

TOWN OF CLIFTON PARK TOWN BOARD

November 20, 2023

The meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Clifton Park was held in the Town Office Building at 7:00 p.m. Supervisor Barrett presiding.

Present: Supervisor Barrett
Councilman Morelli
Councilwoman Walowit
Councilman O’Hara
Town Clerk Brobston

Absent: Councilwoman Reid

Also Present: Town Attorney McCarthy
Mark Heggen, Comptroller
Daniel Clemens, Director of Parks, Buildings & Recreation
Norah Hofer, Communications and Technology Coordinator
Dahn Bull, Highways Superintendent
Michael O’Brien, Collection System Manager

MINUTES

MOTION by Councilwoman Walowit, seconded by Councilman O’Hara, to approve the November 6 and 8, 2023 Town Board Minutes as presented.

ROLL CALL VOTE

Ayes: Councilman Morelli, Councilman O’Hara,
Councilwoman Walowit, Supervisor Barrett

Noes: None

Absent: Councilwoman Reid

MOTION CARRIED

ANNOUNCEMENTS & COMMUNICATIONS

Councilman Morelli announced two Electronic Vehicle Chargers are now operational at the Town Center Park. He explained chargers will soon be available at the Town Hall and the Clifton Common for the public.

RESOLUTIONS

Resolution No. 261 of 2023, a resolution appointing Michael Christianson as a member of the Industrial Development Agency (IDA).

Introduced by Councilman Morelli, who moved its adoption, seconded by Councilwoman Walowit.

WHEREAS, a vacancy exists on the IDA, and

WHEREAS, Michael Christianson, Clifton Park, has been recommended to fill the position, and

WHEREAS, Mr. Christianson has the background experience, education, and training to act effectively as a member; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that Michael Christianson is hereby appointed as a member of the IDA for a 3-year term, term to expire December 31, 2026.

ROLL CALL VOTE

Ayes: Councilman Morelli, Councilman O’Hara, Councilwoman Walowit,
Supervisor Barrett

Noes: None

Absent: Councilwoman Reid

DECLARED ADOPTED

Resolution No. 262 of 2023, a resolution appointing Mark Brockbank as an alternate member of the Zoning Board of Appeals.

Introduced by Councilwoman Walowit, who moved its adoption, seconded by Councilman O’Hara.

WHEREAS, a vacancy exists in the position of alternate for the Zoning Board of Appeals, and

WHEREAS, Mark Brockbank, Clifton Park, has been recommended to fill the position, and

WHEREAS, Mr. Brockbank’s presence on the Zoning Board will confer a benefit to the Town of Clifton Park; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that Mark Brockbank is hereby appointed as an alternate member to the Clifton Park Zoning Board of Appeals for a one-year term, term to expire December 31, 2024.

ROLL CALL VOTE

Ayes: Councilman Morelli, Councilman O’Hara, Councilwoman Walowit,
Supervisor Barrett

Noes: None

Absent: Councilwoman Reid

DECLARED ADOPTED

Resolution No. 263 of 2023, a resolution appointing Jim Allen to the Clifton Park Highway Safety Committee.

Introduced by Councilman O’Hara, who moved its adoption, seconded by Councilman Morelli.

WHEREAS, a vacancy exists on the Highway Safety Committee, and

WHEREAS, Jim Allen, Clifton Park, has been recommended to fill the position, and

WHEREAS, Mr. Allen has the background experience, education, and training to act effectively as a member; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that Jim Allen is hereby appointed as a member of the Clifton Park Highway Safety Committee for a 2-year term, term to expire December 31, 2025.

ROLL CALL VOTE

Ayes: Councilman Morelli, Councilman O’Hara, Councilwoman Walowit,
Supervisor Barrett

Noes: None

Absent: Councilwoman Reid

DECLARED ADOPTED

Resolution No. 264 of 2023, a resolution appointing Julia Haig as a member of the Clifton Park Water Authority.

Introduced by Councilman Morelli, who moved its adoption, seconded by Councilwoman Walowit.

WHEREAS, due to the resignation of Heather Brondi from the Clifton Park Water Authority, a vacancy exists on the Board, and

WHEREAS, Julia Haig, Clifton Park, has been recommended to fill the position, and

WHEREAS, Ms. Haig’s presence on the Clifton Park Water Authority will confer a benefit to the Town of Clifton Park; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that Julia Haig is hereby appointed to the Clifton Park Water Authority for the remainder of Heather Brondi’s five-year term, term to expire December 31, 2025.

