

MONROE TOWN BOARD MEETING MINUTES

— 10/21/2024

MONROE TOWN BOARD MEETING AGENDA (Monday, October 21, 2024)

*Generated by Valerie Bitzer *Public Hearings transcribed by Town Clerk Valerie Bitzer and Deputy Town Clerk Barbara Singer*

Members present

Supervisor -Tony Cardone, Mary Bingham, Sal Scancarello, Dorey Houle, Maureen Richardson

Town Counsel Brian Nugent

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 21, 2024

2024-#548

BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board of the Town of Monroe Made a Motion to Open the Town Board Meeting of October 21, 2024, at 7:02 PM.

Motion by Sal Scancarello, second by Mary Bingham.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Aye: Supervisor -Tony Cardone, Mary Bingham, Sal Scancarello, Dorey Houle, Maureen Richardson

3. Community Announcements

Presentations: 3.1 Rubén Estrada, Fiesta Latina

To hear recognition of Rubén Estrada, Fiesta Latina, please go on-line to Board Doc's Video Clip #3.1, 0:0:55.

Information: 3.3 Recap of Town of Monroe Food Truck Festival

To hear Councilman Scancarello and Councilwoman Richardson RE Recap of Town of Monroe Food Truck Festival, please go on-line to Board Doc's Video Clip #3.3, 0:5:29.

Information: 3.4 Monroe Free Library Focus Group Participants Needed

Please visit <https://conta.cc/3XWgYIS> for information.

To hear discussion between Town board Members RE Monroe Free Library Focus Group Participants Needed, please go on-line to Board Doc's Video Clip #3.4, 0:6:21.

Information: 3.5 Early Voting

Orange County Board of Elections

2024 General Election Early Voting Information

EARLY VOTING SITES

Orange County will have eight sites available for Early Voting and sites are open to all eligible enrolled voters throughout the County. All early voting sites are accessible to voters with physical disabilities.

City of Middletown – Middletown Senior Center (Downstairs) - 62-80 W Main St., Middletown, NY

City of Newburgh – Newburgh Activity Center - 401 Washington St, Newburgh, NY

City of Port Jervis – Howard Wheat Engine Company – 31 Owen St, Port Jervis, NY

Town of Goshen – Caroline Building, 23 Hatfield Lane, Goshen, NY

Town of Montgomery – Village of Montgomery Senior Center – 36 Bridge St., Montgomery, NY

Town of Monroe – Monroe Town Hall - 1465 Orange Tpke., Monroe, NY

Town of New Windsor – New Windsor Community Center – 555 Union Ave, New Windsor, NY

Town of Warwick – Warwick Senior Center - 132 Kings Hwy, Warwick, NY

DATES AND HOURS OF VOTING DURING EARLY VOTING

The dates and hours for early voting are uniform for all eight sites during the General Election:

Saturday, October 26, 2024, 9am to 5pm

Sunday, October 27, 2024, 9am to 5pm

Monday, October 28, 2024, 12 noon to 8pm

Tuesday, October 29, 2024, 12 noon to 8pm

Wednesday, October 30, 2024, 8am to 4pm

Thursday, October 31, 2024, 8am to 4pm

Friday, November 1, 2024, 7am to 3pm

Saturday, November 2, 2024, 9am to 5pm

Sunday, November 3, 2024, 9am to 5pm

To hear Supervisor Cardone RE Early Voting, please go on-line to Board Doc's Video Clip #3.5, 0:7:45.

Information: 3.6 Trunk or Treat

Town of Monroe Trunk or Treat event taking place on Saturday, October 26, 2024, from 6:00 p.m. - 8 p.m. (Rain or Shine) at O&R Park located at 61 O&R Road. Sign up as a trunk participant is required. Setup will begin at 4:00 p.m. Candy, Food, Music, Hayrides. Deadline to sign up is October 18th. Register at <https://monroeny.org/community/trunk-or-treat>.

To hear Town Clerk Valerie Bitzer RE Trunk or Treat, please go on-line to Board Doc's Video Clip #3.6, 0:9:17.

Information: 3.7 Smith's Clove Park Fall Festival

Smith's Clove Park will host a Fall Festival on Saturday, November 2nd from 1-5 p.m. Smith's Clove Park is located at 133 Spring Street. For more information, please visit <https://smithsclovenpark.org/>.

To hear Supervisor Cardone RE Smith's Clove Park Fall Festival, please go on-line to Board Doc's Video Clip #3.7, 0:9:57.

Information: 3.8 American Legion Post #488 Veterans Day Dinner Dance

American Legion Post #488 will hold their annual Veterans Day Dinner Dance on Saturday, November 9th at the American Legion located on Lakes Road in Monroe.

To hear Supervisor Cardone and Councilwoman Houle RE American Legion Post #488 Veterans Day Dinner Dance, please go on-line to Board Doc's Video Clip #3.8, 0:10:22.

Action (Resolution), Discussion: 3.9 Monroe Woodbury Community Coalition Teenager Trends

To hear Supervisor Cardone RE Monroe Woodbury Community Coalition Teenager Trends, please go on-line to Board Doc's Video Clip #3.9, 0:11:16.

2024-#549

BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board of the Town of Monroe Made a Resolution approving the use of the Town Hall Meeting Room by the Monroe-Woodbury Community Coalition on Wednesday, November 13, 2024, from 6:30 p.m. - 8 p.m. for the Teenager Trends seminar. Fees waived.

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

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Aye: Supervisor -Tony Cardone, Mary Bingham, Sal Scancarello, Dorey Houle, Maureen Richardson

Information: 3.10 Town of Monroe Electronic Recycling/Shredding/Tire Recycling Day

The next Town of Monroe Electronic Recycling/Shredding/Tire Recycling Event will take place on November 2nd from 9 a.m.-12 p.m. at the Town of Monroe Highway Garage parking lot located at 87 Mine Road, Monroe, NY.

To hear Town Clerk Valerie Bitzer RE Town of Monroe Electronic Recycling/Shredding/Tire Recycling Day, please go on-line to Board Doc's Video Clip #3.10, 0:11:52.

Information: 3.11 Monroe Gives Annual Holiday Gift Event

To hear Supervisor Cardone RE Monroe Gives Annual Holiday Gift Event, please go on-line to Board Doc's Video Clip #3.11, 0:12:41.

4. Public Hearing

Action (Resolution): 4.1 Motion to Open the Continuation of the Public Hearing in Relation to the Increase and Improvement of Facilities of the Water District No. 14 *Public Hearing transcribed by Town Clerk Valerie Bitzer

2024-#550

BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board of the Town of Monroe Made a Motion to Open the Continuation of the Public Hearing in Relation to the Increase and Improvement of Facilities of the Water District No. 14.

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

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Aye: Supervisor -Tony Cardone, Mary Bingham, Sal Scancarello, Dorey Houle, Maureen Richardson

The following signed up to speak during Public Comment regarding the Continuation of the Public Hearing in Relation to the Increase and Improvement of Facilities of the Water District No. 14. To hear their comments, and Board Members responses, please go on-line to Board Docs Video Clip #4.1, 0:13:19.

*NO PUBLIC COMENT AT THIS TIME

- Supervisor Cardone: Anyone sign up?
- Town Clerk Valerie Bitzer: No Public Comment.
- Supervisor Cardone: Councilwoman Bingham.
- Councilwoman Bingham: I think we're gonna have have to reach out to the Engineer again since it's been probably two years since he proposed what, improvement uh, were needed there. Um, I'm sure costs have risen just like everything else. Every time you go to grocery you find everything's more expensive than it was. Um, I still think we should keep the Public Hearing open but I'll reach out to McGoey Hauser Etzel and ask them for an update.
- Supervisor Cardone: You want to go to December 2nd?
- Councilwoman Bingham: That would be fine.

Action (Resolution): 4.2 Possible Motion to Keep Open the Continuation of the Public Hearing in Relation to the Increase and Improvement of Facilities of the Water District No. 14

2024-#551

BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board of the Town of Monroe Made a Motion to Keep Open the Continuation of the Public Hearing in Relation to the Increase and Improvement of Facilities of the Water District No. 14 until December 2, 2024, at 7:00 PM or soon there-after.

