

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

Supervisor O'Rorke called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm and the Pledge of Allegiance was said. Also attending: Councilwomen Benway and Finke, Councilman Norris, Attorney for the Town Wukitsch, Highway Superintendent Jordan, Town Clerk Brooks, and 14 members of the public who signed the attendance sheet. Absent: Councilman Meredith.

MONTHLY REPORTS

Highway Superintendent Jordan reports July 15-August 26: Cut tree limbs along roads; Mowed and weed eat all parks; Cleaned debris from culvert pipe on Staco Road; Removed rusted culvert pipe on West Deans Mill Road; Grader patched High Rock Road; Checked roads for flooding 3" of rain; Removed NO DOG signs at Cornell Park; Mowed along roads; Installed more NO PARKING signs on Old State Road; Hand patched with blacktop; Cleaned up stone washed into roadway on High Mount Road; Grader Patched on Old Kings Road; Mowed and weed eat all cemeteries; Weed eat around guide rails on Roberts Hill and Schoolhouse Lane; Cleaned culverts and drains in hamlet; Repaired park mower; Put crusher run in driveway ends on Highrock Road and Old Kings Road; Hauled in road sand for winter; Painted frame on 93 International; Helped County Highway repair culvert pipe on Lydon Lane; Replaced fan switch on Massey Fergusson tractor; Repaired plugged culvert pipe on Mill Street; Picked up furniture dumped on Acquetuck Road; Mowed and weed eat Town Hall; Patched holes with winter mix; Paint used hood for 1991 International; Replaced hood on 1991 International (damaged in accident); rewired lights on front of 1991 International; Picked up garbage dumped on Scheller Park Road; Started to mix sand and salt and put in shed.

Parks Superintendent Jordan reports: Cornell Park dog situation reported not good, it was hoped that those who bring their dogs to that location would also help to police that area, mowed each week, painted 8 'drops' with fluorescent marking paint, ordered game cameras and signage indicating under surveillance. Scheller Park has been receiving out of car garbage, may use cameras at park then move to other parts of town; residents report to Supervisor that the more they pick up, the more reappears. Clerk Brooks reports NYS Department of Health offers free fish consumption advisory signs for the Town's river access points. The fence from OWLZ must be fixed or taken down; Supervisor has email addresses. Councilman Norris asked whether they were done for the year; Superintendent Jordan said no games for a month; Clerk Brooks added they are returning with a fall schedule of use of park having asked for available dates. Supervisor added that they used park until end of October last year, and asked when Town Board would pull portajohns; there are rentals coming in September. Superintendent Jordan said usually not pulled until October. Supervisor added there has been no portajohn vandalism in Cornell; District 1/Joseph Wyche Park has been under water much of the summer. Councilwoman Finke said she would have yard sale signs for Highway in the next few days, down here at corner, off Thruway, and coming into the Town. Councilwoman Finke will drop at the Highway.

Summer Rec Councilwoman Benway received phone calls from parents praising this summer's program. Averaging 22 children (ranged 13-32), there were many different scheduled activities (days devoted to science experiment, Olympics, build robot, USA Greene 911 dispatcher, Greene County Sheriff canine unit, and local firefighters with truck). Supervisor asked about the grant from NYS that is administered by county, and followed up with Councilman Meredith on Saturday. The state has this grant in 2013 budget; it is used by Town towards Summer Rec payroll. Also, with no issue with current Summer Rec director, Supervisor learned recently of a past practice of having non-Town residents riding bus to Zoom Flume; if Town Board will allow non-Town residents to ride, then put word out for Summer Rec Town residents first, then boyfriends and girlfriends of staff if there is extra space is on the bus; the Town is paying for the bus and seats should first go to Town residents. Supervisor read note from Summer Rec Director Desirea Chamberlin, thanking the Town Board for the opportunity; things ran smoothly, and her first year with assistant. Councilman Norris believes attendance was low for first days due to

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other activities and high temperature; Councilwoman Benway added that the high heat kept some away; used firehouse the first Friday.

