



## **Town Board Regular Meeting**

**Tuesday, January 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 6:05pm and Councilman Hunt lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

### **ROLL CALL**

Town Clerk Moody took roll call:

Supervisor Parete – Present

Councilwoman Foote – Present via Zoom

Councilman LaFera – Present

Councilman Davenport – Absent

Councilman Tim Hunt – Present

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

### **MEETING MINUTES:**

Councilwoman Foote made a motion, seconded by Councilman Hunt to approve the meeting minutes from 1/4/2024 4-0 Aye 1 absent; motion carried.

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

Town Clerk Moody stated there were no amendments from the 12/19/23 vouchers.

Town Clerk Moody submitted the following vouchers for approval:

<b><u>Dec. 2023 Supplement</u></b>	<b><u>Vouchers</u></b>	<b><u>Total Payment</u></b>
<b>General Fund</b>	<b>V#882-927</b>	<b>\$56,806.16</b>
<b>Highway Fund</b>	<b>V#394-406</b>	<b>\$8,456.91</b>
<b>High Falls Water District</b>	<b>V#150-156</b>	<b>\$25,749.81</b>
<b>RMC</b>	<b>V#207-219</b>	<b>\$19,188.25</b>
<b>Marbletown Fire Protection District #1</b>	<b>V#26</b>	<b>\$215.85</b>

A motion was made by Councilwoman Foote 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.**

- Supervisor Parete explained these vouchers are for the bills that come in at the end of December and are services for the end of the year.

Town Clerk Moody submitted the following vouchers for approval:

<u>1/16/2024</u>	<u>Vouchers</u>	<u>Total Payment</u>
<b>General Fund</b>	<b>V#1-25</b>	<b>\$129,543.79</b>
<b>Highway Fund</b>	<b>V#1-6</b>	<b>\$66,762.67</b>
<b>High Falls Water District</b>	<b>V#1-2</b>	<b>\$3,998.13</b>
<b>RMC</b>	<b>V#</b>	<b>\$</b>
<b>Marbletown Fire Protection District #1</b>	<b>V#1-2</b>	<b>\$80,000</b>

A motion was made by Councilman LaFera and Seconded by Councilman Hunt 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.**

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

- There were no public comments on the resolutions for this evening's meeting.

**RESOLUTION #20-2024; ESTABLISHING A DATE FOR A PUBLIC HEARING REGARDING THE PROPOSED 2024 UPDATE TO THE 2005 TOWN PLAN**

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

**WHEREAS**, the Town Board of the Town of Marbletown is considering adoption of a set of amendments to the 2005 Town Plan entitled 2024 Update, in the Town of Marbletown, Ulster County, New York; and

**WHEREAS**, in consideration of the requirements of Section 272-a of New York State Town Law, the participation of citizens in an open, responsible, and flexible planning process is essential to the designing of the optimum town comprehensive plan; and

**WHEREAS**, the Town Board initiated a review of the 2005 Town Plan in 2023, appointed a Marbletown Housing Committee to identify existing housing resources and future housing needs, including affordable housing, and retained a professional Town Planner to assist it with such review process; and

**WHEREAS**, certain events have occurred since 2005 that affect natural and cultural resources in the Town including the establishment of a community preservation program related to preparation of a Community Preservation Plan and appointment of a Community Preservation Plan Advisory Board to ensure that Marbletown's community character and its natural and cultural resources are protected in the future; and

**WHEREAS**, the Town Board's review of the 2005 Town Plan identified several amendments related to protection of natural and cultural resources that are appropriate given the need to ensure new housing development in the Town, including affordable housing, will occur in a manner that protects the character of the community; and

**WHEREAS**, in connection with such Town Plan reviews, the Town Board members independently reviewed the Town Plan's general statements of goals, objectives, and policies in the 2005 Town Plan and considered such goals, objectives, and policies for the immediate and long-range enhancement, growth and development of the Town; and

**WHEREAS**, the Town Board has called for a public hearing for the purpose of assuring full opportunity for citizen participation in the preparation of such Town Plan amendments.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, by the Town Board of the Town of Marbletown (by the favorable vote of not less than a majority of all of the members of the Board) as follows:

1. The Town Board of the Town of Marbletown shall hold a public hearing on

February 6, 2024, at 6:00 o'clock P.M. at the Town Hall, 1925 Lucas Avenue, Stone Ridge, New York, to hear all interested parties on the proposed 2024 Town Plan Update; and

2. The Town Clerk is hereby authorized and directed to publish notice of said public hearing in the official newspaper of the Town, on January 27, 2024, which is not less than ten (10) calendar days prior to the date of said public hearing.

