

Approved

April 9, 2018

**March 12, 2018
Town of Taghkanic
Town Board Meeting**

6:30 pm: Town Board members audited and signed vouchers.

7 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 moment of silence.

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

Absent:

Guest Speaker: Culvert Grant Application Information Presentation by **Megan Lung**, Hudson River Estuary Program Environmental Analyst/NEIWPCC, **Tracey Testo**, Cornell Cooperative Extension of Columbia and Greene Counties Agro Forestry Resource Center and **Tracy Brown**, Trout Unlimited.

William Hilscher, Taghkanic Fire Co. LOSAP 2016 Points: William Hilscher, Chief of Taghkanic Volunteer Fire Company submitted the 2017 LOSAP point record for approval for the 30 day posting. Motion to approve was made by Board Member Joyce Thompson, seconded by Board Member Linda Swartz.

Approved 5 Aye (Ryan, Arthur, Joyce, Linda, Richard)
0 Nays
0 Absent

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

February 12, 2018: Town Board meeting minutes were accepted as written with suggested changes, motioned by Board Member Arthur McGuire, seconded by Board Member Linda Swartz.

Approved 5 Aye (Ryan, Arthur, Joyce, Linda, Richard)
0 Nays
0 Absent

March 5, 2018: Town Board Special meeting minutes were accepted as written with suggested changes, motioned by Board Member Arthur McGuire, seconded by Board Member Richard Skoda.

Approved 5 Aye (Ryan, Arthur, Joyce, Linda, Richard)
0 Nays
0 Absent

The Correspondence consisted of:

1. NYS Dept. of Environmental Conservation, Best Management of Oak Wilt
2. NYMIR, Commercial Crime Policy Update
3. Roeliff Jansen Community Library, thank you
4. Larry Porreca, resume
 - + **Clerk Rogers has on file**
5. Joyce Thompson, amended plan for introducing the draft zoning code
6. Andres Kalpin, horrible roads and potholes need to be fixed
7. NYMIR site visit
 - + **Clerk Rogers asked if one of the Board Members would be available to meet with NYMIR March 26th at 2:45.**
 - + **Board Member Joyce Thompson volunteered.**
8. K.I.S.S. March 19 – March 30
9. Department of the Army, Permit Application Berkshire Lake Property
10. NYMIR 25 year Celebration and Annual Meeting May 10-11, 2018
11. The Hartford, Material related to Paid Family Leave Benefit

Then followed reports from the Boards:

Animal Control: Wes Powell, report submitted.

ZBA: James Romaine, Chair, no report.

Planning Board: Katherine Bainer, Chair report submitted.

Assessor: Craig Surprise report submitted.

ZEO/CEO/Building Inspector: Dennis Callahan report submitted.

+ **Board Member Joyce Thompson: Dennis attended training on asbestos so I would like to know how that is going to affect us taking down the old highway garage.**

+ **Supervisor Ryan Skoda: I will ask him tomorrow.**

Historian: Nancy Griffith, no report submitted.

Traffic Safety Board: Linda Swartz, report submitted no meeting till January 28th.

Environmental Management Council: Anna Kadish, no report submitted.

Zoning Commission: Joyce Thompson, report submitted and read as follows.

Office for the Aging: Joyce Thompson, no report submitted no meeting.

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: George Hotaling, report submitted.

