

**HORICON TOWN BOARD
REGULAR MEETING**

**SEPTEMBER 19, 2024
6:00 PM**

Present at meeting:	Michael Geraci	Supervisor
	Kayla Carlozzi Hodgson	Councilmember
	John Francisco	Councilmember
	Teri Schuerlein	Councilmember
	Ed Sim	Councilmember
	Krista Wood	Town Clerk

Also: Becky Ross, Curt Smith, Barb French, Assessor Christine Hayes, ZA Craig Leggett, Camille Dougan, Matt Wood, Bob and Sylvia Smith, Scott Hayes, John and Joan Caruso, Wayne Butler, John Dunn, Cindy Mead, Drew Cappabianca, Dave Bourque, and Diane Dreyer.

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

Approval of Minutes: Minutes of the August 15, 2024 meeting approved by Motion of Councilmember Schuerlein and Councilmember Hodgson.

Ayes: 5 (Schuerlein, Hodgson, Sim, Francisco, Geraci) Nays: 0

Ben Driscoll – Catholic Charities of Saratoga, Warren, and Washington Counties:

Mr. Driscoll explained that his job is to go out into the communities and talk about the programs and services that are available to people that need assistance, such as the SNAP program, food stamps, HEAP (which helps with utility bills), Veterans Services, etc. He said these programs and services are very important, and he goes out to the Town Boards to ask them to share this information with their constituents.

Monthly Abstract:

RESOLUTION #118-2024

Councilmember Sim and Councilmember Hodgson introduced Res. No. 118 and moved its adoption:

RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE PAYMENT OF SEPTEMBER 2024 ABSTRACTS

RESOLVED, that the Horicon Town Board does hereby authorize the payment of the September 19, 2024 Vouchers and Abstracts as follows:

General Vouchers	#9	\$ 37,715.77
Highway Vouchers	#9	\$ 378,807.53

Ayes: 5 (Sim, Hodgson, Francisco, Schuerlein, Geraci) Nays: 0

Correspondence to the Board :

- Matt Milim RE: Letter regarding proposed Local Law for ice retardant systems

Supervisor Geraci noted the Board has received this letter, it was forwarded to the committee, and it is being worked on.

Reports: Town Clerk, Justice, Zoning, Assessor, Transfer Station, Library, NWEMS, Historian, Historical Society and Horicon Fire Company

Supervisor’s Report: see copy attached.

Town Board Liaison Reports: see copies attached.

Additional comments:

-Councilmember Hodgson commended the Fire Department for the Kid’s Bingo night. She also encouraged people to fill out the Town of Horicon Comprehensive Plan survey; there is a link to the survey on the Town’s website and Facebook page, or a copy can be picked up at the Town Hall. She noted these surveys will help the committee as they continue to work on the Comprehensive Plan.

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-Councilmember Schuerlein spoke about the great presentations given by the Horicon Historical Society and Town Historian Colleen Murtagh this summer, noting how interesting they were. Councilmember Schuerlein said the Fire Department held a community BBQ which was a nice community event.

Resolutions:

Councilmember Hodgson and Councilmember Schuerlein introduced Resolutions #119 to #130 and moved their adoption:

RESOLUTION #119-2024

RESOLUTION TO SET A PUBLIC HEARING FOR A POTENTIAL LOCAL LAW REGARDING ICE-RETARDANT SYSTEMS

RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Horicon does hereby set a public hearing for a potential Local Law for an Ice-Retardant System Policy for Thursday, October 17, 2024 at 6:00 PM.

RESOLUTION #120-2024

RESOLUTION TO AMEND BOOKKEEPER JOB TITLE

WHEREAS, the Town Board hired Anna Whitman as Bookkeeper and now wishes to amend that job title, now, therefore be it

RESOLVED that the Town Board of the Town of Horicon does hereby change the job title of Bookkeeper to Account Clerk / Budget Officer.

RESOLUTION #121-2024

RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE ATTENDANCE AT THE AOT FALL PLANNING & ZONING SCHOOL

RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Horicon does hereby authorize ZA Craig Leggett to attend the AOT Fall Planning & Zoning School in Syracuse on Monday, September 23, 2024. The cost of the school is \$80 plus reimbursement for mileage.

RESOLUTION #122-2024

RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE THE PURCHASE OF A FOLDING/INSERTING MACHINE

RESOLVED, that the Horicon Town Board does hereby authorize the purchase of a used DS64i Folding/Inserting machine at a cost of \$4,495.00. Funds to come from A1620.2 (Buildings – Equipment).

