

REGULAR MEETING of the TOWN OF ROCKLAND was held on **April 18th, 2024** at 7:00 PM with the following members:

PRESENT:	SUPERVISOR	ROBERT EGGLETON
	COUNCILPERSON	EDWIN EDWARDS
	COUNCILPERSON	ANDREW McRELL
	COUNCILPERSON	CHRISTINE ROUTLEDGE
	COUNCILPERSON	PETE DEVANTIER

OTHERS PRESENT: Marinella Di Vita, Town Clerk & members from the public.

Presentation by Rob Gauchat from Solar Liberty about the future project on Fishman Road. Persons present during this presentation, Town Board of Town of Rockland, Town of Liberty Supervisor Frank DeMayo and his assistant Nick, and some members from the public.

Meeting was to brief everyone on the engineering and project management for the project and estimated cost that would need to be paid to get this project going with the CESIR study. Rob Gauchat shows both Towns Supervisors the grid chart of the varying dollar amounts, after 11 years of having the Solar Plant the turn around that money can be made after investing in the project. He explains that engineering, project management, employees, and construction as well as the 7 ft agricultural fence and the service road is all included. The only thing the Town's would be responsible for is the tree removal on the property to save money from the project. Estimated interconnection costs are estimated to come from NYSEG at about \$304,750.00. The Direct pay or (tax credit) \$541,000.00. The net cost after incentives comes 1,088,997.40. This does include prevailing wages but doesn't include 10K for CESIR costs or utility upgrades.

Frank DeMayo, Town of Liberty Supervisor - He's concerned and surprised that NYSEG wouldn't be willing to negotiate to lower spending costs because they are the ones in need of power, he and town of Rockland Supervisor, Robert Eggleton plan to have some communication to NYSEG constituents to negotiate better pricing for the project.

Bryan McPhillips, District 3 Legislature - asked how the process would work with disposal of material including steel and led, if there is any recycling that is including after the 35 year turn around? Rob Gauchat says it is in the works to get a system to recycle the material, but as soon as the material is officially recycled, the land becomes what it was previous to have a solar plant put on it, everything is removed pretty easily.

Sheila Shultz, member of the public - There was some issue with infrastructure availability that was questionable at the time, is that still a problem? She also asked if there is a space saver so we are set in stone? Rob Gauchat says that this property had went through the preliminary study twice, the hosting capacity maps show how much solar is on there and how much is on Q to get connected, that is the only view we have. There was a 5 Megawatt array that was not in the Town of Rockland's favor so we waited. That 5 megawatt array fell out, we don't know why but when they bailed it opened up the capacity of the system so that allowed Town of Rockland to get back in for a chance. Gauchat says by April 29th we have to pay \$10,000.00 to save the spot for the Town of Rockland in the Q.

Frank DeMayo, Town of Liberty Supervisor - After the Solar property starts to generate income for the Town's, I think it's extremely important to put aside some income for decommissioning so the future generation doesn't have to haul our weight from this project. He also asked Rob Gauchat if there is a way he can present this to the Town Board in the Town of Liberty since they are just getting caught up on everything.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A Motion was made by Mrs. Routledge seconded by Mr. Edwards to approve the minutes from the April 18th, 2024 board meeting

CORRESPONDENCE

- 18th Annual Trout Parade in Livingston Manor, NY on Saturday, June 8th, 2024 - sponsored by Calliope-On-Main and the Chamber of Commerce. Request for closure of Pearl and Main Street between the hours of 9AM-3:30PM and the rest of main street to the LM Fire Department from a detour onto Creamery Road from traffic coming off of Shandeleer Rd from 12PM-3:30 PM. Contact Maria Bivins at 845-707-2723 if there are any questions regarding this event.

RESOLUTION #42- 2024 Renaissance Park

A Motion was made by Mr. McReil and seconded by Mrs. Routledge with all in favor to allow the Chamber of Commerce to reserve the Renaissance Park for the day on June 8th for their 18th Annual Trout Parade.

- Molinaro's Office communicates with Town of Rockland regarding some discretionary funding that will be available through grants to help with some infrastructure projects for the Water and Sewer Department, will be applying for grant funding

- O&W Rail Trail Committee and Chamber of Commerce walked the trail, spoke about some ideas and did an assessment on the property. Some more ideas to come.
- NYSEG is providing bill credit for all customers under miscellaneous credits. Credit customers will be \$9.52 and cash customers will be refunded a credit of \$15.16
- Sullivan County Shields, not-for-profit law enforcement organization, is looking for a Board of Directors Secretary. If interested please contact Peter Chiavaro at 845-701-2704. One does not need to be law enforcement to join. This organization supports Sullivan County Law Enforcement officers and their families who have lost their lives or were injured in the line of duty. They also honor active officers and grant scholarships to those who pursue law enforcement (2- \$500.00 scholarships have been approved already for 2024) 100% of all funds go to the cause of this organization
- Sullivan County Treasurer's Office and the Legislature announce that the repurchase period for tax-foreclosed property has begun. One of the last opportunities for homeowners to regain ownership. Through June 30th taxpayers need only to pay all of the delinquent property taxes up to and including 2024. No penalties or fees will be added on. After June 30th, the County will turn over the property to the tax auction company and the amount to repurchase property will be significantly higher. The last day to repurchase is August 23rd, 2024
- Sullivan County's Application for a Municipal Infrastructure Program Grant for Archtop Fiber to push fiber-optic construction and provide broadband across the Hudson Valley including Sullivan County

OLD BUSINESS

- Trout Unlimited and Fish and Wildlife received a low bid of \$144,886.00 from Delaware Excavating and will begin work for a few weeks at the Roscoe Project for Stream work. Will interrupt the dog park at Riverside Park for a few weeks
- Meadow Hills Letter - Offer 12 month plan

