

**TOWN OF ROSENDALE
TOWN BOARD MEETING
October 11, 2023**

Supervisor Walsh called the meeting to order at 7:00P.M. followed by the Pledge of Allegiance with a moment of silence for Margerite “Peggy” A. Lapp and Agnes De Felicis Sanchez.

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

ALSO PRESENT: Ken Hassett; Deputy Supervisor, Jill La Fera; Assistant to Supervisor, Joe La Fera; Building Manager.

Public Input:

Councilmember Wykoff mentioned a Narcan Training hosted by the Town of Marbletown and the Town of Rosendale in M1 at the Rondout Municipal Building on October 23rd, 2023, at 11AM.

Committee Reports:

Councilman Havranek –

The Police Commission met September 26th at the RMC at 3:30PM. Councilman Havranek said he will be updating you from the September draft minutes. Correspondence regarding the Williams Lake incident that happened a year ago with compliments to the responders. For personnel they received a resignation letter from Officer Schmidt, who's working full time for another agency. The vehicles Chief Schaffrick updated the old Ford 365 vehicle with new tires and brakes and has been placed back in service. The old 365 vehicle is due to go to auction, but Marbletown Rescue has made a request to the Town of Rosendale to donate the vehicle to them and they would use the vehicle as a response vehicle. Chief Schaffrick stated it will need to be reviewed by the Commission and the Town Board. The new 365 vehicle is ready to be picked up, a patrol PC has been donated that they will use in the office. They will put the vehicles on rotation, would like to budget for one new car per year as they average patrol vehicle lasting about 5 years. The Police received a \$23,000.00 grant for the digital fingerprint system and is checking which system will be compatible through the County and State. The Chief is waiting for the new STOP DWI grant award to come out for High Visibility and is looking to apply for the new Tech Grant to outfit the next two police cars with all of lights, radios, computer, and anything in the station. Department stats 3,055 calls for service to date, 200 criminal cases, 96 arrests, 16 personal injury and 67 property damage accidents. Firearms and rifle training for all officers have been completed, October training had been cancelled and will investigate training being scheduled with the Town of Ulster Police Department and this location as well in the winter. Officers Scheible and Fagerstrom attended a DWI training in August in Dutchess County. The department handed out 2 gift/food cards that were provided by the Food Pantry, the police window has been installed, the new door was installed two months ago with a new lock supplied two weeks ago, The (CAP) Centralized Arraignment Program has been discussed in the past and the Sheriff submitted a new updated program, which was forwarded to the Supervisor. This was to be discussed/reviewed at the October 4, 2023 meeting. Chief Schaffrick stated the hiring process is changing with every Police Department audited back in March and there was a request to add information to the hiring process. The Chief sent a hiring package to DCJS for review and will be updating some information. They will meet with DCJS to discuss the scheduled meeting October 24, 2023 to review the process of hiring and the academy. A copy of the proposed 2023 Police Commission Survey will be reviewed for any changes at the next meeting. Police revenue was \$1,330.09.

Water/Sewer – They are almost wrapped up with our Sewer Treatment Plant with just a couple of things to review on the punch list. They now have a new and modern Treatment Plant. The installation of new roofs, new double pane windows and HVAC units in both buildings, new drop ceilings, new blowers, and new diffusers. This will allow for better treatment for water and wastewater flow which has increased from 100,000.00 gallons per day to 150,000.00 gallons per day. They have a new ultraviolet disinfection system. New pumps, grinders, and headworks area of the plant was the cause of the overtime in our budget installation. New clarifiers were installed since the old ones were not compliant with DEC. Energy consumption should decrease as a result of this work. There will be hydrant flushing beginning October 10, 2023. The Sewer Department revenue was \$11,282.04 and the Water Department revenue was \$12,891.85.

Highway Financials were \$123,195.54.

Councilmember Muller –

For RMC the new ceiling tile order has arrived, and Joe started to replace the tiles that are constantly staining. The shelving for the Rosendale Town Clerks archival room has been sealed and are awaiting the frames to be assembled and anchored to the walls. The new Police wall has been painted. Furnace/boiler servicing has been scheduled for the earliest date of December 22, 2023. Timely Signs has been contacted to update the old Bistro sign on front lawn to reflect Rondout Municipal Center. Joe has obtained one estimate and is awaiting another for fire escape windows for the Rosendale Court Clerks offices. The splits have all been cleaned and serviced. The last leaking coil has been replaced. The Rosendale Highway Department has prepared the site for the shed. The EVConnect pricing has gone into effect. SPDES Permit Renewal and Transfer has been completed and submitted.

Transfer Station – September fee revenue was \$6,821.00 and the permit revenue \$1,812.00.

Dog Licenses sold were 29, 33 renewed for a total of \$461.50 for the month of September with \$390.50 to the Supervisor and \$71.00 to the New York State Animal Population Control Program.

