

**TOWN OF NEW BALTIMORE, COUNTY OF GREENE  
TOWN BOARD SPECIAL MEETING**

**OCTOBER 16, 2023  
SPECIAL MEETING AGENDA**

*Please turn off all cell phones and electronic devices.*

**Pledge of Allegiance**

**Adoption of Minutes**

- September 25, 2023 Town Board Work Meeting

**New Business**

- Budget Workshop for the Town Board
- Motion to Advance the Tentative Budget to the Preliminary Budget
- Resolution to Replace Reserve Funds from CHIPS Reimbursement
- Resolution to Approve New Part-Time Heavy Motor Equipment Operator Pay Rate
- Audit of Claims

**Upcoming Meetings**

- October 23, 2023 Public Hearing on 2024 Preliminary Budget at 6:30 PM
- October 23, 2023 Town Board Work Meeting at 7 PM
- November 1, 2023 Zoning Board of Appeals Meeting at 7:30 PM (If Needed)
- November 7, 2023 Town Offices Closed for Election Day
- November 9, 2023 Planning Board Meeting at 7 PM
- November 10, Town Offices Closed for Veterans Day
- November 13, 2023 Town Board Regular Meeting
- November 23-24, 2023 Town Offices Closed, Happy Thanksgiving
- November 27, 2023 Town Board Work Meeting at 7 PM

**Adjournment**

**\*\*\* Agenda Subject to Change\*\*\*\***

## **GUIDELINES FOR PUBLIC CONDUCT DURING TOWN BOARD MEETINGS**

1. The Supervisor shall preside at the meetings of the Town Board. In the absence of the Supervisor, the Deputy Supervisor shall be the acting Supervisor. In the event both the Supervisor and the Deputy Supervisor are absent, the other members shall designate one of their members to act as temporary chairman. A majority of the Board shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business, but a lesser number may adjourn.
2. Town residents who wish to speak shall fill out a card at the entrances of the meeting room listing their name, contact information, and the subject matter in which they would like to speak. These cards will be collected prior to the beginning of the Town Board meeting and given to the Town Supervisor or Deputy Supervisor in the absence of the Supervisor.
3. Speakers must be recognized by the presiding officer and then proceed to the lectern and state their name and address. They must limit their remarks on official town business to up to three minutes on a given topic and may not yield any remaining time to another speaker. They must address their remarks to the Board as a body and not to any member thereof and not to other members of the audience in the form of a debate.
4. Speakers should present their remarks in a courteous manner and may not make disparaging remarks or personal comments about public officials, town residents, or others. All speakers will observe the commonly accepted rules of courtesy, decorum, dignity, and good taste with no cursing, swearing, clapping, booing, finger pointing, bullying, whispering, or talking that disrupts the proceedings of the business of the Town Board.
5. Any speaker who disregards the directives of the presiding officer in enforcing the rules, disturbs the peace at a meeting, makes impertinent or slanderous remarks, or generally conducts themselves in an inappropriate manner shall be barred from further participation and will forfeit any balance of time remaining for their comments.
6. After a final warning, if a speaker willfully refuses to step down, the Town Supervisor shall contact the appropriate authorities to remove the speaker from the meeting room and to restore order.
7. The Town Supervisor, or in their absence the Deputy Supervisor, shall ensure compliance with these rules.

**This policy will be amended by Majority vote of the Town Board.**

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**Supervisor Ruso:** ‘Notice is hereby given that the Town Board of the Town of New Baltimore will hold a Special Meeting on Monday, October 16, 2023 at 7 PM at Town Hall, 3809 County Route 51, Hannacroix, New York to Adopt September 25 Minutes, a 2024 Budget Workshop for the Town Board, to Advance the Tentative Budget, to address Highway Reserve Fund Reimbursement and New Employee Pay Rates, and Audit of Claims. By Order of the Town Board, Barbara M. Finke Town Clerk’