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

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Aye: Supervisor -Tony Cardone, Mary Bingham, Sal Scancarello, Dorey Houle, Maureen Richardson

Action (Resolution), Discussion: 4.3 Motion to Open the Continuation of the Public Hearing for Proposed Arrow Park Water District *Public Hearing transcribed by Town Clerk Valerie Bitzer

2024-#552

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 Sal Scancarello.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Aye: Supervisor -Tony Cardone, Mary Bingham, Sal Scancarello, Dorey Houle, Maureen Richardson

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 #4.3, 0:14:20.

*NO PUBLIC COMMENT AT THIS TIME

- Supervisor Cardone: Okay. Uh.
- Town Clerk Valerie Bitzer: No Public Comment.
- Supervisor Cardone: I've had no. I'm sorry. No Public Comment. Count? Madam Clerk?
- Town Clerk Valerie Bitzer: Nope.
- Supervisor Cardone: Okay. So, I've had discussions with Brian Nugent on this. And it's gotten to the point where, we're going to close this Public Hearing, and if it comes up again in the future, we will reopen it. Uh, rather than just guesstimating every 3 or four months (inaudible).
- Councilwoman Bingham: Right, because it's not officially a Town District.
- Supervisor Cardone: Yeah. Well, it's not owned by the Town.
- Councilwoman Bingham: It's not owned. Yes.
- Councilwoman Richardson: What do you mean by come up again? Also, (inaudible) should probably make Motion so we can second for discussion.
- Councilwoman Bingham: So, if the residents come back and say you know, we're looking for the Town to become a Water District, uh then we take their Petition and start over again from the beginning. Mr. Nugent, you have anything to add?
- Town Counsel Nugent: I would just agree with the recommendation because also the numbers that would have been initially proposed have probably changed in the time that's passed since this started. So, you probably need to do updated the Notice anyway with the

per resident numbers.

- Councilwoman Richardson: So, we were waiting on (inaudible)?
- Town Counsel Nugent: Waiting on what?
- Councilwoman Richardson: What were we waiting on for this to be able to complete?
- Supervisor Cardone: We had to take over ownership.
- Councilwoman Richardson: (Inaudible) and we just are not ready to make that decision or?
- Supervisor Cardone: No. They're not.
- Councilwoman Richardson: They're not. Okay.
- Supervisor Cardone: Residents aren't.

Action (Resolution): 4.4 Motion to Close the Continuation of the Public Hearing for Proposed Arrow Park Water District

2024-#553

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

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

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Aye: Supervisor -Tony Cardone, Mary Bingham, Sal Scancarello, Dorey Houle, Maureen Richardson

Action (Resolution), Discussion: 4.5 Motion to Open the Continuation of the Public Hearing
RE: 2025 Town Budget / Benefit Assessment Rolls *Public Hearing transcribed by Deputy
Town Clerk Barbara Singer

2024-#554

BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board of the Town of Monroe Made a Motion to Open the Continuation of the Public Hearing RE: 2025 Town Budget / Benefit Assessment Rolls.

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

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Aye: Supervisor -Tony Cardone, Mary Bingham, Sal Scancarello, Dorey Houle, Maureen Richardson

The following residents signed up to speak during Public Comment for the Continuation of the Public Hearing RE: 2025 Town Benefit Assessment Rolls. To hear their comments, and Board Members responses, please go on-line to Board Doc's Video Clip #4.5, 0:16:04.

*NO PUBLIC COMMENT AT THIS TIME

- Town Clerk Valerie Bitzer: No public comment.
- Supervisor Cardone: No public comment. We all should have received copies. As of today, currently, we're at \$397,884 over the tax cap. We have whittled it down to a 14.56% increase in Village home and a 13.26% increase in the town home. There's a little more whittling to do and I've been working with Helen, Roberta and the departments. I have a scheduled meeting with be ambulance on Wednesday. Does anyone have any questions?
- Councilwoman Bingham: Yes, one of the residents had asked about the comp plan. I know I had emailed and we were waiting for Max to give us an idea how much that would cost.
- Supervisor Cardone: Yeah, so Max did not get back to us but what you have to remember is that 11,000, that's in their comp plan, is going to take more than 12 months. So, it's going to be filtered over multiple years. I think when we did it last time, it took us 19 months to do the last comp plan. So, if you'd like, I'll obviously follow up with Max and see what he says but the entire comp plan is not going to be put into this budget.
- Councilwoman Bingham: No, but I think their concern was that we're not going to have enough money to do the comp plan and that if more should be put in this year to help make the comp plan possible, sooner rather than later, I think that's what the resident's concern was. Yeah, we know exactly how much the comp plan is going to cost and, you know, we can allocate appropriately based on that cost.
- Councilwoman Richardson: I think that the promise online listed was every five years. We're overdue by quite a lot at this point and like you mentioned last time the demographics have really shifted and you're talking over me now so I think that the quotes we received from Bonnie and Max just for some studies that was including their work being volunteer if Bonnie is willing to volunteer we don't know because we haven't gotten that statement from her. The cost were astronomical and, I think, the research I've done from the New York State Planning Federation says that even small villages basically require 20,000 or more dollars for a basic comp plan. At this point and if we were looking to pursue a comp plan as well as a community preservation plan, those two things are going to be very pricey. So, I think we should have gotten that quote.
- Supervisor Cardone: Okay, we're not considerably over, we're less than two years over. So, okay, I'll follow up with Max.
- Councilwoman Bingham: All right, I had numerous things I was working off the October 7 preliminary budget and I don't know if you want to go now and do it or wait till we come out of the public hearing and then hear my comments. There's quite a few.
- Supervisor Cardone: Did anybody sign up to speak?
- Town Clerk Valerie Bitzer: No public comment.
- Supervisor Cardone: Okay go ahead Mary.
- Councilwoman Bingham: Okay, starting under revenue.
- Supervisor Cardone: What?
- Councilwoman Bingham: Revenue, tax collector fees, A000-1256.
- Supervisor Cardone: A fund?

- Councilwoman Richardson: A fund, yes. Revenue, A000-1256, last year the 2024 as of, no excuse me, September 20th we had \$3,647 and some change. We're only allocating 5,000 this year, so I'm thinking maybe that should be increased.
- Supervisor Cardone: Okay.
- Councilwoman Bingham: Okay, bus operations, I see that one up. That's A000-1750 that went up by 8,000. I don't know if that's because of more drivers or the raises that the drivers received. So, I'm hoping that could be looked into that's \$8,000.
- Supervisor Cardone: No, that's revenue, that's not expenses.
- Councilwoman Bingham: Oh, excuse me. That's revenue, okay so that's a good thing so we're planning on having more riders.
- Supervisor Cardone: Yeah, it's been increasing consistently and right now through the just about the end of September, they're at 26 5.
- Councilwoman Bingham: Okay, so that's a good thing. Flagship Revenue zero.
- Supervisor Cardone: Zero.
- Councilwoman Bingham: I thought we were supposed to be getting something.
- Supervisor Cardone: We discussed this in executive session and I'd rather be discussing it in executive session.
- Councilwoman Bingham: Okay, that's fine, so I'll put down executive.
- Councilwoman Richardson: I think the public should be aware that Flagship is bringing in no money and has never reached their break point and that it is up to the public, I believe, what actions we take as a town with such an important aspect of Monroe and I know that that is an issue close to many constituent's hearts and that this was supposed to you know bring in revenue for the town. It certainly is something we want to keep as a movie theater because of all of the community value that has but we are losing. Just in tax alone of \$30,000 from I might be understating it and we also pay maintenance so if anyone this has obviously been public information for quite some time because on every public sized budget it says Flagship would be zero revenue.
- Councilwoman Bingham: Okay, recreation user.
- Supervisor Cardone: No, let me just follow up to that, to everyone out there. That was due, probably, I want to say almost 100% due to Covid and the fact that they haven't recovered from Covid. I'm sorry this was brought out this way. It should not have been. We discussed it in executive session, it was supposed to maintain in executive session until we came to a decision.
- Councilwoman Richardson: No.
- Supervisor Cardone: As to how we would bring it to the public.
- Councilwoman Richardson: There's no obligation to keep that privilege at all.
- Councilwoman Bingham: It is budget time and this is why it's been brought up. Recreation user fees, A000-2089. I don't know if we're on target to hit \$12,000 because as of September 20th we only reached \$7,311. So, I don't know where that revenue is coming from and I just don't know we're on target for that. Interest and earnings A000- 2401, this is as of September

20th, again it was 150,000 we're projecting for 2025 it's going to be 248,000. I really don't know if on target to make that, you know, as a projection because for 2024 we projected 205,000 so I'm just asking to verify that those numbers are actual good projections.

