

TOWN BOARD MINUTES
TOWN OF POESTENKILL
YEAR-END TOWN BOARD

December 29, 2020

Not approved at time of distribution)

ROLL CALL AS FOLLOWS

Councilwoman Butler	Present
Councilman Hass	Present
Councilman Van Slyke	Present
Councilman Wohlleber	Present
Supervisor Hammond	Present

NON-VOTING MEMBERS

Susan Horton, Town Clerk
Jack Casey, Town Attorney

Supervisor Hammond opened the meeting, which was virtual for safety precautions, with the Pledge of Allegiance and opened the floor for comments at 7:00 pm; there were no comments. The Supervisor moved on to the business portion of this year-end meeting. The purpose of this meeting was to pay any year-end bills and to do any budget transfers that were deemed necessary. Motion by Hass, seconded by Butler and carried that the monthly bills had been audited for payment.

Motion by Van Slyke, seconded by Hammond and an oral vote of 5 ayes to accept the Town Clerk's minutes of December 17, 2020 as written.

Discussion Items:

Senior Aged exemption and Disability Exemption for 2021 Assessment Roll – Betsy Pinho discussed the proposal which Governor Cuomo signed in Executive Order 202.83 which allows the Towns to automatically renew both the Senior Aged Exemption and the Disability Exemption for the 2021 Assessment Roll without the need for residents to file the required exemption applications and submitting income verification. B. Pinho explained that if the Town decided to opt-in and allow for these two exemptions to be automatically renewed, a Resolution must be approved. B. Pinho and the Board discussed residents that have already returned their forms for processing, to call and inform them that last year's information will be used. The Town Board discussed the advantages in this Covid-19 environment and decided that it would support the Resolution. This will be voted on during the Action Items portion of the meeting.

Alarm System – Supervisor Hammond explained the \$917.00 increase for the Alarm System. He stated that there is an issue with the phone lines and installing a cellular communicator will correct this problem. Motion by Wohlleber, seconded by Van Slyke and carried to authorize Supervisor Hammond to sign Lee Audio and Security Agreement in the amount of \$917.00.

Declare old phones surplus – Supervisor Hammond stated that to dispose of our old phones we need to declare them "surplus." He also stated that they can be put on the Government Auction Site for anyone interested in purchasing them. Motion by Hass, seconded by Butler and carried to declare the old phones in Town Hall as "surplus."

Action Items:

Resolution for Senior Aged Exemption and Disability Exemption –
RESOLUTION #29-2020 – IMPLEMENTING GOVERNOR ANDREW CUOMO'S EXECUTIVE ORDER 202.83 WHICH ALLOWS THE AUTOMATIC RENEWAL OF PROPERTY TAX EXEMPTIONS FOR SENIOR CITIZENS AND PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES UPON A RESOLUTION PASSED BY THE POESTENKILL TOWN BOARD.

Be It Further Resolved, that upon adoption of this resolution by a majority vote of the Town Board of the Town of Poestenkill all such current exemptions shall be automatically renewed for 2021 and no further application or filing shall be necessary; and Be It Further Resolved, that the Assessor is hereby informed of this change and ordered to effectuate it.

MOVED BY: Councilman Wohlleber

SECONDED BY: Councilman Van Slyke

VOTED UPON AS FOLLOWS:

- Councilwoman Butler: Yes
- Councilman Hass: Yes
- Councilman Wohlleber: Yes
- Councilman Van Slyke: Yes
- Supervisor Hammond: Yes

Declare old phones surplus – This was discussed and voted on during the Discussion portion of the meeting.

Alarm system – This was discussed and voted on during the Discussion portion of the meeting.

Budget Transfers –

RESOLUTION #30-2020 – IN THE MATTER OF THE TRANSFER OF CERTAIN HIGHWAY BUDGET FUNDS. Resolved, that it is hereby authorized and directed as follows: That the sum of \$121,223.91 be transferred to Highway Budget fund line item 251204 (Bridges) amount of \$10,000 and From Highway Budget fund line item 290608 (Employee Ben.) amount of \$20,000 and from Highway Budget fund line item 251104 (General repairs) amount of \$26,223.91 and from General Budget fund line item 151324 (Highway Garage) amount of \$65,000.00.

MOVED BY: Councilman Hass

SECONDED BY: Councilman Wohlleber

VOTED UPON AS FOLLOWS:

- Councilwoman Butler: Yes
- Councilman Hass: Yes
- Councilman Van Slyke: Yes
- Councilman Wohlleber: Yes
- Supervisor Hammond: Yes

RESOLUTION #31-2020 – IN THE MATTER OF THE TRANSFER OF CERTAIN GENERAL BUDGET FUNDS. Resolved, that it is hereby authorized ad directed as follows:

That the sum of \$154.67 be transferred from General Budget fund line item 119904 (Contingent) to General Budget fund line item 13620.4 (Code Enforcement); and

That the sum of \$1,364.00 be transferred from General Budget fund line item 1362011 (Code Enforcement Clerk) to General Budget fund line item 13620.1 (Code Enforcement); and

That the sum of \$1,894.16 be transferred from General Budget fund line item 119904 (Contingent) to General Budget fund line item 11110.1 (Justice); and

That the sum of \$2.29 be transferred from General Budget fund line item 119904 (Contingent) to General Budget fund line item 1141011 (Deputy Town Clerk).

