

APPROVED
12/12/2022

November 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 November 12 - 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 Ryan Skoda**, Board Members, and 11 residents at the Taghkanic Town Hall and 0 residents attending via Zoom. **Supervisor Ryan Skoda** opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance and moment of silence.

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

Absent:

7:01 PM: Public Hearing: **Supervisor Ryan Skoda** opened the Public Hearing for the 2023 Preliminary Budget, **Supervisor Ryan Skoda** the overview of the 2023 Preliminary is we will be staying within the tax cap and will be raising taxes by 3% on the highway portion. Supervisor Ryan Skoda asked for any questions, or concerns from the audience or Board. No comment.

7:02 PM: Public Hearing Closed: **Board Member Elizabeth Craig** motioned to close the Public Hearing for the 2023 Preliminary Budget, seconded by **Board Member Linda Swartz**.

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

Guest Speaker:

Minutes

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

June 20, 2022: Tabled

June 29, 2022: Tabled

July 18, 2022: Tabled

October 10, 2022: Town Board Regular meeting minutes were accepted as written on a motion by **Board Member Linda Swartz** seconded by **Board Member Elizabeth Craig**.
Approved 5 Aye (Ryan, Elisabeth, Elizabeth, Kara, Linda)
0 Nays
0 Absent

October 17, 2022: Town Board Budget Workshop meeting minutes were accepted as written on a motion by **Board Member Linda Swartz** seconded by **Board Member Elizabeth Craig**.
Approved 5 Aye (Ryan, Elisabeth, Elizabeth, Kara, Linda)
0 Nays
0 Absent

September 19, 2022: Town Board STR Zoning Review meeting minutes were accepted as written on a motion by **Board Member Elisabeth Albert** seconded by **Board Member Elizabeth Craig**.
Approved 5 Aye (Ryan, Elisabeth, Elizabeth, Kara, Linda)
0 Nays
0 Absent

The Correspondence:

1. Kathy Bainer, Letter of interest PB
2. NYSEG, wind power
3. Association of Towns, 2023 Training
4. Board of Fire Commissioners Craryville Fire District 2023 Budget
5. Clara Cordato, Letter of Interest ZBA
6. K.I.S.S., 11/28/2022 – 12/9/2022
7. PERMA, Fall Educational Conference 2022
8. Peter Paden, Letter of Interest, PB
9. Maureen Mueller and Jon Shramko, Highway
10. Town of Copake, requesting our Town's Support
11. Rob Cormier, COO, Erigere Rapidus Solutions
12. Linda and Tom, Thank you
13. Columbia Land Conservancy, 2023 Mini Grant Program
14. The Columbia County Office for the Aging, SENIOR SCOOP
15. Charles Schwab, Taghkanic monthly LOSAP
16. Churchtown Fire Co. Proposed 2023 Budget
17. Manor Rock Road Safety and condition concerns regarding road

✚ **Board Member Elisabeth Albert:** can we discuss this tonight?

✚ **Board Member Elizabeth Craig:** suggested we get Superintendent Rob Burns' input on this letter before we have any discussion.

✚ **All Members Present agreed with Board Member Elizabeth Craig.**

✚ **Supervisor Ryan Skoda:** This is a road the Superintendent Burns would like to widen but he has to have all road residents on board or it cannot happen. I will discuss this further with Superintendent Burns.

Reports from the Boards:

Animal Control: Kyle Miller, report submitted as follows

I have no entries for this past month.

ZBA: James Romaine, Chair, no report.

Planning Board: Katherine Bainer, Chair report submitted.

Taghkanic Planning Board Report for October 2022

There was one meeting. There were two public hearings, Wally Farms and New Forge Rd. New Forge Rd. Approved site plan and Wally Farms Approved medium sized solar installation. Taghkanic Diner Application reviewed for site plan for outdoor dining. Public Hearing scheduled for 11/1. County Planning to be notified. ZBA approved plan.

Assessor: Craig Surprise report submitted.

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

Historian: Nancy Griffith, no report submitted.

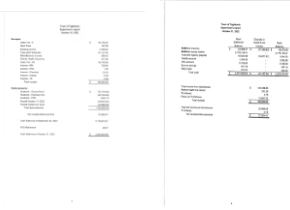
Traffic Safety Board: Board Member Linda Swartz, no meeting in October.

Environmental Management Council: no report submitted:

Office for the Aging: Joyce Thompson no report submitted

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

Supervisor: Ryan Skoda, report submitted as attached.



