

**Town Board Meeting  
Monday May 11th, 7:00pm**

**7:00 pm – 9:07 pm**

**Hybrid/ in person & via zoom**

**Present**

Supervisor Brenda Adams

Councilperson Frank Wood

Councilperson Ginny Nightingale

Councilperson Brian Lifsec

**Absent**

Councilperson Victoria Mills

**Also in attendance**

Town Clerk Sandy Bevens

Highway Superintendent Harry McMann

Website Consultant Shari Franks

**Audience:** 15 plus 9 online

**Call to Order**

**Moment of Silence & Pledge of Allegiance**

Supervisor Adams called the meeting to order with a moment of silence and the pledge of allegiance.

**New Website Presentation**

Supervisor Adams introduced website consultant Shari Franks, who is working with the Town on the redesign of the Town website. Supervisor Adams turned the meeting over to Shari Franks who gave a preview of how the new website will work when completed.

**Approvals****Minutes**

Supervisor Adams asked if everyone had a chance to review the minutes and if there were any questions or comments. There were none. Supervisor Adams asked if there was a motion to approve the minutes. Councilperson Lifsec made a motion to approve, seconded by Councilperson Wood. 4 AYES- motion carried.

Supervisor Brenda Adams- Aye

Councilperson Brian Lifsec- Aye

Councilperson Ginny Nightingale- Aye

Councilperson Victoria Mills- Absent

Councilperson Frank Wood- Aye

**Bills**

Supervisor Adams asked if everyone had a chance to review the bills and if there were any questions. Councilperson Wood had questions regarding tracking where road materials are being used and how often. Superintendent McMann stated there is a form they use for this. Supervisor Adams also noted that Superintendent McMann had spent the last month with his team trying to organize this process, and that historically this data had not been collected. Supervisor Adams asked for a motion to approve the bills. Councilperson Lifsec made a motion to approve, seconded by Councilperson Nightingale.

Supervisor Brenda Adams- Aye

Councilperson Brian Lifsec- Aye

Councilperson Ginny Nightingale-Aye

Councilperson Victoria Mills- Absent

Councilperson Frank Wood- Aye

**Financials**

Supervisor Adams asked if everyone had a chance to review the financial and if there were any questions, there were none. Councilperson Lifsec commented on being financially stable and being responsible and paying attention to factors affecting costs. Supervisor Adams asked for a

motion to approve the financials. Councilperson Wood made a motion to approve; seconded by Councilperson Nightingale. 4 AYES- motion carried.

Supervisor Brenda Adams-Aye

Councilperson Brian Lifsec- Aye

Councilperson Ginny Nightingale- Ayes

Councilperson Victoria Mills- Absent

Councilperson Frank Wood- Aye

### **Highway Report**

Superintendent McMann presented his report and asked if anyone had any questions.

Supervisor Adams noted that the report contained some of the information Councilperson Wood had just inquired about.

### **Resolutions & Motions**

#### **Resolution 79 to Approve MVP & Delta Dental 2026-27 renewals**

Supervisor Adams read the resolution and asked if there were any questions; there were none.

Supervisor Adams asked for a motion to approve. Councilperson Lifsec made a motion, seconded by Councilperson Nightingale. 4 AYES- motion carried.

Supervisor Brenda Adams- Aye

Councilperson Brian Lifsec- Aye

Councilperson Ginny Nightingale- Aye

Councilperson Victoria Mills- Absent

Councilperson Frank Wood- Aye

#### **Resolution 80 to Approve Anthem Vision 2026-27 renewal**

Supervisor Adams read the resolution and asked if there were any questions, there were none.

Supervisor Adams asked if there was a motion to approve. Councilperson Lifsec made a motion, seconded by Councilperson Wood. 4 AYES- motion carried.

Supervisor Brenda Adams- Aye

Councilperson Brian Lifsec- Aye

Councilperson Ginny Nightingale-Aye

Councilperson Victoria Mills- Absent

Councilperson Frank Wood- Aye

**Resolution 81 to Appoint Tom Platten & Craig Dillon to Housing Committee**

Supervisor Adams read the resolution and asked if anyone had any questions, there were none. Supervisor Adams asked for a motion to approve. Councilperson Nightingale made a motion, seconded by Councilperson Lifsec. 4 AYES- motion carried.

