

October 18, 2021

A special meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Greenville began on October 18, 2021 at 6:05 pm at Pioneer Hall for the purpose of conducting a budget workshop. Availability via an audio teleconference continued for any who wished to observe in that manner. Full audio file and *uncorrected* text transcription are available upon request, as well as all supporting documents referenced in these minutes.

Those present: Supervisor Macko and Councilmen Bear, Bensen (*who arrived at 6:14 pm*), Rauf and Richards, as well as the following Department Heads: Clerk-Collector Jackie Park, Code Enforcement Officer Mark Overbaugh, Highway Superintendent Mike Dudley, Water Superintendent Leroy Bear, Maintenance Supervisor Renee Hamilton, Planning Board Chair and Historian Don Teator, as well as 4 interested guests.

Those absent: Attorney Rappleyea and remaining Department Heads.

Supervisor Macko opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance. The preliminary budget was reviewed line by line by Supervisor Macko. Changes requested to the tentative budget at the first workshop were applied to tonight's preliminary budget. He stated he did not want to raise taxes; the 2021 rate is 6.703676 per \$1,000 assessed value and the preliminary 2022 rate is 6.70196. Discussion occurred regarding adding money into contingency lines. Councilman Bensen said he was pretty happy with the way it is; Councilman Bear said we should go with it (as is).

Mr. Bensen moved to accept the preliminary budget presented tonight, seconded by Mr. Rauf.
Carried 5 ayes

Mr. Rauf moved to close this workshop at 7:00 pm, seconded by Mr. Bear.
Carried 5 ayes

This workshop was followed by the regularly scheduled town board meeting at 7:00 pm. All present for the budget workshop continued in attendance at this time, as well as Attorney Rappleyea, Greene County Legislator Greg Davis (*arrived at 7:30 pm*), Greenville Rescue Squad Chief Matthew Marlow, and 8 additional interested parties. The Pledge of Allegiance was repeated.

Mr. Bensen moved to accept the Clerk's minutes of September 20, 2021 and October 4, 2021, seconded by Mr. Bear. Carried 5 ayes

Oral and/or written reports were received from the following departments:

Greenville Rescue Squad ~ Chief Matthew Marlow provided oral and written reports; noted terrible issues related to the shortage of ambulance crews, hospital beds and nurses. No motions made.

Highway Department ~ Superintendent Dudley provided an oral report. Work on the highway storage building was discussed;

Mr. Bensen moved, seconded by Mr. Bear, to hire Earthwise Insulation for \$20,891 to place spray foam in the storage building at the highway garage.

Carried 5 ayes

Building and Grounds ~ Oral and written reports received from Maintenance Supervisor Hamilton; no motions made. Announced that employee Alex Johnk's last day was this Friday.

Code Enforcement ~ Oral & written reports received from CEO Mark Overbaugh; no motions made.

Sewer ~ Supervisor Macko reported the sewer plant has handled the high water levels we've seen lately. Also discussed problems with the trusses at that plant. CEO Overbaugh recommended we contact Delaware Engineering as soon as possible as the engineers can come up with proper modifications to correct the problems. Supervisor Macko stated he would call Delaware's structural integrity professional to come evaluate this emergency evaluation.

Water ~ Water Superintendent Bear offered an oral report & written documentation; no motions made.

Recycling ~ Councilman Bear reported issues with the garbage containers being dropped off improperly; they seem to be 3 feet further out each time. A call will be placed to Greene County.

Assessing ~ Supervisor Macko read Assessor Bennett's written report; he noted that social security recipients will be receiving a 5.9% COLA increase, which Assessor Bennett fears will pull some residents out of the income bracket which their exemption levels are based upon. Mr. Macko urged people to contact Senator Michelle Hinchey & Assemblyman Christopher Tague to express their concern with the current maximum exemption limits.

Planning Board ~ Chair Donald Teator provided a very brief oral and written report, as there was not a meeting last month to report on. Speaking as Historian, he noted the 2022 calendar was available and that it was dedicated posthumously to many people.

Dog Control ~ No report was offered.

Beautification Committee ~ Mr. William Bardel reported on Greenville Day, and thanked all who made it possible. Reported an attendance of approximately 500 people on Friday, and 3,000 people on Saturday. The Duck auction was also successful, bringing in about \$30,000 in net proceeds. Issues touched upon that would need to be worked out for next year involve parking and increased community support by way of volunteer hours.

Clerk/Tax ~ written reports provided.

