

DRAFT

**COUNTY OF GREENE
TOWN OF NEW BALTIMORE
WORK MEETING
FEBRUARY 25, 2013- page 1**

OPENING OF WORK MEETING

Supervisor called to order the Work Meeting at 7:00 pm, followed by Pledge of Allegiance. Also attending: Councilwomen Benway and Finke, Councilman Meredith; Town Clerk Brooks and 10 members of the public who signed the attendance sheet. Absent: Councilmen Norris and Highway Superintendent Jordan.

Supervisor asked that all present turn off their cell phones as static has been experienced with the digital recorders.

MOMENT OF SILENCE

Supervisor asked for moment of silence for Edward 'Pat' Downes who passed away February 8, 2013. Pat worked for the Town of New Baltimore from 2001- 2005 as assistant building inspector. He served Town of Coeymans in several positions including building inspector, and then Home Depot helping folks to complete building permit applications. Town hall staff will remember him for his 'fantastic' smile.

MONTHLY REPORTS

Supervisor reports that, after several correspondences, any metered electricity service will be served in part by Hess as provider; the result will be two invoices for each metered account (town hall, highway garage, wastewater treatment plant, pump station), the delivery will come by Hess; NYS Comptroller's Office will arrive on Friday for first visit, may wish to interview Board members regarding retirement and payroll; Town of Coeymans notified New Baltimore of a zoning map change, with a March 11 public hearing; Supervisor spoke to Supervisor Flach while at AOT and will meet with him to discuss changes; Supervisor believes use of industrial zone has increased on SR144; Supervisor is working with bookkeeper to nail down year-end numbers and solve some errors including FEMA disbursements and expenditures; Health Officer Dr. Hassett was not vouchered in 2012 and will appear in March vouchers as a prior period adjustment; Lighting District 1 and Water District 2 will end in deficit (after engaging engineer and having water main break); Ambulance District 1 was prepaid in November 2011 and must be reflected; Ambulance District 2 will end in deficit; Supervisor hopes to clear these items quickly in 2013. The Town Board has two resolutions for tonight: a Highway transfer was budgeted at \$70,000, the pole barn was paid from General Fund and so Highway Superintendent will take less; \$53,000 will be transfer.

Resolution to Approve Transfer from General Fund to Highway Fund

**RESOLUTION
FEBRUARY 25, 2013**

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING TRANSFER OF FUNDS
FROM GENERAL FUND TO HIGHWAY FUND**

RESOLVED, that the Supervisor is hereby authorized to transfer \$53,000 from the General Fund to the Highway Fund to provide sufficient funding for the Highway Fund.

Councilwoman Benway moved and was seconded by Supervisor. No discussion. The adoption of the foregoing Resolution was duly put to a vote, and upon roll call, the vote was as follows:

**ROLL CALL VOTE: BENWAY-AYE FINKE-AYE MEREDITH-AYE
NORRIS-Absent O'RORKE-AYE**

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Adopted

Resolution to Authorize Budget Amendments to the 2012 Adopted Budget

With Surplus brought into expenditure line, and a Fund Balance transfer, Supervisor read.

RESOLUTION
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RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING BUDGET AMENDMENTS TO THE 2012 BUDGET

RESOLVED, The Town Board authorizes the Supervisor to make the following budget amendments to the 2012 Adopted Budget.

Ambulance #2

SM#2 4540.4 BASIC AMB SERVICE	24,782.00	
SM#2 4989.4 ADVANCED LIFE SUPPORT		2,120.00
APPROPRIATED FUND BALANCE		22,662.00

24,782.00

24,782.00

Councilwoman Benway moved and was seconded by Councilman Meredith. The adoption of the foregoing Resolution was duly put to a vote, and upon roll call, the vote was as follows:

ROLL CALL VOTE: BENWAY-AYE FINKE-AYE MEREDITH-AYE
NORRIS-Absent O'RORKE-AYE

Adopted

Supervisor expects final year-end numbers for her March report. Just received final numbers for 2012 from Coxsackie town supervisor; not sure how much over budget the ambulance district will be, she is expecting estimated Ambulance District 2 figures for 2013, and knows the committee has been working on that since the Town had not been billed for three years.