Regarding budget, Supervisor O'Rorke sent notices to Town Board, is working with bookkeeper, is making sure departments are up-to-date with paying expenses, submitting vouchers, and making any large planned purchases. Supervisor announces that the 2% property tax cap has been reduced to 1.66% cap and suggests special meetings with department heads in September at 3-4pm; Town Board will let Supervisor know available dates. Regarding auction list, Greene County is trying to do one (15 acres Maurer residence) for private sale; it is not on auction list. Councilwoman Finke offered that a couple came back. Ellie Alfeld suggests it is county's responsibility, now that the property is theirs, to remove the trailer that is in bad condition and very dangerous, price of scrap is so high she is sure Greene County has welders who can cut, pull, and recoup costs with the scrap. Supervisor answered that the building inspector will go out and inspect; if it does meet unsafe building definition, she will ask that the county act accordingly. The Village of Cocksackie is meeting this night to discuss water rates for [our WD2 and WD3]; Supervisor met with Mayor Evans at end of last week and received copy of their proposed budget. Scheller Park/Water District No. 2 and Kalkberg/Water District No. 3 are looking at a significant increase on top of last December's water main break which left WD2 with a deficit. Supervisor thought the WD2 would have to place fire hydrant in Water District No. 2, but they think they may have fixed it; we are waiting to learn cost and whether repair will hold. Supervisor is concerned about mixed information as to whether hydrants have enough pressure to put out a fire; the water system can be operated without replacing the hydrant; they can still back-flush. Supervisor asked Town EMO Alan Van Wormer to weigh in; they have used those hydrants to fight fires but do not drill on them, with concern for old system and the old pipe that runs beneath NYS Thruway/US9W that would be extremely expensive to repair/replace. Delaware Engineering's MaryBeth Bianconi recently explained gravity issues of the system where they are below gravity pressure; any work proposed will cost money and there is no money in that district. Regarding public safety, Councilman Norris asked whether hydrants will be used in an emergency? Supervisor repeated they have used them and hate to drill on them. Councilman Norris asked how do you know they will open? Supervisor continued, "...and exercise with them;" Scheller Park/WD2 is within the Medway-Grapeville Fire District. Supervisor suggests EMO Van Wormer contact Medway Fire; Councilman Norris suggests learning whether they use them; if they're not going to use, why maintain them. Supervisor said there are 5 hydrants in Scheller Park and 4 across the street; reviewing the contract with Mayor Evans, she realized that the Town had never been deeded the hydrants in Kalkberg Commerce Park/WD3 just as a couple of years ago she'd realized that the Town did not have the deed to the pump station in Kalkberg; Greene IDA will take that up at September meeting. Serta Mattress pays every two years to get their hydrant recertified; Supervisor is unsure why that is, perhaps an insurance requirement; consulted Town EMO Van Wormer. Town's old contract is renewed; dates to 1974 and states that Village will charge up to 180% of the Village's rates to the residents in the Town of New Baltimore. In her discussions with mayor, her concern is that their budget is put together for water use and infrastructure maintenance; is it fair that New Baltimore residents pay into their budget for their infrastructure maintenance in addition to paying for the New Baltimore lines?; that is the provision of contract. The mayor is agreeable to sit this Friday and look at contract and Delaware Engineering has offered to assist in that matter at no cost to the Town of New Baltimore, since we are both clients of Delaware. Supervisor hopes to come to amicable decision to make it more fair; our contract is similar to Town of Cocksackie's however the Village bills the residents of the Town of Cocksackie and we [New Baltimore] do the billing ourselves; also, this contract is vague as to whether it covers Water District No. 3 and it has been used to cover that. Supervisor learned WD2 users will have a rise from cost of water and infrastructure. Also, hydrant inventory lists 5 in Water District No. 1; contract with Village [Ravena] lists 4; once she finishes WD2 contract, she will review WD1. Supervisor asked for questions from the Board. Councilman Norris confirmed Village of Cocksackie's Board is setting the rates tonight; Supervisor responded a public hearing will be scheduled and New Baltimore can weigh in; Supervisor reminded that it is the Town buying the water from the Village, the Town turns around and resells to the users. If we cannot come to agreement with contract, the Town Board may want to attend their public hearing. Councilman Norris asked if they set rates

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each year; Supervisor answered no rate change since 2008, previously have talked about the 180% but the Town of New Baltimore never got the rates, no one knows why, but, not raising rates over time, this will be a very substantial increase, a new plant to pay for. Councilman Norris doesn't believe folks in WD2 should over-subsidize for that and we'll advocate for them. Supervisor added having a very good working relationship with the Village of Coxsackie; they come out and repair and do not bill for additional cost, only what they pay in time and labor; contract does allow for them to put overhead on top. Clerk Brooks added an unusual case, a billing error, where fast action was requested, they did act fast, and situation is resolved for resident. Supervisor thanked the clerk's office.

County Legislator Van Slyke- no report.

