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**COUNTY OF GREENE
TOWN OF NEW BALTIMORE
WORK MEETING
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OPENING OF MEETING

The meeting was called to order by Supervisor O'Rorke at 7:33 pm and followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. In attendance: Councilwoman Benway, Councilman Norris, and 15 members of the public who signed attendance sheet. Absent: Councilwoman Finkle, Councilman Meredith, Town Clerk Brooks (injury).

PRESENTATION - STEVE GRIMM, NY RURAL WATER ASSOCIATION

Last year, the Town Board requested that Steve Grimm develop a Comprehensive Performance Evaluation (CPE), a US Environmental Protection Agency format, on the nearly-30 year old wastewater treatment plant as it stands today. This format doesn't just evaluate physical attributes; it identifies possibly 70 performance living factors and Steve focuses tonight on more serious factors rated 'A' and some that received 'B'.

Biggest issue Steve identifies is process control probability; there is no way to adequately control process, pumps are on or off and need to have ability to control. Chief operator Polverelli comes when he sees a need, or the pumps are left on, taxing other components in the system and adding electricity cost. Supervisor adds that chief operator is a diligent town resident and comes frequently to adjust pumps. Steve said the return pumps are rated for 278,000 gallons/day and wastewater plant is designed for 60,000 gallons/day; currently 20-25,000 gallons/day processing, but if it returned 270,000 gallons the plant is overtaxed. There is no automation, no way for remote monitoring or presets, and regarding an alarm system. After prolonged discussion, an autodialer was installed at Cornell Park pump station, and further discussions yielded a cell phone for chief operator so if there was an alarm he could respond. A red light, out of sight of road or houses, at plant indicates high water; if sewage did overflow, a violation would be reported to NYSDEC, and this has been mentioned in their reports.

Sludge wasting capability- chief operator has one digester, or sludge holding tank, to waste sludge. NYSDEC has been asking that that be put into a secondary clarifier; if that waste tank is used as a secondary clarifier, there is no way for the excess sludge to be wasted at that plant. In the equalization tank there is a small compartment, but no piping to allow the sludge to get from clarifier to digester or digester to drying bed. Will DEC push more; it has been on report several years now.

Sludge treatment- with limited digester space, affects how sludge can be thickened, you want a thicker sludge on the drying beds, limited space in the beds, the more backlog in the system leading to operational problems.

Process flexibility- currently one mode of operation and for an extended duration; if flexible to switch things around during high flow, the result would be better performance and fewer problems.

Age- most equipment was installed when built, few upgrades, as equipment has failed it was replaced in kind (a 1986 pump replaced by a 2006 model), Cornell Pump Station's new pumps did not match up with the mating plate at bottom, after several days of trying, had to fabricate something. Supervisor reminded that those pumps' parts were delayed or obsolete at 10-11 years and close to 80% of flow goes through the Pump Station.

The "I and I" or Inflow and Infiltration issue, while not major (Coxsackie has more problems), grit is entering the system, particularly at Cornell, and wearing out the pumps. Steve and Jim Polverelli have performed nearly 18 months of manhole inspections trying to isolate the areas.

Planning- the chief operator provides the Town Board with a wish list each year, and needs thoughtful budgeting and preventive maintenance so that the reactive repairs are minimized.

The treatment plant is capable of handling its current load, biggest drawback is the sludge-wasting capabilities and sludge treatment; should look at, especially if DEC requires it, convert the sludge digester to a secondary clarifier for additional sludge storage and optimal performance. Chief operator does very well keeping plant in compliance; equipment has reached useful life.

Short-term suggestions: create a dedicated Capital Reserve Fund for upgrading. Supervisor said a Capital Reserve Fund exists for the sewer, each year the intent is to add \$20,000 but has been

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bitten into by repairs; Repair Fund was funded very well and has a balance. The concrete covers on oxidation ditches have been there since plant was put online are deteriorating; gravel and grit are falling into oxidation ditch. Highway Superintendent has met with chief operator, a catwalk will be put up so all the slabs can be removed; without slabs railings will be needed. Arlene McKeon asked if there was a source that used recycled plastic; Councilman Norris said they do not need to be replaced. Steve said they were put on to hold heat in during winter months; concrete makes them difficult to move in summer and difficult to see process moving; if this were northern New York he would suggest covers, here it is not so much an issue. Steve and Jim Polverelli will continue manhole evaluations and 'I and I' study this spring. Inflow is water coming directly into manhole, infiltration is crack in sewer main where ground water is seeping in; NY Rural Water has a camera for viewing.

