

TOWN OF CLARKSON
TOWN BOARD MEETING
February 27, 2024

The Town Board of the Town of Clarkson held their regular meeting on Tuesday, February 27, 2024 at the Clarkson Town Hall, 3710 Lake Road, Clarkson, NY at 6:00 P.M.

PRESENT:

Ursula Liotta	Supervisor
John Culhane	Councilperson
Nick D'Amuro	Councilperson
Sharon Mattison	Councilperson
Evan Wexler	Councilperson
Susan Henshaw	Town Clerk
Robert Viscardi	Highway Superintendent
Keith O'Toole	Attorney
Kevin Moore	Building Inspector

Supervisor Liotta opened the meeting. She 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. Along with thanks to healthcare workers who tirelessly work to save lives every day.

HISTORICAL MOMENTS

Town Historian Leanna Hale discussed Herman Zastrow and how well he tended to Clarkson roads while working in the highway department in the early 1900's. In 1931, his son Liam Zastrow became Highway Superintendent who lived next door to Ms. Hale growing up. After 30 years, he retired and in 1961 Gerald Zastrow followed in his father's footsteps as Highway Superintendent. Gerald served during 2 major blizzard years of '66 and '77 then retired after 25 years of service. Dave Goodwin was then named Superintendent from 1988-2013. Ms. Hale mentioned a story regarding her travels from Canada back to her hometown of Clarkson several years ago. She discussed a 13-hour road trip and the inclement weather she and her husband had to drive through. She told her husband that clearer roads were ahead once they got to Clarkson. Sure enough Clarkson roads were all clear. This dedication and reputation for good roads during the winter started with 3 generations of Zastrow's and with successful leadership, it continues today.

PUBLIC HEARING

RESOLUTION #86

**LOCAL LAW #1-2024 AMENDING ELIGIBILITY FOR THE SENIOR
CITIZENS PROPERTY TAX EXEMPTION
CLOSE PUBLIC HEARING**

Introduced by Councilperson Mattison

Seconded by Councilperson D'Amuro

BE IT RESOLVED AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. That the Town Board of the Town of Clarkson closes the public hearing for Local Law #1 of 2024 Amending Eligibility for the Senior Citizens Property Tax Exemption.

VOTE OF THE BOARD

AYES: Supervisor Liotta, Councilpersons Culhane, D'Amuro, Mattison and Wexler

NAYES: None

2-27-2024

RESOLUTION #87
LOCAL LAW #1 of 2024
AMENDING ELIGIBILITY FOR THE SENIOR CITIZENS PROPERTY TAX
EXEMPTION

Introduced by Councilperson Culhane

Seconded by Councilperson Wexler

BE IT RESOLVED AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. That the Town Board of the Town of Clarkson classifies this as a Type 2 action under SEQR.

Section 2. That the Town Board of the Town of Clarkson approves Local Law #1 of 2024 - A local law "Amending Eligibility for the Senior Citizens Property Tax Exemption".

VOTE OF THE BOARD

AYES: Supervisor Liotta, Councilpersons Culhane, D'Amuro, Mattison and Wexler

NAYES: None

NEW BUSINESS

Spectrum – Supervisor Liotta describe the concerns from the original contract from March 2023 and the placement of equipment last Fall. We have found that the equipment does not meet the needs of our town offices. Working within the boundaries of our existing contract, Spectrum will be removing and replacing some of those items at the highway department at this time.

RESOLUTION #88
MOTION TO APPROVE SPECTRUM ENTERPRISES CONTRACT
MODIFICATIONS FOR \$14.50

Introduced by Councilperson Mattison

Seconded by Councilperson D'Amuro

Motion to approve Spectrum Enterprises contract modifications for \$14.50.

VOTE OF THE BOARD

AYES: Supervisor Liotta, Councilpersons Culhane, D'Amuro, Mattison and Wexler

NAYES: None

Truck Auction – Superintendent Viscardi is requesting authorization for up to \$20,000 to bid on a used truck with new plow equipment along with a new stainless-steel box. If he wins the bid, he will strip it of all the equipment to use on a truck already in the fleet, and then resell the used truck in another auction. This would be a great savings to the town if successful.

RESOLUTION #89
MOTION TO AUTHORIZE HIGHWAY SUPERINTENDENT TO BID UP TO
\$20,000 FOR TRUCK EQUIPMENT AT AUCTION

Introduced by Councilperson Culhane

Seconded by Councilperson Mattison

Motion to authorize Highway Superintendent to bid up to \$20,000 for truck equipment at auction.