RESOLUTION #123-2024

RESOLUTION TO HIRE HIGHWAY MEO

RESOLVED, that the Horicon Town Board does hereby authorize Highway Superintendent Darian Granger to hire Thomas Millington as a full-time MEO at a pay rate of \$24.74 per hour.

RESOLUTION #124-2024

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASE OF SPLIT A/C AND HEAT UNITS FOR THE HORICON MUSEUM

RESOLVED, that the Horicon Town Board does hereby authorize the purchase and installation of split a/c and heat units at the Horicon Museum by Chuck's Heating and Cooling at a cost not to exceed \$19,820.00, and be it further RESOLVED, that the Board authorizes a deposit in the amount of \$12,500.00 be paid to Chuck's Heating and Cooling, with the balance due upon completion of the installation of the units, and be it further RESOLVED, that the Horicon Historical Society will pay fifty (50%) of the total cost of the units.

RESOLUTION #125-2024

RESOLUTION TO APPROVE THE CSEA CONTRACT AS PROPOSED

RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Horicon does hereby approve, and authorize the Supervisor to sign, the new CSEA contract as proposed for a four-year term which will take effect January 1, 2025.

RESOLUTION #126-2024

RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE SUPERVISOR TO SIGN CONTRACT WITH NIGHT SKY PRODUCTIONS, LLC

RESOLVED, that the Horicon Town Board does hereby authorize Supervisor Geraci to sign the contract with Night Sky Productions, LLC for the coordination of the fireworks display, being provided by Santore's World Famous Fireworks, LLC on August 29, 2025, at a cost of \$2,500.00. Funding for this will be taken from Publicity Fund (A6410.4).

RESOLUTION #127-2024

RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE SUPERVISOR TO SIGN CONTRACT WITH SANTORE'S WORLD FAMOUS FIREWORKS, LLC

RESOLVED, that the Horicon Town Board does hereby authorize Supervisor Geraci to sign the contract with Santore's World Famous Fireworks, LLC for the fireworks display on August 29, 2025 at a cost of \$2,500.00. Funding for this will be taken from Publicity Fund (A6410.4).

RESOLUTION #128-2024

RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE THE PURCHASE OF A LOADER FOR HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

RESOLVED, that the Horicon Town Board does hereby authorize the Highway Superintendent to purchase, under NYS OGS contract #PC70139, a new 2024 John Deere 524P Wheel Loader at a cost of \$178,965.00. Funds to come from DA5130.2 (Machinery-Equipment).

RESOLUTION #129-2024

RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE BUDGET ADJUSTMENT

RESOLVED, that the Horicon Town Board does hereby authorize the Bookkeeper to make budget adjustments in the Highway fund as follows:

Highway Fund:

<u>Account:</u>	<u>Description:</u>	<u>Debit:</u>	<u>Credit:</u>
DA5110.4	General Repairs	\$ 70,000.00	
DA5130.2	Equipment – Machinery		\$ 70,000.00
DA599	Unexpended Fund Balance	\$ 80,000.00	
DA5130.2	Equipment – Machinery		\$ 80,000.00

RESOLUTION #130-2024

RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE SUPERVISOR TO HIRE CLERK, PART-TIME

WHEREAS, there is a vacancy in the Zoning office, and a candidate has been selected to fill the position, and now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Horicon Town Board does hereby authorize Supervisor Geraci to make an offer to the selected candidate, at the pay rate of \$19.00 per hour, for the position of Clerk, Part-Time prior to the October meeting.

Old Business: None

New Business:

Advertise for annual HVAC maintenance bids: Supervisor Geraci explained that the Town's contract for HVAC maintenance has expired and the Board needs to advertise for bids.

RESOLUTION #131-2024

Councilmember Sim and Councilmember Schuerlein introduced Res. No. 131 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 at the Town Board meeting Thursday, October 17, 2024.

Ayes: 5 (Sim, Schuerlein, Francisco, Hodgson, Geraci) Nays: 0

2025 Tentative Budget: The Clerk presented the 2025 Tentative Budget to the Town Board members, and Supervisor Geraci asked for a motion to set the public hearing for the budget workshop meeting.

