

**January 10,2024**  
**Minutes**  
**TOWN OF WASHINGTON TOWN BOARD**  
**Annual Reorganizational Meeting**  
**and Short-Term Rental Public Hearing**

The Town Board of the Town of Washington held their Annual Reorganization meeting and Short-Term Rental Public Hearing on Wednesday, January 10, 2024, at the Washington Town Hall. The meeting was called to order by Supervisor Gary Ciferri with the following present: Councilpersons Robert Audia, Michael Murphy, Joseph Rochfort and Leslie Heaney, Town Clerk Chrissy Briggs, Building Inspector Jonathon Ialongo, and Attorney for the Town Meghan Clemente.

Supervisor Ciferri opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance

Supervisor Ciferri informs the Board that the Public Hearing to amend Local Law No. 2 of 2008, as amended by Local Law of 2019 and Local Law No. 1 of 2023, to address The Tax Exemption for persons with Disabilities and Limited Incomes and the Tax Exemption for persons sixty-five years of age and older is not going to be held this evening, as the publication did not make the Poughkeepsie Journal deadline. The Public Hearing has been rescheduled to Thursday, February 8, 2024 at 6PM.

Supervisor Ciferri establishes the regular meeting of the Town Council to be held on the second Thursday of the month beginning at 6:00PM, at the Town of Washington Town Hall, 10 Reservoir drive Millbrook, NY.

Supervisor Ciferri establishes the regular meetings of the Zoning Board of Appeals to be held on the third Tuesday of the month beginning at 7:30PM.

Supervisor Ciferri establishes the regular meetings of the Town Planning Board to be held on the first Tuesday of the month beginning at 6:00 PM.

**Appoint the following employees to their respective positions:**

- Appoint Bob Audia as Deputy Supervisor for a period of 4 years.
- On the recommendation of Town Clerk Chrissy Briggs, the Town Board appoints Kristen DiFiore as Deputy Town Clerk for a period of 4 years
- On the recommendation of Highway Superintendent Joseph Spagnola, the Town Board appoints Kathleen Velletri as Deputy Highway Superintendent for a period of 4 years.
- Lois Petrone Bookkeeper to the Supervisor

- Heather Harwood Justice Court Clerk
- Natalie Thorpe Deputy Tax Collector
- Danielle Szalewicz Recreation Director
- Jonathon Ialongo Zoning Administrator/Building Inspector
- James Brownell Constable
- Kathleen Moro Assessor's Clerk
- Michael Olivette Data Collector
- Anthony De Bonis Animal Control Officer

**Appoint the following volunteers to their respective positions:**

- On the recommendation of The Town of Washington Recreation Commission, resolution to appoint Jason Zmudsky to the Recreation Commission, term expires, 12/31/2027.
- The Ethics Committee has one vacancy.
- The Conservation Advisory Commission has one vacancy.
- The Planning Board has one vacancy and one alternate vacancy.

**Appoint the Town Council members as liaisons to the following:**

- Councilman Audia: Buildings and Grounds, Short Term Rental Legislation Committee
- Councilwoman Heaney: Planning Board, Conservation Advisory Commission, Joint NRI Committee, and Climate Smart Task Force
- Councilman Murphy: Short Term Rental Legislation Committee Chair, Board of Ethics, Recreation Commission and Justice Court Liaison.
- Councilman Rochfort: Comprehensive Plan Review for Hospitality, Zoning Board of Appeals, Killlearn Road and Project manager for the Oak Summit Road Bridge Replacement.

**Name the following as Interim Successors in the absence of the Town Supervisor:**

1. Robert Audia
2. Michael Murphy
3. Joseph Rochfort

Name the Bank of Millbrook as the Official Depository of Town funds.

- Appoint AKRF as the Consulting firm to the Planning Board and the Zoning Board of Appeals
- Appoint the law firm of Van de Water and Van de Water as Attorneys for the town.

