

**TOWN OF NEW BALTIMORE, COUNTY OF GREENE
REGULAR TOWN BOARD MEETING**

**JULY 11, 2022
AGENDA**

Please turn off all cell phones and electronic devices.

Pledge of Allegiance

Approval of Minutes

- June 27, 2022 Town Board Work Meeting

Public Comment Period

New Business

- Resolution to Increase Mileage Reimbursement Rate
- Resolution to Place Advertisement for Part-Time Laborer
- Route 144 Bridge Update
- Discussion Regarding New York State Assessor's Association Annual Training
- Notice of Town of Coxsackie Public Hearing on July 12, 2022 at 7 PM Regarding Proposed Local Law #1-2022, A Zoning Amendment to Regulate the Sale of Cannabis
- Notice of Medway-Grapeville Fire District Commissioners will hold a Public Meeting on July 15, 2022 at 7 PM Regarding purchase of a new Tanker Truck
- Audit of Claims
- Resolution to Accept Memorial Donation of Adirondack Chairs at Cornell Park

Upcoming Meetings

- July 14, 2022 Planning Board Meeting at 7 PM
- July 25, 2022 Town Board Work Meeting at 7 PM
- August 3, 2022 Zoning Board of Appeals Meeting at 7:30 PM (If Needed)
- August 8, 2022 Town Board Regular Meeting at 7 PM
- August 11, 2022 Planning Board Meeting at 7 PM
- August 22, 2022 Town Board Work Meeting at 7 PM
- September 17, 2022 Townwide Yard Sale

Public Comment Period/Community Events

Adjournment

***** Agenda Subject to Change*****

GUIDELINES FOR PUBLIC CONDUCT DURING TOWN BOARD MEETINGS

1. The Supervisor shall preside at the meetings of the Town Board. In the absence of the Supervisor, the Deputy Supervisor shall be the acting Supervisor. In the event both the Supervisor and the Deputy Supervisor are absent, the other members shall designate one of their members to act as temporary chairman. A majority of the Board shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business, but a lesser number may adjourn.
2. Town residents who wish to speak shall fill out a card at the entrances of the meeting room listing their name, contact information, and the subject matter in which they would like to speak. These cards will be collected prior to the beginning of the Town Board meeting and given to the Town Supervisor or Deputy Supervisor in the absence of the Supervisor.
3. Speakers must be recognized by the presiding officer and then proceed to the lectern and state their name and address. They must limit their remarks on official town business to up to three minutes on a given topic and may not yield any remaining time to another speaker. They must address their remarks to the Board as a body and not to any member thereof and not to other members of the audience in the form of a debate.
4. Speakers should present their remarks in a courteous manner and may not make disparaging remarks or personal comments about public officials, town residents, or others. All speakers will observe the commonly accepted rules of courtesy, decorum, dignity, and good taste with no cursing, swearing, clapping, booing, finger pointing, bullying, whispering, or talking that disrupts the proceedings of the business of the Town Board.
5. Any speaker who disregards the directives of the presiding officer in enforcing the rules, disturbs the peace at a meeting, makes impertinent or slanderous remarks, or generally conducts themselves in an inappropriate manner shall be barred from further participation and will forfeit any balance of time remaining for their comments.
6. After a final warning, if a speaker willfully refuses to step down, the Town Supervisor shall contact the appropriate authorities to remove the speaker from the meeting room and to restore order.
7. The Town Supervisor, or in their absence the Deputy Supervisor, shall ensure compliance with these rules.

This policy will be amended by Majority vote of the Town Board.

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OPENING OF REGULAR MEETING

Supervisor Ruso opened the Regular Meeting at 7:00 PM and the Pledge of Allegiance was said. Also attending Councilmembers Boehlke, Irving and VanEtten; Deputy Supervisor Dellisanti; Deputy Town Clerk Eldred; and 7 members of the public who signed the attendance book. Absent: Town Clerk Finke, Councilmember Downes.