- Supervisor Cardone: They are.

- Councilwoman Bingham: Okay. Lease payments, A000-2421. We didn't have anything for 2024 and now we're going up to 72,540. Once again, I'm just asking that it's verified because as of September we only had 54,000, so we're still looking for \$18,000 and I'm just asking if that be verified. Dog licenses, I think, there are a lot of dogs out there. Hopefully, people are licensing their dogs. They have to come in town go get your dog license so I'm just asking that figure be verified. I did see later on that there's an enumeration that the Town Clerk had put in for, I think it was \$500. I hope there's some kind of notice that we can send out to new residents to say this is possible but I think I have it later on in my discussions.

- Councilwoman Richardson: I think a little link on the website would be helpful too because she did do a lot of work to send out paper notes originally, you know.

- Councilwoman Bingham: Right that an email (Inaudible). I know, it's kind of hard if you don't have their emails. Fines and Forfeited bail A000-2610. I noticed that's a big decrease, again, I'm just asking to verify. I am assuming that's mostly from the courts. -Supervisor Cardone: Fines and forfeited bail?

- Councilwoman Bingham: Yeah.

- Supervisor Cardone: Yeah, you're the one that came to me and discussed this with me with their budget.

-Councilwoman Bingham: Right. I'll just say as long as that can be verified. If that was what they put in then I'm fine with it but the public should know that. You know fines in the past were never generated at what we had projected as a town board for the budget. So, I'm just making the public aware. Insurance recoveries A000-2680, for 24 we adopted 27,000, for 25 we're only projecting 10,000. Again, I don't know where this Insurance Recovery is coming from so I wanted it verified.

- Councilwoman Richardson: It also says that year to date is 1,400, so.

- Councilwoman Bingham: Yeah it seems very low.

- Councilwoman Richardson: Yeah.

- Councilwoman Bingham: Gifts and donations, please, residents make some gifts to the town. We're only projecting 3,000. Last year we projected 6,250 and as far as I know, as of September 20th we had zero. So, maybe that number should not even be 3,000.

- Councilwoman Richardson: Was this a remnant, Supervisor? I'm just used to working in scientific research lab, so when we were given say a gift or a grant, I would have to keep that number at that level, is this just a like a similar policy or like.

- Supervisor Cardone: Whatever you say.

- Councilwoman Richardson: Okay, we pay you \$18,500 to be the budgetary officer, so anytime you want to start doing your job. Why is it listed as \$6,250 but the year to date is zero?

- Supervisor Cardone: Go ahead Mary.

- Councilwoman Bingham: Okay, mortgage tax, I'm assuming we're going to be getting these numbers from either the tax assessor or the county. We had adopted \$620,500 in 2024 as of September 20th again, it was only \$274,539.
- Supervisor Cardone: That's only two quarters.
- Councilwoman Bingham: That's what my question was, is this going to run through the last two? So, that would bring it up to the 550, okay. I think some of these other items we can do an executive session under personnel because we still have to come up with the totals for employee salaries. I see some departments are putting in 10%, other are being more realistic with 4%. So, I think that would be definitely something we discuss in executive session. Town Attorney, legal contractual prosecutor, A000-1421-4010-02, I think we need to do an RFQ for this, 77,000 is a lot to pay for a prosecutor. I think, like I said, we need to reach out to other firms and see what they can do this for.
- Councilwoman Richardson: And this is the same line that has increased 20,000 correct, each from 2022 to 20, I'm sorry from 2023 to 2024 it increased \$20,000 and then again, it's projected to increase another \$20,000 in 2025 from 58,000 to 77.
- Supervisor Cardone: So, which one are you speaking about?
- Councilwoman Bingham: A000-1421-4010-02 legal contractual prosecutor.
- Councilwoman Richardson: Page three.
- Supervisor Cardone: Okay, so here's what I would like you to do Councilwoman Bingham, if you'd like to go out and go to bid on it, go for it.
- Councilwoman Bingham: I'll make a motion that we go out to bid for legal contractual prosecutor.
- Supervisor Cardone: Call to question.
- Councilwoman Bingham: Bingham aye.
- Councilman Scancarello: Scancarello aye.
- Supervisor Cardone: Cardone aye.
- Councilwoman Houle: Houle aye.
- Councilwoman Richardson: Richardson aye.
- Councilwoman Bingham: Okay, this one is very complicated. It does deal with the electric bills and our solar farm. Mr. Rogers touched upon this last Town board meeting. This should just be an A fund, as all of these are under shared services. This solar farm for Sol River should not be charged to be in accounts. Reason is, water districts sewer pump station districts, let's say they're bill is \$100 from O & R, for electric costs, when you factor in the percentage allocated for their Sol River portion, they're paying like \$250 to \$300. So, why would you join a club where you know you're going to get \$100 worth of services but you have to pay \$250 a month to be in that club? Also, these residents are being double and sometimes even triple charged because if it's in A fund, it's everybody. Now you go to a water district, they're being charged there again. You go out if they're also in Moodna Sewer District, they're paying for their pump station, now they being charged a third time. So, where is the benefit to the residents? I'm sure the water districts could use an extra 3, 5, \$10,000 and not pay for the

Sol River charges. So, we had a brief discussion in finance. I totally disagree with how it was originally allocated. I have reached out to Senator Skoufis's office and the Public Service Commission and I know it's a lengthy process but this should not, at all, impact any B fund accounts; should only be an A fund and the street lights would be a prime example, or all of these other properties, like the highway garage, the Senior Center, Dial A Ride, they're all Town of Monroe charges. I'm getting a little dry mouth now so I'm going to stop because this is something that really needs to be addressed. -Supervisor Cardone: Right. Just to clarify Councilwoman Bingham, we sat in that meeting, you were asked if the accountant agreed that was the way it should be handled you'd be fine with it. We immediately got on the phone with the accountant, the accountant read, that's the proper way to allocate it and here we are again, bringing it up again. I just don't see, you're getting the benefit of a water district, you're paying the electric for that water district, now you want to charge that to an A fund where somebody who has a well or someone who has a piece of property with no water, is now paying for that.

- Councilwoman Bingham: And this is the fault in your logic, an A fund covers everybody, street lights are a prime example, highway garage, dial a ride, senior center, it's total. The people who are in a B special district, there's only a few districts; one, two, three, four, five water districts, with the largest one being 179 parcels and the smallest one being 33 parcels. So, now the person who's in that water district is not only being charged in the A fund, they're also being charged in the B fund.

- Supervisor Cardone: What are they being charged in the A fund for?

- Councilwoman Bingham: Well, as I said, they don't participate in the senior center, the highway garage, the dial ride, and then if you go.

- Supervisor Cardone: So, then why don't we just take all Moodna charges and put it into the A fund?

- Councilwoman Bingham: Okay, you want to do that?

- Supervisor Cardone: No, I don't but that's basically what you're saying to do, if you have a benefit district, that district is the one responsible for those charges.

- Councilwoman Bingham: Right, but why are they also responsible for the Sol River charges when that solar farm was designed or proposed, it was supposed to benefit all the residents. You can't have a special district, like a water district or a sewer district, paying for something that is two and a half times what their actual cost is for electricity. --Supervisor Cardone: Well, you forgot to say that they're getting complete credit for the actual electric.

- Councilwoman Bingham: As I said, why would you sign up for a club of any kind, if you knew you were going to get \$100 worth of services but it was going to cost you \$250 to join that club.

- Supervisor Cardone: If you you're talking to the member that did not want the solar farm, okay.

- Councilwoman Bingham: And you have had this information for years. I only knew about this the past couple of months when I sat down with the finance department and looked at the accounts that are Town accounts because O & R does not allow other Village of Harriman or

Village of Monroe accounts to be on it. It has to be a single Town account number on there.

- Councilwoman Richardson: The tax ID has to be the exact same.

- Supervisor Cardone: Correct.

