

MONROE TOWN BOARD MEETING MINUTES

— 10/17/2022

MONROE TOWN BOARD MEETING AGENDA (Monday, October 17, 2022)

Generated by Valerie Bitzer

Public Hearings Originally Transcribed by Stenographer, followed-up by Deputy Town Clerk Barbara Singer, and Town Clerk Valerie Bitzer

Members present

Supervisor -Tony Cardone, Mike McGinn, Mary Bingham, Sal Scancarello, Dorey Houle

1. Call to Order

Discussion, Information, Procedural: 1.1 Pledge to the Flag

2. Motion to Open Town Board Meeting

Action (Resolution): 2.1 Motion to Open Town Board Meeting of October 17, 2022

2022-#504

BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board of the Town of Monroe Made a Motion to Open the Town Board Meeting of October 17, 2022 at 7:00 PM.

Motion by Supervisor -Tony Cardone, second by Sal Scancarello.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Aye: Supervisor -Tony Cardone, Mike McGinn, Mary Bingham, Sal Scancarello, Dorey Houle

3. Community Announcements

Information: 3.1 Food Truck Festival Recap

To hear Councilman Scancarello regarding Food Truck Festival Recap, please go on-line to Board Doc's Video Clip #3.1, 0:1:31.

Information: 3.2 Greater Monroe Chamber of Commerce Trunk-or-Treat

To hear Supervisor Cardone regarding Greater Monroe Chamber of Commerce Trunk-or-Treat, please go on-line to Board Doc's Video Clip #3.2, 0:2:58.

Information: 3.3 No Scare Halloween at Museum Village

To hear Supervisor Cardone regarding No Scare Halloween at Museum Village, please go on-line to Board Doc's Video Clip #3.3, 0:3:37.

Information: 3.5 The Clothesline Project

The Clothesline Project is a visual display of t-shirts created by survivors of intimate partner violence or by the friends or family members of victims. Walk The Line and help us increase

awareness about the impact of violence in people's lives; celebrate the strength of survivors; and break the silence that often surrounds domestic violence.

To hear Supervisor Cardone regarding The Clothesline Project, please go on-line to Board Doc's Video Clip #3.5, 0:4:37.

Information: 3.6 MOVAC Blood Drive

To hear Supervisor Cardone and Councilwoman Houle regarding MOVAC Blood Drive, please go on-line to Board Doc's Video Clip #3.6, 0:5:13.

Information: 3.7 Town of Monroe Electronic Recycling/Shredding/Tire Recycling Day

To hear Supervisor Cardone regarding Town of Monroe Electronic Recycling/Shredding/Tire Recycling Day, please go on-line to Board Doc's Video Clip #3.7, 0:6:13.

4. Public Hearing

Action (Resolution), Discussion: 4.1 Motion to Open the Continuation of the Public Hearing RE: 2023 Town Budget / Benefit Assessment Rolls

2022-#505

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Monroe Made a Motion to Open the Public Hearing RE: 2023 Town Budget / Benefit Assessment Rolls.

Motion by Supervisor -Tony Cardone, second by Dorey Houle.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Aye: Supervisor -Tony Cardone, Mike McGinn, Mary Bingham, Sal Scancarello, Dorey Houle

The following residents signed up to speak during Public Comment for the Opening of the Public Hearing RE: 2023 Town Budget / Benefit Assessment Rolls. To hear their comments, and Board Members responses, please go on-line to Board Doc's Video Clip #4.1, 0:7:03.

****NO PUBLIC COMMENT AT THIS TIME**

- TOWN CLERK VALERIE BITZER: No public comment.

- SUPERVISOR CARDONE: I know Smith Clove is here to present. Would you step up to the mike and everybody just speak their names, that you are on the Park Commission. Chris Sullivan, Kristin Sikoryak, Marybeth Burton.

- CHRIS SULLIVAN: All right, so we're going to present our budget request, you received our email, and we're here to answer any questions you may have regarding our budget.

- SUPERVISOR CARDONE: I know you've had a moderate increase. It was a little over 10,000.

- CHRIS SULLIVAN: Yes, roughly three percent.

- SUPERVISOR CARDONE: What I did is I plugged in for the preliminary budget, which this Town Board will have to approve or disapprove this evening. I plugged in \$312,500.00, so that's a little more than what you're asking, but I just like round numbers when I'm doing that.

- CHRIS SULLIVAN: We're just trying to stay, you know, in par with the cost of living for our employees. We have maintenance, we have full time employees, we have YAC counselors that we want to just stay on par with the cost of living.

- SUPERVISOR CARDONE: I know you had mentioned in the email, in the letter, that there was a five-year plan?

- CHRIS SULLIVAN: Yes, we have a five-year plan as well.

- SUPERVISOR CARDONE: Is it possible you could send it to us?

- CHRIS SULLIVAN: Send it to you?

- SUPERVISOR CARDONE: Yes.

- CHRIS SULLIVAN: Absolutely.

- MARYBETH BURTON: I'll send that over to you tomorrow.

- SUPERVISOR CARDONE: Yes, that's fine. What are some of the major changes that you have going on with the budget? This is just for the public. I trust you, Chris. Even though I know you, I trust you.

