

**TOWN OF SARATOGA TOWN BOARD
MEETING DRAFT MINUTES
12 SPRING ST., SCHUYLERVILLE, NY
July 10, 2023
6:00 P.M.**

Supervisor Ian Murray opened the meeting with the pledge of allegiance at 6:03 p.m.

Roll call: Town Clerk, Linda McCabe, called the roll: Supervisor Ian Murray- present, Councilmember Michael McLoughlin – present, Councilmember Ruth Drumm – present, Councilmember Gary Squires – present, Councilmember Maxine Lautenberg – present.

Also present: Deputy Town Clerk Michelle Conover, Building Inspector/Zoning Officer Gil Albert and other interested persons. Sign-in sheet is on file in the Town Clerk’s office)

Supervisor Ian Murray stated he’d like a Moment of Silence in honor of the passing of Thomas N. Wood III. He stated “even though we knew it was coming, it’s still very sad news; Supervisor Wood passed away this morning after a long and courageous battle with cancer. Tom was a gentle, caring person to everyone that knew him. He was a valiant public servant throughout his life, from Teacher to Town Supervisor...always serving. I’m honored and privileged to have known and worked with Tom for over 30 years. God Bless Tom and his family.”

Recognitions/Presentations/ Bid openings/Public Hearings – Supervisor Ian Murray then stated that Dave Meager, our insurance representative for NYMIR/AMSURE, was present to review the updated insurance renewal policy information.

Dave Meager stated he knew Tom very well and this is a very sad day for all. He and Tom served 1 – 2 terms together at the county. He said Tom was a classic example of ‘public servant’, a kind soul, dedicated to this town. He shared condolences with all. He distributed copies of the policy, then reviewed the policies with the Board, stating the cost has gone up, as has everything else today. He told the Board if they have any questions to please contact him.

Supervisor Ian Murray thanked him for explaining the policy to the Board.

Approval of Minutes: A motion was made by Councilmember Michael McLoughlin and seconded by Councilmember Ruth Drumm, **to accept the minutes of the June 8, 2023 Agenda Meeting and June 12, 2023 Regular Meeting.** Supervisor Ian Murray - aye, Councilmember Michael McLoughlin – aye, Councilmember Ruth Drumm – aye, Councilmember Gary Squires - aye, Councilmember Maxine Lautenberg - aye.
Carried 5 – 0

Town Clerk’s report for June 2023: Fees paid to the NYS Dept. of Agriculture and Markets for the Animal Population Control Program \$46.00. Fees paid to New York D.E.C. for hunting and fishing licenses \$118.11. Fees paid to the New York State Health Department for Marriage licenses \$67.50. Dog license fees to Supervisor Ian Murray

were \$205.00. Clerk fees to Supervisor Ian Murray were \$69.39. Total State and Local Revenues received were \$506.00.

Zoning Officer's report for June 2023: 13 Building Permits, 20 Building Inspections, 8 Certificates of Occupancy, 0 Junkyard Permits, 1 Complaint, 0 Fire Inspections, 1 Order to Remedy, 8 misc., 2 Building Permit Renewals and 0 Property Maintenance Inspections. A check for \$2,281.25 was given to Supervisor Ian Murray.

Dog Control officer's report for June 2023: The following report was read by Supervisor Thomas Wood: Ed Cross, Dog Control Officer answered 13 complaints, took 0 dogs to the shelter, 1 bite case, traveled 20 miles, issued 11 warnings and 4 summons' were issued.

Town Court report for June 2023: Closed Traffic Tickets - 18, Closed Criminal/Penal Law cases – 1, Closed Civil Cases – 5, Closed Encon/DEC – 3, Closed DWI's – 0, Closed Town & Dog cases – 1. The following checks were submitted to Supervisor Ian Murray for fines & fees: \$230.00 from Justice Charles Sherman - and \$1,045.00 from Justice John McCarron.

Historian's report for June 2023: Historian Sean Kelleher submitted the following:

- Spreading the news of America's Turning Point – Saratoga 250th. June 9-11- the Fort Plain Museum's Revolutionary War Conference 250 in the Mohawk Valley. He will be speaking on July 11th at the Hudson-Halfmoon Lighthouse Park program at 6 p.m.
- The Hudson Crossing Park will host the Champlain Bicentennial's Paddle the Canals event on July 29th.
- The Old Saratoga Historical Association will organize its longstanding 18th Century Day on July 29th.
- The Town's social media accounts continue to be an effective platform for sharing historical information and engaging with the community. In the past 28 days, we have made over 128 postings, reaching approximately 463 people. The online presence allows us to connect with a broader audience and disseminate historical knowledge.
- Saratoga and Stillwater 250th American Revolution Anniversary Committee meeting met on June 14th. They reviewed past events, discussed the Fort Plain Conference and expressed gratitude to Assemblywoman Carrie Woerner, on her advocacy in securing exemptions for muskets, for use in historical reenactments. They also reviewed future events and the committee noted the Siege – Pathways through History weekend will be held on October 7 – 8, as well as Surrender Day on October 17th.
- They discussed the need to identify a location for the 2027 Battles Commemorations, as well as a smaller event in 2024. The next meeting will be September 13th and November 8th.

