

TOWN OF CLIFTON PARK TOWN BOARD

May 9, 2022

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 Flood
Councilman Morelli
Councilwoman Walowit
Town Clerk Brobston

Absent: Councilwoman Standaert

Also Present: Town Attorney McCarthy
Mark Heggen, Comptroller
Matt Andrus, Information Specialist
John Scherer, Town Historian
John Scavo, Planning Director
Myla Kramer, Director of Parks, Recreation & Community Affairs
Jennifer Viggiani, Open Space Coordinator

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND COMMUNICATION

Supervisor Barrett thanked 3N Document Destruction for partnering with the Town on the recent free Shredding Day for the residents. They provided shredding on site and delivered all donated food items to the Jonesville Food Pantry.

Supervisor Barrett stated the new Paint/Stain Recycling initiative began at the Transfer Station the previous Thursday. The program was a success and will be on-going.

Supervisor Barrett announced a free summer EMT Career Pathway For Youth pilot training program will be offered by Saratoga County, through the Workforce Development, in partnership with Shenendehowa School District, Clifton Park-Halfmoon EMS, Shenendehowa Career Jam and Hudson Valley Community College. This program will be offered to Senior students at Shenendehowa High School.

Supervisor Barrett announced free Lifeguard training will be offered, June 6-12, 2022, for Saratoga County residents. Clifton Park will be one site for the lifeguard training. Free gas cards will be offered to participants to help with this expense. Limited space available. Contact the Supervisor's Office for additional information.

Councilwoman Flood reminded residents the Historic Preservation Commission will be holding an Archaeology exhibit at the Grooms Tavern on Sunday, May 15, Noon-4 PM. The event is free and open to the public.

Councilwoman Flood announced an Eric Canal Museum and Camillus Erie Canal Park, Syracuse, NY, trip on June 4, 2022. Additional information can be found in the Parks & Recreation Department.

PRESENTATION ARBOR DAY CONTEST WINNERS

Arbor Day 2022 Poster Contest winners were presented with cash prizes. The spirit of Arbor Day and/or this year's theme was, "Healthy Trees, Healthy People"! Winners were: Sreebhuvika Penumtchu, Carson Hagglove, Charlie Stevens, Willow Adam, Jenna Watson, Nandir Dirisala, Carter Janssen, Liam Kohn and Quintin Strain.

PRESENTATION -RIVERFRONT 41 ACRES UPDATE

Dave Miller, Open Space, Trails & Riverfront Committee Chairman, voiced the Committee's concerns with the property access. Mr. Miller introduced Ray Seymour, member of the Committee.

Supervisor Barrett stated, Councilman Morelli suggested upgrades of the infrastructure to the property funding come out of the ARPA Funds.

Mr. Seymour stated the 41 Acre Town Park is 1 of 8 parks in the Town of Clifton Park. The property is in the center of the Mohawk Towpath National Scenic Byway and is a 41-acre parcel that has direct access to the Mohawk River, located between Riverview Road and the River. In 2011 Incentive Zoning funds, the Open Space Capital Reserve funds and a grant from the Saratoga County Open Space, were used towards the purchase of the parcel. Clifton Park enjoys nearly thirteen miles of riverfront along the Mohawk River and Erie Barge Canal. Current access to the property was viewed. Public vehicle entrance from Riverview Road is located about one-half mile east of Mohawk Landing Nature Preserve, less than one-third mile west of Robinson Street. Access between two brick pillars and being located on a blind curve in the road, makes it extremely dangerous getting in and out. There is an existing informal neighborhood pedestrian access from Camp Road.

Mr. Seymour highlighted special features of the park, including a 3-acre pond, animals including birds, wooded & shrub wetlands, existing trails, geological features, cliff and wildflowers. He explained there is a stream outlet to the river that could offer a location for kayak launch or landing in the future. The parcel has approximately 1,525 feet of frontage along the Mohawk River. Key Town management steps were reviewed to date: Reuse of the formerly private driveway, parking has been an "informal make the best of it" pull-off, removed a camper, relocated a gate, maintained culvert at pond outlet and removed a Quonset metal structure. Volunteer contributions were reviewed.

Historian John Scherer added, the pond was created for a brick manufacturing company located there early on.

Mr. Seymour reviewed the public benefits, challenges and priorities. Priorities highlighted creating a small new parking area to the east along Riverview Road, create a new trailhead at the new parking area and connect to the existing paths and construction of entrance signage and to name the 41 acres. Next steps recommended are to secure professional services for basic public access improvements, conduct a public meeting, present existing conditions, discuss an option for public access improvement concepts, develop plans for access improvements and trailhead improvements.

RESOLUTIONS

No one wished to be heard.

Resolution No. 132 of 2022, a resolution designating a parcel identified as 1716 U.S. Route 9, in the Town of Clifton Park, for inclusion within the Town's local historic preservation registry for significant historic places and landmarks.