**OPENING OF SPECIAL MEETING**

Supervisor Ruso opened the meeting at 7:00 PM and the Pledge of Allegiance was said. Also attending Councilmembers Boehlke, Irving and VanEtten; Deputy Supervisor Dellisanti; Town Clerk Finke; Highway Superintendent VanWormer. Absent: Councilmember Downes and George McHugh, Esq.; and 12 members of the public who signed the attendance book

**ADOPTION OF MINUTES**

The September 25, 2023 Town Board Regular Meeting submitted by Town Clerk Finke, Moved by Supervisor Ruso and was seconded by Councilmembers Boehlke and VanEtten. The adoption of the foregoing Motion was duly put to a vote and the vote was as follows:

AYES: Ruso, Boehlke, Irving, VanEtten

NAYS:

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT: Downes

**Motion Carried**

**Supervisor Ruso:** There is a Budget open hearing on Monday, one week from today, where anyone’s questions or comments can be addressed. So this is for the Town to witness our conversations regarding the Town budget.

**New Business**

**Budget Workshop for Town Board**

**Supervisor Ruso:** The first page is your summary page and this is by and large a capitulation of everything that’s on every line item subsequent to this. So I’m going to bring to your attention the General Fund, Page 1 of 5, and that has to do mostly with our income. Now the budget officer with me was Kelly so she has as much information as I have. With her help we put this all together. So have you folks any comments or concerns about anything on the Income side. Anybody have any thoughts?

**Councilmember Boehlke:** On the Income side?

**Supervisor Ruso:** Sure, that’s where it all starts. Couple things I’ll point out on the Income side is we’ve had to reduce our Mortgage Tax because it’s been lower than it has been so that’s income from people having a mortgage obviously and there’s a tax upon it and last year 2022 we had \$111,000, but in 2023 we have \$31,000, so we’ve downgraded our estimates \$10,000. The last check of the year will come in November and I cannot tell you even though I saw the Treasurer and he could not give me an answer, can’t tell me where it’s going to come. The second major adjustment, somewhat adjustment, has to do with Fines and Forfeited Bail. Through September 30 we have received \$41,316. All of last year was \$107,000 almost \$108,000 so that income was approximately \$9,000 a month for 2022 and in 2023 we’re running about closer to \$4,000, divide \$41,000 by 9, and you’re gonna get \$4,600 thereabouts. So we downgraded that from \$95,000 to \$80,000. So let’s see what else here.

**Councilmember VanEtten:** So there’s a reason why the income from the Court is down. Is it because of less cases?

**Supervisor Ruso:** Well, according to the Judges when I met with them last month anyway, beginning of September, fewer ticket. That’s what they said.

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**Councilmember VanEtten:** But I also notice that the Interest Income has increased dramatically.

**Supervisor Ruso:** Yes, we'd only budgeted \$1,000 in interest in 2023 and just in this account -- there's other accounts where it's similar -- we're at \$22,211 and that's only through nine months. The interest earnings have skyrocketed. We sat and discussed with the banks so we're gonna budget next year for \$22,500. We were getting very low interest rates and earlier this year -- I want to say February or March -- we went and talked to both of the local banks and talked to a third outside bank and they increased our interest rates from in some cases .25 of a percent to three percent so we have skyrocketed our interest earnings which helps make a difference. That doesn't quite make up for the losses we'll have in the other accounts, but it helps cut the difference anyway. Aside from that, most of the other places where our amounts are coming down or close to, Planning fees are up a little bit; that's really small dollars. Unclassified Revenues is up and there was Federal aid is \$13,312 so that helps makes a difference, but we didn't budget to some of those line items for items that were one-time shots. If I move on any other thoughts on the Income side?

**Councilmember Boehlke:** I see the PILOTS are listed there. Do we have anything there on the community sharing with the solar projects, the one time?

**Supervisor Ruso:** Well, we have, if you look on the line item that says under Actual it says Hosting Fees, that was \$23,000. That's for 2023. The other solar projects in consideration have not finalized their project and so as it closes in on finalization, that's when we have to sit and negotiate.