- CHRIS SULLIVAN: No, I understand. We have some renovation projects. Our lighting system is getting up there in age, our bathrooms need to be renovated.

- MARYBETH BURTON: We do want to have an online presence. We would like to update our website and online registration programs, and for the ID system, we need to make some updates and we want to make YAC a little more interesting. We know Bridges looks like it's permanent, so then we want to be able to attract more kids into YAC. We are thinking of offering sports and STEM clinics and that sort of stuff.

- CHRIS SULLIVAN: Yes, we want to update our computer systems. We want to go online with our registration. We want to update our Facebook page, like you guys just did. We need to overhaul pretty much everything at the park.

- SUPERVISOR CARDONE: Have you spoken to anybody about that?

- CHRIS SULLIVAN: Yes. We're talking to New Windsor IT and we're getting quotes, so yes.

- SUPERVISOR CARDONE: Yes, that's who did ours.

- CHRIS SULLIVAN: We're in the process of updating our whole system.

- SUPERVISOR CARDONE: In fact, did they do the Village's update?

- CHRIS SULLIVAN: New Windsor IT?

- SUPERVISOR CARDONE: Yes.

- TOWN CLERK VALERIE BITZER: If you could just come up to the mike, just so the Stenographer can hear anyone commenting, please.

- SUPERVISOR CARDONE: This is Mayor Neil Dwyer.

- MAYOR NEIL DWYER: Neil Dwyer. No, we had a private company.

- SUPERVISOR CARDONE: Okay, thank you.

- CHRIS SULLIVAN: So, yes, those were some of the updates we need to upgrade.

- SUPERVISOR CARDONE: Does anyone else have any questions?

- COUNCILWOMAN BINGHAM: The concession stand, I believe it made more money this year?

- CHRIS SULLIVAN: So, we did something different this year because we didn't receive any bids last year, so we decided to do it in house. We hired someone to run it for us. We've been getting a lot of feedback where people are interested in taking it over the way we used to do it, where they would pay us a fee as a lease and they'd run it. So we're out to bid right now and we're receiving bids now as we speak, so we're probably going to go back to that system because I think it's more cost effective to let someone run it for a fee than it is to keep someone in-house, doing it ourselves.

- SUPERVISOR CARDONE: Questions?

- COUNCILMAN MCGINN: It's really not a question, but we have a grant writer, that we contract out with and maybe some of these projects would fall within, you know, the scope of the grants, so I think it's something that we could (inaudible).

- SUPERVISOR CARDONE: Put them in touch with you.

- COUNCILMAN MCGINN: Yes, I'll put them in touch, because maybe we'll find something because there seems to be a lot of state money out there. The reason I said it is I was just looking at your worksheet and I saw state aid, parks, you know, that type of stuff. They seem to be giving money away up in Albany, so you might as well avail yourselves of some of it and if you (inaudible).

- CHRIS SULLIVAN: Yeah, we did discuss (inaudible).

- COUNCILMAN MCGINN: If you need help with the grant writer, we'd be more than happy to do so.

- CHRIS SULLIVAN: Yeah, we would, 100 percent, we would like to do that, because it's not just our renovations, we would also like to provide some type of shelter for YAC, because right now we only have our office, which can't hold everybody, so we'd like to build a bubble or a facility, something where we could have the kids indoors and not send them home when it's raining.

- COUNCILMAN SCANCARELLO: Chris, what about tournaments for baseball, anything down the pike with that yet?

- CHRIS SULLIVAN: I mean it's come up a couple of times. It goes against our protocols to let "travel" sports in, but in terms of sports, we are looking to expand YAC. We want to bring in a trainer, a certified trainer to specifically work with, let's say, tennis players or baseball players, you know, and for an additional fee you can one day out of the week you can spend three hours working with a tennis pro or a golf pro, or whatever. So we want to specialize YAC to specific sports, if people are looking for that, because I feel like this town doesn't really have a lot of specific training for sports, and when you just go to YAC, it's fine, kids run around, but if you have kids that are athletes and they want to work on their skills in the summer, we want to provide that at YAC for an additional fee.

- SUPERVISOR CARDONE: So just to be clear, and clarify it if I'm incorrect, since I've been off the Park Commission for seven-eight years, is the travel part of it not allowed unless they meet specifics regarding the amount of Monroe children that are on the roster?

- CHRIS SULLIVAN: That's correct, yeah. We have certain criteria they have to fit. Rostered

players have to live in a certain geographical area. Yes, that's correct.

- SUPERVISOR CARDONE: Just double checking. All right, I'm good. Thank you.

- CHRIS SULLIVAN: Thank you.

- SUPERVISOR CARDONE: Mayor Dwyer, do you want to comment on the budget or anything?

- MAYOR DWYER: I'm just seeing it today for the first time. We will gather up some questions for the Park Commission and then we can probably have a better idea of where we're going -- to me -- we're kind of going backwards in so far as their contributions. When I first became Mayor in 2018 we gave them 324. We're giving them 312 proposed this year. Last year we gave 302. I don't know how you get ahead on the programming or anything else without increasing the cost, the shared cost of the park's running, but I'm open to whatever Chris wants to do.

- SUPERVISOR CARDONE: All right, thank you.