Town Clerk Brooks reports for July: building permits 11 \$829.00; certificate of occupancy searches 2 \$30.00; conservation fees 2 \$.56; dogs 24 \$174.00; marriage licenses 2 \$35.00; beer permits 1 \$20.00; park permits \$25.00; certified copies 18 \$180.00; photocopies 50 \$12.75, total to Town Supervisor \$1,312.31; to NYS Ag & Markets \$34.00; NYS Dept of Health \$45.00; NYS Environmental Conservation \$9.44, total local and nonlocal \$1,400.75. July also included working on summer rec payroll, personnel, paper collection and files, the transition from weekly to biweekly, from paycheck to direct deposit, withholding, PERMA audit, NYSDEC sporting license year began August 12; update to BAS has new screens and new search capabilities we are still learning; and thanks to Councilman Norris for help with court telephone issue and to Councilwoman Benway for support with summer rec. Supervisor thanked Clerk Brooks for all she takes care of each year for summer rec and the phone issue, glad Councilman Norris and Clerk were able to get everything worked out, phones ringing where they should. Clerk Brooks reminded that the network 'soup' of phone lines was made to provide more access into town hall, when we removed the court line from network, it reduces the availability of lines coming in and out. Several times today staff heard that there was no line available. Councilman Norris added folks calling in may here busy signal more frequently and wanted the public to be aware of that. Before court line (756-2079) was removed, Clerk Brooks reminded that the fax line (756-8880) was removed from the available network because folks weren't able to fax items into town hall. Supervisor reminded it is not cheap to add another line; Councilman Norris added that the phone system was upgraded. Clerk Brooks said we're certainly doing the best we can with the resources we have. Councilwoman Benway asked Superintendent Jordan if Highway was still getting court calls; Supervisor said using google; Councilwoman Benway said Assessor's Clerk Fisk alerted her that when you google the court, the highway phone number appears on the screen; if you click on the link below, the correct court number appears; apparently you cannot speak to someone at google.com. Supervisor hope now folk can get through to the court; Councilwoman Benway reports a process with google submitting forms, spent 45 minutes herself trying to talk to a person. Clerk Brooks reported a friend related after receiving a new Verizon book at work, that Town phone number was wrong; Clerk called Verizon and was told Verizon scans local books and dump that info, with no opportunity for correction. Councilman Norris hopes problem is resolved, including calls to highway.

Tax Collector Jordan reports- *Property/county taxes* - August 8 closed out the property/county tax checkbook and paperwork at Greene County Treasurer's office in Catskill; I am no longer accepting property tax payments; anyone wanting to pay their property/county tax must call Greene County Treasurer at (518) 719-3530 to make an appointment. Greene County Treasurer's office has all information to answer questions and to accept payments. *Sewer District 1*- August billing was mailed and I collected payments with no penalty until August 15 close of business. I am collecting payments with the 2% penalty until September 15 close of business or postmarked that day. *Water District 2* - August billing was mailed and I collected payments with no penalty until August 12 close of business. I am collecting payments with the 2% penalty until September 12 close of business or postmarked that day. Lynn Taylor has been balancing the 2012 tax checkbooks for taxes turned over to the county on August 1, 2012. There was a balance on Sewer District 1 for 2012; Lynn has given me the corrected amount for Sewer District 1 account that will bring the Sewer District 1 checkbook to \$0 balance. There are still balances on Water District 2 and the savings account for 2012 so there will be checks payable to Town Supervisor

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for 2012 that will bring those checkbooks to \$0 balance. Together, we are still working on the property and savings accounts. Supervisor thanked Councilman Norris has helped to refine the sewer program for the invoicing; Tax Collector Jordan reports it is working well and 'o'-ing out. Supervisor thanked Collector Jordan for her work with prior tax collector; when checkbooks were turned over to Collector Jordan, the balances should have been 'o' and weren't. Collector Jordan has put in many hours, unsure whether prior Collector Taylor had received '0' account balances. Supervisor and Collector Jordan have read the law; after taxes are turned over to the county, tax collector's balance should be '0'; there were property balances holding of \$466.00. Collector Jordan thanked prior Collector Taylor for teamwork.

Buildings & Grounds/Recycling Chair Norris spoke of including town hall stairs in next year's budget; Supervisor thanked Joseph and Marjorie Louxs for CSX's \$10,000 contribution to the Town for signing over the cattlepass right-of-way. Supervisor said the Building fund holds \$40,000. Councilman Norris spoke of building extension, improvements, and gutter issues; he is considering hiring someone for issues like the railing, previously-asked Ray Blaisdell has difficulty finding time. Supervisor asked whether the Board wanted an ad in newspaper; Councilman Norris thinks 2-3 hours a week; Clerk Brooks asked to consider elements of timing (when folk arrive for court, meetings, work). Councilwoman Finke suggests something on website, free; all agreed; Councilwoman Benway will post to website.

Building Inspector/Code Enforcement Officer Blaisdell summarizes activities for July: Building Inspections 14; Building Permits Issued 5; Building Permits Renewed 3; Certificates of Compliance Issued 3; Court Appearances 1; General Complaints 7; New Building Permit Applications Received 4; Pool Permit Applications Received 4; Pool Permits Issued 4; Code Violation Investigations 6. Application Fees for July \$829.00; total fees year to date \$7,466.35. REMINDER from CEO Blaisdell: For all new construction and building repairs structural in nature, a Building Permit Application must be submitted and Building Permit obtained.

