

**Approved**  
**11/8/2021**

**October 11, 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 October 11, 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 **Supervisor Ryan Skoda** and all other Board Members, Town Clerk at town hall and 2 residents attended via Zoom. **Supervisor Ryan Skoda** opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Present:**

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

**Absent:**

**7:04 PM: Public Hearing:** **Supervisor Ryan Skoda** opened the Public Hearing for the 2022 Preliminary Budget Supervisor Ryan Skoda asked for any questions, or concerns from the audience or Board.

- + **Arthur Griffith:** what is the total budget?
- + **Supervisor Ryan Skoda:** \$1,552,075.00, which includes general, highway and fire.
- + **Larry Kadish:** how are the court fines this year?
- + **Board Member Joyce Thompson:** we are over the \$165,000.00 2021 budgeted revenue amount September 31 revenue received is \$207,209.00 and we still have 4 months to go.
- + **Supervisor Ryan Skoda:** we are holding the budget flat once again. Does anyone have any more questions, comments, and or concerns? Being there is none I need a motion to close the Public Hearing.

**7:08 PM: Public Hearing Closed:** **Board Member Linda Swartz** motioned to close the Public Hearing for the 2022 Preliminary Budget, seconded by **Board Member Elizabeth Craig**.

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

**Guest Speaker:**

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

**September 13:** Town Board Regular meeting minutes were accepted as written with suggested changes, motioned by **Board Member Joyce Thompson**, seconded by **Board Member Elizabeth Craig**.

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

**September 15, 2021:** Town Board/Zoning Commission meeting minutes were accepted as written with suggested changes, motioned by **Board Member Joyce Thompson**, seconded by **Board Member Elizabeth Craig**.

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

**September 23, 2021:** Town Board/Zoning Commission meeting minutes were accepted as written with suggested changes, motioned by **Board Member Joyce Thompson**, seconded by **Board Member Elizabeth**.

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

**September 30, 2021:** Town Board Budget Workshop meeting minutes were accepted as written with suggested changes, motioned by **Board Member Joyce Thompson**, seconded by **Board Member Elizabeth**.

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

**The Correspondence:**

- a. Linda Swartz, Traffic Alert
- b. NYS Department of Public Service, **Comprehensive Broadband Connectivity Act**
  - ✦ **Board Member Joyce Thompson:** the state is doing an online Broadband survey which is totally separate project from Columbia County survey.
- c. Laberge Group, Budgeting and Planning for Grants
- d. Gallatin Fire Commission, Time Change
- e. Charles Schwab Monthly
- f. Patrice Perry, Proposed Accessory Dwelling Units Bill
  - ✦ **Board Member Joyce Thompson:** asked the Board to please review this Proposed Bill for discussion for the review of our own Draft Code.
- g. 2021 Fall Education Conference NYS Legalization of Marijuana

**Reports from the Boards:**

**Animal Control:** *Kyle Miller*, no report.

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

**Planning Board:** *Katherine Bainer*, Chair no meeting no report submitted.

**Assessor:** *Craig Surprise* report submitted.

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

✚ *Board Member Joyce Thompson:* would it be possible to have Dennis explain how he determines the fees charged for permits.

**Historian:** *Nancy Griffith*, no report submitted.

**Traffic Safety Board:** *Linda Swartz*, report submitted.

The Columbia County Traffic Safety Board met at the Public Safety Building in Hudson on Thursday, September 23, 2021. I was not able to attend this meeting due to a conflicting meeting of the Town Board for the on-going review of the Draft Zoning Code. The following information is culled from the Minutes that were prepared by another member of the TSB in my absence. My comments appear in italics.

DOT speed limits approved. Pack Road denied. *(I followed up with the person who typed the Minutes to find out which speed limits were approved, but was informed that "no list was provided". I will call the NYSDOT Traffic Safety Office in Poughkeepsie to see what I can find out.)*

The County advises that the County Route 10 bridge in Taghkanic is on track and expected to be completed on time.

NYSDOT Resident Engineer Mike Duval advised that repaving on Route 82 from Route 9H (Bells Pond) to the Taconic State Parkway is scheduled to begin on Monday, September 27 and will continue for about two weeks. Work on the Taconic State Parkway will begin next year.

