

**ALBANY COUNTY NEW WORK
REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING**

Deputy Supervisor Doolin led the pledge of allegiance and called the meeting to order at 7:03PM with the following roll call attendance: Councilmembers Martin, Thiem and Vane were present, also in attendance Highway Superintendent Bashwinger and Town Clerk De Oliveira.

ACCEPT MEETING MINUTES

Councilmember Vane made a motion seconded by Councilmember Martin to accept the meeting minutes from February 14, 2024, Deputy Supervisor Doolin, Martin, Thiem and Vane all voting aye.

CORRESPONDENCE

Jason Preisner from Lamont Engineers presented a power point with specifications and ideas for a new Highway Garage.

PUBLIC COMMENT: AGENDA ITEMS

Michael Vincent asked Mr. Bashwinger a few questions concerning the water at the Highway Garage currently and if it was drinkable/usable and mentioned a few options for utilizing rainwater. Mr. Vincent also wanted to comment on the recent Hilltown Senior Meeting and on behalf of the group thanked the Town Board for the opportunity to update the building and looked forward to changes.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

HIGHWAY- Thanked Walter Galicki for the packet he put together summarizing a presentation he had done at the last meeting displaying how many roads and miles the Town of Berne covers during snowstorms to help put it into perspective for residents. Mr. Bashwinger was hopeful spring is on the way and two more loads of road salt that would satisfy the 70% of what the Town was contracted to purchase. The salt this year is also \$10 cheaper a ton.

TRANSFER STATION- Recently the bottles were returned again and was a little light this trip, Highway Superintendent reminded residents that you are able to bring your returnable recycling to the Transfer Station. The new Garbage Truck has been made and we have a vin number, things are hopeful that we will have the truck in May.

LIBRARY- Library Director Kathy Stempel handed out the Town Board and attendees 2023 Stats and Annual Report for Library, stating information like how many walk-in visits, items checked out etc. She wanted to remind everyone of the book sale for the Friends of the library coming up on Saturday March 23 9-4 PM. Another reminder that the voting is still open until March 30th for the BKW Town of Berne Park Sign sketches. The winner will be announced at the next Board Meeting.

PARKS & RECREATION- Chair Claire Ansbro told of the first monthly meeting that was held on March 12 at 6PM, the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board will meet every second Tuesday of the month at 6PM at 1360 Helderberg Trail. The board discussed goals for cleaning up the park with a Berne Beautification Day and offering lunch to the volunteers. The next goal of the Board is to present a presentation of goals for the Town Park to the Town Board.

ZONING BOARD- Chairman Spargo spoke of the ongoing Solar Application on Canaday Hill. Mr. Spargo was hopeful to get the application back in the front of the ZBA to address set back issues and addressed the Solar Law.

ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICIER- Newly appointed ACO Paul Gribbin was present to introduce himself to the Board as well as attendees for those who had not yet meant him in person. He shared that he works full time for Albany County Department of Health and also is an Albany County EMT, he was looking for community involvement and found the opportunity for ACO.

NEW BUSINESS

DISCUSS/APPROVE NEW PARK/BUILDING USE PERMIT

Deputy Supervisor Doolin made a motion seconded by Councilmember Martin to approve the new Town Park Pavilion and Building Use Permit for use by Town Clerk , Deputy Supervisor Doolin and Councilmembers Martin, Vane and Thiem all voting aye.

DISCUSS/APPROVE OVERHEAD DOOR PANEL QUOTE FOR HW GARAGE

Deputy Supervisor Doolin made a motion seconded by Councilmember Thiem to approve a new replacement panel for the Highway Garage door in an amount not to exceed \$2869 to Albany Overhead Doors, Deputy Supervisor Doolin and Councilmembers Martin, Vane and Thiem all voting aye.

DISCUSS/APPROVE ANNUAL 2024 KIWANIS PARADE

Deputy Supervisor Doolin made a motion seconded by Councilmember Thiem to approve a Porta Potty for one month at the Pocket Park for use during the Kiwanis Annual Parade as well as the annual donation of \$150 to help cover parade costs, Deputy Supervisor Doolin and Councilmembers Martin, Vane and Thiem all voting aye.

DISCUSS/APPROVE HILLTOWN SENIORS ANNUAL CONTRIBUTION \$600

Deputy Supervisor Doolin made a motion seconded by Councilmember Vane to approve the annual contribution payment to the Hilltown Seniors, Deputy Supervisor Doolin and Councilmembers Martin, Vane and Thiem all voting aye.

DISCUSS/APPROVE AMAZON INVOICE PAYMENTS

Deputy Supervisor Doolin made a motion seconded by Councilmember Thiem to approve the payment to Amazon in an amount not to exceed \$1232.02, Deputy Supervisor Doolin and Councilmembers Martin, Vane and Thiem all voting aye.

DISCUSS/APPROVE NEW PART TIME HIGHWAY EMPLOYEE

Deputy Supervisor Doolin made a motion seconded by Councilmember Thiem to approve the Part-Time Seasonal Highway Employee Dennie Conway at \$20 an hour for up to 20 hours weekly, FLSA exempt, noncompetitive, civil service exempt, Deputy Supervisor Doolin and Councilmembers Martin, Vane and Thiem all voting aye.

DISCUSSION AND APPROVAL OF MONTHLY FINANCIAL REPORTS

Deputy Supervisor Doolin made a motion to accept the Supervisor’s Financial Reports from February 2024 seconded by Councilmember Vane including: • Packet A – Abstracts • Packet B- Budget to Actual Reports Supervisors’ reports for revenue per fund, Supervisor’s reports for expenditures per fund and budget transfers report if required. • Packet C – Bank Reconciliations and bank statements for February • Packet D - Cash balance report and Balance sheet Report motion carried with the following roll call vote: Deputy Supervisor Doolin and Councilmembers Martin, Vane and Thiem all voting aye.

Deputy Supervisor Doolin made a motion to accept the Town Clerk’s Financial Report from February 2024 seconded by Councilmember Vane, motion carried with the following roll call vote: Deputy Supervisor Doolin and Councilmembers Martin, Vane and Thiem all voting aye.

Deputy Supervisor Doolin made a motion to accept the Building and Zoning’s Financial Report from February 2024 seconded by Councilmember Martin, motion carried with the following roll call vote: Deputy Supervisor Doolin and Councilmembers Martin, Vane and Thiem all voting aye.

APPROVING ABSTRACTS AND PAYMENT OF MONTHLY BILLS

After discussion, Deputy Supervisor Doolin made a motion seconded by Councilmember Doolin to approve the following abstracts and payment of bills:

Abstract #6 2024 \$18,968.69 (Voucher 208-211) Regular Abstracts

Abstract #7 2024 \$66926.55 (Voucher 212-246) Prepaid Utilities

Abstract #8 2024 \$2,479.20 (Voucher 248) Regular Abstracts

Abstract #9 2024 \$45, 753.94 (Voucher 249-344) Regular Abstracts

Total Abstracts: \$134,128.38

Motion carried with the following role call vote: Deputy Supervisor Doolin and Councilmembers Martin, Vane and Thiem all voting aye.

Authorizing Budget Transfers for February

Deputy Supervisor Doolin made a motion seconded by Councilmember Vane to approve the Budget transfer in packet B for the month of February, motion carried with the following role call vote: Deputy Supervisor Doolin and Councilmembers Martin, Vane and Thiem all voting aye.

GENERAL FUND, HIGHWAY FUND, SEWER, UTILITIES WITHOLDINGS FOR 2024

Supervisor Palow made a motion seconded by Councilmember Thiem to authorize payment of bills -motion carried with the following roll call vote: Deputy Supervisor Doolin and Councilmembers Martin, Vane and Thiem all voting aye.

Motion to Move into Executive Session

Councilmember Thiem made a motion at 8:38PM seconded by Councilmember Vane to enter executive session to discuss personnel matters.

Deputy Supervisor Doolin reconvened the meeting at 9:11PM and stated that no action had been taken.

MOTION TO DISCUSS OLD BUSINESS

Councilmember Vane made a motion seconded by Councilmember Thiem to approve and authorize the payment to Lamont Engineers in an amount not to exceed \$2800 to create engineer plans to improve the Community Center, Deputy Supervisor Doolin voted nay, Councilmembers Martin, Vane and Thiem voting aye. Motion carries.

MOTION TO ADJOURN

Deputy Supervisor Doolin made the motion seconded by Councilmember Vane to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried with the following roll call vote: Deputy Supervisor Doolin and Councilmembers Martin, Thiem and Vane all voting aye. The meeting adjourned at **9:18 PM.**

Respectfully submitted,

Kristin De Oliveira, Town Clerk