

**April 9, 2024**  
**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 April 9, 2024

**6:45 pm: Public Hearing LL 1-2024 STR Regulations: Board Member Linda Mirabelli** opened the Public Hearing LL 1-2024 STR Regulations with the Pledge of Allegiance and moment of silence.

- + **Board Member Elisabeth Albert:** I would just like to state for the record that I do not own or have any vested interest in any Air B&B or Short-Term Rental.
- + **Board Member Perry Ascher:** nor do I.
- + **Board Member Linda Mirabelli:** I do not
- + **Board Member Doug Craig:** nor do I.
- + **Erin Edwards:** is there a way for neighbors to find out who owns an STR?
- + **Donay Queenan:** the committee did have in the draft STR regs that STR owners are to inform their neighbors within 1,000 feet but it was removed. Local Law 1-2024 effective date, 6 months to apply? Two big issues raised with the committee caps and density have been removed.
- + **Susan Raymond:** I have concerns with Definition #11, 60 days is not enough. Also, I plead with the Board to reconsider the idea of a cap.
- + **Lorette Hoffman:** Section #6 Inspections (see attached) STR should have commercial insurance coverage.  
“Zoning-Since when does Zoning protect the “free use” of property? The definition of Zoning is to protect health, safety and property values by separating potentially incompatible uses. Well written Zoning regulations permit appropriate uses in four different zones Residential, Commercial,



Lorette Hoffman.pdf

Industrial and Agricultural.” (see attached)

- + **Jeff Tallackson:** I have submitted my concerns in written (see attached) I do support



Letter JST to

Taghkanic Board re S

- all comments so far.
- + **Debbie Colgrove:** how are the STR Regulations going to enforce traffic and noise?
- + **Scott Schneider:** regulation is not going to stop traffic.
- + **Adam Bayard:** as a STR owner we do want to be part of the community, we are not trying to get one over on the anyone. We have a residential insurance policy and it covers our STR.
- + **Shay Moscona:** STR taxation is also done with income tax. If I am renting out my home or its me and my family it’s the same number of cars.

- ✚ Board Member Doug Craig: the committee worked hard and voted to submit the draft to the Town Board.
- ✚ Michael Reese: thank you to all who have and are working on these regulations. The regulations do not remedy to revoke if there is a noise violation. I do believe the board should get something on the books so the process can get started.
- ✚ Clayton Kirking: with the survey I was very surprise with the amount of the LLC owners
- ✚ Ray Colgrove: wouldn't the zoning have to be change to commercial?
- ✚ Board Member Linda Mirabelli: no
- ✚ Myryah Irby: I am an STR owner but this is my home I love this community; my children have gone to school here I feel we STR owners are being vilified.

**Supervisor Ryan Skoda:** If there are no more further comments, concerns or questions I will entertain a motion to close the Public Hearing for LL 1 -2024.

**7:48 pm: Board Member Linda Mirabelli** motioned to close the Public Hearing for LL 1 - 2024, seconded by **Board Member Perry Ascher**.

**Approved**      **5 Aye**                      **(Ryan, Elisabeth, Perry, Doug, Linda)**  
                                  **0 Nays**  
                                  **0 Absent**

**Supervisor Ryan Skoda:** Thank you for sharing your comments, concerns and questions.

**7:48 pm:** The Taghkanic Town Board held its Regular 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.

<b>Present:</b>	Ryan Skoda Elisabeth Albert Perry Ascher Doug Craig Linda Mirabelli Cheryl Rogers	Supervisor Board Member Board Member Board Member Board Member Clerk	<b>arrived 7 pm</b>
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**Guest Speaker:**

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

**March 11, 2024:** Town Board Regular meeting minutes were accepted as written on a motion by **Board Member Linda Mirabelli** seconded by **Board Member Perry Ascher**.

