

TOWN OF BEEKMAN TOWN BOARD
Minutes for Tuesday August 15, 2023

The Town of Beekman Board met for their regular meeting on Tuesday August 15th, 2023. The meeting was called to order by Supervisor Covucci at 7:02PM. The following members were present: Supervisor Mary Covucci, Councilman Stiegler, Councilman Battaglini, Councilman Lemak and Councilwoman Sharon Wohrman.

Also present was Deputy Town Clerk – Amy Goetz

Supervisor Covucci led the Pledge of Allegiance. Supervisor Covucci pointed out the emergency exits and called for a moment of silence for all those who have served our Country.

Town Board Comments on Agenda items: Supervisor Covucci gave a brief description on the resolutions. Resolutions No. 1 – Acquisition of a town utility vehicle. At the moment we are keeping track of individual employees' insurance and inspection to make sure they are up-to-date on their personal vehicles. At the advice of counsel, and town insurance, they feel this is in the best interest of the town in terms of liability. We are already paying each employee per trip for mileage. This utility vehicle will be used for a number of employees for bank trips, misc. shopping for camp and senior programs, picking up supplies at the county. Priority will be given to building and zoning administrators. Resolution No. 2 – We are happy to welcome Sparrows Nest and looking forward to their grand opening. Resolution No. 3 – We are approving the hiring of a recreation assistant, part-time. Gina Snider has filled in at the rec offices in June and spent the summer working for the rec programs. The position will be a total of 17.5 hours in the office. The current Rec. Director Dani Plastini was willing to forgo the full-time position that was in effect prior to Dani becoming the current rec director. That has saved the town an annual amount between \$30 and \$40 thousand dollars depending on benefits. We appreciate Dani's consideration of the town's taxpayers. Resolution No. 4 – Accepting the donation of a colored printer for the rec department. Laureen our Town Clerk has generously donated her family's spare printer they were not using and we thank her for the donation. Resolution No. 5 – Approve the hiring of a Deputy Zoning Administrator. Collen Hayes has worked in the building department for five (5) years and this is a well-deserved promotion for one of the hardest working town employees we have in the building. She's a real team player with everyone in town hall and a pleasure to work with. She is a valuable asset for the residents. Resolution No. 6 – Payment of Claims.

Public Comments on Agenda items: NONE

Other Town Board Business: **Councilman Stiegler** gave some local sports news. The 15U Beekman Bombers have been invited to represent the Town of Beekman and New York State in the Babe Ruth Regional baseball tournament. The return champions will now represent the State of New York in the Mid-Atlantic Region in the Babe Ruth World Series, August 10th through the 20th in Jamestown, New York. Playing teams from across the USA. This is a huge accomplishment for these players. The Town of Beekman is very proud of these kids and coaches. **Councilman Lemak** made an announcement. To show gratitude and appreciation to local veterans, Dutchess County Executive William F.X. O'Neil and Division of Veterans Services Director Adam Roche will be hosting the 2nd Annual Red, White, and You! Veterans Appreciation Picnic on Saturday, Sept. 16th from noon to 3p.m. at Camp Nooteeming, located at 22 Camp Nooteeming Road in Salt Point. This free event is open to local veterans, who may bring one guest each, and will be an afternoon of comradery, food and music. Registrations required as space is limited and you can find that at dutchess.gov/veteranspicnic. **Councilman Battaglini** commented about the major thunderstorms in our area that have been coming almost once a week with trees and wires down, road closures and power outages. The volunteers are at the firehouse responding to these calls and prepared for any incidents and ready to respond. I ask that during these storms please stay home, stay off the roads and stay safe. **Supervisor Covucci** handed out to all town board members the Town of

Beekman Cash Accounts Review for the first six (6) months and also the Semi-Annual Budget Performance Report for the period ending June 30th.

