

**TOWN OF ROSENDALE**  
**TOWN BOARD MEETING**  
**August 9, 2023**

Supervisor Walsh called the meeting to order at 6:03P.M. followed by the Pledge of Allegiance with a moment of silence for Lawrence C. Yarter.

**PRESENT:** Supervisor                    Jeanne L. Walsh  
                  Councilman                         Joseph Havranek  
                  Councilmember                    Molly Muller  
                  Councilmember                    Ashley Sweeney  
                  Councilmember                    Carrie Wykoff

**ALSO PRESENT:** Jill La Fera; Assistant to Supervisor, Joe La Fera; Building Manager.

**Councilmember Wykoff** – Asked that all send thoughts of healing for friends in Hawaii, Amanda and Daniel Palmer, previous Main Street Rosendale residents that were evacuated, so we send healing to them and all those affected in Hawaii.

**Public Comments** – Councilmember Wykoff mentioned the Rosendale Theatre Collective is celebrating its thirteenth anniversary of running the Rosendale Theatre, and they are having a celebration on Friday, August 18, 2023.

Supervisor Walsh made a motion to approve the minutes for July 2023. Seconded by Councilmember Muller; ROLL VOTE 5 Yes.

**Councilmember Reports –**

**Councilman Havranek -**

Water & Sewer –

The Water Sewer Commission had a meeting July 26, 2023. The topics discussed were the Sewer Plant progress is moving forward, the new clarifiers systems are now online, the tanks are being completed and will hopefully increase our capacity from 100,000 gallons to 150,000 gallons of storage. The entire system is still on schedule to be completed by November. Landscaping may or may not get completed this year, depending on the weather. The update of the water tank is that the cemetery subdivision was approved by the Planning Board for the parcel where the tank will be installed. The test holes are in progress checking for soil conditions and bedrock formation. The Badger meter update is that they have 400 plus remote meters that are working, 41 that are not working and 40 that still need to be installed. Parts are in to fix the meters and our staff has that in progress. About two weeks ago the water pressure was low at the Mountain Road tanks affecting approximately six to seven streets. There was a boil water advisory for two or three days while the issue was being worked on, sampled, and tested.

There was a mitigation plan discussed with H2O/Kevin Jager how to prevent this issue from happening again.

Water Sewer New Business - The generator at our water plant is aging and has radiator issues. The more affordable process would be to repair versus replacement. The next Water & Sewer Commission meeting is scheduled for October 25, 2023, at 5PM at the Rondout Municipal Building. We are looking to fill two volunteer positions of our five-member commission. Councilmember Wykoff asked how the Boil Water Advisory and Cancellation was handled. Councilman Havranek stated they posted the Boil Water Advisory and Cancellation on the Town Website, Town Facebook page and door to door. The Water Sewer Revenue - Water July 2023 was \$10,620.53 and Sewer July 2023 was \$10,690.59.

High Falls Water District – There has been an issue of getting the meters installed in the district. The job has been out to bid twice, and they haven't been able to find a vendor. We are still in the process of searching for a vendor to install the 212 meters. Apparently, it's a small job and a lot of the larger companies that do this type of work are not interested in coming and doing small jobs. So, we may have to go with a smaller local company that meets the qualifications to take the job on. District total revenues for the year as of June is \$150,214.19.

