



**Town Board Regular Meeting  
Thursday, November 5, 2020**

**This rescheduled meeting (from 11/3 Election Day) was held via Zoom, at the Rondout Municipal Center and began at 7:00pm**

**CALL TO ORDER**

- Supervisor Parete called the meeting to order at 7:04pm and Supervisor Parete lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

**ROLL CALL**

Supervisor Parete took roll call:

Supervisor Parete – Present via Zoom

Councilwoman Foote – Present via Zoom

Councilman LaFera – Present via Zoom

Councilman Stewart – Present via Zoom

Councilman Tim Hunt – Present via Zoom

**Also, Present:** Heather Moody; Town Clerk/Tax Collector and Tracy Kellog; Attorney (via Zoom)

**2021 FINAL BUDGET PUBLIC HEARING; GENERAL, HIGHWAY AND SPECIAL DISTRICTS:**

- At 7:07pm a motion was made by Councilman Stewart, seconded by Councilwoman Foote to open the public hearing on the 2021 budget for General, Highway and Special Districts. 5-0 Aye, motion carried.
- Supervisor Parete stated Town Clerk Moody had legally noticed the public hearing in the Daily Freeman on Oct. 28, 2020. The legal notice as also posted on the town website and the Town Clerk's Community Board.
- Supervisor Parete provided the call-in number for public comments.
- At 7:12pm there being no more comments or questions on the 2021 budget for General, Highway and Special Districts Councilman LaFera made a motion, seconded by Councilman Hunt to close the public hearing on the 2021 budget.

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

Councilman Stewart      Voting Aye

Councilman LaFera      Voting Aye

Councilwoman Foote      Voting Aye

Councilman Hunt      Voting Aye

Supervisor Parete      Voting Aye

5-0 Aye, motion carried.

**2021 FINAL BUDGET PUBLIC HEARING; HIGH FALLS WATER DISTRICT:**

- At 7:14pm a motion was made by Councilman LaFera, seconded by Councilman Hunt to open the public hearing on the 2021 budget for the High Falls Water District. 5-0 Aye, motion carried.

- Supervisor Parete stated Town Clerk Moody had legally noticed the public hearing in the Daily Freeman on Oct. 28, 2020. The legal notice as also posted on the town website and the Town Clerk's Community Board.
- Supervisor Parete provided the call-in number for public comments.
- At 7:18pm there being no more comments or questions on the 2021 budget for the High Falls Water District Councilman LaFera made a motion, seconded by Councilman Hunt to close the public hearing on the 2021 budget.

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

Councilman Stewart	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 Aye, motion carried.	

- Resident Natasha Williams was noticed on the Zoom call to have a question for the Supervisor. Ms. Williams asked if people will be able to speak on the budget. Supervisor Parete responded 'yes'.

#### **MEETING MINUTES:**

Councilwoman Foote made a motion, seconded by Councilman Hunt to approve the meeting minutes from the 11/5/20 town board meeting. 5-0 Aye, motion carried.

#### **RESOLUTION #93-2020; SETTING PUBLIC HEARING TO PAY MAINTANENCE AND REPAIR COSTS FOR TOWN OWNED PROPERTIES**

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

**WHEREAS**, the Town of Marbletown established a Buildings Replace/Repair Reserve Fund pursuant to Section 6-c of the General Municipal Law to provide funding for the purpose of financing Replace/Repairs and capital improvements to the seven buildings owned by the Town of Marbletown, and

**WHEREAS**, the Town of Marbletown upgraded buildings and parks, and

**WHEREAS**, the town has spent \$90,768 for Maintenance and Repair Costs to town owned facilities,

1. **Transfer Station**--\$40,657 for retaining wall, shed, electric work and mulch trees and brush.
2. **Rondout Municipal Center**--\$4085 to build a break room.
3. **Community Center**--\$40,364 for new well pump, air-seal & insulation of attic, vapor barriers, and spray foam.
4. **Marbletown Park**--\$4135 repair concrete floor under pavilion
5. **Highway Garage**--\$1,527 replace doors

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Town of Marbletown Town Board shall hold a public hearing at 1925 Lucas Avenue, Cottekill, New York 12419 on November 17, 2020 at 6:00PM to transfer \$90,768 from the Building Replace/Repair Reserve Fund to Buildings Expense line 1620.4, and be it

**FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Town of Marbletown Town Clerk publish a public notice in the official newspaper of the Town of Marbletown at least five (5) days prior thereto.

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

Councilman Stewart	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  
**5-0**; Resolution #93-2020 was thereupon adopted.