County Legislator Van Slyke reports appearing on tv; a busy month due to NYS Safe Act, most county legislators are in consensus (one nay) to call for repeal; press conference was held Friday, and he urges Town Board to pass resolution to represent constituents. Greene County has passed resolution opposing proposed legislation requiring gun owners to obtain \$1 million liability insurance for registered guns. Councilwoman Benway added that homeowners insurance covers unintentional acts; does not cover intentional acts. County passed resolution authorizing sale of long-abandoned portion of US Rte 9W behind Albright's, to Albright's in a private sale, making their land more valuable. Supervisor added, in absence of Highway Superintendent Jordan, may need discussion about Manor Road, trying to get NYSDOT confirmation as to who owns it (county or town), where US Route 9W proceeded behind Albright's and crossed over, previously a little bridge; Supervisor is seeking clarification, if Town must discuss with county, will call. Legislator Van Slyke reports passing resolution he is not happy with, taking a parcel of land on CR6 in Lexington; storm washed away road, house is in the way of repair and in danger of washing away; he's believes county caused problem; with a fee interest, 'eminent domain' applies but there is chance of negotiation. Two hundred sixty homes are fed by this road, county cannot lose the road or block it and must protect residents in there. [?] Guitar Works is coming into Windham and is getting development loan. County also passed resolution for CDM Smith consultants for Barton LoGuidice, includes bridge on Deans Mill Road, for some repair work that will be done this summer; many lil projects put together. Fire advisory board held meeting;

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have representative from Fire District 2/Medway-Grapeville, but still need representative from New Baltimore Fire District. There was some increase in sales tax revenues, 4% over last year, but most is due to gas prices.

Kevin Kemnah asked Legislator Van Slyke: awhile back, notice came asking interest in a toxic byproduct that is put on the roads, did the legislation pass, does every town need to pass resolution, will it only include county roads if legislature passes it? Legislator Van Slyke reports not having been approached, but Greene County Highway Superintendent Gary Harvey has no interest or intention to use a hazardous waste, adding that even if offered, county does not have to accept it, and is discussing passing a resolution to that regard; there are towns using it. Kevin suggests Town Board pass a resolution regarding the Town roads, in case Denis [Jordan] leaves, who knows who may make a deal and say yes.

Kevin Kemnah, regarding passing resolution regarding the NYS Safe Act, asked to poll the Town Board do you agree or disagree with message of necessity, do you agree with so-called assault weapons. Supervisor said this is not public comment period, appreciates concerns and questions, getting reports, comment period at Regular Meeting, but not a question and answer. Supervisor reminded this was not public comment period, this meeting is reports of the Town Board, and, appreciating his concern and suggestions, there is public comment at the Regular Meeting for an individual to give comments to the Board but not question and answer, to send a letter or meet individually with Board members to identify one who may be willing to take this on, bring to floor and ask for action, before necessarily polling the Board, and asked if that answered his concern. Kevin felt if there was no majority there was no need to pursue, and asked whether he needs to get on agenda, Supervisor reminded that all Board members may add items for agenda. Councilwoman Benway supports Greene County Legislature and offered to have Kevin phone her. Clerk Brooks asked whether there was news for Household Hazardous Waste Day for 2013; Legislator Van Slyke confirmed that the contractor been signed on, possibly for the same date. There is no good or bad news on Water Park; other things are in the works; don't put all eggs in one basket, economy holding back projects. He predicts 3 more weeks of winter.