Public Comment Period

Scott VanWormer: For the record, my name is Scott VanWormer, I'm an employee of the Town of New Baltimore Highway Department for 27 years. The reason I'm here tonight is because of my concerns of the future of the Town's Highway Department because everyone knows the crew and the Town has been in negotiations for a union contract have been going on for almost two years now. First, I just want to say that I feel like it is a big slap in the face when the Board thinks that our guys that work day and night and all types of dangerous weather is not worth \$22-\$23 an hour. Second, I'm sure that the Board's wrong for wanting to take away three paid holidays away from us because we had to sign cards to try to make things better for ourselves and our family. I'm sure everyone here goes to the store and the gas pumps weekly and knows the cost of living went up drastically. Are we wrong for wanting to do better for ourselves? We don't believe so. Third, for years the Town has paid for our HRA for persons retiring from the Town, from this Town, something else that is on the chopping block. But one must ask you as a Board what is the Town going to do to make people want to stay working for them? This move alone would add around \$3,200 for a family after retirement plus 25% they have to pay for their premiums. I don't know the exact number, but I'm guessing around \$7,000 a year after someone retires they would have to pay towards their health insurance for someone that gave so much of their life to this Town. Also I just want to say some of you might have already heard but about three or four weeks ago I received a call from a guy at CSX saying that two people have used me as a personal reference. Yes, two of our Highway crew members. When I asked one what was going on if there was a problem he said 'not at work, Scott, but at home.' This guy has two kids and he has the Town's health insurance. He pays 25% of his premiums which is \$220 every two weeks. He said, 'I bring home under \$500 a week, with the price of gas and baby gear and winter coming, we can't do it.' And it doesn't look like raises are coming from this place as they keep denying all of our requests and want to take away from us instead of doing what's right for the people that take care of this Town. So in closing I say ask yourselves as a Board it is right to retaliate against us for wanting to do better for what is right for our families and take the things away that might keep people from wanting to work here. We don't think so. Also I would just like to add about six months ago at a public meeting I was told that the Board would contact the bookkeeper to see what impact financially it would have on the Town to switch my Deputy pay back to biweekly instead of quarterly and to-date I have not heard nothing on this topic. Any chance anyone might have answers tonight on this? Thank you.

Supervisor Ruso: I'll ask. Nick, when's our next negotiation?

Deputy Supervisor Dellisanti: I have no idea, haven't heard anything.

Supervisor Ruso: We've been waiting a long time.

Scott VanWormer: We sent our last proposal to the lawyer and he just got back to us today which has been months and it's dragging on. It takes months for him to get back to us when our union rep sends him a letter.

Deputy Supervisor Dellisanti: What does the letter say?

Scott VanWormer: It was pre him going away. He was in Aruba or something.

Deputy Supervisor Dellisanti: He was in England last month.

Scott VanWormer: It was that way way way previous to that.

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Supervisor Ruso: If you can light a fire at that end, we can light a fire at this end. I want to get done, but I'm not gonna counter all the other points. That's for the negotiating table. I understand your points rather well and I've heard similar things from our Highway Superintendent. So I would suggest we get back promptly, wanted to get this over a long time ago truthfully.

Deputy Supervisor Dellisanti: I'd like to make one more comment for the record. And we have not been in negotiations for two years (unable to understand).

Supervisor Ruso: He said two, I thought he said two. But, still, it hasn't been two years. We got served...

Scott VanWormer: That's when we signed the cards, going on two years.

Supervisor Ruso: We didn't know about the cards. We were served with the cards on December 15 of 2020.

Scott VanWormer: Do you deny to acknowledge the fact that we signed the cards?

Supervisor Ruso: No, sir, we recognized those cards immediately.

Scott VanWormer: No, you did not.

Deputy Supervisor Dellisanti and Supervisor Ruso: Yes, we did.

Scott VanWormer: Then why did we have a court date set for a hearing because you guys didn't want to acknowledge...

Supervisor Ruso: That was about whether you were in the bargaining unit or not. That's all that was.

Scott VanWormer: Well, you knew the cards were signed prior to that.

Supervisor Ruso: No, I didn't. I told you the date, it was the middle of December 2020. That's when they gave them to us. They held them for a long time.

Scott VanWormer: 2020, yeah, so we're in July of 2022, so it's a year and six months, seven months. It's a year and seven months now.