+ **Supervisor Ryan Skoda: I would like the board to think about moving money from the un-appropriated Highway Fund balance into the highway Road Repair fund to give George more money to get more roads done this year.**

+ **Board Member Arthur McGuire: every year we hear about the roads. Putting more money in may help.**

+ **Board Member Richard Skoda: what about the paver we purchased?**

+ **Board Member Joyce Thompson: that is for smaller roads.**

- ✦ **Supervisor Ryan Skoda:** Joyce and I will come up with a figure for next month.
- ✦ **Andrew Soltano:** New Forge Road needs to be fixed. We have had two storms with 12 to 20 inches. I plowed from Route 82 to Klein and back.
- ✦ **Joshua Plass:** he needs to get the snow off the road during the winter to prevent road problems. I called Ryan and told him a town plow truck almost hit my wife because it was going too fast for the conditions.
- ✦ **William Hilscher:** Dennis plowed Taghkanic Road to get a Deputy Sheriff out.
- ✦ **Supervisor Ryan Skoda:** it seems like a common opinion that it doesn't matter what road; the roads aren't being cleared.
- ✦ **Board agreed to setup a meeting with George.**

Financial Advisory Committee Report: Board Member Joyce Thompson reported the following:

2017 YEAR END FUND BALANCE	2017	2017 YEAR END FUND BALANCE	2017
ESTIMATED HIGHWAY FUND - 2017		ESTIMATED GENERAL FUND - 2017	
FUND BALANCE @ 12/31/16	868,626	FUND BALANCE @ 12/31/16	868,626
+ BUDGETED REVENUES TO DATE (EXCEPT 2017)	889,284	+ BUDGETED REVENUES TO DATE (EXCEPT 2017)	889,284
- UNAPPORTIONED EXPENDITURES TO DATE	794,484	- UNAPPORTIONED EXPENDITURES TO DATE	794,484
BALANCE TO DATE	983,426	BALANCE TO DATE	983,426
+ PROJECTED REVENUES TO DATE		+ PROJECTED REVENUES TO DATE	
- PROJECTED EXPENDITURES TO DATE		- PROJECTED EXPENDITURES TO DATE	
ESTIMATED FUND BALANCE AT YEAR END 2017	983,426	ESTIMATED FUND BALANCE AT YEAR END 2017	983,426
ALLOCATION OF FUND BALANCE		ALLOCATION OF FUND BALANCE	
CASH ON HAND	200,000	CASH ON HAND	200,000
INVESTMENTS	0	INVESTMENTS	0
UNAPPORTIONED / ASSIGNED, APPROPRIATED	783,426	UNAPPORTIONED / ASSIGNED, APPROPRIATED	783,426
CAP EXPENDITURES	0	CAP EXPENDITURES	0
UNAPPORTIONED / ASSIGNED, APPROPRIATED	783,426	UNAPPORTIONED / ASSIGNED, APPROPRIATED	783,426
TOTAL	983,426	TOTAL	983,426
BASE: 3 MONTH AVG OF 2016 - 2018 FOR DEBT COSTS / UNAPPORTIONED / ASSIGNED, APPROPRIATED	100,000	BASE: 3 MONTH AVG OF 2016 - 2018 FOR DEBT COSTS / UNAPPORTIONED / ASSIGNED, APPROPRIATED	100,000
PROJECTED FINANCING FOR INVESTMENT AT END OF FY	883,426	PROJECTED FINANCING FOR INVESTMENT AT END OF FY	883,426

