

Approved
January 8, 2018

**TOWN BOARD MEETING
TOWN OF TAGHKANIC
December 11, 2017**

Note all documents in these minutes may be clicked on and enlarged for easier reading

6 pm: The Town Board audited and signed vouchers.

6:45 pm: Town Board interviewed Joshua Plass

7:04 pm: The Taghkanic Town Board held its regular monthly meeting on the above date at the Taghkanic Town Hall. Supervisor Ryan Skoda opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silence.

Present:	Ryan Skoda	Supervisor
	Arthur McGuire	Board Member
	Richard Skoda	Board Member
	Joyce Thompson	Board Member
	Cheryl Rogers	Clerk

Absent:

7:04 PM: Public Hearing: Supervisor Ryan Skoda opened the Public Hearing for Local Law #4-2017 Extending an exemption for Real Property Taxes for real property owned by veterans who rendered military services to the United States during the "Cold War". Supervisor Ryan Skoda asked for any question, or concerns from the audience or Board.

- ✚ Arthur Griffith: How many residences will this effect?
- ✚ Supervisor Ryan Skoda: not that many.
- ✚ Kathy Bainer: How much of a reduction will they get?

Supervisor Ryan Skoda: "Real Property Tax law said maximum exemption allowable from town real property taxation shall be fifteen percent of the property's assessment, not to exceed twelve thousand dollars, or the product of twelve thousand dollars multiplied by the latest final state equalization rate, whichever is less."

- ✚ John Clarkson: what is the definition for Cold War Veteran?
- ✚ Supervisor Ryan Skoda: Larry asked the same question last month, so I found out that it is "active-duty service members who served between September 2, 1945 and December 26, 1991". Veterans need not re-apply; this is a continuation of the existing law.

Supervisor Ryan Skoda does anyone have any further concerns or questions, if not I will entertain a motion to Close the Public Hearing. Motion to close the Public Hearing for Local Law #4-2017 was made by Board Member Joyce Thompson, seconded by Board Member Richard Skoda.

Approved: 4 Ayes (Ryan, Arthur, Joyce, Richard)
0 Nays
0 Absent

Guest Speaker: Peter Fingar, Fingar Insurance, Introduced the 2018 NYMIR insurance policy to the Board.

Highway Project Update: Supervisor Ryan Skoda, I have requested Ray Jurkowski, to attend tonight. Since our meeting in November Ray and I have been contacted by Mr. Malcolm from DEC. He has received a complaint from a neighbor to the Highway Department that their land is still receiving run off from the highway property and that the storm water detention pond has not been done. The Highway Department has not been able to start the work for the detention pond, so I have asked Ray to gather information for us to review tonight.

- ✚ Ray Jurkowski: Mr. Malcolm is not happy that the detention pond is not done and would like to see an effort toward that being done. He tired of promises because he is getting complaints. If we do not make an effort there can fines but Mr. Malcolm has not indicated that he is taking any action at this time.. I have aerial images from 1994-2015 showing the history of the drainage pattern and area of erosion that I will be submitting to Mr. Malcolm as follows:



I have reached out to three contractors for proposals complete the detention pond as follows:

- ◆ Gaylord Contracting would not be able to start right away did not submit a proposal.

DESCRIPTION	QTY	UNIT	PRICE
ESTIMATE			
TOTAL \$23,600.00			

- ◆ McCagg Excavating: \$23,600.00

DESCRIPTION	QTY	UNIT	PRICE
ESTIMATE			
TOTAL \$24,455.25			

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TOTAL \$24,960.00			

- ◆ McCagg Contracting: \$24,455.25 \$24,960.00

- ✚ Board Member Arthur McGuire: what can DEC do if we do not get this done?
- ✚ Ray Jurkowski: fines up to \$30,000.00 a day per occurrence.
- ✚ Board Member Joyce Thompson: that does not leave much for the landscaping.
- ✚ Supervisor Ryan Skoda: I called Alice Platt she does have someone will to do the landscaping layout for free.
- ✚ Clerk Rogers: do we have to go through the bidding process?
- ✚ Ray Jurkowski: no being the cost is under \$25,000.00.
- ✚ Larry Kadish: The contractor is going to use the material stock piled by Pumpkin Hollow Road. Wasn't that what the town was going to use for the landscaping?
- ✚ Ray Jurkowski: yes but in the spring when the town and county are grading roads it can be stock piled up again.
- ✚ Board Member Richard Skoda: I think we should just have McCagg get it done. What is the best time for landscape planting?
- ✚ Supervisor Ryan Skoda: early spring or late fall.

Board Member Richard Skoda motioned to hire McCagg Excavating \$23,600.00 to complete the storm water detention pond, seconded by Board Member Joyce Thompson.

