

MINUTES OF PUBLIC HEARING TO DISCUSS THE ABANDONMENT OF A PORTION OF RUSK HOLLOW ROAD HELD AT 5:45 PM AND WORKSHOP MEETING OF THE TOWN BOARD OF THE TOWN OF HUNTER HELD AT 6:00 PM ON THUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 2023, AT THE TOWN HALL LOCATED ON RTE. 23A IN TANNERSVILLE, NEW YORK

Present:	Sean Mahoney	Supervisor
	David Kukle	Councilman
	Raymond Legg	Councilman
	Ernest Reale	Councilman
	Dolph Semenza	Councilman
	Corina Pascucci	Town Clerk
Others Present:	Lara Hamrah-Poladian	Secretary to the Supervisor
	Marc Czermerys	Planning Board Chairman
	Sgt. Robert Haines	Hunter Police Department
	Sarah Pellizzari(left 6:23)	Code Enforcement Officer
	Robert Blain	Superintendent of Highways
	Venessa Richards	Ambulance Administrator
	Rose Santiago	Code Enforcement Department
	Plus, all names on attached listing.	

**PUBLIC HEARING**

Supervisor Mahoney makes a MOTION to open the Public Hearing at 5:48 PM. Seconded by Councilman Legg.

Ayes -5-                      Noes -0-

NOTICE OF HEARING TO HEAR PUBLIC COMMENT ON THE QUALIFIED ABANDONMENT OF A PORTION OF RUSK HOLLOW ROAD

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the Town Board of the Town of Hunter will hold a public hearing on September 12, 2023, at 5:45 p.m. at the Town Hall, 5742 State Route 23A, Tannersville, NY 12485, to hear public comment on the proposed abandonment of a portion of Rusk Hollow Road, a Town Highway, including all portions of Rusk Hollow Road west of the following location:

DESCRIPTION OF THE TERMINUS OF RUSK HOLLOW ROAD – TOWN HIGHWAY

Beginning at a point in the center and end of pavement (22 foot wide) on lands now or formerly of Hunter Mountain Base Lodge, Inc. as described in Instrument # D2016-163 (Tax Map No. 163.00-3-19) at the westerly end of a 50 foot by 60 foot paved turn-a-round area, said point being approximately 2500 feet westerly measured along the center of said road from the intersection with the center of Clearview Road, approximately 2870 feet westerly from the intersection with the line of the Village of Hunter and also being approx. North 84° West 124 feet from the southwest corner of lands now or formerly of Donald Kritzer as described in Liber 959 of Deeds at Page 106.

No speakers.

Supervisor Mahoney makes a MOTION to close the Public Hearing at 6:00 PM. Seconded by Councilman Semenza.

Ayes -5-

Noes -0-

6:00PM AGENDA ITEMS

Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

### **AUDIT**

The following vouchers were audited and approved for payment:

General Fund (TW) Voucher #338 through #361 in the amount of \$27,361.93

General Fund (TOS) Voucher #1048 through #1051 in the amount of \$1,069.11

Highway Fund (TW) Voucher #125 through #134 in the amount of \$9,618.42

Highway Fund (TOS) Voucher #1068 through #1073 in the amount of \$104,578.17

Landfill Closure Fund Voucher #71 through #73 in the amount of \$1,765.39

### **POLICE**

Update on body cameras and update on Laurel House Rd & towing operations.

Supervisor Mahoney states the Town Board is behind Sgt. Haines budgeting for body cameras.

Sgt. Haines is getting pricing with a total approximate cost of \$4,000. He adds that the backup for the cameras would be stored at the Greene County Sheriff's Office, and they are working with the Sherriff's Office to determine who would have access and remote access needs.

Discussion on towing for this weekend – to be determined.

Supervisor Mahoney asks Sgt. Haines for an estimate of Full-time hourly rate cost to staff Laurel House Rd. for next year.

**TROLLEY**-Update on parking in Clove and Trolley operations (Ryan Chadwick/Cody Leach)

R. Chadwick states he has staffing issues post Labor Day and the Trolley's were booked for private events that the customers had already paid for. He adds the ridership is up with over 2,500 riders this year compared to 500 last year. He states that next year he will offer one trolley for private events, leaving the second trolley always in service. He states most of his drivers were school bus drivers who go back to school after Labor Day, adding that he is continuing to look for drivers. He felt that there were not enough riders to keep the North South Lake stop in the schedule, adding that it took a full hour to run through the park.

Supervisor Mahoney suggests keeping the trolley running and opening the ice climber parking lot and the Rat Hole slip lane open for parking by pulling the barrels and removing the trolley parking only and No Parking signage. He will notify NYSDEC and NYSDOT. He adds that the impound lot will cease to operate and the Hunter Police Department will continue to ticket in all no parking zones. He states the Laurel House detail will continue through Columbus weekend or possibly the weekend after.

