

Approved

4/11/2022

**March 14, 2022
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 14, 2022 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 Skoda, Board Members, Town Clerk, 7 residents at the Taghkanic Town Hall and 6 residents attending via Zoom. **Supervisor Ryan Skoda** opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance and moment of silence.

Present: Ryan Skoda Supervisor
Elisabeth Albert Board Member
Kara Gilmore Board Member
Linda Swartz Board Member
Cheryl Rogers Clerk

Absent: Elizabeth Craig Board Member

Guest Speaker:

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

February 7, 2022: Town Board/Zoning Commission meeting minutes were accepted as written on a motioned by **Board Member Linda Swartz** seconded by **Board Member Kara Gilmore**.

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

February 14, 2022: Town Board Regular meeting minutes were accepted as written on a motioned by **Board Member Linda Swartz** seconded by **Board Member Kara Gilmore**.

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

February 28, 2022: Town Board/Zoning Commission meeting minutes were accepted as written on a motioned by **Board Member Linda Swartz** seconded by **Board Member Kara Gilmore**.

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

March 7, 2022: Town Board/Zoning Commission meeting minutes were accepted as written on a motioned by **Board Member Linda Swartz** seconded by **Board Member Kara Gilmore**.
Approved **4 Aye** (**Ryan, Elisabeth, Kara, Linda**)

0 Nays

1 Absent (**Elizabeth**)

The Correspondence:

1. Claverack Free Library
2. Charles Schwab, LOSAP
3. Al Huehnel, Zoning draft
4. Barbara Hermance, Zoning Draft
5. Columbia Land Conservancy
6. Columbia County DOH Free Rabies Clinics
7. Columbia County Household Hazardous Waste Collection Day May 7, 2022
8. Robert Fitzsimmons, RFP Land Use Attorney

Reports from the Boards:

Animal Control: Kyle Miller, report submitted as follows

I have two entries for this past month:

2/10 - Loose beagle spotted on Taghkanic Churchtown Rd. with a bell around its neck.

Callers were not able to capture the dog.

2/27 - Report of a lost male beagle on Taghkanic Churchtown Rd wearing a bell around his neck. Found by our very own Supervisor Skoda the following day and reunited with its owner a short time later.

ZBA: James Romaine, Chair, no report.

Planning Board: Katherine Bainer, Chair no report submitted.

Assessor: Craig Surprise report submitted.



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

Board Member Linda Swartz: a onetime the Board discussed asking Dennis to keep the open permits listed on his reports.

✚ **Clerk Rogers:** in Dennis defense at the beginning of every year it is required to start at one.

✚ **Supervisor Ryan Skoda:** I will ask if he would keep a list of the open permit and add that to his monthly report

Historian: Nancy Griffith, no report submitted.

Traffic Safety Board: Board Member Linda Swartz, no report no meeting.

Environmental Management Council: Larry Kadish no report submitted:

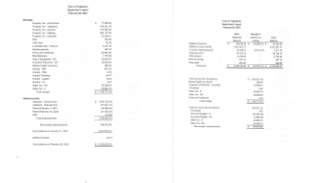
STR Sub-Committee: Board Member Elizabeth Craig, Chair,



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

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

Supervisor: Ryan Skoda, report submitted as attached.



Highway: Roberts Burns, report submitted as follows:



Board Member Linda Swartz: does the Highway Department have any security on the fuel pumps?

Supervisor Ryan Skoda: **Superintendent Rob Burns** has been looking into a system that keeps track of the fuel, mileage for each piece of equipment but has not gotten back to me with that as of yet. The pumps are lock and have to be turned on from inside the garage.

Advisory Board reports:

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

The Financial Advisory Committee met on Thursday, 10 March 2022, to audit the January and February 2022 financial records for the Town of Taghkanic. No unresolved discrepancies were found.

Several observations are worthy of note for future planning purposes.

Three appropriation lines are significantly over budget for this time in the fiscal year.

- Highway Fund DA5110.42: Gas is at 60.67% and an estimate will be needed in the next few months for additional funding to meet the significantly higher prices.

- Highway fund DA 5130.4: Machinery was at 50.57% at the end of February.