**Approved**      **5 Aye**                      **(Ryan, Elisabeth, Perry, Doug, Linda)**  
                                  **0 Nays**  
                                  **0 Absent**

**The Correspondence:**

1. Joshua Choquette region 4 Fisheries Access Coordinator
2. Charles Schab, monthly LOSAP report Taghkanic
3. Columbia County Household Hazardous Waste Collection Day
4. Katherine Snelson, Craryville Road

**Supervisor Ryan Skoda:** I have put a stop to mowing of the trees on the side on of roadways

and have instructed the guys they need to go back and clean up the mess.

5. NYSERDA Clean Energy Communities Team
6. Hudson Valley Equipment INC, Maintenance Agreement
7. Churchtown Fire LOSAP points

**Board Member Linda Mirabelli** motioned to approve the Churchtown Volunteer Fire Company LOSAP point record for approval for the 30-day posting, seconded by **Board Member Doug Craig**.

**Approved**      **5 Aye**      (**Ryan, Elisabeth, Perry, Doug, Linda**)  
                         **0 Nays**  
                         **0 Absent**

8. A concerned Resident, 1541 County Route 10 large trucks

**Supervisor Skoda** will look into this further.

9. Cheryl Rogers, Hudson Pop Warner

**Board Member Linda Mirabelli** motioned to sponsor the Hudson Pop Warner Football League (Hudson Hawks) with a \$500.00 donation, seconded by **Board Member Elisabeth Albert**.

**Approved**      **5 Aye**      (**Ryan, Elisabeth, Perry, Doug, Linda**)  
                         **0 Nays**  
                         **0 Absent**

10. Flier placed in a resident's mail box

**Board Member Linda Mirabelli:** FYI anyone who is putting fliers in mail boxes that is a federal offence.

11. Mackenzie Reese, Member Development Manager, OMNIA Partners
12. Rob Perry, Superintendent of Public Works, City of Hudson, Churchtown Dam
13. Nancy & Arthur Griffith, comment submitted PH LL 1
14. Lydia Leete, comment submitted PH LL 1
15. Jeff Talackson, comment submitted PH LL 1
16. Ron Bel Bruno, Ronadale Lane
17. Ben Feldman comment submitted PH LL 1
18. Charles Schab, monthly LOSAP report Taghkanic
19. Melissa Foley, Program Manager, Cornell University, NYS LTAP Center-Cornell Local Roads Program infographics
20. Marie Stark, drainage pipe in yard Livingston Road
21. Scott Schneider, 1524 County Route 10 (GreenHauss Zoning)

### **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.

There was one meeting in March. Site Plan review was approved for the Taghkanic Diner sign repairs and replacement of the Indian logo with a sun design of the same size, lighted with neon.

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

**Clerk Rogers:** Assessor Surprise would like permission to notice for Clerk which could be shared by both the Assessor and Building Inspector.

**Board Member Linda Mirabelli** motioned to grant permission to run a notice for a Clerk for the Assessor/Building Inspector, seconded by **Board Member Doug Craig**.

**Approved**      **5 Aye**      (**Ryan, Elisabeth, Perry, Doug, Linda**)  
                         **0 Nays**  
                         **0 Absent**

**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.

The Columbia County Traffic Safety Board met at the Public Safety Building in Hudson on Thursday, March 28, 2024.

County road projects planned for 2024 include the Stall Bridge in Clermont, Bash Bish Bridge in Copake; and replacement of two large culverts on CR 7 (one in Gallatin and one in Spencertown).

NYSDOT advises that there is a multi-culvert replacement project scheduled for 2024/2025, which will include two culverts on Route 23 in Columbia County; one in Copake and one in Hillsdale. The current plan calls for road closures during the replacement of the culverts. DOT will provide the CCTSB with more details once the contract has been let later this spring.

The next meeting of the Columbia County Traffic Safety Board is scheduled for May 23, 2024.

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

**Office for the Aging:** *Celine Kagan and Susan Silverman*, report submitted as follows:  
Celine Kagan: we hope you have had tie look over the information. We are looking for approval to continue with our idea for a new program Taghkanic Senior Network.

