

**Approved**  
**4-12-2021**

**March 8, 2021  
Town of Taghkanic  
Town Board Meeting**

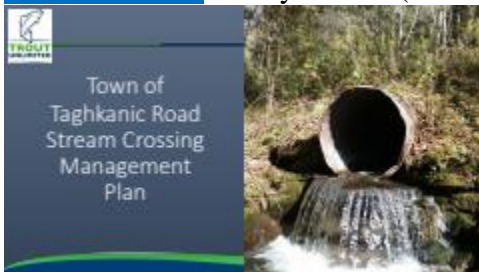
Note all documents in these minutes may be clicked on and enlarged for easier reading

Town Board Members audited and signed vouchers on March 4 - 8, 2021 separately, due to the COVID-19 social distancing.

**7 pm:** The Taghkanic Town Board held its Regular monthly meeting on the above date with a combination of **Deputy Supervisor Joyce Thompson** and all other Board Members, Town Clerk and 7 residents attending via Zoom. **Deputy Supervisor Joyce Thompson** opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

**Guest Speaker:** Tracy Brown (Trout Unlimited) Presentation



To view the full presentation, go to the Taghkanic.org or TGazette

**Deputy Supervisor Joyce Thompson then asked for a motion to approve the following minutes:**

**February 8, 2021:** Town Board Regular meeting minutes were accepted as written with suggested changes, motioned by **Board Member Elizabeth Craig**, seconded by **Board Member Linda Swartz**.

**Approved** 4 Aye (Joyce, Elizabeth, Kara, Linda)  
0 Nays  
1 Absent (Ryan)

**February 22 2021:** Town Board Executive Zoom meeting minutes were accepted as written with suggested changes, motioned by **Board Member Elizabeth Craig**, seconded by **Board Member Linda Swartz**.

**Approved** 4 Aye (Joyce, Elizabeth, Kara, Linda)  
0 Nays  
1 Absent (Ryan)

## The Correspondence:

1. Roeliff Jensen Community Library, thank you
2. NYS Taxation and Finance, Tentative special Franchise full value
3. Bob Henke, dog found on 82
  - + **Board Member Linda Swartz:** do we know what happen to the dog?
  - + **Clerk Rogers Dog Control Officer** locate the owner dog is back home.

## Reports from the Boards:

### **Animal Control: Kyle Miller**, report submitted as follows

I have 2 entries for this past month.

On 2/26 I received a report of an old yellow lab found on Rt. 82 in Taghkanic. The finder contacted the state troopers who picked the dog up and transported it to the Livingston dog control officer by mistake. Thankfully the Livingston dog control officer knew the dog and reunited it with its owners the following day.

On 2/28 I received a call from a state trooper about a found dog on Taghkanic Rd. The original finders had contacted the troopers about the dog and the trooper was willing to transport the dog to me. Shortly after taking possession of the dog I was able to locate the owner and get the dog back home.

### **ZBA: James Romaine**, Chair, no report.

### **Planning Board: Katherine Bainer**, Chair report submitted.

Taghkanic Planning Board Monthly Report for January 2021

A Public Hearing was held for Scott Simeral lot line adjustment. There were no public comments. The lot line adjustment was approved.

### **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 report no meeting.

The Traffic Safety Board is scheduled to meet on March 25, but I am not sure that it's going to happen. I have no report for this month; maybe next month.

### **Environmental Management Council: Larry Kadish** no report submitted:

### **Zoning Commission: Joyce Thompson**, no report submitted.

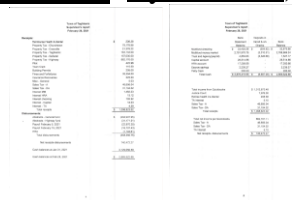
+ **STR Sub-Committee: Board Member Elizabeth Craig**, Chair no report submitted.

