

**HORICON TOWN BOARD  
REGULAR MEETING**

**MARCH 16, 2023  
6:00 PM**

<b>Present at meeting:</b>	Michael Geraci	Supervisor
	Rob Hill	Councilman
	Robert Olson	Councilman
	Peter Palmer	Councilman
	Krista Wood	Town Clerk

Also: Dan Rourke (Barton & Loguidice), Aaron Frankenfeld (Adirondack Glens Falls Transportation Council), HS Darian Granger, Assessor Christine Hayes, Barb French, Janet Early, Jim Ventura, Kayla Carlozzi, Kelly Marcantonio, Matt Wood, Teri Schuerlein, Bernie Bolton, Ed Sim, Chris DeGiovine, and Sara Mullins.

Supervisor Geraci opened the regular meeting at 6:00 pm.

***Barton & Loguidice – Updated Mill Pond Pedestrian Improvement Plan (2-28-23 revision):***

- Supervisor Geraci welcomed Dan Rourke, Barton & Loguidice, and Aaron Frankenfeld, Glens Falls Transportation Council. He explained this has been a collaborative effort to improve safety around the Mill Pond and to enhance the area as well. He said there was an initial presentation of the feasibility study in December and there were comments from the Board and some of the residents as well. Supervisor Geraci said Dan and Aaron took those comments into consideration, made some changes, and are here to review the changes.

**Please see the [Updated Mill Pond Pedestrian Improvement Plan](#)**

- Supervisor Geraci asked the Board if they had any questions or comments on the revised plan.
- Councilman Hill asked if the direction of traffic on Market Street could be changed because the Fire Department said they are unable to make the swing onto Market Street with the trucks. Aaron Frankenfeld said they were unaware of the concerns of the Fire Department. He said they were told of the issue of speeding on Market Street to beat traffic on Route 8 so that is why they proposed one-way traffic.
- Councilman Palmer said all of the property around the Mill Pond is privately owned. He said the first thing to do is see what these people say because he knows of a handful that are not going to be in favor of this. Mr. Palmer said this is going to take part of their land, it is going to mean a lot more fishermen in their front yard because they will be lined up on the walkway all the way around the pond, and parking is going to be an issue. He said before the Board goes any further, a copy should be sent to each property owner on the pond to get their comments, adding this should have been brought up in December. Supervisor Geraci said based on Councilman Palmer’s comments, a letter, along with a copy of the draft plan, will be sent to all property owners on the Mill Pond.
- Supervisor Geraci asked if there were any more questions. Janet Early asked if the third proposed alternative would affect the property owners as she understood it would not. Councilman Palmer said it is along the back side of the pond where property owners that want to sit in their yard will be affected because of the fishing and things. He said along the front side the walkway will be out into the Mill Pond. Ms. Early said she did not think the proposal showed the walkway out into the pond; Mr. Palmer said that in some spots it will have to be out in the pond. Ms. Early asked Mr. Rourke for clarification on this as it was her understanding the walkway would not extend out over the water; Mr. Rourke said that is correct. He explained that due to steep slopes in a couple of spots a retaining wall would be built for the walkway, but the walkway would not be elevated over the water at any point.
- There were no more questions or comments.

- Supervisor Geraci explained the first step of this process was doing this engineering feasibility study. The second, if there is interest in moving forward with this, would be to start developing methods of funding. He said it is important to note the work done on this study so far came at no cost to the Town thanks to the Glens Falls Transportation Council. He said there will need to be a commitment from the Board in April in terms of whether or not they want to move forward with all or part of this plan.

- Councilman Hill said he feels the Board should move forward with the implementation of the safety measures included in the plan now and look at other aspects of the plan later on; Councilman Olson said he feels this is reasonable.

- Aaron Frankenfeld said at this point they have made the changes requested, and, as part of this process the Transportation Council needs an opinion from the Board as to whether they feel the feasibility study is complete. The Board agreed they consider the feasibility study to be complete.

**Approval of Minutes:** Minutes of the February 16, 2023 meeting were approved by Motion of Councilman Olson and Councilman Hill.