Town Clerk revenue for the month of September total was \$8,970.54.

Court – reviewed the books on October 10, 2023, and all was in order.

Councilmember Wykoff –

Planning Board will meet tomorrow night at 7:00 PM. On the agenda is a Site Plan review for the Montauk Catch Club. They've been before the Planning Board a few times and had a list of things to update on their site plan, which they have already taken care of. After tomorrow's meeting the deadline for submissions to be considered for the next meeting is October 26th. The next Planning Board meeting is scheduled for November 9, 2023.

ZBA reviewed in September, an application for a small, already converted accessory apartment located on Creek Locks Road and we will follow up with an update.

Building Department September totals were fees collected \$4,352.00 with 28 permits were issued.

Town Historian is settling into his new overflow space on a Maple Hill and is organizing his office.

Environmental Commission will have their meeting tomorrow at 6:00 PM. Two of the volunteers have reapplied and are on the agenda for tonight. There may be a third application to complete. Councilmember Wykoff congratulated the Environmental Commission for their hard work so that the Town of Rosendale could reach the Bronze Level certification as a Climate Smart Community.

The Economic Development Committee has not had a meeting yet. The current chairperson and I are discussing scheduling to move forward.

Councilmember Sweeney -

Youth Department has scheduled a Halloween party that will be at the Park Pavilion on Sunday, October 29, 2023, from 2:00 to 5:00 PM. There will be a costume contest at 4:00 PM and children must be accompanied by an adult. There are two half days of school in October the 13th and the 27th that the Youth Center will be open for kids to come after school if needed. The next Youth Commission meeting is November 6, 2023, at 7:00 PM at the Youth Center. Also, Councilmember Sweeney wanted to mention the Town Hall will also have a Trick or Treat event on Halloween from 2PM to 4:30PM.

The Recreation Commission would like to thank Andrew Knicely and Adam Watson, as well as Canopy Tree Service for planting a beautiful tree at the Recreation Center. They are so grateful for this donation and hopefully this tree will be decorated for holidays for years to come. The Recreation Commission will be hosting a ribbon cutting ceremony for new for the newly renovated tennis courts, which can also be used as pickleball courts, on Wednesday, October 18th at 5:00 PM. The public is invited to attend this event. The next Recreation Commission meeting will be immediately following the ribbon cutting ceremony. Councilmember Sweeney gave the floor to Kristina Carr “Muffy” from the Recreation Commission who mentioned two agreements on the agenda. The Board will be voting to approve agreements for Goldie Goldberg to teach line dancing and Rachel Hunderfund to schedule yoga classes.

The Elder Assistance Committee will schedule on November 17, 2023, hosting an informational session for seniors from 1:00 to 2:30 PM at Park Heights. This event will have representatives from RUPCO and Ulster County to discuss resources that are available for senior citizens.

Supervisor Walsh read Financial Reports.

Supervisor Walsh made a motion to approve the September Town Board Minutes adding Fee Revenue into Councilmember Muller’s report. Seconded by Councilmember Muller, ROLL VOTE 5 YES.

Supervisor Walsh made a motion to re-appoint Erika Knapp-Gagnon to the Youth Commission term expiring December 31, 2025. Seconded by Councilmember Sweeney; ROLL VOTE 5 Yes.

Supervisor Walsh made a motion to re-appoint James Luckner to the Planning Board term expiring December 31, 2029. Seconded by Councilmember Wykoff; ROLL VOTE 5 Yes.

Supervisor Walsh made a motion to re-appoint Susan Gillespie to the Environmental Commission term expiring December 31, 2025. Seconded by Councilmember Wykoff; ROLL VOTE 5 Yes.

Supervisor Walsh made a motion to re-appoint Amie Worley to the Environmental Commission term expiring December 31, 2025. Seconded by Councilmember Wykoff; ROLL VOTE 5 Yes.

Public Hearing Comments-

Marty Einemann – resident - suggested the town place a pamphlet/document/survey on a table at the elections with questions for the residents regarding the three proposed local laws. Supervisor Walsh mentioned the town does not run the election pole and the present Public Hearings are being kept open to receive resident comments but will follow up on that.

Katrina Thies – resident – requested there should be for Local Law #5 for Short Term rentals be passed that if a short term rental is on private road that there must be a road maintenance agreement with the other residents on that road before a permit is issued.