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>Absent</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>

**4-0**; 1 absent; Resolution **#20-2024** was thereupon adopted.

- Supervisor Parete said that Ted Fink, who is working with the Town, did not recommend doing a whole new Town Plan but amend the plan from 2005 and the town board would make the decisions about what would go in the new plan.
- Councilman Hunt added that this was a real opportunity to look at the town action plan and acknowledge what we have done as a town.
- Councilwoman Foote suggested getting a little bit more clarification from Ted Fink. Supervisor Parete stated that if any of the board members have questions they should contact Ted or try to meet with Ted.
- Councilman Hunt suggested adding references to reports that have been done since the 2005 Town Plan and adding more specifics about the plans that the town has. Supervisor Parete said the Town Plan will be a little bit more generic and we can add amendments at a later date.

Supervisor Parete reviewed the Full Environmental Assessment Form for the Town of Marbletown Comprehensive Plan Update. The Marbletown Town Plan was prepared and adopted in 2005. During 2023 the Town Board engaged in a review of the 2005 and after such review it was determined that the 2005 Town Plan was still relevant but that several modifications to the Town Plan were required to address and update the continuing need for protection of natural and cultural resources and to consider new ways of providing for workforce housing that is needed by local emergency services providers, farm laborers, teachers, Town employees, young families, senior citizens and others on limited incomes. In 2023, Marbletown joined the Ulster County Housing Smart Communities program and explored other options available, as recommended by the Town Board appointed Housing Committee and the Town Planner. The amendments proposed to the 2005 Town Plan addresses the above two issues.

#### **RESOLUTION #21-2024; AMEND INVENTORY OF TOWN ROAD SYSTEM**

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

**WHEREAS**, the Town of Marbletown is required by Highway Law Section 115 to maintain a map of the town road system and to amend such map from time to time as changes to the system occur, and

**WHEREAS**, Marbletown maintains an inventory of the town road system that conforms to the inventory of the New York State Department of Transportation for Town of Marbletown, and

**WHEREAS**, the addition of Fording Place Road and Heinel Road have been made to the town road system since the last reported inventory to add or to reduce the overall mileage in the local system that have been recorded in an inventory to be submitted to the New York State Department of Transportation; and

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the Town of Marbletown hereby amends the inventory of the county road system by making such changes that reflect the current local system, and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Town Clerk of the Town of Marbletown is hereby directed to transmit two copies of the amended inventory of the county road system to the New York State Department of Transportation, along with a copy of the foregoing resolution.

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>Absent</u>
----------------------	----------------------

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

**4-0**; 1 absent; Resolution **#21-2024** was thereupon adopted.

- Supervisor Parete said that this would update the last reported inventory. Parete added that this could add money in state aid and would be a true reflection of what roads that Town maintains.

#### **RESOLUTION #22-2024; APPOINTMENT TO ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION COMMISSION**

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

**WHEREAS**, Tom Konrad and Alan Newman has indicated a desire to be reappointed to the Marbletown Environmental Conservation Commission, and

**WHEREAS**, the Environmental Conservation Commission (ECC) has met and recommends Tom Konrad and Alan Newman be reappointed to the ECC, and

**WHEREAS**, Alan Newman has agreed to be Secretary of the Environmental Conservation Commission,  
**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the Town Board of the Town of Marbletown appoint Tom Konrad and Alan Newman to the Environmental Conservation Commission for a term to expire on 12/31/2026. 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 Absent  
Councilman Lafera      Voting Aye  
Councilwoman Foote      Voting Aye  
Councilman Hunt      Voting Aye  
Supervisor Parete      Voting Aye

**4-0**; 1 absent; Resolution **#22-2024** was thereupon adopted.

- Supervisor Parete thanked the ECC for all the good work in the community and it would not have all happened if it weren't for Tom.