Police – The Police Commission held a meeting on July 25, 2023, at the Rondout Municipal Center at 3:30PM. The Police Department received two letters of correspondence. The Honorable Judge Pape offered compliments for two officers, Officer Fagerstrom and Officer Scheible, on how they handled themselves during court and how both of those officers are engaged with the public doing their jobs. The defendants that evening wanted the court to know after their hearing how well the officers handled them. In their words “they handle them gently and respectfully during their encounters”. The Judge wanted to be clear that this wasn't something that was said prior to their case it was said after their cases. We also received a letter commending Sergeant Quigley for her first response and life saving measures regarding a serious dog bite incident. Mobile Life is basically commending her for her quick actions which were quick lifesaving actions to stabilize the victim's condition. We have one resignation, Officer Feliciano, a new part-time officer Evan Norman who is conducting 160 hours of field training work with our full-time officers. All vehicles are operational, the new SUV will replace car 365 at the end of August and mandatory firearms training is scheduled for August 10, 2023. The Street Festival had five minor medical incidents, the new gun locker was purchased and is installed. There was a use of force in the month May by Officer Funccius who intercepted a vehicle coming into the Town of Rosendale for a reported attempted kidnapping. When the vehicle was intercepted by Officer Funccius, he had a need to draw his weapon. The Police Department stats are currently to date 2356 calls for service, 141 criminal cases, 63 arrests, 12 personal injury/automobile accidents and 50 automobile property damage. The August Police Commission meeting is cancelled due to no Quorum. The next scheduled Police Commission meeting will be September 26, 2023, at the Rondout Municipal Center at 3:30PM. Total revenue for the month of July was \$1,388.80. Councilmember Wykoff wanted to say praises and thank you to the Rosendale Police Department for their partnership while helping with the Rosendale Street Festival.

Highway – The Highway Superintendent is off duty at the moment, so we do not have a full report. The revenue total is \$3,030.88 for the Highway Department.

Supervisor Walsh mentioned Highway worked on some signs by the Wallkill River and we are thankful of the flower donations from Mark Maseo of Kalleco Nursery and Victoria Coyne of Victoria's Garden.

#### **Councilmember Muller –**

RMC – The mulch project has been completed, they are receiving quotes for plumbing in the building to update the pump and equipment, the parts arrived for the Marbletown Court Clerk's office ductless splits (which are free from the manufacturer to fix leaks), they are receiving the data for the RMC shed installation, Triple J vending commission was received in the amount of \$237.39, which is up \$83.52 from the last commission received in the amount of \$153.87, we continue to have requests for rental space, Pestmaster completed their monthly check and there are no signs of unwanted guests in the building, internet has been switched from BOCES to Spectrum billing, phones have been installed for Recreation and Youth with the remaining phones to be installed next week for Water Sewer and High Falls Water, the fire extinguishers have been inspected or replaced, the Bistro was inspected, the Safety Officer completed her site inspection and the second fire drill.

Town Clerk's Office – Revenue for the month of July was \$14,402.05.

Transfer Station – Revenue was \$8,064.15, permit revenue \$2,255.00 and the shed has been delivered with set up completed.

Dog Control – There were 36 licenses sold, 35 renewals showing a total of \$604.00 with \$521.00 for the Supervisor and \$83.00 to New York State Animal Population Control Program.

Court – The books were reviewed, and all is in order.

## **Councilmember Wykoff –**

ZBA - There wasn't a meeting in July and the next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, August 15, 2023, at 7:00 PM. Councilmember Wykoff just wanted to mention that the ZBA meetings are still not showing up on the town calendar. Deputy Town Clerk Christine Harrison stated the Town Clerk's office is reviewing this with the IT company as there are a couple of glitches and duplications being corrected.

Planning Board - The next meeting is tomorrow at 7:00 PM. They have a heavy agenda, especially for an August meeting. They have a pre-application workshop, a special use permit for the logging that has been before the Planning Board a few times, a lot line adjustment on Creek Locks Road, a lot line adjustment on Sawdust, and a new application for a site review for the Montauk Catch Club, that is looking to possibly be at the Cuties location on Route 32. The Planning Board has received a few volunteer applications and will be reviewing them tomorrow.

Building Department - The revenue in July total fees collected \$11,235.00, 27 permits issued with one still open as of August 1, 2023.

Historian - Bill Brooks is still settling in but having a little extra space has helped, he's very grateful.