- Authorize the Supervisor to invest town funds in time or authorized investments as approved by the Town Board.
- Establish the official rate of mileage, as the IRS rate of mileage of sixty -seven cents (00.67) per mile, for reimbursement to employees and elected officials while on official Town business.
- Appoint the Poughkeepsie Journal and/or Millerton News as the official newspapers of the Town. Legal notices will be published dependent upon publication needs.
- Approve the procurement of a blanket undertaking from a duly authorized corporate surety covering the officers, clerks and employees of the town. Any such blanket undertaking entered into must indemnify against losses caused by the failure of the officers or employees to faithfully perform their duties or by their fraudulent or dishonest acts.
- Approve the compensation of all the employees within the limits of the appropriated funds as established in the 2023 Town Budget. All non-salaried, full-time employees are to receive time and a half for hours worked over forty (40) hours per week when approved in advance by their direct Supervisor.
- Establish the rates of compensation for all officials and employees as indicated in the 2024 budget without a previous audit from the Town Board.

**2024 Town of Washington**  
**Schedule of Salaries**  
**Elected/Appointed Officials**

**OFFICER POSITION Account Code 2024**  
**A FUND Approved**

- Joe Rochfort Councilmen A.10101.01 \$5,220.11
- Mike Murphy Councilmen A.10101.01 \$5,220.11
- Robert Audia Councilmen A.10101.01 \$5,220.11
- Leslie Heaney Councilwomen A.10101.01 \$5,220.11
- Justice Justice A.11101.01 \$18,482.54
- Court Clerk (PT) Court Clerk A.11101.01.14 \$18,720.00

- Gary E. Ciferri Supervisor A.12201.01 \$20,879.31
- Lois Petrone Bookkeeper A.12201.01.16 \$59,000.00
- Natalie Thorpe - Deputy Tax Collector Deputy Tax Collector A.13301.01 \$35,520.00
- Lisa Evangelista Assessor A.13551.01 \$55,487.00
- Kathleen Moro(15 hrs pr week @ 51 Weeks) Assessor's Clerk A.13551.01.17 \$16,830.00
- Michael Olivette (15 hrs pr week @ 51 Weeks) Assessor's Aide A.13551.01.19 \$16,830.00
- Clair Eskdale Clerk (Assessor's Dept) A.13551.01.18 \$14,918.00
- Christine Briggs (Town Clerk's Salary) Town Clerk A.14101.01 \$69,648.17
- Kristin DiFiore (budgeted at 30 hrs pr week, was 37 hrs pr week) Deputy Town Clerk A.14101.01.24 \$53,352.00
- Earl Smith capped at 5000.00 Cleaner A.16201.01 \$5,000.00
- Anthony De Bonis Dog Control Officer A.35101.01 \$12,528.04
- Joseph Spagnola Highway Super A.50101.01 \$71,737.62
- Kathleen Velletri (15hrs per week) Deputy Highway Super A.50101.01.29 \$19,500.00
- Rec Director Recreation Director A.70201.01 \$60,000.00
- Rec Assistants (1 Toddler Program) Recreation Assistant A.73101.01.40 \$25,000.00
- Rec Assistant A.70201.01.30 \$15,000.00
- Pool Groundskeepers (1 PT) Groundskeeper A.71101.01.31 \$7,000.00
- Matthew Purcell Groundskeeper A.71101.01.31 \$49,275.20
- Joseph Magnarella Solid Waste Attdt A.81601.01 \$27,405.01
- John Hay/Ed Wheeler Solid Waste Attdt A.81601.01 \$6,000.00
- TOTAL A FUND \$698,993.34
- B FUND
- James Brownell Constable B.31201.02 \$30,789.58
- Jonathan Ialongo - Building Inspector Building Inspector /ZBA B.36201.02 \$52,800.00
- ZBA Secretary - (PT 6 hrs pr week) \$20.00 pr hr ZBA Secretary \$6,240.00
- PB Secretary (PT 12 hrs a week) \$20.00 pr hr PB Secretary \$12,480.00
- TOTAL B FUND \$102,309.58
- HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT
- Charles Erts Auto Mechanic DB.51301.04 \$70,720.00
- Jason Murphy MEO DB.51101.04 \$54,392.00
- Joseph Erts MEO DB.51101.04 \$57,782.40
- Kevin Granger MEO DB.51101.04 \$57,200.00
- Michael Llanes H/MEO, DB.51101.04 \$60,278.40
- Tom Burns MEO DB.51101.04 \$53,560.00
- Wayne Gruntler Forman -MEO DB.51101.04 \$68,640.00

- TOTAL HIGHWAY \$422,572.80

Supervisor Ciferri asks if anyone has any questions regarding the Annual Reorganizational Meeting. There are no questions and Supervisor Ciferri thanks everyone for attending.