After deducting March vouchers to be audited and approved at this March Town Board meeting, the line will have \$4,490 left of \$70,000 budgeted funds. This is largely the result of truck repairs and damages incurred during the extremely icy conditions this winter. The FAC recommends that the Town Board work with the Highway Superintendent on developing a new budget estimate for this line that can be implemented prior to the next set of bills and will cover the remainder of 2022. It would come out of the Appropriated Fund Balance for the Highway Fund.

- General Fund A5132.4: Garage Contractual at 83.46% and needs a Budget Amendment.

A budget amendment in the amount of \$30,000 is recommended to the Town Board. Town Clerk Rogers developed a nine-month projection of standard monthly maintenance expenses for the Town

Garage plus identified one-time additions of a laptop, two printers and a desk. Currently, that line requires \$9,902.35 in additional funds to cover year-to-date expenses. To cover the existing and planned expenses through December of 2022 an additional \$18,205 is needed, bringing the total to \$28, 007. The \$30,000 is recommended to serve as the new budget for that line. See Budget Amendment #2-2022 and the backup chart showing the basis for this recommendation.

The Highway Project Fund also requires additional funds. Originally, it was funded by the bond taken out for the Highway Garage. The long-delayed demolition of the old garage building cost almost twice the original estimate.

The Budget Amendment of \$50,000 is recommended to cover current and expected demolition costs. The money comes from the Unappropriated Fund Balance in the General Fund. Once all the demolition bills are paid, this fund could be zeroed out and closed. Any remaining funds could be returned to the General Fund Balance.

2022 Budget Amendment #2: Board Member Linda Swartz motioned to approve Budget Amendment #2-2022, seconded by **Board Member Elisabeth Albert**.

	14-Mar-22	Budget Amendment #2-2022	Increase	Decrease
<u>HIGHWAY PROJECT FUND - GENERAL FUND BALANCE</u>				
<u>INTERFUND TRANSFER</u>				
HIGHWAY PROJECT FUND		H9010	50,000.00	
UNRESERVED FUND BALANCE, UNAPPROPRIATED		A9110.1		50,000.00
			50,000.00	50,000.00
<u>GENERAL FUND</u>				
GARAGE		A5132.4	30,000.00	
UNRESERVED FUND BALANCE, UNAPPROPRIATED		A9110.1		30,000.00
			30,000.00	30,000.00

Approved 4 Aye (Ryan, Elisabeth, Kara, Linda)
 0 Nays
 1 Absent (Elisabeth)

TGazette Newsletter Advisory Committee: Nadja Palenzuela no report submitted

Conservation Advisory Committee: Betsy Albert no meeting to report:

Broadband Advisory Committee: Nancy Rutter, no report submitted.

Broadband Report February 16, 2022

- The committee, Susan Raymond, Chris Tallackson, Nancy Rutter, Joyce Thompson and Betsy Albert visa ZOOM.
- We discussed posting the Broadband Survey from the CEDC in The Gazette which did occur.
- Chris Tallackson was going to reach out to GTel, inquiring about current maps of their network and where there might be gaps in availability. Gtel was going to identify these gaps.
- Gtel was also going to provide us with the number of customers who were currently being assisted financially with Broadband service.
- This information that we gather will/may help us to have potential access to infrastructure funds.

Climate Smart Community: Larry Kadish

The Community Solar project has 54 subscribers. A few have designated assignments already.

Tony LaSalvia and I communicate to see that there is no confusion re areas of interest where the CAC and Task Force may overlap.

A project, working with the Claverack Library and an author, will present a reading by that author in the Taghkanic Fire Co. parking lot June 5th. The area was chosen because it overlooks the Taghkanic Creek. This will be a conservation directed program.

The evolution of electric cars and charging stations was described, with an eye to the future.

Digital Advisory Committee: *Joyce Thompson and Nadja Palenzuela*

- ✦ ***Nadja Palenzuela:*** nothing new to report at this time. The Committee is waiting for the Board to finish with the zoning review to post the Directory of Taghkanic-Based Businesses.
- ✦ ***Board Member Elisabeth Albert:*** I will email the Board the revised introduction for the Directory.
- ✦ ***Board Member Elisabeth Albert:*** Installation of the new equipment for Zooming (the owl) is done and working tonight.