Approved: 4 Ayes (Ryan, Arthur, Joyce, Richard)
 0 Nays
 0 Absent

Supervisor Ryan Skoda then asked for a motion to approve the following minutes:

September 11, 2017: Town Board meeting minutes were accepted as written with suggested changes, motioned by Board Member Joyce Thompson, seconded by Board Member Arthur McGuire.

Approved: 3 Ayes (Arthur, Joyce, Richard)
 0 Nays
 0 Absent
 1 Abstained (Ryan)

November 13, 2017: Town Board meeting minutes were accepted as written with suggested changes, motioned by Board Member Arthur McGuire, seconded by Board Member Joyce Thompson.

Approved: 3 Ayes (Ryan, Arthur, Joyce)
0 Nays
0 Absent
1 Abstained (Richard)

The Correspondence consisted of:

- I. NYMIR OUR POLICY
- II. Morgan Stanley LOSAP Quarter
- III. Keeping Identities of Seniors Safe, K.I.S.S.
- IV. NYSLRS, The Update
- V. Anna Kadish, Letter of Interest PB
- VI. Craryvill Fire District, Electons
- VII. Elizabeth O'Donnell, Letter of Interest ZBA
- VIII. Moisha Blechman, Letter of Interest ZBA
- IX. John Roberts, Letter of Interest PB
- X. Joshua Plass, Letter of Interest ZBA
- XI. NYSDOT , Flashing Light
 - ✦ Board Member Arthur McGuire: we are not a fire district we are a fire company, we need to find out if that makes a difference.
 - ✦ Larry Kadish: there has been a traffic study for Gas Land; why can't that be used for this as well?
 - ✦ Supervisor Ryan Skoda: I will reach out to DOT
 - ✦ Arthur Griffith: the first requirement for a two-lane highway is within a two year period, 200 emergency calls occur during times when the rate of flow on the highway is at least. I don't think we meet that.
 - ✦ Board Member Joyce Thompson: Linda does the Traffic Safety have any input?
 - ✦ Linda Swartz: the Traffic Safety Board would only give a letter of support. The County does not have a Municipal Planning Organization.
- XII. Jeffery Tallackson, Uniform Justice Court Act 2019-a

Board Reports:

- Animal Control:** Wes Powell, report submitted.
 - ZBA:** James Romaine, Chair, no report submitted.
 - Planning Board:** Katherine Bainer, Chair verbal report submitted.
 - Assessor:** Craig Surprise report submitted.
 - ZEO/CEO/Building Inspector:** Dennis Callahan report submitted.
 - Historian:** Nancy Griffith, no report submitted.
 - Traffic Safety Board:** Linda Swartz, no report, no meeting.
 - Environmental Management Council:** Anna Kadish, no report submitted.
 - Zoning Commission:** Joyce Thompson, report submitted.
- The Zoning Commission met on 6 and 20 November 2017.

The Commission is developing a package of materials that introduce the draft code. It will be used for a review and finalization process planned for 2018.

- ◆ First, the draft code will be presented to each Town Board member individually for gathering individual questions, concerns and input. Town Board Members' input will be considered for incorporation.
- ◆ The resulting draft code will then be presented to the Town Board and will be followed by the third Public Information Meeting. The result of that meeting will also be considered for incorporation.
- ◆ Following legal review the resulting draft will be presented to the Town Board for formal consideration and a Public Hearing.
- ◆ Final modifications will follow and the revised draft code will be presented to the Town Board for final review and adoption.

Residents are urged to read the minutes to get a sense of the detail and scope of the work.

All minutes are posted on the website and provide detailed coverage of the discussions.

Next meetings: 18 December and 15 and 29 January 2018. Meeting time continues to be 5:00 PM – 7:00 PM and all meetings are held at Town Hall.

Office for the Aging: Joyce Thompson submitted the following:



Clerk/Collector: Cheryl Rogers, reports were submitted to the Board

Supervisor: Ryan Skoda, report submitted and the written report was available on the back table for the public.

Highway: Superintendent George Hotaling report submitted.

Board reports were accepted as submitted and read on a motion by Board Member Richard Skoda, seconded by Board Member Arthur McGuire.

Approved: 4 Ayes (Ryan, Arthur, Joyce, Richard)

0 Nays

0 Absent

Financial: Joyce Thompson submitted the following:

The Financial Advisory Committee (FAC) will meet on Thursday, 14 December as scheduled.

Review of the Supervisor's Report shows the following:

Revenues: There are no issues in the General or Highway Fund. The General Fund is 5.7% over budgeted amount and the 4th Quarter Sales Tax check will arrive in January. That line is already at 87.6% and is one of the revenue sources that have come in over budget all year. The Highway Fund will also receive a percentage of the 4th Quarter Sales Tax check and expects to receive approximately \$86,000 in additionally earned CHIPS funding.