Councilwoman Heaney makes a motion seconded by Councilman Rochfort to close the Reorganizational meeting. The vote was as follows:

Supervisor Ciferri: AYE  
Councilman Audia: AYE  
Councilman Rochfort: AYE  
Councilman Murphy: AYE  
Councilwoman Heaney: AYE

Councilman Murphy makes a motion, seconded by Councilman Rochfort to open the Public Hearing on the Short-Term Rental Legislation. The vote was as follows:

Supervisor Ciferri: AYE  
Councilman Audia: AYE  
Councilman Rochfort: AYE  
Councilman Murphy: AYE  
Councilwoman Heaney: AYE

Councilman Murphy explains that Granicus is the company that will be aiding the Town to ensure Short -Term Rentals are in compliance with the Town's Local Law, if and when it is passed

Councilman Murphy opens the floor to public comments.

Howard Schuman raises the concern regarding who the primary beneficiary of this law is going to be. Mr. Schuman is concerned that this law leans toward a commercial favor. Mr. Schuman would like to have the Short-Term Rental property occupied by the primary resident and have that primary resident required to reside at the residence for six months and a day, as opposed to the 100 - day requirement in the existing law. He is also concerned that the Short-Term Rental Law has the potential to change the community. Mr. Schuman is also concerned that the noise ordinance of 11:00pm is too

late, other communities he has looked at have a noise ordinance of 10:00pm. The other concern is, does the Town have an enforcement mechanism in place? Councilwoman Heaney states that the enforcement mechanism consists of Granicus and the Town's Building Inspector Jonathon Ialongo. There is also the potential of losing a Short-Term rental permit if an owner/renter is out of compliance.

The Town Board, collectively thanks Mr. Schuman for his comments

Adelaide Camillo thanks the Short-Term Rental committee for the significant changes that have occurred through the process from draft #1 to draft #3.

Ms. Camillo has submitted comments in reference to draft #3, prior to this meeting. Ms. Camillo asks the board if they had a chance to review the comments.

Councilman Murphy responds that all comments that have been submitted have been Reviewed by the Short-Term Rental Committee, prior to bringing Draft #3 to a vote.

Ms. Camillo states that the Bed and Breakfast Law is the best way to handle hospitality in a rural community. Ms. Camillo would prefer that the gold standard be owner occupied Short-Term Rentals, however she is happy with the required ownership of at least a year. Ms. Camillo is also concerned about the 11Pm noise ordinance. Ms. Camillo is concerned about the disturbances Short- Term Rentals could potentially cause the neighbors.

Councilman Murphy explains that once a permit has been issued for a Short-Term Rental, the neighbors will be informed via letter with contact information. It will also be posted on the Town's website.

Ms. Camillo is also concerned about parking.

Councilman Murphy explains that parking is required as part of the plot diagram that is presented at the time of application, showing specifically where cars can park.

Councilman Murphy thanks Adelaide and informs the public that the Short-Term Rental Committee will be discussing all comments that came forward this evening.

Supervisor Ciferri shares that he initially had reservations regarding Short-Term Rentals and that he shared these concerns with Councilman Murphy and the committee. Supervisor Ciferri goes on to thank Councilman Murphy and the committee for their

hard work, they did a wonderful job. Supervisor Ciferri thinks this is a good law, if or when it passes.

There being no other business, on a motion made by Councilman Murphy and seconded by Councilman Rochfort, the meeting was closed at 7:15PM. The vote was as follows:

Supervisor Ciferri: AYE  
Councilman Audia: AYE  
Councilman Rochfort: AYE  
Councilman Murphy: AYE  
Councilwoman Heaney: AYE

Councilman Rochfort makes a motion, seconded by Councilman Audia to go into Executive session to review and audit Town Clerk, and Justice Court books.

The vote was as follows:

Supervisor Ciferri: AYE  
Councilman Audia: AYE  
Councilman Rochfort: AYE  
Councilman Murphy: AYE  
Councilwoman Heaney: AYE

*Chrissy Briggs*

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Chrissy Briggs, Town Clerk  
1/24/2024