

May 8, 2018 – Regular Meeting

The regular meeting of the Gardiner Town Board was held this evening at the Gardiner Town Hall at 7 PM. Supervisor Majestic presided with Councilwoman Walls and Councilmen Dukler & Wiegand. Councilman Reynolds was absent. There were approximately 27± audience members present.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

May 11 – joint spaghetti dinner Gardiner Fire Dept. and Stone Ridge Fire Dept. from 4 to 8 PM. This dinner is to benefit the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society and Esther Roosa.

May 15- Burn Ban expires.

May 20 – Knights of Columbus Pancake Breakfast at St. Charles Church Hall from 9 AM to 12 PM.

May 28 – Town Hall closed in observance of Memorial Day.

WALLKILL RIVER CLEAN SWEEP

This was held on Saturday May 5 and was well attended. It has been estimated that 1 ton of garbage was removed in and along the river. There were 40 volunteers and 21 bags.

CLOVE ROAD BRIDGE

The Town has received a red flag from the NYS DOT on the Clove Rd. Bridge. Once red flagged the bridge is to be closed within 40 days. The Town is working with the original bridge company to find a temporary fix to get through the summer. Supervisor Majestic will continue to reach out to Senator John Bonacic, County Executive Mike Hein and Glenn Hoagland of Mohonk Preserve with help on obtaining grant funds.

CONSOLIDATED FUND GRANT APPLICATION

The Consolidated Fund Grant Application has now been opened. Deadline for submission is July 27 at 4 PM. Supervisor Majestic discussed with the Town Board funding needs for the Town and whether or not the Town should make the effort to apply for this grant. Ms Majestic plans to schedule a call with Suzanne Holt of UC Economic Development to discuss the application.

TOWN BOARD LIAISONS

Supervisor Majestic asked Board members to think about what liaison position they would like to take on.

Councilwoman Walls stated that she would like to be a liaison to the Southern Ulster Alliance and the Shawangunk Mountain Scenic Byway and any inter-municipal project/committee.

Councilman Wiegand is interested in serving as Parks & Rec and Planning Board liaison.

Councilman Dukler will serve as liaison to the ECC, Transfer Station, Wallkill Valley Rail Trail and Climate Smart.

Councilman Wiegand suggested quarterly reporting and keeping in contact with each department/committee/board.

RESOLUTION ELECTRIC VEHICLE CHARGING STATION

Resolution No. 73 – EV Charging Station - Offered by Councilman Dukler

WHEREAS, the Town board for the Town of Gardiner seeks to promote a resilient, vibrant, and sustainable local economy the benefits residents and local businesses; and

WHEREAS, the Town Board recognizes that the impacts of climate change pose threats to our community, and that the public welfare is best served by policies and programs that reduce dependence on fossil fuels and promote investment in clean energy infrastructure; and

WHEREAS, the transportation sector accounts for nearly 45% of GHG emissions in the Mid-Hudson Region, according to the 2013 Mid-Hudson Regional Sustainability Plan, and promotion of electric vehicle (“EV”) use must be an important component of the Town’s efforts to address climate change and reduce GHG emissions; and

WHEREAS, the Town’s Comprehensive Plan prioritizes open-space environmentally-sound development, including community infrastructure and services, and promote innovative approaches to energy conservation and the development of renewable resources, specifically focused on increasing tourism and capitalizing on the town’s natural assets in ways that support the downtown business district, encourage smart growth and foster pedestrian-centered development; and

WHEREAS, the Town’s Comprehensive Plan seeks to recognize and support Tourism as an important part of the local economy, increase connectivity between the Wallkill Valley Rail Trail, downtown businesses, historical and cultural resources and to preserve, rehabilitate and strengthen existing hamlet areas as pedestrian-oriented activity centers; and

WHEREAS, the installation of a public EV charging station in the municipal parking lot located near the Gardiner Library, Rail Trail and the Gardiner Hamlet business district would serve these planning priorities and objectives by bringing visitors to town and encouraging travel by foot to shops, restaurants, and recreational and cultural amenities while vehicles are being charged; and

WHEREAS, the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) offers a rebate of \$8,000 per port for an EV charging station, covering 80% of the total project costs, including electricity for charging and networking fees/subscriptions for up to two years.