General and Highway Expenditures: There are no issues in the General or Highway Fund. At the end of November, the General and Highway Fund expenditures are 81.3% and 76.5% respectively. Both funds should finish under budget again this year.

◆ Budget Amendment #11 reflects moving funds from the Contingent line to the Assessor, Town Hall, Planning Board and Health appropriation lines. The reasons are to cover unexpected legal fees, a necessary but unplanned telephone system upgrade, and the slightly increased monthly cost of the healthcare plan that starts in December. Notes for next year's budget include budgeting for this timing of increased benefit cost going forward.

Financial Advisory Board report was accepted as submitted and read on a motion by Board Member Arthur McGuire seconded by Supervisor Richard Skoda.

Approved: 4 Ayes (Ryan, Arthur, Joyce, Richard)
0 Nays
0 Absent

Advisory Board Reports:

✚ **Conservation Advisory Committee:** Anna Kadish: report submitted.
Taghkanic CAC meeting, Thursday November 16 no meeting held.

The CAC upcoming topics, buying into solar farms, climate smart community, information on geothermal and wind, town wind solar wind and NRI.

✚ **Broadband Advisory Committee:** Arthur McGuire: report submitted.
As the assigned meeting date fell on Thanksgiving this year, the Broadband Committee did not meet.

Arthur McGuire gave an update on the Broadband situation at the Critchell residence on November 19th to the Critchells and four of their neighbors.

Arthur has also been placed on a monthly e-mail update from G-tel that he distributes to the committee members. We will comment at Town Board meetings as new information is shared by G-tel.

Advisory Board reports were accepted as submitted and read on a motion by Board Member Joyce Thompson, seconded by Board Member Richard Skoda.

Approved: 4 Ayes (Ryan, Arthur, Joyce, Richard)

0 Nays
0 Absent

OLD BUSINESS:

- A. **Fran Murcott, New Forge Road Cul-De-Sac:** Supervisor Ryan Skoda, I received a copy of the letter sent to you from Bernie Kelleher. (As attached.)



The town will be helping with the trucking of the materials. George is looking into the size of the Cul-De-Sac he feels he needs.

- ✚ Fran Murcott: I have spoken with George about plowing during the winter; George is willing to work with me to keep it open for prospective buyers. What about the process of accepting the donation?
 - ✚ Supervisor Ryan Skoda: I have asked the Town Attorney to look into the process.
- B. **WMA:** Supervisor Ryan Skoda there will not be any clear cutting, new England white tail are bigger and slower and the eastern white tail are smaller and faster.
- ✚ Board Member Joyce Thompson: agenda was expert presentations and then everyone was allowed to go to each expert and ask their questions.
 - ✚ Larry Kadish: it was the classic dog and pony show.
- C. **Rules of Order Supervisor Skoda:** Supervisor Ryan Skoda introduced a suggestion for the wording for the board to review for the January meeting.
- D. **PB and ZBA appointments:** Supervisor Ryan Skoda we have received two letters of interest for the Planning Board (John Roberts and Anna Kadish) and three letter of interest for the ZBA (Elizabeth O'Donnell, Moisha Blaechman, and Joshua Plass). We interviewed Joshua Plass before the meeting; he is willing to serve on either board.
- ✚ Kathy Bainer: Eric Gaylord has moved but I would like to see him finish the process for Gas Land. He would have to resign after that. I feel Joshua would work out well.
 - ✚ Board member Richard Skoda: Jim Romaine residence.
 - ✚ Supervisor Ryan Skoda: Jim has put in a drive and eclectic service to his new property, so there is intent to reside there.
 - ✚ Linda Swartz: James Romaine has been do work there. But I have to take exception we need a time limit.
 - ✚ Kathy Bainer: as long as there is progress.

1. **Planning Board Appointments:** Board Member Joyce Thompson motioned to appoint John Roberts as full member to the Planning Board term ends 12-31-2024 and to appoint Anna Kadish as the Alternate to the Planning Board, seconded by Board Member Arthur McGuire.

Approved: 4 Ayes (Ryan, Arthur, Joyce, Richard)
0 Nays
0 Absent

2. **ZBA Appointments:** Board Member Richard Skoda motioned to appoint Elizabeth O'Donnell as full member of the ZBA term ending 12-31-2022 and to appoint Moisha Blechman Alternate to the ZBA, seconded by Board Member Joyce Thompson.

Approved: 4 Ayes (Ryan, Arthur, Joyce, Richard)
0 Nays
0 Absent

Board Member Joyce Thompson we would like to encourage Joshua Plass to attend the Planning Board meetings and ask that he send a letter of interest in the upcoming opening on the Planning Board, seconded by Richard Skoda.