A written preventive maintenance plan- Jim Polverelli has a good handle on maintenance now; DEC will be looking for written plan. Supervisor said an emergency plan is nearly done, for any operator to use. Steve has templates of tools that other communities have put together.

Consider adding a polymer- when pouring sludge to drying beds, this will help break water from the solids so not such a backlog with solids. Councilman Norris has researched this online, very effective in less than 1/2 or even 1/4 of the time to dry the sludge; Jim P has reached out to two companies for a 55gal drum purchase. A suggestion for a treatment plant upgrade: variable frequency drivers for the motors to adjust speed and amperage; grants through NYSERDA for better than 1/2 reimbursed and rebate, and savings on electricity. Steve suggests a mechanical dewatering for sludge drying beds, making things as efficient and easy as possible to provide for growth, and to close the headworks into the building, as it has freezing issues.

Supervisor said getting the comprehensive study done, determining where the plant is right now, need a railing system, seemed to be right time to go out for RFP for engineering services and have a full scope done for the plant and make a game plan for 5, 10, 15 year, buying pumps that will get us through the next bunch of years. If we cannot find the grit problem, then must get bigger and stronger and figure out how to do this. NY Rural Water will help us finish the process, go out for engineering services, get responses back, have 'sticker shock', pick and choose what we need out of them. Next step is to put together the RFP, probably the Sewer Committee, and 1-2 additional folk who live in the Sewer District No 1, doesn't affect those who do not live in the district who do not pay for it. Any type of upgrade you want to know what the public is thinking. Steve suggests committee together by mid-February, start the preliminaries, has done some work on his own, Request for Proposal for engineering services seeks proposals from firms that will look at what specifically we are asking for, discuss what we actually want done, Steve has a very good template and issue a specific RFP so that only desired issues are addressed. No cost to RFP but a bit of Liz Tedford's time to review, not binding to any engineer, just getting their estimates of what it will cost to put this report together. Prepare for costs anywhere \$10-\$35,000 for report. Funding agencies have put in requirements that have increased costs. Steve cautioned even with sticker shock, sign with an engineer for a Preliminary Report because any funding requires the Preliminary Report first. Supervisor said we cannot apply for any grants without that. Steve said preliminary ideas are required, hold and don't act, and when funding comes available, submit and you will have an overall picture of what needs doing and what it will cost, and ability to phase it in over several projects.

John Wallner asked how much would be covered by grants; Steve said it would all depend on state and feds and political climate, right now they are out there but very competitive; if you don't have an idea of what you want, you are behind the eight-ball. NYS Rural Development has a \$500,000 cap on their grants right now; John asked if they are 100%; no, Steve said usually matching 50/50, but that could include a combination of grants, leveraging one another. Recent grants have required a project be shovel-ready, if the project wasn't ready to go, no funding. Steve suggests budgeting to do the preliminaries, depending on federal government, may have Rural Development grants available, paying up to 50%. Steve has been told that although that program isn't there now, continue to promote and encourage projects because the program may return.

Ellie hoped that Sewer District residents knew Steve would be presenting, asked if conduit could be run to top of hill for the emergency light; Steve said you'd be relying on persons on or across the road. Ellie thought cost would be minimal; Supervisor could see from her home. Ellie clarified capacity again, and chance for the sludge to flow into the river and the Town fined; that