### **Office for the Aging: Joyce Thompson**, no meeting to report.

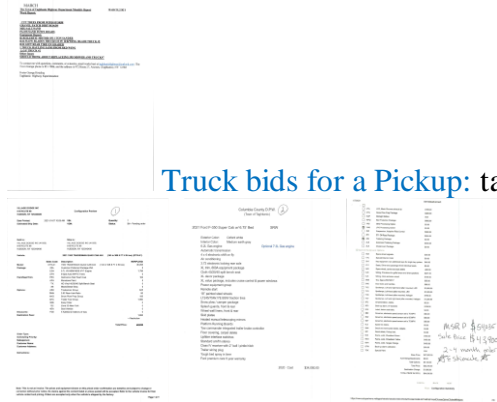
**Board Member Joyce Thompson:** COVID VACCINE UPDATE: check the County Health Department website <https://www.columbiacountynyhealth.com> for them regularly.

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

### **Supervisor: Ryan Skoda**, report submitted as attached.



### **Highway: George Hotaling**, report submitted by Acting Highway Superintendent Michael Conn as attached:



Truck bids for a Pickup: tabled from last month

- ✚ Truck Bids for big dump truck to replace #7: *Deputy Supervisor Joyce Thompson*, Superintendent Hotaling, still is waiting for more quotes for dump truck to come in, will table till next month.

### Advisory Board reports:

**Financial Advisory Committee Report:** *Board Member Joyce Thompson* report submitted as follows:

The Financial Advisory Committee February financial reports no issue. The FAC will be meeting this Thursday to complete the review.

**TGazette Newsletter Advisory Committee:** *Nadja Palenzuela* no report submitted.

**Conservation Advisory Committee:** *Tony LaSalvia* no meeting to report:

Although we have not had a formal CAC meeting, we did agree to join Hillsdale and other surrounding towns in producing a brochure that will hopefully be distributed by Realtors in the area to their prospective buyers for the purpose of considering how they may develop their properties with keeping the natural beauty and environmental health that makes Columbia County so attractive, in mind. This was brought to our attention by Gretchen Stevens of the Hillsdale CAC. We will be watching for updates on this and have a say in the final approval of the brochure.

In other news, Larry and Anna Kadish and myself are still working with the towns of Hillsdale, Copake, and Claverack along with the Columbia Land Conservancy on the Taghkanic Watershed Connectivity Project which I have mentioned earlier. We hope to have some results in the fall of 2021. We will keep you posted.

**Broadband Advisory Committee:** *Arthur McGuire*, no report submitted.

### Old Business:

1. **County Route 15 Complaint:** *Deputy Supervisor Joyce Thompson*: Executive Order in place no evictions until May 1, 2021. Supervisor Skoda sent a strong word letter ten days ago to Governor Cuomo, Senator Jordan, and Assemblywoman Barrett, to date no response. He also sent an email to Jack Mabb at the Columbia County Health Department, to date no response.

- ✚ Board Member Elizabeth Craig: Can we get on the schedule at the Sheriff Department?
- ✚ John Thompson: Did the Board receive our email?
- ✚ Deputy Supervisor Joyce Thompson: yes, we received your email. I will contact Attorney Howard tomorrow ask him about scheduling.
- ✚ John Thompson: I have seen there have been 59 Sheriff's sales.
- ✚ Board Member Linda Swartz: they are sales without evictions.
- ✚ Clerk Rogers: they are tax sales, properties that have not had taxes paid for years.

2. **Highway Facility:** *Deputy Supervisor Joyce Thompson:* still on hold waiting for DEC's decision on the proposed Soil Management Plan submitted months ago.
3. **Culvert Inventory:** *Deputy Supervisor Joyce Thompson:* presentation from Tracy Brown (Trout Unlimited).



To view the full presentation, go to [Taghkanic.org](http://Taghkanic.org) or [TGazette](http://TGazette)

4. **Police Reinvention Program - Progress Report:** *Deputy Supervisor Joyce Thompson:* nothing new to report.  
*Board Member Joyce Thompson:* I have been following and all are welcome to do the same (To watch recordings or read transcripts of what has been presented to date, go to <https://sites.google.com/columbiacountyny.com/police-reform-panel>.)
5. **NYS Public Employer Mandatory Health Emergency Plan:** *Board Member Elizabeth Craig:* draft has been submitted to the Teamster Union for their review, awaiting their response.

### New Business:

- A. **May 2021 Calendar:** *Board Member Linda Swartz* moved to accept the May 2021 calendar with suggested changes, seconded by *Board Member Elizabeth Craig*.

