

TOWN OF CLARKSON
SPECIAL TOWN BOARD MEETING
 February 4, 2023

The Town Board of the Town of Clarkson held a special meeting on Saturday, February 4, 2023 at the Clarkson Town Hall, 3710 Lake Road, Clarkson, NY at 9:00 AM.

PRESENT:

Christa Filipowicz	Supervisor
Nick D'Amuro	Councilperson
John Culhane	Councilperson
Tom Guarino	Councilperson
Leslie Zink	Councilperson
Susan Henshaw	Town Clerk
**Robert Viscardi	Highway Superintendent
Richard Olson	WIBA#1 Attorney
**Kevin Moore	Building Inspector
Courtney Miller	Assistant to the Supervisor

** excused

Supervisor Filipowicz opened the meeting and led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance. A Moment of Silence was observed for our service men and women, first responders, and veterans particularly those who have paid the ultimate price.

The purpose of this Special Town Board meeting is to discuss communications as well as specific procedures for the upcoming vote of the Town of Clarkson's Water Improvement Benefit Area #1, known as WIBA#1.

Richard Olson, the attorney for the project, mentioned that the board will re-visit and establish the resolution for the time, date and place for the impending WIBA#1 vote. This resolution confirms the date of Monday, March 6, 2023 from 12:00 PM noon until 9:00 PM. State law requires the need to be open at least 6 hours, between the hours of 8:00 AM – 8:00 PM. We have confirmed what the question is going to be and what we voted on, and what we direct the town clerk to publish. There will be two sets of legal notices. The reason for two sets is that we are only required to publish certain things, once. One with a complete set of the water district descriptions and the other will be published three times, while referring to the first publishing with the long description. Also noted will be the date and the details of what will be on the ballot.

2-04-2023

RESOLUTION #72
TO DESIGNATE THE HOURS AND LOCATION FOR THE PROPOSITION TO BE
VOTED ON BY THE TOWN OF CLARKSON WIBA#1

Introduced by Councilperson Zink

Seconded by Councilperson Culhane

To designate the hours and location for the proposition to be voted on by the Town of Clarkson WIBA#1.

VOTE OF THE BOARD

AYES: Supervisor Filipowicz, Councilpersons Culhane, D'Amuro, Guarino and Zink

NAYES: None

Richard Olson proceeded to advise that we also need to vote on reviewing the letter that will be mailed out to the property owners. This is different from a normal election because it is not electors, for people who are registered to vote, and who live in the town. This is for property owners. Everyone who walks into Town Hall to vote, must have their name noted on the deed, and they must show ID. The election inspectors will verify their ID, the voter will sign their name and will then be provided with a ballot. They will proceed to a voting booth, mark their ballot, tear off a stub portion which has a number on it, and place in the voting box. The voting box is an old metal voting box with double locks on it. That will be the process. The town clerk is currently holding the keys to the voting box. The election inspectors have a long list to follow, of which will be reviewed once the inspectors are identified. At the end of the night, anyone waiting in line gets the opportunity to vote. Votes will then be tallied by the election inspectors. That tally will be given to the town clerk along with a list of all those that voted. The town clerk will then transmit the results to the Board of Elections. We need to find out who will be responsible for making the ballots with a perforated portion. Either the BOE or the town.

Councilperson Guarino asked if a resident may vote multiple times if they have multiple parcels. Mr. Olson advised if they own multiple parcels, they only have 1 vote. He also asked if letters will be mailed out to each individual noted on the deed. Mr. Olson advised that the letter being sent mentions the rules of voting, and that will be mailed out to all those homes involved. Every household within the WIBA#1 will be getting a letter. Written on that envelope will be all those names eligible to vote. Everything a resident requires to vote can be obtained the day of the actual vote at town hall.

Mr. Olson advised he reviewed the state constitution as well as town law, and also reviewed the comptrollers and state attorneys opinions before preparing the rules. He suggested that further discussion between all of the above parties, on this specific type of vote, should be reviewed as he feels it is quite complicated. He is following the interpretation of the law.