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chance exists, said Steve. Ellie asked whether possible to add automation to the pumps and at what expense; Steve said very possible, unsure of costs, but cautioned using a 'piecemeal' approach on a current pump when there is possibility of upgrade. Supervisor reminds many pieces have reached their life; Ellie believes a 20 year life for a pump may be idealistic; Steve estimates now 15 years is an expected life for a pump. Councilman Norris figured the Sewer District is midway toward taxing the plant. Steve said to qualify for low-interest, no-interest or hardship loans, median household income is used; Supervisor thought at last review the District would not make the cutoff; Steve said most are still using the 2000 US Census and felt it may change with 2010 US Census; Supervisor commented that the threshold could change. Liz Tedford was not present this evening to answer questions regarding the financing. Ellie asked if she would be able to attend Supervisor suggests a meeting for just Sewer District 1. The Preliminary Engineering Report will provide a roadmap, identifying short-term corrective actions and long-term goals, would it be cost effective to do with equipment at treatment plant, VFD's to put in certain targeted sites. Ellie asked Liz's background; previously worked for NY Rural Water as circuit stimulus writer, now working with Town of Peru on FEMA projects, very knowledgeable in funding process. Supervisor said last year the Town Board passed resolution on amount to engage Liz. Steve said she provides same service or better on the funding aspects. Steve will have reports to Supervisor by Friday; Councilman Norris and Supervisor will be in contact. Jim Polverelli continued that the alarm is currently on one tank, other items need to be tied into a system; relying on the red light and someone driving by is not effective; before the alarm at pump station, the pump station generator had run and did not shut off, 2 days; now it contacts Jim's cell phone regarding over flow. [unable to understand] Sometimes it is a matter of the operator getting together with a contractor. John Wallner suggests someone knowledgeable on the committee whether or not they live in the District. Councilman Norris commented on the Comprehensive report, very helpful, short-term items some have been addressed in the Committee; may also consider another use for sludge, green technology, but new issues there. Steve reminded sustainability is the next thing. John Wallner suggests if we follow a plan to get smaller issues done, when we go to engineers, beyond our capacity to make decision, Steve said this report saves the Town \$10,000 or more as comprehensive and understandable by a lay person. Supervisor commented this is the Town's good fortune as members of NY Rural Water, and thanked Jim Polverelli for all his work with Steve Grimm, and thanked Town Clerk Brooks for time and searches. Questions may be directed to Steve.

MONTHLY REPORTS

Supervisor received invitation to join Ravena-Coeymans-Selkirk Central Schools Budget Advisory Committee; attended first meeting; January 31 community meeting will kick-off 2012-13 budget and describe property tax cap effect on school district; Supervisor has invited presentation to Town Board. Supervisor extended invite to present to Cossackie-Athens Central School who will present at April 23 Work Meeting. Supervisor has conflict with Greenville Central's annual meeting this Saturday, is seeking another Board member, and has invited presentation to Town Board. Association of Towns Annual Meeting is in February, Councilman Norris will attend to cast vote, asked for any other Board members who wish to attend. Supervisor will put forth a resolution for the auditing of the checking account and the abstract, previously done by Councilman Meredith; the Town accountant balances the checkbook, Town Clerk prepares the abstract, Supervisor audits the vouchers against the checks, and Councilman Meredith audited the checking account against the abstract. Supervisor asks to establish a committee for updating the Town Code Book; the Town has gotten away from General Code, the task is onerous with each Code change, changes must be distributed to all with Code Books, keep track of those with Books and update the website; Supervisor will serve on the committee. Ellie asked would it be similar format to those had previously because she has found faults in new; Supervisor clarified 'old' is the small, hard brown cover, prior to zoning changes, unsure what expedited the change to new format. New Book was brought about due to money. Ellie has found things missing in the new Code Book, and has seen a number of violations in the Town and feels if we want new business that housekeeping in the Town is necessary, have more interest in

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ourselves. Supervisor separates enforcement (building, property maintenance) which are governed by NYS, and the areas of enforcement that do not fall under Code Enforcement Officer. Ellie said Town has code violations that have existed for 10 years and have passed. Supervisor asks to learn of any errors found in new Code Book; Ellie has consulted with Code Enforcement Officer; with each local law passed, a revision to the Code Book becomes necessary. Arlene McKeon commented old books were outdated, new Code Book included all current, prior supervisor David Louis did most of the work, the only new part was zoning revisions. Ellie would like not to make new laws until we are enforcing the ones we have. Dog law and sewer rates need to go in and then be distributed.

County Legislator was not present.

Town Clerk's Deputy Marjorie Loux read for the month of December: building permits 3 \$547.35; co searches 1 \$15.00; dogs 24 \$150.00; certified copies 23 \$230.00; photocopies 4 \$1.75; recycle fees \$22.50; total to Supervisor \$966.60 and non-local revenues disbursed of \$26.00. Clerk Loux announced free rabies vaccination clinic by Greene County Public Health will be March 28 from 6-8pm.

Highway Superintendent Jordan reports for December 23- January 23: Cut more dead trees along roads; Patched some holes with winter mix; Welded braces on boom mower and did other repairs; Repaired damaged road signs where needed; Built rack for hydraulic hose storage; Started to do necessary repairs on Ford backhoe; Painted 2 snowplows; Painted dump box on 1996 10 wheeler; Repaired railing for Town Hall; Patched dirt roads with crusher run; Picked up garbage dumped along roads; Picked up Christmas trees in hamlet and from Town Hall and chipped; Thurs, Jan 12 Snow all in at 2:30 am to plow and sand; Mon, Jan 16 snow all in at 7:30 pm to plow and sand; Tues, Jan 17 all in at 3:30 am to sand roads; Welded new cutting edge on Ford backhoe bucket; Installed town radio in Ford backhoe; Thurs, Jan 19 snow all in at 9pm to plow and sand; Fri, Jan. 20 light snow all in at 4:30 am to plow and sand. Councilman Norris added that the rusted-out meetingroom door railing at Town Hall required two days; Highway fabricated new railing and CEO Blaisdell replaced. Supervisor said the large pickup driven by Highway Superintendent, held off for replacement last year, could be replaced this year with \$30,000 in budget. Town Board members have copy of a quote, \$27,343.04, including 9' fisher plow; no action requested this night. Councilwoman Benway heard a truck frame had broken; Councilman Norris said that is a new problem. Supervisor understood this price was down \$2,000 from last year, on state contract. Supervisor said the 1989 International single-action dump, bought used in 2004 for \$14,000, has extensive damage to the frame, looking at \$8-11,000 to repair if the Highway does the repair in-house. Ben Funk gave verbal quote of appraised value of this 1989 truck: \$8,000. There appears to be nothing comparable on the market used; off state contract new: carbon steel sander-\$169,437, stainless steel sander is \$8,000 more. The Town has kept these vehicles for 20+ years. Supervisor is waiting for financing from Ben Funk, 3% over 8 years. Bank of Greene County bond rate 2.49% and 5 years now, plus bond counsel, 5% of project generally. If put bonds out to bid, Cocksackie has just bonded for \$180,000 for 3% for 10 years for a new truck. Councilman Norris asked if given a payment; Supervisor is waiting for that and gave choice of waiting to see if another used vehicle could be found or, spreading the cost out over 8-10 years, should be able to get 20 years useful life. John Wallner asked, having tried to set aside more money for capital purchase, how much is available in the fund? Supervisor replied this is the first time the Highway has had no debt, town-wide funds, in 20+ years. Two years ago the loader was purchased for \$75,000 with no debt; last year was the truck for the hamlet \$70,000 with no debt; about \$10,000 remains in Reserve Fund and, due to these purchases, the Board has not improved the balance of the Reserve Fund. The Town had done a Road Repairs bond 7 years ago, bond was paid off 2 years ago, \$150,000, and paying-as-you-go since. John Wallner said it was a very big thing to avoid the cost of debt, have a Highway maintenance plan that doesn't require borrowing, all the different equipment where money can be set aside for replacement purchases over the years. Supervisor agreed, but must take close look at vehicle repair budget that has escalated; New Scotland and Cocksackie has found buying state contract by pay or bond, use for 8-10 years and sell to public, making money

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to put back in. The vehicle in question was on the replacement list but unexpectedly now has cracked frame; Highway Superintendent recommends something be done; the 1996 International also being watched for replacement. John Wallner asks that set asides be evaluated to see that enough is being set aside. Councilman Norris feels that the roads are in better condition and the miles of roadwork are limited each year by budget; John Wallner asked to come in and work on that if/when bonding for road repair comes up again. Councilman Norris said Highway got behind due to the rise in gasoline and asphalt prices compounded by weather issues. Supervisor wanted Board to be aware of 2 items being looked at and have opportunity to ask questions. Councilwoman Benway asked about 'bumper-to-bumper'; Councilman Norris said that warranty includes all but tires, 8 years. Supervisor believes that can be gotten with financing with them, about \$10,000.

Buildings & Grounds/Recycling Operator Sebert reports for December: appliances \$22.50, tires - \$7.50, for total monthly revenue of \$30. Free to residents: 1 battery, 60gallon bags of plastic-17; 55gallon drums of cans-8; bundles of magazines-58; bundles of newspaper-62; bags of shredded paper-8; bundles of cardboard-32; metal- 1.75ton. Highway Department removed 6 tires to Recycling.