#### **Taghkanic Senior Network**

#### **INFORMING & ENGAGING SENIORS AND CAREGIVERS**

**MISSION STATEMENT** Our mission is to add to the quality of life of Taghkanic seniors and caregivers, by sharing information about state, county, and local resources, and offering opportunities to learn and socialize.

**PROPOSED ACTIVITIES AND BUDGET ITEMS:** In addition to attending the Columbia County OFA meetings and providing information from the county level, the Taghkanic Senior Network Committee proposes the following examples of what we plan to provide to the community:

**- Resource Booklet - consolidating all county & Taghkanic resources for seniors**

(update yearly, or as needed).

- Bingo! Monthly games
- Mailing for the Columbia County OFA Survey (postage)
- Speaker Events/Taghkanic Talks, Activity Nights/Groups (i.e., Game Night, Movie Night, Book Group, Knitting Club)
- Promotional materials: Postcard mailings/posters for important events (2x/year)
- Other ideas: Community Tag Sale\*, Taghkanic Recipe Book\* \*some of these events may serve as fundraisers for the town

**CURRENT COMMITTEE MEMBERS:**

Celine Kagan, Co-Chair

Susan Silverman,

Co-Chair Joanne Klein, Secretary (Minutes for Meetings)

Jean Feinberg

(we will recruit additional members once this committee is approved).

*Board Member Linda Mirabelli* motioned to approve the Taghkanic Senior Network, seconded by *Board Member Elisabeth Albert*.

**Approved**      5 Aye      (*Ryan, Elisabeth, Perry, Doug, Linda*)

0 Nays

0 Absent

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



Ecoflow septic system, which offers a technology that may be applicable to sites where locating a conventional septic field is not possible. Could offer a solution for citing a new town hall on our existing property. The presentation will be at the Livingston TH, April 27, 10:30am.

- Betsy gave an update of plans for planting at the TSP on May 11. The scope now involved the planting of a few trees along with a pollinator garden in two areas encircled by the road in front of the main TSP offices. A SEQR review is required, after which trees/plants will be ordered.
- There was a discussion of a new property that will be acquired by the CLC from owner John Markus: 500 acres, roughly within the box defined by CR27, CR11, Snydertown Rd, and Manor Rock Rd. Troy from CLC has indicated they would like to plant ca. 400 trees on a section of this land, and to construct trails, etc. Tim K. has discussed with Troy that he and Harris intend to provide funding for the tree-planting and to participate in the planning of this and other aspects of maintain and developing the native character of the property. Peter indicated that a committee – likely made up of community members from Taghkanic, Hillsdale, Copake, and Ancram – would be involved in some way in the care of the property. This will come into focus over the next 3-6 months.
- Taghkanic Talks – Discussed and agreed on the need to resume and maintain a consistent schedule of Talks. Also introduced the idea of Taghkanic Walks, which would be walks scheduled to tour various properties to see what was happening in terms of Home Grown National Park progress, how-to demonstrations, bee keeping, stream conditions, beaver sites, or other topic of interest.
  - We agreed that we should hold a Taghkanic Talk on the Nature of Oaks (Doug Tallamy video) on May 18 @ 10am – noon. The video is 1.5h, so we will have to manage the time well, and if we go over, no big deal.
  - Presentation on the Taghkanic Headwaters as a Taghkanic Talk on June 15.
  - Thinking about ideas for a T-Walk.
- Tony is working with the folks who produced the Emergency Preparedness presentation in Chatham to arrange the same presentation in SoCoCo (Firehouse, or School or Col Green). Will update as it develops.
- The town has been notified that we are now qualified to apply for grants of \$5K, \$10K, and \$50K. Doug will reach out to Hudson Solar for an update of their quote for solar panels on the town garage. Previous quote was \$38K, after rebates.

**Board Member Elisabeth Albert:** with this grant money as Doug mentioned in his report using it for solar panels, heat pumps for the office and lunch room which will cover around \$45,000. We were thinking about replacing some of the tools at the highway garage with battery operated ones, like chainsaws?

