

Town of Blenheim Town Board Meeting Minutes

The following are the town board meeting minutes for the Town Board meeting held on January 3, 2025, at Blenheim Town Hall. Meeting commenced at 6:30 pm with the Pledge of Allegiance.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Supervisor Don Airey

Council Member Renee Grabowski

Council Member Chester Keyser

Council Member Carolee Russell

Highway Superintendent Andy Graves

Council Member Anne Mattice-Strauch

Motion was made to approve December Meeting Minutes by Council Member Chester Keyser; 2nd by Council Member Carolee Russell; so moved.

SUPERVISOR'S REPORT: Don Airey

- Hitchcock Building Well has been drilled down to 127 feet through the 8-inch pipe. It has produced lots of good clean water and we will have it tested. After drilling it had a small sink hole. We checked the next day and the hole had grown to an 8 foot and 6 feet deep. Andy and Chris of the Highway crew spent many hours rectifying the situation. Everyone had done a great job in taking care in the situation. Now there is a barrier in place for safety. Thank you to Provost Bros. Inc. and Cedar Ridge Well Drilling, LLC.
- Final Briefs on Schoharie County Taxpayer Constitutional Challenge A-78 will be filed on January 13th.
- County \$30M Broadband Grant proceeding. Don is directly involved and quite concerned. This will be a large responsibility and financial exposure for the County but also has the potential for great benefit.
- Received a check from CHIPS for the full amount of \$171,609.09.
- Waiting on the new Chevy 1 ton truck delivery.
- **Motion made to approve a new computer with 2 monitor's no more than \$2000.00 for the Town Clerk. Motion Made by Council Member Chester Keyer; 2nd by Council Member Carolee Russell; so moved.**
- **Opened Bids for Diesel fuel contract for 2025**
Mirabito Diesel Fuel 2.8847, Kerosene 3.4847, Diesel Cold Flow 2.9147
Buell Fuel ULSD #2 Summer 2.6816, ULSD #2 Winter 2.8105, Non-Ethanol Gasoline 4.5950
Bids will be under review by the Highway superintendent.

Resolutions: (complete Resolutions are included in the permanent record book)

- Motion made to adopt **Resolution #1**, Appointment of Highway Superintendent Andrew Graves by Supervisor Don Airey; 2nd by Council Member Anne Mattice-Strauch; so moved
- Motion made to adopt **Resolution #2**, Designating the Town Assessor Deborah Thurber by Supervisor Don Airey; 2nd by Council Member Chester Keyer; so moved
- Motion made to adopt **Resolution #3**, Designating the Building Inspector/Code Enforcement Officer Brian Caron by Supervisor Don Airey; 2nd by Council Member Anne Mattice-Strauch; so moved

