

Regular Town Board Meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Van Buren, held on January 17, 2017 at 7:30 pm at the Van Buren Town Hall, 7575 Van Buren Road, Baldwinsville, New York.

Present:

Mr. Rick Zaccaria	Councilor
Ms. Darcie Lesniak	Councilor
Ms. Mary Frances Sabin	Councilor
Mr. Howard Tupper	Councilor
Mr. Claude Sykes	Supervisor

Absent: Mr. Ronald Dudzinski and Ms. Patricia Dickman

Also present:

Mr. Kevin Gilligan	Town Attorney
Mr. Doug Foster	Highway Superintendent
Ms. Lynn Precourt	Town Clerk

Pledge of Allegiance and Roll Call.

Citizens Comments: None

Approve minutes of the Organizational Meeting and Regular Town Board Meeting on January 3, 2017:

015-17-000 MOTION BY Mr. Zaccaria, seconded by Ms. Sabin, to approve the Organizational Meeting and Regular Town Board Meeting minutes on January 3, 2017.

Mr. Zaccaria – Yes, Ms. Lesniak – Yes, Ms. Sabin – Yes, Mr. Tupper – Yes, Mr. Sykes – Yes

All Ayes – Motion Carried & Adopted

Discussion on burned/damaged structure at 2548 Warners Road:

Mr. Sykes said the homeowner is unavailable today so this will be discussed at the next meeting.

Authorize Buildings and Grounds to place order for new Ford F-350 4WD with snow plow equipment and accessories for a total cost of \$32,887.37:

016-17-037 MOTION BY Ms. Sabin, seconded by Ms. Lesniak, to authorize Buildings and Grounds Department to place an order for new Ford F-350 4WD with snow plow equipment and accessories from County bid number 79742017PUSRW for a total cost of \$32,887.37 to be paid for out of Buildings and Grounds Capital Reserve Fund subject to permissive referendum.

Mr. Zaccaria – Yes, Ms. Lesniak – Yes, Ms. Sabin – Yes, Mr. Tupper – Yes, Mr. Sykes – Yes

All Ayes – Motion Carried & Adopted

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Mr. Tupper asked how old the truck is that will be replaced.

Mr. Sykes said 2003.

Assessor's Report:

Ms. Golden said the 2016 State budget has eliminated all new Star exemptions (Basic and Enhanced) starting with the 2016 assessment roll. Star exemptions are "grandfathered" for existing property owners with exemptions in place prior to 2016. New owners will register with DTF online or by phone for the Star Income Tax credit / check. Property owners will be required to pay their school bill in full and will receive the Star savings by check from DTF. The Assessor's office can no longer accept new Star applications. All effected property owners have been notified by the Assessor's Office.

The State reports that more than 2 million combined tax freeze/tax relief checks and Star credit checks have been issued as of January 9, 2017. We continue to receive calls from property owners, who are still waiting for their checks. DTF has 2 phone numbers 518-457-2036 for Star Credit and 518-453-8146 for Tax freeze/Tax relief.

The Assessor's office is continuing to notify all new property owners as deeds are received of the changes to the Star Program.

All exemption renewals for 2017 have been mailed. The deadline to apply/renew is March 1st 2017.

Post cards for property owners registered with the State Income Verification Program will be mailed over the next 2 weeks.

Reminder post cards will be mailed on February 1st for property owners with Enhanced Star/Sr citizen exemptions that have not renewed for 2017. (228)

Commercial valuation report for 2017 is due to ORPTS by February 1st. Residential reappraisals for 2017 include review of 5 neighborhoods. (1742 properties)

The NYSAA has reported that Auditing by the NYS Comptroller has begun in at least 2 Assessment Offices. The commitment is to audit all Assessment Office's statewide.

Ms. Sabin asked what neighborhoods will be reassessed.

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Ms. Golden said the original part of Village Green, main thoroughfares outside the Village, like Maple and Van Buren Roads, the original and new parts of Harbour Heights and Seneca Knolls.