Insurance Chair O'Rorke and Member Benway report receiving new rates for CDPHP for employees not 65 and older, another increase this year; reminding Board of decision to go to large deductible programs 2 years ago, taking a higher deductible and providing a Health Reimbursement Account; at this point about 65% into HRA, Town will be close to tapping that out. Town's plan does not renew until December; will meet with Erin Nevins, review options of another higher deductible and 'crunch numbers', report to Town Board in September. She reminds the Board of the Health Care Reform Act for 2014; Town renewal, being in Dec, needs no changes due to its timing. Supervisor reports some notice requirements, by Oct 1, to all employees whether or not they are eligible for health care plan and will put together with Councilwoman Benway for the Board's review. Councilman Norris asked if Town would be forced to override the Tax Cap based on all increases? Supervisor said 1.66% Tax Cap does take into account all the special districts, retirement, health insurance, cost of heat, electricity, labor; the only item unaffected is fees in WD2, as they are not a tax. Supervisor reminded that it was the special districts that gave us the concern about staying under the 2% that we ended up having to use more Fund Balance from the General Fund than we would normally liked because we could increase the special districts high enough because of the tax cap.

Wastewater Treatment Operator Polverelli reports all flowing. Supervisor reports moving forward with project, received BAN notice, bid will go out shortly for \$230,000 shortly to Cocksackie bank and Bank of Greene County to bid; tonight the Board must authorize Delaware Engineering to actually put the bid out to contractors. Supervisor reviewed if bid is approved this night:

- Sept 3-the plan specifications and bid documents would be available from Delaware Engineering's office for pickup,
- Sept 10-pre-bid meeting onsite for contractors,
- Sept 19-bids due at Town Clerk's Office with bid opening and public reading at 4pm of bids,
- Sept 19-23- review of proposals in conjunction with Delaware Engineering,
- Sept 23-Town Board awards the bid at Work Meeting and receives bonds,

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Oct 7- issue bonds and, with new pump choices, order pumps acknowledging 90day lead time. Councilman Norris said the pumps selected, due to requirement of handling grit problem, took so long to get and build, that the choice was made to get 3 pumps and keep one on the shelf; if one goes down, substitute and this was found to be cheaper to do and a local manufacturer. With the two pump plan, if a pump goes down, flow doesn't stop, and Town must bring in very costly tankers. Also, Councilman Norris added that for maintenance a pump could be pulled and rebuilt without any pressure. Supervisor hoped the bids would be awarded on Oct 7, pumps ordered, and the construction phase is actually fairly short and over by Jan 7. Contractor requirements are very detailed. Delaware will take care of advertisement; Clerk Brooks will place in official newspaper.

RESOLUTION
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**SEWER DISTRICT NO. 1 MILL STREET PUMP STATION
UPGRADE PROJECT AUTHORIZATION TO BID**

WHEREAS the Town of New Baltimore, Greene County, New York (hereinafter the "Town") has established the public benefit to the Town residents of conducting upgrades to the Sewer District No. 1 Mill Street Pump Station to improve efficiencies and extend the useful life of existing equipment; and

WHEREAS the project entails replacement of the pumps and controls, replacement of the pump station's emergency generator and miscellaneous electrical upgrade, and removal and disposal of a buried fuel tank**;

WHEREAS the Town has caused the preparation of Engineering Reports and Plans and Specifications for the project to be prepared by an engineer duly licensed to practice engineering in the State of New York; and

WHEREAS the Town has caused said Engineering Reports and Plans and Specifications ("Bid Documents") to be submitted to the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation for review and approval; and

WHEREAS the action of repair, rehabilitation or replacement of a structure or facility in kind on the same site is a Type 2 Action under section 6 NYCRR Part 617.5(c)(2) of the Environmental Conservation Law;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED in consideration of the foregoing:

The project shall be bid in accordance with applicable General Municipal Law, Town Law, and the requirements of potential funding agencies.

This resolution will take effect immediately.

**Supervisor said this was added; it will be included in the cost so the Board doesn't have to worry about getting rid of the tank; it does not cover if there has been leakage or contamination; that would be above and beyond.

Supervisor moved and was seconded by Councilman Norris. No further discussion. The adoption of the foregoing Resolution was duly put to a vote, and upon roll call, the vote was as follows:

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

Adopted

Councilman Norris asked why move the generator outside; Supervisor answered it is cheaper, there are less requirements for flame retardant, code is different now than years ago, and an

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underground tank will not be needed again. Operator Polverelli continued that a self-contained unit would be outside. Supervisor reports the income survey is held up with the federal government, with hope of September availability. With an applicant interested in bringing in a 120 apartment veterans' facility, Supervisor spoke to MaryBeth Bianconi in that we do not have current capacity; regarding the proposed extra capacity, it would take all of that, so food for thought. Unsure if property has closed yet, Supervisor sent the applicant quite a list for them to use the site as they wish; this could come along the path and 'eat up' the plant's capacity. Councilwoman Finke asked if that was discussed in July; Supervisor answered it was the report she gave *in absentia*.

