

MINUTES OF THE JULY 16, 2024 MEETING OF THE TOWN BOARD OF THE TOWN OF POUND RIDGE HELD AT 179 WESTCHESTER AVENUE, POUND RIDGE, NEW YORK, AND VIA ZOOM VIDEOCONFERENCE, COMMENCING AT 7:30 PM

PRESENT: SUPERVISOR KEVIN HANSAN
DEPUTY SUPERVISOR/COUNCILPERSON DIANE BRIGGS
COUNCILPERSON ALISON BOAK
COUNCILPERSON DANIEL PASCHKES
COUNCILPERSON NAMASHA SCHELLING

ALSO

PRESENT: TOWN ATTORNEY WILLIAM HARRINGTON
TOWN CLERK ERIN TROSTLE

I. CALL TO ORDER OF REGULAR MEETING: Supervisor Hansan called the meeting to order at 7:40 pm.

II. ANNOUNCEMENTS

- There will be only one Town Board meeting in August, on Tuesday, August 13, 2024, at 7:30 pm.
- The next Food Truck Friday, with music by the Bedford School of Rock, is scheduled for July 19, from 5:00 to 9:00 pm.
- On Saturday, July 20, there will be live music by Midnight Maisie at the Town Pool from 2:30 to 5:30 pm.
- The Pound Ridge Land Conservancy will host a volunteer work session at the Clark Preserve on Saturday, July 20. More information at prlc.net.
- Transportation is available for two upcoming county-sponsored senior events: an August 21 dance party in New Rochelle and a September 5 pool party and barbecue in Saxon Woods. The sign-up deadline for both is August 9.
- We offer our condolences to the family of Peter Senatore, who served on the Water Control Commission and was also the keynote speaker at the town's 2022 Memorial Day observance.

III. PUBLIC COMMENT I

Resident John Nathan, of 155 Upper Shad Road, questioned the process for resident input on the proposed legislation to regulate cannabis retail business activity.

Resident John McCown, of 25 Miller Road, presented a list of 47 individuals who support incorporating the following items in any cannabis-related zoning changes:

- Prohibiting cannabis retail business activity in the business district known as PB-A
- Requiring at least 2,000 feet between cannabis businesses
- Limiting operation of cannabis businesses to ten hours daily and prohibiting operation after 8:00 pm

Resident and Zoning Board of Appeals member Joseph Gunset, of 146 Upper Shad Road, encouraged the Town Board to engage in as much public discussion as possible regarding the proposed legislation so that there will be a record of the board's intent.

Supervisor Hansan pointed out that the presentation by Hardesty & Hanover is only the first step of a multi-step process and that there will be at least one formal public hearing.

Resident Catherine Nathan, of 155 Upper Shad Road, asked when the public hearing would be scheduled. Supervisor Hansan responded that that a date would be set later in the meeting.

A. Hardesty & Hanover presentation on draft legislation to regulate cannabis retail business activity

Malcolm Simpson, a planning consultant at Hardesty & Hanover, presented a first draft of possible legislation to regulate cannabis retail business activity in the business district. He noted that the state is responsible for all cannabis licensing and most regulation.

Many municipalities that did not opt out of cannabis retail business activity do not have specific regulations because the state has already imposed extensive regulation. However, it may be desirable to duplicate regulations that are already in place at the state level because state regulations may be liberalized in the future.

Other topics discussed included hours of operation, distance requirements, parking, building façades, and the possibility of Planning Board waivers.

Ms. Nathan pointed out that there is a spotlight in front of the dispensary at 32 Westchester Avenue that may have been installed recently. Town Attorney Harrington said that the spotlight was in place when the building was occupied by a prior tenant.

Resident Michele Braun, of 2 Pheasant Lane, asked what communities Mr. Simpson had looked at in developing his proposal and questioned the applicability of regulations from Peekskill and Poughkeepsie. Mr. Simpson said that he had examined municipalities in the Hudson Valley and beyond but that most had imposed no regulations beyond those already promulgated by the state. He said that Peekskill and Poughkeepsie were relevant, despite being dissimilar to Pound Ridge in many ways, because they have robust regulations.

Mr. Simpson will produce a revised draft that includes input received thus far. That draft is tentatively scheduled to be presented at a public information session at the September 17 meeting.

B. Town Board

1. Verizon Connect Service subscription for town Highway, Maintenance, and Recreation Department vehicles

The matter was tabled and will be revisited at the August 13 meeting so that a Verizon representative can make a presentation to the board.

2. Award of Phase I archaeological survey bid to Binghamton University

RESOLUTION 181-24

Board Action: Motion by Councilperson Boak, seconded by Councilperson Briggs, all voting aye on the following:

RESOLVED that the Board hereby awards the bid for the Phase I archaeological survey to Binghamton University.

C. Maintenance Department – Authorization for gravel drive at Town Park

RESOLUTION 182-24

Board Action: Motion by Councilperson Boak, seconded by Councilperson Paschkes, all voting aye on the following:

RESOLVED that the Board hereby refers the matter of installing an item #4 gravel drive at the Town Park to the Recreation Commission for its review and recommendation.

D. Police Department

1. Resignations of Officer William Nemeth and Officer Stephen Mulcahy

RESOLUTION 183-24

Board Action: Motion by Councilperson Boak, seconded by Councilperson Paschkes, all voting aye on the following:

RESOLVED that the Board hereby accepts the resignations of Officer William Nemeth and Officer Stephen Mulcahy.

2. Approval for attendance at Rockland County Refresher Academy

RESOLUTION 184-24

Board Action: Motion by Councilperson Boak, seconded by Councilperson Briggs, all voting aye on the following:

RESOLVED that the Board hereby ratifies the decision made in executive session, subject to agreed-upon conditions, for Officer Stephen Berger to attend the Rockland County Refresher Academy beginning August 26, 2024, at a cost of \$1,500.00.