- Councilman LaFera pointed out that we do have some other capital projects coming up for instance Grady Park, sidewalk project and the Highway garage.

**RESOLUTION #94-2020; SET A PUBLIC HEARING FOR THE HISTORIC DESIGNATION OF 200 BONE HOLLOW ROAD IN THE TOWN OF MARBLETOWN**

The following Resolution was offered by Councilman LaFera and seconded by Councilman Hunt:

**WHEREAS**, the Marbletown Historic Preservation Commission held a public hearing on the historic designation of 200 Bone Hollow Road on Sept. 12, 2020 and voted unanimously to approve the Designation and recommended to the town board to hold a public hearing for designation in accordance with the Historic Preservation Law, Chapter 128.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the Town Board of the Town of Marbletown hereby schedules a public hearing, via Zoom, on November 17, 2020 at 6:05pm to hear all interested parties.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Town Clerk of the Town of Marbletown is hereby directed and authorized to legally advertise same; and

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

Councilman Stewart	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**; Resolution #94-2020 was thereupon adopted.

- Councilman Hunt, former Co-Chair of the HPC, stated the application for landmarking the Roosa Farm House would be the 7<sup>th</sup> one for Marbletown. He pointed out that the Roosa Farm House has the characteristics of a mid-century Dutch Colonial. Revisions of the application were provided by Anthony DiGuissepe and Councilman Hunt pointed out that there were typo's in the application and should be corrected.

**RESOLUTION #95-2020; TOWN OF MARBLETOWN PURCHASE TRAILER**

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

**WHEREAS**, the Marbletown Highway Department is responsible for treating town road surfaces, and

**WHEREAS**, an effective fleet replacement program is essential for controlling vehicle suitability, availability, reliability, safety, and environmental impacts and total cost of ownership; and

**WHEREAS**, the Highway Superintendent requests to purchase a 2021 Rampant 35-ton RGN Air Ride Low-Boy from Rampant Trailers, LLC for the price of \$41,149.00, and

**WHEREAS**, the highway department will be received three different quotes, and

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Marbletown town board authorizes the purchase of 2021 Rampant 35-ton RGN Air Ride LowBoy from Rampant Trailers, LLC for the price of \$41,149.00.

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

Councilman Stewart	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;** Resolution #95-2020 was thereupon adopted.

- Supervisor Parete stated that the Highway department has a 1990 trailer they will be putting up for auction. The Highway received three quotes for a new trailer. The one they will be purchasing is from North Carolina and will be transported up to NY.

**RESOLUTION #96-2020; APPOINTMENTS TO HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION**

The following Resolution was offered by Councilman Stewart and seconded by Councilman LaFera:

**WHEREAS**, John Harrington, John Novi, Bill Merchant and Scott Davis have indicated a desire to be appointed to the Historic Preservation Commission,

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the Town Board of the Town of Marbletown appoints John Harrington and Bill Merchant to the Historic Preservation Board to a term expiring on 12/31/2023, Scott Davis to a term ending 12/31/2022 and John Novi to a term expiring 12/31/2021.

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

Councilman Stewart	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;** Resolution #96-2020 was thereupon adopted.

- Supervisor Parete stated that after five residents stepped down from the Historic Preservation Commission earlier this fall that left the commission with four members. Now with these new members the commission can resume. He asked that the four new members contact Town Clerk Moody to arrange to have their oaths of office signed.
- Councilman Hunt pointed out that he hopes everyone will feel welcome on the commission and we need to support the commission. An orientation will be set up and if others are interested they should be able to be included.
- Councilman LaFera is the liaison between the Town Board and the HPC and really wants to make sure that everyone feels comfortable.

**RESOLUTION #97-2020; TEMPORARY TRUCK DRIVERS HIGH FALLS WATER DISTRICT**

The following Resolution was offered by Councilman LaFera and seconded by Councilman Hunt:

**WHEREAS**, the High Falls Water District has a need for temporary truck drivers to transport water from Rosendale Water District to High Falls Water District during the Aqueduct shutdowns, and

**WHEREAS**, Ulster County Personnel has deemed Carl Hornbeck and Thomas Briggs as eligible employees, and

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, the Town of Marbletown Town Board approves the hiring of Carl Hornbeck as a Temporary HMEO and Thomas Briggs as a Temporary MEO at a rate of \$24.88 an hour.

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

Councilman Stewart	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;** Resolution #97-2020 was thereupon adopted.

- The High Falls Water District aqueduct will be shut down for repairs for 75 days starting on November 1<sup>st</sup>. During this time water will be transported from the Rosendale Water District to High Falls.

