

TOWN OF CLIFTON PARK TOWN BOARD

December 11, 2023

The meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Clifton Park was held in the Town Office Building at 7:02 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

ANNOUNCEMENTS & COMMUNICATIONS

None

RESOLUTIONS

Resolution No. 274 of 2023, a resolution appointing MD Hague to the Clifton Park Highway Safety Committee.

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

WHEREAS, due to the resignation of Arnold Hausler, a vacancy exists on the Highway Safety Committee, and

WHEREAS, MD Hague, Clifton Park, has been recommended to fill the position, and

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

RESOLVED, that MD Hague is hereby appointed as a member of the Clifton Park Highway Safety Committee to serve out the balance of Arnold Hausler’s 2-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. 275 of 2023, a resolution authorizing the Town Clerk to increase marriage license application fees.

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

WHEREAS, the Town Clerk recommends raising the application fee due to the increase in marriage license applications and expenses related to issuing the licenses, and

WHEREAS, the current fee is \$32.00 per application, with \$22.50 payable to the State of New York, under the relevant statute, with \$9.50 retained by the Town, and

WHEREAS, the current fee has been in place for 20 years, and

WHEREAS, the Town Clerk suggests increasing the fee to \$40.00 per application, with \$22.50 to be payable to the State of New York and \$17.50 to be retained by the Town, and

WHEREAS, the increased fee would be consistent with surrounding Towns and Cities; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Town Clerk is authorized to increase marriage license application fees to \$40.00.

ROLL CALL VOTE

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

Noes: None

Absent: Councilwoman Reid

DECLARED ADOPTED

Resolution No. 276 of 2023, a resolution authorizing the promotion of Regan Tromblee, currently an Account Clerk to Senior Account Clerk in the Buildings and Grounds Department.

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

WHEREAS, Director of Buildings, Parks & Recreation Daniel Clemens, verifies that Regan Tromblee, currently employed as an Account Clerk in the Buildings and Grounds Department, has fulfilled the necessary requirements to achieve Senior Account Clerk certification by passing the applicable civil service exam, and

WHEREAS, Mr. Clemens recommends the advancement of Ms. Tromblee from Account Clerk to Senior Account Clerk within the Department, as she has the qualifications necessary to perform the job per civil service classification, and

WHEREAS, the adopted 2024 Budget has sufficient funds included for this promotion; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that Regan Tromblee is hereby promoted to Senior Account Clerk, Grade 5 Step 4 (\$33.02/hr., \$60,559 per year) effective January 1, 2024.

ROLL CALL VOTE

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

Noes: None

Absent: Councilwoman Reid

DECLARED ADOPTED

Resolution No. 277 of 2023, a resolution authorizing the Highways Superintendent to retain Precision Trenchless, LLC to perform repairs and upgrades to stormwater systems within the Town of Clifton Park.

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

WHEREAS, pursuant to General Municipal Law Section 103 (16), municipalities in New York are authorized to “piggyback” from competitively bid contracts of other municipalities within the state, so long as the bid process from the original contracting entity was conducted through a sealed bid process pursuant to the statute, and the bid notice provided for such piggybacking, and

WHEREAS, the Highway Department has now requested authorization to retain Precision Trenchless, LLC, 1710 Erie Blvd., Schenectady, NY, using the piggyback option from an Onondaga County contract, to be executed pursuant to bids which were opened on November 1, 2023, with prices valid from January 1, 2024 through December 31, 2024, according to bid documents and correspondence reviewed from the Onondaga County Division of Purchase, and

WHEREAS, according to information provided by the Highways Superintendent, Precision Trenchless has provided quotes in the amount of \$502,578.10 for sliplining pipes, per Exhibit A, using unit prices as bid in the Onondaga contract as follows for projects identified by the Department:

Street	Linear Feet	Pipe Diameter	Cost
19 Damask Dr.	394 LF	18 Inches	\$67,466.60
Hazelton & St. Andrew	32 LF	12 Inches	\$3,754.80
Cypress Point	311 LF	24 Inches	\$64,080.90
127 Wooddale Dr.	270 LF	18 Inches	\$44,603
3 Thoroughbred Way	395 LF	12 & 18 Inches	\$52,945.50
LaCosta Dr.	233 LF	30 Inches	\$71,288.70
24 Woodcliffe Dr.	290 LF	12 Inches	\$27,981
Pepper Hollow Dr.	766 LF	12 & 15 Inches	\$85,244.40
30 Berkshire Dr.	93 LF	30 Inches	\$29,442.70
3 Brookline Dr.	345 LF	18 Inches	\$55,770.50

And

WHEREAS, the Town has previously allocated funds from the American Recovery Plan Act for repairs to the stormwater pipes, and

WHEREAS, there currently remains \$116,216 in the original allocation for stormwater repairs; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Highways Superintendent is authorized to execute a contract with Precision Trenchless, LLC for a total amount not to exceed \$502,578.10 from DA-05110-00037, (Highway Fund-Highway Construction-Paving-Slip Lining); and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Comptroller is authorized to increase the budget by \$116,216 with revenues DA-04090 (Highway Fund- Federal Revenues) and from Assigned Fund Balance (DA-00915) by \$386,363 to account for the increase in DA-5110-00037, (Highway Fund-Highway Construction-Paving-Slip Lining) of \$502,579.