- CHRIS SULLIVAN: This wasn't included in our proposal to you, but we just hired a company to do cameras in the park, and it's going to cost us \$34,000 to (inaudible). I think we're getting about, I think it's eight to twelve cameras. They are all in one system. It's going to provide Wi-Fi to the whole park, so anyone in the park is going to get Wi-Fi, and that is going to come out of our capital project, capital fund, which I think years past there was some capital money that was --

- COUNCILWOMAN HOULE: Do you have cameras there now? Does the police department (inaudible).

- CHRIS SULLIVAN: We have no cameras, no.

- COUNCILWOMAN HOULE: The police department doesn't have any cameras there?

- CHRIS SULLIVAN: Nope, no.

- SUPERVISOR CARDONE: Are they tied into the police department?

- CHRIS SULLIVAN: We are not. No, they -- so it got to a point where this camera issued for us has been going on since I've been on the Board, for about six or seven years.

- COUNCILWOMAN HOULE: I remember.

- CHRIS SULLIVAN: Yeah, and it wasn't feasible to do it as a system, so as a Board we decided let's just do it and then if we can tie it in later on, great, but if we keep waiting it's not going to get done. So, it's going in. The project is going to start this month. It will be installed before the winter, so that's one project that we can cross off of our five-year plan, and then eventually if we can tie it in with the police, great. If we can't, at least we have our own internal system.

- SUPERVISOR CARDONE: How many people bid on it?

- CHRIS SULLIVAN: We had three bids. Actually, it might have been four. It was three or four. I'm not sure.

- SUPERVISOR CARDONE: I wish I would have known about this ahead of time because our grant writer got us 28,000 for Mombasha, I'm sorry for the Senior Center. Just next time, any time you do big projects like that let us know.

- CHRIS SULLIVAN: Okay. It's just been one of those projects that's been going on for years,

and I just wanted to get that one done. Thank you.

- SUPERVISOR CARDONE: All right, sounds good. Thank you for your volunteer work. It's all appreciated.

- FINANCE CLERK HELEN KNICKERBOCKER: Tony, can I just add something. As far as when you were saying about the camera project, you had gotten three or four bids, so just so you know, if you could keep those bids so that when you do submit in, Kristen, you know, for the payments, to have them all together, because the auditors will look for those.

- MS. SIKORYAK: We have that under control.

- FINANCE CLERK HELEN KNICKERBOCKER: Okay, thank you.

- SUPERVISOR CARDONE: So, Budget, through a little diligence and effort on our Finance Department's part, we were able to dwindle down the exceeded amount and right -- if anybody doesn't have a copy of the Budget, there are a few up here. I know we have it up here. Everybody up here has it. So, we were able to dwindle down the cap number to just over \$76,000.00 from a little above 900,000. There was tweaking done in some of the revenues, there was tweaking done in some of the expenses, which were cut, and we still have some more to do because there are some other increases that we really haven't included in the budget currently. So, right now we are at a \$76,142.00 over the cap, which amounts to -- currently amounts to 4.94 percent to a village home and 1.35 to a town home. I will tell you that my goal is to balance that as best as we can. So that's where we're at right now. Does anybody have any questions?

- COUNCILWOMAN HOULE: That's pretty impressive that we got it down so far that much.

- SUPERVISOR CARDONE: Yeah. It's the smarts of Helen and Roberta that get it to that point.

- COUNCILWOMAN HOULE: I believe it.

- SUPERVISOR CARDONE: Thank you for the compliment, Mr. McGinn. Did anybody have any questions? No. Counsel, is it wise to close the public hearing now?

- TOWN COUNSEL NUGENT: The budget, itself?

- SUPERVISOR CARDONE: Yes.

- TOWN COUNSEL NUGENT: If you don't anticipate (inaudible) you can still make changes as a Board beyond this point, up through November 21st, so the only reason you would keep it open at this point is for public comment or outside comment. So, if you don't anticipate receiving further public comment, you can close the public hearing and then continue to work with the budget as a Board.

- SUPERVISOR CARDONE: All right, I mean we have until November 21ST.

- TOWN COUNSEL NUGENT: The 21st is the final day to adopt. You have to close the hearing by November 15th.

Discussion: 4.2 Smith's Clove Park 2023 Budget

To hear discussion regarding Smith's Clove Park 2023 Budget, please go on-line to Board doc's Video Clip #4.2, 0:7:24.

- Chris Sullivan
- Mary Elizabeth Burton
- Kristen Sikoriak
- Mayor Neil Dwyer

****SEE ABOVE FOR CONVERSATION**

Action (Resolution): 4.3 Motion to Keep Open the Continuation of the Public Hearing RE: 2023 Town Budget / Benefit Assessment Rolls

2022-#506

BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board of the Town of Monroe Made a Motion to Keep Open the Continuation of the Public Hearing RE: 2023 Town Budget / Benefit Assessment Rolls until November 9, 2022 at 7:00 PM or soon there-after.