Planning Board Chair Rundberg reports: Planning Board met on August 8 with following business conducted: Received Minor Subdivision Application from CSX Transportation, Inc. for the re-subdivision of a three-lot subdivision they own on State Route 144 to a two-lot subdivision. Required Public Hearing is scheduled for 7:30 pm, September 12, 2013.

Comprehensive Plan Review Committee will meet Tuesday, September 3, 7 pm, on website, at Town Hall following Town court.

County Planning Board Member Cashin reports an area variance for deck in Catskill and for expansion of the Gardiner Inn in Hunter.

Zoning Board of Appeals Chair Tooher reports: Zoning Board of Appeals met on August 7 with the following business conducted: Completed recessed Public Hearing on Area Variance Application for Robert Peters and Brianna Breault. In Regular Monthly Meeting that followed: Approved the Area Variance Application for Robert Peters and Brianna Breault. Supervisor added that the re-hearing on Shady Harbor Marina has been held over to first Wednesday in October, confirmed by Clerk Loux.

Assessor Bennett reports for August 22: *SCARS* This year we had 3 cases of small claims assessment review hearings: one reached a mutually- agreed upon change in assessed value, the second was lowered by the hearing officer, the third will be heard on the 27th of August. *School Tax Roll* The data file for the school tax bills was uploaded via the web to NexxLinx. Councilwoman Benway has been asked if everyone must reapply for the STAR for 2014; Ellie commented there is difference between enhanced senior and regular STAR; mailings are done by NYS Tax, not handled at the Town level, will have info from Assessor's Clerk Fisk for website. Ellie said this is aimed to stop folk from claiming in two different jurisdictions and it will help.

Economic Development Committee Chair Norris met with IDA Chair with reference to the waterpark; water park project is still 'on the table', Apollo now owns Great Wolf.

Grants Member O'Rorke was approached by New Baltimore Conservancy (for Scenic Hudson) who are asking for support to apply for grant to put up kiosk, trail brochure-type information at the site of the old Armstrong property; Greenway requires local municipality to approve and endorse.

**RESOLUTION
AUGUST 26, 2013**

**RESOLUTION OF APPROVAL AND ENDORSEMENT FOR THE NEW BALTIMORE
CONSERVANCY GREENWAY GRANT**

WHEREAS the New Baltimore Conservancy is applying to the Hudson River Valley Greenway for a grant under the 2013 Greenway Conservancy for the Greenway Conservancy Small Grant Program for an educational and interpretative project to be located in the Town of New Baltimore, and

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WHEREAS the grant application requires the applicant municipality to obtain the approval/endorsement of the governing body of the municipality or municipalities in which the project will be located;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the governing board of the Town of New Baltimore hereby does approve and endorse the application for a grant under the 2013 Greenway Conservancy Small Grant Program, for an educational and interpretative project and located within this community.

Supervisor moved and was seconded by Councilwoman Benway. Supervisor commented this was a good way to promote use of the property by folks inside and outside the Town. Councilwoman Finke asked how much they were requesting. Supervisor did not have the amount; they were determining the final cost; this is within the small grant project. The adoption of the foregoing Resolution was duly put to a vote, and upon roll call, the vote was as follows:
**ROLL CALL VOTE: BENWAY-AYE FINKE-AYE MEREDITH-Absent
NORRIS-AYE O'RORKE-AYE**

Adopted

Town Clerk Brooks will send certified copy to New Baltimore Conservancy and the other, too.

Fire, EMS & Law Enforcement Chair Norris distributed 2014 Overview for Greene EMS. Regarding issue of Workers' Compensation, Greene EMS is a private entity does not fall under PERMA (Public Entity Risk Management Association) umbrella; picking up its own cost of \$86,000; county has picked up some of that, about \$40,000. Greene EMS worked on this year and next year's budgets to bring them under control; impact to towns was not affected by PERMA increase, there is an over 8% increase, EMS Board will vote on it tomorrow. There is a cost going up every year for this paramedic service; not an ambulance, this is the flycar operated by one person. Councilwoman Benway asked if they were figuring in the Oct 1 rate change.

Technology/Website Chair Benway reported talking about google, this morning the Town's website and email were *down*, a software update caused the *crash*, resolved by noon-one o'clock.

Newsletter Chair Finke said last issue for the year will be out hopefully by end of year, hopefully by October/November; Town Board will probably vote on 2014 budget on Nov10; have newsletter out end of October to include.

Animal Control Officer Tanner reports travelling 649 miles in the last 3 months; 32 dog complaints some on the same dogs; 9 cat complaints; 2 skunk complaints; 1 peacock complaint; 3 court appearances; prepared 5 complaints ready for court; 5 of the complaints were dogs running loose on Jennings Road- after many hours and miles, found the dogs and found owner, dogs live on High Rock Road; 5 court dates are approaching. Supervisor believes in speaking with Officer Tanner that Town will have to call the prosecutor for one case. Councilwoman Benway reports a found 1year old dog; New Baltimore Animal Hospital was terrific; dog was brought there, scanned for chip, located owner who came and picked up at hospital.