2018 ESTIMATED AVAILABLE FUND BALANCE	2018	2018 ESTIMATED AVAILABLE FUND BALANCE	2018
ESTIMATED HIGHWAY FUND - 2017		ESTIMATED GENERAL FUND - 2017	
FUND BALANCE @ 12/31/16	868,626	FUND BALANCE @ 12/31/16	868,626
+ BUDGETED REVENUES TO DATE (EXCEPT 2018)	889,284	+ BUDGETED REVENUES TO DATE (EXCEPT 2018)	889,284
- UNAPPORTIONED TO DATE (EXCEPT 2018)	794,484	- UNAPPORTIONED TO DATE (EXCEPT 2018)	794,484
BALANCE TO DATE	963,426	BALANCE TO DATE	963,426
+ PROJECTED REVENUES TO DATE		+ PROJECTED REVENUES TO DATE	
- PROJECTED EXPENDITURES TO DATE		- PROJECTED EXPENDITURES TO DATE	
ESTIMATED FUND BALANCE AT YEAR END 2018	963,426	ESTIMATED FUND BALANCE AT YEAR END 2018	963,426
ALLOCATION OF FUND BALANCE		ALLOCATION OF FUND BALANCE	
CASH ON HAND	200,000	CASH ON HAND	200,000
INVESTMENTS	0	INVESTMENTS	0
UNAPPORTIONED / ASSIGNED, APPROPRIATED	763,426	UNAPPORTIONED / ASSIGNED, APPROPRIATED	763,426
CAP EXPENDITURES	0	CAP EXPENDITURES	0
UNAPPORTIONED / ASSIGNED, APPROPRIATED	763,426	UNAPPORTIONED / ASSIGNED, APPROPRIATED	763,426
TOTAL	963,426	TOTAL	963,426
BASE: 3 MONTH AVG OF 2016 - 2018 FOR DEBT COSTS / UNAPPORTIONED / ASSIGNED, APPROPRIATED	100,000	BASE: 3 MONTH AVG OF 2016 - 2018 FOR DEBT COSTS / UNAPPORTIONED / ASSIGNED, APPROPRIATED	100,000
PROJECTED FINANCING FOR INVESTMENT AT END OF FY	863,426	PROJECTED FINANCING FOR INVESTMENT AT END OF FY	863,426

Advisory Board reports: Supervisor Ryan Skoda: thank you Anna for organizing the presentation tonight.

Conservation Advisory Committee: Anna Kadish, report submitted.

Taghkanic CAC meeting on Feb 15, 2018

Carey Institute of Milbrook session about Road Salt on Mar 12 2018 Summary:

Both sand and salt have been used for clearing roads from snow. 98% of the salt in streams comes from human activity!!!

More than 100mg/L has environmental effects.

Levels of salt are highest every summer, mostly in August!! Surprising, but true.

Soil has high retention and late release. Private wells may have high salt levels, Testing is good idea. This is a serious issue, but not a hazard as yet. Unfortunately there are not many alternatives which are reliable. From roads, shallow ground water (SGW) is contaminated and stays for a long time. Goes from stream to envelope to bigger pools and summer rains flush it out, into rivers, then ocean. Applying salt unfortunately has high municipal costs.

Prewetting the roadways before applying salt results in less salt contaminating aquifers. Adding brine to the pavement below the precipitation can prevents icing. In Adirondacks have been 7 million tons (!!!!) put down since 1989! Fifty percent into rivers and oceans. Other into soil and groundwater. Road density correlates with chloride density in area (that may make us better!!) Lake George has smart salting

plans to regulate salt!! Most counties don't have plans!! **DOES Columbia County have any???** **There are not many alternate deicers that work well!**

Different snowplows have different effects, live edge plows and others. Some damage roads, others don't. Other towns use salt brine. But this may not be effective at low temperatures and may need to be made by the town and would add expense. Abrasives may be better than salt???. Parking lots are often coated with very high salt levels. Adding magnesium chloride may work better at very low temperatures,

The Sawkill watershed community has an effective salt removing protocol. Need to reduce salt as much as possible!! Putnam County has done so? Need to reduce salt around water sources. Smith Labs in Hyde Park is a good place to buy or learn about using salt,

ROAD SALT MASCULINIZES FROGS AND SALAMANDERS!!! And may affect microbial ecology in roadside ponds!!