Approved: 4 Ayes (Ryan, Arthur, Joyce, Richard)
0 Nays
0 Absent

E. LL 4-2017 Cold War Veterans Exemption:

- ✚ **SEQRA:** Supervisor Ryan Skoda read through the SEQRA form and asked for a motion for a Negative Declaration of SEQRA, motioned made by Board Member Richard Skoda, seconded by Board Member Arthur McGuire.

Approved: 4 Ayes (Ryan, Arthur, Joyce, Richard)
0 Nays
0 Absent

- ✚ **Enactment LL 4-2017:** Board Member Joyce Thompson motioned to Enact Local Law 4-2017, seconded by Board Member Arthur McGuire.

Approved: 4 Ayes (Ryan, Arthur, Joyce, Richard)
0 Nays
0 Absent

NEW BUSINESS:

1. **Year-End Meeting Date:** December 28th at 7 pm
2. **Auditing of town CFO, Justice, Clerk and Collect books:** January 30th at 6 pm
3. **January 2018 Calendar:** Board Member Joyce Thompson moved to approve the January Calendar as amended, seconded by Board Member Richard Skoda.

Approved: 4 Ayes (Ryan, Arthur, Joyce, Richard)
0 Nays

0 Absent

- 4. **Budget Amendment #10:** Board Member Joyce Thompson motioned to approve Budget Amendment # 9-2017, seconded by Board Member Arthur McGuire.

Town of Taghkanic

December 11, 2017

Budget Amendment #10

GENERAL FUND		Increase	Decrease
ASSESSOR CONTRACTUAL	A1355.4	\$500.00	
BUILDING - TOWN HALL	A1620.4	\$2,374.00	
PLANNING BOARD	A8020.4	\$600.00	
HEALTH	A9060.8	\$2,750.00	
CONTINGENT	A1990.4		\$6,224.00
		<u>\$6,224.00</u>	<u>\$6,224.00</u>

Approved: 4 Ayes (Ryan, Arthur, Joyce, Richard)
 0 Nays
 0 Absent

AUDIT OF MONTH'S BILLS:

November 27, 2017: Board Member Joyce Thompson moved that the November 27, 2017 abstract has been audited and approved for payment seconded by Board Member Arthur McGuire.

2017 General Fund Vouchers	# 378 -	393	\$ 12,687.02
2017 Highway Fund Vouchers	#218 -	219	\$ 5,726.01
2017 Highway Project Vouchers	# -		\$
2017 Escrow Vouchers	#		\$

Approved: 4 Ayes (Ryan, Arthur, Joyce, Richard)
 0 Nays
 0 Absent

December 11, 2017: Board Member Richard Skoda moved that the December 11, 2017 abstract has been audited and approved for payment seconded by Board Member Arthur McGuire.

2017 General Fund Vouchers	# 394 -	406	\$ 4,716.69
2017 Highway Fund Vouchers	# 220 -	237	\$ 10,605.20
2017 Highway Project Vouchers	# -		\$
2017 Escrow Vouchers	# -		\$

Approved: 4 Ayes (Ryan, Arthur, Joyce, Richard)
 0 Nays
 0 Absent

PUBLIC COMMENT – FIFTEEN MINUTES:

- ✦ Larry Kadish: Finger presentation was that in response to an RFP?
- ✦ Supervisor Ryan Skoda: no Peter offered to attend the meeting to go over our coverage.
- ✦ Board Member Joyce Thompson: we need to develop a RFP Schedule.
- ✦ Kathy Bainer: the parkway bridge over County Route 27 is going to be replaced in 2019-2020. Also early next year the state is recommending that special use permits are reviewed by the Planning not ZBA, just a FYI for the Town Board.
- ✦ Board Member Joyce Thompson: I will ask Ted Fink about that.
- ✦ Arthur Griffith: update on Gas Land.
- ✦ Kathy Bainer: the Planning and the ZBA are holding a joint meeting on January 2, 2018 with a Public Hearing for Gas Land special use and cite plan. Gas Land is fulfilling all that is required of them.

With no further business, on a motion by Board Member Richard Skoda, seconded by Board Member Joyce Thompson, the meeting was adjourned at 9:10 pm. carried unanimously by all members present. The next Regular meeting will be **Monday January 8, 2018** at the Taghkanic Town Hall.

Audience:	Kathy Bainer	Linda Swartz	Fran Murcott
	Arthur Griffith	Joshua Plass	Anna Kadish
	Larry Kadish	Peter Fingar	Dennis Callahan
	Ray Jurkowski	Harriet Shur	John Clarkson
	Ellen Clarkson		

Before the meeting started Dennis Callahan informed the Town Board that he is not receiving information from the Planning Board or the ZBA which he needs for his position as ZEO/CEO. The process is applicants see Dennis he denies and send to the appropriate board.