E. Recreation Department

1. Request for increase in Conant Hall security deposit

The matter was tabled.

2. Permission to set up wildlife cameras at Sachs Park for research purposes

RESOLUTION 185-24

Board Action: Motion by Councilperson Paschkes, seconded by Councilperson Briggs, all voting aye on the following:

RESOLVED that the Board hereby approves a request by Samantha Cronk to set up wildlife cameras at Sachs Park to collect data as part of a graduate research project.

3. Approval for camp expenses

RESOLUTION 186-24

Board Action: Motion by Councilperson Boak, seconded by Councilperson Paschkes, all voting aye on the following:

RESOLVED that the Board hereby approves expenditures for camp programs provided by Funtime Amusements and the Grit Ninja in the amounts of \$2,853.00 and \$2,945.00, respectively.

F. Town Clerk

1. Amendment to Summer Sundays special event permit

RESOLUTION 187-24

Board Action: Motion by Councilperson Boak, seconded by Councilperson Briggs, all voting aye on the following:

RESOLVED that the Board hereby approves an amendment to the special event permit issued to the Pound Ridge Partnership for its Summer Sundays concert series to include an additional date of September 8, 2024, with a rain date of September 22, 2024.

2. Call for public hearing to amend cemetery regulations

RESOLUTION 188-24

Board Action: Motion by Councilperson Briggs, seconded by Councilperson Boak, all voting aye on the following:

RESOLVED that the Board hereby calls for a public hearing on August 13, 2024 to amend the cemetery regulations in the Town Code to align with changes adopted by Town Board resolution in September 2020.

3. Approval for filming permit

RESOLUTION 189-24

Board Action: Motion by Councilperson Briggs, seconded by Councilperson Schelling, all voting aye on the following:

RESOLVED that the Board hereby approves a filming permit for Horizon Scripted Television Inc. for filming at 141 Old Church Lane and 95 Conant Valley Road for July 29, 2024 through August 2, 2024.

G. Safety Committee – Resignation of Harvey Dann

RESOLUTION 190-24

Board Action: Motion by Councilperson Boak, seconded by Councilperson Briggs, all voting aye on the following:

RESOLVED that the Board hereby accepts the resignation of Harvey Dann as insurance advisor.

H. Water Control Commission – Approval for bond release

RESOLUTION 191-24

Board Action: Motion by Councilperson Briggs, seconded by Councilperson Boak, all voting aye on the following:

RESOLVED that the Board hereby approves the release of Water Control Commission Bond #2023-55 in the amount of \$1,000.00 to Joe DiPietro for the property located at 68 Westchester Avenue.

I. Liaison Reports

Councilperson Boak said that the Water Wastewater Task Force has updated its website page to provide more information about the proposed water district, including a public awareness flyer and an FAQ document.

Councilperson Briggs reported that the Recreation Department is very busy, and that the website page also has a number of updates.

IV. PUBLIC COMMENT II

Robert Sacks, treasurer and administrative officer of the Pound Ridge Fire Department, asked whether the property at 1 Sellecks Walk, which is rented at a subsidized rate to firefighters, is part of the proposed water district.

Speaking on behalf of the Pound Ridge Fire District, Mr. Sacks asked whether the Fire District properties in the business district will be subject to assessment as part of the proposed fire district. He also asked if specifics regarding water mains and fire hydrants could be shared with the fire district.

Councilperson Boak indicated that when he returns from vacation, the consultant from Laberge will be available to meet with the fire department and fire district regarding these issues. Supervisor Hansan also noted that in the interim, much of the specific information Mr. Sacks is requesting can likely be found in the map, plan and report posted on the town website.

Supervisor Hansan asked Mr. Sacks if there were any updates on construction at the fire house, and Mr. Sacks suggested that he speak with representatives of the fire district.

V. FINANCIAL MATTERS

RESOLUTION 192-24

Board Action: Motion by Councilperson Paschkes, seconded by Councilperson Boak, the motion passing 3–0 with Councilperson Schelling abstaining, on the following:

RESOLVED, that the Town Board hereby authorizes the Supervisor to pay the following claims as detailed in Abstract 13-2024:

Fund	Claim Numbers	Total Amount
General Fund	A00728–A00783	\$75,066.84
Highway Fund	D00155–D00159	\$4,412.27
Trusts & Agency Fund	AT00029–AT00030	\$2,898.00
Capital Projects Fund	H00002	\$6,000.00

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the following advance-of-audit claim listed in Abstract 13-2024 is hereby allowed:

Fund	Claim Numbers	Total Amount
General Fund	A00784–A00788	\$7,012.46

VI. ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business to come before the Board, Supervisor Hansan adjourned the meeting at 9:06 pm.

VII. RECONVENE AS PARKING DISTRICT COMMISSION: Supervisor Hansan called the meeting to order at 9:07 pm.

RESOLUTION 193-24

Board Action: Motion by Councilperson Paschkes, seconded by Councilperson Boak, the motion passing 3–0 with Councilperson Schelling abstaining, on the following:

RESOLVED, that the Town Board hereby authorizes the Supervisor to pay the following claim as detailed in Abstract 13-2024:

Fund	Claim Numbers	Total Amount
Parking District	ST00020–ST00021	\$8,479.00

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the following advance-of-audit claims listed in Abstract 12-2024 are hereby allowed:

Fund	Claim Numbers	Total Amount
Parking District Fund	ST00022–ST00023	\$316.84

VIII. ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business to come before the Board, Supervisor Hansan adjourned the meeting at 9:07 pm.

Erin Trostle, Town Clerk
Dated at Pound Ridge, New York
July 22, 2024

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