ROLL CALL VOTE

Ayes: Councilman Morelli, Councilman O’Hara, Councilwoman Walowit,
Supervisor Barrett

Noes: None

Absent: Councilwoman Reid

DECLARED ADOPTED

Resolution No. 265 of 2023, a resolution authorizing the sale of equipment declared surplus by the Town Board and Highway Department at public auction.

Introduced by Councilman Morelli, who moved its adoption, seconded by Councilman O’Hara.

WHEREAS, Dahn Bull, Highways Superintendent, has identified vehicles/equipment, per the attached Schedule A, as surplus property, and

WHEREAS, based upon the recommendation of Mr. Bull, the Town Board declares the items on the attached Schedule A as surplus; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Town Board authorizes the Highway Department to sell the surplus equipment, as is, through an upcoming online public auction.

ROLL CALL VOTE

Ayes: Councilman Morelli, Councilman O’Hara, Councilwoman Walowit, Supervisor Barrett

Noes: None

Absent: Councilwoman Reid

DECLARED ADOPTED

Resolution No. 266 of 2023, a resolution authorizing the promotion of Robert Coons III, currently a Mechanic’s Helper to Automotive Mechanic in the Highway Department.

Introduced by Councilwoman Walowit, who moved its adoption, seconded by Councilman Morelli.

WHEREAS, an opening exists within the Highway Department due to the resignation of Walter Davies, and

WHEREAS, Superintendent of Highways Dahn Bull, verifies that Robert Coons III has a Class B Driver’s License with nearly 4 years of working in the Automotive Garage, performing skilled repair work on numerous Town vehicles, trucks, buses, and construction equipment and holds a valid NYS DMV Certification as a Motor Vehicle Inspector, Group 1 & 2, and

WHEREAS, Mr. Bull recommends the advancement of Mr. Coons from Mechanic’s Helper to Automotive Mechanic within the Department; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that Robert Coons III, Mechanicville, is hereby promoted to Automotive Mechanic, Grade 6, Step 2 (\$28.98/hr), effective November 21,2023, and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Comptroller is authorized to charge budget accounts and transfer funds as detailed on the attached Schedule A.

ROLL CALL VOTE

Ayes: Councilman Morelli, Councilman O’Hara, Councilwoman Walowit, Supervisor Barrett

Noes: None

Absent: Councilwoman Reid

DECLARED ADOPTED

Resolution No. 267 of 2023, a resolution hiring (1) Motor Equipment Operator in the Clifton Park Highway Department.

Introduced by Councilman O’Hara, who moved its adoption, seconded by Councilman Morelli.

WHEREAS, Dahn Bull Highways Superintendent, wishes to hire a new Motor Equipment Operator (MEO) for the Highway Department, due to an opening that exists, and

WHEREAS, Mr. Bull has conducted interviews and driving record reviews, and has recommended the hiring of Patrick Grogan, Schuylerville; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that Patrick Grogan be hired as MEO, to be Grade 5, Step 1, at a salary of \$54,496 and paid at the rate of \$26.20/hour, effective at a start date no earlier than November 21, 2023; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Comptroller is authorized to charge the budget accounts and transfer funds as detailed on the attached Schedule A.

ROLL CALL VOTE

Ayes: Councilman Morelli, Councilman O’Hara, Councilwoman Walowit, Supervisor Barrett

Noes: None

Absent: Councilwoman Reid

DECLARED ADOPTED

Resolution No. 268 of 2023, a resolution authorizing a change order to the existing contract with M.A. Schafer Construction, Inc. for the project to upgrade the playground equipment in the Country Knolls Park, within the Longkill I Park District.

Introduced by Councilwoman Walowit, who moved its adoption, seconded by Councilman Morelli.