✚ **Celine Kagan:** battery operator chainsaw is different than gas powered they do not have the stops like the gas ones and can cut through the chaps that can cause severe injuries.

✚ **Supervisor Ryan Skoda:** I agree not chainsaws but I will come up with a list of tools.

**Digital Communication Advisory Committee:** Nadja Palenzuela meeting held March 1, 2024, working on changing the presents of Tgazetta and Instagram so the information is shared. Proposing a logo change open to suggestion from the residents.

## Old Business:

1. **Update on Zoning Review:** *Supervisor Ryan Skoda:* Attorney Fitzsimmons goal timeline is to have it to us by June 1<sup>st</sup>.

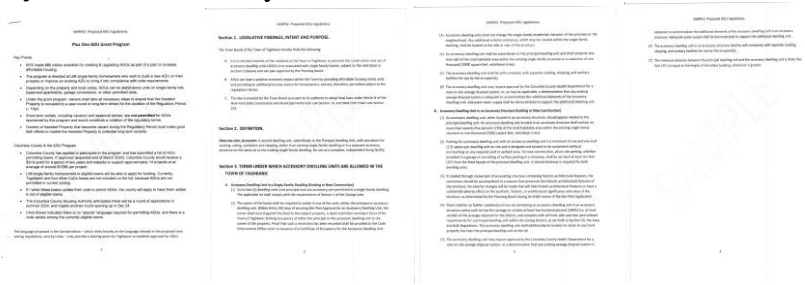
2. **Update on Letters sent to Sands and Jutkofsky: Board Member Linda Mirrabelli**, letters have been sent out, I have not received any response as of yet. I will be sending them out again

✚ **Supervisor Ryan Skoda**: we have identified some vacant property and are reaching out owners for the prospect for a new town hall.

3. **ADU: Supervisor Ryan Skoda**: the County has received the \$2 million. I have been informed by Chris Brown that the Town of Taghkanic is not eligible for any of that money as we have no ADU regs in place. He did advise we keep moving forward with the ADU regs.

**Board Member Doug Craig**: I have put together a sample proposed ADU Regulations for the Board as a starting point for your review and for further discussions.

**Supervisor Ryan Skoda**: thank you



**New Business:**

A. **June 2024 Calendar: Board Member Perry Ascher** motioned to accept the June 2024 calendar as presented, seconded by **Board Member Linda Mirrabelli**.

**Approved**      5 Aye      (*Ryan, Elisabeth, Perry, Doug, Linda*)  
                          0 Nays  
                          0 Absent

B. **Budget Amendment 2- 2024: Board Member Perry Ascher** motioned to approve Budget Amendment 2-2024 as follows, seconded by **Board Member Linda Mirrabelli**.

**Approved**      5 Aye      (*Ryan, Elisabeth, Perry, Doug, Linda*)  
                          0 Nays  
                          0 Absent

9-Apr-24	Budget Amendment #2-2024			
<i>Accounting for use of ARPA funds for Infrastructure Repair</i>				
-To recognize funds earned for ARPA in the General A FUND				
<b>General Money Market Bank Account</b>		<b>Debit</b>		<b>Credit</b>
<b>OTHER LIABILITY-ARPA FUNDS</b>	<b>A688</b>	<b>86,548.40</b>		

<b>BUDGET AMENDMENT</b>				
	<b>9-Apr-24</b>	<b>Budget Amendment #2-2024</b>		
<b>OTHER LIABILITY-ARPA FUNDS</b>		<b>H688</b>	<b>Increase</b>	<b>Increase</b>
<b>Capitol Project Bank Account</b>				<b>86,548.40</b>
			<b>86,548.40</b>	<b>86,548.40</b>

- C. LL # 1 -2024 Supervisor Ryan Skoda: tabled to address comments and concerns raised during the Public Hearing.

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

- ✚ **March 25, 2024 Abstract:** on a motion by *Board Member Linda Mirabelli*, was approved for payment, seconded by *Board Member Perry Ascher*.