Broadband Advisory Committee: Arthur McGuire, report submitted:

With my being out-of-town and nasty weather on our meeting day, the Broadband Committee did not meet in February. However, Chris Tallackson attended the County Sub-committee meeting and reported as follows:

Taghkanic is basically blanketed by GTel. This is good news. There are still questions; however, about the remaining "white" areas (the county and other towns have those questions too, not just us). GTel was also reported to have some questions about why it wasn't awarded certain census tracts for which it applied. There are also questions about getting service to each house in an awarded area. This all has to do with using census tracts to allocate awards instead of tax rolls and with certain providers "claiming" a tract even if they only provide service to one home of many there. The Phase III grant award data was posted on the state website for two days and then it vanished. The county believes the state office was overwhelmed with questions and is probably in the process of revising some of the information it initially posted but the state broadband office has also stopped responding to phone calls (again, probably overwhelmed). So—nothing nailed down 100% but I think Taghkanic is lucky to be mostly GTel rather than one of the much larger, non-local companies from whom it is much harder to get information. Anyway, the county captured the state data during the 48 hours it was posted and has prepared new maps which will now get posted on the county website conspicuously marked DRAFT.

John Reilly has also offered to do presentations to towns beyond the four who initiated the Saturday meeting in Copake. I am thinking we might like to have him give one to us. Perhaps we could include some adjoining town(s), maybe even his own Gallatin? We can go over this at our next meeting.

Old Business:

1. **Murcott property donation update:** Supervisor Ryan Skoda: nothing new to report.
2. **County Route 15 Complaint:** paperwork has been filed; Attorney Decaire will keep us up-to-date with the progress.

3. **Banking Policies:** Board Member Joyce Thompson: I have reviewed and made suggested changes; we need approval of the revisions for Resolution 8 and Resolution 9.

✚ **Resolution 8-2018 Cash Disbursement Procedure:** Board Member Linda Swartz moved to approve the revisions to Resolution 8-2018 as presented, seconded by Board Member Arthur McGuire.

Approved **5 Aye (Ryan, Arthur, Joyce, Linda, Richard)**
0 Nays
0 Absent

✚ **Resolution 9-2018 Electronic Banking Policy:** Board Member Linda Swartz moved to approve the revisions to Resolution 9-2018 as presented, seconded by Board Member Arthur McGuire.

Approved **5 Aye (Ryan, Arthur, Joyce, Linda, Richard)**
0 Nays
0 Absent

4. **Thinking Differently:** Supervisor Ryan Skoda reported the County is not participating; the County provides programs already (COARC, etc).

5. **Highway Road Complaints:** Discussed during Board/Department reports.

6. **RFP Schedule:** Board Member Joyce Thompson: The purpose of issuing a Request for Proposal (RFP) for Appointed Professional Positions serving the Town of Taghkanic is for the Town Board to execute due diligence in the engagement of the most qualified person, business or organization. Appointment duration varies with the profession and is based on the complexity of change for that category.

The process is not a vehicle for dismissal. Professionals currently serving in these positions are expected to submit a proposal and compete for continuance in that position.

All appointments are for the Calendar Year. The corresponding RFP should be issued and completed prior to budget completion in the fall of the last year of the appointment.

Assessor is an exception because that contract is set by the State for six years from June to June.

Professional Category	Duration of Appointment	Last RFP Date (Years of Service)	Next-1 RFP Date (Years of Service)	Next-2 RFP Date (Years of Service)
Attorney to the Town	Two (2) Years	2016 (2017-2018)	2018 (2019-2020)	2020 (2021-2022)
Accountant* for the Town	Two (2) Years	2016 (2017-2018)	2019 (2020-2021)	2021 (2022-2023)

Payroll Company* for the Town**	Two (2) Years	2016 (2017-2018)	2019 (2020-2021)	2021 (2022-2023)
Town Bookkeeper*	Two (2) Years	2016 (2017-2018)	2018 9 (2020-2021)	2020 1 (2021 2 -2022 3)
Official Bank	TBD	2015 (20xx – 20yy)	20rr (20xx – 20yy)	20rr (20xx – 20yy)
Insurance Broker / Company	TBD	2015	20rr (20xx – 20yy)	20rr (20xx – 20yy)
LOSAP Investment Company	TBD	2015	20rr (20xx – 20yy)	20rr (20xx – 20yy)
ZEO/CEO	TBD		20rr (20xx – 20yy)	20rr (20xx – 20yy)
Assessor	Six (6) Years Set by State	2014 (June to June)	2019 (Feb. September) (2019 – 2024)	2024 (20xx – 20yy)
Engineer	TBD		20rr (20xx – 20yy)	20rr (20xx – 20yy)
Attorney – Planning Board	Two (2) Years	2017 (2018 – 2019)	2019 (2020 – 2021)	2021 (2022 – 2023)
Attorney – Zoning Board of Appeals	Two (2) Years	2016 (2017 – 2018)	2018 (2019 – 2020)	2020 (2021 – 2022)