WHEREAS, the Town has an existing contract with M.A. Schafer Construction, authorized by Resolution No. 170 of 2023, for upgrades to the playground at the Country Knolls Park, and

WHEREAS, M.A. Schafer has submitted a change order for adding additional playground equipment to the project, at a cost not to exceed \$36,714, and

WHEREAS, the Town Board wishes to authorize Change Order #1 to provide additional play equipment in the northwest corner of the Country Knolls Park; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Town Board authorizes Change Order #1 for the Country Knolls Park playground upgrade project, at a cost not to exceed \$36,714; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Comptroller is authorized to transfer the funds from SP5-00915 (Longkill I Park District- Assigned Fund Balance) to SP5-07123-00200 (Longkill I Park District- Longkill I- Equipment).

ROLL CALL VOTE

Ayes: Councilman Morelli, Councilman O’Hara, Councilwoman Walowit, Supervisor Barrett

Noes: None

Absent: Councilwoman Reid

DECLARED ADOPTED

Resolution No. 269 of 2023, a resolution adopting the 2024 Budget for the Town of Clifton Park.

Introduced by Councilman Morelli, who moved its adoption, seconded by Councilman O’Hara.

WHEREAS, a public hearing was held on the Preliminary Budget on November 9, 2023, to obtain comment from the public regarding the proposed Budget for 2024, and

WHEREAS, the comments of the public have been incorporated into the proposed budget; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the 2024 Town of Clifton Park Budget is hereby adopted.

ROLL CALL VOTE

Ayes: Councilman Morelli, Councilman O’Hara, Councilwoman Walowit, Supervisor Barrett

Noes: None

Absent: Councilwoman Reid

DECLARED ADOPTED

Supervisor Barrett stated one new position in the Buildings & Grounds Department, that was presented toward the end of the budget process, is continuing to be discussed.

Councilman Morelli stated the importance of not breaking the tax cap and no general property tax for residents. He stated, with constraints, the Town Board was able to recognize personnel increases, continued priorities like infrastructure needs, parks, open space, trails, engineering, and services for the residents. Within those constraints, as a Board, they were able to produce a fair and balanced budget.

Resolution No. 270 of 2023, a resolution authorizing the purchase of one 2023 Ford F-250 pickup truck with snowplow, for use by the Sewer Department from an existing contract with Onondaga County.

Introduced by Councilman O’Hara, who moved its adoption, seconded by Councilman Morelli.

WHEREAS, Michael O’Brien, Collection System Manager, has recommended the purchase of one Ford pickup truck for use by the Sewer Department, and

WHEREAS, the prices quoted are extended from the Onondaga County Bid award, under the provisions of NYS General Municipal Law Section 103 which allows one municipality to utilize existing contracts of another municipality, as long as that contract was pursuant to competitive bidding consistent with State law and made available for use by other government entities, and

WHEREAS, General Municipal Law Section 103(16), allows the extension of equipment configurations and awarded pricing discounts to all political subdivisions in New York State, based upon qualified bid responses to a municipal entity, with notice, and

WHEREAS, Mr. O’Brien recommends that the pricing from Van Bortel Ford, 71 Marsh Road, East Rochester, NY, be accepted for a total amount not to exceed \$64,255.94; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Sewer Department is authorized to purchase one 2023 Ford F-250 pickup truck with snowplow, as per the attached Schedule A, from Van Bortel Ford; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Town Board authorizes the purchase under an existing contract with Onondaga County, as attached, in an amount not to exceed \$64,255.94, to be paid through municipal lease.

ROLL CALL VOTE

Ayes: Councilman Morelli, Councilman O'Hara, Councilwoman Walowit,
Supervisor Barrett

Noes: None

Absent: Councilwoman Reid

DECLARED ADOPTED

Collection System Manager Michael O'Brien, this is a piggyback from an existing Onondaga contract, not NYS mini bid, as it stated on the original proposed resolution. (CLERK NOTE: Resolution was amended to reflect Onondaga Contract) Mr. O'Brien stated the Town Board approved a resolution in December of 2022 for the same truck from Van Bortel Ford, off a NYS mini bid and ordered the truck from the dealership. He called the dealership a month ago when he had not heard back from the dealership, and was told they did not place the order. He stated the dealer found a truck on their lot comparable to the original requested truck, which is now reflected on the current resolution and from existing Onondaga contract with a small price differential.

PUBLIC PRIVILEGE

No one wished to be heard.

MOTION BY Councilwoman Walowit, seconded by Councilman O'Hara, to adjourn the meeting to the next regular meeting or any other meeting necessary for the conduct of town business.

Motion carried at 7:44 PM

Teresa Brobston
Town Clerk