- Councilwoman Richardson: And yeah, I don't know that we pursued action as aggressively as we should have. I don't know if we've been. I wonder if we gave up hope on this endeavor in a way, thinking that there was no any new developments but there were legislative changes to depending on when we opted in a municipality, often what kind of net metering we're doing and our contracts stipulations but there were recent changes in legislation. I also reached out to State Senator Skoufis's office about this to see if they could be of any help but solar is very complex and it really does depend on our individual contract which is actually one of the first things that I requested as a board member and was illegally told to FOIL for it instead of being able to internally request it. Shocker. I was actually told that I would be trusted with these documents so it would really behoove us to sit down and actually go through this and decide and discuss as a board if there is possibility of, you know, changing service providers, changing the middleman. We don't know the details of our contract enough to be able to seek outside help, to see if they could enforce, open some doors for us. We don't know if it would actually benefit us to maybe convince the Village of Monroe to go through the process of aligning their tax IDs. I feel like these avenues really need to be explored and researched. So the fact that it's budget time and we're discussing things that you know I was trying to figure out in January is happening.

- Supervisor Cardone: The Village of Monroe will not change their tax ID numbers it was discussed in detail over the last not last year early last year in the fall prior to it.

- Councilwoman Richardson: That's just one example.

- Supervisor Cardone: Excuse me.

- Councilwoman Richardson: It's just one example. As I said there's other issues that are flexible.

- Supervisor Cardone: Listen all I'm going to tell you is that I should say I'll finish by saying that the water districts also reap the benefits of the credits from the solar farm and that's where it comes into play.

- Councilwoman Bingham: But if you get a 100 I'm sure a water district resident would say let me just pay my electric bill take me out of the solar farm I'll pay \$100 I don't care. I don't care about.

- Supervisor Cardone: Mary I couldn't agree with you as far as the charges being astronomical. Okay when you when you look at the solar farm we've talked about where it was generated from I won't go there if you know where talking about what specific party it came from so don't put the heat on me don't put the heat on us that was let's go green let's do it and it was done. Brian was here at the start of it he knew all the negotiations we went through.

- Councilwoman Richardson: So why didn't you release the documents to us when we asked for them in January February?

- Councilwoman Bingham: And these credits could roll over if the tariff changes with the PSC through legislation or whenever their tariff is due. We have over \$200000 in credit sitting out

there.

- Councilwoman Richardson: 280000.

- Councilwoman Bingham: Well and yes.

- Councilwoman Richardson: If we qualify for these new legislative changes I don't want to overstate because I have not been able to get the contracts and all the details that I need to take a look and compare and not waste public time on this and do independent research before making motions bring this to the board but if we did qualify there are some people who originally were not included in a lump sum payout who now are for example but it would depend on extremely specific details. So you know I think the answer to this question can be discovered in a couple parts. The water districts are they paying a higher delivery charge? Are they paying a total cost for electricity that would be more because of the solar farm cost than they would you know purchasing it from any other service provider?

- Councilwoman Bingham: Like they purchased it from O & R they would have a fixed cost. They would not be responsible for the Sol River portion.

- Councilwoman Richardson: And those costs can be quantified. We should get those numbers. So let's make a note. I don't have a pen someone should make a note on this and it's going to be on the record anyway that we should quantify those costs and to have to because.

- Councilwoman Bingham: Well you know what I only did the water districts and I'm going to pass this down you can take a look at and one could go to the Town Clerk so if any resident wants to FOIL it later they can do so.

- Councilwoman Richardson: The other aspect of what I'm hearing between the two of you is essentially they're paying the service charge twice they're paying the delivery charges and the maintenance cost and whatever we're paying solar farm twice because while they're paying they're receiving the electricity for free they're paying the service charge of the delivery of their services but then are they paying a redundant cost in the A fund is the question. And Mary seems to believe yes and so can that be quantified I obviously yes.

- Councilwoman Bingham: I think that we can do a little bit more analysis.

- Supervisor Cardone: Okay how about you do this. You can do a little more analysis on it bring it back to the board call whoever you want to call. I mean I forget the gentleman's name I spoke to the Senator down in Long Island who was in charge of the public service.

- Councilwoman Bingham: Parker.

- Supervisor Cardone: Right Senator Parker. We had a zoom meeting I going to say it was back in 22 and nothing got done. So if you can get something done more power to you.

- Councilwoman Bingham: And the other thing is the tariff does have a provision where you can change the accounts once a year.

- Supervisor Cardone: Right.

- Councilwoman Bingham: So if the board decides that it wants to change one of their accounts or included with this Sol River/solar farm I think that's something we also need to discuss and do before I believe it's January.

- Supervisor Cardone: Okay.

- Councilwoman Richardson: How many other service providers for this are in the area?
- Councilwoman Bingham: Help excuse me.
- Councilwoman Richardson: Are there other service providers I can't remember the people who deliver the middle man.
- Supervisor Cardone; Orange and Rockland.
- Councilwoman Richardson: No Sol River.
- Supervisor Cardone: We get got lowest rate through M&M Energy and it was I think it was Constellation.
- Councilwoman Richardson: Right but that was you know back when you.
- Supervisor Cardone: No that was just about a month ago.
- Councilwoman Richardson: What are you referring to?
- Supervisor Cardone: You referring to the rate that we pay? What are you referring to?
- Councilwoman Richardson: For Soul River we're being charged the solar rate fee. I'm asking how many similar service providers like if we could switch providers how many are there in that same industry? Are there any? Do we even have a choice is what I'm saying.
- Supervisor Cardone: I don't believe you have a choice.
- Councilwoman Richardson: Yeah.
- Councilwoman Bingham: Well that's another research on it.
- Councilwoman Richardson: Yeah okay. So I think that's good for now.
- Councilwoman Bingham: Is where I stand on most of the items on the budget there were probably a few others. I can send them in an email to the entire board because I'll compare it to the preliminary budget we received today.
- Supervisor Cardone: Okay thank you Mary. Anyone else?
- Councilwoman Richardson: I had something. Someone wants to go in front me? Okay yes Mary and I discussed this so we have lot of overlapping lifts here. Oh I wanted to flag the part-time elected official's health insurance benefits because you can wind up paying actually more in health insurance costs than you know what the public is signing to pay elected officials. I'm actually it's the health insurance provider lines are like several different lines I'm not sure where the part I don't think it's popped out as the part-time elected officials but it would be health insurance benefits which is A000-960-8000 it's also B000-960-8000 DA00-968-8000 DB00-960-8000 so I'm not sure like I don't think it's a separate line item but I would like to remove that because the majority of the part-time elected officials are not using it. I think we had discussed Mary the town council's cell phones. We wanted to make sure that someone was reviewing our plans with Verizon actively because Verizon does change and adapt its plans and as the plan becomes antiquated and they offer different plans they begin charging more money for the older plans so you wind up if you forget and you don't keep an eye on these things and consolidate then we would you know be winding up spending more money than we should be. we took a look at the Town Council dues meetings mileage. I don't believe that we should be budgeting for what line is that? Do you have that Mary?
- Councilwoman Bingham: (inaudible)

- Councilwoman Richardson: It seems like we went over it. I remember we went over or it was just very high.

- Supervisor Cardone: A fund

- Councilwoman Richardson: I don't think we went over it but from the year to date it looks like it's possible that we might for this year. I think we wanted to just create a policy for the association of towns that possibly there are no hotel stay within the New York City metro area. Like if you can drive and commute as most people do in our community then we should probably set the limit on how many days depending on the schedule if it's an early day we should set a policy that limits that because it seems like we're encroaching. Let's see budget officer salary that's A000-1340-1010-00 and then the subsequent line so we have a budgetary officer which is the supervisor being paid or is it \$18000? It seems particularly high for this area. I did put in a request for comptroller data to compare especially if it's part of I believe the supervisor's innate responsibilities to mind the budget. Every budgetary officer that we've had previously we've even had a comptroller position this is many years ago though they were paid around what the second budgetary officer is paid now. So there's an employee in the finance department being paid is it around 4000.

- Supervisor Cardone: Not true.

- Councilwoman Richardson: Excuse me.

- Supervisor Cardone: Not true.

- Councilwoman Richardson: That's what I saw from the prior budgets so if I missed the line.

- Supervisor Cardone: Not true.

- Councilwoman Richardson: Where are the lines for the prior years.

- Supervisor Cardone: Look it up. Peter Martin was paid handily.