Town Clerk Brooks reports for January: building permits 3 \$197.00; certificate of occupancy searches 1 \$15.00; dogs licensed 45 \$346.00; replacement tag 1 \$2.00; junkyard 1 \$100.00; park permits 1 \$25.00; photocopies 11 \$2.75; local fees to Supervisor \$689.35; to NYS Ag and Markets for spay/neuter program \$67.00; to NYS Environmental Conservation \$27.40; total state, county and local revenues \$783.75. Records management activities have resumed in the identification of cartons to be shredded; have begun culling office files to go to the vault, 5 minutes at a time. Clerk Brooks clarified that the 346 includes new and renewals during 2012; today she sold license tag #433; she added there is additional workload in office also.

Regarding grants, the acceptance of the Sewer District 1 Planning Grant appears to be complete; the annual sewer bond paperwork to US Department of Agriculture appears to be complete; the filing of the two new local laws is complete; Greene County Civil Service report is underway. Supervisor felt good news on dog licenses, additional interest sparked by enumeration fee; she thanked the town clerk's office for administrative support to the Sewer District for planning grant as well as current bonds. Ellie confirmed that the junkyard permit was indeed Brockett; yes.

Tax Collector Jordan reports for January: Sewer District 1 payments are accepted with 2% penalty until close of business March 15 or postmarked that day. Property taxes are accepted with 1% penalty through close of business February 28 or postmarked that day. Water District 2 payments are accepted with 2% penalty through close of business March 8 or postmarked that day. I have been very busy and have met a lot of nice people who have come in to pay their taxes in our town. I met with accountant to go over books. I would like to thank Janet for the support and work she has given for me while collecting taxes and also to Marjorie for her work in the clerk's office to help me out while I was busy with taxes, and to Susan for giving up your office days in the month of January. I could not have done the job I have done without all of their help.

Highway Superintendent Jordan reports Jan 28 to Feb 22: Mon Jan 28 snow, plowed and sanded all roads as needed; Tues Jan 29 called all in at 4:30am sanded all roads; Replaced plow blade on 2013 International; Replaced plow blade on 1993 International; Adjusted clutch on 85 Oshkosh;

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Cut dead trees along roads with county bucket truck; Mounted spare tires on rims for 2013 International; Replaced side boards on 1996 International; Washed all plow trucks between storms; Fri Feb 8 and Sat Feb 9 all highway employees worked 29 hours straight for large snow storm; Changed oil and filter on 2011 International; Changed oil and filter on John Deere loader; Changed oil and filter on 2 1985 Oshkosh vehicles; Took tires from Recycle Center to W&J; Patched holes with winter mix and crusher run; Replaced hydraulic pump on 1996 International; Mixed up more sand and salt and put in shed; Sat Feb 16 called all in at 6:30am to sand all roads; Cleaned ice from drain on New Baltimore Road; Wed Feb 20 called all in at 5:30 am sanded all roads; Repaired guard rail posts on Schoolhouse Lane; Washed and waxed John Deere backhoe; Changed hydraulic oil and filters on John Deere loader; Replaced front brake pads and rotors on 2002 pickup; Replaced rear shocks on 2002 pickup; Adjusted steering box on 2002 pickup; Changed oil and filter on 2006 F350; Washed all trucks.

Buildings & Grounds/Recycling Recycling Center Operator Sebert reports microwaves 2 \$8.00; tires 1 \$2.00; free to residents: 60 gallon bags of plastics 27; 55gal drums of cans 10; bundles of magazines 73; bags of newspaper 75; bags of shredded paper 14; boxes of cardboard 32. Also, 10 tires from Highway Dept.

Building Inspector/Code Enforcement Blaisdell reports for January 2013: Building Inspections 22; Building Permits Issued 1; Building Permits Renewed 3; Certificates of Compliance Issued 13; Certificates of Occupancy Issued 4; Commercial Site Fire Inspections 1; Do Not Occupy 1; General Complaints 2; Junk Vehicle Complaints 1; New Building Permit Applications Received 1; Order to Remedy Violation 1; Application Fees for 2013 \$197.00; Total Fees Year to Date: \$197.00. Also, table of 2012 Building Dept totals by month was supplied to the Town Board.

