

## Town of Pine Plains Town Board Meeting

February 15, 2024

The Town of Pine Plains Town Board convened for a regular schedule meeting at the Town Hall on the above date at 7 pm. Supervisor Walsh, Councilwoman Sisco, Councilman Walsh were present. Councilman Ambrose and Councilman Zick were both absent. Also in attendance was Attorney to the Town Warren Replansky, Highway Superintendent Carl Baden, PPWIA/Engineer Ray Jurkowski, Officer in Charge John Hughes, Sergeant Michael Beliveau, Planning Board Chairman Michael Stabile, Town Engineer George Schmidt and Assessor Sarah Foglia. Along with guest speaker Erin Hoaglin the Director of Conservation from Dutchess County Land Conservancy and seven members of the public.

Supervisor Walsh called the meeting to order, and the Pledge of Allegiance was done.

Councilman Walsh motioned to approve the January 2024 Town Clerks Report, and accept the January 18 Town Board minutes, and the February 12 workshop minutes, second by Councilwoman Sisco. 3-0 Passed.

K. Walsh motioned to pay the following bills General Bills 2023- 20630-20632, 2024- 20635-20670 Highway Bills 20671-20683, and PPWIA 3261-3263, second by Sisco 3-0 Passed.

Public Comment- Erin Hoaglin from Dutchess County Conservancy gave a letter of endorsement for Helen Marsh property located at 128 Schultz Hill Rd. Hoaglin explained that this property is in active agriculture serving as leased support lands for Chaseholm Farm's beef cattle. Over half of the property consists of high-quality agricultural soil. The property also contains a federal wetland, key areas for rare wetland animals, important bat foraging areas, and is in the viewshed of Stissing Mountain. Protection of this farm fits with the priorities outlined in the Pine Plains Comprehensive Plan Update. Sisco motioned to approve endorsement, second by Walsh 3-0 Passed. Alice Hanback Nuccio stated she was unhappy with how difficult it is to navigate the Towns website and how there is not a weekly or monthly newsletter. Nuccio asked the Board what happened to the 2 electric all terrain wheelchairs, and how would someone know they were available. Nuccio continued to express her disgruntlement with the Governor cutting funding to schools, and hoped the Town Board would collaborate with the School Board to use the PILOT agreement to relive some of that financial struggle for the school. Keary Hanan also stated she was dissatisfied with the website. Hanan wanted to thank the Highway Department in the last snowstorm for keeping the roads clean. Hanan also would like to have an update on the sewer project, and the New Town Hall. Hanan also stated she believes that the Town Community Room should have an open calendar and should not be able to charge nonprofit organizations. Town Clerk Madelin Dafoe stated that the Town Clerk's office is now accepting credit cards, and you could apply for a Building Permit online. Sisco wanted to thank Carl Baden for taking down the Christmas trees in Town.

Town Attorney- Warren Replansky stated he had litigation matters to discuss in executive session.

Department Reports- Highway- Highway Superintendent Carl Baden read report (on file). Baden also presented a draft intermunicipal agreement for the Town Board to look over and discuss if this were a contract they would like to approve.

Building Inspector- Report on file.

PPWIA- Ray Jurkowski read report (on file). Jurkowski explained Pace Analytical service has closed its local field office that was located in Dutchess County. Jurkowski requested authorization from the Town Board to open an account with Adirondack Laboratory in Albany as an additional laboratory service for the PPWIA. Motioned by K. Walsh to authorize account, second by Sisco 3-0 passed.

Engineer- Ray Jurkowski discussed that when the Town's building located at 7775 South Main Street was built, the building met all requirements from the ADA. Jurkowski did suggest the only place he did notice a potential issue was by the bathrooms where there were boxes stacked up.

Animal Control- Report on file.

Police Department- Report on file. Sergeant Michael Beliveau asked the Town Board for approval of new hire Aaron Fantroy. Motion to hire by K. Walsh second Sisco 3-0 Passed.

Planning Department- Planning Board Chairperson Michael Stabile wanted clarification on how the Building Department files are being backed up. Stabile also asked for approval to attend the Planning Federation Conference this year for \$240.00. Motioned by K. Walsh to Stabile to attend, second by Sisco 3-0 Passed

Zoning Review Committee- Planning Board Chair Michael Stabile let the Board know there is a tentative meeting for March 5, 2024, to discuss Short Term Rentals with Dutchess County Planning.

Old Business- Sisco wanted to follow up on 41 Hoffman Rd. Supervisor Walsh read a letter from the garden club stating they will not be able to water to barrels in Town this year due to lack of members. K. Walsh suggested having it be community service for Highschool students.

New Business- The Town Board received a formal notice about the town sidewalk at 17 Smith Street being a trip/fall hazard by their insurance company. The Highway Superintendent checked the sidewalks around the property and would like to be in contact with the property owner's insurance company to figure out where they believe it to be a hazard. Sisco motioned to approve Final 2023 Journal Transfers (on file), second by K. Walsh 3-0 Passed. K. Walsh motioned to appoint Brian Coons as the Recreation Director, second by Sisco, 3-0 Passed.

K. Walsh motioned to move into executive session to discuss litigation and invite Assessor Sarah Foglia, Engineer George Schmidt, and Planning Board Chairperson Michael Stabile, second by Sisco 3-0 Passed.

K. Walsh motioned to return to regular session, second by Sisco 3-0 Passed

K. Walsh motioned to adjourn, second by Sisco 3-0 Passed.

Supervisor: Brian Walsh \_\_\_\_\_

Councilman: Matt Zick-ABSENT \_\_\_\_\_

Councilman: Robert Ambrose-ABSENT \_\_\_\_\_

Councilwoman: Jeanine Sisco \_\_\_\_\_

Councilman: Kevin Walsh \_\_\_\_\_