Greene County Legislator Greg Davis ~ provided an oral report; noted that the Greene County Legislature approved a budget with a 0% tax increase. That being said, Greenville's equilibration rate dropped which will result in Greenville taxpayers seeing a 1.6% increase in the County levy line of the 2022 tax bill. He then addressed an online post he'd seen which he stated was completely untrue. Lengthy political debate then occurred between his opponent, Randall Schmollinger, and himself, until Supervisor Macko stopped the discussion, noting this was not the place for it.

New business discussed at 8:01 pm:

The 2022 Budget Hearing need to be scheduled;

Mr. Bensen moved, seconded by Mr. Bear, to conduct the 2022 budget hearing on Wednesday, November 3, 2021, at 6:00 pm in Pioneer Town Hall.

Carried 5 ayes

Tractor/snow blower quotes obtained by Maintenance Supervisor Hamilton were addressed. The varying makes/models were compared. Consensus was to get a smaller model, with heat and AC, and R14 tires.

Mr. Rauf moved, seconded by Mr. Richards, to purchase the described Kubota with R14 tires with a maximum expenditure of \$34,000.

Carried 4 ayes; Councilman Bensen abstained

Supervisor Macko obtained rates for a 5 year, \$50,000 loan to be used for the highway garage upgrades and the tractor discussed above. Rates varied between .95% and 1.1%.

Mr. Bear moved, seconded by Mr. Bensen, to secure this \$50,000 loan from the National Bank of Coxsackie at .95% for 5 years.

Carried 5 ayes

Further discussion on the Old Timer's Christmas Party occurred.

Mr. Rauf moved, seconded by Mr. Bensen, to set aside this year's Old Timer's Party and to not reallocate the funds and to review for some other event in the spring.

Carried 5 ayes

Ms. Beth Stewart's name was submitted by the Greenville Public Library Board of Trustees for consideration for appointment to their Board of Trustees;

Mr. Bear moved, seconded by Mr. Bensen, to appoint Ms. Beth Stewart to Mrs. Heisinger's unexpired term on the Library Board of Trustees, effective at present through 12-31-2024.

Carried 5 ayes

An Abandoned Vehicle Policy and Town Roads notice was read by Supervisor Macko:

Pursuant to Section 1660, Subdivision 8 of the Vehicle & Traffic Law of the State of New York, The Town Superintendent of Highways is authorized to have any vehicle parked or abandoned on Town Highways during snow storms or other public emergencies where such vehicle constitutes an obstruction to traffic and/or for the removal of snow removed at the vehicle owner’s expense. The Town of Greenville will not be held responsible for any damage incurred during removal or storage of said vehicle. Also under Section 1660, Subdivision 8 of the Vehicle & Traffic Law of the State of New York there is to be no discarding of snow on any Highway or Public Roads.

Highway superintendent Dudley noted this wasn’t much of a problem, but it should be covered.

Mr. Bensen moved, seconded by Mr. Rauf, to accept this resolution, above.

Carried 5 ayes

Supervisor Macko opened the meeting for public comments and questions at 8:35 pm:

- ~ Legislator Davis reported on the jail population this month as housing 34-40 individuals.
- ~ Resident Paul Augstein asked on the progress our cannabis committee is making? Councilman Bear replied that they haven’t done anything yet. Attorney Rappleyea noted it is very possible the state will extend the 12/31 deadline, as Legislator Davis reported they were late issuing guidance on the matter.
- ~ Water Superintendent Bear provided a letter to the Board for their consideration at the next meeting.

Mr. Rauf moved to enter executive session at 8:48 pm, seconded by Mr. Bear, to discuss the medical, financial, credit or employment history of a particular person/corp, or matters leading to said dismissal, removal, promotion, appointment, employment, discipline, demotion, or suspension. Ms. Hamilton was invited to participate. Carried 5 ayes

Mr. Rauf moved to return to regular session at 9:11 pm, seconded by Mr. Bear. Carried 5 ayes

No motions were made in executive session.

The audit of bills occurred after which Mr. Rauf moved, seconded by Mr. Bear, to pay the following bills:

- Bills 387 – 429 on General abstract #10 for \$37,099.48
- Bills 155 – 173 on Highway abstract #10 for \$29,534.25
- Bills 101 – 110 on Sewer abstract #10 for \$6,452.92
- Bills 100 – 111 on Water abstract #10 for \$6,328.08
- Bill 5 on Red Mill Solar escrow abstract #3 for \$968.75 Carried 5 ayes

After review, Mr. Rauf made a motion to accept the Supervisor’s report for September, seconded by Mr. Richards. Carried 5 ayes

There being no further business, Mr. Macko moved to adjourn at 9:12 pm.

Jackie Park, Town Clerk-Collector

SUPERVISOR MACKO

MR. BEAR

MR. BENSEN

MR. RAUF

MR. RICHARDS