

**TOWN OF NEW BERLIN
TOWN BOARD MEETING MINUTES
October 15, 2024**

Public Hearing: 5:45 Local law #2 Override the tax cap levy limit

Wendy Rifanburg called the Public hearing to order
Local law was explained

One individual asked why we need to go over, Supervisor Rifanburg answered that we don't anticipate to however if we needed to the local law had to be approved in advance.

A motion was made by Christian to close the public hearing and open the regular Board meeting, seconded by Parks. Parks: Y Wales-Wright: Y Stockwell: Y Rifanburg: Y Christian: Y Carried 5-0

Call TO ORDER

Wendy Rifanburg called the Regular Monthly meeting of the Town Board at the Town Hall to order at 6:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Supervisor: Wendy Rifanburg

Council Members Present: John Parks, April Christian, Roy Stockwell, Sarah Wales-Wright

Town Clerk: Deborah Barker

Absent:

Wendy Rifanburg led the salute to the Flag

PUBLIC COMMENTS

- Mr. Holifield discussed issues he was having with a neighbor involving a sluice pipe, and driveway erosion at Chenango Lake, the Board will look further into the issue.
- Update on the Cameras should start installation beginning of November

PREVIOUS MONTHS BOARD MEETING MINUTES ACCEPTED

Christian motioned to accept the Meeting Minutes for September 09 12, 2024, seconded by Parks. Parks: Y Wales-Wright: Abstention Stockwell: Y Rifanburg: Y Christian: Y Carried 4-1 (Abstention)

Stockwell motioned to accept the Spec Meeting Minutes for October 09, 2024, seconded by Christian. Parks: Abstained Wales-Wright: Abstention Stockwell: Y Rifanburg: Y Christian: Y Carried 3-2 (Abstentions)

ACCEPT MONTHLY REPORTS

Christian motioned to accept the monthly reports for filing, seconded by Stockwell. Parks: Y Wales-Wright: Y Stockwell: Y Rifanburg: Y Christian: Y Carried 5-0

Supervisor – Report submitted verbally

Highway- Report submitted

Police – Report submitted

Town Justice – Report submitted

A motion was made by Christian to hire an extra Court Clerk @ 20.00 per hour to assist in a Jury trial the Court will have on 10/24/24, seconded by Wales-Wright. Parks: Y Wales-Wright: Y Stockwell: Y Rifanburg: Y Christian: Y Carried 5-0

SNBWD – Report submitted

Tabled discussion on Lizzies Campground water situation until more information is obtained

Assessor -

Parks made a motion to approve the assessor request to change office hours to Monday evening 5:30-8:30, seconded by Stockwell. Parks: Y Wales-Wright: Y Stockwell: Y Rifanburg: Y Christian: Y Carried 5-0

Town Clerk – Report submitted

Motion was made by Stockwell to give the Deputy Clerk a 2% raise in the 2025 budget, seconded by Christian. Parks: N Wales-Wright: Y Stockwell: Y Rifanburg: A Christian: Y Carried 3-2 (1 No, 1 Abstention).

Millbrook- Report submitted

Wales-Wright made a motion to approve Connie Lewis to take this week and next off, seconded by Stockwell. Parks: Y Wales-Wright: Y Stockwell: Y Rifanburg: Y Christian: Y Carried 5-0

ACCEPT COMMITTEE MINUTES

Planning Board Committee:

- September 05, 2024 Minutes submitted

BOARD MEMBER COMMITTEE

Highway: John Parks

Buildings and Grounds: John Parks

Youth Program: Sarah Wales-Wright

Ambulance: Wendy Rifanburg

Police: April Christian

A motion was made by Parks to spend the \$45,500 LE Tech Grant as the OIC wishes without Board approval as long as it's within the approved listed items within the grant, seconded by Wales-Wright.

Parks: Y Wales-Wright: Y Stockwell: Y Rifanburg: Y Christian: Y Carried 5-0

SNB Water District: Roy Stockwell

APPROVAL OF FINANCIAL REPORTS

Wales-Wright motioned to accept month-end financial reports, operating statements, and revolving loan funds, seconded by Christian. Parks: Y Wales-Wright: Y Stockwell: Y Rifanburg: Y Christian: Y Carried 5-0

- October 17 meeting the revolving loan committee will elect officers and discuss applications and interest rates

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

- Rifanburg motioned to approve Connie Lewis's request to change the Clerk to the Supervisors hours from M-Th 8-12 to Mon-Tue 8-4, seconded by Wales-Wright. Parks: Y Wales-Wright: Y Stockwell: Y Rifanburg: Y Christian: Y Carried 5-0
- A motion was made by Wales-Wright to amend the personnel policy to only Police Officers are entitled to Overtime after their scheduled shift, with Dept. head approval, seconded by Parks. Parks: Y Wales-Wright: Y Stockwell: Y Rifanburg: Y Christian: Y Carried 5-0