**Councilmember Boehlke:** But, that's new revenue.

**Supervisor Ruso:** I can't say what it will be for 2024, otherwise I'd put something in it, but I can't say. If you want we can go into the Expense side on the General Fund just to point all the personnel here have a 2.5 increase so where it says Personal Services, Town Board Municipal Court Personal Services and so forth all those accounts are representing a 2.5 percent increase. So that explains some of that. So if you have a line item you have a question about, please address it to me. I wish Kelly was here, but she's not. She knows much of it as do I.

**Councilmember Boehlke:** So overall did we ever figure out what the actual increase in expenses is overall?

**Supervisor Ruso:** Oh yeah, it's on Page 5 of 5, actually Page 4 of 5. Last year's budget was \$832,000 in Expenses; this year's budget is \$808,000. So it's a decrease of \$24,000.

**Councilmember Boehlke:** \$24,000? Is that Tentative or is that going to be Actual?

**Supervisor Ruso:** That's on the Tentative Budget, the Preliminary Budget which we moved over the last part or we will be moving over. The last part will be finalization.

**Councilmember Boehlke:** So overall expenses are down \$24,000?

**Supervisor Ruso:** Approximately, yes.

**Councilmember Boehlke:** Approximately. Good.

**Councilmember Irving:** But you did say that Personal Service accounts were up. That's staff raises right?

**Supervisor Ruso:** Correct, correct. Now this is as I said a Workshop for you guys to ask questions. I just got the Fire District figures for Medway today so it's not in here.

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**Councilmember Boehlke:** That was another question, why that was all blank? Well, they actually have until the first of November is their deadline.

**Councilmember Boehlke:** Oh really, I thought it was October.

**Supervisor Ruso:** Just for those that might want to know \$212,101 is the Medway Fire Department and that's up from \$206,147 which you'll see there. You don't have it, again I didn't plug it in yet. But that's where their's is and their's is up \$6,000. Any other thoughts guys?

**Councilmember VanEtten:** But the Highway budget is actually higher than the General budget, but yet we have Highway expenses that come out of the General.

**Supervisor Ruso:** Yes, there are, yes there are. Where did you want to go next folks? You want to talk about the Highway?

**Councilmember VanEtten:** Sure.

**Town Clerk Finke:** Do you want to talk about the health insurance?

**Supervisor Ruso:** Well, yeah, I suppose the health insurance.

**Town Clerk Finke:** It comes out of the General.

**Supervisor Ruso:** The health insurance comes out of the Geneal Fund relatively recently. We did that about six- seven years ago. Previously it was out of each Department, but the Hospital and Medical Insurance for this year is \$195,000 in the budget, that's a difference of \$25,000 and I believe that most of that has to do with a few things. That's based upon current usage, actually it's more than current usage in anticipation of some hires. But the new hires hired since 2010-2011 pay a different portion of their health insurance. Prior to 2011 they paid 10% and now they pay 25%. So that's going to result even if we get up to staffing as we prefer, that's still going to be a reduction. Health insurance is quite high. It's \$195,000, that's actually up from 2021 where it was \$174,000. Last year in '22 we spent \$174,000 again. So this year we're budgeted for \$195,000. So we've spent so far -- the bills aren't all in yet -- but we've spent so far \$97,000. So the bills have a lag affect to them so it will be probably at least 75-80 percent of that \$210,000. We'll see where that goes. Highway, our Real Property taxes for the Highway are \$547,544. The budget from last year was \$528,000 so the taxes are going to be up by \$19,000. PILOT fees are steady, they're actually \$70-some more than last year. Interest and Earnings, there's that Interest and Earnings again, through September 2023 we've brought in \$13,139 in interest. So as I said that interest as you go through other accounts you're gonna see the affect of that. We only budgeted \$600 last year so we've got another \$10,000 is what we budgeted for this year and CHIPS is up. It's up from -- well, our budget was \$310,000 last year and this year we budgeted \$360,000.