General Public Comments: Michael Weber, 27 Stowe Drive. Mr. Weber wanted the Town Board to be aware of the Dover Ridge water and his concerns about the letter from VRI Environmental Services. His concern is that the letter went out 30 days from the time the report was made about the water softening system to keep the radium levels down malfunctioning and time it was fixed. Mr. Weber asked about the possible adoption of an inter-policy to inform the residents quicker. Supervisor Covucci commented that the town in the past sent out a letter requesting emails from the Dover Ridge residents to notify them in multiple ways but got very little response from the residents. The Town Engineer can write up a report on the incident in question and mail it out to the Dover Ridge residents. The Health Department mandates to notify the residents within 30 days. The goal is to have the county take over the water district. The Supervisor will discuss with the board and the town engineer with regards to informing residents sooner.

Bill Crain, 254 Gardner Hollow Road. Mr. Crain wants to thank everyone for the well wishes while he recovers from surgery.

Written Comments: NONE

Supervisor Covucci made a motion at 7:26PM to go into Executive Session. Discussions relating to proposed, pending or current litigation and medical financial creditor employment history of a particular person or corporation or relating to appointment, promotion, demotion, discipline or removal. Seconded by Councilman Stiegler. All in Favor, AYE. **Supervisor Covucci** made a motion at 7:58PM to reconvene the meeting after Executive Session. Seconded by Councilman Lemak, All in Favor, AYE

Supervisor Covucci made a motion at 8:00PM to adjourn the Town Board meeting, seconded by Councilman Battaglini. All in Favor, AYE.

Respectfully Submitted by Deputy Town Clerk

Amy Goetz

August 16, 2023

**BEEKMAN TOWN BOARD
TOWN BOARD MEETING AGENDA
AUGUST 15, 2023**

7:00 PM

- Meeting called to order
- Pledge of Allegiance
- Administrative Announcement--Fire Exits

TOWN BOARD MEETING

- Supervisor Comments
- Public comment on Agenda Items and Resolutions - 3 Minute limit

RESOLUTIONS

1. Approve the Acquisition of a Town Utility Vehicle
2. Accept Performance Bond for Sparrow's Nest
3. Approve the Hiring of a Recreation Assistant
4. Accept Donation of Color Printer for the Rec Department

5. Approve the Hiring of a Deputy Zoning Administrator
6. Approval of Payment of Claims

- Other Town Board Business
- General Board Comments
- General Public Comments - 3 minute limit
- Executive Session
- **Next Regular Town Board Meeting: Tuesday, September 12, 2023 at 7:00 PM**

***AGENDA SUBJECT TO CHANGE**

RESOLUTION NO.08:15:23-1

RE: RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN BOARD OF THE TOWN OF BEEKMAN FOR THE ACQUISITION OF A TOWN UTILITY VEHICLE

WHEREAS, the Town has multiple departments that use their private vehicles to conduct Town Business and

WHEREAS, the Town Board is desirous in purchasing a vehicle to accommodate the departments' needs;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Beekman does hereby approve the acquisition of a 4-wheel drive utility vehicle with an amount not to exceed \$50,000 in accordance with the Town's Purchasing Policy.

Introduced: COUNCILMAN STIEGLER

Seconded: COUNCILMAN BATTAGLINI

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Councilman Stiegler	AYE
Councilman Battaglini	AYE
Councilman Lemak	AYE
Councilwoman Wohrman	AYE
Supervisor Covucci	AYE

Dated: August 15, 2023

RESOLUTION NO. 08:15:23-2
RESOLUTION ACCEPTING A PERFORMANCE BOND SECURED BY SURETY BOND FOR
SPARROW’S NEST OF THE HUDSON VALLEY INC.

