

**APPROVED**  
**12-9-2024**

**November 11, 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 November 9 - 11<sup>th</sup> 2024

**7 pm:** The Taghkanic Town Board held its Regular meeting on the above date with a combination of Supervisor Ryan Skoda, Board Members, Town Clerk, 3 residents at the Taghkanic Town Hall and 4 residents attending via Zoom.

<b>Present:</b>	Ryan Skoda	Supervisor	
	Elisabeth Albert	Board Member	<b>ZOOM</b>
	Perry Ascher	Board Member	
	Doug Craig	Board Member	
	Linda Mirabelli	Board Member	
	Cheryl Rogers	Clerk	
	Eric Gaylord	Highway Superintendent	

**7 pm:** **PH LL #5 – 2024** to allow the insertion of information materials in certain tax bills mailed by the Town of Taghkanic.

✚ **Eric Gaylord:** what kind of information?

✚ **Supervisor Ryan Skoda:** information for the residents like the registering your STR, program for senior citizens etc.

**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 5 -2024.

**7:05 pm: Public Hearing Closed:** **Board Member Linda Mirabelli** motioned to close the Public Hearing for LL 5 - 2024, seconded by **Board Member Perry Ascher**.

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

**7:05 pm: Public Hearing 2025 Preliminary Budget opened:** suspended due to technical difficulties sharing the budget excel spread sheet screen for the audience and ZOOM.

**7:08 pm:** Guest Speaker Nina Benvenuto, Administrator Col. Co. Office for the Aging.

**7:30 pm: Public Hearing continued:**

✚ **Board Member Pery Ascher:** fire budget?

✚ **Supervisor Ryan Skoda:** A problem has come to light from the office of Real Property. The fire district will not have the authority to collect taxes next year. There is nothing that we didn't do or could do differently, it was an oversight by Real property and the NYS Comptroller's office. In order for the fire district to have funding next year, we need to simply put it in our budget, collect and distribute as we have been doing all along. We already put in funds to cover LOSAP, but need to add

funds for operating. The question is how much. Flat, 1% or 2% increase? Will discuss further later in the meeting.

**Supervisor Ryan Skoda:** If there are no more further comments, concerns or questions I will entertain a motion to close the Public Hearing 2025 Preliminary Budget

**7:35 pm: Public Hearing Closed:** **Board Member Elisabeth Albert** motioned to close the Public Hearing for LL 4 -2024, seconded by **Board Member Linda Mirabelli**.

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

**7:08 – 7:30 Guest Speaker:** **Nina Benvenuto, Administrator Col. Co. Office for the Aging:** The office for the Aging unit of local government to serve and be the point in Col. Co. for matters related to aging. Through advocacy, services and planning and coordination addresses the priority needs of our older residents. I am here to inform the board of some of



Col. Co. OFA

the program we offer see attached: Programs & Services.}

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

**October 14, 2024:** Town Board Regular meeting minutes were accepted as written on a motion by **Board Member Linda Mirabelli** seconded by **Board Member Doug Craig**.

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

**October 23, 2024:** Town Board Budget Workshop meeting minutes were accepted as written on a motion by **Board Member Linda Mirabelli** seconded by **Board Member Doug Craig**

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

**The Correspondence:**

1. Donald MacCormack, VP, Municipal Banking, The Bank of Greene County
2. Perry Acsher, email STR/Accessory Dwelling
3. The Association of Towns, 2025 Training
  - ✚ **Board Member Perry Ascher:** inquired if the Association of Towns training was worthwhile to go to?
  - ✚ **Board Member Elisabeth Albert:** yes
  - ✚ **Joyce Thompson:** yes, good resources
4. NY Municipal Insurance Reciprocal, Notice of Policy Conditional Renewal
5. Richard L. Laberge, P.E. President, Laberge Group
6. Jennifer Reilly Bluma, Community Engagement Coordinator
7. DEC Declares Drought Watch for 15 NY Counties
8. Chad A. Lindberg. P.E., Taconic Engineering
9. Diana Carter, Director of Planning OPRHP, NYS Parks Recreation and Historic Preservation

**Reports from the Boards:**

**Animal Control:** Kyle Miller, report submitted.

I have 2 entries for this past month:

10/17 - Report of a loose black longhaired collie on Stone Jug Rd. wearing a red collar. The caller reported 2 of his chickens had been killed by the dog but they weren't able to catch the dog.