- Councilwoman Richardson: And what was his salary?

- Supervisor Cardone: It was probably 70000 plus.

- Councilwoman Bingham: He was a comptroller.

- Councilwoman Richardson: Who? Sorry what?

- Councilwoman Bingham: Peter Martin was a comptroller.

- Councilwoman Richardson: So then was he comptroller and his budget officer position was an addition?

- Supervisor Cardone: No. Budget officer position was created when Peter Martin was not working at the Town anymore. Essentially you saved money.

- Councilwoman Richardson: I'm not doing this as a reference to a prior employee. I have a copy of a budget that says the first ever introductory salary for this role was \$3000 and then all of a sudden it jumped up to 18500.

- Supervisor Cardone: Not all of a sudden it was over 6 years.

- Councilwoman Richardson: Can you stop commenting while I'm speaking thank you. 18500 is a lot of money for a budget officer salary especially when that person is the supervisor already and to have another secondary employee who I believe you know they do a lot of the work it's very high. So the total cost of the budgetary oversight is \$22000. Again.

- Councilwoman Bingham: Can I just go back and ask for the line item for the supervisor education dues meetings and (inaudible) it's A000-1220-4189-00.
- Councilwoman Richardson: Can you repeat that? Sorry.
- Councilwoman Bingham: A000-1220-4189-00 a0 1 1220 MH
- Councilwoman Richardson: What about it?
- Councilwoman Bingham: Well that was you were asking where the dues and meetings.
- Councilwoman Richardson: Oh.
- Councilwoman Bingham: I actually think that was the line you were referring.
- Councilwoman Richardson: There's a separate bump out then because there is actually a budget line for Town Council.
- Councilwoman Bingham: Yes.
- Councilwoman Richardson: For the same thing. So we definitely need to take a look at these education dues meetings etc. and just try to create I believe like a policy that reigns in you know hotel saves just to make sure because one of the years to dates was just very close and we're not there yet so okay. No revenue for the theater that's A000- 2080 and the theater costs that's A000-1622 that is 27850 design maintenance.
- Councilwoman Bingham: I know it doesn't include the elevator.
- Councilwoman Richardson: Yeah that's like we're actually paying for tax maintenance. We had a buffer. Where because it was a municipally owned building sold we didn't have to pay taxes on that for two years. We got an extra year for some reason but now we have to pay school tax and all the associated taxes because it's a municipally owned building being used for a commercial use. So people should consider that in their suggestions. For the lease the line item Mary that you mentioned about the lease payments. I have a question if Somni is that the projected revenue from the lease? Is that where that's listed? Is that where?
- Councilwoman Bingham: I think that's what we were questioning. Is it or is it not.
- Councilwoman Richardson: Budgetary officer?
- Supervisor Cardone: Are you asking a question there?
- Councilwoman Bingham: Yes the D'Angelis Lake Street building which is now Somni are we receiving revenue as a lease from that and what line would that be?
- Supervisor Cardone: Yeah we are but it's minimal it's just for the parking spots.
- Councilwoman Richardson: So we are not leasing the D'Angelis building?
- Supervisor Cardone: No we sold it.
- Councilwoman Richardson: Okay so the projection for non-property sales tax distribution by County A000-1120 could you explain how you came by that number was that provided by the county?
- Supervisor Cardone: A000-1120 what?
- Councilwoman Richardson: 00.
- Supervisor Cardone: How I came to that number?
- Councilwoman Richardson: Yes.
- Supervisor Cardone: So what we did is we loaded a lot of the tax from the B fund into the A

fund to help offset cost of the Rye Hill purchase.

- Councilwoman Richardson: Isn't this a projection of non-property sales tax distribution for the County?

- Supervisor Cardone: Yes.

- Councilwoman Richardson: It doesn't that depend on like revenue from like shopping?

- Supervisor Cardone: Yes.

- Councilwoman Richardson: So how I don't understand your answer how you.

- Supervisor Cardone: So we get a projected amount from

- Councilwoman Richardson: The county?

- Supervisor Cardone: From the county that go to A B AB DB fund.

- Councilwoman Richardson: Okay. Yes so it came from the County the number.

- Supervisor Cardone: No the projection came from the County.

- Councilwoman Richardson: Yes that's what I'm asking.

- Supervisor Cardone: But then not to know where that was put in clarify yourself please.

- Councilwoman Richardson: I did several times. I'm asking you I'm asking let's get on the same page. I'm asking how did you come to let's see I'm going to go to the number right now A000-1120 where are we?

- Councilwoman Bingham: Five lines down change one.

- Councilwoman Richardson: Okay so you're projecting a million dollars and in 2024 the number was \$265000.

- Supervisor Cardone: You're not listening to me. There are four different funds the sales tax can be spread throughout.

- Councilwoman Richardson: So you're saying.

- Supervisor Cardone: We front loaded the money into the A fund to assist the village residents with the payment of the Rye Hill Corridor.

- Councilwoman Richardson: So you're saying in 2024 that you split up the projected number from the County that you provided.

- Supervisor Cardone: We split it up every year.

- Councilwoman Richardson: Okay but this year you're not and that is why it's projected.

- Supervisor Cardone: Why are we not? Did you check the other funds?

- Councilwoman Richardson: Could you clarify? Because I'm not like.

- Town Attorney Nugent: It's a financial question.

- Councilwoman Richardson: It's just where does this number come from? \$1 million.

- Supervisor Cardone: A portion of what the projection of the sales tax from the County.

- Councilwoman Richardson: So why is it projected to quadruple because you're putting it all in one fund. You answered the question about five times and pretended I don't understand oh great \$18500 quality all right so the compost cost trends the additional \$50000 outside the garbage contract. Didn't they used to take our compost the garbage Marangi? Did they take all of our compost or was it minimal?

- Supervisor Cardone: Marangi doesn't take any of our compost.

- Councilwoman Richardson: No longer but did they used to take our compost?

- Supervisor Cardone: Not since I've been here.
- Councilwoman Bingham: Well I know people used to put it in their garbage and Marangi took it and so Marangi found out and said no we're not doing this anymore and the highway department had to form a special area in the back where residents are now bringing the compost and then Highway employees are taking you from the highway garage to the landfill out on Lakes Road.
- Councilwoman Richardson: So yes I just want to clarify that it's not an additional \$50000 outside the Garbage Contract because then we would have to consider comparing two other garbage contracts that included such services. The senior center items I notice if there's a wood shop tools and supplies line. I don't think that the senior center offers a wood shop class any longer do they?
- Supervisor Cardone: What item are you talking about? Give me the page.
- Councilwoman Richardson: I don't know the I just the line A000-7620 4303.
- Supervisor Cardone: What page are you on?
- Councilwoman Richardson: I just said I only have a line.
- Councilwoman Bingham: I have page seven but I'm looking at the one we had from our prior meeting.
- Supervisor Cardone: Okay so there are wood shop tools and supplies and those tools are used.
- Councilwoman Richardson: By? There's a class?
- Supervisor Cardone: They do have. She has had a class in the past but right now it's being used by the model train club.
- Councilwoman Richardson: So what's the cost of like 500?
- Supervisor Cardone: For any tools and supplies that may be needed.
- Councilwoman Richardson: I didn't even know that we had a model train club. Yeah good congrats.
- Councilwoman Houle: No I remember we talked about it last year.
- Supervisor Cardone: We actually approved them to go into the senior center down below last year.
- Councilwoman Bingham: Yeah but I didn't know they were using the wood shop.
- Councilwoman Richardson: So you already talked about the (inaudible) legal contract. This had been brought up at a prior meeting and then dropped. The attorney the town attorney has a whole area it's not even alliance in the entire area where obviously this you know legal contractual prosecutors all these lines for Town attorney. We are budgeting \$10000. Mary Bingham and I had requested that we essentially budget for a minority attorney or a deputy Town attorney I believe it's the proper term and put out a request for proposal for that and then remove the budgeted amount for the worth of two Council people using the town attorney because the consultant policy is unlawful okay. The amount of time and energy wasted on actually just unlawful unbalanced governance that's been going on I we were being polite publicly and now we're done being polite. So we would like in our (inaudible) for a deputy

Town attorney. We are entitled to such a thing as a first-class Town. We are entitled as board members to have equal access and allocated time use of consultants. It looks different in every town each council member and some towns have actual budgeted like monies individually to expend on such things. Sometimes it's just hourly sometimes it's based on formal legal liaison assignments it all depends there's many many ways and pretending that he is the council only to the Republican board majority and not everyone at each time is tiresome.