Supervisor Ruso: Negotiations didn't start for months afterward. So we didn't start negotiations until last year. I want to say it was this time last year, do you recall?

Scott VanWormer: Well, we just want to get it over with. The last thing we want to do is go to mediation because that's gonna cost the Town thousands and thousands of dollars, but it looks like that's the route it's gonna go anyways.

Supervisor Ruso: That's what mediators do. They find the middle point. They do. Well, I just will add I would like to be able to have consideration for all, it's not a one-way street, all proposals when a mediator comes in, they find the halfway point and makes it very difficult because I'm not sure what's going on at either end. It takes a long time to get an answer.

Scott VanWormer: As Supervisor shouldn't you know? I mean who's making decisions?

Supervisor Ruso: I'm not at the Teamsters Office. I don't understand what's taking them so long. I don't understand. I honestly don't. So, we'll leave it at that. I don't know, that part, as Supervisor, he doesn't call me and tell me what's going on at the union headquarters. He doesn't. I think as one of the crew members, I would like you to light a fire and we can do that with our guy. That's kind of what I said before. I would love that.

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New Business

Route 144 Bridge Update

Supervisor Ruso: I've been in contact with the Department of Transportation and that bridge which they felt was dubious to repair this year is absolutely not going to happen this year. This is the bridge on Route 144. It's not a surprise. It was originally supposed to be in 2021, but, nevertheless. No, they can't even get the beam work manufactured until at least next year.

Ramp Update

Supervisor Ruso: The second part of other things and that was today I got notice from Senator Hinchey's office that the proposal for the replacement of our ramp that was going to get a SAM grant has been approved by the Senator's office, forwarded to the Finance Committee in the Senate where it's also been approved, and now it sits on the desk of DASNY and once they put their stamp on it, we can actually hire a contractor to replace this mess we have out there for a ramp. It's awful shape. We can't expend the money until they approve it.

TOWN OF NEW BALTIMORE, COUNTY OF GREENE

RESOLUTION 106-2022

JULY 11, 2022

RESOLUTION TO INCREASE MILEAGE REIMBURSEMENT RATE

WHEREAS the Town Board of the Town of New Baltimore adopted Resolution 18-2022 directing the Mileage Reimbursement Rate for private vehicles will be the Federal Government rate.

RESOLVED the standard mileage rate has increased effective July 1, 2022 from 58.5 cents per mile to 62.5 cents per mile.

Motion by Supervisor Ruso seconded by Councilmember VanEtten

AYES: Ruso, Boehlke, Irving, VanEtten

NAYS:

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT: Downes

Motion Carried

TOWN OF NEW BALTIMORE, COUNTY OF GREENE

RESOLUTION 107-2022

JULY 11, 2022

RESOLUTION TO PLACE ADVERTISEMENT FOR PART-TIME LABORER

WHEREAS an advertisement will be placed in the *Daily Mail* for a part-time Laborer for repairs, maintenance, and assistance for Town Hall and other areas.

RESOLVED that the Town Clerk will place the following advertisement, approved by the Attorney for the Town, in the *Daily Mail*.

The Town of New Baltimore is seeking applicants for a Part-Time Laborer for repairs and maintenance which may include painting, cleaning, and other duties as needed. Please send letter of interest to Supervisor Jeff Ruso, 3809 County Route 51, Hannacroix, NY 12087 for information.

Motion by Supervisor Ruso seconded by Councilmember Irving

Ellie Alfeld: I would like to know if you're telling us what the starting salary, hourly wage, however you want to put it, would be for this?

Supervisor Ruso: I don't have that. Same as what Kirk gets at the Recycling Center.

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Ellie Alfeld: So you think it's around \$15.

Supervisor Ruso: Yes.

Ellie Alfeld: And that would be on a weekly basis?

Supervisor Ruso: As needed supposedly.

Ellie Alfeld: Oh, that's gonna be tough.

Supervisor Ruso: Occasionally.