RESOLUTION #132-2024

Councilmember Sim and Councilmember Schuerlein introduced Res. No. 132 and moved its adoption:

RESOLUTION TO SET 2025 BUDGET WORKSHOP MEETING

RESOLVED, that the Horicon Town Board does hereby set the 2025 Budget Workshop meeting for Thursday, October 17, 2024 at 5:00 PM at the Horicon Community Center.

Ayes: 5 (Sim, Schuerlein, Francisco, Hodgson, Geraci) Nays: 0

Proposed Local Law #2 of 2024 to override the tax cap: Supervisor Geraci said the Board would like to pass a Local Law allowing them to exceed the 2% tax cap. He said they will likely not need to exceed the tax cap, but this will allow them to exceed the tax cap if it becomes necessary.

RESOLUTION #133-2024

Councilmember Sim and Councilmember Schuerlein introduced Res. No. 133 and moved its adoption:

RESOLUTION TO SET A PUBLIC HEARING FOR PROPOSED LOCAL LAW #2 OF 2024

RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Horicon does hereby set a Public Hearing for proposed Local Law #2 of 2024 To Override the 2% Tax Cap for Thursday, October 17, 2024 at 6:00 PM.

Ayes: 5 (Sim, Schuerlein, Francisco, Hodgson, Geraci) Nays: 0

Consideration of Revaluation: Supervisor Geraci explained that the Town's equalization rate has dropped below 100% and the Board needs to consider whether or not to do a revaluation. He asked Assessor Christine Hayes to explain the process and why a reval may need to be done. Assessor Christine Hayes said the last reval was done in 2022, and the one before that was done in 2008. She explained that the state wants the Towns to have a 100% equalization rate each year; the Town's equalization rate is currently 85% which means the assessments are below market value. She did an analysis and expects it to drop to 75%-80%. She explained that to get the rate back up to 100% the Town will need to do a reval. Ms. Hayes explained that the Town's sales tax income is based on assessed value so if the equalization rate goes up then the Town will get more sales tax money. She has bids from companies to do the reval ranging from under \$100,000 up to \$300,000. Supervisor Geraci asked Assessor Hayes how long the process takes; Assessor Hayes said it takes about two years. Supervisor Geraci said the Board needs to make a decision in the next couple of months on whether or not they want to move forward with a revaluation.

Wayne Butler – Brant Lake Association presentation regarding Eurasian Milfoil – see attached.

Privilege of the Floor:

-Drew Cappabianca asked the Town Board for a letter of no objection for the Liquor Authority for Flannel Fest. The Board will provide the letter.

-ZA Craig Leggett explained that something came up at the Planning Board meeting regarding a property that borders Landfill Road. He said the survey that was done on the property shows the property owner owns the access, or the egress, from the Transfer Station. Mr. Leggett said that in order for the applicant to move forward with their subdivision application the Planning Board asked that there be an easement in place between the Town and the property owner. Mr. Leggett said he believes the surveyor did his research and the survey is correct. So, the Town will need to receive an easement from the property owner to cross the piece of property. Supervisor Geraci asked

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ZA Leggett what is needed from the Board to move forward. ZA Leggett said there could be a resolution from the Town Board to pursue obtaining an easement from the property owner. Supervisor Geraci asked the Board what they want to do. Motion was made by Councilmember Hodgson to pursue the easement.

RESOLUTION #134-2024

Councilmember Hodgson and Councilmember Sim introduced Res. No. 134 and moved its adoption:

RESOLUTION TO PURSUE EASEMENT

WHEREAS, a recent survey map shows a portion of the Landfill access is on the property of an adjoining landowner, and now, therefore be it
RESOLVED, that the Horicon Town Board will pursue obtaining an easement from the property owner for the Landfill access.

Ayes: 5 (Hodgson, Sim, Schuerlein, Francisco, Geraci) Nays: 0

-Dave Bourque, BLA, said the BLA is now partnering with the Horicon Historical Society in trying to document the history of the Brant Lake Association; he said they have records going back to the early 1900's. He asks that if anyone has any historical information at all, any names, any dates, any pamphlets, etc., that might contribute to this project to please let him know.

Announcements:

Supervisor Geraci reminded everyone that the next Town Board meeting will be Thursday, October 17, 2024 at 6:00 pm, and the Board will hold the budget workshop meeting just prior to that at 5:00 pm.

Adjourn... There being no further business to attend to the meeting was adjourned at 7:20 PM by MOTION of Councilmember Francisco and Councilmember Schuerlein, all in favor.

Respectfully Submitted:

Town Clerk