#### **RESOLUTION #23-2024; HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT HMEO/MECHANIC**

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

**WHEREAS**, the Highway Superintendent has a need for a full-time Mechanic, and

**WHEREAS**, Ulster County Personnel has deemed as an eligible HMEO/Mechanic employee, and

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, the Town of Marbletown Town Board approves the hiring of Art Lapp as Full Time HMEO/Mechanic at a rate of \$30.87 an hour starting January 29, 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 Absent  
Councilman Lafera      Voting Aye  
Councilwoman Foote      Voting Aye  
Councilman Hunt      Voting Aye  
Supervisor Parete      Voting Aye

**4-0**; 1 absent; Resolution **#23-2024** was thereupon adopted.

- Supervisor Parete said that Bruce Fallon retired as the highway mechanic on 12/31/2023. The town received a couple applications. Parete added that Art Lapp lives local and is the Chief of the High Falls Fire District.
- Councilman LaFera added that he also works on fire trucks and is a big rig mechanic.

## **RESOLUTION #24-2024; ACCEPTING GRANT FUNDS FROM THE NEW YORK STATE OFFICE OF PARKS, RECREATION AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION (“OPRHP”)**

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

**RESOLVED**, that the Town of Marbletown applied for financial assistance from the New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation (“OPRHP”) under the New York State Office of Parks, Recreation & Historic Preservation for funding through the Environmental Protection Fund, Parks Program activity for funding to help purchase Osterhoudt Flats; and

**RESOLVED**, that the Town of Marbletown is authorized and directed to accept these grant funds in an amount not to exceed \$500,000 for the project described in the grant application; and

**RESOLVED**, that the Town of Marbletown is authorized and directed to agree to the terms and conditions of the Master Contract with OPRHP for such Osterhoudt Flats property purchase; and

**RESOLVED**, that the Town of Marbletown is authorized and directed to agree to the terms and conditions of any required deed of easement granted to OPRHP that affects title to real property owned by the municipality and improved by the grant funds, which may be a duly recorded public access covenant, conservation easement, and/or preservation covenant; and

**RESOLVED**, that the governing body of the municipality delegates signing authority to execute the Master Contract and any amendments thereto, any required deed of easement, and any other certifications to the Town Supervisor of the Town 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 <u>Absent</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>

**4-0**; 1 absent; Resolution #24-2024 was thereupon adopted.

## **REMOVING STREETLIGHTS**

- Supervisor Parete stated there were two streetlights in town that we would like to have removed, one is by the Vly Atwood Fire House and the second one is by the old Marbletown Fire House. The town board voted unanimously to have the streetlights removed.

## **OTHER TOWN BUSINESS:**

- Supervisor Parete stated they would be closing on the Osterhoudt property soon. Parete added there will be a public information session where the town board will show the public what the plans are and what it will look like. Parete pointed out that they were looking into banks and what interest rates they would be able to get for the \$1.5 million they town will borrow. Parete said most likely they'll go with Bank of Greene County, where the town accounts are located, as they are offering 5% over 15 years or 4.75% over 10 years. Parete mentioned the town can not do any work on the property until the town owns it. Councilwoman Foote said that the Osterhoudt project will be done in phases. Foote added the town board will be getting input from the town on ideas and modifications.
- Councilman Hunt said that the interviews for the new Park, Trails and Rec Committee will start soon. Hunt added they have seven applicants for seven open seats.
- Supervisor Parete said that Brian Pickard, town accountant, had been in the offices over the past week conducting his yearly audit of all the departments and bank accounts.
- Tom Konrad, Chair of the ECC, gave a brief update about grants he is trying to secure for the town. Konrad brought up the subject of EV chargers and asked where in the town would be good spots.

Councilman LaFera would like to look at the smart EV chargers. Parete added that we should start charging fees at the EV charger at the Community Center.

**Motion to adjourn:** There being no further discussion Councilman Lafera made the motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Councilman Hunt; 4-0 Aye, 1 absent; motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 7:07pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Heather Moody  
Town Clerk/Tax Collector

DRAFT