Town Hall Maintenance Mr Sebert changed air and water filters. Councilman Norris presented proposal for Greene County's own Scott Alarm whose owner is Town resident; this was discussed previously, this company serves Mill Street Pump Station, Highway Garage. Adding Town Hall, the proposal includes upgrade of smoke alarms upstairs and basement, \$1,445 parts and labor, a monthly charge of \$21.95 and new panel to accommodate 50 codes that monitor who comes and goes; current system has no tracking mechanism for codes; could change control panel (\$295) and 3 keypads (\$135/pad) for \$700. Ellie asked when the codes were last updated; Safe Home, previously-local home alarm company now in Connecticut, installed in 1997. Councilman Norris recommends moving on one of the 2 proposals; Councilman Norris answered Councilwoman Benway that there are no smoke alarms in the basement. Ellie reminded that when Town Hall was having difficulties, owner Joe and wife Melanie offered help, and also advised smoke detectors for basement; 6 in meetingroom are obsolete, replace with code-compliant 2. Councilwoman Benway asked to add CO2 detector, not currently in basement. Supervisor said Scott Alarm has provided excellent service at Highway Garage, last year Town added Pump Station. Supervisor said a Board resolution will be needed for February Regular. Councilman Norris recommends the entire job be done. Councilman Norris recommends the estimate for completing the basement office for Code Enforcement Officer, made project list for sheetrock, paint, 2x6x8, 2x6x10, t's (some material is already there), moving the hot water tank; the total \$410. With Town file cabinets in meetingroom, hallway, and Supervisor's office, the Town Clerk is running out of space. Moving Code Enforcement Officer's office downstairs, then think about stairs; originally discussed as spiral and providing a second egress for Sheriff's deputies, and now discussed as 'scissor stairs' up and down outside, to retain the inside office space. Ray Blaisdell estimated \$15-20,000 to put stairs in, including a foundation. The originally-planned, east-end extension could begin as an uninsulated shell for the stairs (done by Highway Crew and Ray, and maybe some outside contractors); now is the time to discuss and get public input; there is money in the Building Reserve Fund. The shell could be Phase 1, then finished when we have the money to make big meetingroom with false walls. Ellie asked how large; Councilman Norris remembers 25'x25'?; Supervisor thought 21'x24'?; Councilman Norris came back with 24'x24'. Supervisor said, in order to get the Town Clerk's office more room for staff and files, move Conference Room to basement, Clerk to Supervisor/Code Enforcement Officer office, and Supervisor to Clerk's office. Ellie recalls the last Supervisor move when the Court Clerks' office was expanded. Supervisor considered the space at the Wastewater Treatment Plant and monitoring of red light [laughter]. This is a small amount to complete the office for Ray Blaisdell; stairs will make it easier for Ray, deputies, and visitors to access upstairs without going outside and around to office red door. Small printer will go down with him; currently, a broom handle is used to communicate, he will finally have his own desk and conference table. Then the Town Clerk's office will move; when her part-time deputy is in, Clerk Brooks moves from one vacant desk to another in the building. Then the Supervisor's office will move to prior

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Town Clerk's office; for January 2013, Tax Collector Taylor could use Supervisor's office with Dutch door. Councilman Norris proposes Ray to do the work on his Town time, when the Building inspections are fewer.

Ellie suggests, back to the alarm system, mentioning to Scott Alarm the possibility of building extension.

Acknowledging much of the funding of basement renovation was through grants, \$7500, and volunteers including Boy Scouts, Councilman Norris asked to go forward; Supervisor reminded that basement office renovation was already approved by Town Board. Ellie asked if an Eagle Scout was available for sheetrocking. Councilman Norris said his resolution was for supplies.

