

**Town of Westerlo Town Board
Workshop Meeting
of
Tuesday, December 6, 2022**

The Town of Westerlo Town Board held a Workshop meeting on Tuesday, December 6, 2022 at the Richard H. Rapp Municipal Building located at 933 County Route 401, Westerlo, NY 12193. Supervisor Kryzak opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag at 6:00 PM.

Attending were:	Supervisor Matthew Kryzak Councilman Joshua Beers Councilman Peter Mahan Councilwoman Amie Burnside
Absent:	Councilwoman Lorraine Pecylak

Also attending were: Planning Board Member Bill Hall, Cemetery President Betty Filkins, Hometown Heroes Committee Member Lisa DeGroff, Albany County Legislator Christopher Smith and two interested residents.

Albany County Legislator Christopher Smith advised that the Albany County Legislative grant program is a program that each Legislator gets \$3,000 to give to the community. He indicated the Town of Westerlo not only received all \$3,000 of his grant money to be handed out but his colleague Zach Collins donated his \$3,000 as well. The additional \$650 came from Andrew Joyce. Mr. Smith presented a check in the amount of \$6,650.00 to the Westerlo Rural Cemetery who is helping the Hometown Heroes Committee with the veteran monument. Cemetery President Betty Filkins then presented a check to Chairperson Amie Burnside in the amount of \$6,650.00 toward the monument. Mr. Kryzak mentioned that no taxpayer money was used on the veteran's monument at the park. It was funded by donations from Hannay Reels, Bank of Greene County, and numerous individuals.

Councilman Beers made a motion to open the Town Board Workshop meeting. Councilman Mahan seconded; motion carried by those present.

OLD BUSINESS

HOLDING FACILITY FOR DOGS

Beginning in January, no municipalities will be able to bring dogs to Mohawk and Hudson River Humane Society. The Town will be partnering with the Town of Rensselaerville to use their holding facility with Cheryl Baitholts at a charge of \$15/day as opposed to the \$400 fee the Town of Westerlo was being charged from Mohawk and Hudson. Supervisor Kryzak indicated Ms. Baitholts also offered to be dog warden if needed in the future. Mr. Kryzak mentioned Ms. Baitholts also has a contract with Schoharie Valley Vet if any dogs need veterinary care. A shared service agreement will be drafted for 2023.

WATER BOARD RATE MEETING

Supervisor Kryzak indicated the Water Board would be setting up a meeting to vote of the 2023 water rates. Moving forward, the dates will be set for the Water Board meetings at the Organizational meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

PROPOSED RESOLUTION TO TRANSFER \$10,000 OF ARPA FUNDS TO HIGHWAY RESERVE REPAIR FUND

Mr. Kryzak proposed transferring \$10,000 of ARPA money to the Highway Reserve Repair Fund. This money came from the state and was set aside to be used toward capital improvements, helping to execute the grant for broadband and any other rescue plan operation. This money could then be used for emergencies for the highway department, not to be used for payroll. This will be on the December 20th meeting agenda.

REAPPOINT DAWN BELARGE TO BOARD OF ASSESSMENT REVIEW

Supervisor Kryzak advised that BAR member Dawn Belarge's term expired on 9/30/22 and wishes to be reappointed. Mr. Kryzak made a motion to adopt the following resolution:

WHEREAS: Board of Assessment Review Member Dawn Belarge's term expired on 9/30/22. and

WHEREAS: an appointment is needed for the Board of Assessment Review, be it hereby

RESOLVED: the Town Board reappoints Dawn Belarge to the BAR for a 5-year term from 10/1/22 through 9/30/27.

Councilman Mahan seconded; a vote resulted as follows:

AYES: Supervisor Kryzak, Councilman Mahan, Councilman Beers, Councilwoman Burnside

NAYS: None

RESOLUTION # 129 - 2022 was thereby duly adopted.

RESOLUTION FOR PETTY CASH FOR TAX COLLECTION

Supervisor Kryzak made a motion to adopt the following resolution:

WHEREAS: The Tax Collector's office needs petty cash in order to make change for tax collection, be it hereby

RESOLVED: The Town Board authorizes \$200.00 to be paid to the Town Clerk/Tax Collector for petty cash to make change during the tax collection period.

Seconded by Councilman Beers, a vote resulted as follows:

AYES: Supervisor Kryzak, Councilman Beers, Councilwoman Burnside, Councilman Mahan

NAYS: None

RESOLUTION # 130 - 2022 was thereby duly adopted.

ADVERTISE FOR 2023 VACANT PLANNING BOARD POSITION

Mr. Kryzak advised that he spoke to Planning Board Member Edwin Stevens and after 13 years, he no longer wishes to be on the Planning Board come January. He read the proposed ad to be posted in the newspaper. Supervisor Kryzak made a motion to adopt the following resolution:

WHEREAS: There will be a vacancy on the Planning Board come January 2023 due to Planning Board Member Edwin Stevens vacating the position, be it hereby

RESOLVED: The Town Board authorize the Town Clerk to advertise for the vacancy in the newspaper.

Councilwoman Burnside seconded; a vote resulted as follows:

AYES: Supervisor Kryzak, Councilman Beers, Councilwoman Burnside, Councilman Mahan

NAYS: None

RESOLUTION # 131 - 2022 was thereby duly adopted.

PRIVILEGE TO THE FLOOR

Councilwoman Burnside thanked the Town and Town Clerk Karla Weaver for the Tree Lighting event, she has only heard good things about it. Mr. Kryzak thanked all the volunteers, Rosemary McHugh and the Town Clerk's office for a great event. Town Clerk Weaver reminded that the Town is collecting toys and food through January 19th.

Resident Betty Filkins questioned if the Alcove reservoir has ever been reassessed for their taxes. Mr. Kryzak would like to make sure the county and town have a good relationship.

Mrs. Filkins also inquired about the roof at the Court building. Mr. Kryzak indicated the town is finally out of debt and he is hesitant to take out another loan but will evaluate how best to spend the capital improvement money.

County Legislator Chris Smith advised the County received roughly \$86 million in ARPA money from the governor. Some of that will go toward broadband internet and may be available to the Town of Westerlo.

Resident Joe Boone questioned the fee for the transfer station hang tag. Mr. Kryzak believes the town has saved a lot with the hang tags. Tipping fees are up over \$70/ton but still saving money. There is now also only one commercial hauler. Mr. Boone wondered if there is any chance the town would waive the fee now that the process is working. Mr. Kryzak advised the Board can look into it. Discussion ensued.

Discussion ensued regarding the Ambulance building, Fire house and Woodman's Hall.

ADJOURNMENT OF MEETING

With there being no further business to discuss, Councilwoman Burnside made a motion to close the Workshop meeting. Councilman Beers seconded; all in favor motion carried by those present. Meeting adjourned at 6:51 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Karla Weaver
Town Clerk