**Councilmember Boehlke:** So CHIPS, so we got the money from last year right, we're squared away?

**Supervisor Ruso:** From 2022, yes.

**Councilmember Boehlke:** So when's this due for this year?

**Supervisor Ruso:** I know the cancelled check, I just actually saw it today. I think you did too didn't you? It was emailed to me this afternoon. That will be applied for, I believe the deadline's like the 10th-11th of November.

**Councilmember Boehlke:** What's that figure roughly?

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**Supervisor Ruso:** It's \$190,000 that one alone. There was a previous \$90,000 already submitted.

**Councilmember Boehlke:** So what's left to be submitted.

**Highway Superintendent VanWormer:** Just the one cancelled check for \$190,000.

**Councilmember Boehlke:** When's that got to be in by?

**Supervisor Ruso:** He applies for it. You have to have a cancelled check before it can be applied for and so we just received a copy. Again if you didn't get it call me.

**Councilmember Boehlke:** I have the papers all filled out. All I gotta do is put the check (unable to understand).

**Supervisor Ruso:** If you didn't receive it call me because again I saw it today and I'm pretty sure you were on the email.

**Highway Superintendent VanWormer:** Thank you. I'll check in the morning.

**Supervisor Ruso:** So there's the final \$190,000. When we receive it, it will probably be 2024, but it will be applied. That's how we do it.

**Councilmember Irving:** Typically when's it come during the... Well, you don't know right?

**Supervisor Ruso:** Two things have to happen. The expense has to happen, the payment has to happen, and then the cancelled check has to be received and then we can apply. So those four items and if you get a late start on project 1, 2, or 3, if you don't start until August let's say you don't get the bill for a few weeks and then we get the bill and then we pay it and the check is sent out, then they cash it. I mean all those steps have to happen.

**Councilmember Boehlke:** So how long's the time lag, Alan, with that getting the reimbursement after you put the paperwork in?

**Highway Superintendent VanWormer:** It will probably be in the first round of payments in 2024.

**Supervisor Ruso:** I think it's March. Okay that's the Income side. The Income side is \$940,970 and we're down on the Expense side. We don't have any legal fees for 2024 which is good. Road Maintenance Personal Services \$281,000, that's to reflect our wage increases. Road Maintenance Contractual Expenses, that is down from \$100,000 to \$70,000. CHIPS is up from the budgeted amount of \$310,000 to \$360,000, that's a \$50,000 increase. Machinery and Equipment we've held steady. Snow Removal Personal Services, I think the biggest variable to that has often been how much snow we're gonna have and the same thing with the Contractual Expense. State Retirement, that number was \$22,000 now it's \$17,000 and that is an estimate based upon the tier level that our new employees will be in. Social Security is a direct result of salaries, that's an automatic calculation. Worker's Comp, we've held that steady. Uniforms \$3,200 was last year, this year it's \$2,500, we just simply base that on actual expenses. Going back to some of these expenses we had in the General as well as expenses here, we talked to various people, get estimates for increases or changes in regulations and we also look at experience from the previous year meaning what did we spend last year, what's a reasonable amount this year, and actually we looked back three or four years because sometimes it was one-time shots and spikes and of the like. So if you can actually see on this the actuals for '21, '22, and '23 to date. I can get you figures further back if that's helpful to you. Final budget from two years ago was \$745,000 and we're sitting here this year for \$940,000.

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**Councilmember Boehlke:** So what do we attribute that to?

**Supervisor Ruso:** I have to look at each line item. Obviously Road Maintenance, the staff increases are part of that. CHIPS money, that's a big part of it too.