Old Business:

1. **County Route 15 Complaint: *Supervisor Ryan Skoda:*** I have spoken to Attorney Howard, he feels we need to hold off with the Supreme Court at this time as there has been progress; local court has done what it can. He suggests having his office send another letter with a timeframe for the work to be done. If the work is not done within that timeframe the town can file with the Supreme Court at that time.
 - ✦ ***Clerk Roger:*** ZEO Dennis Callahan has recently had a conversion with Mr. Heesch.
 - ✦ ***Supervisor Skoda:*** I will contact Dennis for an update of the conversion and fines.
2. **Highway Facility: *Supervisor Ryan Skoda:*** Asbestos removal is done, building is done and the Highway Department is cleaning up the slab.
3. **Zoning Law Review:**
March 31, 2022 6:30 PM
4. **Nugent Road: *Supervisor Ryan Skoda*** the last meeting the Board recommended *Peter Beck* gets a quote for the work to be done for the cul-de-sac.
 - ✦ ***Peter Beck:*** I have received a quote for the 70 foot cul-de-sac; it will start 12 feet from the middle of the Duffy's drive as specified by the town.
 - ✦ ***Board Member Linda Swartz:*** what about the Duffy's?
 - ✦ ***Supervisor Ryan Skoda:*** I emailed Mrs. Duffy and received no response.
 - ✦ ***Board Member Linda Swartz:*** I suggest we ask our Attorney his opinion if we need to notify the Duffy's of the work that will be taking place.
 - ✦ ***Supervisor Ryan Skoda:*** I will contact Attorney Howard asking how to proceed with the Duffy's and to have him prepare the paperwork to abandon the upper portion of Nugent Road.
5. **RFP for a Land Use Attorney: *Supervisor Ryan Skoda:*** Received one RFP from Robert Fitzsimmons, I would like to invite Mr. Fitzsimmons to our next TB/ZC meeting on March 31, 2022. All Members present agreed.

New Business:

A. May 2022 Calendar: *Board Member Kara Gilmore* motioned to accept the May 2022 calendar with additions, seconded by *Board Member Elisabeth Albert*.

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

B. Heat Pump Estimate: Clerk Rogers asked the board for permission to get an estimate from Rycor HVAC for a cooling/heat pump for the Town Hall. All agreed

The bills were audited and approved for payment as follows:

+ March 14, 2022 (2021 Payables) Abstract: on a motion by *Board Member Linda Swartz*, was approved for payment, seconded by *Board Member Elisabeth Albert*.

2021 General Fund Vouchers	#	399	-	\$	354.90
2021 Highway Fund Vouchers	#		-	\$	

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

+ March 14, 2022 Capitol Project Abstract: on a motion by *Board Member Linda Swartz*, was approved for payment, seconded by *Board Member Elisabeth Albert*.

2022 General Fund Vouchers	#		-	\$	
2022 Highway Fund Vouchers	#			\$	
2022 Capitol Project Vouchers	#	1	-	\$	320.00

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

+ March 14, 2022 Capitol Project Abstract: on a motion by *Board Member Linda Swartz*, was approved for payment, seconded by *Board Member Elisabeth Albert*.

2022 General Fund Vouchers	#		-	\$	
2022 Highway Fund Vouchers	#			\$	
2022 Capitol Project Vouchers	#	2	-	\$	56,495.00

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

+ March 14, 2022 Abstract: on a motion by *Board Member Linda Swartz*, was approved for payment, seconded by *Board Member Elisabeth Albert*.

2022 General Fund Vouchers	#	90	-	26	\$	22,391.68
2022 Highway Fund Vouchers	#	52	-	68	\$	80,708.51

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

The following people commented during the fifteen minute public comment: none

Executive Session: none

With no further business, on a motion by *Board Member Linda Swartz*, seconded by *Board Member Kara Gilmore* the meeting was adjourned at **7:55 pm**, carried unanimously by all members present. The next Regular meeting will be **April 11, 2021** at the Taghkanic Town Hall.

Audience at Town Hall: Kevin Pastor Peter Beck Karen Lansing White
Joyce Thompson Arthur Griffith Larry Kadish Anna Kadish

Audience via Zoom: Nadja Palenzuela Celine Kagan Joanne Klein Nancy Rutter
Susan Raymond Donay Queenan