Motion by Supervisor -Tony Cardone, second by Mike McGinn.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Aye: Supervisor -Tony Cardone, Mike McGinn, Mary Bingham, Sal Scancarello, Dorey Houle

Action (Resolution), Discussion: 4.4 Motion to Open the Continuation of the Public Hearing to Consider the Adoption of Local Law A-V1 2022 to Amend Ch. 57 (Zoning) Concerning the Heavy Industry Zone (Proposed Amendments to the HI Zone) **2022-#507**

BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board of the Town of Monroe Made a Motion to Open the Continuation of the Public Hearing to Consider the Adoption of Local Law A-V1 2022 to Amend Ch. 57 (Zoning) Concerning the Heavy Industry Zone (Proposed Amendments to the HI Zone).

Motion by Supervisor -Tony Cardone, second by Sal Scancarello.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Aye: Supervisor -Tony Cardone, Mike McGinn, Mary Bingham, Sal Scancarello, Dorey Houle

The following signed up to speak during Public Comment for the Continuation of the Public Hearing to Consider the Adoption of Local Law A-V1 2022 to Amend Ch. 57 (Zoning) Concerning the Heavy Industry Zone (Proposed Amendments to the HI Zone). To hear their comments, and Board Members responses, please go on-line to Board Docs Video Clip #4.4, 0:20:33.

****NO PUBLIC COMMENT AT THIS TIME**

- TOWN CLERK VALERIE BITZER: No public comment.
- SUPERVISOR CARDONE: No public comment, anything to add?
- COUNCILMAN MCGINN: Not at this time. I would recommend that we keep the public

hearing open until the November 9th meeting.

- SUPERVISOR CARDONE: How about if we go to December (inaudible) I'm sorry, November 21st?

Action (Resolution): 4.5 Possible Motion to Keep Open the Continuation of the Public Hearing A-V1 2022 to Consider the Adoption of Local Law to Amend Ch. 57 (Zoning) Concerning the Heavy Industry Zone (Proposed Amendments to the HI Zone)

2022-#508

BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board of the Town of Monroe Made a Motion to Keep Open the Continuation of the Public Hearing A-V1 2022 to Consider the Adoption of Local Law to Amend Ch. 57 (Zoning) Concerning the Heavy Industry Zone (Proposed Amendments to the HI Zone) until November 21, 2022, at 7:00 PM or soon-there-after.

Motion by Mike McGinn, second by Supervisor -Tony Cardone.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Aye: Supervisor -Tony Cardone, Mike McGinn, Mary Bingham, Sal Scancarello, Dorey Houle

Action (Resolution), Discussion, Information: 4.6 Motion to Open the Continuation of the Public Hearing to Consider the Adoption of Local Law F-V1 2022 to Establish a Registry of all Rental Properties in the Town

2022-#509

BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board of the Town of Monroe Made a Motion to Open the Public Hearing to Consider the Adoption of Local Law F-V1 2022 to Establish a Registry of all Rental Properties in the Town.

Motion by Supervisor -Tony Cardone, second by Mike McGinn.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Aye: Supervisor -Tony Cardone, Mike McGinn, Mary Bingham, Sal Scancarello, Dorey Houle

The following residents signed up to speak regarding the Public Hearing to Consider the Adoption of Local Law F-V1 2022 to Establish a Registry of all Rental Properties in the Town. To hear their comments, and Board Members responses, please go on-line to Board Doc's Video Clip #4.6, 0:21:44.

****NO PUBLIC COMMENT AT THIS TIME**

- TOWN CLERK VALERIE BITZER: No public comment.

- SUPERVISOR CARDONE: No public comment. I did have some conversation with Counsel on this. There were some concerns that we have going forward. Mike, you had expressed a concern about parking. We have a situation right now, which I guess we could discuss in Executive Session, because it's a legal situation, so I won't get into it until we get into Executive Session, which would apply to a rental property.

- COUNCILMAN MCGINN: I believe we really have to address the number of vehicles that should be permitted. It seems like some of these rental properties are turning into commercial establishments rather than rental properties. I think we have to really address that. It's a quality-of-life issue for the residents that live there and something we need to really (inaudible).
- SUPERVISOR CARDONE: And the people around.
- COUNCILMAN MCGINN: Yes.
- SUPERVISOR CARDONE: Surrounding homes.
- COUNCILMAN MCGINN: Yes, that's something we need to fine tune for sure.
- COUNCILWOMAN BINGHAM: One other comment is I think we have a Version Two. It's not just Version One anymore, because Mr. Nugent did make some changes and I believe Val got it today, right?
- SUPERVISOR CARDONE: All right, so if she got it today, then it wasn't on the original agenda.
- COUNCILWOMAN BINGHAM: Yes, but I believe there is a revised version.

Action (Resolution): 4.7 Possible Motion to Keep Open the Continuation of the Public Hearing to Consider the Adoption of Local Law F-V2 2022 to Establish a Registry of all Rental Properties in the Town

2022-#510

BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board of the Town of Monroe Made a Motion to Keep Open the Public Hearing to Consider the Adoption of Local Law F-V2 2022 to Establish a Registry of all Rental Properties in the Town until November 21, 2022, at 7:00 PM or soon there-after.

Motion by Supervisor -Tony Cardone, second by Mary Bingham.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Aye: Supervisor -Tony Cardone, Mike McGinn, Mary Bingham, Sal Scancarello, Dorey Houle

Action (Resolution), Discussion: 4.8 Motion to Open the Continuation of the Public Hearing for Proposed Arrow Park Water District **2022-#511**

BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board of the Town of Monroe Made a Motion to Open the Continuation of the Public Hearing for Proposed Arrow Park Water District.