- Supervisor Cardone: Let's stop with that because that is a rhetoric that is not true it's false and you continue to represent that on this dais.

- Councilwoman Richardson: It's in writing. He claims to me that he is the attorney for the town hall majority which is impossible because each decision that we make can change at any given moment each decision.

- Town Attorney Nugent: Do you want me to clarify that?

- Supervisor Cardone: Yeah I would like you to clarify Council.

- Town Attorney Nugent: I am the attorney for the town board the majority does not always remain the same may be politically aligned but in other words if three board members make a decision and direct Town Council do something I'm obligated to do that and yes two minority members direct me to do something and they don't have a third person I would not do that.

- Councilwoman Richardson: You're not directing. We're asking for legal resources to make an important decision.

- Town Attorney Nugent: And so part of the question is the policy which is made by the town board and that's not always the same majority. There have been votes here where it's 5-0 that's Town board majority. There have been votes that have been 4-1.

- Councilwoman Richardson: We spent many hours arguing this over email when you said I represent the town board majority.

- Town Attorney Nugent: You also said if we hired another attorney and you didn't agree with your opinion you'd hire another attorney.

- Councilwoman Richardson: No I did not. I said (inaudible)

- Town Attorney Nugent: (inaudible) and the Board was present when you said it.

- Councilwoman Richardson: (inaudible) The board majority got (inaudible).

- Town Attorney Nugent: No actually (inaudible) Miss Bingham was there too.

- Councilwoman Richardson: Miss Bingham did I say that?

- Councilwoman Bingham: I'll weigh in. You did not say that she would get another attorney.

- Town Attorney Nugent: Another opinion whatever the phrase was (inaudible)

- Councilwoman Richardson: That's not what I said.

- Supervisor Cardone: Let the truth be told Mary not the (inaudible)

- Councilwoman Richardson: This disgusting decision what's going on right now where the town attorney baits gas lights or uses (inaudible)resources and then pretends that (inaudible).

- Town Attorney Nugent: Do you deny something that you said?

- Councilwoman Richardson: No. (inaudible) And she just said that didn't happen.

- Town Attorney: Well what did she say then? You said she didn't use those words. Did she

not something to that affect?

- Councilwoman Bingham: No she said basically that the opinion that she had she valued more than the opinion of

- Town Attorney Nugent: And I said does that mean the attorney you hired if you didn't agree would you then want another opinion? And the answer was yes.

- Councilwoman Richardson: No I said that I was entitled to do research.

- Town Attorney Nugent: (Inaudible)

- Councilwoman Richardson: (Inaudible)

- Supervisor Cardone: Hold on let's get back to the budget please. Any other questions on the budget?

- Councilwoman Richardson: The composting fee we did that. Checkerboard we need money to either remediate the structure or repair it. I we've consulted many it seems beyond repair unless we were to be imbued with millions. It's very unfortunate because people love this place and wanted to see it restored however doesn't seem possible. So we need I need to budget more in that line to remediate it or there's going to be an incident which cost us much more. The roof is falling down someone goes in there trespasses we're liable for that. And yep so the fund balance change for 2025 was minus \$990000 and the fund balance change in 2024 was minus \$996000. That was just a follow-up last time where you claimed that it was nowhere close to a million yes it is. In 2024 before we had \$900000 worth of (inaudible) that were expended to cover the hole in the operating budget. This year we do not so we are looking at that hole.

- Councilwoman Houle: Just as a point of clarity my objection to that was that it was for several years.

- Councilwoman Richardson: Excuse me.

- Councilwoman Houle: My objection to your statement at the last meeting was that you used the term several years.

- Councilwoman Richardson: No you said that it was nowhere near a million and you can go back and the record because I said for two years the prior year you can go back.

- Councilwoman Houle: (Inaudible)

- Supervisor Cardone: Okay so let me ask a question would you like me to reduce that amount to 500000?

- Councilwoman Richardson: I'm saying you (inaudible)

- Supervisor Cardone I'm asking you question.

- Councilwoman Richardson: And that you are covering holes in the operating cost.

- Supervisor Cardone: Okay so you're questioning it so I'm asking you're asking.

- Councilwoman Richardson: I'm putting it on the record for my constituents. You don't seem to understand.

- Supervisor Cardone: You're just worried about your vote. So let me ask you would you like me to reduce it and tell me (inaudible)

- Councilwoman Richardson: I'm saying you're covering. Yeah I want you to reduce the over operating. I want you to reduce operating costs not charge taxpayers more.

- Councilwoman Bingham: Not take money from the fund balance is what you said.
- Councilwoman Richardson: Yeah.
- Supervisor Cardone: Okay so tell me how much you would like me to reduce that amount.
- Councilwoman Bingham: No (inaudible)
- Councilwoman Richardson: No we want you to reduce the operating cost.
- Supervisor Cardone: Reduce the operating cost?
- Councilwoman Bingham: Right.
- Supervisor Cardone: Look at how much most of those departments have increased their budgets. Some have decreased some have increased minimally. So what more would you like me to cut?
- Councilwoman Bingham: Well like I said (inaudible)
- Supervisor Cardone: Here's the problem. I'm going to tell you what the problem is the problem is a house that's assessed at \$75000 back in 2018 this year in the village I believe is only paying 68 more dollars than it did in 2018. So you have approximately let's say a 6 or 7% increase over the years in your I'm sorry you don't have a 6% you have a 4% increase I think it was and I'll have those numbers for the next meeting. So \$68 over I don't 6 years right and that's not the number because the number is considerably lower than it but what I'm going to tell you is that discretionary spending has been shrinking because we have been keeping within the cap and everything else has been above the cap. So all the constant increases in expenses have been 510 14% when you're talking about benefits and pensions and you expect us to provide the same services within that discretionary spending and we can't. I'm going to tell you right now I've spoken to six supervisors seven supervisors I spoke to one today they're all looking at an adjustment here and
- Councilwoman Richardson: \$20 million.
- Supervisor Cardone: Excuse me.
- Councilwoman Richardson: Are they looking at down barrel of \$20 million?
- Supervisor Cardone: What?
- Councilwoman Richardson: Are they looking down the barrel of \$20 million?
- Councilwoman Bingham: You mean Rye Hill?
- Councilwoman Richardson: Yep.
- Supervisor Cardone: Listen with the exception of Councilwoman Richardson everyone on his board voted for it and
- Councilwoman Richardson: I wasn't on the Board.
- Supervisor Cardone: I said with the exception of you.
- Councilwoman Richardson: Yes and I'm clarifying that it's not that I oppose the charge.
- Supervisor Cardone: And you didn't oppose it you even took credit for it on your website.
- Councilwoman Richardson: No I definitely did not take credit for just buying \$20 million land.
- Supervisor Cardone: Okay let's move on.

Action (Resolution) Discussion Information: 4.6 Motion to go out to Bid for Legal Contractual Prosecutor

To hear discussion between Town Board Members regarding Motion to go out to Bid for Legal Contractual Prosecutor please go on-line to Board Doc's Video Clip #4.6 0:28:29.

2024-#555

BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board of the Town of Monroe Made a Motion to go out to Bid for Legal Contractual Prosecutor.

Motion by Mary Bingham second by Maureen Richardson.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Aye: Supervisor -Tony Cardone Mary Bingham Sal Scancarello Dorey Houle Maureen Richardson

Action (Resolution): 4.7 Possible Motion to Keep Open the Public Hearing RE: 2025 Town Budget / Benefit Assessment Rolls

2024-#556

BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board of the Town of Monroe Made a Motion to Keep Open the Public Hearing RE: 2025 Town Budget / Benefit Assessment Rolls until November 7 2024 at 7:00PM or soon there-after.

Motion by Dorey Houle second by Sal Scancarello.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Aye: Supervisor -Tony Cardone Mary Bingham Sal Scancarello Dorey Houle Maureen Richardson

5. Acceptance of Minutes

Action (Resolution): 5.1 Acceptance of October 7 2024 Minutes

2024-#557

BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board of the Town of Monroe Made a Motion to accept the October 7 2024 Minutes.