Ayes: 4 (Olson, Hill, Palmer, Geraci) Nays: 0

**Financial Report – March 2023 Vouchers and Abstracts...**

**RESOLUTION #48-2023**

Councilman Hill and Councilman Olson introduced Res. No. 48 and moved its adoption:

**RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE PAYMENT OF MARCH 2023 ABSTRACTS**

RESOLVED, that the Horicon Town Board does hereby authorize the payment of the March 16, 2023 Vouchers and Abstracts as follows:

General Vouchers	#3	\$ 92,945.14
Highway Vouchers	#3	\$ 56,386.78

Ayes: 4 (Hill, Olson, Palmer, Geraci) Nays: 0

**Correspondence to the Board...**

- Cedarwood Engineering RE: 2022 Annual Landfill Report
- Association of Towns RE: Monthly Newsletter
- Richard Kruse RE: St. Teresa's Church
- Tom Geiger RE: Thank you to Highway Department for an outstanding job

**Reports...** Town Clerk, Justice, Assessor, Zoning, Tax Collector, NWEMS, Landfill, Historian

Discussion on reports...

-Supervisor Geraci asked Barb French if there are still things being taken at the landfill at no charge that the Town is paying to dispose of. Barb said she is still taking cardboard, glass, magazines, and plastic at no charge. Supervisor Geraci said this is a cost to the Town and asked Barb for suggestions. Barb said the Town can always charge for the recycling or maybe purchase a drive-on scale, and she noted she has contacted other towns and they have not made any changes in fees for recyclables yet. Councilman Palmer said he has not seen a recent report, but said the Landfill is not supposed to make money because it is a service to the people. He said to wait for the latest report and go from there. Councilman Hill said he looked into a commercial scale and it would cost the Town approximately \$100,000.00. He will research this further just to have a comparison.

**Supervisor's Report** – see copy attached

**Town Board Committee Reports** – see copies attached

*Additional comments:*

-Councilman Hill said he is working on the issue with the parking area by the lower dam and headway is being made. He said Rob and Shane will be doing spring clean up in the cemeteries starting in May and a notice will go in the paper letting people know.

***Resolutions:***

Councilman Palmer and Councilman Olson introduced Resolutions #49 to #57 and moved their adoption:

Ayes: 4 (Palmer, Olson, Hill, Geraci) Nays: 0

**RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE PLANTING OF TREES IN PARK**

RESOLVED, that the Horicon Town Board does hereby authorize ESSLA to plant, and maintain, several American Chestnut trees in the park in Adirondack.

**RESOLUTION TO PURCHASE STAGE AND TENT FROM HIGH PEAKS ENTERTAINMENT**

RESOLVED, that the Horicon Town Board does hereby authorize the purchase of a 12'x16' stage and tent from High Peaks Entertainment at a cost of \$11,494.00. Funding for this will come from Warren County Occupancy Tax.

**RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE RENTAL OF RESTROOM TRAILER FROM MIKE'S PORTABLES**

RESOLVED, that the Horicon Town Board does hereby authorize Supervisor Geraci to sign the rental contract with, and authorize payment to, Mike's Portables for the rental of a restroom trailer at a cost of \$9,200.00. Funding for this will be taken from Publicity Fund (A6410.4).

**RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE REPLACEMENT OF LIGHTS IN THE MEETING ROOM**

RESOLVED, that the Horicon Town Board does hereby authorize JA Electric to replace the light fixtures in the meeting room at a cost of \$769.51.

**RESOLUTION TO APPOINT KRISTENA WILLIAMS AS HORICON ZONING ADMINISTRATOR**

RESOLVED that the Horicon Town Board does hereby appoint Kristena Williams as part-time Horicon Zoning Administrator effective March 17, 2023 at the hourly rate of \$19.23 per hour through April 16, 2023, and be it further

RESOLVED, that effective April 17, 2023 Kristena will become full-time Zoning Administrator at an annual salary of \$40,000.00 (\$1538.47 per pay period).

**RESOLUTION TO APPOINT INTERIM ZONING ADMINISTRATOR**

RESOLVED, that the Horicon Town Board does hereby appoint Christine Hayes as Interim Zoning Administrator, effective immediately, at the pay rate of \$20.00 per hour outside of her regularly scheduled work hours.

**RESOLUTION TO HIRE TERESA LOUNSBURY AS BOOKKEEPER**

RESOLVED that the Horicon Town Board does hereby hire Teresa Lounsbury as part-time Bookkeeper, effective March 17, 2023 at the pay rate of \$20.00 per hour.

**RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE PURCHASE OF TANDEM DUMP TRUCK**

RESOLVED, that the Horicon Town Board does hereby authorize Highway Superintendent Darian Granger to order a 2025 Western Star 47X tandem dump truck at the quoted cost of \$265,387.00.

**RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE BUDGET ADJUSTMENT IN THE GENERAL FUND**

RESOLVED, that the Horicon Town Board does hereby authorize the Bookkeeper to make the following budget adjustments in the General Fund:

Account	Description	Debit	Credit
A599	Appropriated Fund Balance	\$ 2,200.00	
A7510.401	Historian Electric Contractual		\$ 400.00

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A7510.402	Historian Fuel Contractual		\$ 1,800.00
A1620.4	Buildings/Grounds Contractual	\$ 682.98	
A1620.2	Buildings/Grounds Equipment		\$ 682.98
A599	Appropriated Fund Balance	\$ 5,000.00	
A8160.120	Refuse & Garbage – P/T		\$ 5,000.00

**Old Business...**

*Highway garage floor repair bids:* Supervisor Geraci said the Clerk advertised for bids for the Highway Garage floor repair and one bid was received, and publicly opened at the February 16<sup>th</sup> meeting, from Absolute Remediation and Construction LLC which included the required three separate repair options. Supervisor Geraci said he asked the Highway Committee to meet with HS Darian Granger to review the bid options and make a recommendation at this meeting.

**RESOLUTION #58-2023**

Councilman Palmer and Councilman Hill introduced Res. No. 58 and moved its adoption:

**RESOLUTION TO AWARD FLOOR REPAIR BID**

WHEREAS, the Town Board legally advertised for bids for repair to the floor in the Horicon Highway Garage, and one bid was received from Absolute Remediation and Construction LLC and publicly opened on February 16<sup>th</sup> at 6:15 PM, and

WHEREAS, the repair options were reviewed by the Highway Committee and the Highway Superintendent, and, now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Horicon Town Board does hereby award the bid, option #3, for the floor repair at the Highway Garage to Absolute Remediation and Construction LLC for the bid price of \$76,000.00.

Ayes: 4 (Palmer, Hill, Olson, Geraci) Nays: 0

*Salt use on roadways:* Supervisor Geraci asked HS Darian Granger to talk about what the Town is doing in regard to salt reduction. HS Granger said he went back to 2016 and they used between 1,300 and 1,400 tons of salt that year, as of today they have used 657 tons. He said they cannot reduce the salt usage anymore and explained he basically uses enough salt to keep the sand from freezing. HS Granger said the amount of salt can be more or less, of course, depending on the winter we are having. He talked to other Highway Superintendents and he said Bolton has used 2,500 tons of salt so far this year, and Chester has used 1,800 tons so far this year. As far as an environmental impact, he said they use an equivalent of about three five-gallon buckets of salt on Palisades Road which has a lot less impact than the pure salt the State uses on Route 8 during a storm. He said the Town is doing all they can to keep salt usage to a bare minimum.

*Update on Municipal investment options:* Supervisor Geraci explained that when they looked at the interest the Town earned on their investments last year it was just over \$600.00 on a couple of million dollars. Recently the interest rates on municipal CD's have gone up quite a bit so the Town has invested in a nine-month CD at an interest rate of 5.12%. Supervisor Geraci said the interest on the CD will be approximately \$102,000 which is much better than the few hundred dollars the Town was earning on investments before. He said other Town accounts have been switched to money market accounts which will also earn interest. He said he would like to earmark this interest money for improvements on the property. He said one of the things that is needed is public restrooms. Supervisor Geraci asked Councilman Hill to gather information on building restrooms, what is possible, what size, costs, etc., and prepare a plan for next year. The Board felt this is a good idea.

*Proposed Zoning Law Amendments:* Councilman Palmer said he has been working on a couple of Zoning Law amendments with Councilman Olson and Chris Hayes that address travel trailers and "junk". Christine Hayes explained the proposed changes.

**RESOLUTION #59-2023**

Councilman Palmer and Councilman Olson introduced Res. No. 59 and moved its adoption:

**RESOLUTION FOR THE TOWN OF HORICON TO DECLARE INTENT TO BE LEAD AGENCY FOR SEQRA REVIEW FOR PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE HORICON ZONING LAW**

RESOLVED, that the Horicon Town Board hereby declares its intent to be Lead Agency for SEQRA review of proposed amendments to the Horicon Zoning Law, and, be it further

RESOLVED, that the Town Board directs the Town Clerk to send copies of the proposed amendments to the Adirondack Park Agency for preliminary review along with a copy of this Resolution stating the Town Board's intention to be Lead Agency.

Ayes: 4 (Palmer, Olson, Hill, Geraci) Nays: 0

***New Business...***

*Fuel / Propane / HVAC maintenance agreements:*

**RESOLUTION #60-2023**

Councilman Olson and Councilman Hill introduced Res. No. 60 and moved its adoption:

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING SOLICITATION OF BIDS FOR ANNUAL HVAC MAINTENANCE AGREEMENT**

RESOLVED, that the Horicon Town Board does hereby authorize the Town Clerk to solicit, by legal advertisement, bids for an annual HVAC maintenance agreement for all Town buildings. Bids are to be opened Thursday, April 20, 2023 at 1:00 pm.

Ayes: 4 (Olson, Hill, Palmer, Geraci) Nays: 0

*Sidewalk repair:* Councilman Hill solicited for quotes to do the sidewalk repair and Northwoods Concrete has been chosen for the concrete work and Pratt Trucking & Excavating for the excavation work.

**RESOLUTION #61-2023**

Councilman Palmer and Councilman Hill introduced Res. No. 61 and moved its adoption:

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING COMMUNITY CENTER SIDEWALK REPAIR**

RESOLVED, that the Horicon Town Board does hereby authorize replacement of the front sidewalk at the Community Center. Removal of the existing sidewalk and prep for the new sidewalk to be done by Pratt Trucking and Excavating, LLC at a cost not to exceed \$19,787.00, and sidewalk concrete work to be done by Northwoods Concrete at a cost not to exceed \$17,560.00; funds for the repair will come from A1620.4 – Buildings Contractual.

Ayes: 4 (Palmer, Hill, Olson, Geraci) Nays: 0

*Handicap entryway door:* Councilman Hill solicited for quotes to install the handicap door and Kelley Brothers, LLC has been chosen for this project.

**RESOLUTION #62-2023**

Councilman Palmer and Councilman Olson introduced Res. No. 62 and moved its adoption:

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING INSTALLATION OF HANDICAP DOOR IN COMMUNITY CENTER**

RESOLVED, that the Horicon Town Board does hereby authorize the installation of a handicap entryway door in the Community Center by Kelley Brothers, LLC at a cost not to exceed 9,850.00; funds for the repair will come from A1620.4 – Buildings Contractual.

Ayes: 4 (Palmer, Olson, Hill, Geraci) Nays: 0

*NYS Dept of Public Service – Comprehensive Broadband Connectivity:* Virtual Hearings will be held on March 21, 2023 regarding the Comprehensive Broadband Connectivity Act of 2021. Information regarding this matter, including a copy of the issues, can be found at [www.dps.ny.gov](http://www.dps.ny.gov). From the homepage, click on "Search," and enter the associated matter number (22-M-0313) in the "Search by Case Number" field.

**Announcements:** Supervisor Geraci had two announcements.

- He explained that Warren County has a new app called the Warren County Ready app which allows for two-way communication regarding emergency notifications. He encouraged all residents to register for this app.
- He explained that Warren County Health Services has provided the Town with contact information if someone has concerns about the care, cleanliness, or other issues at a skilled nursing facility. He said the Ombudsman program is a collaboration with Catholic Charities and other agencies who will follow-up on concerns and/or complaints.

***Privilege of the Floor...***

-Teri Schuerlein asked, in regard to the recent bank collapse, if the Town funds that have been invested are guaranteed. Supervisor Geraci said he feels confident the funds are protected based on research and conversations. He said he knows people are very concerned with what has been going on in the banking industry recently, but he is confident the Town funds are secure. Teri also thanked the Board for their purchase of the stage and rental of the restrooms for the summer.

- Chris DeGiovine thanked the Board for allowing them to plant the trees in the park in Adirondack.

***Adjourn...*** There being no further business to attend to the meeting was adjourned at 7:03 PM by MOTION of Councilman Olson and Councilman Hill, all in favor.

Respectfully Submitted:

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Town Clerk