**Approved**      4 Aye            (*Joyce, Elizabeth, Kara, Linda*)  
                          0 Nays  
                          1 Absent        (*Ryan*)

- B. **Resolution # 14 Inter-Municipal Cooperation:** *Board Member Linda Swartz* motioned to approve Resolutions 14 Inter-Municipal Cooperation Agreement with suggested changes, seconded by *Board Member Elizabeth Craig*.

**Approved**      4 Aye            (*Joyce, Elizabeth, Kara, Linda*)  
                          0 Nays  
                          1 Absent        (*Ryan*)

- C. **Resolution # 15 Highway Abandonment of East Klein Road:** *Board Member Linda Swartz* motioned to approve Resolution 15 Highway Abandonment of East Klein Road, seconded by *Board Member Elizabeth Craig*.

**Approved**      4 Aye            (*Joyce, Elizabeth, Kara, Linda*)  
                          0 Nays  
                          1 Absent        (*Ryan*)

**D. Resolution # 16 Special Election:** *Board Member Elizabeth Craig* motioned to approve Resolution 16 Special Election with the suggested change May 4, 2021 12 pm to 7 pm, seconded by *Board Member Kara Gilmore*.

Approved      4 Aye      (*Joyce, Elizabeth, Kara, Linda*)  
0 Nays  
1 Absent      (*Ryan*)

**E. Climate Smart Community – Town of Taghkanic Action Plan for 2021:**

*Board Member Thompson* spoke with Jill Henck of Capital District Region Planning Commission to learn more about what the grant she has received will bring to our town in 2021. These actions will put Taghkanic on the path toward achieving Climate Smart Community certification. Three elements will be addressed: 1) Community Assessment - what has already been done by the town, such as the work completed for Clean energy program in past years and the Emergency Plan recently developed; 2) Resiliency Planning: What needs to be done; and 3) a Flood Guide for Residents that identifies Flood Zones, evacuation routes, shelter and emergency contacts.

**F. Committee for Fire Company Review:** *Board Member Elizabeth Craig* motioned to appoint *Supervisor Ryan Skoda* and *Board Member Kara Gilmore* to the Fire Company Review Committee along with two members from the Clarverak Town Board, seconded by *Board Member Linda Swartz*.

Approved      4 Aye      (*Joyce, Elizabeth, Kara, Linda*)  
0 Nays  
1 Absent      (*Ryan*)

- ✚ Larry Kadish: is Bill Hilscher aware of this committee?
- ✚ Board Member Joyce Thompson: yes

**The bills were audited and approved for payment as follows:**

✚ **February 24, 2021 Abstract:** on a motion by *Board Member Linda Swartz*, was approved for payment, seconded by *Board Member Elizabeth Craig*.

2021 General Fund Vouchers	#	58	-	70	\$	3,569.50
2021 Highway Fund Vouchers	#	-			\$	

Approved      4 Aye      (*Joyce, Elizabeth, Kara, Linda*)  
0 Nays  
1 Absent      (*Ryan*)

✚ **March 8, 2021 Abstract:** on a motion by *Board Member Linda Swartz*, was approved for payment, seconded by *Board Member Elizabeth Craig*.

2021 General Fund Vouchers	#	71	-	83	\$	18,466.80
2021 Highway Fund Vouchers	#	18	-	43	\$	37,977.20

Approved      4 Aye      (*Joyce, Elizabeth, Kara, Linda*)  
0 Nays  
1 Absent      (*Ryan*)

**The following people commented during the fifteen minute public comment:**

✚ Elisabeth Albert: thank you for all you do.

**Executive Session:**

**With no further business,** on a motion by *Board Member Linda Swartz*, seconded by *Board Member Elizabeth Craig* the meeting was adjourned at **8:10 pm**, carried unanimously by all members present. The next Regular meeting will be **April 12, 2021** at the Taghkanic Town Hall.

**Audience at Town Hall:**

**Audience via Zoom:**    Larry Kadish            Anna Kadish            John Thompson            Judy Thompson  
                                 Elisabeth Albert        Perry Ascher            Scott Marinoff