- Motion made to adopt **Resolution #4**, Designating the Town Deputy Supervisor Anne Mattice-Strauch by Supervisor Don Airey; 2nd by Council Member Anne Mattice-Strauch; so moved
- **Resolution #5** Appointment of Town Historian, **Tabled**
- Motion made to adopt **Resolution #6**, Designating the Town Tax Collector Diane Ericson by Supervisor Don Airey; 2nd by Council Member Anne Mattice-Strauch; so moved
- Motion made to adopt **Resolution #7**, Designating the Town Registrar of Vital Statistics Diane Ericson by Supervisor Don Airey; 2nd by Council Member Anne Mattice-Strauch; so moved
- Motion made to adopt **Resolution #8**, Designating the Deputy Registrar of Vital Statistics and Deputy Tax Collector Robin Alley by Supervisor Don Airey; 2nd by Council Member Anne Mattice-Strauch; so moved
- Motion made to adopt **Resolution #9**, Designating the Town Dog Control Officer Joseph Durma by Supervisor Don Airey; 2nd by Council Member Chester Keyer; so moved
- Motion made to adopt **Resolution #10**, Code of Ethics by Supervisor Don Airey; 2nd by Council Member Chester Keyer; so moved
- Motion made to adopt **Resolution #11**, Designating the Town Attorney Michael West by Supervisor Don Airey; 2nd by Council Member Anne Mattice-Strauch; so moved
- Motion made to adopt **Resolution #12**, Designating NFP Property and Casualty as Town Insurance Agency by Supervisor Don Airey; 2nd by Council Member Carolee Russell; so moved
- Motion made to adopt **Resolution #13**, Paid Holiday Policy by Supervisor Don Airey; 2nd by Council Member Chester Keyer; so moved
- Motion made to adopt **Resolution #14**, Procurement Policy by Supervisor Don Airey; 2nd by Council Member Carolee Russell; so moved
- Motion made to adopt **Resolution #15**, Building permit Fees Schedule by Supervisor Don Airey; 2nd by Council Member Chester Keyer; so moved
- Motion made to adopt **Resolution #16**, Designating the Town Banks as NBT and Bank of Richmondville by Supervisor Don Airey; 2nd by Council Member Anne Mattice-Strauch; so moved
- Motion made to adopt **Resolution #17**, Investment Policy by Supervisor Don Airey; 2nd by Council Member Chester Keyer; so moved
- Motion made to adopt **Resolution #18**, Refund of Taxes by Town Clerk/Tax Collector by Supervisor Don Airey; 2nd by Council Member Carolee Russell; so moved
- Motion made to adopt **Resolution #19**, Designating the Mileage Reimbursement Rate by Supervisor Don Airey; 2nd by Council Member Chester Keyer; so moved
- **Resolution #20** Designating the official Newspapers, **Tabled, Amended**, Motion made by Council Member Anne Mattice-Strauch; 2nd by Council Member Chester Keyer; Airey no, Russell yes, Keyser yes, Mattice-Strauch yes, Grabowski yes
- Motion made to adopt **Resolution #21**, Employee Health Insurance Cost by Supervisor Don Airey; 2nd by Council Member Chester Keyer; so moved
- **Resolution #22** Audit of Justice Records, **Tabled**
- Motion made to adopt **Resolution #23**, Vacation Policy by Supervisor Don Airey; 2nd by Council Member Carolee Russell; so moved
- Motion made to adopt **Resolution #24**, Health Insurance Buy-out by Supervisor Don Airey; 2nd by Council Member Chester Keyer; so moved

Town Clerk Diane Ericson administered Oath of Office to Andy Graves. Supervisor gave kudos for all of Andy's efforts during the transition to Superintendent.

Privilege of the Floor

Complaints to the county about the plowing of County Rt 2 North Road. North Road – beyond the section that Blenheim has responsibility - was not cleared during the last storm which made for very bad traveling conditions.

HIGHWAY SUPERINTENDENT REPORT: Andy Graves

Lots of snow on top of the mountains. The new cutting edge on the plow is working great due to the sectioned floating edge design. Already seeing multiple trips being eliminated thus saving fuel and manpower costs.

ASSESSOR REPORT: Deborah Thurber

No report

BUILDING INSPECTOR-CODE OFFICER REPORT: Brian Caron

No report

DOG CONTROL OFFICER REPORT: Joseph Durma

No report

CORRESPONDENCE

SCCA Newsletter

NYS Legislative Commission on Rural Resources

The Gathering Place

CDPHP

Suit-Koto Corporation

Times Journal

Town Clerk provided all the Clerk checking accounts/books to the Town Board.

Motion to approve the Town Clerk account audit was made by Supervisor Don Airey; 2nd by Council Member Carolee Russell; so moved

Motion made by Council Member Chester Keyser; 2nd by Council Member Carolee Russell; so moved to pay the bills General; \$ 18390.94 Highway; \$ 7023.75

Motion to adjourn the meeting made by Council Member Anne Mattice-Struch; 2nd Council Member Chester Keyser; so moved.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Diane Ericson, Town Clerk