

**TOWN OF WASHINGTON  
AGENDA  
TOWN BOARD MEETING  
November 10, 2022**

Supervisor Gary Ciferri:

- Pledge of Allegiance
- Reappoint Ron Galente to the Board of Assessment Review
- Appoint Steve Curley to the Board of Assessment Review to fill the unexpired term of Jeff Feigelson
- Open Public Hearing on the proposed 2023 Budget
- Open Public hearing on potential Community Development Block Grant ideas
- Accept resignation from Peter Audia from the Zoning Board of Appeals
- Accept resignation from Ted Ialongo as Park Caretaker
  - Councilman Audia comments on the advertising for a new park caretaker
- Close Public Hearing on Community Development
- Adopt Resolution Authorizing the Submission of the 2023 CDBG Letter of Intent and Grant Application

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE SUBMISSION OF THE  
2023 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT APPLICATION**

Activity Title: Accessibility to Town Building for increased Senior Citizen Activities

WHEREAS, the Town of Washington (hereinafter referred to as the Municipality) is participating in the 2023 Dutchess County Community Block Grant Consortium; and

WHEREAS, input from citizens has been received and considered at a public hearing, held on November 10, 2022; and

WHEREAS, a letter of intent has been prepared for the above referenced activity which addresses our community concerns; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the submission of the letter of intent and a grant application to the Dutchess County Department of Planning and Development is hereby authorized.

### **Letter of Intent for the CDBG Grant:**

The Town of Washington's Recreational Department currently provides limited programming and services to its Senior community. Currently, our Senior program offerings encompass outings to various activities a few times a year – often in coordination with a neighboring town's rec. Our recreation department offers these recreational opportunities to both our residents and to non-resident Seniors who live in adjacent communities – Towns like Dover, Amenia, Stanford, Clinton and Pleasant Valley.

As more of our Seniors seek community following an almost two-year lockdown from Covid-19, Seniors have requested more programming from our Recreation department such as Bingo, speaker series, Chair Yoga, the list goes on. As of September, of this year, we have a new Town of Washington Recreation Director who is enthusiastic about expanding our programming for our Seniors and handicapped adult residents.

**Currently, the Town of Washington does not have an adequate, year-round facility to host our Seniors. Our Town's Recreation building located in our Town's Park has ample space to create a Center for Seniors, but unfortunately it is not handicap accessible or heated for winter use.**

**The Town of Washington seeks funding to remove barriers to its accessibility.** We want to create an appropriate, safe space for our currently underserved Senior community and any of our handicapped adult residents (in addition to Seniors and the handicapped from neighboring towns) to gather. We'd like to provide a place for these groups to take advantage of planned, expanded programming then made possible by an updated, accessible facility.

#### **Specifically, the Town of Washington hopes to secure a \$100,000 grant to fund the following:**

- A handicap ramp with handrail that connects the parking lot with the entrance to the building.**
  - A handicap accessible, automatic door for the entrance to the building.**
  - X number (?) of dedicated handicapped parking spots adjacent to the ramp/entrance to the building.**
  - A new handicap accessible bathroom for the Center.**
- And, if funding remains, heat and lighting for the Center.**

The Town is also pursuing additional fundraising opportunities should the cost of the handicap accessibility projects and/or the heating and lighting exceed \$100,000.

We plan to submit a budget with estimates as part of our formal application due in December.

We welcome the opportunity to answer any questions you may have and thank you in advance for your consideration.