Town of Ghent Highway Superintendent, Ben Perry, suggested that the Sheriff's Office and the State Police stop in at the town garages and meet the many new highway superintendents that will be in place beginning in 2022. The police advise that due to staffing cuts and time constraints, they are not able to do this.

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

**Zoning Commission:** *Joyce Thompson*, no meeting to report.

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

✚ *Joyce Thompson:* HEAP application are open.

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

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



**Highway:** *George Hotaling*, report submitted as attached.

### **Advisory Board reports:**

**Financial Advisory Committee Report:** *Board Member Joyce Thompson* report submitted as follows: Financial Committee has not met yet but I found no issues. I have shared a Highway Fund Balance History Chart, as with this year planned paving for New Forge and East Klein by the highway crew the unexpected increased pricing FYI we will have a Budget Amendment next month to cover the additional cost.



- ✦ **Larry Kadish:** Doug has done a great job and the whole committee is very enthusiastic, great group of residents.

**Broadband Advisory Committee:** *Nancy Rutter*, no meeting, no report submitted.

**Old Business:**

- County Route 15 Complaint:** *Supervisor Ryan Skoda:* Taghkanic Town Court has sent a Criminal Summons for Mr. Marcus Heesch to appear October 21, 2021.
- Highway Facility update:** *Supervisor Ryan Skoda* I met with Engineer Pat Prendergast he working on getting quotes from Contractors for the **Asbestos Removal and SWIPE.**
- Zoning Law Review:**  
 October 14, 2021 at 6:30 pm  
 October 20, 2021 at 6:30 pm  
 October 27, 2021 at 6:30 pm

**New Business:**

- December 2021 Calendar:** *Board Member Linda Swartz* moved to accept the December 2021 calendar with the addition of the year end meeting on December 29, 2021 at 6 pm, seconded by *Board Member Elizabeth Craig.*
- Tax Cap 2022:** *Supervisor Ryan Skoda:* motion to stay within our 2022 Tax Cap. *Board Member Joyce Thompson* motioned to stay within our 2022 Tax Cap, seconded by **Board Member Elizabeth Craig.**

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

- 2022 Budget:** *Board Member Elizabeth Craig* motioned to approve the 2022 Preliminary as the 2022 Budget, seconded by *Board Member Linda Swartz.*

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

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

- ✦ **September 22, 2021 Abstract:** on a motion by *Board Member Linda Swartz*, was approved for payment, seconded by *Board Member Elizabeth Craig.*

2021 General Fund Vouchers	#	268 - 273	\$	2,777.19
2021 Highway Fund Vouchers	#	131 -	\$	1,187.88

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

- ✦ **October 11, 2021 Abstract:** on a motion by *Board Member Linda Swartz*, was approved for payment, seconded by *Board Member Elizabeth Craig.*

2021 General Fund Vouchers	#	274	-	297	\$	25,067.56
2021 Highway Fund Vouchers	#	132	-	138	\$	11,505.75
2021 Highway Project	#	1			\$	480.00

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

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

- ✚ Arthur Griffith: projected time for the Bridge project and also Route 82 to be done?
- ✚ **Supervisor Ryan Skoda:** the bridge project the last time I asked I was informed it is on schedule. Route 82 I was lead to believe it was only going to take 12 days, we are past that.
- ✚ **Joshua Plass:** On Berkshire Road two years ago a there was a house fire; the debris has been cleanup leaving the open basement, also on the same road there is another house that falling down. Both are dangerous situation.
- ✚ **Perry Ascher:** Thanking the Highway crew for a great job on New Forge.
- ✚ **Celine Kagan:** where would I find out about the Forge Project?
- ✚ **Supervisor Ryan Skoda:** contact Dennis Callahan the Town ZEO.

**Executive Session entered:** none

**With no further business,** on a motion by **Board Member Linda Swartz**, seconded by **Board Member Elizabeth Craig** the meeting was adjourned at **8:25 pm**, carried unanimously by all members present. The next Regular meeting will be **November 8, 2021** at the Taghkanic Town Hall.

**Audience at Town Hall:** Larry Kadish      Joshua Plass      Celine Kagan      Douglas Craig  
Anne Kadish      Arthur Griffith      John Thompson      Karen Lansing

**Audience via Zoom:** Perry Ascher      Scott Marinoff