Moving forward, he says he is confident that their efforts will continue to foster a deeper appreciation for local history and engage the community in meaningful ways. If you have any questions or require further information, please feel free to reach out to me.

Highway Superintendent’s report for June 2023

- ❖ Mowing roadsides and spraying weed killer at signs
- ❖ Addressed beaver dam on Neilson Rd.
- ❖ Repaired sinkhole on Chestnut St.
- ❖ Milling on Fitch Rd., with trucks from Wilton & Northumberland with traffic control from Schuylerville
- ❖ Paving 5,542’ of Fitch rd. with type 3 binder - Used trucks from Malta, Providence, Northumberland, Stillwater & Wilton and traffic control from Schuylerville
- ❖ Shimming on Casey Rd. and stockpiled 1a’s for fiber-mat sealing
- ❖ Changed fuel filter on Boom mower due to DEF in fuel tank
- ❖ Hauled blacktop for Wilton, Providence and Stillwater for two days each
- ❖ Garage King flooring - started epoxy sealing on garage floors.

Supervisor’s report:

SUPERVISOR’S REPORT JUNE 2023

GENERAL FUND – TOWNWIDE (A FUND)

Balance on hand 6/1/2023	\$1,422,668.23
Revenues	+ 222,018.92
Disbursements	- <u>(349,080.93)</u>
Balance 6/30/2023	\$ 1,295,606.22

GENERAL FUND – OUTSIDE VILLAGE (B FUND)

Balance on hand 6/1/2023	\$2,580,651.66
Revenues	+ 2,278.86
Disbursements	- <u>(13,161.28)</u>
Balance 6/30/2023	\$2,569,769.24

HIGHWAY FUND – OUTSIDE VILLAGE (DB FUND)

Balance on hand 6/1/2023	\$1,304,005.66
Revenues	+ 158,830.00
Disbursements	- <u>(71,405.95)</u>
Balance 6/30/2023	\$1,391,429.71

SCHUYLER PARK CAPITAL 6/30/2023	\$ 119,661.35
YOUTH RECREATION & SERVICE 6/30/2023	\$ 8,673.85
HIGHWAY EQUIPMENT RESERVE 6/30/2023	\$ 704.48
BUILDING RESERVE 6/30/2023	\$ 483,340.63
SCENIC BY WAYS QRTLRY 6/30/2023	\$ 312.17
PARKS RESERVE 6/30/2023	\$ 376,956.55
TRUST & AGENCY 6/30/2023	\$ -----
CDBG Project 6/30/2023	\$ 76,453.14
GFNB Certificate of Deposit 6/30/2023	\$ 754,057.09

NYCLASS 6/30/2023	\$ 725,917.29
CDPHP & HRA 6/30/2023	\$ 5,140.10

Public comments on agenda items: Terri Korb addressed the Board.

Committee reports:

Landfill: No report

Insurance: Dave Meager reviewed the Town's policy with the Board.

Youth: No swim program this year due to no lifeguards. Everyone is hoping next year there will be some people willing to train and work as lifeguards.

Senior Citizens: Councilmember Maxine Lautenberg submitted the following reports: Old Saratoga Seniors (soon to be Olde Saratoga Seniors) have been updating and rewriting their bylaws. The updates and rewriting is being done as the club has grown and demands of officers have changed, as well as preparing the group to apply for 501c3. The next meeting will be July 20th with a trip to Grant's Cottage.

Old Saratoga Seniors have arranged for a Defensive Driving course on Sept 13 & 20, 9:00 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. Cost is \$35 with a 40 person cap per class. Only a few spots left in each class. Contact Pattie Patrick-Henry at 518 -316-9726 to register.

Park Committee: Councilmember Gary Squires stated he has no report but said he and Supervisor Ian Murray met with residents concerning dirt bikes and ATVs not being allowed on Schuyler Park property.

Office of Emergency Management (OEM): Supervisor Ian Murray stated although he and Tom had met with Matthew Fueston, who expressed interest in this position, they both left several messages and tried to contact him to have him come and meet the Board last month but never heard back from him. Another resident, who works for the Red Cross, has expressed interest in this position as well and Supervisor Ian Murray will meet with him soon.