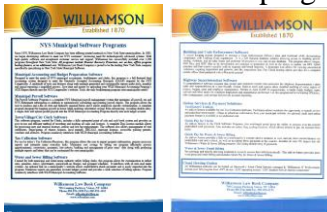
Highway: Roberts Burns, report submitted as follows:



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Highway 5 year replacement plan

- + **Board Member Kara Gilmore:** I suggest we ask Superintendent Burns for a 5 year new equipment plan as well.
- + **Supervisor Ryan Skoda:** Superintendent Burns no longer is interest in the purchase of the skid steer. He feels a commercial wood chipper is more important right now.
- + **Board Member Linda Swartz:** skid steer was to help with sweeping the roads.
- + **Supervisor Ryan Skoda:** Superintendent Burns has a different plan for sweeping.



Williamson Highway Superintendent Software.

- + **Board Member Elizabeth Craig:** I suggest we hold off until we can discuss this with Superintendent Burns.
- + **All agreed**

Advisory Board reports:

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

The FAC met on Thursday, 10 November, to audit September and October financials. No discrepancies were found for either month.

An overview of expenditures including the first Abstract for November indicates that General Fund A1620.4 Town Hall may need a small increase to finish out the year. A similar expectation also pertains to the Highway Fund Hospitalization line DA9060.8.

Conservation Advisory Committee: *Tony LaSalvia* report submitted as follows.

The CAC has not had a meeting this past month. We did attend a countywide CSC Task Force/CAC Roundtable at Basilica in Hudson on Oct 20.

Most of the discussion was about CSC Task Force issues and ideas from other towns.

We are thinking of more native plantings near and around the town hall that is to be discussed at a later date.

There was a good turnout to hear Tim Kennelty discuss Pollinators and Pollinator Plantings at the Firehouse on Oct 22. Future talks are being planned.

Broadband Advisory Committee:

Supervisor Ryan Skoda handed out Certificate of Appreciation Broadband Committee Members Nancy Rutter, Betsy Albert, Susan Raymond, Chris Tallackson, and Joyce Thompson who were in attendance. Members not present Arthur McGuire, Erin Edwards, and Jeffrey Tallackson.

Climate Smart Community: *Larry Kadish:* report submitted.

Present were Larry Kadish, Bob Brush, David Koehler, Perry Ascher, Betsy Albert, Doug Craig, Tim Kennelty, Tony LaSalvia Peter Paden, Joyce Thompson and Evelyn Sause. The meeting was called to order at 4 PM

- 1) The minutes of the Sept meeting were accepted
- 2) The committee awaits a phone call with the West Taghkanic Dinner Management re their participation in the creation of an EV Charging station. A preliminary site visit occurred with Chris Carmody from Plug In On Line took place 2 weeks ago. It may be easier for the Town to not be directly involved, unless grant money becomes a factor. Several committee members hope to be involved in the call. Doug Craig is the principal committee lead on this project.
- 3) The County EMC met this month. Bob Brush the Taghkanic Member has not been officially confirmed by the County BOD yet. There was no quorum, therefore no official report.
- 4) The DEC Climate Change and Resiliency Committee now is being formed. Larry Kadish will represent Taghkanic.
- 5) There was much enthusiastic response to the lecture on pollination given by Tim Kennelty last week. A follow up lecture on personal national parks is planned.
- 6) The Town Highway Dept. vehicle report has been accepted by the CSC.
- 7) The Committee has concluded that our Town is too small in population to support a composting site.
- 8) We will look at the challenge of a Town Natural Resources Inventory.
- 9) Larry Kadish will confer with Audrey Kropp re the CSC point organization process
- 10) the next meeting will be Thursday Dec 1st.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:15

Digital Advisory Committee: *Joyce Thompson and Nadja Palenzuela:* no report submitted.

Old Business:

1. **Land off of Route 82:** *Supervisor Ryan Skoda* I am still working with an engineer finishing the RFP with the scope of work we would like done for the

feasibility study for the land off route 82 with the bid process will have that done by next month.

- 2. Fire District/Fire Protection:** *Supervisor Ryan Skoda* Attorney Howard has sent us the draft map from CPL and also a Resolution Authorizing the Initiation of Proceedings for the Creation of the Taghkanic Fire District and Dissolution of the Taghkanic Fire Protection District.

✚ **Board Member Elizabeth Craig** motioned to approve Resolution 20-2022 Authorizing the Initiation of Proceedings for the Creation of the Taghkanic Fire District and Dissolution of the Taghkanic Fire Protection District, seconded by **Board Member Linda Swartz**.