Robert Skerritt – resident – discussed his concerns after living and working on his home for the last 47 years to retire in, he has called the homes now around him not just Airbnbs that it’s more like having a resort around his home. Mr. Skerritt mentioned trying to go to bed, but the renters of the Airbnb and their guests are outside at 10:30PM playing cornhole, kids in the pool, and raising their voices. Mr. Skerritt said he doesn’t want to have to call the police and had to go over to the home to have them quiet them down since they don’t have anyone watching the rentals. Mr. Skerritt’s concerns for Local Law #5 that are unmanaged, and no restrictions are being followed. Supervisor Walsh stated the Town will take Mr. Skerritt’s concerns into consideration of the Local Law #5 review with the Town Attorney and Town Board to consider

restrictions such as a manager to monitor the location with a contact number for rental issues we have, only a certain amount of Airbnbs in locations, and curfew regulations. The Supervisor also stated the only way the town would be able to follow up on some of the requirements that are not adhered to is if the police are called to the location, so they have a record of the situation and issues at that time.

Sean Stricker – resident – Mr. Stricker stated he and his wife grew up in the area and they have just handed to the Deputy Town Clerk their application/notification to open a dispensary in Rosendale. They think this is a huge opportunity regarding the proposed Local Law #6 for Cannabis Dispensary and Lounge to run a successful business, but to be a part of this Community, and do what it did for them. They know how special this place is, understanding others have many interests in this matter what side of these rules that you will follow. Mr. Stricker state that he is lucky enough to be with Jade and have the life that they have because of where they're from. They would greatly appreciate working with the town to start something special.

Supervisor Walsh made a motion to request a thirty-day extension for municipal opinion for the Town of Rosendale for the application OCM-06009 for Rosebud LLC. Seconded by Councilmember Sweeney; ROLL VOTE 5 YES.

Ed Parker – resident - Mr. Parker stated after listening to residents at the last meeting and hearing Mr. Skerritt's issues about short term rentals his opinion has changed and is now all for regulations for short term rentals. He also mentioned if people report the issues with short term rental locations that the short-term rental websites also have restrictions as well. If a location gets bad reviews or if renters get bad reviews, they will not be able to rent. Supervisor Walsh reiterated that is one of the reasons for a rental having a manager that can come in approximately 15 minutes should a problem arise at the rental location to resolve the issue. Mr. Parker also mentioned referencing the Cannabis Licensing for Ulster County that there is a location already approved but does not have a license yet. He discussed that he already has someone that has a cannabis license that can use his building on route 32 and discussed the number of licensed locations that will be allowed. Mr. Parker hopes Rosendale will approve his building as a cannabis dispensary location.

Nicole Ricci – non-resident- Nicole is the President of NY Small Farma a small not for profit organization representing a Rosendale resident. Ms. Ricci discussed concerns with verbiage of New York State versus the proposed Town Law and restrictions for cannabis dispensaries and lounges. Ms. Ricci discussed the special permits for a cannabis showcase that will end December 31st and approval letters needing to be submitted by November 3, 2023. Supervisor Walsh discussed not rushing the Town Law to accommodate one applicant for a special showcase pop-up permit. Especially at a location that has not been approved yet. The Town Board has voted on the Municipality utilizing the ability to have a 30-day extension. Ms. Ricci also asked about the reason for standalone dispensaries, restrictions and the 30-day extension. Supervisor Walsh stated the issues when previous businesses that were not standalone the concerns of cooking smells spilling over into other residence such as an outdoor pizza business that caused issues and room for parking.

Cheryl Schneider – resident – Ms. Schneider is a resident for 25 years and mentioned filtration systems in reference to the Cannabis Law. For the Accessory Dwelling Units, Ms. Schneider shared her agreement with the 10 year hold as there are families with relatives living there that may move on in life, this will allow them to then rent it. Ms. Schneider has no problems with owner-occupied short-term rentals, however, would want to classify non-owner-occupied short-term rentals as hotels and remove them from residential areas with more restrictions on lighting and sound. Ms. Schneider wants a cap of the number of non-owner-occupied short-term rentals and follow the guidance in the County of Ulster.

Bill Kemble - Daily Freeman – Made a statement, since he needed to print a correction, that the location in New Paltz had not yet been approved through the Planning Board.

Marty Einemann – resident – made a statement referencing all three local laws his concern for not having businesses in residential areas.

Micky- non-resident – Micky stated she lives in Dutchess County but owns a short-term rental in Rosendale and the residents surrounding the rental home have contact phone numbers should there be issues. Micky mentioned she has full contact with the neighbors and receives help from them keeping maintenance up on the home. She stated she advertises the local area to her renters, which hopefully brings some revenue for the town and is not opposed to having regulations/restrictions in place that she can post in her rental to be followed by all that rent the home.

Michelle Vitner – resident – Ms. Vitner asked should a family in the near months have a need for accessory dwelling done for their home, She asked - Do they need to wait until this has been passed or Do they approach individually to the town? Supervisor Walsh stated at this moment we are not closing the Public Hearing, reconvening in the second week of November, and reviewing them with our Town Attorney. The Supervisor made mention of not knowing individuals' family concerns, but it would probably help to go to the Building and Zoning Department and do a review of your home and property for future reference of what is allowed or not allowed on the property. Ms. Vitner asked if the Supervisor thought decisions may be made in the next 6 months. Supervisor Walsh stated yes.