Environmental Commission – Councilmember Wykoff stated she was not able to attend the July meeting, but reviewed the draft minutes where they mentioned reminding members whose terms expired in December of 2022, that they needed to submit their volunteer application to the Town Clerk's Office. The Commission is looking to develop an online presence and meet with the Supervisor to review what it will look like. There is discussion about the Willow Kiln parking lot, Swale clean up and the berm from invasive growth. They will also try to collaborate with the Rec Commission as there are also invasive plants growing in the back by the Rosendale Community Center.

Supervisor Walsh and Councilman Havranek discussed notifying the Highway in reference to the Environmental Commission doing swale clean up and the berm. They should consider a volunteer application for cleanup help and speak with insurance to obtain coverage/rider as they do use handheld and other machinery in case of any unforeseeable mishaps.

The Climate Smart Communities Task Force - The discussion reported that submission was successful and that the Town of Rosendale is recognized as a bronze level clean energy community on July 7, 2023. There will be an official response in September. They are interested in putting together a Solar Sighting Committee, a Tree Committee, and they will be doing some outreach/education at the farmers market in the month of August. The Transfer Station signage is being discussed so that when people dispose of deposit cans, they know that those funds may be used for things like playground improvement and equipment. Supervisor Walsh discussed the town working on new signage right now and the town does not want to duplicate what the committee is doing and maybe have some presence at the recycling location to help people to understand the signs of what needs to be recycled and how to sort it. The town wants people to realize doing this is a great help as we did for the pool, and were able to raise \$5000 at that time.

Economic Development Committee – They are discussing times to schedule meetings again and begin working progress moving forward. Supervisor Walsh mentioned there are several grants to apply for that are coming up for revitalization, so that may be something they want to begin looking into.

## **Councilmember Sweeney –**

Youth Department - On August 3, 2023, they hosted a kid's night out with the pool. Councilmember Sweeney was able to attend, and it was so much fun. There were 49 kids signed up, 46 showed up and it's believed the weather was a concern. The fee was \$20 per child, and they swam, played games, had a dance party and ate pizza. Councilmember Sweeney also want to report that a couple weeks ago the Youth Director Matt McCluskey took all the summer campers in a certain session to see Coco at the Rosedale Theatre and they loved it. They walked down to the theatre with the assistance of Police Officer Vincent who was a great help getting everyone there safely and returned safely.

Recreation Commission - They have been discussing a tree being planted down at the Rosendale Community Center that's being donated by Canopy Tree Service, a Rosendale resident. Supervisor Walsh stated her concerns and will need to speak with Adam Watson from Canopy about the type of tree, size, and electrical needs. We will need to follow up with Bob, the Highway Superintendent, as they have a bucket truck that will be used to decorate the tree and measure the height, I believe approximately 60 feet is how high it will go. Councilmember Sweeney added the swim lessons are going

great and are very popular. Next year they're thinking about adding another swim session, because of the popularity. The lifeguards are doing great, and the pool operator had a need to purchase a new battery for the chairlift. The poles and the lights around the ball field, the playground, and the sign in front of the Rondout Municipal Center will hopefully be completed in the next few months. Supervisor Walsh added that the Tennis Courts have been completed and will be scheduling a ribbon cutting in the very near future.

Elder Care Assistance Committee - Barbara Piombino and Judith Minissali are working on expanding the list of homebound seniors for the Police Department. They are researching coming up with a flyer for residents to have information about signing up. This list will allow them to be called during a storm or natural disaster for welfare checks. The flyer may be placed at the Food Pantry, the Legion, or the library to try to reach as many people as possible. Supervisor Walsh mentioned maybe even neighbors or family members sign a person up that has need of assistance? This would be very important for the Police as they already knock on those doors and make sure that people who are housebound either get a ride to a shelter to make sure that they're protected, especially if they live in a flood zone. You never know if there is somebody that has new health issues that we do not of. So, town wants to be able to reach out to those people when there is an emergency and having the people sign up to that list will be a help as well. Councilmember Sweeney stated the committee met in August and are discussing scheduling future meetings the first Tuesday of every month. They will communicate with Dorene Whitaker at the Recreation Center for scheduling a time slot there or Supervisor Walsh mentioned they can also meet at the Rondout Municipal Center. Once the scheduled dates are confirmed they will contact the Town Clerk's Office to make sure it is placed on the website.

