

Approved

6/8/2020

**May 11, 2020
Town of Taghkanic
Town Board Meeting**

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

Town Board Members audited and signed vouchers on Friday May 8, 2020 separately due to the COVID-19 social distancing.

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

Present:	Ryan Skoda	Supervisor
	Elizabeth Craig	Board Member
	Kara Gilmore	Board Member
	Linda Swartz	Board Member
	Joyce Thompson	Board Member
	Cheryl Rogers	Clerk

Guest Speaker:

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

April 13, 2020: Town Board meeting minutes were accepted as written with suggested changes, motioned by Board Member Linda Swartz, seconded by Board Member Elizabeth Craig.

Approved **5 Aye** **(Ryan, Elizabeth, Joyce, Kara, Linda)**
0 Nays
0 Absent

The Correspondence:

- a)** Clayton Kirking: Task Force
- b)** Carl Mulert: Task Force
- c)** Benjamin Feldman: Task Force
- d)** Carol Rusoff: Task Force
- e)** Harriet Shur: Task Force
- f)** Linda Reardon: Task Force
- g)** Christine Hinz: Task Force
- h)** Stawnychy Financial Services, SFS Performance Report
- i)** Robert Perry Jr., Superintendent of Public Works, Hudson, Churchtown Dam
- j)** Daphne Jordan, State Senator, 43rd District
- k)** Loretta Hoffman, Task Force
- l)** Cheryl Rogers, Task Force
- m)** Donay Queenan

Reports from the Boards:

Animal Control: Kyle Miller, report submitted.

All I have for this month is the report of 2 stray dogs running together on 4/28/20. One was a black older female pit-bull and the other was a young brown female whippet. Both dogs were caught and brought to the Columbia-Greene Humane Society where they were reclaimed by their owner on the following day.

If you need any other info please let me know. Have a good day!

ZBA: James Romaine, Chair, no report.

Planning Board: Katherine Bainer, Chair no meeting.

Assessor: Craig Surprise report submitted.

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

Historian: Nancy Griffith, no report submitted.

Traffic Safety Board: Board Member Linda Swartz, no meeting

Environmental Management Council: no report submitted.

Zoning Commission: Joyce Thompson, report submitted as follows.

The Zoning Commission met via Zoom on 6 and 20 April 2020 as scheduled.

The final review of changes continued in both meetings and will continue via Zoom for our meetings through the end of May. Notice will be made about June plans. We are making progress equal to that achieved when meeting “in-person”. Most members agree that while the electronic meeting should never be a replacement of all in-person meetings, it can be equally or more productive and is a valuable tool for addressing today’s fight against the COVID-19 virus.

The public is welcome to attend via Zoom. If anyone is interested, please email me at joyce.thompson721@gmail.com or call me at 518.851.3487 and I will send you an invitation.

Comprehensive minutes of these meetings are available on the Town Website or upon request to Joyce Thompson.

Next meetings: 4 & 18 May via Zoom. Next meetings are scheduled for 1, 15 and 29 June. The meeting time continues to be 4:00 to 6:00P.M.

Office for the Aging: Joyce Thompson, no meeting to report. Board Member Joyce Thompson the Office of the Aging has more facemasks and she will pick them up to get them distributed to residents 60 and over.

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

Supervisor: Ryan Skoda, report submitted as attached.



Highway: George Hotaling, report submitted.



Advisory Board reports:

Financial Advisory Committee Report: Board Member Joyce Thompson report submitted as follows: Revenues are down by 26% and spending is on track with most lines, we need to keep an eye on the Town Hall and Garage Contractual lines. Town Hall contractual is up because of the purchase of the furnace. Board Member Kara Gilmore suggested looking into adding Road Side Assistance for highway equipment, if available with our insurance. This would reduce towing costs. Supervisor Ryan Skoda will contract Peter Fingar. Board Member Joyce Thompson introduced the following Budget Amendment #2 to cover the additional employee union dues. Board Member Linda Swartz motioned to approve Budget Amendment #2 as presented, seconded by Board Member Elizabeth Craig.

		Budget Amendment #2	
		May 11, 2020	
		Increase	Decrease
HIGHWAY FUND			
Snow Removal - Union Dues (4 months)	DA5142.11	180.00	
Snow Removal Personnel	DA5142.1		180.00
Road Repair - Union Dues (7 months)	DA5110.11	315.00	
Road Repair Personnel	DA5110.1		315.00
		\$ 495.00	\$ 495.00

Approved **5 Aye** **(Ryan, Elizabeth, Joyce, Kara, Linda)**
0 Nays
0 Absent

Tgazette Newsletter Advisory Committee: Nadja Palenzuela report submitted.

TGazette newsletter statistics
March 2020

Total Sent: 233
Open Rate: 75%
Click-through rate: 60%
Bounce rate: 1
Unsubscribe: 0
Facebook
total likes: 161

Take out/Delivery service was the most popular post, followed by Meet Taghkanic’s new Animal Control Officer, Kyle Miller.

Conservation Advisory Committee: Tony LaSalvia no meeting to report: Anthony LaSalvia advised the Board that the CAC is ready and willing to look over the Zoning Commissions new version of the Zoning Ordinance.

Broadband Advisory Committee: Arthur McGuire, report submitted as follows:

As of last week, all 63 miles of mainline fiber in Taghkanic has been placed by Gtel.

Splicing and testing continues throughout the Town.

Through last week, the Taghkanic Gtel customer totals were as follows:

141	Installed
8	Scheduled
12	Signed up, waiting to schedule
<u>163</u>	<u>Open Interests</u>
324	Total

Accordingly, half of Taghkanic residents who have expressed interest in Gtel Fiber either have it or will shortly. The other half are waiting.