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

- 3. Zoning Law Review:** next meeting dates
November 16, 2022 6:30 PM Zoning review
December 5, 2022 6:30 PM Zoning review
December 7, 2022 6:30 PM Zoning review

- 4. Payroll RFP:** Clerk Rogers I contacted a company recommended by a fellow clerk had a very length conversation and was promised a RFP the next day and have not received anything at all.

New Business:

- 1. January 2023 Calendar:** *Board Member Elizabeth Craig* motioned to accept the January 2023 calendar with additions, seconded by **Board Member Linda Swartz**.

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

- 2. Tax Cap 2023:** *Board Member Elizabeth Craig* motioned to stay within our **2023** Tax Cap, seconded by **Board Member Linda Swartz**.

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

- 3. 2023 Budget:** *Board Member Elizabeth Craig* motioned to approve the 2023 Preliminary as the 2023 Budget, seconded by **Board Member Linda Swartz**.

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

- 4. LL # 1 Adopting Private Roadway Specifications in the Town of Taghkanic:** *Board Member Linda Swartz* motioned to set a Public Hearing for LL #1-2022 Adopting Private Roadway Specifications in the Town of Taghkanic for December 10, 2022 at 7 pm, seconded by **Board Member Elisabeth Albert**.

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

5. **LL # 2 establishing income levels for real property tax exemptions for senior citizens:** *Board Member Linda Swartz* motioned to set a Public Hearing for LL #2-2022 establishing income levels for real property tax exemptions for senior citizens for December 10, 2022 at 7 pm, seconded by *Board Member Kara Gilmore*.

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

6. **LL #3 establishing income levels for real property tax exemptions for persons with Disabilities and limited income:** *Board Member Linda Swartz* motioned to set a Public Hearing for LL #3-2022 establishing income levels for real property tax exemptions for persons with Disabilities and limited income for December 10, 2022 at 7 pm, seconded by *Board Member Kara Gilmore*

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

7. **PB and ZBA Appointments:**

- ✦ **PB:** *Board Member Elizabeth Craig* motioned to appoint Katherine Bainer as member of the PB term ending 12/31/2029 and Peter Paden as PB Alternate term ending 12/31/2023, seconded by *Board Member Linda Swartz*.

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

- ✦ **ZBA:** *Board Member Elizabeth Craig* motioned to appoint Elizabeth O'Donnell as member of the ZBA term ending 12/31/2027 and Clara Cordato as ZBA Alternate term ending 12/31/2023, seconded by *Board Member Linda Swartz*.

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

The bills were audited and approved for payment as follows:

- ✦ **October 21, 2022 Abstract:** on a motion by *Board Member Linda Swartz*, was approved for payment, seconded by *Board Member Elizabeth Craig*.

2022 General Fund Vouchers	# 371	- 385	\$	25.315.44
2022 Highway Fund Vouchers	#	-	\$	

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

✦ **November 14, 2022 Abstract:** on a motion by *Board Member Linda Swartz*, was approved for payment, seconded by *Board Member Elizabeth Craig*.

2022 General Fund Vouchers	# 386	-	406	\$	33,637.93
2022 Highway Fund Vouchers	# 158	-	171	\$	42,736.86

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

The following people commented during the fifteen minute public comment:

- ✦ **Board Member Linda Swartz:** thanked Peter Beck and Betsy Albert for all their hard work pulling the Taghkanic Community Fridge project together.
- ✦ **Joyce Thompson:** thank you, I am very pleased that the town is in partnership with our town's community businesses.
- ✦ **Arthur Griffith:** is there a menu?
- ✦ **Board Member Elisabeth Albert:** The Community Fridge Project is community funded.
- ✦ **Clara Cordato:** I would like to get more information about the community garden for the Boy Scouts; the money for the blessing box can be used toward the Community Garden. Also my two sons Anthony and Matthew are working on their citizenship in the community merit badge. They needed to attend a meeting (present) and then interview a government official about a topic discussed during the meeting.

8 pm Executive Session: *Board Member Kara Gilmore* motioned to enter Executive Session to discuss Personnel seconded by *Board Member Elisabeth Albert*.

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

8:25 pm Executive Session: *Board Member Linda Swartz* motioned to exit Executive Session, seconded by *Board Member Elizabeth Craig*.

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

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 **December 12, 2022** at the Taghkanic Town Hall and via Zoom.

Audience at Town Hall: Larry Kadsih Susan Raymond Chris Tallackson Arthur Griffith
 Peter Beck Perry Ascher Nancy Rutter Clara Cordato
 Anthony Cordato Matthew Cordato Joe Cordato

Audience via Zoom: