

Supervisor James Schmitt opened the regular meeting of the town board of the Town of Pawling at 6:00 PM March 13, 2024 at Pawling Town Hall, 160 Charles Colman Blvd., Pawling, New York. Present were councilwomen Snow and Pitt, councilmen Mygan and McCarthy, Nancy Tagliaferro, town attorney and approximately 8 interested citizens.

**PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS**

Supervisor Schmitt opened the meeting for public comment on agenda items, there were none.

**RESOLUTIONS**

**RESOLUTION 2024-049  
Payment of Bills for the Town of Pawling**

WHEREAS, the Town of Pawling bookkeeper has reviewed and prepared the vouchers for the Town of Pawling and has offered them for review, and

WHEREAS, the vouchers have been approved in accordance with the Town of Pawling policy, and

WHEREAS, the vouchers have been numbered 20240133 through 20240286, and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the town board of the Town of Pawling hereby accepts the vouchers as prepared and on the recommendation of the bookkeeper and hereby authorizes payment of said vouchers for the Town of Pawling on this date in the amount of \$2,002,473.71.

**MOTION:** Supervisor Schmitt  
**SECOND:** Councilman McCarthy

**ROLL CALL VOTE:**

Councilwoman Pitt – “AYE”                      Councilman Mygan – “AYE”  
Councilman McCarthy – “AYE”                      Councilwoman Snow - “AYE”  
Supervisor Schmitt – “AYE”

**RESOLUTION 2024-055  
Approval of Mower Purchase**

WHEREAS, the Supervisor of Buildings and Grounds has requested to purchase two Turf Tiger mowers in order to adequately maintain Town grounds, and

WHEREAS, the need for such equipment is supported by the 2024 budget, and

WHEREAS, the Supervisor of Buildings and Grounds request approval to order two Turf Tiger 40 hp mowers with a Clam Shell catcher under the Sourcewell contract #031121-SCG for \$17,185.00 each, and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board hereby authorized the Supervisor of Buildings and Grounds to purchase two Turf Tiger 40 hp mowers with a Clam Shell catcher under the Sourcewell contract #031121-SCG for \$17,185.00 each.

**MOTION:** Supervisor Schmitt  
**SECOND:** Councilman McCarthy

**ROLL CALL VOTE:**

Councilwoman Pitt – “AYE”                      Councilman Mygan – “AYE”  
Councilman McCarthy – “AYE”                      Councilwoman Snow - “AYE”  
Supervisor Schmitt – “AYE”

**RESOLUTION 2024-056**  
**Approval of Open Top Container Purchase**

WHEREAS, the Manager of the Transfer Station, Robert Brill, has requested to purchase a heavy duty 30 yard open top container, and

WHEREAS, Robert Brill has received a quote under the Sourcewell contract #040621-WQI for \$9,107.00, and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Pawling hereby authorizes the Transfer Station Manager to purchase said heavy duty 30 yard open top container for \$9,107.00.

**MOTION:** Supervisor Schmitt  
**SECOND:** Councilwoman Snow

**ROLL CALL VOTE:**

Councilwoman Pitt – “AYE”                      Councilman Mygan – “AYE”  
  
Councilman McCarthy – “AYE”                      Councilwoman Snow - “AYE”  
  
Supervisor Schmitt – “AYE”

**RESOLUTION 2024-057**  
**Escrow Release**

WHEREAS, the Planning Board recommends to the Town Board that there are no outstanding bills and that there will be no future bills for review and recommended that these funds be released, pending approval from the Building Department, Code Enforcement Officer, and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town of Pawling Planning Board refers to the Town Board releases of the following balances in escrow and authorizes the Bookkeeper to release such funds:

1. Dish Wireless	Site Plan	\$2,019.10
2. Stephen Kroell	Environmental Permit	\$25.00
3. Garay & O’Mara Farms Inc.	Environmental Permit	\$1,275.00
4. Sarak Leff	Environmental Permit	\$25.00
5. Transcend Wireless	Site Plan	\$300.00
6. Ken Wong	Environmental Permit	\$100.00
7. James & Francisa Matthews	Lot Line Adjustment	\$1,435.56
8. NeuBerger, Berman Investment	Environmental Permit	\$400.00

**MOTION:** Supervisor Schmitt  
**SECOND:** Councilwoman Pitt

**ROLL CALL VOTE:**

Councilwoman Pitt – “AYE”                      Councilman Mygan – “AYE”  
  
Councilman McCarthy – “AYE”                      Councilwoman Snow - “AYE”  
  
Supervisor Schmitt – “AYE”

**DISCUSSION**

**PITT**

Councilwoman Pitt said she reached out to NYS DOT regarding the speed limit study but has not heard back yet. She was happy things were progressing in PWD #2, and she hoped things would be coming to a conclusion very shortly.

