

TOWN OF CLIFTON PARK TOWN BOARD

January 19, 2021

The meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Clifton Park was held in the Town Office Building at 7:00 p.m. Supervisor Barrett presiding.

Present: Supervisor Barrett  
Councilwoman Standaert  
Councilman Morelli  
Councilwoman Walowit  
Town Clerk Brobston

Also Present: Town Attorney McCarthy  
Mark Heggen, Comptroller  
Daniel Clemens, Director of Buildings, Parks & Recreation  
John Scavo, Director of Planning  
Walter Smead, Assessor

MINUTES APPROVAL

MOTION by Councilman Morelli, seconded by Councilwoman Walowit, to approve the minutes of the January 4, 2021 Organizational and Town Board meetings as presented.

ROLL CALL VOTE

Ayes: Councilwoman Standaert, Councilman Morelli,  
Councilwoman Walowit, Supervisor Barrett

Noes: None

MOTION CARRIED

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND COMMUNICATION

Supervisor Barrett gave a county update. COVID vaccination plan is in place and ready to go when there are enough vaccines. Some vaccines have been given and even the second dose, but still many more are needed. The County Board of Supervisors have secured sites throughout the county for distributing the vaccine. One site will be the Saratoga City Center. The remaining sites will be announced once the distribution starts. The state has continued to set-up state distribution sites, closest one being Albany SUNY. Guidelines are continuing to change daily. The County did take steps to help improve the DOH data flow and availability of the information by implementing a new GIS software system. Additional funding for the DOH county call center was approved to help assist residents with information and appointments.

Supervisor Barrett announced the next mask distribution and collection of food/personal care items drive will be Saturday, January 23 from 10am-1pm at the Clifton Park Senior Community Center.

Supervisor Barrett announced the Ashdown Bridge replacement project is going out to bid and will be replaced this year, possibly starting mid-April. Community will be notified with updates on the construction.

Supervisor Barrett explained the County recycling contract with the Clifton Park Transfer Station will continue for the next 2 years.

RESOLUTIONS

No one wished to be heard.

Resolution No. 24 of 2021, a resolution adopting Local Law No. 3 of 2021, amending Chapter 208-22 of the Town Code, relative to Town Center zones in the Exit 9 area east of I-87.

Introduced by Councilwoman Standaert, who moved its adoption, seconded by Councilman Morelli.

WHEREAS, by Local Law No. 4 of 2015, the Town Board adopted a form-based zoning code system for the Town Center area, west of I-87 in the vicinity of Exit 9, and

WHEREAS, form-based zoning allows for flexibility in the re-design and reconstruction requirements in the areas affected, and streamlines certain site plan approval processes to encourage re-development and synergistic land use options within the Exit 9 Town Center area, and has been successful at encouraging new investments and appropriate re-development in the zones to the West of I-87 since enacted in 2015, and

WHEREAS, on January 11, 2021, the Town Board held a public hearing on a proposal to extend the Town Center Zoning to provide form-based codes in the area east of I-87, with parcels south of Route 146 to be designated TC5, parcels north of Route 146, west of Route 9 and south of 1743 Route 9 to be TNBG Neighborhood Business, with an exclusion zone prohibiting residential uses east of I-87, south of Rt. 146, and west of Route 9, as depicted in the attached exhibits, and

WHEREAS, the proposal also redesignated parcels facing Route 146 as TC3, and

WHEREAS, the Town Board wishes to expand opportunities for re-development in this area by providing the flexibility that form-based zoning allows; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Town Board hereby adopts the attached Environmental Assessment form and issues a negative declaration pursuant to the recommendation of Planning Director Scavo, and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Town Board hereby adopts Local Law No. 3 of 2021, effective immediately, pursuant to which; it is hereby

RESOLVED, that previous zoning districts in the area described are hereby repealed, that the TNGB zoning designation be added to Chapter 208-22 of the Town Code and to the accompanying regulating plan, and that the regulating plan and Chapter 208-22 be amended to provide designate areas TC3 and TC5 as shown, and be it further resolved that the Town Clerk is directed to publish appropriate notice of the same.

ROLL CALL VOTE

Ayes: Councilwoman Standaert, Councilman Morelli,  
Councilwoman Walowit, Supervisor Barrett

Noes: None

DECLARED ADOPTED

Resolution No. 25 of 2021, a resolution authorizing the Supervisor to sign an intermunicipal agreement between the County of Saratoga and the Town of Clifton Park for the provision of animal shelter services.

Introduced by Councilwoman Standaert, who moved its adoption, seconded by Councilwoman Walowit.

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 119-0 of the General Municipal Law of the State of New York, the parties are authorized to enter into binding agreements for the cooperative performance of various municipal projects, contracts and functions, and

WHEREAS, the County of Saratoga and the town recognize the benefit to both municipalities that arise from the cooperative provision of service to their residents, and

WHEREAS, Saratoga County and Clifton Park wish to formalize an agreement whereby Saratoga County will provide shelter and other related services at fees as listed to be paid; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Town Board approves extending the Intermunicipal Agreement between the County of Saratoga and the Town of Clifton Park for the provision of the Animal Shelter and related services, per the attached agreement; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Intermunicipal Agreement between the County of Saratoga and the Town of Clifton Park is hereby approved for the year January 1, 2021 through December 31, 2021.

ROLL CALL VOTE

Ayes: Councilwoman Standaert, Councilman Morelli,  
Councilwoman Walowit, Supervisor Barrett

Noes: None

DECLARED ADOPTED

Resolution No. 26 of 2021, a resolution authorizing the Assessor to extend certain existing real property tax exemptions through March 1, 2021 without a renewal application.