WHEREAS, Sparrow’s Nest of the Hudson Valley Inc., a New York charitable corporation (hereinafter “Applicant”) has made application to the Town of Beekman Planning Board for site plan approval and special use permit approval pursuant to the Approved Site Plan for that certain 3.32 acre parcel of land (tax grid #132200-6759-00-465462-000) situated at the intersection of Clove Valley Road and Town Center Boulevard in the Town of Beekman, County of Dutchess and State of New York (the “property”); and

WHEREAS, on April 23, 2023, the Town of Beekman Planning Board granted Site Plan & Special Use Permit (“SUP”) Approval to the Applicant, subject to construction, installation and the completion of the required improvements, installations, and lot improvements for the development of the Property in compliance with all requirements, standards and specifications of the Approved Site Plan and other applicable rules and regulations of the Town within one (1) year from the date on which the Town Supervisor signs and certifies the Approved Site Plan; and

WHEREAS, Town Law § 277 requires that a developer of a proposed site plan guarantee the required improvements required by the Resolution of Approval, prior to the issuance of any Certificates of Occupancy; and

WHEREAS, the Applicant has executed a Performance Agreement which requires it to complete the required public improvements within the site plan; and

WHEREAS, the Attorney to the Town has reviewed, examined and approved the aforementioned Performance Agreement; and

WHEREAS, to secure the obligation to guarantee the construction of the required improvements and obligations, the Applicant has tendered to the Town of Beekman a Performance Bond Agreement dated August 15, 2023 secured by a Surety Bond issued by CNA Surety, bearing Bond No. 72575241 and issued in favor of the Town of Beekman in the sum of One Hundred Twenty-Five Thousand Three Hundred Thirty-Seven and 00/100 Dollars (\$125,337.00) posted with the Town of Beekman, securing the obligations set forth in the Performance Bond Agreement; and

WHEREAS, the Applicant covenants and warrants to the Town of Beekman that in the event the Applicant fails to fully perform and complete all the requirements of the Resolution of Approval, then, upon the demand of the Town of Beekman, the Town of Beekman shall have the right to draw upon the Surety Bond in an amount equal to the cost necessary to complete the required improvements; and

WHEREAS, it is understood that the Town of Beekman shall have the right to use said security toward the completion of any required improvements required by the Resolution of Approval upon the default of the Applicant to remedy same after the first given written notice to the Applicant to do so within thirty (30) days of receipt of said notice from the Town of Beekman; and

WHEREAS, the Performance Bond Agreement executed by the Applicant further binds its heirs, executors, administrators, successors or assigns for the faithful performance of its obligations hereunder.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Beekman hereby accepts the Performance Bond Agreement executed by the Applicant in favor of the Town of Beekman as security to guarantee the completion of the improvements required by the Resolution of Approval pursuant to Town Law § 277 upon the condition that all prior conditions as set forth in the Resolution of Approval dated April 23, 2023 shall remain in full force and affect and made a condition of the acceptance of the Performance Bond Agreement; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Town Board hereby accepts the Surety Bond with CNA Surety bearing Bond No. 72575241 as security for the obligations set forth in the Performance Bond Agreement in the amount of One Hundred Twenty-Five Thousand Three Hundred Thirty-Seven and 00/100 Dollars (\$125,337.00), which is to be filed with the Town Clerk; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Town Clerk is hereby directed to file the original Surety Bond executed upon receipt in her files.

Introduced: COUNCILMAN BATTAGLINI

Seconded: COUNCILMAN STIEGLER

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Councilman Stiegler	AYE
Councilman Battaglini	AYE
Councilman Lemak	AYE
Councilwoman Woehrman	AYE
Supervisor Covucci	AYE

Dated: August 15, 2023

RESOLUTION NO. 08:15:23-3
RE: APPROVE THE HIRING OF RECREATION ASSISTANT PART TIME

WHEREAS, the Town Board is authorized under Town Law to make appointments and set salaries; and

WHEREAS, the position was posted as outlined in the Employment Practices Compliance Manual and interviews of applicants for the vacant position of Recreation Assistant were conducted; and

WHEREAS, the Town Board is desirous in filling the position of Recreation Assistant as of September 5, 2023

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Beekman hereby appoints Gina Snider to the position of Recreation Assistant Part Time as of September 5, 2023, with an hourly salary of \$16.50 per hour.