Declare Fuji S3100 camera from Engineer's Office junk and authorize disposal of item #0501:

017-17-000 MOTION BY Mr. Tupper, seconded by Ms. Lesniak, to declare Fuji S3100 camera from Engineer's Office junk and authorize disposal of item #0501.

Mr. Zaccaria – Yes, Ms. Lesniak – Yes, Ms. Sabin – Yes, Mr. Tupper – Yes, Mr. Sykes – Yes

All Ayes – Motion Carried & Adopted

Declare Codes Department printer, #472 as surplus and authorize disposal:

018-17-000 MOTION BY Ms. Sabin, seconded by Mr. Tupper, to declare Codes Department printer #472 as surplus and authorize disposal.

Mr. Zaccaria – Yes, Ms. Lesniak – Yes, Ms. Sabin – Yes, Mr. Tupper – Yes, Mr. Sykes – Yes

All Ayes – Motion Carried & Adopted

Per Comptroller's memo approve transfers to Equipment Reserves for Buildings and Grounds, Parks & Recreation, Code Enforcement and Highway:

019-17-007 MOTION BY Ms. Sabin, seconded by Mr. Zaccaria, to approve the following transfers to Equipment Reserves:

General Fund (A)

Buildings and Grounds Equipment \$5,000

Parks & Recreation Equipment \$5,000

General Fund (B)

Code Enforcement Equipment \$5,000

Highway (DB)

Highway Equipment \$100,000

Mr. Zaccaria – Yes, Ms. Lesniak – Yes, Ms. Sabin – Yes, Mr. Tupper – Yes, Mr. Sykes – Yes

All Ayes – Motion Carried & Adopted

Approval for expenditure of funds over grant amount for 7988 SAM grant:

Mr. Sykes said the town received a grant through Senator DeFrancisco's Office for \$50,000 for re-paving in Van Buren Central Park. He said he expects the town will be able to do the work for that amount, but, the NYS Dormitory Authority has asked for Board action to approve expenditure of funds over that amount to ensure the work will be completed.

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020-17-057 MOTION BY Mr. Zaccaria, seconded by Ms. Lesniak, to commit funds in excess of the \$50,000 grant money the town will receive through SAM grant #7988 to complete the re-paving project in Van Buren Central Park.

Mr. Zaccaria – Yes, Ms. Lesniak – Yes, Ms. Sabin – Yes, Mr. Tupper – Yes, Mr. Sykes – Yes
All Ayes – Motion Carried & Adopted

Councilor Committee Reports and Comments:

Ms. Sabin said she has been in contact with Verizon regarding the on-going negotiations to carry Fox Channel on their platform. She said she understands the frustration, especially during the NFL playoffs, for Verizon customers who cannot watch the channel.

Ms. Sabin said the town's franchise agreement with Time Warner is expiring in May and she will be contacting them to start negotiations.

Mr. Tupper said the Historian has applied for an historical marker for the portion of the Erie Canal Trail that runs through the Town of Van Buren is the halfway point for the canal. She is also making an addition to the signboard at the trailhead highlighting the community of Warners to go with the one there for the Hamlet of Memphis.

Highway Superintendent Comments:

Mr. Foster said work has started on the new Highway Garage on Walters Road and he said they are making good progress on it.

Supervisor Comments: None

Citizens Comments: None

Attorney Comments: None

021-17-000 MOTION BY Ms. Sabin, seconded by Mr. Zaccaria, to adjourn to the Regular Town Board Meeting on February 7, 2017 at 7:30 pm.

Mr. Zaccaria – Yes, Ms. Lesniak – Yes, Ms. Sabin – Yes, Mr. Tupper – Yes, Mr. Sykes – Yes
All Ayes – Motion Carried & Adopted

Meeting closed 7:50 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Lynn Precourt, Town Clerk