Insurance (Chair O'Rorke/Member Benway) All Board members received renewal of property and casualty insurance; Supervisor met with Nolan Pazin to go over the insurances, stay with Trident, did spreadsheet, \$31172/2009; \$22000/2010; \$21000/2011; \$23000/2012; \$26000/2013. Supervisor reminded this rate includes 3 new pieces of equipment insured for more than old, but \$5000 less than 2009 with Selective; budgeting \$28,000. Town is slightly under budgeted amount. Town has two sites in Flood Zone A, Wastewater Treatment Plant and Pump Station, not covered under Trident Requested new quote for flood for, FEMA will not reimburse for amounts that could be received under the NFIP policy; if there is a flood, Town could not recoup that from FEMA. When Wastewater Treatment was put in, it was elevated, but cannot find elevation certificate; Town must procure new certificate. Does Board have any thoughts? Towns with plants near bodies of water did suffer through storms Irene, Lee and Sandy. Ellie asked was CT Male the engineer for the plant; no, the engineering firm is out of business, and did sell out to CT Male. Supervisor felt if the certificate was that old, NFIP may not accept it. Councilwoman Benway said it depends, it can change, said if no lapse in coverage, they will take anything you have, but if you haven't had flood insurance they will require everything 'fresh'; Supervisor said with no NFIP, probably do not have elevation to our benefit, although there is small slope, adding that there are different levels of elevation, depending on what you're insuring it for, the higher the cheaper, and Councilwoman Benway added possible savings of thousands of dollars. Supervisor will call two surveyors, Santo and Hite, for quotes. Councilwoman Benway asked that Marshall and Sterling give quotes with and without; Supervisor believed they had given quote of \$4700 for the plant, with certificate could drop substantially and, once on file with NFIP, could carryover. Supervisor will prepare resolution for March Regular. Also, sold highway surplus items have been removed from policy.

Wastewater Treatment Chair Supervisor O'Rorke reported Steve Grimm had no difficulties during Jim's vacation and reminded the March 4 Special Meeting for Sewer District No. 1, 7pm.

Planning Board Chair Rundberg had no report. Supervisor reports there are candidates for the openings, Councilwoman Finke was to get back with dates. Supervisor will recuse herself for the Greene County Planning Board. Councilman Norris will interview with Councilwoman Benway. Overlapping people, would Councilwoman Benway and Councilman Norris interview for all.

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Zoning Board of Appeals Chair Tooher Report February 25, 2013 The Zoning Board of Appeals did not meet on February 6, 2013, since there were no applications to come before the Board.

Assessor Bennett reports for February 25: *EXEMPTION RENEWALS* This is the final week for property owners to return their exemption renewal applications; Reminder letters were sent out in the first and second week February; *CORRECTIONS* Diane Jordan and Julie continue to share mailing address changes and corrections for the Tentative Tax roll; In turn Julie has been sending updates to Barb Finke for managing the Town newsletter mailing list; *DATA COLLECTION* Has been underway and the adjustments are being made to the records and assessments if needed. *TENTATIVE ROLL* Gordon will be available on the following dates: Mar 5&12 9-1pm, May 7&14 9-1pm; and, in Cossackie, May 4 9-1pm; Councilwoman Benway understood there was someone collecting info in the hamlet; Clerk Loux reported phone call wondering whether data collection was occurring, a very common phone call, Clerk's Office maintains make/model/color of car of data collectors; no data collection is being done for the Assessor or Animal Control; when the person was asked their business, they replied data collecting. Supervisor reported belief that verbal agreement was reached on the tax certiaori, but it is still lingering.

Economic Development Committee had no report.