Supervisor Walsh mentioned the Town hired 40 youth workers this year, the town also has a contract with Marbletown First Aid to handle the High Falls Cottekill area Fire District and in the month of July they reported that there were ten calls in Rosendale.

**Supervisor Walsh** – read financial report.

Supervisor Walsh made a motion to hire Jeffrey Ashdown as Court Security Officer at \$21.63 per hour per diem. Seconded by Councilmember Muller; ROLL VOTE 5 Yes.

Supervisor Walsh made a motion to amend the salary for Joseph Schieble to \$25.09 per hour effective July 12, 2023. Seconded by Councilman Havranek; ROLL VOTE 5 Yes.

Supervisor Walsh made a motion to approve Natalie Cascio, Hudson Jentsch & Jack Kotsides as Temporary Lifeguards at \$15.75 per hour for no more than 40 hours per week from July 24, 2023 through September 3, 2023. Seconded by Councilmember Sweeney; ROLL VOTE 5 Yes.

Supervisor Walsh made a motion to appoint Matthew Hintz as acting Deputy Highway Superintendent with a stipend of \$384.62 per pay period contingent on negotiations of an agreement with the Teamsters Local Union #445 in a form acceptable to the Attorney for the Town effective immediately. Seconded by Councilman Havranek; ROLL VOTE 5 Yes.

**Site Plan – Gunk's Festival** – Chris Vultaggio

Chris Vultaggio reviewed information for Gunk's Festival stating it's basically all the same as the previous event with no changes. The insurance declaration was sent in, and they are waiting for the responses from correspondence of departmental approvals.

Supervisor Walsh made a motion to approve the Gunk's Festival contingent on receiving the approvals/correspondence from Tillson Fire, Police, Wallkill Valley Land Trust, Highway Department, having someone at the gates to direct the traffic to the proper parking locations and submit the \$250.00 fee to the Town Clerk's Office. Seconded by Councilman Havranek; ROLL VOTE 5 yes.

**Speaker - Rosendale Heart & Soul** – Maria Reidelbach, Andrew Willner, Laura Prince, Kathleen Mandeville, and Ruth Bouboume

Maria Reidelbach presented a power point presentation with information regarding the demo graph charts on easels that showed sections of residence census and maps. Maria discussed the program being in phase two, waiting to hear from five grants that were applied for raising \$70,000.00 in monies for the two-year program, gathering data for future projects with postcards and interviewing Town Board, Town employees, hamlets and residents, being supported by the Town of Rosendale, and receiving monies from Chamber of Commerce. Councilmember Wykoff mentioned the Chamber of Commerce as being defunct and wondered how they received the monies. Supervisor Walsh mentioned a commitment made with the Chamber of Commerce where the Town of Rosendale was to receive monies for the EV station funds but did not receive those funds and would like the contact of who took over those residual funds. Supervisor Walsh and Councilmembers discussed the postcard map correcting the location of the Hamlet of Whiteport and Hamlet of Hickory Bush to be reversed, the consideration of changing verbiage on the questions, listing things the Town has already improved upon and their website not being accessible unless you enter an email address. Councilmember Muller stated maybe having a mission statement establishing their identity. Councilman Havranek discussed how the Resolution that was passed in February did not state the Town of Rosendale gave support, but the statement of utilizing a location for meetings, the town website/Facebook for advertising and a liaison from the Town Board to communicate any updated information.

