting since he started, and he is willing to do it.

**RESOLUTION #72-2023; REPLACE HEATING & AIR CONDITIONING UNIT AT THE RONDOUT MUNICIPAL CENTER**

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

**WHEREAS**, Lowe Plumbing, Heating & Air Conditioning, Inc installed split heat & air conditioning units at the Rondout Municipal Center in 2016; and

**WHEREAS**, one unit needs to be replaced; and

**WHEREAS**, the Town has received a quote to replace the unit from Lowe Plumbing, Heating & Air Conditioning which has been attached; and

**WHEREAS**, RMC Building Joe La Fera has recommended that said quote for \$7,280 from Lowe Plumbing, Heating & Air Conditioning be accepted.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Town Board of the Town of Marbletown hereby authorizes the Supervisor to sign attached agreement with Lowe Plumbing, Heating & Air Conditioning, Inc. for \$7,280; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that this resolution shall become effective upon its passage by both the Town Board of Rosendale and the Town Board of Marbletown.

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 Absent  
Councilman Lafera                    Voting Aye  
Councilwoman Foote                Voting Aye  
Councilman Hunt                    Voting Aye  
Supervisor Parete                    Voting Aye

**4-0, 1 absent; Resolution #72-2023 was thereupon adopted.**

- Supervisor Parete explained that the original air conditioning units were installed in 2016 and the split outside the Court Clerk's office needs to be replaced. Councilwoman Foote asked if we could get an extended warranty on the units. Parete said he would look into it.

**OTHER BUSINESS :**

- Supervisor Parete thanked Councilwoman Foote and Dale Robbins for all of their long hours working on the grant for the Osterhoudt property which was submitted 7/28/23. Councilwoman Foote also thanked Dale Robbins for all the work she did. Robbins did a majority of the organizing and the graphic arts. Foote added that we are lucky as a town to have volunteers. Matt Decker, from OSI, was impressed with the town plans and surveys. Councilman Hunt added his thanks to everyone who worked on the project.
- Councilwoman Foote mentioned while working with Ted Fink they were told that town plans should be no more than 10 years old, and the town should look into recertifying the plans for applying for new grants. The board should look into this.
- Councilman Hunt provided an update from the Youth & Recreation Department saying that summer camp is going well into week 4 of the 6-week program. Hunt mentioned that the July 4<sup>th</sup> road race was a huge success with 235 participants finishing the race.
- Supervisor Parete stated he had a few phone calls with interest in the Marbletown Fire House and the town will have to have a discussion about hiring an attorney and realtor.
- Supervisor Parete met with the Marbletown First Aid Unit, and they will be getting their budget together for the new budget year. Parete added that labor costs are going up.
- Supervisor Parete reported that the RRA will be significantly raising rates this year too. This year it is \$104.00 a ton and it could go up to \$110.00 a ton. Tipping and pulls could go up \$10.00. If all the rates go up we will have to raise our rates.
- Councilman Hunt asked Town Clerk Moody where we were at with the Financial Disclosure Forms. Town Clerk Moody responded that reminders had been sent out and not everyone completed them. Moody added she is not going to argue with anyone about them. Moody told Hunt that she had asked Kathy Schultz to come in and review them with her when their schedules would allow it.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

- Tom Konrad, ECC Chairman and resident, speaking on behalf of Stuart Leigh, said Mr. Leigh would have a letter for the town board to sign requesting a possible kayak launch and recreational swimming for the Lower Esopus.
- Bill Terpening, resident, read and submitted a prepared statement, which is on file in the Town Clerk's office. Regarding the law to increase the term of office for Town Supervisor from two to four years, subject to its approval by referendum, adding his arguments to ones he made at prior meetings. The law was written so that the 4-year term takes effect in January 2024, contrary to the provision in the law that would in relation to this situation, make the effective date in January 2026. Regarding arguments by others that a 4-year term brings continuity, such arguments only apply to new supervisors and not to Supervisor Parete, since essentially he will be guaranteed eight years in total after the coming election, regardless of whether a 4-year term is put into effect. The Supervisor's involvement and vote to approve this law was done after he had already gained the Democratic line on the ballot via his filed designating Petition for this line. It also appeared likely that he would gain the Republican and Conservative lines, which he has now done. He will be the only candidate for Marbletown Supervisor on the ballot in November. Because of the present Supervisor's reelection being guaranteed (with no competition involved) this means he, alone, will benefit both financially and unfairly from an initial increase to a 4-year term of office, since he will not have to spend money to campaign for office in 2025. Terpening

added a few brief quotations from the Code of Ethics. Finally, Terpening believes that are troubling appearances of conflict and favoritism, especially in relation to the operative date of the first 4-year term that begs the Board's reconsideration and repeal of this Law.

**Motion to adjourn:** There being no further discussion Supervisor Parete made the motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Councilman LaFera 4-0 Aye, 1 absent; motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 6:47pm.

Respectfully Transcribed and Submitted,  
Heather Moody  
Town Clerk/Tax Collector

DRAFT