

**TOWN OF WESTERLO
REGULAR TOWN BOARD MEETING
OF
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 20, 2022**

The Town of Westerlo Town Board held a regular meeting on Tuesday, December 20, 2022 at the Town Hall 933 County Route 401, Westerlo, NY. 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
Councilwoman Lorraine Pecylak
Councilman Peter Mahan
Councilwoman Amie L. Burnside

Also attending were: Town Attorney George McHugh, Planning Board Member William Hall, Library Trustee Mary Ann Witt, Highway Superintendent Jody Ostrander, Hometown Heroes Committee Member Lisa DeGross, Water Board Member Kelley Keefe, Westerlo Rural Cemetery President Betty Filkins, Town Clerk Karla Weaver and approximately 2 interested residents.

Councilman Beers made a motion to open the Town Board meeting. Councilwoman Burnside seconded; all in favor motion carried.

TOWN BOARD MINUTES

Councilwoman Burnside made a motion to approve the meeting minutes of November 15th and December 6th. Councilman Beers seconded; all in favor motion carried.

TOWN CLERK REPORT (NOVEMBER 2022)

Town Clerk Weaver reviewed the Town Clerk report for November 2022. Councilwoman Burnside made a motion to accept the Town Clerk report for November 2022. Councilwoman Pecylak seconded; all in favor motion carried.

PAYMENT OF MONTHLY BILLS (NOVEMBER 2022)

Councilwoman Burnside made a motion to adopt the following resolution:

WHEREAS: the Town Board has audited the monthly bills, be it hereby
RESOLVED: the following November 2022 bills be paid Voucher # 621 through
Voucher # 683 in the amount of \$105,830.12

Councilman Beers seconded the motion, a vote resulted as follows:

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

NAYS: None

RESOLUTION # 132 – 2022 was thereby duly adopted.

INVESTMENT REPORT (NOVEMBER 2022)

Mr. Kryzak reported the Town earned \$292.24 in interest for the month of November. Councilman Beers made a motion to accept the investment report as reviewed by Supervisor Kryzak. Councilwoman Pecylak seconded; all in favor motion carried.

SUPERVISOR REPORT (NOVEMBER 2022)

Supervisor Kryzak reviewed the Supervisor's report and advised the balance for all accounts was \$3,254,545.74 for the month of November. He mentioned the Town is in very good financial health and it has been a very good year for sales tax. Councilwoman Pecylak made a motion to accept the Supervisor's report for November 2022. Councilman Beers seconded; all in favor motion carried.

TOWN COURT & COMMITTEE REPORTS

LIBRARY

Library Trustee Mary Ann Witt reported that the Trustees approved their long-range plan for the community. Their goal is to reach out to residents who are not using the library and help them understand what resources are available to them.

HOMETOWN HEROES

Hometown Heroes Committee Member Lisa DeGroff reported that the Hometown Heroes Committee did a final recap of the Closing Ceremony and Veterans Garden Dedication. They discussed how much money was spent, what worked and what needs an improvement. They are also working on paperwork for a new banner that should be out in January. The Hometown Heroes Committee will now be taking applications to honor Law Enforcement Officers, Fire Fighters, Auxiliary and EMS.

MUSEUM

Museum Member Betty Filkins reported that Wreaths Across America had to be postponed one day due to the weather. Wreaths had to be lined up by each entrance due the snow and they will be put on each veteran's grave once the snow melts.

HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

Highway Superintendent Jody Ostrander advised that the latest snow storm brought heavy snow but the Highway crew was able to keep up with it. He also mentioned that the ice-skating rink is filled and hopefully it will be ready to use in the next couple of days.

BRC

Supervisor Kryzak indicated that the Town is still waiting to finalize the Tonko grant paperwork with the Department of Agriculture. He is hoping the project can be start by spring.

PLANNING BOARD

Planning Board Chair Beau Loendorf provided the below report as follows:

This last week the Board re-approved Special Use Permit #19-3 from back in 2019 for the Thompson Diner. The Board voted to continue their Special Use Permit, and the applicant shared they should be opening in the upcoming weeks. Four new applications came to the Board, all of which will have a Public Hearing at our January 10th meeting. The three applications are minor subdivisions and one is a special use permit. These applications were the Winnie Minor SD 22-2, Sharkey 2 lot minor SD 22-3, Hunter/Tarbox 2 lot minor SD 22-4, and Gallagher/Betanzos Travel Trailer SUP 22-4. Finally, I just wanted to thank Ned Stevens again for his time on our Board as he finished out his term. Applications were put out to fill the new position and I look forward to training the new Planning Board member in January.

Beau Loendorf, Planning Board Chairman

ASSESSOR

To: Westerlo Town Board

From: Melanie Bunzey, Assessor

Date: December 15, 2022

Re: Monthly Report – December 2022

School relevies have been entered for BkW CSD and Greenville CSD.

Water District fees have been entered into RPS totaling \$29,000.40 (total amount to be collected is \$29,000.)

Provided RPS960 reports (Special District Summary and Roll Section Summary) to Town Clerk so that she can calculate tax rates per the County's request.

New Sales Transmittal Reports were submitted to the State (listing sales since last report with 5 sales.)

Several calls have been received and responded to regarding the exemption forms (including renewals) that were mailed to residents in preparation of the new exemption year.

A 2022 Assessment Totals and Exemption Summary was requested by the County. The reports were run and provided.

Photos have been taken where certificates of completion have been issued and assessments are being adjusted for 2023. I will be continuing to drive around taking photos as certificates of completion are submitted to me.

Address changes are made on a regular basis as well as bank escrow information. Routine calls and emails are received and answered on nearly a daily basis.