R. Chadwick will post this information on the Trolley's social media and Supervisor Mahoney will do the same for the Town.

Supervisor Mahoney makes a MOTION to remove the seasonal parking prohibition at the Ice Climbers Lot and the Rat Hole slip lane, cease towing operations as of the weekend of 16/17 however the town will continue to ticket and enforce Town of Hunter parking regulations.

Seconded by Councilman Semenza.

Ayes -5-

Noes -0-

The Trolley stop signage in both locations and the orange barrels will be removed immediately. The remainder of locations in the Clove with signs and barriers labeled No Parking, No Standing, No Stopping and simply No Parking will remain labeled as such and those No Parking ordinance intact.

The board thanks the Kaaterskill Trolley for all that they do.

### **AMBULANCE**

V. Richards states the new ambulance is at a standstill due to 84-1 not being in service. She expects it to be back in service within the next couple of weeks.

Discussion on new radios which she will price out for the 2024 budget cycle.

### **HIGHWAY**

Supervisor Mahoney makes a MOTION to authorize putting the purchase of a 2007-2009 Freightliner Bucket truck out for bid, not to exceed \$25,500. Seconded by Councilman Semenza.

Ayes -5-

Noes -0-

Discuss abandonment of a portion of Rusk Hollow Road.

Supervisor Mahoney makes a MOTION to approve the abandonment of a portion of Rusk Hollow Road, a Town Highway, including all portions of Rusk Hollow Road west of the following location:

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Seconded by Councilman Legg.

Ayes -4-

Noes -0-

Abstains -1- (Kukle)

**BUDGET** – Budget workshop set for 10/4/23 at 6:00 PM.

**SHORT TERM RENTALS** - Discussion Twilight Park (Joanne Ainsworth, Susan Tressler and Nathan Hommel)

J. Ainsworth explains the uniqueness of Twilight Park, adding the Town of Hunter Short Term Rental law negatively impacts Twilight. She states that renters go through an extensive review process. Renters are vetted via a phone conversation with her and a Cottager in good standing needs to sponsor the renter and after meeting with them, write a letter of recommendation. The renter must then participate in a meeting and if approved she then writes the lease. The rental

window is short, July through August, as the pipes are drained, and the water is shut off for the cold months. She adds that 12% of the rental fee charged by the Cottager goes to Twilight Park. They feel that the fees associated with a Short-Term Rental permit will make people not want to rent their homes which will negatively impact Twilight. Anyone interested in buying a home in Twilight can't do so unless they have rented a home withing the park for a minimum of two weeks so this would make it harder for someone to sell their home. She states that Twilight manages itself and many of the Short-Term Rental guidelines such as trash, parking, fireplace maintenance, etc. are spelled out in a newsletter that goes out to everyone every two weeks during their open months. She adds that occupancy standards have never been a problem. Supervisor Mahoney states that he understands the uniqueness of this, adding that the board has been developing this law over two years requesting input from the community and feels it is unfortunate that the board is just hearing from Twilight Park now. He adds that if modifications were to be made for Twilight, how would that look for others who could make a similar case. Councilman Semenza states that rentals over 30 days are exempt from the Short-Term Rental law so maybe that would be an option for the members of Twilight who wish to rent their homes. Discussion if Twilight Park were to apply for Short Term Rental permits, would it be one entity or each home individually as Twilight Park owns all the land. Town Board to discuss further. Larry Gardner states Twilight Park is not an "extensive Short Term Rental area as the law addresses adding they are renting two weeks out of 52 and few houses are being rented out. He feels that the law could be amended.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Supervisor Mahoney makes a MOTION to go into Executive Session at 8:19 to discuss personnel. Seconded by Councilman Kukle.

Ayes -5-                      Noes -0-

CP and LHP excused.

Supervisor Mahoney makes a MOTION to come out of Executive Session at 9:50 PM. Seconded by Councilman Kukle.

Ayes -5-                      Noes -0-

**POLICE CONTRACTS**

Councilman Reale makes a MOTION to authorize the Town Board to sign employment contracts for Town of Hunter Police force members Amy Weiland, Marino Romito and Russ McCabe for employment contracts as presented on this date. Seconded by Councilman Legg.

Ayes -5-                      Noes -0-

Supervisor Mahoney makes a MOTION to adjourn at 9:51 PM. Seconded by Councilman Kukle.

Ayes -5-                      Noes -0-

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Corina Pascucci, Town Clerk, RMC  
Town of Hunter