Supervisor Brenda Adams- Aye

Councilperson Brian Lifsec- Aye

Councilperson Ginny Nightingale- Aye

Councilperson Victoria Mills- Absent

Councilperson Frank Wood- Aye

**Resolution 82 to approve Heat Emergency Plan**

Supervisor Adams explained the resolution and asked if anyone had any questions, there were none. Supervisor Adams asked for a motion to approve. Councilperson Nightingale made a motion; seconded by Councilperson Lifsec. 4 AYES- motion carried.

Supervisor Brenda Adams- Aye

Councilperson Brian Lifsec- Aye

Councilperson Ginny Nightingale- Aye

Councilperson Victoria Mills- Absent

Councilperson Frank Wood- Aye

**Resolution 83 to approve agreement with Columbia Real Property for Reval administration**

Supervisor Adams read the resolution and asked if there were any questions. Councilperson Nightingale asked if the last payment made in 2028 would be after all the work had been completed. Supervisor Adams stated the work would be finished by then. Supervisor Adams asked for a motion to approve. Councilperson Lifsec made a motion; seconded by Councilperson Nightingale. 4 AYES- motion carried.

Supervisor Brenda Adams- Aye

Councilperson Brian Lifsec- Aye

Councilperson Ginny Nightingale- Aye

Councilperson Victoria Mills- Absent

Councilperson Frank Wood- Aye

#### **Resolution 84 to Address Electrical Rates and Programs**

Supervisor Adams read the resolution and asked if there were any questions, there were none.

Supervisor Adams noted that similar resolutions were currently going before 19 of the towns in Columbia County, and that a similar one would be brought up at the County meeting.

Supervisor Adams asked for a motion to approve. Councilperson Nightingale made a motion; seconded by Councilperson Lifsec. 4 AYES- motion carried.

Supervisor Brenda Adams- Aye

Councilperson Brian Lifsec- Aye

Councilperson Ginny Nightingale- Aye

Councilperson Victoria Mills- Absent

Councilperson Frank Wood- Aye

#### **Resolution 85 to Budget Amendment/ Donation to Community Day**

Supervisor Adams read the resolution and asked if there were any questions, there were none.

Supervisor Adams asked for a motion to approve. Councilperson Lifsec made a motion; seconded by Councilperson Nightingale. 4 AYES- motion carried.

Supervisor Brenda Adams- Aye

Councilperson Brian Lifsec- Aye

Councilperson Ginny Nightingale- Aye

Councilperson Victoria Mills- Absent

Councilperson Frank Wood- Aye

#### **Resolution 86 to Approve Standard Employment Hours for New Employees**

Supervisor Adams read the resolution and asked if there were any questions, there were none.

Supervisor Adams asked for a motion to approve. Councilperson Lifsec made a motion; seconded by Councilperson Wood. 4 AYES

Supervisor Brenda Adams- Aye

Councilperson Brian Lifsec- Aye

Councilperson Ginny Nightingale- Aye

Councilperson Victoria Mills- Absent

Councilperson Frank Wood- Aye

### **Resolution 87 to Amend Copier Contract**

Supervisor Adams read the resolution and asked if there were any questions, there were none. Supervisor Adams asked if there was a motion to approve. Councilperson Nightingale made a motion; seconded by Councilperson Lifsec.

Supervisor Brenda Adams- Aye

Councilperson Brian Lifsec- Aye

Councilperson Ginny Nightingale- Aye

Councilperson Victoria Mills- Absent

Councilperson Frank Wood- Aye

### **Resolution 88 to Appoint Brenda Dorato as Transfer Station Enforcement Officer**

Supervisor Adams read the resolution and asked if there were any questions, there were none. Supervisor Adams asked if there was a motion to approve. Councilperson Lifsec made a motion; seconded by Councilperson Nightingale. 4 AYES- motion carried.

Supervisor Brenda Adams- Aye

Councilperson Brian Lifsec- Aye

Councilperson Ginny Nightingale- Aye

Councilperson Victoria Mills- Absent

Councilperson Frank Wood- Aye

### **Motions**

#### **Motion to send Local Law #2 of 2026 to County Planning**

Supervisor Adams presented the Law and explained its purpose. Supervisor Adams asked if there were any questions or anything to add. Councilperson Wood asked how long the process would take. Supervisor Adams noted it would take a couple of months. Supervisor Adams asked for a motion to send Local Law #2 to the County for approval. Councilperson Nightingale made a motion; seconded by Councilperson Lifsec. 4 AYES- motion carried.