Grants Member Supervisor O'Rorke asked for grants report other than the sewer planning grant. Ellie Alfeld asked about copier grant; Councilwoman Benway said deadline was extended, another quote was gotten, hunt is still in process; Clerk Brooks thanked Councilwoman Benway for all the time and energy she has put into this hunt, so much volume of information and questions to respond.

Fire, EMS & Law Enforcement Member Councilwoman Finke said there was a meeting that both she and Councilman Norris were unable to attend; no information. Supervisor asked for feedback from fire districts on the parking lots; no, Councilwoman Finke reached out to both, no response.

Technology/Website (Chair: Meredith/Member Benway) Clerk Brooks thanks ITS' Joe Wolodkevich for coming to her rescue when 27 infections/malware entered the town clerk computer on the weekend. Supervisor added that having agenda attached to calendar is working well; Councilwoman Benway can attach.

Newsletter Chair Finke said issue is out, someone received it Saturday; not on website. Councilwoman Benway asked for electronic copy and offered to post. Councilwoman Finke offered next issue before June AgFest, at end of April.

Animal Control Councilman Meredith had no report; Supervisor reports increased dog license activity. Supervisor and Councilwoman Benway will complete the census form with aid from post office zip code direct delivery offer (\$.16/piece).

Parks Member Councilwoman Benway reported summer rec posting will go in tomorrow; Clerk Brooks said it was done but believed it was to go at same time as Laborer; Supervisor believes that will wait for Councilman Norris' return. Councilman Meredith will send information to Legislator Van Slyke for the county grant for last year. Clerk Brooks reports corresponding with committee regarding extensive dates requested by Owlz and their need for portajohn; Councilman Meredith talked to Dennis who will call Kevin at Greene Septic. Clerk Brooks asked to get the water test kits for District 1 and 2 Parks, adding that the counselor applications will need to be reviewed, calls have started. Councilman Meredith will start on other grant this month also.

Personnel Supervisor and bookkeeper discussed tracking sick and leave time inside payroll; by preloading and counting down as the year goes. He has, but we have to take care of where we are. Councilman Meredith asked if there was more discussion about what was talked about; no, we are under retainer through December 31. Clerk Brooks confirmed all had received her search

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of vacation and sick leave policies, which were scanned and emailed to committee. Supervisor and Clerk implemented a new process for changes to withholding, one employee thought they had changed; all changes going forward require employee to complete form, and supervisor signs.

Agriculture Committee Councilman Norris in Florida, Councilwoman Benway attended February 15, Kriel farm, 5 farms represented, NYS Ag & Markets presenting, milking 7000 head, production went up, and reported fun group. Clerk Brooks reports community sadness about the blight hitting impatiens; they will be unavailable for planting recommending substituting wax begonia.

Seniors Ellie reports fabulous Food N Fun luncheon was prior Wednesday; March 13 luncheon will be corned beef and cabbage and mint moosetracks ice cream. Core meeting towards end of March, prefer Wed afternoon, approached for suggestions and hope to work with farmers' market. Supervisor hasn't been approached for donation for Food N Fun, serving 80 meals per month, coming a long way, hardest part is volunteers for serving in addition to prep. Clerk Brooks noted John Nickles' programs have been terrific, recently from Martin Van Buren, a national parks ranger.

Memorial Committee (Chair Benway/Member Finke) may meet end of next month. Supervisor reports the public memorial committee bank account is closed out and \$9 added to Town surplus.

Ag Fest Committee Kathy Rundberg reports meeting February 19; topics included fundraising, music, tent size, musicians sought, volunteers needed; next meeting Mar 26 at 7pm at Pauline Van Etten's. Supervisor asked is committee looking for Town to procure same insurance; no, no planes, no reference to planes; no vote yet.

Town Courts Councilwoman Benway reports audit is scheduled for Mar 5 at 7pm; Report form still underway; Supervisor reminds they remit to her, Town waits for Comptroller's invoice, then remits and keeps Town portion. Clerk Brooks reports in mail this day came December and January invoices that the Board will approve at March Regular.