Motion by Supervisor -Tony Cardone second by Sal Scancarello.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Aye: Supervisor -Tony Cardone Mary Bingham Sal Scancarello Dorey Houle Maureen Richardson

6. Audit of Claims

Action (Resolution) Discussion: 6.1 General Fund Abstract

To hear discussion between Town Board Members RE General Fund Abstract please go on-line to Board Doc's Video Clip #6.1 1:07:16.

2024-#558

BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board of the Town of Monroe requests approval of Abstract #24-14 General Fund containing Check #35839 - 35909 totaling \$276181.27.

Motion by Supervisor -Tony Cardone second by Sal Scancarello.

Action (Resolution) Discussion: 6.2 Escrow Fund Abstract

2024-#559

BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board of the Town of Monroe requests approval of Abstract #24-07 Escrow Fund containing Check #s 21682169217121732174 2175 totaling \$36638.42.

Motion by Supervisor -Tony Cardone second by Maureen Richardson.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Aye: Supervisor -Tony Cardone Mary Bingham Sal Scancarello Dorey Houle Maureen Richardson

7. Budget Transfer Requests

Action (Resolution) Discussion: 7.1 Budget Transfer Abstract

2024-#560

BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board of the Town of Monroe approves Budget Transfer Abstract #2024-18 in the amount of \$20501.02 for 2024 Expenditure Adjustments.

ABSTRACT OF BUDGET TRANSFERS

TOWN OF MONROE

DATE OF AUDIT: October 21 2024

ABSTRACT 2024-18

2024 Expenditure Adjustments

DATE

GL NO. DESCRIPTION Account Trans In Trans Out

10/21/2024

Shared Services Contractual

A000-1620-4500-00

2400.00

Unallocated Insurance

A000-1910-4601-00

2400.00

Park & Cemetery Repair & Maintenance

A000-7110-4303-00

7000.00

Mombasha Park Engineering

A000-7121-4020-00

7000.00

Bond Counsel

A000-1420-4000-02

6944.55

Legal Contractual

A000-1421-4010-01

6944.55

IT Maintenance

B000-1480-4223-00

950.50

Planning Legal Gen & Admin

B000-8020-4010-00

205.97

Celebrations

B000-7550-4000-00

1156.47

Water Vehicle Repair & Maintenance

SW00-8310-4301-00

3000.00

Water Admin Miscellaneous

SW00-08340-4109-00

3000.00

20501.02

20501.02

Motion by Supervisor -Tony Cardone second by Mary Bingham.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Aye: Supervisor -Tony Cardone Mary Bingham Sal Scancarello Dorey Houle Maureen Richardson

8. Audit of Claims Continued

Action (Resolution) Information: 8.1 Continuation of 6.1 General Fund Abstract

2024-#561

BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board of the Town of Monroe requests approval of Abstract #24-14 General Fund containing Check #35839 - 35909 totaling \$276181.27.

Motion by Supervisor -Tony Cardone second by Dorey Houle.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Aye: Supervisor -Tony Cardone Mary Bingham Sal Scancarello Dorey Houle Maureen Richardson

9. New Business

Action (Resolution) Information: 9.1 Katherine O'Boyle Full-Time Laborer

2024-#562

BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board of the Town of Monroe Made a Resolution approving Katherine O'Boyle for the position of Full-Time Laborer Maintenance Department at an hourly rate of \$22 effective October 22 2024. Katherine is currently a Seasonal Laborer with the town and has been preapproved for this position change by Orange County Department of Human Resources.

Motion by Supervisor -Tony Cardone second by Mary Bingham.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Aye: Supervisor -Tony Cardone Mary Bingham Sal Scancarello Dorey Houle Maureen Richardson

Action (Resolution) Discussion: 9.2 Edward Kozlowski Retirement Smith's Clove Park

To hear Supervisor Cardone RE: Edward Kozlowski Retirement Smith's Clove Park please go on-line to Board Doc's Video Clip #9.2 1:16:52.

2024-#563

BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board of the Town of Monroe Made a Resolution accepting the retirement of Edward Kozlowski Laborer Smith's Clove Park effective October 28 2024.

Motion by Supervisor -Tony Cardone second by Sal Scancarello.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Aye: Supervisor -Tony Cardone Mary Bingham Sal Scancarello Dorey Houle Maureen Richardson

Action (Resolution) Discussion: 9.3 Sean Allen Full-Time Laborer

2024-#564

BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board of the Town of Monroe Made a Resolution approving Sean Allen for the position of Full-Time Laborer Smith's Clove Park at an hourly rate of \$20 effective October 28 2024. Sean is currently a Seasonal Laborer at Smith's Clove Park and has been preapproved for this position change by Orange County Department of Human Resources.

Motion by Supervisor -Tony Cardone second by Dorey Houle.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Aye: Supervisor -Tony Cardone Mary Bingham Sal Scancarello Dorey Houle Maureen Richardson

Action (Resolution): 9.4 Resolution Accepting the 2025 Preliminary Town of Monroe Budget

2024-#565

BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board of the Town of Monroe Made a Resolution Accepting the 2025 Preliminary Town of Monroe Budget as presented today 10/21/2024.

Motion by Mary Bingham second by Dorey Houle.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Aye: Supervisor -Tony Cardone Mary Bingham Sal Scancarello Dorey Houle Maureen Richardson

Action (Resolution) Information: 9.5 Resignation RE Mary Elizabeth Burton Monroe Joint Parks and Recreation Commission

2024-#566

BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board of the Town of Monroe Made a Resolution accepting the resignation of Mary Elizabeth Burton Monroe Joint Parks and Recreation Commission effective October 9 2024.

Motion by Supervisor -Tony Cardone second by Sal Scancarello.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Aye: Supervisor -Tony Cardone Mary Bingham Sal Scancarello Dorey Houle Maureen Richardson

Action (Resolution) Discussion: 9.6 Charles Sommerlad Monroe Joint Parks and Recreation Commission Appointment

To hear Supervisor Cardone RE Charles Sommerlad Monroe Joint Parks and Recreation Commission Appointment please go on-line to Board Doc's Video Clip #9.6 1:18:40.

2024-#567

BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board of the Town of Monroe Made a Motion to appoint Charles Sommerlad to the Monroe Joint Park Recreation Commission Slot #4 term expiration 2026.

Motion by Supervisor -Tony Cardone second by Sal Scancarello.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Aye: Supervisor -Tony Cardone Mary Bingham Sal Scancarello Dorey Houle Maureen Richardson

Action (Resolution) Discussion Information: 9.7 Resolution RE New Mandates for FOIL Requests for Disciplinary Records

To hear Councilwoman Bingham on Resolution RE New Mandates for FOIL Requests for Disciplinary Records please go on-line to Board Doc's Video Clip #9.7 1:19:54.

2024-#568

BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board of the Town of Monroe Made a Motion to Table the Matter on Resolution RE New Mandates for FOIL Requests for Disciplinary Records.

Motion by Supervisor -Tony Cardone second by Mary Bingham.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Aye: Supervisor -Tony Cardone Mary Bingham Sal Scancarello Dorey Houle Maureen Richardson

Action (Resolution) Discussion: 9.8 Maintenance Agreement Orange County Elevator

2024-#569

BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board of the Town of Monroe Made a Motion authorizing the Supervisor to sign the contract with Orange County Elevator (Maintenance Agreement #703) at a cost of \$250/mo. plus maintenance fees associated with any issues that arise in the amount of \$550 during regular business hours and \$925 during off business hours.

Maintenance Agreement provided by Orange County Elevator for maintenance service for (1) elevator located at 1465 Orange Turnpike (Town Hall) and (1) elevator located at 34 Millpond Parkway (Theater).

Motion by Dorey Houle second by Mary Bingham.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Aye: Supervisor -Tony Cardone Mary Bingham Sal Scancarello Dorey Houle Maureen Richardson

Action (Resolution) Discussion: 9.9 Acceptance of New Dial-A-Ride Buses

To hear discussion between Board Members RE Acceptance of New Dial-A-Ride Buses please go on-line to Board Doc's Video Clip #9.9 1:22:04.

2024-#570

BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board of the Town of Monroe Made a Resolution accepting the additional Dial-A-Ride buses that are currently on order and being finalized by the manufacturer and authorizing the Supervisor to sign the voucher for the 10% local share.