Introduced: SUPERVISOR COVUCCI

Seconded: COUNCILMAN LEMAK

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Councilman Stiegler	AYE
Councilman Battaglini	AYE
Councilman Lemak	AYE
Councilwoman Woehrman	AYE
Supervisor Covucci	AYE

Dated: August 15, 2023

RESOLUTION NO.08:15:23-4
RE: ACCEPT DONATION OF COLOR PRINTER FOR REC DEPARTMENT

WHEREAS, the Rec Department has received a Color Printer from the Abbatantuono family; and

WHEREAS, Town Board resolutions are required to accept all donations,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board does hereby accept this donation and in doing so, does express it's gratitude to the Abbatantuono family, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the record of this donation will be forwarded to the Town Clerk for her record of donations.

Introduced: COUNCILMAN LEMAK

Seconded: COUNCILWOMAN WOHRMAN

ROLL CALL VOTE:

- Councilman Stiegler AYE
- Councilman Battaglini AYE
- Councilman Lemak AYE
- Councilwoman Wohrman AYE
- Supervisor Covucci AYE

Dated: August 15, 2023

RESOLUTION NO. 08:15:23-5
RE: APPROVE THE HIRING OF DEPUTY ZONING ADMINISTRATOR

WHEREAS, the Town Board is authorized under Town Law to make appointments and set salaries; and

WHEREAS, the Civil Service List of Eligibles for the position of Deputy Zoning Administrator was canvassed: and

WHEREAS, only one candidate responded as interested in this position;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Beekman hereby appoints Colleen Hayes to the position of Deputy Zoning Administrator as of August 27, 2023, with an hourly salary of \$26.00 per hour.

Introduced: COUNCILWOMAN WOHRMAN

Seconded: COUNCILMAN BATTAGLINI

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Councilman Stiegler	AYE
Councilman Battaglini	AYE
Councilman Lemak	AYE
Councilwoman Wohrman	AYE
Supervisor Covucci	AYE

Dated: August 15, 2023

RESOLUTION NO. 08:15:23-6
RE: PAYMENT OF CLAIMS

WHEREAS, the Bookkeeper has audited and approved claims pursuant to Sect. 119 of Town Law as set forth in the attached abstracts; be it

RESOLVED, that the payment, therefore, is hereby authorized as follows:

Claims to be paid from the A-General Fund	\$ 54,477.42
Claims to be paid from the DA-Highway Fund	\$ 12,042.66
Claims to be paid from the SS-Dover Ridge Sewer	\$ 158.72
Claims to be paid from the SW-Dover Ridge Water	\$ 1,884.24
Claims to be paid from the T-Trust-Fund	\$ 2,380.00
Claims to be paid from the H-Capital Fund	<u>\$ 222,502.85</u>
	<u>\$ 293,445.89</u>

8/03/2023 Payroll #16

General Fund	\$ 70,182.02
Highway Fund	<u>\$ 25,299.93</u>
	<u>\$ 95,481.95</u>

Introduced: COUNCILMAN STIEGLER

Seconded: COUNCCILMAN LEMAK

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Councilman Stiegler	AYE
Councilman Battaglini	AYE
Councilman Lemak	AYE
Councilwoman Wohrman	AYE
Supervisor Covucci	AYE

Dated: August 15, 2023

RESOLUTION NO. 08:15:23-7

RE: THE TOWN BOARD ENGAGING SPECIAL COUNSEL PURSUANT TO TOWN LAW §20(2)(a)
FOR A CONFIDENTIAL INTERNAL INVESTIGATION

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 20(2)(a) of the Town Law the Town of Beekman is desirous of retaining Michelle Phillips of the firm Jackson Lewis P.C. as Special Counsel to conduct a confidential internal investigation concerning a personnel matter; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Beekman hereby appoints Michelle Phillips as “Special Counsel” pursuant to Section 20(2)(a) of the Town Law at a rate of \$450 an hour; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Supervisor is authorized to execute a letter of engagement with Ms. Phillips.

Introduced: COUNCILWOMAN WOHRMAN

Seconded: COUNCILMAN STIEGLER

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Councilman Stiegler	AYE
Councilman Battaglini	AYE
Councilman Lemak	AYE
Councilwoman Wohrman	AYE
Supervisor Covucci	AYE

Dated: August 15, 2023