Motion by Supervisor -Tony Cardone, second by Mike McGinn.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Aye: Supervisor -Tony Cardone, Mike McGinn, Mary Bingham, Sal Scancarello, Dorey Houle

The following signed up to speak during Public Comment regarding the Continuation of the Public Hearing for Proposed Arrow Park Water District. To hear their comments, and Board Members responses, please go on-line to Board Docs Video Clip #4.8, 0:24:23.

****NO PUBLIC COMMENT AT THIS TIME**

- SUPERVISOR CARDONE: No new update. We're still waiting to hear back on the grant application, so there is no new news. No public comment. I'm going to say that the best to do with this is I'm going to push it back to December 5th, since we don't have a schedule for next year. I was thinking it would probably be best to go into next year, but we'll put it on December 5th.

Action (Resolution): 4.9 Possible Motion to Keep Open the Continuation of the Public Hearing for Proposed Arrow Park Water District

2022-#512

BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board of the Town of Monroe Made a Motion to Keep Open the Continuation of the Public Hearing for Proposed Arrow Park Water District until December 5, 2022, at 7:00 PM or soon there-after.

Motion by Supervisor -Tony Cardone, second by Mary Bingham.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Aye: Supervisor -Tony Cardone, Mike McGinn, Mary Bingham, Sal Scancarello, Dorey Houle

Action (Resolution): 4.10 Motion to Open the Continuation of the Public Hearing Regarding Proposed Amendments to Local Law E-V1 2021 Amending Chapter 57 (ZONING) to establish a Two-Family Dwelling Overlay for the area of the Town of Monroe North of Route 17 (210812) **2022-#513**

BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board of the Town of Monroe Made a Motion to Open the Continuation of the Public Hearing Regarding Proposed Amendments to Local Law E-V1 2021 Amending Chapter 57 (Zoning) to establish a Two-Family Dwelling Overlay for the area of the Town of Monroe North of Route 17 (210812).

Motion by Supervisor -Tony Cardone, second by Dorey Houle.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Aye: Supervisor -Tony Cardone, Mike McGinn, Mary Bingham, Sal Scancarello, Dorey Houle

The following signed up to speak during Public Comment for the Continuation of the Public Hearing Regarding Proposed Amendments to Local Law E-V1 2021 Amending Chapter 57 (ZONING) to establish a Two-Family Dwelling Overlay for the area of the Town of Monroe North of Route 17 (210812). To hear their comments, and Town Board responses, please go on-line to Board Docs Video Clip #4.10, 0:25:47.

****NO PUBLIC COMMENT AT THIS TIME**

- TOWN CLERK VALERIE BITZER: No public comment.

- SUPERVISOR CARDONE: No public comment. Anything to add?

- COUNCILMAN MCGINN: I believe we did get the response back from the County, so I think we're still in the reviewing phase of that, and we'll speak to Counsel and the Planner to make sure they are -- the law in its present form is in compliance with what the County submitted and also what we want to do going forward, so.

Action (Resolution): 4.11 Possible Motion to Keep Open the Continuation of the Public Hearing Regarding Proposed Amendments to Local Law E-V1 2021 Amending Chapter 57 (Zoning) to establish a Two-Family Dwelling Overlay for the area of the Town of Monroe North of Route 17 (210812)

2022-#514

BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board of the Town of Monroe Made a Motion to Keep Open the Continuation of the Public Hearing Regarding Proposed Amendments to A Local Law E-V1 2021 Amending Chapter 57 (Zoning) to establish a Two-Family Dwelling Overlay for the area of the Town of Monroe North of Route 17 (210812) until November 21, 2022, at 7:00 PM or soon there-after.

Motion by Mike McGinn, second by Sal Scancarello.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Aye: Supervisor -Tony Cardone, Mike McGinn, Mary Bingham, Sal Scancarello, Dorey Houle

Action (Resolution), Discussion: 4.12 Motion to Open the Continuation of the Public Hearing RE: Local Law H-V1 of 2022 to Amend Chapter 57 (Zoning) Concerning the Regulations Governing Tree Preservation **2022-#515**

BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board of the Town of Monroe Made a Motion to Open the Public Hearing RE: Local Law H-V1 of 2022 to Amend Chapter 57 (Zoning) Concerning the Regulations Governing Tree Preservation.

Motion by Supervisor -Tony Cardone, second by Dorey Houle.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Aye: Supervisor -Tony Cardone, Mike McGinn, Mary Bingham, Sal Scancarello, Dorey Houle

The following residents signed up to speak during Public Comment for the opening of the Public Hearing RE: Local Law H-V1 of 2022 to Amend Chapter 57 (Zoning) Concerning the Regulations Governing Tree Preservation. To hear their comments, and Board Members responses, please go on-line to Board Doc's Video Clip #4.12, 0:27:10.