* Financial Professionals were moved out one year to separate them from the Legal Professionals

** Payroll Company is part of the Accountant Company Package

✚ Board Member Arthur McGuire: is two years too soon?

✚ Board Member Joyce Thompson: RFP is to due diligence and obtain the best service for the best money.

✚ Supervisor Ryan Skoda: we cannot bind a future board to a contract.

Board Member Linda Swartz moved to approve the RFP Schedule as presented with the minor changes, seconded by Board Member Joyce Thompson.

Approved **5 Aye** **(Ryan, Arthur, Joyce, Linda, Richard)**

0 Nays

0 Absent

7. **Newsletter:** Board Member Joyce Thompson introduced the idea of a newsletter done by interested residents.

✚ Supervisor Ryan Skoda: overall good idea, can you ask if they would give us a sample which can be used as part of the first newsletter.

8. **Jeanne Stuppelbeen OFA Appointment:** Board Member Richard Skoda moved to appoint Jeanne Stuppelbeen as a town representative at the OFA, seconded by Board Member Arthur McGuire.

Approved **5 Aye** **(Ryan, Arthur, Joyce, Linda, Richard)**
0 Nays
0 Absent

9. **Financial Committee Notice:** Board Member Joyce Thompson motioned to run a notice for letters of interest for the Financial Advisory Committee, seconded by Board Member Richard Skoda.

Approved **5 Aye** **(Ryan, Arthur, Joyce, Linda, Richard)**
0 Nays
0 Absent

New Business:

A. **April 2018 Calendar:** Board Member Joyce Thompson moved to accept the April 2018 calendar, seconded by Board Member Linda Swartz.

Approved **5 Aye** **(Ryan, Arthur, Joyce, Linda, Richard)**
0 Nays
0 Absent

B. **Ombudsman:** Board Member Joyce Thompson will contact John Santacrose to see if he would be willing to come to the April meeting for an interview.

C. **Hazard Mitigation-Culverts:** Board Member Linda Swartz: I have created a culvert work reporting sheet as follows as suggested the meeting held January 25th that Arthur and I went to: The Board approved.

**TOWN OF TAGHKANIC HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT
HAZARD MITIGATION PROGRAM
Culvert Work Reporting Sheet**

Date:	
Culvert location:	
Is this culvert addressed on a regular basis?	
Describe the work done:	
How many crew members were involved? <i>(List names of crew members)</i>	

<p>Were other town highway departments or municipal agencies involved (formal or informal shared services)? <i>(Provide names of towns and workers)</i></p>	
<p>What equipment was utilized? <i>(Indicate if equipment used was "borrowed" from another municipal agency)</i></p>	
<p>How long did the job take to complete?</p>	
<p>Overall cost of the project:</p>	
<p>Additional Comments: <i>(continue report on reverse side if necessary and attach photos if available)</i></p>	

D. NYS DOT shared services: tabled till George is present

- ✚ Share Service agreement with NYSDOT
- ✚ Undertaking between Town of Taghkanic and NYSDOT:

E. Clean Energy Communities/Climate Smart Communities: Board Member Joyce Thompson handed out information for the Board to review.

F. Culvert Grant Application Letter of Intent: Board Member Richard Skoda moved to draft and grant permission for Supervisor Skoda to sign a culvert grant application letter of intent, seconded by Board Member Arthur McGuire.