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

WHEREAS, Chapter 208-78 of the Clifton Park Town Code through Resolution No. 16 of 1999, established a Town Register of Historic Places, and

WHEREAS, local honorary listing of buildings, structures, objects, sites and historic districts deemed by the Historic Preservation Commission to be of significant historic value, are eligible for inclusion within the register, and

WHEREAS, inclusion within the local register does not require or cause the property owners on the Historic Register to have restrictions on what they may do with their property, and

WHEREAS, the Town of Clifton Park Historic Preservation Commission recommends the Town Board consider 1716 U.S. Route 9, containing the Clifton Park Pizza Shop for inclusion within the Town’s local historic preservation registry for significant historic places and landmarks, and

WHEREAS, the origin of the building can be traced back to 1844, when John P. Higgins of Waterford leased the property consisting of a quarter acre on the southeast corner of present-day Route 9 and Fire Road to Shubael Taylor of Clifton Park, and

WHEREAS, previous tenants within the building include a general store and post office on the southwest corner of Route 9 and Old Route 146 (Fire Road), is now occupied by Clifton Park Pizza; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Town of Clifton Park Town Board hereby designates 1716 U.S. Route 9, for inclusion within the Town’s Register of Historic Places.

ROLL CALL VOTE

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

Noes: None

Absent: Councilwoman Standaert

DECLARED ADOPTED

Resolution No. 133 of 2022, a resolution designating certain prior one-room schoolhouse buildings, within the Town of Clifton Park, for inclusion within the Town’s local Historic Preservation registry for significant historic places and landmarks.

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

WHEREAS, Chapter 208-78 of the Clifton Park Town Code, through Resolution No. 16 of 1999, established a Town Register of Historic Places, and

WHEREAS, local honorary listing of buildings, structures, objects, sites and historic districts deemed by the Historic Preservation Commission to be of significant historic value, are eligible for inclusion within the register, and

WHEREAS, inclusion within the local register does not require or cause the property owners on the Historic Register to have restrictions on what they may do with their property, and

WHEREAS, the Town of Clifton Park Historic Preservation Commission has recommended the following properties, each containing a historic building formerly utilized as a one-room schoolhouse, for inclusion within the Town’s Register of Historic Places:

943 Riverview Road – Former School District #1. Now a private home owned by Frances Gangi-Welge and Mark Welge at 943 Riverview Road, moved from its original site on the northeast corner of Route 146 and Riverview Road to make room for a new two-room schoolhouse, now demolished.

343 Riverview Road – Former School District #3. Constructed in 1848, is now a private home in the Vischer Ferry Historic District owned by Colin Campbell at 343 Riverview Road. The school features a recessed porch characteristic of the Greek Revival style.

1355 State Route 146 – Former School District #7. Corner of Route 146 and Waite Road, referred to as Waite’s Corners School, now a private home owned by John Burns at 1355 Route 146. The original blackboards are still intact.

965 Main Street – Former School District #9. Jonesville, located at 965 Main Street Jonesville near the Methodist Church, now a private home owned by Rob and Marie Strait. This school was replaced in about 1905 by the old Jonesville Academy building.

744 State Route 146A – Former School District #10. Elnora, on Route 146A, opposite the intersection of Kinns Road and Route 146A, now privately owned by Paul Rezuchi of Alameda, California, who owns a number of one room schoolhouses throughout the United States. About 20 years ago the Elnora schoolhouse was moved closer to the road and placed on a new foundation; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Town of Clifton Park Town Board hereby designates: 943 Riverview Road – Former School District #1; 343 Riverview Road – Former School District #3; 1355 State Route 146 – Former School District #7; 965 Main Street – Former School District #9; and 744 State Route 146A – Former School District #10 for inclusion within the Town’s Register of Historic Places.

ROLL CALL VOTE

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

Noes: None

Absent: Councilwoman Standaert

DECLARED ADOPTED

Historian John Scherer gave a presentation and presented plaques for the designating historic parcels to be included on the Town Register of Historic Places.

Resolution No. 134 of 2022, a resolution hiring seasonal staff for the 2022 Parks & Recreation Programs.

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

WHEREAS, the Town Board wishes to hire additional new counselors as staff members for operation of the Town’s Summer Camp Program for 2022, and

WHEREAS, Myla Kramer, Director of Parks, Recreation and Community Affairs, has recommended that the individuals listed in the attached Schedule A, be hired; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the individuals listed in the attached Schedule A, be accepted as staff for the Town’s 2022 Day Camp Program, to be paid as indicated on the schedule through the end of the respective seasons.

ROLL CALL VOTE

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

Noes: None

Absent: Councilwoman Standaert

DECLARED ADOPTED

Resolution No. 135 of 2022, a resolution issuing a permit to serve alcoholic beverages, per the attached Special Alcohol Use Permit application.

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

WHEREAS, the following applicant has submitted a Special Alcohol Use Permit Request to the Office of Parks & Recreation, to be allowed to serve alcohol, in the form of beer and wine, for a gathering on the following date with location as listed on the application:

Jennifer Santos, 2 Merion Avenue, Clifton Park, July 30, 2022, 2:00PM-5:00PM; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Town Board hereby authorizes the Special Alcohol Use Permit Request submitted by Jennifer Santos for a gathering as Collins Park.

ROLL CALL VOTE

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

Noes: None

Absent: Councilwoman Standaert

DECLARED ADOPTED

Clifton Park Nursery School was recognized as being on the Town Register of Historic Places and recipient of the 2022 Community Preparedness and Resiliency Fund.

PUBLIC PRIVILEGE

No one wished to be heard.

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

Motion carried at 8:35 PM

Teresa Brobston
Town Clerk