Bookkeeper Lois Petrone:

- Monthly report

Highway Superintendent Joseph Spagnola:

- Monthly Report
  - Councilman Rochfort: Killlearn Road report from Colliers Engineering

Town Clerk Mary Alex:

- Minutes for budget workshops and September 8 have been posted to the website and distributed to the Town Board
- Local Law # 2 of 2022, Code of Ethics, confirmation received from the Department of State that the LL has been filed
- Email established for Board of Ethics: [Ethics@Washingtonny.org](mailto:Ethics@Washingtonny.org)
- Schedule Reorganization meeting: January 12 or earlier?
- Solar Escrow for array at Cary IES
  - Proposed Resolution discussion

**RESOLUTION REGARDING PAYMENT OF SECURITY**

Councilperson \_\_\_\_\_, offered the following Resolution, which was seconded by Councilperson \_\_\_\_\_, who moved its adoption:

WHEREAS, by Resolution dated September 4, 2018, the Town of Washington Planning Board granted special permit approval and site plan approval for a Solar PV System on property owned by Cary Institute for Ecosystem Studies located at 2801 Sharon Turnpike involving an Operations and Maintenance Plan/Decommissioning Plan prepared by Bacon Triangle, LLC, an affiliate of YSG Community Solar, LLC; and

WHEREAS, a Decommissioning Bond was executed in relation thereto by YSG Community Solar, LLC, Bacon Triangle, LLC, and Cary Institute of Ecosystem Studies, Inc., which called for annual payments of \$1,000.00 for 26 consecutive years, each such annual payment being due to the Town on August 30<sup>th</sup> of each year, to serve as decommissioning security for the benefit of the Town; and

WHEREAS, the agreement by the Town to accept deferred payment of the total security sum of \$26,000.00 was made purely as an accommodation to the applicants and based upon their anticipated timely payment of each annual sum due: and

WHEREAS, the said annual payment was not timely made on August 30, 2019 and again on August 30, 2022 and the outstanding sum is now \$22,000.00;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED as follows:

1. Based upon the late payments by the applicants, the Town hereby calls immediately due and payable the remaining sum of security outstanding, namely \$22,000.00, and directs that notice be given to the applicants immediately of the amount now due.

The foregoing Resolution was duly put to a vote which resulted as follows:

Town Clerk Alex:

- Introduce Updated Fee Schedule for Planning Board Applications:

### **RESOLUTION INTRODUCING REVISED ESCROW FEES**

WHEREAS, the Town of Washington has established escrow fees for certain applications brought before the Town Board, Planning Board, Zoning Board of Appeals and Building Inspector; and

WHEREAS, the current escrow fee is \$750.00; and

WHEREAS, the Town engages the Attorney for the Town (Van de Water & Van de Water) and an Engineering Firm (AKRF Engineering) for the review of applications before these Boards; and

WHEREAS, it has been determined that for some applications, the current Escrow Fee does not cover the expenses for professional review; and

WHEREAS, it has been advised that the Town should review the actual costs associated with the professional review of applications to determine if Escrow fees should be increased; and

WHEREAS, it has been suggested that the Planning Board Escrow should be revised to reflect the actual costs; and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Washington does hereby introduce the following Escrow Fees:

- Initial escrow deposit \$1,500.00
- \$2,000.00 for projects under \$10,000.00 in development costs
- \$5,000.00 for projects with \$10,000.00 - \$50,000.00 development costs
- \$10,000.00 for projects over \$50,000.00 development costs; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that some applications which may be determined to involve a lot of coordination and review time, an additional escrow fee may be required; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that some applications may be subject to additional replenishment during the course of the review; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that any unused Escrow fees will be returned to the applicant within four months or whenever the final bills are paid; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that final approval for any application will be pending the payment of all fees.

Councilman Robert Audia:

- EV parking spaces
- Update on closing the park and pool
- Update on Kubota from Reardon Briggs
- Comments from the inspection of Town buildings by Dutchess County Risk Management
- Town Hall roof inspection and when to bid new Town Hall Ramp.

