

Supervisor Hoffman made a motion to open the Town Board meeting at 7:01PM, it was seconded by Councilman Hurley. All approved.

Supervisor Hoffman opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag and a moment of silence. He then pointed out the fire exits.

Present were Councilman Hurley, Councilman Moore, Councilman Nelson, Councilman Wells and Supervisor Hoffman. Also present were Highway Superintendent Sylvester, Town Attorney Goodge, Assessor Baker, Assessor's Clerk Secreto, Town Clerk Nelson and 15 members of the public.

Supervisor Hoffman made a motion to accept the minutes from January's meeting; it was seconded by Councilman Wells. All approved

Supervisor Hoffman explained that the Supervisor's report is available for viewing on the bulletin board throughout the meeting.

Town Clerk Nelson read the town clerk's report.

Supervisor Hoffman made a motion to pay the General town bills claims #27-56 totaling \$51,758.02, it was seconded by Councilman Nelson. All approved.

Councilman Wells made a motion to make a transfer and pay the Highway town bills claims #57-67 totaling \$30,091.37, it was seconded by Councilman Hurley. All approved.

Supervisor Hoffman Introduced Daniel Baker, our new assessor, and Mary Secreto, his assistant. He mentioned you can call with any questions, and the Ulster County parcel viewer is also always available online. He discussed the idea of reassessment and what it will consist of. He will be putting together a proposal of revaluation together to hopefully put out after the final tax roll of 2026 is out. If this is done it will be most likely 2028 or 2029.

A resident questioned why the school taxes increased as they did, it was explained there was an increase in valuation and with the equalization rate that means the taxes increased.

Councilman Hurley questioned the process used to reevaluate the properties. Daniel explained a request for proposals to be put out to companies to come in and re-inventory properties to review and make sure the information on file is correct and adjusted as needed.

Councilman Nelson questioned properties that are grossly undervalued in our town and what we can do to fix that. Daniel explained that if there is inventory there that is not in the data set, such as land listed as vacant that has a building on the property it can be adjusted.

He explained that the assessor's office sent out senior exemption notices and made sure to note that due dates are no later than March 1st.

There will be a lot of communication between residents, the town, contactors doing the revaluation, the assessor's office.

Supervisor Hoffman made a motion to allow Assessor Dan Baker send out RFP's for the revaluation, it was seconded by Councilman Hurley. All approved.

Councilman Moore expressed the great job the highway department had done with the snow removal from the last storm. All agreed. Highway superintendent expressed there was an issue with residents putting snow out into the road which is illegal.

Councilman Hurley mentioned he had received a hydrological report about the Zena Development, it did mention Sweet Meadows specifically, stating there will be some draw, but it will be minimal, mainly affecting the front houses. They still have not addressed the issue of extra water such as rainwater being dumped from the 31 sites and how it would possibly affect the Town, especially Melissa Rd. He did attend a Town of Woodstock board meeting where they issued a resolution to set a meeting to meet with all the boards since the Town of Ulster seems to be getting all the benefits whereas Town of Woodstock is receiving all the cost.

Councilman Wells mentioned he still working on a celebration for Earth Day, Spring Celebration or something along those lines. He has spoken to DEC, UCRRA, DEP and other places that may be interested in being there, as well as possibly a Farmer's Market. He also mentioned possibly beautifying the back hill.

Councilman Nelson didn't have anything this meeting.

Supervisor Hoffman did mention the Tom Cole was reappointed to the Board of Assessment Review on October 1st.

Supervisor Hoffman mentioned that Councilman Moore, Superintendent Sylvester, the highway secretary Stephanie and himself did a fuel cost review for the highway department. They are currently using a gas card that saves the town a little money on taxes. After the review and speaking with the Town of Ulster Highway Dept. as well as Supervisor Quigley, the decision was made to use the Town of Ulster Highway Dept. for fuel in turn saving anywhere from .30 to .70 cents per gallon.

Supervisor Hoffman made a motion to put in place a 6-month moratorium on any commercial building on Hill Rd until a water survey can be done with the town residents, as there are multiple water issues. It was seconded by Councilman Moore. All approved.

Another resident on Jockey Hill asked if they could be surveyed as well since this could affect them as well.

A resident questioned what was possibly being built there on Hill Road to call for this moratorium. It was explained that a storage warehouse was a possibility, but no permit application has been put into the planning board yet.

Another resident questioned the driveway being built up to Sawkill Rd before 765, it was commented on that yes it in the Town of Kingston and as of yet no application has been put to the planning board for that property.

Supervisor Hoffman made a motion to enter into an executive session for a discussion on an employee insurance issue and an employee reappointment issue. It was seconded by Councilman Hurley. All approved.

Supervisor Hoffman made a motion to close the executive session; it was seconded by Councilman Hurley. All approved.

Supervisor Hoffman announced that the town board would be holding interviews for the planning board position and would hopefully have an answer about the position at the next board meeting.

He also mentioned needing to contact our insurance company to research an issue with an employee's insurance benefits.

A resident questioned that we have received applications for the planning board positions. Supervisor Hoffman answered that we had received 3 applications. As of yet we have received no applications for the planning board secretary position.

Supervisor Hoffman motioned to adjourn the meeting, it was seconded by Councilman Nelson. All Approved. The meeting was adjourned at 8:37PM.

Respectfully Submitted, Linda M. Nelson, Town Clerk