**RESOLUTION #98-2020 TO ADOPT GENERAL, HIGHWAY, & SPECIAL DISTRICTS 2021 TOWN BUDGET, FINAL**

The following Resolution was offered by Councilman Hunt and seconded by Councilman LaFera:

**WHEREAS**, the Preliminary Budget for the Year 2021 has been duly prepared by the Supervisor and Town Board and a duly publicized public hearing was held on the 5th day of November 2020 at 7:00 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 2021.

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

Councilman Stewart	Voting <u>No</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 Aye, 1 No; Resolution #98-2020** was thereupon adopted.

- Supervisor Parete pointed out that the 2021 budget had challenges due to COVID this year. Sales tax revenue is going down. The state has requested an emergency plan for pandemics be put into place by April 2021 outlining, among other items, essential workers vs. non-essential workers. Essential offices would include the Highway, Transfer Station, Building Department, and the Town Clerk. Municipalities with police departments would be essential.
- Councilwoman Foote commented it was hard to anticipate what the new year would bring and feels the budget presented was fair and the numbers were better than originally thought. She pointed out that reading and understanding the budget was a full-time job.
- Councilman Hunt appreciated the detailed descriptions around the spending and managing of the taxpayer's money and adapting to the changing of the times.
- Councilman LaFera commented that several discussions were had going over every line of the budget and a lot of thought went into each one of them.
- Councilman Stewart commented his reasoning for voting 'no' on the 2021 budget. He pointed out he had no problem with the budget except for eliminating funding for the PZC and Maggie Colan's position. He feels she has been a great public servant, and personal friend, and we should do right by a town employee.

**RESOLUTION #99-2020 TO ADOPT 2021 HIGH FALLS WATER BUDGET**

The following Resolution was offered by Councilman LaFera and seconded by Councilman Hunt:

**WHEREAS**, the Preliminary High Falls Water Budget for the Year 2021 has been duly prepared by the Supervisor and Town Board and a duly publicized public hearing was held on the 5th day of November 2020 at 7:05 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 2021.

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

Councilman Stewart	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;** Resolution #99-2020 was thereupon adopted.

- Supervisor Parete reminded the public that the water district raised fees in March for the first time in 11 years. The district is also anticipating spending money on replacing the existing water meters and new filters will be needed. Ulster County Community College is now in the district and that will also be bringing in more revenue for the town.
- Councilman Hunt asked if the town had a plan for expansion and what steps would need to be taken to expand further?
- Councilman Stewart pointed out that with all the new homes being built there is a real concern of wells going dry. More studies should be performed to address this issue.

#### **OTHER TOWN BUSINESS:**

- Supervisor Parete reminded the public that the town offices will be closed on Wednesday, Nov 11<sup>th</sup> for Veteran's Day. He stated the Highway Department will be open on the 11<sup>th</sup>. According to the Highway union contract they are able to switch days off. The Highway will be working on the 11<sup>th</sup> but will take off Nov. 25<sup>th</sup>, the day before Thanksgiving.
- Councilwoman Foote stated that the town board is looking into reviewing the planning and zoning laws and the need to be proactive for the community. Ms. Foote is researching a 2006 referendum that the town approved allowing up to \$2,000,000 to finance the purchase of land or interests in land for the preservation of open space. Once more information is obtained one of the first steps will be to form a commission of residents. If anyone is interested in this commission please contact Supervisor Parete at [supervisor@marbletown.net](mailto:supervisor@marbletown.net).
- Supervisor Parete has set up a meeting for he and Councilman LaFera to interview the two companies that sent in bids for the emergency services efficiency study. Once they have met with them and discussed further with representatives from the fire companies they will make a decision on how to move forward.
- Councilman Stewart took a minute to address the letter sent by Eddie Croswell in regard to the Highway Department. Supervisor Parete stated that when it comes to the Highway Department Superintendent Dimler has the sole discretion of how the highway budget is spent. Superintendent Dimler has created a replacement program of equipment where the older vehicles are put up for auction and that money is then used to help fund the new equipment. The Highway budget went up 3% for 2021. The government took back \$70,000 in funds and the highway anticipates losing money next year also. Councilman LaFera pointed out that you can see where the tax dollars are going with the state of the roads and they are doing a good job. Supervisor Parete stated he tried to call Mr. Croswell to address the letter but has not received a return phone call.

**Motion to adjourn:** There being no further discussion Councilman Stewart made the motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Councilman Hunt 5-0; motion passed. The meeting adjourned at 8:41pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Heather Moody  
Town Clerk/Tax Collector

FINAL