Building Inspector/Code Enforcement Officer activities for December 2011 are as follows:

Accusatory Instrument (Court Referral): 3; Building Inspections: 23; Building Permits Issued: 1; Building Permits Renewed: 1; Certificates of Compliance Issued: 3; Commercial Site Fire Inspections: 5; Compliance Orders: 2; Court Appearances: 1; Junk Vehicle Complaints: 1; New Building Permit Applications Received: 1; Code Violation Investigations: 4; Application Fees for December, 2011: \$547.35; Total Fees for Year to Date: \$12,492.16

Building Inspector/Code Enforcement Officer activities for 2011: Accusatory Instruments (Court Referrals): 3; Building Inspections: 210; Building Permits Issued: 53; Building Permits Renewed: 27; Certificates of Compliance Issued: 50; Certificates of Occupancy Issued: 16; Commercial Site Fire Inspections: 16; Compliance Orders Issued: 5; Court Appearances: 3; Demolition Permit Applications Received: 6; Demolition Permits Issued: 5; Do Not Occupy: 3; Junk Vehicle Complaints: 6; New Building Permit Applications Received: 65; Outside Boiler/Woodstoves, etc. Permits Issued: 3; Pool Permit Applications Received: 5; Pool Permits Issued: 4; Residential Fire Inspection/Pellet Stove: 1; Septic Permit Applications: 1; Septic Tank Replacement Applications Received: 1; Septic Tank Replacement Permits Issued: 4; Sign Permit Applications: 4; Sign Permit Issued: 2; Code Violation Investigations: 38; Miscellaneous Violations: 3; Property Maintenance Violations: 4; Zoning Violation Investigations: 1; Fee Income Budgeted for 2011: \$12,000.00; Total Fees Collected for 2011 Year: \$12,492.16. New to committee, Councilwoman Benway, will meet with Ray Blaisdell.

Insurance Committee met tonight with property liability and casualty broker renewing on March 5; all coverages have been reviewed and a couple 'tweaked'; renewal quote of status quo is expected at the February Regular. Councilwoman Benway and Highway Superintendent reviewed older vehicles' comprehensive and collision coverages and may save considerable amount. Ellie asked whether committee expects to go out for quotes; 3 years ago done, last year Nolan Pazin took it out, several declined, Supervisor believes we are good with carrier and handling a couple claims and lawsuit well. Councilwoman Benway said insurance carriers do not like customers to go out to bid every year; 2-3 years is good frame.

Regarding the HRA, that pays the high coinsurance for the employees, Supervisor reports Town deposited \$3,333 (10% deposit) in HRA for 2010-November 2011; \$2,574 has been spent, \$758 balance; the Town's complete exposure for that is \$33,425. Councilman Norris said Town of Athens is looking at similar program.

Kathy Rundberg asked for the AgFest coverage; Supervisor said same as last year, looking at planes but 'sticker shock' is anticipated; will meet when information is known.

Wastewater Treatment covered earlier.

Planning Board Chair Rundberg reports for *December 2011*: The Planning Board met on December 8, 2011, and Renewed the Special Use Permit for J.B. Car Services for the 2012 year; Discussed status of items still needed to complete the Site Plan Application for William Brandt (Bristol Manor) Assisted Living Facility; Determined that nothing coming before the Board in the last six months was affected by the Zoning changes necessitating preparation of a semi-annual report to the Board. *2011 Year-End Report*: The Planning Board held 12 Regular Monthly Meetings, 1 Work Meeting, 7 Public Hearings; Approved: 5 Minor Subdivisions; Subdivision Abandonments: 1(5 lots); # of New Lots Created: 5; Net Increase in Lots: 0; Non-Conforming Parcels corrected: None; Site Plans Approved: 2; Both of these Site Plans were treated as minor

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Site Plans, an option made available in the new Zoning, which moved the process faster for the applicants. Special Use Permits Approved: 0; Annual Special Use Permits Approved: 2 JB Car Services for 2011 and for 2012. Fees Taken In: \$560.00. Kathy thanked Clerk Loux for the comprehensive reports. Supervisor added Clerk Loux is sending email to Planning and ZBA for dates for meeting, with 3 Town Board members it will be legal notice; send suggested agenda items to Supervisor, including the Planned Development District (PDD) for which there is no currently listed application fee. Supervisor contacted Rene Van Schaack at IDA, who thought the suggestion was low, much clerical work and processing by Town Clerk's office- if Water Park project moves forward Building/Planning/Zoning/Deputy Town Clerk Loux may need a new job title. Supervisor has reached out to Elan Planning and Planning Federation for fees, site plan for recent project is more refined than the site plan that may be coming; the last thing IDA wants is to hear something wasn't done in time. Councilwoman Benway, with 2 Planning Board openings, has 7 candidates, January 27 is deadline.