Gtel is currently surveying and canvassing Snyderstown Rd, Manor Rock Rd, Martindale Rd, CR 11, Rondale Rd, and Woodland Rd. Besides confirming whether each location is served by aerial drop or buried drop, Gtel also places “Gtel Fiber is Here” signs and leaves info packets in the areas. Accordingly, additional consumer interest is expected.

The last areas Gtel needs to splice and test are Taghkanic Churchtown Rd north of CR 10, Post Hill Rd, CR 27, Nostrand Rd, Block Lane, Hoyle Rd, Stone Jug Rd and Jasmon Dr. This will probably take 4 more weeks; then Gtel will begin surveying those areas and scheduling installs.

Finally, Frank Boscarillo has been working with the residents of the Berkshire Lake Association, and has presented them with a proposal for trenching and placing the fiber on Sam Hill Rd. They have expressed interest in moving forward and Frank was to meet with them this past Friday.

Old Business:

- A. **County Route 15 Complaint:** Supervisor Ryan Skoda: postponed due to COVID-19
- B. **Highway Facility:** Supervisor Ryan Skoda: On hold due to COVID-19
- C. **Culvert Inventory:** Board Member Joyce Thompson: On hold due to COVID-19
- D. **Task Force:** Board Member Elizabeth Craig, Chair, we have had 11 eleven residents interested in serving on the STR Sub-Committee Advisory Committee as follows, Clayton Kirking, Carl Mulert, Benjamin Feldman, Carol Rusoff, Harriet Shur, Linda Reardon, Christine Hinz, Donay Queenan, Susan Raymond, Loretta Hoffman, and Cheryl Rogers. Board Member Kara Gilmore motioned to appoint the above-mentioned residents to the Short-Term Rental Task Force, seconded by Board Member Joyce Thompson.

Approved **5 Aye** **(Ryan, Elizabeth, Joyce, Kara, Linda)**
0 Nays
0 Absent

E. **COVID Outreach Program:** Supervisor Ryan Skoda: Testing for COVID will be available this weekend at the Columbia Greene Community College.

F. **Census 2020:** Board Member Joyce Thompson; how do we get the word out that it is very important for all residents to respond to the 2020 Census?

G. **Taghkanic LOSAP 30 day posting:** Board Member Linda Swartz motioned to approve the Taghkanic Fire Co 2018 LOSAP points that have been posted for 30 days, seconded by Board Member Elizabeth Craig.

Approved 5 Aye (Ryan, Elizabeth, Joyce, Kara, Linda)
0 Nays
0 Absent

H. **Revaluation Information:** Board Member Joyce Thompson: asked if there was any feed back with the information that was provided about the Revaluation on the TGazette? All agreed it was very enlightening and well presented.

New Business:

A. **July 2020 Calendar:** Board Member Kara Gilmore moved to accept the July 2020 as presented, seconded by Board Member Linda Swartz.

Approved 5 Aye (Ryan, Elizabeth, Joyce, Kara, Linda)
0 Nays
0 Absent

B. **Building Permits:** Supervisor Ryan Skoda: suggested a six (6) month blanket extension on all open building permits. Board Member Joyce Thompson motioned to approve ZEO Dennis Callahan to implement a six (6) month blanket extension on all open building permits, seconded by Board Member Elizabeth Craig.

Approved 5 Aye (Ryan, Elizabeth, Joyce, Kara, Linda)
0 Nays
0 Absent

C. **Website Improvements:** Board Member Joyce Thompson: Nadja Palenzuela and I will have a proposal for revamping the website for next month for easier navigation.

The bills were audited and approved for payment as follows:

✚ **April 23, 2020 Abstract:** on a motion by Board Member Linda Swartz, seconded by Board Member Elizabeth Craig.

2020 General Fund Vouchers	#	132	-	145	\$	3,472.60
2020 Highway Fund Vouchers	#	81	-	82	\$	6,048.08
2020 Hwy Project Fund vouchers	#		-		\$	

Approved 5 Aye (Ryan, Elizabeth, Joyce, Kara, Linda)
0 Nays
0 Absent

✦ **May 11, 2020 Abstract:** on a motion by Board Member Linda Swartz, seconded by Board Member Elizabeth Craig.

2020 General Fund Vouchers	#	146	-	160	\$	9,110.02
2020 Highway Fund Vouchers	#	83	-	91	\$	4,642.46
2020 Hwy Project Fund vouchers	#		-		\$	

Approved **5 Aye** **(Ryan, Elizabeth, Joyce, Kara, Linda)**
0 Nays
0 Absent

The following people commented during the fifteen minute public comment:

- ✦ John Roberts: does not receive anything from the TGazette,
- ✦ Nadja Palenzuela: will help John and hopefully get this corrected.
- ✦ John Roberts: Churchtown Cemetery property maybe looking for help from the town.
- ✦ Walter Flamenbaum: thank you!
- ✦ Clerk Rogers: Arthur Griffith asked to announce that the Hudson City School District delivers lunches Monday thru Friday 11-12 at the Taghkanic Fire House.
- ✦ Board Member Joyce Thompson: Taconic Hills School District delivers 1200 meals a week.
- ✦ Board Member Linda Swartz: Blood Drive held last week at Taconic Hills School was very clean.

Executive Session: none

With no further business, on a motion by Board Member Linda Swartz, seconded by Board Member Elizabeth Craig the meeting was adjourned at 8:20 pm, carried unanimously by all members present. The next Regular meeting will be **June 8, 2020** at the Taghkanic Town Hall.

Audience: via Zoom:

Toby Butterfield	Walter Flamenbaum	John Roberts	Larry Kadish
Anna Kadish	Loretta Hoffmann	Nadja Palenzuela	Arthur McGuire
Anthony LaSalvia			