

Approved
10/9/2023

September 6, 2023
Town of Taghkanic
Town Board Meeting

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

6:30 pm Town Board Members audited and signed vouchers.

7 pm. The Taghkanic Town Board held its Regular monthly meeting on the above date with a combination of Supervisor Skoda, Board Members, Highway Superintendent, Town Clerk, 2 residents at the Taghkanic Town Hall and 2 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
	Elizabeth Craig	Board Member
	Kara Gilmore	Board Member
	Linda Mirabelli	Board Member
	Cheryl Rogers	Clerk
	Robert Burns	Highway Superintendent

Absent:

Guest Speaker: none

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

August 14, 2023: Town Board Regular meeting minutes were accepted as written with suggested changes on a motion by **Board Member Elizabeth Craig** seconded by **Board Member Linda Mirabelli**.

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

The Correspondence:

1. GTEL
2. NYMIR: **Clerk Rogers** will contact Peter finger tomorrow for more information.

Reports from the Boards:

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

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

Planning Board: *Katherine Bainer*, report submitted as follows

Taghkanic Planning Board Report for August 2023

There were no meetings in August.

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 Mirabelli*, report submitted as follows.

I have no Traffic Safety Board report for this month. The CCTSB meets again on September 28, 2023. I will have a report for the October Town Board meeting.

Environmental Management Council: *Robert Brush* 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*, no report submitted

JULY REPORT

Highway: *Roberts Burns*, report submitted as follows:

✚ ***Generator:*** Tabled Highway Superintendent Burns and the Climate Smart Task Force are working on getting other proposal.

✚ ***Extra Funds:*** ***Superintendent Rob Burns*** requested an extra \$150,000 to finish the road repair for this year.

Board Member Elizabeth Craig motioned to give Superintendent Burns permission to move forward with the paving, seconded by ***Board Member Kara Gilmore***.

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

Advisory Board reports:

Financial Advisory Committee Report: *Joyce Thompson:* no report at this time.

The following Budget Amendments are needed.

Town of Taghkanic				
6-Sep-23		Budget Amendment #7-2023		
			Increase	Decrease
HIGHWAY FUND				
CONTRACTUAL PAVED	DA5110.4		15,000.00	
CONTRACTUAL UNPAVED	DA5110.43			15,000.00
			15,000.00	15,000.00

Board Member Kara Gilmore motioned to approve Budget Amendment #7 – 2023 as presented, seconded by **Board Member Elisabeth Albert**.

Approved: 5 Ayes (Ryan, Elisabeth, Elizabeth, Kara, Linda)

0 Nays

0 Absent

Conservation Advisory Committee/Climate Smart Community: Doug Craig report submitted as follows: the lighting upgrade project for the

Present were Doug Craig, Tim Kennelty, Bob Brush, Larry Kadish, Perry Ascher, and Jean Feinberg. Zoom: Technical difficulties prevented us from sharing the meeting on Zoom.

1. The July meeting minutes were approved.
2. Larry presented developments with the Climate Adaptation & Resilience plan. He noted that a stack of hard copies of the CAR survey left at the town hall had been depleted, so maybe it was an indication people were completing the survey, but who knows. There has been a revision in the plan of the CAR committee, such that the participating towns will include Taghkanic – representing south CoCo – and an as yet unnamed town from north CoCo. They have also set up in-person presentation / discussions to be held at Columbia Green Community College in Sept and Oct to highlight future plans.
3. The most recent schedule has the electrical upgrades of the Town Hall and Garage happening on Aug 31.
4. There is an upcoming Taghkanic Talk on Sustainable Landscapes scheduled for Sept 9th at 10am in the Firehouse. Kristopher Williams from Partnerships for Regional Invasive Species Management (PRISM) will present. Doug will post in the Tgazette. We need to make sure we can reserve the Firehouse. Part 2 of the Invasive Species Identification and Clean Up was on Aug 12 at Overmountain. The turnout was rather small, but the tour and information were very valuable for those who did attend.
5. Perry indicated that there seemed to be enough volunteer repairers for the Sept-30th Repair Café at the RoeJan library. Jean volunteered to help direct folks at the event.
6. Bob has contacted Barbara Healey from Germantown to discuss the Germantown Highway Department Crew training on invasive species, but has not heard back. Vacation time.
7. Doug thinks we need to do more to address climate change. He proposed that we look into an idea that Peter presented several weeks back on having a community-involved program to build insulating window inserts. We would need people to assist with building the frames (Doug will do some of this), measuring window frames accurately, and wrapping the frames with heat-shrink plastic insulating film. The idea would be that community members would participate in the build, probably at the wrapping stage. We may try a pilot build for Tim’s home. Link: <https://windowdressers.org/board-staff/>

Digital Communication Advisory Committee: Betsy Albert: no meeting.

Old Business:

1. **Zoning Law Review:** *Supervisor Ryan Skoda* will contact Attorney Fitzsimmons for an update on his progress.
2. **Answer for vested LOSAP participants:** *Supervisor Skoda*: continuous conversations with Attorney Howard, Terry Hannigan, Claverack Attorney Fitzsimmons, Clifford Weigelt, Paul Keeler, and George Keeler on how to move forward. *Supervisor Skoda* shared with the Board a few options for them to think about on how to move forward for next year.
3. **Resolution Creating a Fire District:** Tabled
4. **Application to the Comptroller:** Tabled

5. **Solar on Highway Garage:** *Board Member Elisabeth Albert*: we have a number of quotes, we are favoring one over all the others but are still discussing and working on the details. I will forward copies of the quotes to the Board
6. **September 18, 2023 6pm Budget Workshop:** reminder
7. **Interview October:**
 - + 6 pm Jannine Dubiac Priority One Payroll scheduled
 - + 6:20 pm Robert Patterson Accountant scheduled
 - + 6:40 pm Michael A. Torchia RBT Accountant no reply

New Business:

- A. **Community Bank Money Market and CD rates:** *Supervisor Ryan Skoda* will contact the bank for more details and will discuss options with Deputy Supervisor Joyce Thompson.
- B. **November 2023 Calendar:** *Board Member Kara Gilmore* motioned to accept the November 2023 with the suggested changes, seconded by *Board Member Linda Mirabelli*.

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

The bills were audited and approved for payment as follows:

- + **August 24, 2023 Abstract:** on a motion by *Board Member Linda Mirabelli* was approved for payment, seconded by *Board Member Elisabeth Albert*.

2023 General Fund Vouchers	#	266	-	273	\$	15,728.67
2023 Highway Fund Vouchers	#		-		\$	

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

- + **September 6, 2023 Abstract:** on a motion by *Board Member Linda Mirabelli* was approved for payment, seconded by *Board Member Elisabeth Albert*.

2023 General Fund Vouchers	#	274	-	287	\$	7,209.09
2023 Highway Fund Vouchers	#	99	-	112	\$	65,361.36
Capitol Project Funds Vouchers	#	1			\$	310,475.80

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

The following people commented during the fifteen minute public comment:

Executive Session: none

With no further business, on a motion by *Board Member Elisabeth Albert*, seconded by *Board Member Elizabeth Craig* the meeting was adjourned at **8:01 pm**, carried

unanimously by all members present. The next Regular Town Board meeting will be **October 9, 2023** at the Taghkanic Town Hall.

Audience at Town Hall: Doug Craig Perry Ascher

Audience via Zoom: Steven Smollens Sherrill Kurland