Councilman Michael Murphy:

- Short Term Rentals
- Recreation Update
- Board of Ethics:
  - Training Dates for Education
  - Two additional members

Councilwoman Leslie Heaney:

- Monthly report for Planning Board, Zoning Board of Appeals and Conservation Advisory Commission
- Introduce Resolution supporting the development of a Natural Resources Inventory

## **RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE DEVELOPMENT OF A NATURAL RESOURCE INVENTORY**

WHEREAS, a natural resources inventory (NRI) compiles maps and descriptions of natural areas and provides a reference for planning in a community; and

WHEREAS, the purpose of an NRI is to provide information for comprehensive land use and conservation planning to allow natural resource information to be included in local planning and zoning; and

WHEREAS, the NYSDEC Hudson River Estuary Program is offering a 1-year technical assistance opportunity for two watershed communities to create a basic NRI, at no cost to the Town of Washington, but requiring a significant volunteer contribution, and

WHEREAS, to be considered for the technical assistance available from the Hudson River Estuary Program, municipalities are required to submit an application listing 3 – 5 volunteers, any related land use planning initiatives, and a resolution of support from the municipal governing board by November 30, 2022;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

1. That the Washington Town Board hereby establishes an NRI Steering Committee, and will recruit volunteers to participate in the development of the NRI; and

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2. That the Washington Town Board expresses their support for the development of the NRI and authorizes the submission of an application for technical assistance to the Hudson River Estuary Program.

Councilwoman Leslie Heaney

- Introduce Resolution Appointing Climate Smart Task Force and Task Force Coordinator

## **RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING CLIMATE SMART COMMUNITY TASK FORCE AND TASK FORCE COORDINATOR**

WHEREAS, on March 10, 2022, the Town of Washington Town Board formally adopted a New York State “Climate Smart Communities” Pledge; and

Whereas the Town of Washington seeks to take actions that will reduce its energy consumption, transition to renewable energy, and improve its resilience to the impacts of climate change; and

Whereas the NY State Climate Smart Communities program lists the creation of a Climate Smart Communities Task Force as a mandatory step in the program; and

Whereas the NY State Climate Smart Communities program lists the creation of the role of a Climate Smart Communities Task Force Coordinator as a mandatory step in the program;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Washington Town Board hereby creates a task force which shall be known as the “Climate Smart Communities Task Force” hereinafter called the “CSC Task Force”; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Town Board of the Town of Washington names Councilwoman Leslie Heaney as the CSC Coordinator; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Climate Smart Community Task Force Coordinator is responsible for recommending task force members to the Town Board for final approval and appointment by the Washington Town Board; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Climate Smart Community Task Force shall provide the Town Board with information about establishing and implementing climate smart initiatives, to propose new ideas to the Town Board, to identify funding sources for projects and paybacks from investments, and to manage climate-related projects; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Climate Smart Community Task Force shall meet at least twice a year at the Town of Washington Town Hall; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the members of the Climate Smart Communities Task Force shall serve at the pleasure of the Town of Washington Town Board.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the SCS Task Force shall be constituted by the following Terms of Reference:



**Terms of Reference**  
**Climate Smart Communities Task Force**

**Membership; terms of office; vacancies.**

A.) While the number of members of the CSC Task Force may change over time, depending upon needs and work demand, it will start with a Town Board liaison and five volunteer members.

1. A representative of the Washington Town Board shall be named as the liaison to the CSC Task Force.
2. The Task Force shall have at least one representative from the Conservation Commission.
3. Four additional citizen appointees, who are fulltime residents of the Town of Washington, appointed by the Town Board based on their experience and availability to participate in the CSC Task Force.
4. A Chair shall be appointed by the Town Board from among these members.

B.) The term of office of CSC Task Force members shall be five years, except that in the case of the members first appointed, 1/5 member shall serve for one year, 1/5 shall serve for two years, 1/5 shall serve for three years, 1/5 shall serve for four years and 1/5 shall serve for five years terms.

C.) When a member's term ends, he or she may remain on the CSC Task Force until such time as a replacement is appointed, and may be reappointed for another five-year term at the discretion of his/her appointing authority.

D.) Vacancies on the CSC Task Force shall be filled in the same manner as the original appointment, except that a vacancy occurring other than by the expiration of term of office shall be filled only for the remainder of the unexpired term.

**Officers; rules; records; meeting schedule.**

A.) The Chair shall preside over all official meetings of the CSC Task Force.

B.) Agendas and minutes of all meetings shall be kept and filed with the Town Clerk.