The system is checked for property owners listed on death notices regularly received via email from A.J. Cunningham Funeral Home, exemptions removed if necessary and notifications of exemption change mailed.

STAR reports received from New York State have been processed. Those reports are:

*Report #10 - NYS Tax Return Deceased Report
Report #11 – STAR Credit Issued Report*

*Respectfully submitted,
Melanie Bunzey
Assessor*

CEO

November 2022 Report

Building/ Zoning

Jeffry Pine BI/CEO

Applications Processed

Special use – 2

Variance request- 1

Sub– divisions – 3

Building permits issued – 5

New houses - 1

Accessory structures – 1

Solar Pv - 1

Other – 0

Cell tower / commercial - 2

Construction inspections- 31

Site visits – 6

Fire calls – 0

Fire safety inspections and follow ups - 2

4 - In-service Training hours. 26 hrs YTD (24 hours required to maintain certification)

APPROVAL OF COMMITTEE REPORTS

Councilman Beers made a motion to approve the committee reports for November 2022. Councilman Mahan seconded; all in favor motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS

ARPA MONEY

Supervisor Kryzak advised that the transfer of \$10,000.00 ARPA money into Highway Repair Fund will have to be put on hold until more research is done.

NEW HOLDING FACILITY

Supervisor Kryzak mentioned that the Town of Westerlo will have a shared services agreement with the Town of Rensselaerville for dogs. It will cost \$15.00 per day compared to \$400.00 which the Town used to pay for Mohawk Hudson Humane Society.

PLANNING BOARD MEMBER INTERVIEWS

Supervisor Kryzak reminded the Town Board will have an executive session next Wednesday December 28th to interview candidates for the vacant Planning Board position.

RESOLUTION TO APPROVE TRAINING FOR PLANNING AND ZONING BOARD MEMBERS

Supervisor Kryzak made a motion to approve training for four Planning Board and two Zoning Board Members that was held on December 13, 2022 and made the following resolution:

WHEREAS: Four Planning Board and two Zoning Board Members attended 2 hrs of training provided by the Town Attorney on December 13, 2022, be it hereby

RESOLVED: the Town Board approves 2 hr of training for Planning Board Members: Beau Loendorf, Rich Kurylo, William Hall, Gerry Boone and 2 hr of training for Zoning Board Members: James Gallogly and George Spahmer.

Councilman Beers seconded; a vote resulted as follows:

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

NAYS: None

RESOLUTION # 133 - 2022 was thereby duly adopted.

NEW BUSINESS

2023 WATER RATES

Supervisor Kryzak advised the Water Board held a meeting on December 12th, 2022 and decided to keep the same water rates for the upcoming year. The rate is \$22.68 per 1000 gallons of water. The annual fee will remain at \$329.55 per dwelling unit.

Supervisor Kryzak made a motion to adopt the following resolution:

WHEREAS: the fees for 2023 for the members in the Westerlo Water Dist. No. 1 have been reviewed by the Water Board in the meeting on December 12th, 2022 and presented to the Town Board, be it hereby

RESOLVED: the Town Board adopts the Westerlo Water Dist. No. 1 fee schedule to take affect January 1, 2023

Councilwoman Pecylak seconded; a vote resulted as follows:

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

NAYS: None

RESOLUTION # 134 - 2022 was thereby duly adopted.

NATIONAL BANK OF COXSACKIE

Supervisor Kryzak mentioned the Town still has two accounts, Hometown Heroes and General Fund, with the National Bank of Cocksackie and he is hoping to transfer them to the Bank of Greene County. Hometown Heroes account was voted on back in February but the funds were never moved. Supervisor Kryzak made a motion to adopt the following resolution:

WHEREAS: The Town of Westerlo still has an account at the National Bank of Cocksackie for the General Fund in the amount of \$10,125.25 that needs to be moved to the Bank of Greene County, be it hereby

RESOLVED: the Town Board authorizes the Supervisor to move the General Fund Bank Account from National Bank of Cocksackie to the Bank of Greene County

Councilman Beers seconded; a vote resulted as follows:

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

NAYS: None

RESOLUTION # 135 - 2022 was thereby duly adopted.

FOOD VENDOR

Supervisor Kryzak advised two people would like to provide food truck services to the Town of Westerlo and wish to be located at the Town Park. Before it can happen there should be some regulations in place. Hometown Heroes Member Lisa DeGroff suggested setting up daily and monthly fees. Supervisor Kryzak would like to see annual permits that would let food trucks use the Park on days when no one is renting it. Parking places were also discussed. Many other ideas were presented by the Town Board and residents, no decision was made.

DONATIONS

Town Clerk Weaver thanked everyone who donated towards the Food and Toy Drive for the Hilltown Community Resource Center. She mentioned three Westerlo families were adopted and it was been a huge success. Right now, Hilltown Resource Community Center is in need of toiletry items. Town Clerk Weaver asked the Town Board for permission to collect those items. Most of the Town Board was in favor.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Westerlo Rural Cemetery President Betty Filkins asked if the library has a subscription to ancestry.com. Library Trustee Mary Ann Witt explained that they do not at the moment but they are applying for a grant to support the funding for it.

Betty Filkins mentioned the cemetery audit was moved to December 28th, 2022. She also attended an Albany VA meeting and explained some benefits people may qualify for if they are veterans. She strongly encouraged the public to apply for them as almost everything is provided for free, including prescriptions.

Library Trustee Mary Ann Witt mentioned that the public may be interested in Altamont Community Caregivers. They can help seniors with their daily chores such as grocery shopping or taking them to doctor's appointments.

ADJOURN THE MEETING

With there being no further discussion, Councilwoman Burnside made a motion to close the Town Board meeting. Councilman Mahan seconded; all in favor motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 7:13 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Karla Weaver
Town Clerk