NOW THEREFORE IT BE RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Gardiner desires to purchase and install a public EV charging station equipped with two ports, to be located on Town property in the municipal parking lot at the entrance to the Gardiner Library; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Town Board expresses its strong support for the application to the NYS DEC’s 2017 Zero-Emission Vehicle and Infrastructure Municipal Rebate Program (Round Two) and commits to providing a minimum combined in-kind and financial contribution of 20 percent toward the match.

Seconded by Councilwoman Walls and carried.

Further discussion included the cost breakdown which included the 2 ports, software, iCloud Plan, installation, site prep, and electric to each port totaling cost of \$18,800. Councilman Dukler stated that pledges from local businesses will cover the electric costs for the next 2 years.

TILLSON LAKE DAM

The Town of Gardiner did not receive a complete lead agency request (no application or site map) therefore the Town adopted the following resolution requesting Palisades International Park Commission (PIPC) to withdraw their SEQR review request as it is incomplete.

Resolution No. 74 - Offered by Supervisor Majestic

Whereas, on March 28, 2018, the Town of Gardiner was informed of a letter sent to homeowners and residents in the Tillson Lake community explaining the intent of the Palisades Interstate Park Commission (PIPC) to remove the dam and dewater Tillson Lake; to revise the

2010 Minnewaska State Park Preserve Master Plan (Park Master Plan); and to proceed with the permit process for the dam removal; and

Whereas, the Town of Gardiner received a letter and Lead Agency Form from the NYS Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation (OPRHP) dated April 13, 2018, advising the Town that it is proposing to remove the Tillson Lake Dam and amend the 2010 Park Master Plan, further stating the OPRHP intends to serve as Lead Agency for this project and, further, that letter did not include the required “copy of the application, including a site map”; and

Whereas, Tillson Lake was created by damming the Palmaghatt Kill below the southeastern side of the Ridge and the Palmaghatt Kill flows southward down the ridge and then eastward into Tillson Lake and the Shawangunk Kill; and

Whereas, the Park Master Plan and Final Environmental Impact Statement, adopted on September 17, 2001, establish the protection of the water resources in the Park Preserve as a major goal of this Plan; and

Whereas, the FEIS findings considered relevant environmental impacts, facts and conclusions; weighed and balanced relevant environmental impacts with social, economic and other considerations; provide a rationale for the agency’s decision; certify that the requirements of 6 NYCRR Part 617 have been met; and certify that consistent with social, economic and other essential considerations from among the reasonable alternatives available, the action is one which avoids or minimizes adverse environmental impacts to the maximum extent practicable, and that included within the plan are those mitigation measures that will avoid or minimize adverse environmental impacts to the maximum extent practicable; and

Whereas, the Town of Gardiner Master Plan establishes the goal of protecting and preserving special natural resources and key water bodies and to improve opportunities for public access to recreation-related open space and waterways; and

Whereas, the Town of Gardiner Master Plan identifies Resource Protection/Open Space Recommendations and in fulfillment of those recommendations the Town of Gardiner continues cooperative efforts with the Mohonk Preserve, Shawangunk Mountains Regional Partnership, and other organizations to improve protection of the Shawangunk Ridge, the Shawangunk Kill, the Wallkill River and other waterways in the town;

Whereas, The Town of Gardiner Master Plan identifies the need to both broaden and stabilize the Town’s tax base, any devaluation of property values in the Town of Gardiner is unacceptable; and

Whereas, it is a Resource Protection Goal of the Town of Gardiner Master Plan to “Protect and preserve special natural resources and areas, unique geological and open space areas, and key water bodies and water sheds; and