Supervisor Brenda Adams- Aye

Councilperson Brian Lifsec- Aye

Councilperson Ginny Nightingale- Ayes

Councilperson Victoria Mills-Absent

Councilperson Frank Wood- Aye

### **Other Business**

#### **Broadband Grant Update**

Supervisor Adams noted there continued to be problems with the credentials of the engineer being accepted and that staff from the governor's office were assisting with this matter. Supervisor Adams also noted that a couple of residents on Maple Dr had called to say they had installations being done.

#### **Website Update**

Supervisor Adams stated they hoped to have comments from department heads on the new website back in a week.

#### **Vacancies: Ethics Committee, Climate Smart Task Force**

Supervisor Adams noted that several vacancies had been filled, but there were still vacancies left to be filled on the Ethics Committee and the Climate Smart Task Force.

#### **Stoddard Park Master Plan**

Supervisor Adams turned the floor over to Suzanne Michael to update the Board on the Master Plan project. Suzanne noted that the project was now available for viewing on the website and that it had 2 parts. There was a survey to be completed and an interactive map that lets you move around to view the different areas of the park. Suzanne urged residents to please visit the site and fill out the survey, so we have community input for the plan.

#### **Update on Beach Donation**

Supervisor Adams noted that the attorneys were talking and hoped to have an agreement soon.

### **Zoning Revision Committee Appointments/pending Comp Plan approval**

Supervisor Adams noted the appointments are pending and dependent on Comp Plan approval.

### **Annual Vision Insurance Renewal**

Supervisor Adams noted that this had been renewed.

### **Summer Youth Program**

Supervisor Adams noted a young woman had applied to the County for an internship and a tailor-made position had been created for her at the Department of Social Services.

### **Review Of Heat Emergency Plan**

Supervisor Adams noted this had already been approved.

### **Planning & Zoning Clerk appointment**

Supervisor Adams stated a clerk had been appointed and that she was starting to catch up on the backlog.

## **Board Discussion/ Committee Reports**

### **Planning Board/ ZBA Report**

Councilperson Nightingale noted there had been no ZBA meeting. Councilperson Nightingale stated the Planning Board is looking at a couple of projects. Mr. Belknap was selling 35 acres to the Cave Conservancy. She noted the Cave Conservancy already has a piece of land off Tunnel Hill Rd that granted access to the caves, but that this sale will allow for easier access to the original land. Councilperson Nightingale also noted that another storage building was going up at Bervy Storage site.

### **Climate Smart Task Force**

Supervisor Adams stated there had been a couple of Earth Day events that the Task Force had participated in. There was a multi-town Earth Day event in Spencertown and a Town Park Clean Up day. She also noted that Columbia County Soil and Water had donated a tree for planting in front of Town Hall in honor of Earth Day and the country's 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary. Supervisor Adams also noted that with passage of the Heat with Emergency Plan and the reduction of fuel consumption associated with using our heat pumps, this gave us a certain number of points that made us eligible to apply for our Silver Certification.



## **Recreation**

Councilperson Nightingale stated 5 lifeguards had been hired. The program needs 6 but can be run with 5. She also noted that the program had been re-registered with the Red Cross, so everything is set to go. The program will run from July 6<sup>th</sup> to August 14<sup>th</sup>, from 10 am to 12 pm.

## **Transfer Station**

Supervisor Adams stated the Town tonnage was up 3% for April this year, but down 13% year over year. She also noted that the New Lebanon Recycling Station would stay closed due to staffing shortages. Residents should use the Chatham Station for recycling.

## **Comp Plan**

Supervisor Adams stated that the County Planning Board did not meet in April due to a lack of quorum and it would be reviewed in their next meeting.

## **Local Law #2 of 2026 for a Development Moratorium to Allow for Zoning Revisions**

Supervisor Adams noted that the motion had been made to send it to the County.

## **Spring Newsletter update mailed**

Supervisor Adams noted Christine had sent out emails for updates and that if anyone had an event, they would like to be included in the newsletter to please email Christine.

## **Cyber Training required for all employees by Jan 1<sup>st</sup>, 2027**

Supervisor Adams explained that this was a new, mandatory requirement for all employees and key volunteers and must be completed by January 1, 2027. Trainings covering workplace violence and sexual harassment will also be required annually of employees and key volunteers.

## **Pattern for Progress Quarterly Housing report**

Supervisor Adams noted that numbers for Columbia County were still dire in terms of rising costs and housing availability continuing to decline.