Supervisor Walsh made a motion that the Town Board of the Town of Rosendale keep the public hearings open to reconvene on the November 8, 2023, Town Board meeting, at 7PM. Seconded by Councilman Havranek. ROLL VOTE 5 YES.

Tom Childers – Bluestone Press Reporter – Asked if the Town Law will be voted on in the second week and if the Town Board met with the Town Attorney. Supervisor Walsh reiterated not closing the Public Hearing, reconvening for the second week in November and reviewing all questions and residents concerns with the Town Attorney.

Cheryl Schneider – made mention of her concerns of incorrect percentages on an end column of the Preliminary Budget for 2024. Jill LaFera stated the amount in the end column is to compare to the year before and would follow up on the calculations. Supervisor Walsh explained following the appropriate formulated excel format.

Resolution 10-2023-2 - Supervisor Walsh made a motion that the Town Board of the Town of Rosendale hereby schedules a Public Hearing on November 1, 2023, at the Rondout Municipal Center immediately following the Public Hearing for the 2024 Preliminary Budget to consider a Tax Cap Override Local Law. Seconded by Councilmember Muller; ROLL VOTE 5 YES.

Resolution 10-2023-3 - Supervisor Walsh made a motion that the Town Board of the Town of Rosendale hereby schedules a Public Hearing on November 1, 2023, at the Rondout Municipal Center to consider the advisability of adopting the 2024 High Falls Water District Budget. Seconded by Councilmember Muller; ROLL VOTE 5 YES.

Resolution 10-2023-4 - Supervisor Walsh made a motion that the Town Board of the Town of Rosendale hereby schedules a Public Hearing on November 1, 2023, at the Rondout Municipal Center immediately following the the Public Hearing for the High Falls Water District Budget to accept the 2024 Preliminary Budget. Seconded by Councilmember Sweeney; ROLL VOTE 5 YES.

Resolution 10-2023-5 - Supervisor Walsh made a motion that the Town Board of the Town of Rosendale hereby authorizes the Supervisor to appoint Alternate Planning Board member for the purpose of quorum. Seconded by councilmember Wykoff; ROLL VOTE 5 Yes.

Resolution 10-2023-6 - Supervisor Walsh made a motion that the Town Board of the Town of Rosendale hereby authorizes the Supervisor to sign a contract with Brad's Barn to purchase a shed for the Rondout Municipal Center in the amount of \$7,165.80. Seconded by Councilmember Muller; ROLL VOTE 5 YES.

Resolution 10-2023-7 - Supervisor Walsh made a motion that the Town Board of the Town of Rosendale hereby authorizes the Supervisor to sign an agreement with Goldie Goldberg to hold weekly Line Dancing classes at the Rosendale Recreation Center. Seconded by Sweeney; ROLL VOTE 5 YES.

Resolution 10-2023-8 - Supervisor Walsh made a motion that the Town Board of the Town of Rosendale hereby authorizes the Supervisor to sign an agreement with Rachel Hunderfund to hold weekly Yoga classes at the Rosendale Recreation Center. Seconded by Councilmember Sweeney; ROLL VOTE 5 YES.

Resolution 10-2023-9 - Supervisor Walsh made a motion that the Town Board of the Town of Rosendale hereby authorizes the following Budgetary Transfers. Seconded by Councilmember Muller; ROLL VOTE 5 YES.

GENERAL FUND			
Increase			Amount
A5710	Serial bond	General	\$54,500.00
A3120.2	Police Eq.		\$54,500.00

Supervisor Walsh made a motion to enter executive session at 9:05PM to discuss the employment of a particular person, Seconded by Councilman Havranek. ROLL VOTE 5 YES (Returned at 9:45PM with no motions made.)

Supervisor Walsh made a motion to pay the bills, Seconded by Councilmember Sweeney. ROLL VOTE 5 YES.

GEN FUND	ABSTRACT 10	VOUCHERS 547 – 569	\$14,826.04
HIGHWAY FUND	ABSTRACT 10	VOUCHERS 345	\$ 144.52
WATER FUND	ABSTRACT 10	VOUCHERS 128 - 132	\$ 2,608.94
SEWER FUND	ABSTRACT 10	VOUCHERS 156 - 162	\$ 1,978.36
SPEC. LIGHT FUND	ABSTRACT 10	VOUCHERS 11 - 13	\$ 602.24
RMC FUND	ABSTRACT 10	VOUCHERS 108 – 125	\$28,296.58

Respectfully Submitted by

Christine Harrison
Deputy Town Clerk