ROLL CALL VOTE

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

Noes: None

Absent: Councilwoman Reid

DECLARED ADOPTED

Supervisor Barrett stated the Highways Superintendent sent the Town Board a memo, dated October 24, 2023, which mentioned Woods Way, Stonegate and Woodcliff. He explained Woods Way was done this past summer and is not on the current resolution list. Supervisor questioned the Highways Superintendent on how that project will be paid?

Highways Superintendent Bull answered Woods Way was an emergency project that could of resulted in loss of private property. The project has not been paid yet. He is planning to work with the Comptroller for which budget line that would be paid from. Mr. Bull stated the stormwater pipe on Stonegate sits right below a driveway and next to another house. Unfortunately, during a heavy storm, it washed out and created a gully and was dealt with quickly by Precision Trenchless. They have not received the invoice for that project.

Supervisor Barrett stated Stonegate was completed but not yet paved nor paid for. Supervisor stated 24 Woodcliff project is on-going.

Highways Superintendent Bull explained the Highway Department worked on the project and tried to figure out a solution. The project includes many obstacles, utilities, etc. and is a difficult project.

Supervisor Barrett stated it looks as though it goes under the National Grid box. Questioned why it was not taken care of earlier.

Questions regarding total amount to be paid, project sites and what budget line be paid from were discussed.

Comptroller Heggen stated he did not include the \$50,000 already appropriated by the Town Board in this resolution total.

Supervisor Barrett questioned how the Stonegate and the Woods Way projects will be paid.

Comptroller Heggen suggested amending the presented resolution or creating another resolution for when the invoices are received. He stated there is still Assigned Fund Balance money that can be used.

Supervisor Barrett suggested the Comptroller work with the Highways Superintendent on where the money will come from to pay for the remainder of the projects. Supervisor stated the money was appropriated for these projects and it is good they are being completed.

Councilman Morelli questioned if the bid costs from Onondaga County, being used to piggyback on, have changed?

Highways Superintendent Bull answered, the costs have increased a bit due to product increases.

Councilwoman Walowit questioned the timeframe with starting the projects, any weather conditions to be considered, and private property damage?

Highways Superintendent Bull stated as soon as the resolution is passed, they will begin ordering products and working out contracts to begin the work. He explained heavy rain or conditions not conducive to being outside would need to be considered for the projects. Property damage will be very minimal for most of the projects to residents, and in spring grass will be planted.

OTHER BUSINESS

Councilman O'Hara stated he received a letter from the Highways Superintendent, dated December 8, 2023, as did all the Town Board members, and had questions. Councilman O'Hara read the beginning of the letter. Councilman O'Hara questioned what "differences" was the Superintendent referring to as stated in the letter with the Town Board.

Highways Superintendent Bull stated differences like changes over the past year, like Councilwoman Walowit visiting the Highways Dept daily, tension and communication with the Supervisor. He stated he wanted to move forward.

Councilman O'Hara stated the Town Board has followed the State Highway Laws. Mr. O'Hara questioned Highways Superintendent Bull if he feels that is important?

Highways Superintendent Bull answered that he follows the State Highway Laws all the time.

Councilman O'Hara questioned that the Town Board believes that if there is a Town Code that collects fees, that that is followed and accounted for correctly and properly to stand up to an audit, does the Superintendent agree with that?

Highways Superintendent Bull answered, under the correct process, yes.

Councilman O'Hara questioned when we, as public officials, are given a task by the Town Board, such as planning the replacement of the fuel pumps before they cause environmental damage, do you agree it should be done by the responsible official and in a timely manner?

Highways Superintendent Bull answered it depends on who the project manager will be.

Councilman O'Hara stated the referenced letter also suggested a workshop to be held, open to the public. Mr. O'Hara stated he will never support that. He has confidence the project will be done properly, economically and in a timely manner, if given to the Town staff to accomplish.

Supervisor Barrett stated the fuel pump replacement project has been made a priority to get done in a timely manner and a committee to accomplish has already met.

PUBLIC PRIVILEGE

Sam Avagyan, Reed Lane, questioned the timeline for the proposed sidewalk project on Route 146, that was discussed at the previous Town Board meeting. Mr. Avagyan questioned the existing sidewalk connections.

Supervisor Barrett stated the Town is still working on the planning process with the State and is difficult to give a timeframe. Mr. Barrett would need to look at the diagram for additional information.

Highways Superintendent Bull raised his hand to speak at public privilege.

Supervisor Barrett stated Highways Superintendent Bull is not eligible for public privilege as a Town Official.

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: 39PM

Teresa Brobston, Town Clerk