- J.A. Ruiz (signed up to speak ahead of time, but was either not present at meeting or choose not to speak)
- Joshua Fina
- Maureen Richardson
- Dennis Fordham

- TOWN CLERK VALERIE BITZER: I do have public comment.
- J. A. Ruiz. (inaudible) J. A. Ruiz. Joshua Fina.
- SUPERVISOR CARDONE: State your name and where you live.
- MR. FINA: My name is Josh Fina. Do you want the specific address or just the town?
- SUPERVISOR CARDONE: The town is fine.
- MR. FINA: Monroe, New York. May I continue?
- SUPERVISOR CARDONE: Yes.
- MR. FINA: In that case, I looked at the proposed changes in the introduction. There are a couple.
- TOWN CLERK VALERIE BITZER: Joshua, if you could just make sure that you speak into the mic, and it lights up red when you're speaking. Thank you.
- MR. FINA: I'm sorry, should I start over?
- COUNCILMAN MCGINN: That's fine.
- MR. FINA: Ok, most importantly I think section 5785B1 is the article. I think that it creates sort of a threat to the tree preservation aspect of this. It eliminates transparency and allows personal opinions to supersede code and public opinion. That change is to allow opinion to overrule what the normal proceedings would be. In addition to that, I think section two, article 57-3, I would suggest a different wording, where that wording would be a circular area around each tree is measured from the center of the trunk the critical root zone is an area which a significant excavation of soil compaction filling or other differences to the soil can be reasonably anticipated to rezone -- sorry. I'm trying to get through in three minutes so (inaudible).
- SUPERVISOR CARDONE: You have five.
- MR. FINA: I'm sorry all right I'll slow down. I apologize.
- In section two article 57-3 it defines what the critical root zone is. The change that is proposed would change how that root zone is defined and how it is determined. What I would like to see as a resident is some clause that says something to the effect of the radius of the critical root zone shall be taken as whichever of the following is greatest: the measured maximum radius of the canopy the result when calculated as one foot of radius for each inch of DBH or as estimated by an arborist so to give this a couple of different layers. Also continuing on also in section six article 57-3 a woody plant emerging from the ground -- at that point I would suggest adding typically because there are other sections that discuss it being more than just a stem. At section eight (inaudible) and 5784 (inaudible) 7-8 have been made (inaudible) also some fines in 5784B4 \$750.00 is from 2012. In 2022 money that's closer to \$1 so the schedule fees may need to be adjusted as well (inaudible) 5784 possible for abuse (inaudible) what happens over the course of (inaudible) oh jeez I'm sorry (inaudible) of say a decade. What does that look like. So over a long period of time I feel like that could be abused slowly. Again in section 11 there is a couple of references to fee schedules \$250.00 which would be \$325.00 today. Again \$750.00 is \$1000.00 today and then finally in 5786 part A-5 the term caliber is used instead of DBH. The context is different but if it is not defined somewhere caliber may want to be defined the same way that DBH is or in the same manner

that DBH is. With all that said those are my comments. Thank you for having me.

- SUPERVISOR CARDONE: Thank you very much. We appreciate you coming down Josh.

- MR. NUGENT: Josh do you have your comments in written form that you could submit? You don't have to do it tonight but maybe email it to the Clerk?

- MR. FINA: Yes.

- SUPERVISOR CARDONE: Thank you that would be great.

- SUPERVISOR CARDONE: Anybody else? Did you sign up sir?

- TOWN CLERK VALERIE BITZER: Maureen Richardson.

- MS. RICHARDSON: I am Maureen Richardson a citizen of Monroe. I am continuing tree-speak. I didn't write anything but I am just going to speak about some research that some members of Preserve Monroe have been going out and doing that I want to just present as a general and then I'm probably going to submit the more specific over email. Essentially the Town of Monroe is unique to this area because we have actually a written-out law for trees rather than to have a law that constructs the ability to have a Tree Board and I believe that that is something that we should maintain and grow on even more because a Tree Board can become very subjective. I know a lot of people in the Town of Monroe are always concerned about politics and ideologies and flipping so having something that the entire Town of Monroe can agree on and look at on a piece of paper that is not subjective that has the facts that is backed up by people in the DEC by arborists by people in general of what they define as a heritage tree of what they want to see the town look like with natural buffer zones which basically can be put in the law as you know the spot around the yard on subdivisions should be left to create a buffer between homes and the street that there are certain ways of writing this language that have been not exemplified by places like Woodbury and Warwick even though they do have strong tree preservation tendencies because they've elected or appointed the right people to their Boards the Tree Boards. It's interesting that it's actually in more places that are urban. They feel the need to write these codes out and it is not subjective. There are places like Tarrytown Mount Vernon New York City even has really strict but well defined which is what Monroe might need well defined construction preservation ordinances of how to care for a tree during construction. We have a path basically to choose. I think we're at this point where we used to be somewhere in the middle of nowhere and now because of COVID and everything else people are fleeing New York City but they are fleeing to places that have beautiful old growth trees. They are fleeing to somewhere that they can pretend they are cottage-core and live in a fairytale like Vermont but we're an hour from New York City. So to have something that lists out all of the specific specimens that the people in the town want to see preserved want to see rebalanced and protect a list of heritage trees that have grown past a certain size past a certain age that means something to the public that should be in the law. I think that this touches a lot of people and they don't realize that they can come down here and speak on this issue and have a voice in the way that their town can look for not the next decade but literally for the next 400 years of the life of that tree and so this is something really important that needs the public input of every single citizen in Monroe who drives home and you know feels that wash of relief when they drive off the highway and

drive through this wooded rural area that is going to become desirable that is becoming desirable but just needs a little cleanup and a little helping hand and human intervention because nature doesn't do this on its own. It's beautiful but the second that mankind steps in we do start ruining things and I can attest to that. That is basically what I wanted to say is that there are words existing code that looks really good that we need to customize to Monroe's needs and we need a way for the public and this Board to cooperate on that so that everyone in Monroe can be happy with where they live. Thank you.