Motion by Dorey Houle second by Mary Bingham.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Aye: Supervisor -Tony Cardone Mary Bingham Sal Scancarello Dorey Houle Maureen Richardson

10. Old Business

Action (Resolution) Discussion: 10.1 Village of Monroe Tax Exemption Request Items 3 and 4
Town Highway Budget

2024-#571

BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board of the Town of Monroe Made the following Resolution by Supervisor Cardone and seconded by Councilwoman Richardson:

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING PARTIAL EXEMPTION OF CERTAIN ITEMS IN HIGHWAY LAW § 141(4) FROM THE LEVY AND COLLECTION OF TAXES IN THE VILLAGE OF MONROE

WHEREAS the Town of Monroe ("Town") received correspondence and a Petition from the Village of Monroe ("Village") dated September 4 2024 requesting that the Town exempt all property within the Village from the levy and collection of taxes levied in the Town as provided for in New York State Highway Law § 141 subdivisions 3 and 4; and

WHEREAS within the Petition the Village specifically petitioned for exemption from taxes levied for the cutting of brush under the provisions of Highway Law § 141(4) under the miscellaneous items provision of that subdivision; and

WHEREAS the Town Board has considered the request of the Village and desires to grant a partial exemption only of the levy and collection of taxes levied under subdivision 4 of Highway Law § 141(4) as it relates to cutting of brush.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that:

Section 1. The above "WHEREAS" clauses are incorporated herein as if set forth in full.

Section 2. Without regard to the various inaccurate factual assertions in the Village's Petition which are not concurred with by the Town the Town Board hereby approves an exemption from the levy and collection of taxes in the Village limited to brush cutting services as currently provided by the Town with the understanding that the Village will be responsible for all brush cutting related services in the Village upon the cessation of the levy and collection of taxes by the Town for such purposes.

Section 3. Upon the cessation of the levy and collection of taxes from the Village residents for such purposes the Town will cease providing any such brush cutting services to the Village and/or its residents except upon payment for such services as shall be agreed upon by the Town and Village.

Section 4. To the extent that any court of law should determine that the Town is not authorized to grant a partial exemption under Highway Law § 277 and 141(4) as set forth herein the Town expresses that it would deny the Village Petition entirely and withdraw the partial exemption granted herein.

Section 5. The Town Supervisor or his designee is authorized to take any and all actions

necessary to carry out the provisions of this Resolution.

Section 6. This Resolution shall be effective immediately.

The question of the adoption of the foregoing Resolution was duly put to a vote on roll call which resulted as follows:

Yea Nay Abstain Absent

Anthony Cardone Supervisor [X] [] [] []

Dorey Houle Councilperson [X] [] [] []

Mary Bingham Councilperson [X] [] [] []

Sal Scancarello Councilperson [X] [] [] []

Maureen Richardson Councilperson [X] [] [] []

The Resolution was thereupon duly adopted.

Motion by Supervisor -Tony Cardone second by Maureen Richardson.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Aye: Supervisor -Tony Cardone Mary Bingham Sal Scancarello Dorey Houle Maureen Richardson

11. Public Comment

Information: 11.1 Rules for Public Comment

Discussion Information: 11.2 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 #11.2 1:26:53.

*NO PUBLIC COMENT AT THIS TIME

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

Action (Resolution) Information: 12.1 Enter into Executive Session

2024-#572

BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board of the Town of Monroe Made a Motion to enter into an Executive Session to discuss Litigation Attorney Advice and Personnel.

Motion by Supervisor -Tony Cardone second by Sal Scancarello.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Aye: Supervisor -Tony Cardone Mary Bingham Sal Scancarello Dorey Houle Maureen Richardson

13. Return to Regular Meeting

Action (Resolution) Information: 13.1 Return to Regular Meeting

2024-#573

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 Dorey Houle.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Aye: Supervisor -Tony Cardone Mary Bingham Sal Scancarello Dorey Houle Maureen Richardson

14. Motions From the Floor

Action (Resolution) Discussion Information: 14.1 Resolution RE Redaction from Record

To hear discussion on Resolution RE Redaction from Record please go on-line to Board Doc's Video Clip #14.1 1:27:39.

2024-#574

BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board of the Town of Monroe Made a Motion to redact the letter that was read prior to going into Executive Session from both the video and Minutes.

Motion by Supervisor -Tony Cardone second by Sal Scancarello.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

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

Nay: Maureen Richardson

Action (Resolution) Information: 14.2 Resolution Authorizing Town Special Counsel and Planning Board Counsel to Represent the Town in an Article 78 Proceeding

To hear Resolution Authorizing Town Special Counsel and Planning Board Counsel to Represent the Town in an Article 78 Proceeding please go on-line to Board Doc's Video Clip #14.2 1:30:13.

2024-#575

BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board of the Town of Monroe Made the following Resolution by Supervisor Cardone and seconded by Councilman Scancarello:

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING TOWN SPECIAL COUNSEL AND PLANNING BOARD COUNSEL TO REPRESENT THE TOWN IN AN ARTICLE 78 PROCEEDING

WHEREAS the Town Board currently utilizes the legal services of the law firm of Feerick Nugent MacCartney PLLC ("Town Special Counsel") to represent the Town of Monroe Town Board and the Zoning Board of Appeals; and

WHEREAS the Town Board currently utilizes the legal services of the law firm of Naughton & Torre LLP ("Planning Board Counsel") to represent the Town of Monroe Planning Board; and

WHEREAS the Town of Monroe the Town Zoning Board of Appeals and the Town Planning Board ("Town Respondents") have been named as Respondents in the pending proceeding commenced on October 18 2024 entitled Summer Crest LLC v. Town of Monroe et al. under Orange County Supreme Court Index No. EF008794-2024 (the "Proceeding"); and

WHEREAS the Town Clerk has forwarded the Verified Petition and related documents to its Insurance Carrier to obtain a defense on October 18 2024 and requires Town legal counsel be prepared to represent the Town in this matter; and

WHEREAS unless and until the Town's insurance carrier assigns legal counsel to defend the Town Respondents the Town Board desires to authorize Town Special Counsel and Town Planning Board Counsel to undertake representation and a defense of the Town and its Boards in said Proceeding.

NOW THEREFORE it is resolved as follows:

1. All "WHEREAS" paragraphs are incorporated herein by reference as though set forth in full herein.
2. Special Counsel Feerick Nugent MacCartney PLLC is hereby authorized to appear on behalf of the Town of Monroe and Town of Monroe Zoning Board of Appeals and shall be compensated for all services performed in this action with regard to the aforesaid proceeding entitled Summer Crest LLC v. Town of Monroe et al. under Index Number EF008794-2024 including any appeals if necessary as set forth in the Town Board Resolution and Agreement appointing Special Counsel.
3. Planning Board Counsel Naughton & Torre LLP is hereby authorized to appear on behalf of the Town of Monroe Planning Board and shall be compensated for all services performed in this action with regard to the aforesaid proceeding entitled Summer Crest LLC v. Town of Monroe et al. under Index Number EF008794-2024 including any appeals if necessary as set forth in the Town Board Resolution and Agreement appointing Planning Board Counsel.
4. This Resolution shall be effective immediately.

The question of the adoption of the foregoing Resolution was duly put to a vote on roll call which resulted as follows:

Yea Nay Abstain Absent

Anthony Cardone Supervisor [X] [] [] []

Dorey Houle Councilperson [X] [] [] []

Mary Bingham Councilperson [X] [] [] []

Sal Scancarello Councilperson [X] [] [] []

Maureen Richardson Councilperson [X] [] [] []

The Resolution was thereupon duly adopted.

Motion by Supervisor -Tony Cardone second by Sal Scancarello.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Aye: Supervisor -Tony Cardone Mary Bingham Sal Scancarello Dorey Houle Maureen Richardson

15. Adjournment

Action (Resolution): 15.1 Adjournment of Meeting

2024-#576

BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board of the Town of Monroe adjourns the meeting of October 212024 at 9:05 PM.

Motion by Supervisor -Tony Cardone second by Sal Scancarello.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Aye: Supervisor -Tony Cardone Mary Bingham Sal Scancarello Dorey Houle Maureen Richardson

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