Zoning Review Committee has met 4 times, purpose to review the Town's zoning and subdivision ordinances, discussed current zoning for lot size, recommend 2 acres [very difficult to hear] in Residential Agricultural District. Asks for guidelines to go by, SEQR, does Comprehensive Plan have to be changed, Town Code 265, any zoning amendments have to follow the same process with which the zoning was set. Must be a SEQR, depends on what you're talking about, Conservation Subdivision, Type I Action. Supervisor will put a guide sheet together, Town law doesn't spell out how you change Comprehensive Plan just that you need to do it. Supervisor asked Planning Federation for information, they are changing their guidebook. Councilman Norris asked to move forward on local law to change zoning, has sent questions to Attorney Wukitsch, and presented sample local law to Town Board, but a new SEQR is required. The language of the Comprehensive Plan encourages open space, there would need to be adjustments, local law must be shared with adjacent municipalities, Greene County Planning Board, published and posted under Town Law regulations. [unable to understand] Any zoning changes must be in sync with Comprehensive Plan; the Comprehensive Plan turns 5 years old next month. The Town originally included a General Environmental Impact Study (GEIS), which becomes another step under SEQR. Supervisor said cost varies, a lot depends on the extent of changes, [unable to understand] and number of changes. Councilman Norris wanted to put this out for feedback from the Board, made one change to 2 acres, public hearing is required, and make changes going forward.

Zoning Board of Appeals Chair Tooher reports for December 2011: Zoning Board of Appeals met on December 7, 2011, with the following business transacted: Determined that nothing coming before the Board in the last six months was affected by the Zoning changes necessitating preparation of a semi-annual report to the Board. YEAR-END REPORT FOR 2011: Zoning Board of Appeals held 7 Meetings and 4 Public Hearings; Approved 4 Variances: 2 Area Variances, 1 Use Variance, 1 One-Year renewable changed to permanent Use Variance. Fees Taken In: \$80.00. There is an opening on the ZBA, please contact Supervisor or Councilwoman Finke.

Assessor Bennett reports for January 23, 2012: *EXEMPTION RENEWALS*- Property owners are returning their renewal applications for the Enhanced STAR and Aged STAR; beginning to see renewal applications for those individuals receiving the Agricultural exemptions as well as those on disability; Reminders have been sent out for the Enhanced STAR; reminders for the remaining renewals will go out about the first week in February. *CORRECTIONS*- Lynn Taylor and Julie continue to share mailing address changes and corrections for the tax roll as new information is gathered when property owners submit their tax payments. *DATA COLLECTION*- data collection has not been started; Gordon is still trying to work out details with the individual who works for his other towns; again, Ray is signed up for online data collection class through ORPS. Held in March, we hope that the class will not be cancelled this time. Supervisor reports receiving notice from the county that the Maurer property has come off the tax rolls; Supervisor answered Councilman Norris that the next step is in the county's hands.

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Economic Development Committee Chair Norris reported meeting Nov 29, 2011 at Town Hall, with guests Warren Hart, Greene County Economic Development Planning and Tourism and Rene VanSchaak, Greene County IDA, who gave update on Water Park, and announced Dec 8 Greene County Legislature meeting at Catskill High School. Next speaker and topic: Chris Frey, tourism. Councilman Norris, Councilwoman Benway, and Supervisor attended regional Chamber of Commerce meeting at Quarry; Chamber permits supervisors and mayors to talk about their news. Councilman Norris added that grants are available for water, sewer, high-speed internet. About 2 years ago, Ellie learned of veterans' discount in county; someone phoned Ellie indicating that veterans' card is honored only for active military, retired with military id or spouse; others are limited to 3 specified days per year; County Clerk Flynn spent his own budget for machine; BuyGreene card is available to those without computer by completing card with Town Clerk, and their staff will put it in the computer. Any businesses who wish to join may do so on the Greene County website. Ted Flegel said Lowe's Glenmont store honors veterans' card.

Grants - no report.

Fire, EMS & Law Enforcement Chair Norris reports meeting on Jan 17 where Greene EMS voted to sign up for electric and gas alliance (Mega services) for all ambulance stations, may save 10-20% of electricity cost; also progress was made on 403B plan. Calls in Town in November: 3; December: 4; total in Town for 2011: 75 calls. The average for 12 months for New Baltimore is 62-65 calls.