## **MCCARTHY**

Councilman McCarthy said he spoke with Ron Laberge yesterday regarding the Route 22 sewer expansion. Now that the town has received the one million dollar grant, Mr. Laberge would be re-running some numbers with the grant monies included. Mr. Laberge was hoping to have the updated numbers to the board within the next week, and the board can then decide what the next steps will be. The board will need to decide how to move forward. He reached out to the town's insurance agent regarding classes for the town, such as workplace violence, sexual harassment. They have many options the town can use for classes, so he hoped they would be scheduled soon.

Councilman Mygan asked about the million dollar grant for the sewer district and the usage fees. Councilman McCarthy said the fees have not changed.

Supervisor Schmitt said when the town originally got the user fee numbers, they were high but then after review, they came in where they could be used, and what the town originally planned for. The town is working with the PJSC and village to get the IMA updated. The construction costs have changed so that needs to be factored into the updated numbers.

Christine Mitchell, bookkeeper said regarding the blacktop budget, originally there was a budget of \$650,000.00, and \$150,000.00 was dropped out of that due to healthcare costs. She said that budget is currently set at \$500,000.00, which will be increased by approximately \$400,000.00. So, the blacktop budget will be about \$908,000.00 for this year. There is a significant amount of money that can be spent on paving/drainage this year.

## **SNOW**

Councilwoman Snow was happy training would be scheduled for courses for the town, and it was her understanding that the training was for employees and board members. She congratulated Boy Scout Troop 34 for collecting donations for the Pawling Resource Center, saying donations were the largest this year, collecting 3,278 pounds of food and counting. This is a great community service. Since Mark Chipkin was here last week with his presentation on the conservation advisory board, she asked what next steps would be.

Supervisor Schmitt said the next steps would be looking at what other towns have done and moving forward from there. He said Mr. Chipkin would be kept involved in the process.

## **MYGAN**

Councilman Mygan said he sent out an email to the board regarding PILOT (payment in lieu of taxes) programs. The Town of Pawling has a PILOT program with Castagna and he found an agreement from Poughkeepsie with the same developer, which is iron clad agreement and it is very favorable to the Town of Poughkeepsie. One of the best things about Poughkeepsie's PILOT is that even if that senior housing development is sold to a not for profit, or a tax exempt corporation, the tax agreement runs with the land. The PILOT agreement the Town of Pawling has with the developer only affords the town \$9,000.00, which is frustrating. Castagna had plans to build senior townhomes, a 65,000 square foot medical office, a hotel, assisted living, and upon completion in five to seven years, eight hundred permanent jobs. He thought there were two people working there currently. Castagna said there would be four and a half million dollars that would be generated in annual taxes. He would like to learn more about PILOT programs because the town is going to come up against this again at some point in the future and he did not feel taxpayers were being done justice with the agreements in place. He learned at training that the fire district should get their full portion of tax revenues outside of any PILOT program.

## **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Wendel Weber, supervisor of buildings and grounds, said the bid packet for the town hall bathroom project is ready. He will get together with Curt Johnson and Cathy Giordano regarding bid opening dates. EMC is working on a date to begin the asbestos removal project. He asked if the board needed to give approval to put the town hall bathroom project out to bid.

Nancy Tagliafierro said she did not think it was necessary for the town board to give approval to put the project out to bid.

Bob Hill, resident from North Quaker Hill Road, said he was happy with the agreement he and supervisor Schmitt came to regarding his property, located where the Dewey Lane Bridge is. He said the board has his full backing and he would do anything needed to help.

Nancy Tagliafierro said she wasn't aware of any agreement between the supervisor and Mr. Hill. She believed there was an eminent domain proceeding pending before the court, which is returnable on March 21<sup>st</sup>.

Mr. Hill said he thought he ended that.

Ms. Tagliafierro said another attorney in her office is working on that, and she didn't ask for an update before tonight's meeting. She would need to check into this.

Ms. Tagliafierro asked what agreement Mr. Hill was talking about.

Mr. Hill said an agreement that the town would not be taking his property, not be doing any work to it or changes to it, and he would make his property available so workers would have access to it to work on the bridge, and the bridge would be what it is and would not come onto his property.

Ms. Tagliafierro asked if that was in writing?

Mr. Hill said yes.

Supervisor Schmitt said he would check with the attorneys and get back to Mr. Hill tomorrow.

Supervisor Schmitt made a motion to adjourn at 6:25 PM, seconded by councilman McCarthy, motion passed unanimously.

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Town Clerk