Marty Einneman – Town Resident asked what they needed the \$70,000.00 for and where are you getting the money from? Maria Reidelbach said there will be a need to pay someone to run the program as volunteers have done 1000 hours or more already, which is a lot of hours for volunteers. The money is being applied for through foundations, business communities and fundraisers. Marty then asked if they would become lobbyists for funds to residents. Andy Willner said they could not do that as they are under the New York State law as non for profit and must follow those regulations. Maria Reidelbach stated Rosendale Heart & Soul are only here to discuss, research, and surveying; not to lobby for monies.

Jill LaFera – Assistant to the Supervisor asked when did the two-year program start?, Is there a deadline?, and What is your final outcome of the program? Maria Reidelbach stated during COVID is when they started, so they are on an extended timeframe. The final outcome is compiling information, analyzing, action ideas and planning a stewardship for work to get completed.

Councilman Havranek – brought up comprehensive plan with a push for open space, environmental issues and preserving our town. He stated one of the things that may help is communication with the town businesses and surveying their wants/needs as employers for our growing town.

**Resolution 08-2023-1** - Supervisor Walsh made a motion that the Town Board of the Town of Rosendale authorizes the Supervisor to enter into an annual contract with Williamson Law Book Company for the Water/Sewer Department in the amount of \$1,366.00 for software and services. Seconded by Councilman Havranek; ROLL VOTE 5 Yes.

**Resolution 08-2023-2** - Supervisor Walsh made a motion that the Town Board of the Town of Rosendale authorizes the Supervisor to sign a service contract with Safeco Alarms for the Highway Department Office. Seconded by Councilman Havranek; ROLL VOTE 5 Yes.

**Resolution 08-2023-3** - Supervisor Walsh made a motion that the Town Board of the Town of Rosendale authorizes the Supervisor to sign a service contract with Safeco Alarms for the Highway Department Garage. Seconded by Councilman Havranek; ROLL VOTE 5 Yes.

**Resolution 08-2023-4** - Supervisor Walsh made a motion that the Town Board of the Town of Rosendale authorizes the Supervisor to sign a service contract with Safeco Alarms for the Youth Center. Seconded by Councilmember Sweeney; ROLL VOTE 5 Yes.

**Resolution 08-2023-5** - Supervisor Walsh made a motion that the Town Board of the Town of Rosendale authorizes the Supervisor to sign a service contract with Safeco Alarms for the Police Department Evidence Room. Seconded by Councilmember Havranek; ROLL VOTE 5 Yes.

**Resolution 08-2023-6** - Supervisor Walsh made a motion that the Town Board of the Town of Rosendale authorizes the Supervisor to sign a service contract with Safeco Alarms for the Rondout Municipal Center. Seconded by Councilmember Muller; ROLL VOTE 5 Yes.

**Resolution 08-2023-7** - Supervisor Walsh made a motion that the Town Board of the Town of Rosendale authorizes the Town Clerk Mandy Donald to submit the Standard Workday and Reporting for Town Justice Christopher Ragucci to the State Comptroller’s Office and to post it for 30 days on the Town Clerk’s wall for public view. Seconded by Councilmember Muller; ROLL VOTE 5 Yes.

**Resolution 08-2023-8** - Supervisor Walsh made a motion that the Town Board of the Town of Rosendale authorizes the 2023 Mid-Year Budgetary Transfers. Seconded by Councilmember Muller; ROLL VOTE 5 Yes.

**GENERAL FUND –**

Transfer the sum of:

Decrease		Increase		Amount
A1990.4	Contingency	A5182.4	Street Lighting	\$6,812.90
A1330.1	Tax Collector P.S.	A1330.4	Tax Collector C.E.	\$11.91
A1990.4	Contingency	A1910.4	Special Items Unallocated	\$8,554.77
A3120.4	Police C.E.	A3120.2	Police Eq.	\$8,000.00
A7150.2	Pool Eq.	A7150.4	Pool C.E.	\$22,943.21
A1990.4	Contingency	A7550.4	Celebrations C.E.	\$2,000.00
A1990.4	Contingency	A8010.4	ZBA C.E.	\$179.50
A1990.4	Contingency	A8160.2	Refuse & Garbage Eq.	\$2,139.00
A1990.4	Contingency	A8160.4	Refuse & Garbage C.E.	\$1,133.14