10/24 - Report of a loose black longhaired collie on Rt. 27 believed to be the same dog from the previous incident. Unfortunately, I was unable to respond at the time nor have I been able to locate an owner. I haven't received any reports since.

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

**Planning Board:** *Katherine Bainer*, Chair report submitted.

Taghkanic Planning Board Report for October 2024

The were no meetings in October.

**Assessor:** *Brittany Santarelli*: report submitted.



241111 Assessor  
Report for November

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



241111 ZEO  
REPROT.pdf



241111 2024 Permit  
Log (12).pdf

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

**Traffic Safety Board:** *Board Member Linda Mirabelli*, no report submitted

CCTSB will meet on Thursday, November 21. I will have that report for the next Town Board meeting.

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

**Office for the Aging:** *Celine Kagan and Susan Silverman*, report submitted as follows:



241024 TSN  
Minutes.pdf

### **Upcoming Events**

Upcoming:

Wed 11/13 - 3-5pm - at the Firehouse – NETWORKING EVENT (leaders from other committees/groups for Seniors).

Sun 11-17 - 2-3:30 pm - at the Firehouse

Sunday Dec 15 (TBD) Cookie Event (possibly with CS committee)

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



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REPORT financial repc

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



241111 HIGHWAY  
REPORT.pdf

**Highway:** *Eric Gaylord*, report submitted.

*Superintendent Gaylord:* things are going well; guys are all happy and we are getting a lot done. Next month I will have a contract from the State for the Board to approve for Shared Services. All documents have been submitted for CHIP Funding.

✚ ***Reservoir Road - Resolution 12 – 2024: Supervisor Ryan Skoda Attorney Howard*** has answered all mine and Superintendent Gaylord concerns.

✚ ***Arthur Griffith:*** does anyone live in the resident?

- ✚ **Supervisor Ryan Skoda:** no
- ✚ **Superintendent Eric Gaylord:** City of Hudson will allow access for emergency for the fire company to get water.

**Board Member Linda Mirabelli** motioned to approve Resolution 12 – 2024 abandonment of Reservoir Road, seconded by **Board Member Elisabeth Albert**.

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

- ✚ **New Forge Road/Murcott: Superintendent Eric Gaylord:** I have inspected and approve the turnaround that Mrs. Murcott has completed. Clerk Rogers informed the Board that Attorney Howard and Mrs. Murcott have been in contact.

**Advisory Board reports:**

**Financial Advisory Committee Report:** **Board Member Linda Mirabelli** reported the following: FAC does not meet until Nov. 13, which is after the Town Board meeting. I will have an FAC report for the December Town Board Meeting.

**Conservation Advisory Committee/Climate Smart Community:** **Board Member**



241024 CSC  
 Report.pdf

**Doug Craig** report submitted:

- ✚ **Board Member Elisabeth Albert:** the highway solar has been installed, waiting for electrical inspection and sign off, and then NYSEG can do the final connect. Huson River Solar with contact Superintendent Gaylord to give him a tutorial on the system.

**Digital Communication Advisory Committee:** **Nadja Palenzuel** no meeting held.

**Columbia County Climate Smart Community Task Force:** **Betsy Albert** will send the report at a later date.

**Old Business:**

1. **Zoning Review:** **Supervisor Ryan Skoda:** I have started to review Attorney Fitzsimmons and Linda’s recommendations. Linda’s comments are making it easier, hope to be done by next month.
2. **New Town Hall:** **Supervisor Ryan Skoda** one RFP for Engineer to do a Feasibility Study was received from:
  - ✚ Taconic Engineering, DPC:

The Board pick two dates December 3, 2024 between 8am – 12 pm or December 9, 2024 at 6:15pm to ZOOM with Chad A. Lindberg P.E., Board Member Doug Craig will reach out to Mr. Lindberg to firm up the date and time. He will keep the Board up-to-date.

**New Business:**

1. **January 2025 Calendar:** **Board Member Perry Ascher** motioned to accept the January 2025 calendar with suggested changes, seconded by **Board Member Linda Mirabelli**.