RESOLUTION #43 - 2024 12 Month Plan Meadow Hill Lot 25

A Motion was made by Mr. McRell and seconded by Mr. DeVantier with all in favor to allow Meadow Hill customer to pay water and sewer for Lot #25 a one year payment plan without any late fees being applied

- Findings of Fact from Hearing Officer DeVantier for the Willowemoc Motel

RESOLUTION #44 - 2024 Findings of Fact (26.-1-8 ; 102 DeBruce)

A Motion was made by Mrs. Routledge and seconded by Mr. McRell with all in favor to give the opportunity for 90 days to pass in order to provide the mortgagee of the premises an opportunity to complete a pending mortgage foreclosure action and present plans and obtain a permit from the Code Enforcement Officer to either rehabilitate or demolish the building in accordance with all applicable laws, codes, rules and regulations and commence work pursuant thereto. Further action will be reviewed on August 14th where the Board members will make such determination with what to do with the structure

- Update on the NY Forward Grant, really good chance the Town of Rockland will get this grant. Public vision sessions are going to be set up soon for more discussion on what the grant money can be used on.
- West Ivy Hill Road LLC to either subdivide for new well location or sell the property completely to town. Within the next month the structure will be demolished (Old nursing home on Rockland Road)

NEW BUSINESS

- 647 Old Route 17 - Waive On/Off Fee of \$75

RESOLUTION #45- 2024 Waive On/Off Fee

A motion was made by Mr. DeVantier seconded by Mrs. Routledge with all in favor to waive turn on and turn off fee from October 11th of 2023 and April 12th of 2024

- Appoint Dawn Roser for Board of Assessment Review

RESOLUTION #46 - 2024 Appoint Dawn Roser BAR

A motion was made by Mr. McRell seconded by Mr. DeVantier with all in favor to appoint Dawn Roser to the Board of Assessment Review for a 5 year term

- Part Time Maintenance for Golf Course

RESOLUTION #47- 2024 Alex Feeney Hire

A motion was made by Mrs. Routledge seconded by Mr. DeVantier with all in favor to hire Alex Feeney as a part time park maintenance employee at a rate of \$18 Hr up to 29 hours a week

- New email for the Golf Course is Twinvillagetor@gmail.com

- Budget Modifications for Roscoe Sewer

RESOLUTION #48 - 2024 Budget Modification RS

WHEREAS, the 2024 Budget requires modification, now therefore be it RESOLVED, that the RS Fund entries be authorized

FROM:	TO:
8130.4 - \$1,945.44	8130.2 - \$1,945.44
Total:	\$1,945.44 (Roscoe STP Blower)

A motion was made by Mr. McRell seconded by Mr. DeVantier with all in favor to modify the budget as stated above

- Budget Modifications for General Fund

RESOLUTION #49 - 2024 Budget Modification GEN

WHEREAS, the 2024 Budget requires modification, now therefore be it RESOLVED, that the GEN Fund entries be authorized

FROM:	TO:
Revenues 00-382 - \$5,707.03	Expenditures 7410.40 - \$5,707.03

Total: \$5,707.03 (Reimburse LM Rotary ClubFunding received from SC Youth Bureau)

A motion was made by Mr. DeVantier seconded by Mrs. Routledge with all in favor to modify the budget as stated above

- Allow HWY Superintendent purchase of trucks and diagnostic equipment

RESOLUTION #50 - 2024 Trucks and Diagnostic Equipment

A motion was made by Mr. DeVantier seconded by Mr. Edwards with all in favor to allow Roger Decker Town of Rockland Highway Superintendent to purchase 2 trucks, one being a 2024 Chevy Pickup Truck for \$58,824.98 to replace Foreman’s pickup truck and a 2025 1 Ton Dump Truck for \$83,449.95 replacing #9 as well as Diagnostic Equipment for \$5,145.46. The Highway Department will also be auctioning some equipment and some of those funds will be used to offset some of those costs.

RESOLUTION #51- 2024 Ron Bury Parks and Rec

A motion was made by Mrs. Routledge seconded by Mr. DeVantier with all in favor to hire Ron Bury as a part time park maintenance employee at a rate of \$18 Hr up to 20 hours a week

APPROVAL OF BILLS

On a motion of Mr. McRell seconded by Mrs. Routledge the following resolution was ADOPTED - VOTE - RESOLVED to approve the bills on abstract #8 April 18th, 2024 in the following amounts:

General	156-177	\$37,307.85
Highway	135-157	\$30,551.54
Liv.Manor Water	67-74	\$2,993.56
Liv.Manor Sewer	61-70	\$4,493.26
R R Water	64-71	\$2,452.70
Roscoe Sewer	58-67	\$4,953.29
LML	6	\$165.50
RRL	5	\$868.24
HAZ	4	\$102.93

Executive session - personnel

Motion was made by Mrs. Routledge and seconded by Mr. McRell to go into executive session at 8:21 PM

Motion was made by Mrs. Routledge and seconded by Mr. McRell to come out of executive session at 8:40 PM

RESOLUTION #52- 2024 Peter JR DeVantier Parks and Rec

A motion was made by Mrs. Routledge seconded by Mr. McRell with all in favor to hire Peter JR DeVantier as a part time park maintenance employee at a rate of \$18 Hr

RESOLUTION #53- 2024 Gas Golf Cart Lease

A motion was made by Mrs. Routledge seconded by Mr. DeVantier with all in favor to lease 8 Gas Golf Carts from Club Car for \$5,500

ADJOURNMENT - On a motion of Mr. Edwards seconded by Mr. McRell and carried, the meeting was adjourned at 8:42 PM

Respectfully submitted,
Marinella Di Vita Town Clerk

