

Regular Meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Van Buren, held on July 6, 2022 at 7:00 pm at the Van Buren Town Hall, 7575 Van Buren Road, Baldwinsville, New York.

| | |
|--------------------------|-------------------|
| Mr. Michael Hulchanski | Councilor |
| Mrs. Wendy Van Der Water | Councilor |
| Mr. Howard Tupper | Councilor |
| Mr. Ronald Dudzinski | Councilor |
| Ms. Darcie Lesniak | Deputy Supervisor |

Excused: Ms. Mary Frances Sabin, Supervisor

Also Present:

| | |
|-------------------|---------------|
| Ms. Nadine Bell | Town Attorney |
| Mr. Jason Hoy | Town Engineer |
| Ms. Michelle Vona | Comptroller |
| Ms. Lynn Precourt | Town Clerk |

Pledge of Allegiance and Roll Call.

Approve Regular Meeting Minutes of June 15, 2022:

095-22-000 MOTION BY Mrs. Van Der Water, seconded by Mr. Dudzinski, to approve the minutes of the Regular Town Board meeting on June 15, 2022 as published.

Mr. Hulchanski – Yes, Mrs. Van Der Water – Yes, Mr. Tupper – Yes, Mr. Dudzinski – Yes, Ms. Lesniak – Yes

Motion Carried & Adopted

Approve renewal of maintenance contract with General Code Publishers for E-Code 360:

096-22-001.1 MOTION BY Mrs. Van Der Water, seconded by Mr. Hulchanski, to approve renewal of maintenance contract with General Code Publishers for E-Code 360 in the amount of \$ 1,195.00.

Mr. Hulchanski – Yes, Mrs. Van Der Water – Yes, Mr. Tupper – Yes, Mr. Dudzinski – Yes, Ms. Lesniak – Yes

Motion Carried & Adopted

Consider favorable opinion of liquor license for Tha Spot, LLC and waive 30 day notice:

097-22-055 MOTION BY Mrs. Van Der Water, seconded by Mr. Hulchanski, to approve the following resolution:

WHEREAS, pursuant to the requirement of the New York State Alcoholic Beverage Control (ABC) Law, an applicant for a license to sell alcoholic beverages at retail, for on-premises consumption, as well as any applicant for renewal of such a license, must notify the Town Clerk of the municipality wherein the premises is located, and

WHEREAS, this notice is given in order that the municipality, if it so desires, may express an opinion for or against the granting of said license or renewal to the ABC Board,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Town Board of the Town of Van Buren, that with respect to the application submitted by **Tha Spot, LLC** for a license to sell alcoholic beverages at retail for on premises consumption, the Van Buren Town Board does express a favorable opinion and agrees to waive the 30 day notice requirement.

Mr. Hulchanski – Yes, Mrs. Van Der Water – Yes, Mr. Tupper – Yes, Mr. Dudzinski – Yes, Ms. Lesniak – Yes

Motion Carried & Adopted

Approve trash hauler licenses for Morgan Rubbish Removal and Dependable Disposal:

098-22-021 MOTION BY Mr. Dudzinski, seconded by Mr. Tupper, to approve issuance of trash hauler licenses for Morgan Rubbish Removal and Dependable Disposal.

Mr. Hulchanski – Yes, Mrs. Van Der Water – Yes, Mr. Tupper – Yes, Mr. Dudzinski – Yes, Ms. Lesniak – Yes

Motion Carried & Adopted

Approve budget transfers as per Comptroller’s memo:

099-22-007 MOTION BY Mrs. Van Der Water, seconded by Mr. Hulchanski, to approve the following budget transfers:

Resolution: The Comptroller is authorized to fund the Capital Equipment Reserves from Unappropriated Surplus as follows:

| | | |
|---|----|---------|
| Parks and Recreation Vehicle (General Whole Town, A): | \$ | 5,000 |
| Highway Superintendent Vehicle (General Whole Town, A): | \$ | 10,000 |
| Building and Grounds Vehicle (General Whole Town, A): | \$ | 5,000 |
| Code Enforcement Vehicle (General Part-Town, B) | \$ | 10,000 |
| Highway Department Equipment (Highway, DB) | \$ | 250,000 |

Mr. Hulchanski – Yes, Mrs. Van Der Water – Yes, Mr. Tupper – Yes, Mr. Dudzinski – Yes, Ms. Lesniak – Yes

Motion Carried & Adopted

Approve 1 year Summer Concert Series Intermunicipal Agreement with Lysander, Village of Baldwinsville and Rotary Club of Baldwinsville:

100-22-001.1 MOTION BY Mrs. Van Der Water, seconded by Mr. Hulchanski, to approve the 1 year Summer Concert Series Intermunicipal Agreement with Lysander, Village of Baldwinsville and Rotary Club of Baldwinsville.

Mr. Hulchanski – Yes, Mrs. Van Der Water – Yes, Mr. Tupper – Yes, Mr. Dudzinski – Yes, Ms. Lesniak – Yes

Motion Carried & Adopted

Approve Intermunicipal Agreement for shared services for code enforcement with Town of Salina:

101-22-001.1 MOTION BY Mrs. Van Der Water, seconded by Mr. Dudzinski, to approve Intermunicipal Agreement for shared services for code enforcement with Town of Salina.