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

0 Nays  
0 Absent

2. **LL 4 – 2024 Enacting a six (6) month moratorium on public events on gatherings of 100 or more people, in order to allow for the creation of a Local Law to regulate public gatherings.** *Supervisor Ryan Skoda:* does the board have any further concerns with the regulations? None. *Supervisor Skoda* proceeded with the SEQR.

🚩 **SEQR Full form:** *Supervisor Ryan Skoda:* reviewed the part two questions and asked for a motion for a negative declaration for the purposes of SEQR.

*Board Member Linda Mirabelli* motioned with the review of part two of SEQR finding no significant negative environmental impacts will arise from adopting LL 4 – 2024 6 Month Moratorium I move we issue a negative declaration for the purposes of SEQR, seconded by *Board Member Perry Ascher.*

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

- 🚩 **LL # 4 – 2024 Enacting a six (6) month moratorium on public events on gatherings of 100 or more people, in order to allow for the creation of a Local Law to regulate public gatherings:**

*Supervisor Ryan Skoda* asked for a motion to approve LL 4-2024

*Board Member Linda Mirabelli* motioned to approve the passing of LL # 4 – 2024 Enacting a six (6) month moratorium on public events on gatherings of 100 or more people, in order to allow for the creation of a Local Law to regulate public gatherings, seconded by Board Member Doug Craig.

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

3. **LL 5 – 2024 To allow the insertion of information materials in certain tax bills mailed by the Town of Taghkanic** *Supervisor Ryan Skoda* does the board have any further concerns with Local Law 5 – 2024? None

*Supervisor Ryan Skoda* asked for a motion to approve LL 4-2024

*Board Member Linda Mirabelli* motioned to approve the passing of LL # 5 – 2024, allowing the insertion of information materials in certain tax bills mailed by the Town of Taghkanic, seconded by *Board Member Elisabeth Albert.*

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

4. **2025 Budget:** *Supervisor Ryan Skoda:* Fire Protection # 1 & 2 operational funds *All Board Members agreed* to a 2 % increase for the operational portion of Fire Protection # 1 & 2 funds.

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

“A problem has come to light from the office of Real Property. The fire district will not have the authority to collect taxes next year. There is nothing that we didn't do or could do differently, it was an oversight by Real property and the NYS Comptroller's office. In order for the fire district to have funding next year, we need to simply put it in our budget, collect and distribute as we have been doing all along. We already put in funds to cover LOSAP, but need to add funds for operating. The question is how much. Flat, 1% or 2% increase?”

**Board Member Linda Mirabelli** motioned to approve the **2025 Preliminary** with the addition of operational funds for Fire Protection 1 & 2 as the **2025 Budget** staying within our tax cap, seconded by **Board Member Elisabeth Albert**.

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

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

✚ **October 24, 2024 Abstract:** on a motion by **Board Member Perry Ascher**, was approved for payment, seconded by **Board Member Linda Mirabelli**.

2024 General Fund Vouchers	#	323	-	339	\$	8,006.47
2024 Highway Fund Vouchers	#		-		\$	

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

✚ **November 11, 2024 Abstract:** on a motion by **Board Member Perry Ascher**, was approved for payment, seconded by **Board Member Linda Mirabelli**.

2024 General Fund Vouchers	#	340	-	366	\$	82,668.92
2024 Highway Fund Vouchers	#	121	-	136	\$	66,023.00
2024 ARP Project	#	7	-		\$	

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

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

- ✚ **Arthur Griffith:** has the Town Board appointed Commissioners for the Taghkanic Fire Company? Do they know that they should be preparing the budget?
- ✚ **Supervisor Ryan Skoda:** yes, to both, but for this year the budget is on the town yet.
- ✚ **Authur Griffith:** was there money budgeted for the historian for the 250-year County celebration and computer?
- ✚ **Supervisor Ryan Skoda:** there was no request for any.
- ✚ **Clerk Rogers:** I will reach out to Nancy tomorrow.

**Executive Session:** None

With no further business, on a motion by *Board Member Linda Mirabelli*, seconded by *Board Member Doug Craig* the meeting was adjourned at **8:45** pm, carried unanimously by all members present. The next Regular meeting will be **December 9, 2024** at the Taghkanic Town Hall.

**Audience at Town Hall:** Arthur Griffith Peter Beck Nina Benvenuto

**Audience via Zoom:** Susan Silverman Celine Kagan Joyce Thompson Larry Kadish  
Anna Kadish