Personnel Chair O'Rorke distributed *background check policy* discussed at previous meeting and modified by Attorney for the Town, contacted Public Sector HR, they provided name of company they use for checks at rate of \$100/person. Councilman Norris asked if potential employee pays that fee. Councilwoman Benway said substitute teaching applicant to Ravena-Coeymans pays for their background check. Supervisor reminded that hiring at \$10-14/hour do we want to charge applicants? Supervisor will talk again to Greene County Sheriff, 26-page application and reminded there is still a process for notifications that we could work through by ourselves. Supervisor asked Councilwoman Finke for thoughts. Supervisor will phone Public Sector HR's contact and speak to Sheriff's lieutenant. Supervisor asked if the Board was in agreement to do this, and for all categories of employees without prejudice, a summer rec director who is paid \$1900 for the season, and the assistant director who is paid less. Member of the public asked if it was required in law; answer: no.

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Supervisor suggests court clerks who are paid \$12/hour and collect money, perhaps excuse categories of planning board and zoning board of appeals, except treasurer of planning board under Clerk Loux's watchful eye. Councilman Norris asked who would oversee this; Supervisor answered town supervisor, but someone to be here when employee comes in, quite a bit of responsibility on the town clerk for HR as is; or Town Board hires a company like Public Sector HR. Ellie believes the inference sounds like people needing to be bonded for handling money; Supervisor answered nothing to do with bonding. Ellie said other issue is someone who could be dangerous to children and the public; Supervisor answered all of the above, depending on that employee's access, i.e. money. Ellie asked for a highway crew member who doesn't encounter public; answer: driving expensive Town vehicle. Ellie answered not all crew drive expensive Town vehicles; answer: one does not, but all have access to equipment. Ellie continued that drivers have records with DMV; \$25 you have a report you need; Supervisor answered that notification must be signed in order to run DMV report; may only run part, drug test, spot checked and new employees. Ellie asked is that part of the DOT physicals for CDL; answer: municipal CDLs are different and do not require physicals as private CDLs do. Can be a variety of things we are checking. Ellie is looking for simplest way and least cost to individual. Background checks could vary based on the position. Councilman Norris is asking the potential employee to pay; Councilwoman Finke asked what other towns do. Supervisor doesn't believe that towns make employee pay; it was suggested by Comptroller's Office, was not done in Town previously, many employees are known in the community; she will contact Sheriff Seeley and fellow supervisors; background check can address many questions. Councilman Norris clarified the question why to do this; Ellie is seeking simplest way with least cost to Town and individual, acknowledging for a \$10-12/hour job and \$125 cost up front, the person doesn't have \$125 or wouldn't be applying. Supervisor said check can vary depending on duties of job, but policy must be consistently applied to all applying for job with those duties. Councilman Norris clarified will it be taxpayer paying; Ellie is not asking anyone; Councilman Norris favors employee paying. Supervisor asked if they are not hired? Councilwoman Finke asked what other towns do. Councilwoman Benway said some school districts make the potential hire pay. Supervisor knows towns who have a background check policy but doesn't believe the potential employee pays. Ellie asks to find out what other towns do. Councilman Norris reported attorney for the town said towns are moving toward this. Ellie asked for Greenville, Cairo, Coxsackie. John Cashin said Town of Catskill has a policy, Supervisor clarified that the employee doesn't pay. Member of the public asked if something precipitated the Town's interest in doing this. Supervisor repeated it was suggested by the Comptroller's Office, considered to be good public policy, was not done in Town previously, many employees are known to and live in the community, just because they do doesn't mean we know things, and having made many changes on the employment front, it is one of the things this Board has looked at for good policy. Supervisor will contact Sheriff Seeley and fellow supervisors, see if any are paying for it, and if the Board can think of which employment areas to have checks done. Supervisor has a sample *social media policy* for the Board's consideration, and asked the Board for input. Councilman Norris asked for computers and cell phones, Supervisor added *Facebook* and *Twitter*, reminding the Board that Town's emergency management officer and animal control officer wanted the ability to put things out on Facebook for all good reasons. This also addresses what employees can talk about on social media, personnel matters, confidential; Councilman Norris clarifies guidelines for what they can and cannot do to protect the Town. Supervisor added acceptable behavior. Councilman Norris reminds emergency management officer discussion to alert folk of emergencies, what if someone posted something of concern. Councilwoman Benway continued with animal control, to post photo of lost/found dog, many animals found that way including Assessor's Clerk Fisk. Member of the public asked why Board wouldn't want to leave it up to the individual, with so many problems with social media; the Town and government has formal mechanisms to utilize for emergencies and anything they're involved in, people get in so much trouble. Supervisor said that is the reason for establishing guidelines, many towns use Facebook and Twitter, Councilman Norris added it was a way to get information out to the public. Supervisor said those over a certain age do not think of this as ideal way, but it is how younger generation communicates, and many communities found out after Irene and Sandy that it was important that they have social media accounts with their