Approved **5 Aye** **(Ryan, Arthur, Joyce, Linda, Richard)**
0 Nays
0 Absent

G. Budget Amendment #1-2018: Board Member Linda Swartz motion to approve Budget Amendment 1-2018, seconded by Board Member Richard Skoda.

GENERAL FUND						
BUILDING INSPECTOR - LITIGATION	A3620.41	\$10,000.00				
UNAPPROPRIATED FUND BALANCE	A9110		\$10,000.00			
		\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00			
HIGHWAY FUND						

MACHINERY	DA5130.2	\$35,249.90			
UNAPPROPRIATED FUND BALANCE	DA9110		\$35,249.90		
		\$35,249.90	\$35,249.90		
GENERAL FUND: Appropriation Line 3620.41 created to allow Town to track cost of zoning litigation					
Suggest adding \$10,000 to cover initial bill of \$2,244 and future bills					
HIGHWAY FUND: This covers the cash payment for a new dump body for Truck #5					

Approved **5 Aye** **(Ryan, Arthur, Joyce, Linda, Richard)**
0 Nays
0 Absent

The bills were audited and approved for payment as follows:

✦ February 26, 2018 Abstract: on a motion by Board Member Richard Skoda, seconded by Board Member Arthur McGuire.

2018 General Fund Vouchers	# 71 - 85	\$ 10,916.19
2018 Highway Fund Vouchers	# 31 - 32	\$ 5,739.57
2018 Hwy Project Fund vouchers	#	\$
2018 Escrow Fund Vouchers	# -	\$

Approved **5 Aye** **(Ryan, Arthur, Joyce, Linda, Richard)**
0 Nays
0 Absent

✦ March 12, 2018 Abstract: on a motion by Board Member Richard Skoda, seconded by Board Member Arthur McGuire.

2018 General Fund Vouchers	# 86 - 102	\$ 7,315.42
2018 Highway Fund Vouchers	# 33 - 68	\$ 65,737.86
2018 Hwy Project Fund vouchers	#	\$
2018 Escrow Fund Vouchers	# -	\$

Approved **5 Aye** **(Ryan, Arthur, Joyce, Linda, Richard)**
0 Nays
0 Absent

The following people commented during the fifteen minute public comment:

- ✦ Arthur Griffith: Gas Land/Dunkin Donuts? Also re-valuation, when?
- ✦ Supervisor Ryan Skoda: they are waiting for DOT and DEC approval. Re-valuation I will talk to Craig.
- ✦ William Hilscher: FYI there is rumor that a large tract of land is being sold by Crown Hill Road. This is a water source for fire suppression at the eastern part of town.
- ✦ Joshua Plass: Lido's barn on Berkshire Road fell into the road
- ✦ Supervisor Ryan Skoda: George went over to check.

9:30 pm Executive Session: Board Member Richard Skoda motioned to open Executive Session to discuss Personnel, seconded by Board member Joyce Thompson.

Approved **5 Aye** **(Ryan, Arthur, Joyce, Linda, Richard)**
0 Nays
0 Absent

10:01 pm: Board member Richard Skoda motioned to close the Executive Session, seconded by Board Member Arthur McGuire.

Approved **5 Aye** **(Ryan, Arthur, Joyce, Linda, Richard)**
0 Nays
0 Absent

With no further business, on a motion by Board Member Arthur McGuire, seconded by Board Member Richard Skoda, the meeting was adjourned at 10:01 pm, carried unanimously by all members present. The next Regular meeting will be **April 9, 2018** at the Taghkanic Town Hall.

Audience:	Arnold Albright	Arthur Griffith	John Thompson	Anna Kadish
	William Hilscher	Larry Kadish	Tracey Testo	Megan Lung
	Jeff Browne	Andrew Soltano	Joshua Plass	Tracy Brown