Whereas, the Town of Gardiner is currently addressing town-wide concerns about water quantity and quality; and

Whereas, the Park Master Plan identifies Tillson Lake as the only one of the Park’s four lakes appropriate for fishing and if eliminated would dispossess fisher persons from a food source and a time-honored recreation, and the MP describes an improved parking area and a gravel boat launch be built to provide better for fishing and boating; and

Whereas, the community of fishers who regularly fish Tillson Lake report an abundance and diversity of fish in Tillson Lake which has also attracted the Bald Eagle and other birds of prey as well as a wide variety of wildlife surrounding the lake; and

Whereas, Tillson Lake provides a source of water for local Shawangunk Valley Fire Department and is used as a primary draft sight – most recently for a house fire on Beecher Hill Road - it is also the primary source for forest and brush fires.

Whereas, Tillson Lake is an historic gem of the “Resort Era” and many Gardiner local residents grew up spending summers swimming and picnicking and roller-skating and building community at Tillson Lake; and

Whereas, the Town of Gardiner values Tillson Lake and its role in our community, then and now, and further values Tillson Lake for its role in fulfilling the Minnewaska State Park Preserve Master Plan; and

Whereas, the Town of Gardiner has myriad questions about the “2012 Engineering Assessment Report for Tillson Lake Dam” prepared for OPHRP and PIPC related to transparency, failure to implement recommendations, and lack of prior coordination with the Town;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town of Gardiner respectfully requests that the PIPC and the OPRHP withdraw the application to the NYS DEC for decommissioning of the dam and revision of the Park Master Plan and rescind the notice regarding SEQR Lead Agency Designation.

Seconded by Councilwoman Walls and carried.

2018 HIGHWAY 284 AGREEMENT

Resolution No. 75 – 284 Agreement - Offered by Councilwoman Walls

Resolved, pursuant to Section 284 of the Highway Law, the Town Board of the Town of Gardiner hereby endorses and approves an agreement for the Expenditure of Highway Moneys dated May 1, 2018

Said agreement shall be signed by the majority of the members of the Town Board, with one copy to be filed with the Town Clerk; and

Further Resolved, that the Supervisor is hereby authorized to disburse moneys from the Highway Fund in accordance with said agreement.

Seconded by Councilman Dukler and carried.

MAJESTIC PARK PAVILION

After reviewing the draft RFP from Morris Associates for the Majestic Park Pavilion the Town Board has come to the conclusion that the pavilion will not be ready for Summer Rec. And with only 3 weeks between its end and Gardiner Day it was agreed that the construction of the new pavilion will be scheduled for sometime early Fall. The current pavilion has been removed by volunteers. Supervisor Majestic will call around to purchase a 30'X 60' tent which can be used for Gardiner Day as well. She will also inquire if any local tent companies would be interested in buying the tent from the Town after its use.

ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION COMMISSION

On motion of Supervisor Majestic, seconded by Councilman Dukler and carried, Janet Kern was appointed to the Environmental Conservation Commission.

PARKS & RECREATION BIKE TRAIL PROPOSAL

With 86 acres of unused land at the Transfer Station, the Parks & Recreation Commission presented a proposal for walking/biking/hiking trails – all separate – at the transfer station. They will look into grant funding for a project like this. All work would be done on a volunteer basis. Another suggestion was to create a sculpture park along the trails.

ATTENDED CONFERENCES

Board members update their attendance at various conferences. Supervisor Majestic attended the NYS Planning Federation conference along with Councilwoman Walls and Planning Board Chairman Paul Colucci, and Planning Board member Ray Sokolov. It was an informative conference however Ms Majestic was looking for form-based zoning information but there was none. Councilwoman Walls attended 2 separate sessions. She found a session about food trucks very interesting. Codes need to be in place to protect neighborhoods in anticipation of the different opportunities that may be created by the economy such as food trucks or Air BNB. Another conference that was attended by Supervisor Majestic was the Land Use Leadership Alliance (LULA). It was done in 3 parts on 3 separate Fridays. Ms Majestic attended 2 of the session while Councilman Dukler attended 1 of them. It was filled with a lot of real good information and done very well. Councilman Dukler also stated that he attended a Hudson Valley Water Shed meeting and a Community Aggregate meeting.