At the end of the evening if we have 50 people come out and vote, the majority of those votes cast will determine the final outcome. Individual walk-ins with a specific property in their name, along with those whose names are noted with a corporation, and possible multiple corporations who own different parcels of land, may possibly be able to vote for each parcel. Only those residents who are listed in the WIBA#1 district as of the 2022 assessment roll, will be eligible.

2-4-2023

Mr. Olson advised that he will ensure that all questions are answered regarding the vote.

Absentee Ballots - the only way to set up absentee ballots was to set up a special voter registration for this project, which would have been quite a process. People would have had to come in and register to vote and then they would have to return to town hall to do the actual vote. He feels that those who own property should be able to vote without any concerns or issues.

Election Inspectors will keep a tally of who votes. Mr. Olson will prepare a system for them to follow so we have a list of all voters. At the end of the night, we will match how many residents come in to vote, with the number of actual votes inside the box. The voters will be signing their names on the list, prior to their vote. We will ensure that the number of signatures matches the number of votes.

Affidavit Ballots- if a resident walks in and advised they bought a particular property last month, and they wish to vote. They have to tell us why they feel they can vote. If we compile a stack of those particular requests, then they will need to be handled at that time. Those written requests will most likely go on for a judge's review.

Supervisor Filipowicz advised that we are ready to copy the letter stating the voting rules, and send out to our residents who are within the WIBA#1 voting district. Courtney Miller made postcard sized reminders to be sent in the same envelope as well. Supervisor Filipowicz and Courtney Miller will be the contacts noted on the letter.

Election Inspectors – The Town Board has made their election inspector choices. Two representatives plus an alternate have been chosen from each party: Carol McNeese, Allan Hoy, Deborah Farese, Mary Scott, Jill McCoullough and Carmella King.

RESOLUTION #73

MOTION TO APPOINT CAROL MCNEESE, ALLAN HOY, MARY SCOTT AND JILL MCCOULLOUGH AS REGULAR ELECTION INSPECTORS, AND DEBORAH FARESE AND CARMELLA KING AS ALTERNATES

Introduced by Councilperson Guarino

Seconded by Councilperson D'Amuro

Motion to appoint Carol McNeese, Allan Hoy, Mary Scott and Jill McCoullough as regular election inspectors, and Deborah Farese and Carmella King as alternates.

VOTE OF THE BOARD

AYES: Supervisor Filipowicz, Councilpersons Culhane, D'Amuro, Guarino and Zink

NAYES: None

02-04-2023

RESOLUTION #74
MOTION TO PAY WIBA#1 VOTING DAY ELECTION INSPECTORS \$18.00 PER
HOUR

Introduced by Councilperson Guarino

Seconded by Councilperson Culhane

Motion to pay WIBA#1 voting day election inspectors \$18.00 per hour.

VOTE OF THE BOARD

AYES: Supervisor Filipowicz, Councilpersons Culhane, D'Amuro, Guarino and Zink

NAYES: None

Councilperson D'Amuro asked if the board could appoint a few more inspectors in case they are needed for that day. Mr. Olson advised yes.

Mr. Olson urged that if anyone asks a question that we may not have an answer to, write it down or have the resident email the question to us and send the question on to him. He also advised that he will be present the entire voting day. He will also reach out to our assessor and see if Tammy Baker or Darla Emmerson were available that day. He advised that no electioneering is allowed on voting day. If a resident enters any particular office within town hall and asks a question, those employees present that day may only direct them to the voting area. No further discussion will be permitted. Voting signs are allowed to be displayed in front of town hall. The election inspectors will enforce all rules for the day. A reminder that tenants and renters cannot vote.

RESOLUTION #74
MOTION TO ADJOURN

Introduced by Councilperson Culhane

Seconded by Councilperson Zink

Motion to Adjourn at 9:29AM

VOTE OF THE BOARD

AYES: Supervisor Filipowicz, Councilpersons Culhane, D'Amuro, Guarino and Zink

NAYES: None

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Henshaw

Town Clerk

Approved 2-28-2023