Emergency Management Officer Van Wormer reports FEMA project folders have arrived for Category A (debris removal), B (emergency protective measures) and C for Hillcrest Road, \$23,778.92, and Hillcrest may take a little longer due to mitigation proposal. All certificates have been signed and mailed back to State Emergency Management Office (SEMO), copies made and filed with Town Clerk; would like to look for continuing education in 2011, believes he missed out on free hazard mitigation training at SUNY New Paltz.

Greene County Sheriff Deputy Scott reports within Town of New Baltimore: July 1-Sept 30: service calls 184, uniform traffic tickets 52, and arrests 14; October 1- Dec 30: service calls 85, uniform traffic tickets 38, arrests 11, and checks of Cocksackie Reservoir (newly added) 106.

Technology/Website- no report.

Newsletter - Chair Finke was not present.

Animal Control Officer Tanner reports traveling 213 miles for 10 dog calls, 3 cat calls, and 2 appearances in Town Court. Greene County Public Health Free Rabies Vaccination Clinic is Wed, Mar 28, 2012 at Medway-Grapeville Firehouse on CR51.

Parks Councilwoman Benway received 2 complaints about lack of park signage *Dawn to Dusk local law* and ordered signs from Access Safety; they are mounted and easy to see. Councilman Norris discussed when to open and close the parks for the season. Deputy Clerk Jordan requested Clerk Brooks be consulted on past practice; Supervisor remembered 2 years ago a renter wanted a park before the season; conversation ensued as to whether to incur extra expense for portajohn. Councilman Norris thinks about defining the season dates for portajohns and water and discussing maintenance by Highway crew or an outside vendor; Supervisor expects Parks Committee to meet and offer recommendation to the Board.

Personnel Supervisor O'Rourke reports the current employee timesheet does not meet Comptroller's guidelines; she is researching possibilities.

Agriculture Committee Chair Norris reports meeting Jan 5, 2012 at Kriel Farm; discussed how to increase membership and exchange agricultural product information. Next meeting: March 1 at Kriel Farm.

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Seniors Ellié Alfeld reports very successful community luncheon, published in newspaper, and 40 seniors for delicious meatloaf. Next luncheon in February: baked fish, couscous, spring vegetables, and decadent dessert. Core group will meet in March. Meal reservations may be delivered; a 'buddy' system helps with transportation.

Memorial Committee- no report.

Ag Fest Committee Supervisor spoke earlier about insurance. Kathy Rundberg reports 9 members attended past week's meeting, AgFest will be June 2-3, continue tradition of dinner with firefighters, delegated attractions in hopes National Guard will cover the climbing wall, no bouncey-bounce, and continue including Farmers' Market. Next meeting: February 21 at Pauline VanEtten's. Rob VanEtten reminded Town Board is in charge of the weather. [laughter]

Farmers' Market Councilman Norris reports committee met in January, voted on by-law changes, scheduled a Jan 26 vendor meeting at Pegasus, invited AgFest Committee to attend, and looks forward to another successful season.

Town Courts Councilwoman Benway was reminded by justices of the July resolution giving probationary period and pay increase to justice clerks, requests time on February Regular Meeting agenda, 5 bank accounts have been moved from Key (due to heavy fees) to National Bank of Cossackie; some fees have been waived, there may be a discrepancy. Dawn Palmateer has spent considerable amount of time on this and asked for help from Town accountant.

Historian Ted Hilscher reports for December 2011: prepared and gave slideshow presentation at Town Hall of historic photos in the town archives, aired with current day photos of same locations, with typed transcript for future researchers to use; research for the presentation included reading portions of the Heritage Book and reviewing notes from interview with Clifton Baldwin.

ADJOURNMENT

Hearing no more from the Board, Councilman Norris moved to adjourn and was seconded by Supervisor O'Rorke. The adoption of the motion was duly put to a vote, and upon roll call, the vote was as follows:

ROLL CALL VOTE: BENWAY-AYE FINKE-Absent MEREDITH-Absent
NORRIS-AYE O'RORKE-AYE

Motion Carries

The meeting was adjourned at 10:00 pm.
Respectfully submitted,

Janet A. Brooks
Town Clerk