

TOWN BOARD MEETING

December 9, 2024

6:00 P.M.

PRESENT: Councilpersons: Kevin Armstrong, Leonard Govern, Patty Wood, Luis Rodriguez-Betancourt, Supervisor Joseph Cetta, Highway Superintendent Jeff Offnick, Attorney Carly Walas, and Town Clerk Tamara MacDonald

ABSENT:

OTHERS PRESENT: Katherine Bridges, Sharon Way, Martin Way and Elizabeth DeFalco (The Reporter)

FLOOR TIME: No floor time was requested.

**RESOLUTION #111                      APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

A motion was made by Councilman Armstrong, seconded by Rodriguez-Betancourt approving the minutes of November 4, 2024 as presented. All in favor, motion carried.

ASSESSOR REPORT:

December 2024  
Town Board Meeting  
Assessor's Report

- Exemption renewals are being printed and will be mailed in December or early January. They are the ag exemption and senior partial.
- Please see the attached breakdown of costs for increasing the senior partial exemption again this year.
- I received the following reminder from our White Plains Office of Real Property Tax Services regarding Aid and Plans for Cyclical Reassessment:

“We have not received the Cyclical Reassessment Plan for the 2025 reassessment. If the town plans on applying for Reassessment Aid, the plan needs to be submitted by December 31. Please take a moment to look at the documents. Links are below. I will be happy to meet with you to go over any questions.”

I am having a phone call with Vic Gullo on Monday. Upon finalizing the forms, which can be amended after December 31<sup>st</sup>, a schedule of updating and reassessment can be filed that includes contracting with KLW as previously discussed.

- [Form RP-1573-ACR-P:2/15:Plan for Cyclical Reassessments:rp1573:rp1573acrp \(ny.gov\)](#)
- [Form RP-1573-ACR-A:2/15:Application for Review for the Maintenance of a System of Improved Real](#)
- [Property Tax Administration Aid:rp1573:rp1573acra \(ny.gov\)](#)
- [Publication 1028:2/14:Guidelines for Cyclical Reassessment:Pub 1028:Pub-1028:pub1028 \(ny.gov\)](#)

Thank you.  
Respectfully submitted  
Penny Haddad, Assessor

CODE ENFORCEMENT:

Town of Walton  
Code Enforcement Office  
Garrett Newbauer

**Monthly Summary Report**  
Month of NOVEMBER 2024

Building Permits Issued	4
Building Inspections Completed	0
Fire Inspections Completed	0
Notices of Violation Issued	0
Tickets Issued	0
Certificates Issued	0
Complaints Received	0
Floodplain Development	
Permits Issued	0
CO Searches	

DOG CONTROL REPORT:

Martin J. Way, Jr.  
Dog Control Officer, Town of Walton  
129 North Street Walton,  
New York 13856  
NOVEMBER 2024  
Dog Control Activity Summary

Complaints	7
Dogs Seized	0
Returned to Owner	0
Humane Society	0
Dangerous Dogs	0
Tickets Issued	1
Total Redemption Fees	0 for \$10
Assistance, Police	0
Mileage	252 Miles

Dog Officer Way stated that he will be away for a couple weeks in January due to surgery.

SUPERINTENDENT OF HWY. REPORT:

**TOWN OF WALTON HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT**  
25091 STATE HIGHWAY 10  
WALTON, NY 13856  
607-865-5120

**TO:** WALTON TOWN BOARD  
**FROM:** JEFF OFFNICK, HIGHWAY SUPERINTENDENT  
**DATE:** 12/9/2024  
**RE:** REPORT

- ✓ The crew has been preparing the fleet for Winter operations and plowing snow.
- ✓ We have received a shared services agreement from the NYS DOT

We are in receipt of a Shared Service Agreement between the NYSDOT and the Town of Walton. This agreement will be in effect from 12/14/2024 to 12/14/2028 not to exceed a dollar amount of \$25,000.00.

TOWN CLERK'S REPORT:

Financial Reports have been provided.

We are getting ready for tax season just waiting for the tax file and roll.

We need to schedule an end of the year meeting to approve vouchers close out. Monday, December 30<sup>th</sup>?  
Also need to schedule a re-org meeting the first week of January. January 2<sup>nd</sup>?

We received an updated T-Mobile agreement that will reflect a revenue increase of \$415.00 per month.

**RESOLUTION #112**

**T-MOBILE COMMUNICATION AMENDMENT AGREEMENT**

A motion was made by Councilman Govern, seconded by Armstrong to approve the Order/Application in the communication agreement with T-Mobile and the Town of Walton. This amendment will include a revenue increase of \$415.00 per month effective December 1, 2024. All in favor, motion carried.

We have a need to reappoint Stephen Wood to the BAR.

**RESOLUTION #113**

**APPOINTMENT OF STEPHEN WOOD TO BAR**

A motion was made by Councilman Armstrong, seconded by Govern to reappoint Stephen Wood to the BAR from October 1, 2024 – September 30, 2029. All in favor, motion carried.

SUPERVISOR'S REPORT:

Supervisor Cetta brought up the letter for the Shares Sales Tax revenue and said that he has kept everyone updated.

Councilwoman Wood asked if Delhi and Walton were the only ones that have replied? Councilman Govern said that Colchester has replied and opposed to the letter and stated it was the whole board's decision.

Supervisor Cetta stated there would be some compelling arguments to oppose the decision such as 25% of the sales tax revenue goes to the landfill and if that money isn't there then the towns and the villages would have to pay for it instead and there is another program that that money goes to. Cetta stated that this hasn't been budgeted where the money would actually go and the finance committee has tabled it for this coming year. There should be other letters coming along but we have yet to receive them.

COMMITTEE REPORT:

Councilwoman Wood brought up placing a tree at Veteran's Plaza, stating there is one available in Florida, New York for about \$800, but there is no one to plant it. Suggestions were mentioned on who could transport the tree but Supervisor Cetta stated this is something that will have to be tabled until 2025 until we can figure this out and need to wait until Spring to put it in the ground.

Councilwoman Wood asked about the emergency situation. Supervisor Cetta talked about the Generator project and that he spoke with Chad Trimbell and the process is almost finished and should be done with in the next week. It has been clarified that the Red Cross has established the Baptist Church as a shelter. Councilwoman Wood suggested if the Red Cross does not have enough crew members, we need to look into if church members would be willing to volunteer. The Board was in agreement that an emergency plan needs to be established. Councilwoman Wood informed the Board that Eric Ball was working with the Village Board to organize a meeting with the Town Board, Village Board, School Board and the Fire Department to collaborate a plan for emergencies. Supervisor Cetta stated that residents should have a 72-hour emergency supply on hand.

Further discussion took place on cellphone coverage and whether or not the cell tower had a generator. All Board members had various coverage.

APPROVAL OF BILLS:

**RESOLUTION# 114**

**APPROVAL OF BILLS**

A motion was made by Councilwoman Wood, seconded by Rodriguez-Betancourt approving the vouchers as presented for payment. All in favor, motion carried.

General Fund A	#228-305	\$63,325.40
General OV B	#26-27	\$3,398.36
General HWY DA	#91-104	\$54,846.34
OV HWY DB	#52-59	\$59,651.91

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

A motion was made by Councilman Govern, seconded by Armstrong to enter into executive session for personal negotiations.

Entered 7:10 p.m.

With no anticipation of further action after executive session, the meeting was adjourned 7:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Tamara MacDonald  
Town Clerk