AYES: Ruso, Boehlke, Irving, VanEtten

NAYS:

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT: Downes

Motion Carried

Supervisor Ruso: I did bring you up to date on the 144 Bridge. They say now 2023 is when they're gonna fabricate the beam. There are problems with supplies in the related sense. Alan VanWormer had indicated that the truck that was ordered last August at the earliest that they're gonna start building it in December which means it's delivery date will be after the winter's over and I understand it's a similar issue to the bridge.

Discussion Regarding New York State Assessor's Association Annual Training

Supervisor Ruso: Our Assessor wants to go to the Annual Meeting of Assessment Administration and that's going to be held in Lake George on September 21. Now Dawn DeRose is our Assessor and under similar situations with Assessors, training is split between the towns that the Assessor serves. In this case it's the Town of Coeymans, Town of Athens is where she is, as well as here and one town does it one year and the other town does it the next year and so forth is how that works. I guess it's our turn. The good thing is I mean it's gonna cost \$762, the State reimburses us for it which is good, but we don't get the money until next year. The issue is that her budget is well over. I don't know if you had a chance to review that, Nick, it was already at a couple hundred dollars over her budget. Here we go again. So this money will not be reimbursed this year, but we will get it next year. So I don't know if anyone here has any thoughts on this issue. What do you think, Mr. Boehlke?

Councilmember Boehlke: We sent Alan on a training thing there.

Supervisor Ruso: Which is routine. This is every three years.

Ellie Alfeld: But it gonna come out of the General Fund right (unable to understand) and you'll get it back?

Supervisor Ruso: It's all money. Chuck, what do you think?

Councilmember Irving: Well, I think it's an important thing, training for her.

Supervisor Ruso: I'll tell you what, I'll make the Motion to approve the travel and accommodations for Dawn DeRose from the 18th of September to the 21st of September.

Councilmember Boehlke: I'll second.

AYES: Ruso, Boehlke, Irving, VanEtten

NAYS:

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT: Downes

Motion Carried

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Notice from the Town of Coxsackie ‘The Town Board of the Town of Coxsackie has scheduled a public hearing on proposed local law #1-2022, a zoning amendment to regulate the sale of cannabis. The hearing will take place on July 12 at 7:00 pm at Coxsackie Town Hall, 56 Bailey Street, Coxsackie, NY. All interested parties have the right to be heard. By order of the Town Board, Bambi Hotaling, Town Clerk.’

Notice from Medway-Grapeville Fire District Commissioners will hold a Public Meeting on Friday, July 15 at 7:00pm at the Fire House Community Room, Rt 51, to discuss the purchase of a new Tanker Truck to replace the current tanker truck that is 28 years old and experiencing many expensive repairs. Residents of Medway-Grapeville Fire District are welcome to attend. Info: Jean Horn 518-966-4260.

TOWN OF NEW BALTIMORE, COUNTY OF GREENE

RESOLUTION 108-2022
JULY 11, 2022

RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE SUPERVISOR TO PAY AUDITED CLAIMS

WHEREAS the Town Clerk has presented claims to the Town Board for audit and review, and

WHEREAS the Town Board has audited claims 2022-07-01 to 2022-07-35, it is

RESOLVED that the Supervisor is hereby authorized to pay claims 2022-07-01 to 2022-07-35,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Town Clerk will prepare an Abstract and hold it for public review until August 31, 2022

Motion by Supervisor Ruso seconded by Councilmember Boehlke

AYES: Ruso, Boehlke, Irving, VanEtten

NAYS:

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT: Downes

Motion Carried

Youth, Parks and Recreation

TOWN OF NEW BALTIMORE, COUNTY OF GREENE

RESOLUTION 109-2022
JULY 11, 2022

**RESOLUTION TO ACCEPT MEMORIAL DONATION OF
ADIRONDACK CHAIRS AT CORNELL PARK**

WHEREAS memorial donations have been made to the Halloran family following the passing of Alice ‘Tootie’ Halloran on May 16, 2022.

WHEREAS the Halloran family has donated Adirondack chairs.

RESOLVED the Town of New Baltimore preliminarily accepts said equipment from the Halloran family and will continue further discussions with Councilmember VanEtten on improvements to Cornell Park.