**Harold Vadney:** Could inflation possibly be a factor in this?

**Supervisor Ruso:** Inflation is always a factor in this.

**Harold Vadney:** Yes, it is. That has to be taken into consideration.

**Councilmember Boehlke:** Well, CHIPS is huge. That's \$230,000 in CHIPS money. Am I reading that right?

**Supervisor Ruso:** We're up to \$360,000.

**Councilmember Boehlke:** I was looking at 2021.

**Supervisor Ruso:** This year it's \$360,000. It's gone up. Everything goes up and some of the worries are where's the inflation, where's fuel gonna be? I don't know. We don't really know these things. We can estimate. Well, we have some issues here later with the electricity costs, the lighting costs. And just as a point as it relates to the Highway in a marginal sense, in the State in their infinite wisdom has decided that the cost of the Garage is not a Highway cost. So we have \$22,000 in the Garage costs, that's including heat and lights, and also we already talked about the health insurance. That is significantly the Highway staff, overwhelming the Highway staff, probably 90 percent. Okay, any other thoughts on the Expenses? One of the things we did have even though there's that difference from previous years, I hope you note that we don't have anymore bonds to pay off. That was paid off last year. That was running \$23,000-\$24,000 a year and then, of course, interest which was a declining amount each year. But that was paid off in 2022. So we don't have anything budgeted or bonding of any equipment or what have you for both '23 and '24. So then we'll talk about the Sewer Plant. Costs are relatively simple here, same as last time or times gone by. 2023 was an anomaly as those that have a Sewer bill will know that your bills have been approximately 50 percent for 2023. And so we're going back to normal so that was a one-time shot. So if you really want to get a good comparative, you look at 2022's budget and look at 2024's. It went from \$149,000 to \$152,000. Last year it was \$76,000. And a good thing once again if you look at line item SS240.1 we have \$6,000 in Interest. See there's that interest coming back again. At least it benefits us. Last few years it just wasn't worth it. It was \$400 every year, this year it's \$7,100 which is nice and it helps make up some of the charges that people have or the taxes. Any questions? Sewer? By the way that's the Income side. The Expenses are on the second page, Page 2 of 2 and, of course, I think everyone knows we have two Sewer Districts. One is particularly small and it's only serving the SERTA factory. Aside from that, anyone else? No, there's no one else over there. It's just the SERTA factory and it ties right into the Village of Cossackie sewer system. Okay, so the Expenses for some of you have seen this in the midst of this, it's not just on this one, on the Sewer but on all of them, what we do is we compare our anticipated expenses first and then we go back and look at our Income and the tax rate or the charges for if it's the Sewer usage charges are based upon the total expenses, subtracting ancillary income, interest etc. and the figure for what we charge or what we tax is based upon what's left over so basically the taxing and the charges are the last thing, even though it's on the top of the page, is the last thing developed or close to it. And occasionally we find out things that aren't exactly right and we have to adjust it as we go through it. Water Fund. I got a question about the Water Fund today. District 1, that district that's the one on 9W that runs from the Village of Ravena right until you get to Acquetuck Road. There's not many users there. District 2 is the Scheller Park district and District 3 is over there by the Antique Center and SERTA factory. There are 12 users in District 3. District 2 there are 40 parcels. Actually, there's 12 parcels in District 3 and District 2 there are 40 parcels as it currently stands and I don't know the number of parcels on District 1 offhand. I knew it and I