C.) A meeting schedule shall be established by the Chair and all meetings shall be approved at the 2023 Town Reorganization Meeting to be held in January, 2023.

**Powers and duties.**

The powers and duties of the CSC Task Force shall be to:

A.) use the NY State DEC Climate Smart Communities Pledge Elements to prioritize actions to be undertaken by the Town government.

B.) recommend the prioritized actions to the Town Board for approval.

C.) plan actions approved by the Town Board consistent with the Climate Smart Communities pledge, with the goal of achieving increasing levels of Climate Smart Community.

E.) solicit stakeholder and public input on proposed action plans through open meetings and special workshops.

G.) upon consultation with the Town Supervisor, work collaboratively with similar task forces in neighboring communities to ensure that efforts complement and reinforce one another.

H.) carry out such other duties as may be assigned from time to time by the Town Board.

### **Reports to the Town Board.**

The CSC Task Force shall maintain ongoing communication with the Town Board and any relevant Town boards, commissions, working groups and departments. Annually, no later than the first day of September, the CSC Task Force shall submit a written report outlining its activities over the past year and goals for the next year.

### **Compensation of members.**

The members of the CSC Task Force shall receive no compensation for their service as members.

### **CSC Task Force Sunset Clause**

The CSC Task Force has no termination date. It will continue to function as long as there are sustainability issues worth reviewing and projects to implement for Climate Smart Community certifications. It can be terminated at any time by the Town Board.

Councilwoman Leslie Heaney:

- Recommendation to appoint the following individuals to the CSC Task Force
  - Elizabeth Bellin: 1 Year Term
  - Adelaide Camillo: 2 Year Term
  - Colleen Howland: 3 Year Term
  - Richard Philipps: 4 Year Term
  - Margaret Schneible: 5 Year Term
  - Pam Scott will sit in as a liaison to the CAC
  - Shannon LaDeau will sit in as a liaison as a member of the Village's CSC and Town's CAC

Councilwoman Heaney:

- Request that the Town Board authorize Supervisor Ciferri to sign the following letter requesting assistance from Cornell Cooperative Extension Dutchess County

Libby Zemaitis  
NYSDEC Hudson River Estuary Program  
DEC Region 3 Offices  
21 South Putt Corners Road  
New Paltz, NY, 12561

November 10, 2022

Dear Ms. Zemaitis:

On behalf of the Town of Washington, I am writing this letter to indicate our strong support of the proposal submitted by Cornell University Cooperative Extension Dutchess County (CCEDC) to the NYSDEC Hudson River Estuary Program and NYS Water Resource Institute at Cornell to assist our community in completing the Climate Smart Resiliency Planning (CSRPT) tool. As natural hazards and extreme weather events are placing our municipality at increasing potential risk, our municipality is interested in opportunities to proactively plan and mitigate these risks through establishing community resilience and reducing vulnerabilities to assets.

As a community that signed the Climate Smart Community pledge in 2022, we are interested in learning more about the CSC Certification program and completing the CSRPT tool, as it is a priority action to become a certified Climate Smart Community.

As this is a collaborative effort, The Town of Washington is willing to provide CCEDC staff with all of the relevant municipal planning documents and codes necessary to complete the tool, as well as the contact information for any of our municipal employees, consultants, or volunteers who may have been involved with or are currently involved with any relevant planning documents. Our municipality understands that completing the CSRPT will require a commitment to communication with CCEDC staff about our current plans, codes, and ordinances and to participate in at least two in person or remote meetings to review the tool and develop recommendations for the municipality.

We look forward to working with CCEDC this upcoming year and are confident that completing the CSRPT tool will strengthen our commitment to resiliency planning and contribute to building a more resilient community.

Sincerely,

Gary Ciferri  
Supervisor, Town of Washington

Supervisor Gary Ciferri:

- Request a motion to close the Public Hearing on the 2023 Proposed Budget
- Request a motion to adopt the 2023 Budget
- Public Comments
- Review Claims as Presented
- Close Meeting