- SUPERVISOR CARDONE: Thank you.

- TOWN CLERK VALERIE BITZER: Dennis Fordham.

- MR. FORDHAM: Dennis Fordham. I'm a member of the Monroe Conservation Commission. We are in the process of reviewing the revised tree code put together by Max Stach.

Tomorrow night we're having a meeting to discuss where we stand at the moment.

One thing we are trying to do is to identify an arborist or a forester to assist us -- assist you in making the revisions or adopting the revisions that are appropriate to our town. I understand and correct me if I'm wrong that when we do identify an arborist we will submit those qualifications to you and I understand once agreed that the town may be prepared to pay the appropriate fee for the arborist.

- SUPERVISOR CARDONE: Just to clarify we don't normally go back and forth but I did speak to Joe Corona today.

- MR. FORDHAM: Yes I wasn't aware of where we stood on it.

- SUPERVISOR CARDONE: We discussed that and that will be obviously paid by the Town of Monroe.

- MR. FORDHAM: Obviously those comments that we heard tonight -- take all the comments that we heard tonight into account as well.

- SUPERVISOR CARDONE: Yes we do. Once we approve the minutes that actually goes to our Planner and the Planner will take all those into account.

- MR. FORDHAM: Is that Max Shurr?

- SUPERVISOR CARDONE: Max Stach.

- MR. FORDHAM: Oh I'm sorry. Stach?

- SUPERVISOR CARDONE: Yes Stach.

- MR. FORDHAM: Very good. Thank you.

- SUPERVISOR CARDONE: Thank you very much appreciate it. Love the Brooklyn accent.

- TOWN CLERK VALERIE BITZER: That's all for public comment.

- SUPERVISOR CARDONE: Anyone else?

- TOWN CLERK VALERIE BITZER: We'll just go back one more time J. A. Ruiz?

- COUNCILWOMAN BINGHAM: I just wanted to say I also sent some comments to Max.

Some of them again were the critical root zone as Josh had mentioned and I haven't heard back from him so I'm hoping we'll have that revised version too coming after there is a little more input from the residents.

Action (Resolution): 4.13 Motion to Keep Open the Continuation of the Public Hearing RE: Local Law H-V1 of 2022 to Amend Chapter 57 (Zoning) Concerning the Regulations Governing Tree Preservation

2022-#516

BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board of the Town of Monroe Made a Motion to Keep Open the Continuation of the Public Hearing RE: Local Law H-V1 of 2022 to Amend Chapter 57 (Zoning) Concerning the Regulations Governing Tree Preservation until November 212022 at 7:00 PM or soon there-after.

Motion by Supervisor -Tony Cardone second by Mary Bingham.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Aye: Supervisor -Tony Cardone Mike McGinn Mary Bingham Sal Scancarello Dorey Houle

5. Acceptance of Minutes

Action (Resolution): 5.1 Acceptance of October 3 2022 Minutes

2022-#517

BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board of the Town of Monroe Made a Motion to accept the October 3 2022 Minutes with the exception of the Public Hearings Transcriptions.

Motion by Sal Scancarello second by Mary Bingham.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Aye: Supervisor -Tony Cardone Mike McGinn Mary Bingham Sal Scancarello Dorey Houle

6. Audit of Claims

Action (Resolution): 6.1 General Fund Abstract

2022-#518

BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board of the Town of Monroe requests approval of Abstract #22-16 General Fund containing Check #29237 - 29271 totaling \$59071.45.

Motion by Supervisor -Tony Cardone second by Mary Bingham.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Aye: Supervisor -Tony Cardone Mike McGinn Mary Bingham Sal Scancarello Dorey Houle

Action (Resolution) Discussion: 6.2 Escrow Fund Abstract

2022-#519

BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board of the Town of Monroe requests approval of Abstract #22-08 Escrow containing Check #2052 - 2054 totaling \$22928.80.

Motion by Supervisor -Tony Cardone second by Mary Bingham.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Aye: Supervisor -Tony Cardone Mike McGinn Mary Bingham Sal Scancarello Dorey Houle

7. New Business

Action (Resolution) Information: 7.1 Resignation from Conservation Commission RE: Ward Brower

2022-#520

BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board of the Town of Monroe Made a Motion to accept the resignation of Ward Brower from the Town of Monroe's Conservation Commission.

Motion by Supervisor -Tony Cardone second by Dorey Houle.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Aye: Supervisor -Tony Cardone Mike McGinn Mary Bingham Sal Scancarello Dorey Houle

Action (Resolution): 7.2 Conservation Commission Appointment

2022-#521

BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board of the Town of Monroe Made a Motion to Appoint Frederick E. Schuepfer to the Conservation Commission Slot No. 4 term to expire 12-31-2023.