Historian Hilscher reports for January: with reappointment as Town Historian, I wish to report to you on my compliance with the guidelines for Local Government Historians as provided by the State Historian. "The work of the Local Government Historian" recommends the State Historian, "falls into four broad categories." I have given a description of each category and then summarize what I have done. [1. Research and Writing] "The first, and primary, responsibility of the Local Government Historian is interpretation of the past. This will involve research and writing." Compliance: I have written an article for each edition of the Town Newsletter during my time as town historian. The articles have been based on research of primary source material such as the town minutes, collection of oral history and documentation of historic buildings and sites. I will also be published in the Hudson River Valley Review, Spring 2013. My article is on the 120th New York Regiment at Gettysburg. This regiment included numerous men from New Baltimore. [2. Teaching and Public Presentations] "The Local Government Historian may teach courses in local and regional history speak and lecture to community groups...and otherwise disseminate knowledge of the history of their locality." Compliance: I have given each year a slide show highlighting New Baltimore history. I have a slide show on "Lost: New Baltimore Hamlet" on February 24, 2013, and have been asked as well to speak to the Ravena Historical Society later this year. This semester I am teaching a course at Columbia Greene Community College on "The History of the Hudson Valley." [3. Historic Preservation]

"The Local Government Historian is both an advocate for historic preservation and a resource...on questions relating to history and preservation." Compliance: Recently, I have been active in the preservation of the Bronk/Armstrong site on Route 61, and the preservation of the hay press at the Vanderzee Farm. Virtually every month, and often several times a month, I field questions about local families or buildings; often referred to me by the town clerk. [4. Organization, Advocacy and Tourism Promotion] "Local Government Historians are often

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asked to participate in civic or patriotic observations...and to support local tourism promotion...Heritage Tourism is one of the fastest growing segments of the tourism industry..."

Compliance: I participated in the Bicentennial Commemoration, primarily by providing our national and state officials with an overview of the history of the town, which was then used in resolutions made by Senators Schumer and Gillibrand and Senator Seward. I also was a volunteer for the Greene County Historical Society Homes Tour centered in New Baltimore, which promoted our town and its history to hundreds of visitors from throughout and outside of our region. My customary activities as historian for January 2013 include: Participated in planning session for future of Bronk/Armstrong farm, River Road; On a very pleasant Saturday morning, I photographed and documented all surviving former schoolhouses in town; This will be the basis of a future article; Answered questions about historic barn on the property of a recent homebuyer on High Rock Road.

"Lost: New Baltimore Hamlet" Slide Show: The hamlet of New Baltimore was once busy with numerous hotels and stores, a school, a telegraph office, a barber shop, three churches, and a ship-building yard employing dozens. Riverboat captains lived in the homes on the hill overlooking the river, where men cut ice in the winter and loaded it into icehouses. A slide show documenting these places and ways of life that once were will be shown Sunday, February 24 at 3PM at the New Baltimore Town Hall, CR 51, west of Route 9W. This program, presented by New Baltimore Town Historian Ted Hilscher, will be of interest to local residents as well as anyone interested in life in a small river community in the early twentieth century. The program is free.

Ellie Alfeld asked to invite someone from Greene IDA to give update; Supervisor believes there is nothing to be made public. Councilman Meredith reported a McDonalds going in on US 9W.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to come before the Board, **Supervisor moved to adjourn, Councilwoman Benway seconded.** No discussion. The adoption of the foregoing Motion was duly put to a vote, and upon roll call, the vote was as follows:

BENWAY-AYE	FINKE-AYE	MEREDITH-AYE
	NORRIS-Absent	O'RORKE-AYE

MOTION CARRIED

The meeting was adjourned at 8:07 pm.

Respectfully,

Janet A. Brooks
Town Clerk