2024 General Fund Vouchers # 88 - 97 \$ 13,231.86  
 2024 Highway Fund Vouchers # - \$

Approved 5 Aye (*Ryan, Elisabeth, Perry, Doug, Linda*)  
 0 Nays  
 0 Absent

- ✚ **April 9, 2024 Abstract:** on a motion by *Board Member Linda Mirabelli*, was approved for payment, seconded by *Board Member Perry Ascher*.

2024 General Fund Vouchers # 98 - 118 \$ 10,614.74  
 2024 Highway Fund Vouchers # 29 - 37 \$ 18,394.97  
 2024 ARPA Fund Vouchers # 1 - 2 \$ 336.86

Approved 5 Aye (*Ryan, Elisabeth, Perry, Doug, Linda*)  
 0 Nays  
 0 Absent

- ✚ **April 9, 2024 Replacement check Abstract:** on a motion by *Board Member Linda Mirabelli*, was approved for payment, seconded by *Board Member Perry Ascher*.

Replacement check General Fund # - \$ 6,237.94  
 Replacement check Fund Vouchers # - \$

Approved 5 Aye (*Ryan, Elisabeth, Perry, Doug, Linda*)  
 0 Nays  
 0 Absent

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



Lou Giovannucci.pdf

- ✚ *Lou Giovannucci*: read the attached
- ✚ *Mario Verna*: the town approve budget shows \$72,194 for the Churchtown Fire Company but you are not contracting with them? Where did this come from?
- ✚ *Supervisor Ryan Skoda*: creating a fire district has been a discussion for a couple of years now.



- ✚ **Kl Joner Watkins:** are you going to answer Mr. Giovannucci questions?
- ✚ **Supervisor Ryan Skoda:** no comment the Town Attorney will be responding.

**9:08 Executive Session:** *Board Member Linda Mirabelli* motioned to go into Executive Session to discuss personnel, seconded by *Board Member Doug Craig*.

**Approved**     5 Aye (*Ryan, Elisabeth, Perry, Doug, Linda*)  
                      0 Nays  
                      0 Absent

**9:35 Executive Session:** *Board Member Linda Mirabelli* motioned to close Executive Session, seconded by *Board Member Elisabeth Albert*.

**Approved**     5 Aye (*Ryan, Elisabeth, Perry, Doug, Linda*)  
                      0 Nays  
                      0 Absent

**Supervisor Ryan Skoda:** update on New Forge Road (Murcott) I did go see Mrs. Muscott. The Fire Company wants us to keep the section of the road for the stream access. City of Hudson as long as it is maintained to where they need to enter

**With no further business,** on a motion by *Board Member Linda Mirabelli*, seconded by *Board Member Doug Craig* the meeting was adjourned at 9:50 pm, carried unanimously by all members present. The next Regular meeting will be **May 13, 2024** at the Taghkanic Town Hall.

**Audience at Town Hall:**

Scott Schneider	Arthur Griffith	Ray Colgrove	Deb Colgrove
Celine Kagan	Susan Silverman	Lydia Leete	Bill Lette
Kathy Bainer	Clayton Kirking	Jeff Tallackson	Erin Edwards
Susan Raymond	Donay Queenan	Harry Franklin	Joanne Klein
Loretta Hoffman	Lou Giovannucci	Steve Fass	Carol Fass
Bill Hilscher	Buddy Molinski	Kl Joner Watkins	Myryah Irby

**Audience via Zoom:**

John Lewis	Maria Silva	Larry Kadish	Anna Kadish
Bob Crimi	Michael Reese	Lynn C.	Sherill Kurland
Jamie	S. Moscona	Adam Byard	J, Hernandez
Merridith Glabman	Jordan Handler	A. Badamenti	Stella
Steve Smollens	Joyce Thompson	David Plakon	Polly



April 9th STR  
 correspondence.pdf

Emailed correspondences from: Lydia Leete, Nancy Griffith and Ben Feldman