## **Special Meetings**

Supervisor Adams noted that the revised Comp Plan had been out and available for a month on the website. Supervisor Adams asked the board if there were any additional changes or additions that need to be made, there were none. Supervisor Adams stated the next step in this is to hold a Public Hearing. A Public Hearing was proposed for June 3<sup>rd</sup> at 7 pm. Supervisor Adams asked for a motion to schedule the hearing. Councilperson Nightingale made a motion, seconded by Councilperson Lifsec. 4 AYES- motion carried.

Supervisor Brenda Adams- Aye

Councilperson Brian Lifsec- Aye

Councilperson Ginny Nightingale- Aye

Councilperson Victoria Mills- Absent

Councilperson Frank Wood- Aye

Supervisor Adams explained that the next tentative step, dependent on the public hearing, would be to schedule the SEQR review. Supervisor Adams suggested June 16<sup>th</sup> from 5 to 7 pm and asked for a motion to schedule. Councilperson Nightingale made a motion, seconded by Councilperson Lifsec. 4 AYES- motion carried.

Supervisor Brenda Adams- Aye

Councilperson Brian Lifsec- Aye

Councilperson Ginny Nightingale- Aye

Councilperson Victoria Mills-Absent

Councilperson Frank Wood- Aye

### **Assessors Report**

Supervisor Adams asked if there were any questions about the Assessor's report, there were none. Supervisor Adams noted that some questions had started to come in about changes to the assessment. Supervisor Adams encouraged people with questions to reach out directly to the Assessor. Supervisor Adams also noted that Grievance Day was scheduled for June 2<sup>nd</sup>.

### **Public Discussion**

Supervisor Adams took a moment to thank Superintendent Mc Mann and Councilperson Lifsec for their work in completing the fleet report. Supervisor Adams also noted that a copy of the ARPA report had been included in the correspondence and it showed not only the federal requirements, but a spreadsheet Supervisor Adams put together showing the town had substantially extended their ARPA funds and had completed all but one project, which is listed as 50% complete.

Supervisor Adams stated there would be a news story on Channel 10 news regarding The Together for Youth property sale to Darrow School.

Supervisor Adams announced TFY had reversed their decision to allow lake residents to use their boat launch. There is an application form that residents need to fill out to use the launch.

Supervisor Adams noted that the application requires boats to be registered and the boat operator to be certified. Councilperson Wood asked what it means for residents who have deeds that say they have 'lake rights', but don't live on the lake. It was explained that this is outdated language and basically means that the residents can purchase a membership to the Adams Point Beach Association.

\*10 online via Zoom\*

Gary Grill took a moment to thank the Supervisor for mediating an agreement for lake residents to use the TFY boat launch.

Lisa Robinson Schoeller asked how long the moratorium would be for. Supervisor Adams noted it would be for one year. She then asked if an EIS would be done. Supervisor Adams stated an EIS would be done if it was triggered by future changes to the Zoning Law.

Cheryl Sloseck asked what deeded lake rights mean as to swimming or fishing rights. Supervisor Adams deferred to answer because a legal opinion was being asked for.

Supervisor Adams asked if there were any online questions. There were none. Supervisor Adams asked if there were any more questions from the audience or the Board. There were none. Supervisor Adams asked for a motion to move to Executive Session to discuss a contract matter, personnel matter, and a legal matter. Councilperson Nightingale made a motion, seconded by Councilperson Lifsec. 4 AYES- motion carried.

Supervisor Brenda Adams- Aye

Councilperson Brian Lifsec- Aye

Councilperson Ginny Nightingale- Aye

Councilperson Victoria Mills-Absent

Councilperson Frank Wood- Aye

#### **Executive Session (8:29pm-9:06pm)**

The Board returned. Supervisor Adams declared no decisions were made in Executive Session. Supervisor Adams asked for a motion to move out of Executive Session. Councilperson Lifsec made a motion; seconded by Councilperson Nightingale. 4 AYES- motion carried.

Supervisor Brenda Adams- Aye

Councilperson Brian Lifsec- Aye

Councilperson Ginny Nightingale- Aye

Councilperson Victoria Mills-Absent

Councilperson Frank Wood- Aye

**Motion to Adjourn**

Supervisor asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:07. Councilperson Nightingale made a motion to adjourn; seconded by Councilperson Lifsec. 4 AYES-motion carried.

Supervisor Brenda Adams- Aye

Councilperson Brian Lifsec- Aye

Councilperson Ginny Nightingale- Aye

Councilperson Victoria Mills- Absent

Councilperson Frank Wood- Aye.