Motion by Supervisor Ruso seconded by Councilmember Boehlke

Supervisor Ruso: Now I would like to ask what further discussions do you have in mind? Do they have other things that they want to do down there?

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Councilmember VanEtten: We were talking about doing the gazebo, the shingles over the top of the gazebo, things like that and at some point I want to do a grant next year to do over the retaining wall.

Ellie Alfeld: Are we sending a thank you card to the Halloran family (unable to understand)?

Supervisor Ruso and Councilmember VanEtten: Yes.

AYES: Ruso, Boehlke, Irving, VanEtten

NAYS:

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT: Downes

Motion Carried

Upcoming Meetings

- July 14, 2022 Planning Board Meeting at 7 PM
- July 25, 2022 Town Board Work Meeting at 7 PM
- August 3, 2022 Zoning Board of Appeals Meeting at 7:30 PM (If Needed)
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- September 17, 2022 Townwide Yard Sale

Public Comment Period/Community Events

Ann Marie Vadney: Hi everyone. I'm following up, there's quite a few people in our community that have been asking about 5G in our community and prior to covid we did provide you with information regarding 5G and the reasons why we did not want it in our community and we're just wondering if anyone read it, if anything's been done to stop it?

Supervisor Ruso: I read it about three years ago, you have to send it to me again. I have some recollection, but it's three years old.

Ann Marie Vadney: Okay and just to run through a couple of things it's pretty dangerous to humans, children, butterflies, bees. The cables are much more effective during times of emergencies. I can't believe the environmentalists aren't going crazy with 5G because it consumes at least ten times as much energy as wire technology. We also have extensive greenhouse gases caused from it. It's unreliable and it's hazardous. It does not represent most of our needs because most of us do not need 5G to carry out our computer programs and day-to-day operations and it also impacts on our local control of our communities which we are giving up things that we a real democracy should not be giving up without peoples' involvements and votes. Again, the large technological companies are making the money off of this while it's harming us dramatically causing cancers and there's studies. I'll give you all the information again, but we gave you pages of studies that have been already completed on this, effects on fetal newborn development, young children brain tumors, malignancies, DNA. I mean it just goes on and on. It also is involuntary exposure in your home. 4G does not necessarily, you don't have exposure to it, it's cable, but the 5G is in your home and you have no control exposure to it, it's cable, but the 5G is in your home and you have no control and you have no rights to say yes or no that you want it there. It's not safe and insurance companies actually will not be liable for any of the 5G effects and impacts. Again, there's conclusive evidence that exposure to wireless radiation causes cancer. Fiber optics is faster, more energy efficient, secure and reliable compared to wireless 5G. Once you read all this stuff again it's pretty scary, scary stuff, but there are communities in the United States and I think Sherrie had some data but we have to actually go back and get our records out because it's been so long so we do understand why you guys don't have it right in front of you.

Supervisor Ruso: Has there been any new updates to the information? I know you could have sent me something in 2019, 2020. Any further...?

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Ann Marie Vadney: Yes, in the studies you'll see up-to-date, yes, and we are also going to go and look back at the different communities who have fought it from coming into a community were successful and Santa Barbara is one of them I think. I can't remember, but I didn't have time to print all that out, but we'll get as much information to you as we can to help you look at it. And we have a couple of new handouts as well that we'll get to you. Also, Sherrie, do you have that little machine you have on? There's a store up in Loudonville that Sherrie has found, it's EMF Safety Super Store, and it's amazing because Sherrie has, I don't know what you call it, but you can measure, it's a meter to measure the radiation? Am I saying it right?

Supervisor Ruso: Geiger counter.

Ann Marie Vadney: Yes, and in here it was what 100? It's orange which is right below red.

Many speaking at once.

Ann Marie Vadney: You're being exposed to quite a bit in here. Was it the same in the parking lot, Sherrie? Yeah.

Motion by Councilmember VanEtten seconded by Councilmember Boehlke to adjourn the meeting at 7:27 PM.

AYES: Ruso, Boehlke, Irving, VanEtten

NAYS:

ABSTAIN

ABSENT: Downes

Motion Carried

Respectfully Submitted,

Barbara M. Finke RMC
Town Clerk