Mr. Hulchanski – Yes, Mrs. Van Der Water – Yes, Mr. Tupper – Yes, Mr. Dudzinski – Yes, Ms. Lesniak – Yes

Motion Carried & Adopted

Approve Richard Howard as new park attendant at \$15.00 an hour:

102-22-038 MOTION BY Mr. Dudzinski, seconded by Mr. Tupper, to approve Richard Howard as new park attendant at \$15.00 an hour.

Mr. Hulchanski – Yes, Mrs. Van Der Water – Yes, Mr. Tupper – Yes, Mr. Dudzinski – Yes, Ms. Lesniak – Yes

Motion Carried & Adopted

Discussion regarding resolution to reduce the size of the Town Board:

Mr. Dudzinski said this has been brought up before and he knows this Board is split on the issue. But, he feels like this is the right time to look at it for cost savings. Reducing the size of the Board will have no effect on town services. He said other towns around us have larger populations and five member boards. He said committees can be consolidated to accommodate five board members. He said he would like the public to be able to make the decision.

Mr. Hulchanski said this job has taken more time than he thought it would. He said no one is in this for the money, but, he would like to know what the board members in the larger towns are paid and whether there would actually be a cost savings here if number of members is reduced.

Mrs. Van Der Water said if the board here is reduced the salary of the remaining four would have to increase because of increased responsibility. She agrees no one is in this for the money, but, you do need to compensate to attract good people. Other costs could increase as well, like attorney retainers, if more work has to be done by our Town Attorney. She said just because we have managed to function with fewer than seven members does not make it the right decision.

Mr. Tupper said he doesn't think we should close out any opportunity for the public to be involved and reducing the number of board members will reduce the opportunity for people to serve. But, he also agrees that the public should decide this issue.

Ms. Lesniak said a seven person board allows for people from all different areas of the town to serve with differing professional backgrounds which brings in different perspectives. She said in some of the larger towns there is robust staff to offset the smaller board size in terms of workload. Here that is not the case, we have cut staff in every area possible. She said she always appreciates discussion but is not sure there is a cost savings to this proposal.

Appointment to vacant Town Board position:

Mr. Hulchanski said the town has received one resume from Jennifer Sullivan who is interested in the vacant Town Board position. He said he has been impressed with her attendance at all meetings and commitment to the town.

103-22-002 MOTION BY Mr. Hulchanski, seconded by Mrs. Van Der Water, to appoint Jennifer Sullivan to the vacant Town Board position beginning July 7, 2022 with a term to expire 12/31/2022.

Roll Call Votes: Mr. Hulchanski – Yes, Mrs. Van Der Water – Yes, Mr. Tupper – Yes, Mr. Dudzinski – Abstain, Ms. Lesniak – Yes

Motion Carried & Adopted

Councilor Committee Reports and Comments:

Mr. Dudzinski said he held a Parks & Recreation committee meeting on June 16th and they discussed several things, such as donations and some changes to parks. He said they are creating a donation form for those who want to donate benches, trees, etc. The Park Director and Buildings and Grounds Supt. will have final say over where these things can be placed and how they will be maintained. He said this should alleviate any questions about placement in the future. He said they discussed the AED donation and want to wait on that since we are in the middle of summer now and discuss it for next year.

Mr. Hulchanski said they also discussed Harbour Heights Park. Residents have requested a pickle ball court and fencing near the volleyball net. He said the new court is \$50,000 so they discussed starting a reserve fund for park improvements and equipment. He said the volleyball net will be rotated or moved to a different area to help with the ball going outside the fence.

Highway Superintendent Comments:

Mr. Hoy said the Village Blvd. drainage project started today and urged people to avoid that area through the end of the month.

Mr. Hoy said the Connors Road preliminary plans are here and he will discuss the final design with the consultant and the project should be bid this Fall for Spring construction.

Mr. Hoy said the land has been leveled for the basketball court at Snowdale Park and once the Village Blvd. project is done the Highway employees will work to do the same for the pavilion pad in Van Buren Central Park.

Supervisor Comments:

Ms. Lesniak said the pool is open and the summer youth program has started at the park. She said there has been increased demand for swimming lessons since the pool has been closed for two years. Ms. Lesniak said there are many programs, like tennis, pound classes, dog obedience, etc. for residents to check out and sign up for and it's good to see the park in full use again.

Citizens Comments:

Tom Shaw said if the Board chooses to have a vote on a reduction of members all positive and negative reasons should be discussed. He said it is not a thankful job but he does appreciate what you all do.

Claude Sykes pointed out that the Village of Baldwinsville has seven Board Members and only 7,000 people.

Jennifer Sullivan thanked the Board for the appointment and said she is looking forward to working with everyone.

Engineer Comments: None

Attorney Comments: None

104-22-000 MOTION BY Mrs. Van DerWater, seconded by Mr. Dudzinski, to adjourn to the next Regular Town Board meeting on July 20, 2022 at 7:00 pm.

Mr. Hulchanski – Yes, Mrs. Van Der Water – Yes, Mr. Tupper – Yes, Mr. Dudzinski – Yes, Ms. Lesniak – Yes

Motion Carried & Adopted

Meeting closed 7:41 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Lynn Precourt

Town Clerk

Dated: 7/7/22