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websites down and needing to communicate with their own employees, and one reason emergency management officer has asked for Facebook. Before Town goes down that road, we need a policy before the animal control office posts a dog photo that folks can like and share, use is virtually free to us; must have the rules in place and include what employees can and cannot put out, then the Town can stand on that policy if there is need for corrective action. Supervisor added seems like a new personnel policy every month for the Board. Councilwoman Benway added that some companies ask potential employees for Facebook password in order to learn about individual; Ellie added almost like a reference; Councilman Norris added the Town will need that for the background check, too.

Agriculture Committee Liaison Norris reports haying so no meeting this month and September.

Seniors Ellie Alfeld reports core group is meeting this Wednesday, 1:30pm, Town Hall; Councilwoman Benway asked if meetings could be posted on website. Ellie is looking to learn what a *hashtag* is [laughter]; Clerk Brooks answered something to do with beef. Food n Fun is expected to begin second Wednesday of September. Supervisor asked menu; pureed cabbage [laughter]. Ellie is sure no one will be disappointed; Clerk Brooks added great programming.

Memorial Committee Chair Benway reports no meeting.

Ag Fest Committee Supervisor thanks committee, reports receipt of two checks reimbursing Town for expenses, Clerk added Francis Dean insurance rider, Central Hudson electric, Greene County Septic for portajohns. Councilwoman Finke reports waiting for Kingsley Greene to return from vacation, Kathy Rundberg is in hospital, Pauline Van Etten is convalescing, meeting will occur soon.

Town Courts liaison Benway reports 250 cases in June, total collected \$21,690; to the Town \$10,275; she and Councilman Norris met with town justices; instead of hiring another part-time person, they prefer to bring Katrina full-time, knows the job, and \$1/hour raise. Councilwoman Benway and Councilman Norris responded, no, \$.50/ hour raise for a full-time employee to make more than a part-time. Taking Annette's pay, moving the 6 additional hours, it would save \$14.33/week to simply increase Katrina and not hire part-time. Councilwoman Finke asked what about benefits; Supervisor gaveled, due to HIPAA regulations, the Board cannot discuss what employees may choose or is taking, only what the position is eligible for; retirement is available regardless of full- or part-time status, over 30 hours they must participate in retirement. Supervisor will not comment on whether this employee is or isn't; full-time employee would be eligible, no comment on whether she would accept them or no. Councilman Norris clarified she would work 35 hours/week; yes, Councilwoman Benway said as a maximum. Councilman Norris said with \$.50 increase, would be \$17 more per week. Supervisor confirmed other employee had worked 9hr; Katrina would pick up 6; courts would get along with 3 less hours of work. Councilman Norris said yes, would not have to hire a part-time. Member of the public asked if part-timers get fringe benefits; Supervisor answered no health insurance or dental. Member of public asked what would be the cost added onto the hours. Supervisor said it depends upon what the employee chose, Town would pay 80% of some type benefit. Ellie asked if previously two full-time. Councilman Norris said from when Sheri and Lynn were there, way ahead of the game; they came under the old plan where Town paid 100%. Member of the public said the taxpayer would be paying for some kind of benefit, Supervisor answer could be paying. Member of the public said that leaves us out there a bit, asking what the average is just for health insurance, Supervisor answered single is \$600/month, family is \$900/month. Member of the public said \$5000. Councilman Norris said based on that scenario, why would someone take a job and not take benefits, that's part of the package going forward, is that something we consider with each hire? To him that should not come up, everyone in room is a taxpayer, Councilman Norris said we're talking about \$.50/hr increase, and streamline from 3 clerks to 2. Ellie believes the court generates quite a bit of money for the town. Councilman Norris asked if that's something to bring up, \$10,275 last month. Member of the public asked if this lady is so special to give her full-time and a raise. Councilman Norris added the cost to train someone is considerable, this person has near three years of experience and is local; person lives in the town.

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Member of the public asked if Town would hire someone who was not local? Councilman Norris related much discussion on Board to hire someone local for many years. Member of the public spoke of hard times, even part-time helps someone, with Obamacare. Councilwoman Benway said getting someone to come in for a few hours a couple days a week, member of the public finished give them certain responsibilities that are not as complex, give our community more [unclear] out there.