**HIGHWAY FUND –**

Transfer the sum of:

Decrease		Increase		Amount
DA5130.1	Machinery P.S.	DA1910.4	Special Items Unallocated HWY	\$4,428.38
DA5130.1	Machinery P.S.	DA9010.8	Emp. Ben. State Retire HWY	\$8,475.48
DA5130.1	Machinery P.S.	DA9720.6	Statutory Bond Principal HWY	\$29.18

**Resolution 08-2023-9** - Supervisor Walsh made a motion that the Town Board of the Town of Rosendale authorizes the Supervisor to sign the proposal for the 2023 Landfill Monitoring and Reporting Services with C. T. Male Associates of 50 Century Hill Drive, Latham, NY. Seconded by Councilmember Muller; ROLL VOTE 5 Yes.

**Resolution 08-2023-10** - Supervisor Walsh made a motion that the Town Board of the Town of Rosendale authorizes the Supervisor to sign the agreement presented by the Elder Care Assistance Committed for Debbie Lan and her choir to perform for the Park Heights Seniors. Seconded by Councilmember Sweeney; ROLL VOTE 5 Yes.

**Resolution 08-2023-11** - Supervisor Walsh made a motion that the Town Board of the Town of Rosendale authorizes the Supervisor to sign the agreement presented by the Elder Care Assistance Committed for Big Joe Fitz to perform for the Park Heights Seniors. Seconded by Councilmember Sweeney; ROLL VOTE 5 Yes.

**Resolution 08-2023-12** - Supervisor Walsh made a motion that the Town Board of the Town of Rosendale authorizes the Supervisor to sign the agreement with Hudson Valley Office Equipment for the Police Department copier in the amount of \$428.00. Seconded by Councilman Havranek; ROLL VOTE 5 Yes.

**Resolution 08-2023-13** - Supervisor Walsh made a motion that the Town Board of the Town of Rosendale authorizes the Supervisor to accept the proposal from the Center for Governmental Research (CGR) for all Rosendale Fired Department Study. Seconded by Councilmember Havranek; ROLL VOTE 5 Yes.

**Resolution 08-2023-14** - Supervisor Walsh made a motion that the Town Board of the Town of Rosendale authorizes the Supervisor to apply for a grant to study and review the operations of Fire Districts within the Town of Rosendale. Seconded by Councilman Havranek; ROLL VOTE 5 Yes.

**Resolution 08-2023-15** - Supervisor Walsh made a motion that the Town Board of the Town of Rosendale authorizes the Supervisor to sign the proposal with Lowe Plumbing, Heating & Air Conditioning, Inc. for ductless split unit for the Town of Marbletown Court Clerk’s Office. Seconded by Councilmember Muller; ROLL VOTE 5 Yes.

Supervisor Walsh made a motion to pay the vouchers/bills. Seconded by Councilman Muller: ROLL VOTE 5 Yes.

GEN FUND	ABSTRACT 8	VOUCHERS 359 – 430	\$41,001.77
HIGHWAY FUND	ABSTRACT 8	VOUCHERS 131 – 144	\$ 4,261.31
WATER FUND	ABSTRACT 8	VOUCHERS 84 - 98	\$ 8,241.52
SEWER FUND	ABSTRACT 8	VOUCHERS 114 - 127	\$ 6,393.29
SPEC. LIGHT FUND	ABSTRACT 8	VOUCHERS 8 - 10	\$ 520.61
RMC FUND	ABSTRACT 8	VOUCHERS 108 – 125	\$10,138.00

Supervisor Walsh made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:04PM. Seconded by Councilman Muller: ROLL VOTE 5 Yes.

Respectfully Submitted by

Christine Harrison  
Deputy Town Clerk