

**TOWN OF SARANAC  
BOARD MEETING  
January 8, 2024**

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 PM by the presiding officer at the  
Town of Saranac Town Hall

<u>MEMBERS</u>	<u>PRESENT</u>	<u>ABSENT</u>
Timothy R. Napper, Supervisor	X	
Michele Petrashune, Councilor	X	
Tracey Eggleston, Councilor	X	
James Terry, Councilor	X	
Conner Perry, Councilor	X	

Also in attendance: Steve McKenzie, Todd Perry, Maitland Root, Barry Newcombe, Lou Plante, Mark LaVarnway, Lisa Racette, Michael Layn, Victor Venne and Thomas Maggy

- 1. Pledge of Allegiance**
- 2. This meeting is being recorded.**

**3. General Questions, Comments, Petitions from the Floor**

Mark LaVarnway inquired as to the progress concerning the many complaints about the 2023 assessments, specifically the complaint that was filed with his name included.

Councilor Eggleston responded that he had spoken to the town's lawyer and there was no concern as this was being treated as a heated argument and nothing was going to come out of it. It would not be worth spending the taxpayer's money. Councilor Eggleston indicated he and Michele were working with the assessor. The Supervisor indicated the progress seemed very slow even by government standards.

Michael Layn also inquired as to the status of assessments. Discussion was held.

Thomas Maggy made very pointed comments about what he felt was the poor quality of the 2023 assessments. He indicated that virtually all of the attendees at Grievance Day had legitimate concerns. He further indicated that there were many more complaints than usual. Most years there are few complaints, and many are unfounded. This year however, they were much more legitimate and that Mr. Galarnau's reaction to many of the attendees was unprofessional.

**4. Correspondence**

- A.
- B.
- C.

**5. Supervisor's Report** – Supervisor opened his report with a listing of the many goals and issues that should be addressed in 2024

A. Goals for 2024: Bicentennial, website, Town Hall renovations, accounting, storm recovery, road shoulders, Rita Wilson playground, Standish playground, bathhouse renovations, ballfield improvements, etc. We are still looking for volunteers to help with

the Bicentennial events. Town Hall renovations are being done to the kitchen, new cabinets, flooring, dry wall, painting and counter tops. Future plans are to replace all the carpets and some ceiling work. Still have issues with accounting, road shoulders need work. The Saranac Legion is looking into buying a swing set for the Rita Wilson playground, discussion was held regarding the Standish playground. Ballfield improvements include a fence, clay for bases and foul poles.

B. Cleaner Position – Supervisor indicated there has not been a cleaner for some time.  
**Resolution 16-2024 Authorization to advertise for a cleaner position for approx. 10 hrs. per week at a rate of pay of \$17.50 an hour. Motion by James, second by Michele – all in favor**

C. Reserve Account – The Supervisor indicated we received the forms to establish a reserve account for employee health insurance. As this had failed to be accomplished for several years the Supervisor indicated he felt it was futile to reapply.

D. CD for Chips – As had been indicated at the Organizational meeting the Supervisor recommended moving over \$450,000 of chips reimbursements into a 12 month CD at Community Bank at a rate of 5.10%. Discussion ensued and a motion was made to set up a CD for \$450,000 at Community Bank.

**Resolution 17-2024 – Motion made to set up a 12 month CD at Community Bank for \$450,000 at a rate of 5.10%. Motion by James, second by Michele – All in favor**

E. Health Insurance – **Resolution 18-2024 - Motion to rescind Resolution 86-219 and to allow the elected Highway Superintendent access to Health Insurance with a 25% contribution. Motion by Tim, second by Conner – All in favor**

F. Fema Authorization – See Resolution 15-2024

G.

H.

I.

J.

K.

L.

6. **Highway** – Highway Superintendent indicated he is looking into the most practical way to get the damaged truck back in service. It was further determined that we need a specific policy as to how mailboxes will be replaced.

A. Trucks – It was felt that the Volvo truck was well worth a motor.

**Resolution 18-2024 – Motion for Highway Superintendent to get a price on the motor for the Volvo and poll the board to possibly purchase before the next board meeting.**

**Motion by James, second by Tim – All in favor**

B. Employees

C.

D.

## 7. Reports

A. Town Clerk -**Resolution 19-2024 - Accept the Town Clerks report for the month of December 2023. Motion by James, second by Tracey – All in favor**

B. Water districts –

- a. Redford- There appears to be a substantial increase in the Redford water district. Barry Newcomb and Michele shared info about the situation, it is not clear what

the exact problem is. Michele indicated some of the required parts were on backorder and Pat Chase was working on the situation.

- b. Standish –
  - c. Saranac –
  - C. Town Crier –
  - D. Tax Collector –
  - E. Assessor –
  - F. Code Officer –
  - G. Dog Control Officer – Lou Plante indicated he had responded to several situations and he had visited the Tri-lakes animal shelter. The guidance he received indicated that a humane trap is an appropriate way to deal with stray dogs. The board indicated a willingness to purchase the supplies needed but encouraged him to reach out to NYS representative Janet Collier.
  - H. Community Outreach program –
  - I. Building –
  - J. Historian –
  - K. Recreation -
    - a.
    - b.
    - c.
  - L. Capital projects –
- 8. Resolution 20 -2024 Authorization to Pay Audited Warrant dated 1/8/24  
Motion by James, second by Tracey – All in favor**
- 9. Resolution 21-2024 Accept the minutes of the previous meeting dated 12/18/23  
Motion by James, second by Tim – All in favor**
- 10. Executive Session: Personnel / Legal – Motion by Supervisor Napper to go into executive session at 7:45, second by Michele.  
Motion by Supervisor Napper to reconvene at 8:15, second by James**
- 11. Other**
- 12. Unfinished Business**
- 13. New Business**
- 14. Questions, Comments, Petitions from the Floor**
- 15. Adjournment @ 8:16 Motion by Tracey, second by Conner – All in favor**

**Board Meeting January 22, at 6:00 PM at Town Hall  
Board Meeting February 12, at 6:00 PM at Town Hall**

**Respectfully submitted**

**Debbie Pellerin**