Supervisor raised her concerns, understands about not basing off justices' revenue, but when they wanted additional help they based it off their revenue. When she began she asked the justices for monthly report, they opted not to provide and base their work flow off their revenue; they are now \$30,000 off their budget as of last month, with four months to make up extra ground. Councilman Norris said no shortfall; their budget line will be less. Supervisor said taking expenses versus revenue will result in shortfall of \$12,000. Councilman Norris does not equate one with another. Supervisor said this was the argument the justices gave the Board, she reviewed older minutes when they asked for more help, it was based off their revenue; that was how they based their workload. Councilman Norris said their budget has been slashed 30-40% in his tenure. Supervisor believes their revenues are back to where they were when they had less help; she is looking at \$11,000 shortfall in budget. Supervisor said in the past they have given no mid-term, unplanned-for raises; she reminds of six-month review policy in the hiring, or when building inspector got his certification, and asked what has this individual done that warrants, other than someone leaving, has she taken on a class, learned a new skill set, made herself more valuable. Councilman Norris said she's taken courses; Supervisor asked, not having seen that. Councilman Norris said she took her training, adding that if this person decides to leave; Supervisor asked how many hours of training completed. Councilman Norris said this is a \$17/week rise, an hourly rise based on what court has told them, and is money well spent. Supervisor said depending on benefits, looking at \$7-12,000; with nothing on agenda for action, Supervisor asked Councilwoman Finke her thoughts, who said she didn't know anything about it either and would like to go back and look at things.

Historian Hilscher reports for July 2013: My sons, Jack and Cole, and I went into the woods and cut down several maple trees, 6 inches or so in diameter, cut them up into 8 or 9 foot lengths, and then transported them to the Vanderzee/Collins farm. The three of us, with Art Byas, used these as posts to provide support to the barn as we continue to prepare the Vanderzee hay press for removal. Hay was pressed by a horse turning a capstan, which was connected to the press by a chain. We cleared several feet of soil away from the base of the hay press and the capstan, and were delighted to find that as the chain around the capstan was unwound, the floor of the press lowers. (As the chain winds around the capstan, the floor rises and presses the hay.) This press had most likely not been used since the 1920s, when horses were being discontinued on the streets of New York. Planning is ongoing with representatives of the Bronck House Museum for the receipt and re-installation of the hay press.

I met with Pam Trombley who is interested in preserving the following items found in the home of her late aunt, Judith Beemer Rhodes: a wooden model 17 1/2 x 19 inches in size of a snow scraper patented by Martienus Mulder in 1898, and two copper stencils related to the patent. Mr. Mulder lived in the house on South Main Street in the hamlet, later owned by town supervisor Orville G. Hotaling, and most recently by Mrs. Rhodes. If we are able to find room for a display cabinet in the town hall, I would like to display these items. If not, I will approach the Bronck House Museum to see if they would be interested. Mr. Mulder's scraper was used to scrape snow off of the "ice fields" on the river.

The tentative receipt of the Trombley items led to a discussion with the Supervisor about what type of historic items should or should not be given to the town. We decided that small items that could be displayed are acceptable. The town does not have the means to provide the proper storage that many historic items may need.

I was invited to document the historic Ackerman home on Route 51 by a prospective purchaser, a representative of the owner, and a local contractor. The home consists of an early stone house, believed to date from about 1750. This home is approximately 23 feet by 25 feet in size, and originally consisted of a single room on the first floor and an attic above. The walls are 20 inches thick. In the middle of the nineteenth century, a large wooden frame building was added to the

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stone house. The wide cornice board reflects a Greek Revival influence, and places construction in the late 1850s at the latest.

At the request of a citizen, I inspected the cemetery on South Main Street in the hamlet. The cemetery is well-maintained by the highway department. There are several stones which are toppled or leaning. Straightening these stones would make a nice Saturday-morning-in-the-fall public service project I will try to organize.

I met with Mr. and Mrs. Russell Youmans of Merrick, NY who have a treasure trove of ephemera and photographs from his ancestors in the west end of the town, most notably the Badgley family who once ran the Grapeville store. Mr. Youmans has generously shared these photos for copying. I took Mr. and Mrs. Youmans on a tour to Grapeville, the former site of the Gristmill on Honey Hollow Road once operated by Joseph Youmans and the Greenville Town Cemetery where Mr. Youmans' ancestors are buried.

Met and corresponded with Janus Adams, an historian and author, about the history of slaves in the New Baltimore area. I provided her with some information from the Heritage book and Beers' History of Greene County.

Supervisor said having discussing gifts offered, Town Board should weigh in considering value and storage anytime he gets something outside. Bill Johns has offered to donate a display case; Councilman Norris said Historian Hilscher found case for \$75 from Lincoln Center.

Town Wide Yard Sale is September 21, 9am-4pm, over 10 sales now; names are needed by the Thursday prior.

ADJOURNMENT

Hearing no more from the Board or the public, **Supervisor moved and was seconded by Councilwoman Benway.** The adoption of the foregoing Motion was duly put to a vote, and the vote was as follows:

BENWAY-AYE FINKE-AYE MEREDITH-Absent

NORRIS-AYE O'RORKE-AYE

Motion Carried

The meeting was adjourned at 8:50 pm.

Respectfully submitted

Janet A. Brooks
Town Clerk