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forgot it. So in essence the process is still the same so our Expenses expected for District 1 are \$625,000. So in the Income page, which is Page 1 of 2 on the top you'll see that that's what we're charging. District 2, you see all of our expenses. Source of Supply Power and Pump etc. The bond that we put forth in 2020, there it is \$25,000.59. Other Water expenses are \$2,400, Other Expenses ARPA is \$13,000 and Reserve for Repair, we're putting together \$3,200 every year in the Reserve account which we found out the hard way we should have been funding prior. It wasn't funded and small expenses, not small, but the replacement of one fire hydrant is \$9,500 last time we did it and that wipes out three years. So we have for '22, '23, and '24 and, of course, we'll carry on beyond that and the loan we've made two payments so far out of the 15, there's 13 left to do, that's \$25,090. District 3 as I said once again, that's 12 parcels, and 12 parcels we're building up a reserve. It's \$40 a month per user is what we charge. So 12 x 40, \$960, not a month beg your pardon. So everything balances out there. What's next Lighting? Okay so once again we have our Income side. Again, the Income, Real Property Taxes, that is the last figure we determined, same as with District 2. The Expenses, we are at \$31,320. Our budget from last year was \$27,000. So obviously that's an increase. Trying to touch base with Central Hudson looking at what others have. The good thing is or the bad thing is there was a spike earlier this year in electricity costs, but then it's come back down to earth, back in the early spring. If it hadn't come back down to earth, we'd be budgeting at a higher figure. And same thing with District 2. And so as you can see the cost in what we are charging if you go back to '21, '22, the increase from '21 on District 1 of Expenses is \$10,000, basically almost a 50 percent increase from '21, \$10,000. And for District 2, it's a similar figure, actually that's a little more than 50 percent, it's 100% but that's also based upon experience. Increase goes up, try to accommodate that. Ambulance Fund. Any questions about the Lighting, Sewer, or Water?

**Councilmember Boehlke:** Do we still got grant money left on that Sewer fund?

**Supervisor Ruso:** Yeah, we have some ARPA money and they're supposed to be giving me a figure, looking for doing something with it in the spring of '24.

**Councilmember Boehlke:** Okay and then we had something also for the water district right?

**Supervisor Ruso:** That's what I was talking about.

**Councilmember Boehlke:** We had leftover money for the sewage at one point.

**Supervisor Ruso:** Oh yeah, I'm sorry. I'm mixing apples and oranges.

**Councilmember Boehlke:** I asked about sewer.

**Supervisor Ruso:** The ARPA money that's awaiting final... Here's what the problem is with the pipe in Water District 2. We have approximately \$300,000 to apply to replace the pipe. It's gonna cost over \$1 million so what we're looking to bid out next year in the spring is how much of that pipe can we replace for \$300,000. Maybe down to the foot.

**Councilmember Boehlke:** Sure because we may get more grant money in the future to do more.

**Supervisor Ruso:** Hope.

**Councilmember Boehlke:** It makes sense. Why go in debt for it?

**Supervisor Ruso:** I've had some conversations with Senator Hinchey. They're looking at perhaps finding another way to get us more money, but I can't say much more than that because I'd rather have it in writing not conversational. Any further thoughts? Oh, the Ambulance fund. We did discuss that much. So once again let's go to the Expense side, it's where I'd like to start.

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Basic Ambulance District 1 is \$35,000 and Advanced Life Support is \$14,000 for a total of \$49,700. For those of you that don't know it follows the district lines for the... Ambulance District 1 is in essence similar to, it's the Hamlet, people out my way...

**Councilmember Boehlke:** Like the election districts?

**Supervisor Ruso:** It's a little different than that. There's only two of them, we have four. Coxsackie-Athens takes the southern part of Town and much of the western area in the Town.

**Councilmember VanEtten:** So I noticed that the EMS budget has increased. Is that because of the number of calls, Nick?

**Deputy Supervisor Dellisanti:** Yeah, it went up 12.8 percent for next year.

**Councilmember Boehlke:** Because of the calls, increasing calls?

**Supervisor Ruso and Councilmember Boehlke:** And expenses.

**Deputy Supervisor Dellisanti:** Fuel.

**Councilmember Irving:** So they're charging \$30 for the ambulance service. I don't remember seeing that before.

**Deputy Supervisor Dellisanti:** That's Ravena.

**Supervisor Ruso:** Yeah, Ravena Ambulance Corps. We did get their budget and it's plugged in here. The Insurance Reimbursement we've brought up to \$9,000 and that's largely based upon the actual figure from 2023. We can't say what their reimbursement will be next year, but we've based upon this year. Much of our reimbursement for 2023 has already been received. In essence I doubt we'll have another check before the end of the year. They only send it to us, sometimes annually, sometimes twice a year. But most of the time it's very infrequent.