Introduced by Councilwoman Walowit, who moved its adoption, seconded by Councilwoman Standaert.

WHEREAS, the Town Assessor administers programs providing for real property tax exemptions for persons over age 65 pursuant to Section 467 of the Real Property Tax Law, as well as a separate exemption for persons with disabilities and limited incomes pursuant to RPTL § 459-c, and

WHEREAS, on December 28, 2020, the State Legislature passed Chapter 381 of the Laws of 2020, providing municipalities with authority to waive the requirement for renewal applications under certain circumstances for the real property exemptions provided by both statutes for the 2021 tax year, and

WHEREAS, the Town Board wishes to exercise authority under the statute to reduce the necessity for annual renewal applications for the 2021 tax year for owners of properties granted such exemptions for the 2020 tax year; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that no renewal application shall be required of any eligible recipient who received either exemption on the 2020 assessment roll for such eligible recipient to continue receiving such exemption at the same amount received on the 2020 assessment roll, and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Assessor is directed to provide renewal applications through U.S. mail and/or electronic means, in order for such eligible recipients to file renewal applications if the recipient determines that his or her income has changed in a manner that would grant a greater exemption for the 2021 tax year, than that provided on the 2020 roll, and be it further

RESOLVED, that, if the Assessor has reasonable cause to believe that an owner who has qualified for the exemption in 2020 has changed his or her primary residence, added another owner to the deed, transferred the property to a new owner, or is deceased, the Assessor may request a renewal application, which will be accepted by means of U.S. mail or electronically, without the requirement to appear in person; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the authority and directives granted under this resolution shall be retroactive to March 2, 2020 and shall expire on May 1, 2021.

Assessor Walter Smead stated this is a temporary change and has nothing to do with the STAR program. The law is basically so residents do not have to have in-person meetings, but can roll-over the information, if no change, from the 2020 year.

ROLL CALL VOTE

Ayes: Councilwoman Standaert, Councilman Morelli,  
Councilwoman Walowit, Supervisor Barrett

Noes: None

DECLARED ADOPTED

Resolution No. 27 of 2021, a resolution authorizing the promotion of Timothy Groski, currently a Motor Equipment Operator (MEO) to Senior MEO, and Nicholas Arp, currently a Laborer to MEO Light, in the Buildings & Grounds Department.

Introduced by Councilman Morelli, who moved its adoption, seconded by Councilwoman Standaert,

WHEREAS, Director of Buildings, Parks, and Recreation Daniel Clemens, recommends the advancement of employees within the department, due to recent restructuring of the Buildings & Grounds Department and the retirement of Patrick Gibbins, and

WHEREAS, Mr. Clemens recommends that Timothy Groski, be promoted from MEO to Sr. MEO and that Nicholas Arp be promoted from Laborer to MEO Light, in the Buildings & Grounds Department, and

WHEREAS, the above referenced employees are qualified for the position, per civil service classification; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that Timothy Groski, 412 Washington Street, Saratoga Springs, is hereby promoted to Sr. MEO, Grade 6 Step 2 (\$55,416/year) effective immediately, and be it further

RESOLVED, that Nicholas Arp, 628 Clifton Park Center Road, Clifton Park, is hereby promoted to MEO Light, Grade 4 Step 1 (\$45,268/year) effective immediately, and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Comptroller is authorized to transfer \$7,681 from A-7100-E1500 (General Fund-Buildings & Grounds-MEO) to payroll, with \$3,155 to be transferred to A-7110-E0069 (General Fund-Buildings & Grounds-T. Groski) and \$4,526 to A-7110-E848 (General Fund-Buildings & Grounds-N. Arp); and be it further

RESOLVED that the Comptroller is also authorized to transfer \$2,040 from SP3-7131-24 (Clifton Knolls Park District – Clifton Knolls – General Maintenance) to SP3-7131 -E0848 (Clifton Knolls Park District-Clifton Knolls-N. Arp).

ROLL CALL VOTE

Ayes: Councilwoman Standaert, Councilman Morelli,  
Councilwoman Walowit, Supervisor Barrett

Noes: None

DECLARED ADOPTED

Resolution No. 28 of 2021, a resolution appointing Dawn Mead as Part-time Animal Control Officer.

Introduced by Councilwoman Walowit, who moved its adoption, seconded by Councilwoman Standaert.

WHEREAS, a need exists for an additional part-time Animal Control Officer due to the hiring of Max Luetters as a full-time Building Inspector, and

WHEREAS, Teresa Cook, Animal Control Officer, has recommended Dawn M. Mead, 691 Route 146A, Clifton Park, to be hired provisionally for the position, pending Civil Service Certification; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that Dawn M. Mead, 691 Route 146A, Clifton Park, is hereby appointed as a Part-time Animal Control Officer for the Town of Clifton Park at Grade 3, Step 1 (\$19.32 per hour) budgeted from A-3510-E-400 (General Fund-Animal Control Part-Time Employee), effective immediately.

ROLL CALL VOTE

Ayes: Councilwoman Standaert, Councilman Morelli,  
Councilwoman Walowit, Supervisor Barrett

Noes: None

DECLARED ADOPTED

PUBLIC PRIVILEGE

No one wished to be heard.

MOTION BY Councilwoman Walowit, seconded by Councilwoman Standaert, to adjourn the meeting to the next regular meeting or any other meeting necessary for the conduct of town business.

Motion carried at 7:40 PM

Teresa Brobston  
Town Clerk