MINUTES

Minutes of March 6 and March 13 were approved as written on motion of Councilwoman Walls, seconded by Councilman Dukler.

SUPERVISOR MONTHLY REPORT

The April Supervisors Report was approved as presented on motion of Councilman Wiegand, seconded by Councilman Dukler and carried.

CLAIMS

Claims for April were approved on motion of Councilman Dukler, seconded by Councilwoman Walls and carried. They are listed on Abstract #4 as follows: General Fund voucher #140-194 \$21,342.00; Highway Fund voucher # 105-133 \$24,413.43; Sewer Fund voucher #13-17 43,135.23.

BUDGET TRANSFERS AND SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS

Resolution No. 76 – Supplemental Appropriation in Highway Fund – Offered by Councilwoman Walls

Resolved, pursuant to Section 122, Town Law, the 2018 Annual Budget, Highway Fund, is hereby amended to provide for supplemental appropriations of \$100,000.00 in Acct No. 01.04.5112.336 Permanent Improvement and \$20,911.40 in Acct No. 01.04.5130.200 Misc. Equipment

Further Resolved, said moneys to be taken from the Unexpended Balance in the Highway Fund. Seconded by Councilman Wiegand and carried.

Resolution No. 77 – Transfer in Highway Fund – Offered by Councilwoman Walls

Resolved, pursuant to Section 112, Town Law, the 2018 Annual Budget, Highway Fund is hereby amended to provide for the transfer of \$100,000 from Acct No. 01.04.5112.336 Permanent Improvements to Acct No. 01.04.5112.378 Phillies Bridge Rd, \$50,000 from Acct No. 01.04.5112.336 Permanent Improvements to Acct No. 01.04.5112.379 Stella Dr, \$100,000 from Acct No. 01.04.5112.336 Permanent Improvements to Acct No. 01.04.5112.38 Marabac Rd, \$900.00 from Acct No. 01.04.5110.402 Longevity to Acct No. 01.04.5110.103 Otis Longevity and \$600 from Acct No. 01.04.5110.402 Longevity to Acct No. 01.04.5110.110 Depiero Longevity.

Seconded by Councilman Wiegand and carried.

Resolution No. 78 – Supplemental Appropriation in General Fund – Offered by Councilman Wiegand

Resolved, pursuant to Section 122, Town Law, the 2018 Annual Budget, General Fund, is hereby amended to provide for a supplemental appropriation of \$700.00 in Acct No. 00.08.9050.800 Unemployment Ins.

Further Resolved, said moneys to be taken from the Unexpended Balance in the Unemployment Reserve Fund.

Seconded by Councilman Dukler and carried.

Resolution No. 79 – Transfer in General Fund – Offered by Councilman Dukler

Resolved, pursuant to Section 112, Town Law, the 2018 Annual Budget, General Fund is hereby amended to provide for the transfer of 50.00 from Acct No. 00.02.3620.461 Outside Professional Services to Acct No. 00.02.3620.422 CE Dept. Software Support and \$45.00 from Acct No. 00.07.8020.401 CE Misc. to Acct No. 00.07.8020.421 CE Office Supplies

Seconded by Councilman Wiegand and carried.

Councilman Wiegand requested a list of moneys that have been transferred.

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR

Annie O’Neill – Thanked the Town Board especially Councilwoman Walls on the efforts made for the Resolution for Tillson Lake Dam.

ADJOURNMENT

On motion of Councilman Wiegand, seconded by Councilman Dukler and carried, the meeting was adjourned at 8:50 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Michelle L. Mosher
Town Clerk