**Deputy Supervisor Dellisanti:** We should mention that Ravena went up \$10,000.

**Supervisor Ruso:** Oh, yeah. Their cost went up \$10,000.

**Councilmember Boehlke:** Really? Tell me how many calls were we actually up?

**Deputy Supervisor Dellisanti:** In Ravena, I don't get a report.

**Councilmember Boehlke:** No, I mean for us.

**Supervisor Ruso:** They don't tell us the number.

**Deputy Supervisor Dellisanti:** They just tell us the dollars. We went from \$25,905 to \$35,000 that's the bill we received.

**Councilmember Boehlke:** Can we check into that and see what the...?

**Supervisor Ruso:** I've met with them a few times. They're charging us for each call \$30 a mile just so you know and this is the first time they ever broke it out so I can't compare to what they've done previous, but the figures overall are \$35,000 versus almost \$26,000. If you want to note something...

**Councilmember Boehlke:** As a matter of interest how much is a patient or insurance paying into this?

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**Deputy Supervisor Dellisanti:** A bill from ambulance service from your house to the hospital they're gonna charge you \$2,000-\$2,200 before your insurances kick in. They apply the insurances first right after they give you the bill and about two to three months later you get the final bill from what your insurance covers.

**Supervisor Ruso:** It's the remainder. And then they have a sharing program and the Ravena Rescue Squad is the only one that shares the revenue. I'm glad they do because they don't have to. Not a requirement, but they do share the revenue that they receive with the Town which we're happy for and we don't like a big raise like that but it is what it is. Interestingly enough District 2, we've been running on auto pilot here and why? They haven't sent us a bill since 2021. They haven't sent us an estimate, a budget since 2021 notwithstanding our phone calls to the contrary.

**Councilmember VanEtten:** I remember calling quite a bit.

**Supervisor Ruso:** But we owe you. Usually bill clickers will call me and not the other way around. If you can see down the Actual, right there \$0, but were estimating. So in the meantime that money's sitting in the bank for those in District 2 and at least we're getting interest on it.

**Councilmember Boehlke:** As long as they don't want interest on it.

**Councilmember VanEtten:** To get paid they need to bill us.

**Supervisor Ruso:** Go back to the Income side you'll see on District 1 and \$2,770, that's the insurance reimbursement. Again that's the Ravena Rescue Squad. District 2 you won't see that line item because Coxsackie doesn't share their insurance reimbursement. To some extent Coxsackie given their bill, their estimates, insurance reimbursements is kind of like a black hole. They don't tell us much, but they give us a bill every so often, every three or four years which is hard to budget for. What do we charge next year? They said they'll try to get it to me this year. Okay, so I mean any thoughts otherwise overall or specific line items? Our open hearing is on next Monday. So any further thoughts on it? So I know we've had the Tentative Budget presented to you a few weeks so we'll proceed accordingly. So I'm going to make a Motion to advance the Tentative Budget to the Preliminary Budget.

**Councilmember Boehlke:** I'll second that.

AYES: Ruso, Boehlke, Irving, VanEtten

NAYS:

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT: Downes

**Motion Carried**

**TOWN OF NEW BALTIMORE, COUNTY OF GREENE**

**RESOLUTION 118-2023**  
**OCTOBER 16, 2023**

**RESOLUTION TO REPLACE RESERVE FUNDS FROM**  
**CHIPS REIMBURSEMENT**

**WHEREAS** the Town of New Baltimore Resolution 105-2023 indicated that \$200,000 be transferred from the Highway reserve account to pay for the new International Haul Truck and be reimbursed upon receipt of the NYS CHIPS funding, and

**WHEREAS** \$100,000 of the funds in the Highway Reserve Account was funded by Greene County ARPA funds,

**TOWN OF NEW BALTIMORE**                      **Draft 10/30/2023**  
**COUNTY OF GREENE**                              **Adopted 11/11/2023**  
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**OCTOBER 16, 2023 – Page 9**

**THEREFORE** the Town Board hereby authorized that the Highway Reserve Account be reimbursed \$100,000.

Motion by Supervisor Ruso seconded by Councilmember VanEtten

**Supervisor Ruso:** Originally the ARPA funds were going to go to the new plow truck which was ordered sometime prior to the haul truck, but the haul truck came in first so we're going to apply that \$100,000 to truck #2 instead of truck #1 and that's in essence what we're gonna do here.