- A motion was made by Christian to amend the purchase policy increasing the sealed bid amount to 20,000, seconded by Parks. After further discussion this was tables.
- A motion was made by Wales-Wright to approve an Amazon gift card for the Town seal winner for \$100.00, seconded by Christian. After further discussion it was determined that several Town employees would contribute their own personal funds for the purchase of the gift card.
- A motion was made by Christian to move the Regular Board meeting to Tuesday November 12 due to the holiday, seconded by Stockwell. Parks: Y Wales-Wright: Y Stockwell: Y Rifanburg: Y Christian: Y Carried 5-0
- A motion was made by Christian to schedule a public hearing on November 12 @ 5:45 for the 2025 Budget, seconded by Wales-Wright. Parks: Y Wales-Wright: Y Stockwell: Y Rifanburg: Y Christian: Y Carried 5-0
- Stockwell made a motion to approve the estimate of \$3410.00 with a \$1000.00 additional if needed, submitted by Norton gas to set up a tank for the generator in the SNBWD, seconded by Parks. Parks: Y Wales-Wright: Y Stockwell: Y Rifanburg: Y Christian: Y Carried 5-0

Resolution #51 Authorization to pay the audited vouchers 09/09-10/15/24

RESOLUTION INTRODUCED BY: Parks SECONDED BY: Christian

ROLL CALL VOTE

PARKS: Y STOCKWELL: Y CHRISTIAN: Y RIFANBURG: Y WALES-WRIGHT: A

YES: 4 NO: 0 ABSTENTION: 1 ABSENT:

CARRIED: X NOT CARRIED:

Resolution #52 of 2024 – To levy Unpaid South New Berlin water charges – Chenango County (SNB)

RESOLUTION INTRODUCED BY: Stockwell SECONDED BY: Rifanburg

ROLL CALL VOTE

PARKS: Y STOCKWELL: Y CHRISTIAN: Y RIFANBURG: Y WALES-WRIGHT: Y

YES: 5 NO: 0 ABSTENTION: 0 ABSENT: 0

CARRIED: X NOT CARRIED:

Resolution #53 of 2024 – To levy Unpaid South New Berlin water charges – Otsego County (Morris)

RESOLUTION INTRODUCED BY: Stockwell SECONDED BY: Rifanburg

ROLL CALL VOTE

PARKS: Y STOCKWELL: Y CHRISTIAN: Y RIFANBURG: Y WALES-WRIGHT: Y

YES: 5 NO: 0 ABSTENTION: 0 ABSENT: 0

CARRIED: X NOT CARRIED:

Resolution #54 of 2024 – To levy Unpaid South New Berlin water charges – Otsego County (Butternuts)

RESOLUTION INTRODUCED BY: Stockwell SECONDED BY: Rifanburg

ROLL CALL VOTE

PARKS: Y STOCKWELL: Y CHRISTIAN: Y RIFANBURG: Y WALES-WRIGHT: Y

YES: 5 NO: 0 ABSTENTION: 0 ABSENT: 0

CARRIED: X NOT CARRIED:

Local Law #2 of 2024 – To override the tax levy limit

INTRODUCED BY: Stockwell SECONDED BY: Parks

ROLL CALL VOTE

PARKS: Y STOCKWELL: Y CHRISTIAN: Y RIFANBURG: Y WALES-WRIGHT: Y

YES: 5 NO: 0 ABSTENTION: 0 ABSENT: 0

CARRIED: X NOT CARRIED:

EXECUTIVE SESSION 8:17PM

A motion was made by Rifanburg to go into executive session to discuss Police personnel, seconded by Christian.

REGULAR SESSION 8:25

A motion was made by Parks to return to regular session, seconded by Wales-Wright

No decisions were made

The Supervisor passed out a letter to the editor explaining the Town Boards reasons for wanting the public to vote YES on the proposition set forth on the Ballot this election cycle. The Board read it and Parks made a motion to approve the letter being submitted, seconded by Wales-Wright. Parks: Y Wales-Wright: Y Stockwell: Y Rifanburg: Y Christian: Y Carried 5-0

CORRESPONDENCE

None

ADJOURN 8:27 PM

Wales-Wright made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Stockwell. Parks: Y Wales-Wright: Y Stockwell: Y Rifanburg: Y Christian: Y Carried 5-0

On October 15, 2024, meeting minutes were taken and typed by Deborah Barker, Town Clerk.