RESOLUTION #32-2020 – IN THE MATTER OF THE TRANSFER OF CERTAIN WATER BUDGET FUNDS 2020. Resolved, that it is hereby authorized and directed as follows:

That the sum of \$65.00 be transferred from Water Budget fund line item 8310.14 (811 dig safely) to Water Budget fund line item 8310.11 (Assistant Water Manager) correction from Resolution #28-2020; and

That the sum of \$1,030.00 be transferred from Water Budget fund line item 8320.4 (System Repairs) to Water Budget fund line item 8310.11 (Assistant Water Manager); and

That the sum of \$150.00 be transferred from Water Budget fund line item 8320.41 (Chlorine).

That the sum of \$1,364.04 be transferred from Water Budget fund line item 8320.4 (System Repairs) to Water Budget fund line item 8310.4 (Admin. Contractual).

MOVED BY: Councilman Wohlleber

SECONDED BY: Councilman Hass

VOTED UPON AS FOLLOWS:

Councilwoman Butler:	Yes
Councilman Hass:	Yes
Councilman Van Slyke:	Yes
Councilman Wohlleber:	Yes
Supervisor Hammond:	Yes

DJ Goyer, Acting Highway Superintendent, discussed some additional equipment which would make their operations more efficient in 2021. Specifically, he discussed the advantages of a Grapple Bucket and a Skid Steer Loader. After a discussion of the advantages to the Town it was decided that DJ would meet with Supervisor Hammond shortly to prioritize the requested purchases in 2021.

R. Brunet, Water Manager explained that the Water Department performed better than budgeted in both expense control and generating revenue. He stated that by performing our own repairs to equipment in 2020 that they were able to avoid sending out equipment for repairs, thereby underspending the repair expense budget. Regarding revenues, he explained that we had generated significant additional revenues by working with contractors, such as the Geothermal Companies, and selling them our water services. Also, by providing significant pool filling services to the residents, thereby financially benefitting the resident, and bringing revenues into the Town. He stated that this same procedure would be used in 2021 to help the budget.

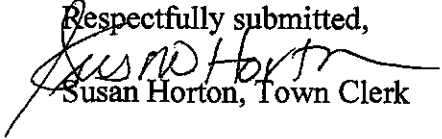
Payment of Bills:

Motion by Hass, seconded by Butler and an oral vote of 5 ayes to pay Warrant #25-2020 in the amount of \$138,539.52. Motion by Hass, seconded by Butler and an oral vote of 5 ayes to pay Warrant #26-2020 in the amount of \$891.78.

*Reminder – The Organizational Meeting will be held on January 7, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. Supervisor Hammond would like the Board Members to meet in person and all others are invited to attend this meeting via Zoom.

Motion by Wohlleber, seconded by Van Slyke and carried to adjourn this meeting at 7:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,


Susan Horton, Town Clerk

At a duly convened meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Poestenkill in the County of Rensselaer conducted at the Poestenkill Town Hall at 7:00 P.M. on December 29, 2020.

RESOLUTION NO. 29 OF THE YEAR 2020:

IMPLEMENTING GOVERNOR ANDREW CUOMO'S EXECUTIVE ORDER 202.83 WHICH ALLOWS THE AUTOMATIC RENEWAL OF PROPERTY TAX EXEMPTIONS FOR SENIOR CITIZENS AND PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES UPON A RESOLUTION PASSED BY THE POESTENKILL TOWN BOARD

WHEREAS, on December 18, 2020 Governor Andrew Cuomo issued Executive Order No. 202.83 making it possible for senior citizens and persons with disabilities to have their 2020 property tax exemptions renewed for 2021 without filing renewal applications; and

WHEREAS, the option granted under this Executive Order, prompted by a request from the New York State Assessors Association, rests solely with assessing units; and

WHEREAS, if the governing body of an assessing unit adopts a resolution opting to eliminate the renewal requirement for senior citizen and persons with disabilities exemptions, all such 2020 exemptions will be automatically renewed in the 2021 assessment roll, and exemptions in all jurisdictions that levy taxes based on such 2021 assessment roll will also automatically renew; and

WHEREAS, once this resolution is adopted, any current tax exemption for a senior citizen or person with a disability in county, town, village and school district tax levies in the 2020 Poestenkill assessment roll will automatically renew for 2021 with no further action needed by the taxpayer; and

WHEREAS, the Poestenkill Town Board recognizes that vulnerable individuals such as senior citizens and persons with disabilities should not need to risk in-person visits to the assessor's office in the middle of the pandemic's resurgence in order to renew their exemptions;

NOW, BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Town Board for the Town of Poestenkill hereby opts to eliminate renewal requirements for senior citizens (RP-467) and persons with disabilities (RP 459-c) property tax exemptions on its 2021 assessment roll; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that upon adoption of this resolution by a majority vote of the Town Board of the Town of Poestenkill all such current exemptions shall be automatically renewed for 2021 and no further application or filing shall be necessary; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Assessor is hereby informed of this change and ordered to effectuate it.