WEMS, QSFD Reports: Don Ormsby stated Quaker Springs Fire Department had 54 calls to date.

Old business: None

New business:

On a motion by Councilmember Michael McLoughlin and seconded by Councilmember Ruth Drumm, the following **Resolution #23-53 – Authorization for Health Insurance Plans**, was adopted by vote: Supervisor Ian Murray - aye, Councilmember Michael McLoughlin – aye, Councilmember Ruth Drumm – aye, Councilmember Gary Squires - aye, Councilmember Maxine Lautenberg – aye.

Carried 5 – 0.

WHEREAS, on an annual basis the Town Board enters into insurance contracts to provide health insurance coverage for eligible employees; and

WHEREAS, the Board has reviewed proposals for contracts to commence August 1, 2023; now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Town Supervisor is authorized to sign contracts for health insurance benefits for active employees with Capital District Physicians Health Plan for their CDPHP HDEPO 320 SILVER, effective August 1, 2023 for a one year term and for pre 65 eligible retirees and/or their spouse, the CDPHP EMBRACE HEALTH EPO 221 GOLD. The deductible will be reimbursed by the Town through a special account that CDPHP can withdraw deductibles from as needed. Due to the increase of premiums, (Silver plan is up 18.9% and the Gold plan is up 13.3%) the town will pay the first \$1500.00 of deductibles for single plans and the first \$3,000.00 for employee plus one plans as currently being done.

On a motion by Councilmember Gary Squires and seconded by Councilmember Michael McLoughlin, the following **Resolution #23-54 – Planning Board Appointment – Walter Borisenok**, was adopted by vote: Supervisor Ian Murray - aye, Councilmember Michael McLoughlin – aye, Councilmember Ruth Drumm – aye, Councilmember Gary Squires - aye, Councilmember Maxine Lautenberg – abstained.

Carried 4– 0, 1 abstention.

WHEREAS, Ian Murray resigned from the Planning Board, effective May 31, 2023; now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Saratoga hereby elevates Alternate Planning Board Member, Walter Borisenok, as a full member of the Planning Board and appoints him as Planning Board Chairman, effective 07/10/2023 – 12/31/26, fulfilling the term of former Board Member and Chairman, Ian Murray.

Communications: Supervisor Ian Murray stated he will be taking recommendations from Board members and the public for the Alternate position of the Planning Board. He then stated there are recurring problems with the Town Hall roof which must be corrected, adding that the Town has ARPA funds that can be used for this. He asked Building Inspector/Zoning Officer Gil Albert his thoughts. Building Inspector/Zoning Officer Gil Albert responded there are areas on the roof parapet caps that need to be cleaned and recalked as well as areas on the roof that need to be opened up and patched, prior to the recoating being done. He thought he had a company to do the job, but found they didn't want to carry the insurance for such a small job, so he's working on finding someone to do the job.

Privilege of the floor: Paul Murphy addressed the Board.

Upcoming meetings taking place at the Town Hall:

❖ Regular Town Board meeting – Monday, August 14, 2023 at 7:00 p.m.

Audit the Bills: On a motion by Councilmember Maxine Lautenberg, seconded by Councilmember Gary Squires, the following **Resolution #23-55 - Approving the Payment of Bills in Abstract 7G of 2023**, was adopted by vote: Supervisor Ian Murray - aye, Councilmember Michael McLoughlin – aye, Councilmember Ruth Drumm – aye, Councilmember Gary Squires - aye, Councilmember Maxine Lautenberg – aye.

Carried 5 – 0.

RESOLVED, by the Town Board of the Town of Saratoga to authorize payment of the bills listed in **Abstract 7G of 2023 in the following amounts:**

General Fund DB	No. 418, 444 - 458	\$207,418.19
General Fund A	No. 416, 417, 420, 421, 424, 426 – 428, 430, 442, 459 - 486	\$ 24,204.28
General Fund B	No. 487 – 491	\$ 902.33
Schuyler Park H	No. 492	\$ 244.62
CDBG	No. 422 - 423	<u>\$ 99,301.00</u>
	Grand Total	\$ 332,070.42

A motion was made by Councilmember Michael McLoughlin, seconded by Councilmember Maxine Lautenberg, **to adjourn the meeting at 7:01 p.m.** Supervisor Ian Murray - aye, Councilmember Michael McLoughlin – aye, Councilmember Ruth Drumm – aye, Councilmember Gary Squires - aye, Councilmember Maxine Lautenberg - aye.

Carried 5 – 0

Meeting Adjourned

Respectfully Submitted,

Linda A. McCabe
Town Clerk