Motion by Supervisor -Tony Cardone second by Mary Bingham.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Aye: Supervisor -Tony Cardone Mike McGinn Mary Bingham Sal Scancarello Dorey Houle

Discussion Information: 7.3 Mombasha Park Security Cameras

To hear Supervisor Cardone regarding Mombasha Park Security Cameras please go on-line to Board Doc's Video Clip #7.3 0:44:50.

Action (Resolution) Discussion: 7.4 2023 Intermunicipal Agreement Dial-A-Bus Services Town of Woodbury

To hear Supervisor Cardone regarding 2023 Intermunicipal Agreement Dial-A-Bus Services Town of Woodbury please go on-line to Board Doc's Video Clip #7.4 0:45:25.

2022-#522

BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board of the Town of Monroe Made a Motion for the Supervisor to sign the 2023 Intermunicipal Agreement Dial-A-Bus Services Town of Woodbury in the amount of \$7400 with approval of Town Counsel.

Motion by Mary Bingham second by Mike McGinn.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Aye: Supervisor -Tony Cardone Mike McGinn Mary Bingham Sal Scancarello Dorey Houle

Action (Resolution) Discussion Information: 7.5 2023 Intermunicipal Agreement Animal Control Officer Town of Woodbury

To hear Supervisor Cardone and Town Counsel Nugent regarding 2023 Intermunicipal Agreement Animal Control Officer Town of Woodbury please go on-line to Board Doc's Video Clip #7.5 0:46:24.

2022-#523

BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board of the Town of Monroe Made a Motion for the Supervisor to sign the 2023 Intermunicipal Agreement Animal Control Officer Town of Woodbury in the amount of \$27796.90 in a final form approved by the Town's Legal Counsel.

Motion by Mike McGinn second by Dorey Houle.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Aye: Supervisor -Tony Cardone Mike McGinn Mary Bingham Sal Scancarello Dorey Houle

Discussion Information: 7.6 Notice RE 30 Acres on Karlsburg Road

To hear Supervisor Cardone and Town Counsel Nugent regarding Notice: 30 Acres on Karlsburg Road please go on-line to Board Doc's Video Clip #7.6 0:49:23.

8. Old Business

Action (Resolution) Discussion: 8.1 Amendments to Local Law #1 of 2022 Short-Term Rentals

2022-#524

BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board of the Town of Monroe Made a Motion to set a Public Hearing regarding Amendments to Local Law 1 of 2022 Short Term Rentals for November 92022 at 7:00 PM or soon there-after.

Motion by Mike McGinn second by Sal Scancarello.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Aye: Supervisor -Tony Cardone Mike McGinn Mary Bingham Sal Scancarello Dorey Houle

Information: 8.2 D.G. Realty

To hear Town Counsel Nugent regarding D.G. Realty please go on-line to Board Doc's Video Clip #8.2 0:52:40.

9. Public Comment

Information: 9.1 Rules for Public Comment

Discussion Information: 9.2 Public Comment

The following spoke during Public Comment. To hear their comments and Town Board members responses please go on-line to Board Doc's Video Clip #9.2 0:53:28.

- Carol Hawxhurst
- Maureen Richardson

10. Community Announcements

Information: 10.1 Pickleball Court Update

To hear Highway Superintendent James Patterson and Board Members discussion regarding Pickleball Court Update please go on-line to Board Doc's Video Clip #10.1 1:08:00.

Information: 10.2 Update: Woodbury Animal Cat Shelter

To hear Councilwoman Houle and Supervisor Cardone regarding Update: Woodbury Animal Cat Shelter please go on-line to Board Doc's Video Clip #10.2 1:09:20.

11. Possible motion to adjourn to Executive and or/ Attorney Client Session

Action (Resolution): 11.1 Enter into Executive Session

2022-#525

BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board of the Town of Monroe Made a Motion to enter into an Executive Session to discuss Legal.

Motion by Supervisor -Tony Cardone second by Sal Scancarello.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Aye: Supervisor -Tony Cardone Mike McGinn Mary Bingham Sal Scancarello Dorey Houle

12. Return to Regular Meeting

Action (Resolution): 12.1 Return to Regular Meeting

2022-#526

BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board of the Town of Monroe approves to return to regular session.

Motion by Supervisor -Tony Cardone second by Mike McGinn.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Aye: Supervisor -Tony Cardone Mike McGinn Mary Bingham Sal Scancarello Dorey Houle

13. Retirement Acknowledgement

Information: 13.1 Retirement Acknowledgement RE: Councilwoman Bingham from Garnet Hospital

To hear Board Members regarding Retirement Acknowledgement RE: Councilwoman Bingham from Garnet Hospital please go on-line to Board Doc's video Clip #13.1 1:10:37.

14. Adjournment

Action (Resolution): 14.1 Adjournment of Meeting

2022-#527

BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board of the Town of Monroe adjourns the meeting of October 17 2022 at 8:55 PM.

Motion by Supervisor -Tony Cardone second by Sal Scancarello.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Aye: Supervisor -Tony Cardone Mike McGinn Mary Bingham Sal Scancarello Dorey Houle

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