VOTE OF THE BOARD

AYES: Supervisor Liotta, Councilpersons Culhane, D'Amuro, Mattison and Wexler

NAYES: None

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OLD BUSINESS

Craig Hill Drive Dedication – Supervisor Liotta explained that in the Fall, it was discovered that this road was never clearly dedicated to the town at the time it was developed. Attorney Keith O’Toole spent some time correcting this situation. He has received a signed deed from the surviving heirs of the owners of Craig Hill Country Club. A letter has been prepared from our attorney and the board can now take acceptance of this deed dedicating Craig Hill Drive to the town of Clarkson.

RESOLUTION #90

MOTION TO ACCEPT CRAIG HILL DRIVE ROAD DEDICATION

Introduced by Councilperson Wexler

Seconded by Councilperson D’Amuro

WHEREAS, On or about September 8, 1987, the Town Board did adopt a resolution for the road dedication of Craig Hill Drive; and

WHEREAS, Section 116-38 of the Code of the Town of Clarkson requires additional actions to complete the dedication process which the property owners are now ready to complete; and

WHEREAS, the property owners have offered a deed of dedication which the town is ready to accept upon delivery of the deed, recording the deed at the County Clerk’s office and completion of all requirements relating thereto; and

WHEREAS, the engineer for the Town has reviewed and approved the legal description of the proposed deed;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Town Board of the Town of Clarkson as follows:

SECTION 1. That the Town Board authorizes and affirms the acceptance of road dedication of Craig Hill Drive subject to the completion of the dedication process as required by Section 116-38 of the Town Code and in a manner approved by the Attorney for the Town Board; and

SECTION 2. That the Supervisor or the Attorney for the Town Board are authorized to execute on behalf of the Town of Clarkson all documents to effectuate the conveyance, the filing and recording of the Craig Hill Drive Dedication; and

SECTION 3. That subject to the approval of the Attorney for the Town Board, that the necessary documents be executed, recorded, and filed.

VOTE OF THE BOARD

AYES: Supervisor Liotta, Councilpersons Culhane, D’Amuro, Mattison and Wexler

NAYES: None

Liberty Cove Subdivision – Mission Hill Drive – a letter of credit was given to the town when this subdivision was being built. The amount is based on the costs of the infrastructure that was put in, and as the builder progresses through the subdivision, parts of the credit is then released to the builder. The final lot was developed, and the certificate of occupancy was provided in 2022. There is currently \$2141.36 maintenance bond credit remaining in that account the town is holding, and the town engineer JP Schepp has sent a letter to the town advising they may release all remaining funds to the developer.

RESOLUTION #91

MOTION TO RELEASE FUNDS BACK TO THE DEVELOPER AND TO CLOSE THE ACCOUNT FOR LIBERTY COVE SUBDIVISION

Introduced by Councilperson D’Amuro

Seconded by Councilperson Mattison

Motion to release funds back to the developer and to close the account for Liberty Cove Subdivision.

VOTE OF THE BOARD

AYES: Supervisor Liotta, Councilpersons Culhane, D’Amuro, Mattison and Wexler

NAYES: None

2-27-2024

NYS Snow and Ice Supplemental Agreement – Supervisor Liotta read and explained the 5-year agreement. She advised that adjustments may need to be made each year to account for overall budget changes. Costs may increase between the second and fifth year which require a new calculation. Superintendent Viscardi mentioned there is a worksheet that is provided to him and is used to gather details regarding costs to pay employees, equipment, materials, salt, and milage required during snow plowing. This year, an adjustment was required for \$38,964.78. NYS requires the town to approve this increase. That was done on February 13, 2024. This amount is being requested from NYS to supplement the cost differences. We have not been notified yet if this amount has been approved by the state.

Hafner Park – The town has been approved for a matching \$45,000 planning grant from NYS Office of Parks, for design concept and planning of Hafner Park. The board reviewed 2 Requests for proposals for design work and have chosen MRB Group as they offered the lowest bid. This was approved on February 13, 2024.

Supervisors Report –

Solar Eclipse - Supervisor Liotta mentioned she attended a monthly meeting between Sweden Supervisor Patti Hayles and Village of Brockport Mayor Margay Blackman. Much of the discussion was regarding the Solar Eclipse. An article regarding announcements for the public between all 3 municipalities may be in this upcoming Westside News. An amended version specific to Clarkson will be available shortly and posted to our website. County Executive Adam Bellos' office is sending solar event posters that will provide a link to much needed preparation information for the event.