AYES: Ruso, Boehlke, Irving, VanEtten

NAYS:

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT:

**Motion Carried**

**TOWN OF NEW BALTIMORE, COUNTY OF GREENE**

**RESOLUTION 119-2023**

**OCTOBER 16, 2023**

**RESOLUTION TO APPROVE PART-TIME  
HEAVY MOTOR EQUIPMENT OPERATOR PAY RATE**

**RESOLVED** the pay rate for Part-Time Heavy Motor Equipment Operators in the Highway Department is \$23.25 per hour.

**RESOLVED** that James Meade was appointed as a Part-Time Heavy Motor Equipment Operator on June 28, 2021 and the new pay rate is effective September 4, 2023.

**RESOLVED** that Hugh Sterritt was appointed as a Part-Time Heavy Motor Equipment Operator on February 8, 1994 and is reappointed as of September 25, 2023 and is required to file an Oath of Office with the Town Clerk within 30 days.

Motion by Supervisor Ruso seconded by Councilmember Boehlke

**Supervisor Ruso:** This is a final point of clarity here our new contract is only for full-timers. These folks are not in the bargaining unit. Okay, so we decided we're just going to give them the same amount that everyone else is getting.

AYES: Ruso, Boehlke, Irving, VanEtten

NAYS:

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT:

**Motion Carried**

**Audit of Claims**

**TOWN OF NEW BALTIMORE, COUNTY OF GREENE**

**RESOLUTION 120-2023**

**OCTOBER 16, 2023**

**RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE SUPERVISOR TO PAY AUDITED CLAIMS**

**WHEREAS** the Town Clerk has presented claims to the Town Board for audit and review, and

**TOWN OF NEW BALTIMORE**                      **Draft 10/30/2023**  
**COUNTY OF GREENE**                              **Adopted 11/11/2023**  
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*WHEREAS* the Town Board has audited claims 2023-10-01 to 2023-10-41, it is

*RESOLVED* that the Supervisor is hereby authorized to pay claims 2023-10-01 to 2023-10-41.

*BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED* that the Town Clerk will prepare an abstract and hold it for public review until November 30, 2023.

Motion by Supervisor Ruso seconded by Councilmember VanEtten

AYES: Ruso, Boehlke, Irving, VanEtten

NAYS:

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT: Downes

**Motion Carried**

General \$19,037.55, Highway \$8,479.27. Sewer 1 \$2,682.96. Sewer 2 \$41.38, Water 2 \$2,005.00, Street Lighting 1 \$2,107.67, Street Lighting 2 \$268.95, Total \$34,622.78

**Upcoming Meetings**

- October 23, 2023 Public Hearing on 2024 Preliminary Budget at 6:30 PM
- October 23, 2023 Town Board Work Meeting at 7 PM
- November 1, 2023 Zoning Board of Appeals Meeting at 7:30 PM (If Needed)
- November 7, 2023 Town Offices Closed for Election Day
- November 9, 2023 Planning Board Meeting at 7 PM
- November 10, Town Offices Closed for Veterans Day
- November 13, 2023 Town Board Regular Meeting
- November 23-24, 2023 Town Offices Closed, Happy Thanksgiving
- November 27, 2023 Town Board Work Meeting at 7 PM

**Adjournment**

Motion by Councilmember VanEtten seconded by Councilmember Boehlke, the meeting was adjourned at 7:47 PM

AYES: Ruso, Boehlke, Irving, VanEtten

NAYS:

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT: Downes

**Motion Carried**

Respectfully Submitted,

Barbara M. Finke RMC CTO  
Town Clerk