MOVED BY: Wohlleber

Prepared and approved as to form by:
John T. Casey, Town Attorney

SECONDED BY: Van Slyke

VOTED UPON AS FOLLOWS:

Councilwoman June Butler: Yes No

Councilman David Hass: Yes No

Councilman Harold Van Slyke: Yes No

Councilman Eric Wohlleber: Yes No

Supervisor Keith Hammond Yes No

At a duly convened meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Poestenkill in the County of Rensselaer conducted at the Poestenkill Town Hall at 7:00 P.M. on the 29th day of December 2020.

RESOLUTION NO. 30 OF 2020

IN THE MATTER OF THE TRANSFER OF CERTAIN HIGHWAY BUDGET FUNDS

WHEREAS, the Town bookkeeper has advised that it has become necessary to effect certain General Budget fund transfers to properly fund certain Town expenses;

NOW, LET IT THEREFORE BE

RESOLVED, that it is hereby authorized and directed as follows:

That the sum of \$121,223.91 be transferred to Highway Budget fund line item 251302 (Machinery 2) from Highway Budget fund line item 251204 (Bridges) amount of \$10,000 and From highway budget fund line item 290608 (Employee Ben.) amount of \$20,000.00 and from highway budget fund line item 251104 (General repairs) amount of \$26,223.91 and from General budget fund line item 151324 (Highway Garage) amount of \$65,000.00.

MOVED BY:

Hass

Prepared and approved as to form by:
Michelle Asquith

SECONDED BY:

Wohlleber

VOTED UPON AS FOLLOWS:

Councilwoman June Butler:

Yes

Councilman David Hass:

Yes

Councilman Harold Van Slyke:

Yes

Councilman Eric Wohlleber:

Yes

Supervisor Keith Hammond:

Yes

At a duly convened meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Poestenkill in the County of Rensselaer conducted at the Poestenkill Town Hall at 7:00 P.M. on the 29th day of December 2020.

RESOLUTION NO. 31 OF 2020

**IN THE MATTER OF THE TRANSFER OF CERTAIN
GENERAL BUDGET FUNDS**

WHEREAS, the Town bookkeeper has advised that it has become necessary to effect certain General Budget fund transfers to properly fund certain Town expenses;

NOW, LET IT THEREFORE BE

RESOLVED, that it is hereby authorized and directed as follows:

That the sum of \$154.67 be transferred from General Budget fund line item 119904 (Contingent) to General Budget fund line item 13620.4 (Code Enforcement); and

That the sum of \$1364.00 be transferred from General Budget fund line item 1362011 (Code Enforcement Clerk) to General Budget fund line item 13620.1 (Code Enforcement); and

That the sum of \$1894.16 be transferred from General Budget fund line item 119904 (Contingent) to General Budget fund line item 11110.1 (Justice); and

That the sum of \$2.29 be transferred from General Budget fund line item 119904 (Contingent) to General Budget fund line item 1141011 (Town deputy clerk).

MOVED BY:

Hass

Prepared and approved as to form by:
Michelle Asquith

SECONDED BY:

Van Slyke

VOTED UPON AS FOLLOWS:

Councilwoman June Butler:

Yes

Councilman David Hass:

Yes

Councilman Harold Van Slyke:

Yes

Councilman Eric Wohlleber:

Yes

Supervisor Keith Hammond:

Yes

At a duly convened meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Poestenkill in the County of Rensselaer conducted at the Poestenkill Town Hall at 7:00 P.M. on the 29th day of December 2020.

RESOLUTION NO. 32 OF 2020

IN THE MATTER OF THE TRANSFER OF CERTAIN WATER BUDGET FUNDS 2020

WHEREAS, the Town bookkeeper has advised that it has become necessary to effect certain Water Budget fund transfers to properly fund certain Town expenses;

NOW, LET IT THEREFORE BE

RESOLVED, that it is hereby authorized and directed as follows:

That the sum of \$65.00 be transferred from Water Budget fund line item 8310.14 (811dig safely) to Water Budget fund line item 8310.11 (Assistant Water Manager) correction from resolution number28; and

That the sum of \$1030.00 be transferred from Water Budget fund line item 8320.4 (System Repairs) to Water Budget fund line item 8310.11 (Assistant Water Manager) and;

That the sum of \$150.00 be transferred from Water Budget fund line item8320.4(System Repairs) to Water Budget fund line item 8340.41(Chlorine) and;

That the sum of \$1364.04 be transferred from Water Budget fund line item 8320.4 (System Repairs) to Water Budget fund line item 8310.4(Admin Contractual).

MOVED BY:

Wohlleber

Prepared and approved as to form by:

Michelle Asquith

SECONDED BY:

Hass

VOTED UPON AS FOLLOWS:

Councilwoman June Butler:

Yes

Councilman David Hass:

Yes

Councilman Harold Van Slyke:

Yes

Councilman Eric Wohlleber:

Yes

Supervisor Keith Hammond:

Yes