Town Board Reports –

Councilperson D'Amuro – mentioned he will reach out to David Kopp regarding disc golf once again. * He discussed a grant program through the Grandier Foundation Semi quinentennial Summer Fellowship offered through SUNY Geneseo and its focus on the country's 250th birthday. They are donating \$500 to our Clarkson Historical Society, as well as providing a paid summer intern. This donation is to support local historians in their effort to have some type of event for the 250th anniversary of our nation. He also suggested an option to move the Historians' office into the front meeting room of the Justice Court. A brief discussion ensued, and no decision was made. * Clarkson Historic Preservation Commission will be meeting on March 5. Letters will be sent for a public hearing regarding 10 properties being re-designated in the next few days.

Councilperson Wexler – mentioned the solar eclipse event and all the hotels being booked from Albany to Buffalo that are trying to find the path of the sun. He is advising that it is a migratory system based on cloud coverage.

Councilperson Culhane – wished to thank Tammy Blanchard and Kevin Moore for their assistance in gathering information on the town's solar projects. He continues his work with the Tree Sponsorship Program and the option to include Hafner Park. He reached out to Cornell and is awaiting a response regarding best trees for the area as well as a possible donation of some trees for our program.

Town Clerk – Susan Henshaw advised Shred Day has been confirmed for Saturday, June 1 from 10:00am-12:00pm in front of the highway department. *The Rabies Clinic is scheduled for Thursday, May 2 from 5:30pm - 7:30pm also at our highway department. *Susan is working with Cintas regarding our AED's located at all our town buildings and ensuring pricing, warranty and information with post event support if needed. * Solar Eclipse glasses are available to all residents, 2 per household, and can be obtained from the Clerk's office showing proof of residency. * An email has been sent to all town departments regarding the upcoming spring newsletter and to send all input to Kathy Kemp who is overseeing this project.

2-27-2024

Building Department – Kevin Moore has submitted the 2023 end of year report to the state. A summary of this report as follows:

232 permits issued	27 storm water inspections
299 certificate of occupancies	14 Planning Board applications
38 property violations	12 Conservation Board applications
1239 inspections	5 Zoning Board applications

To date in 2024 the building department has issued:

5 new house builds
 4 certificates of occupancy
 Autumn Woods is installing 3 EV charging stations.
 Zoning code is in progress and a draft will be ready shortly for the Town Board.
 He also wished to mention he will be attending FLBOA re-certification conference with the state from March 11 – 13.

Highway Report – Superintendent Viscardi mentioned highway is 90% completed with updates to Kimball lodge and is currently awaiting new counter tops. New full kitchen, storage room, new fans and new paint have been added. * He attended a press conference in Ogden, that was organized by County Legislator Jackie Smith. Assemblyman Steve Hawley and Josh Jenson were in attendance. The reason was to discuss the Governor’s proposed budget and it’s intention to reduce the CHIPS funds to 933 towns across NYS by 10%. Clarkson, being a very small town, needs every cent we can get from this program. The CHIPS funds are allocated to needed road work. In Supervisor Viscardi’s 27 years here at the Clarkson highway, he has never seen a reduction in CHIPS funds. The Highway Association is working diligently in returning those funds to the program. Councilperson D’Amuro added that small rural school districts across the state are very concerned about the NYS aid restructuring.

RESOLUTION #92**MOTION TO APPROVE MINUTES 2-13-2024**

Introduced by Councilperson D’Amuro

Seconded by Councilperson Mattison

Motion to approve minutes 2-13-2024.

VOTE OF THE BOARD

AYES: Supervisor Liotta, Councilpersons Culhane, D’Amuro, Mattison and Wexler

NAYES: None

RESOLUTION #93**AUDIT 2-27-2024**

Introduced by Councilperson Mattison

Seconded by Councilperson D’Amuro

To authorize payment of audit 2-27-2024 totaling \$39,007.38, AA General \$20,548.37, BB General- Outside Village \$5,682.62, DA Highway - Town Wide \$10,779.93, DB-Highway-Outside Village \$1,944.70, SS – Sewer \$51.76 and Distribution of checks: Joint Checking #4256-4261 & 4264-4293.

VOTE OF THE BOARD

AYES: Supervisor Liotta, Councilpersons Culhane, D’Amuro, Mattison and Wexler

NAYES: None

2-27-2024

RESOLUTION #94
MOTION TO ADJOURN

Introduced by Supervisor D'Amuro

Seconded by Councilperson Wexler

Motion to adjourn at 6:46 PM.

VOTE OF THE BOARD

AYES: Supervisor Liotta, Councilpersons Culhane, D'Amuro, Mattison and Wexler

NAYES: None

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Henshaw

Town Clerk

Approved 3-12-2024