

**TOWN BOARD MEETING
February 20, 2014**

A regularly scheduled Town Board Meeting was held on Thursday, February 20, 2014 in the Town Hall 284 Broadway Port Ewen, New York at 7:30 PM with the following persons in attendance:

**Supervisor John Coutant
Councilperson Gloria Van Vliet
Councilperson Wayne Freer
Councilperson Kyle Barnett
Councilperson Diane McCord**

Administrative Recorder - Holly A. Netter, Town Clerk

Supervisor John Coutant called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM.

PUBLIC COMMENT - NONE

PARKING LOT – PRESENTATION CHURCH

The parking lot located on Bowen Street is currently utilized by many people who attend events at Ross Park and is owned by the Presentation Church. For many years the Town has rented the space for a dollar per year. Three years ago the church approached the Town and expressed their desire to subdivide the property into a building lot and the parking lot area. The property was surveyed and the Town started pursuing a grant to purchase the property. Several years ago the Town of Esopus received a grant in the amount of \$50,000. The funds were not able to be used for the original purpose so the Town had asked to have the grant transfer for the purpose of purchasing the parking lot. The paperwork for a grant from the Dormitory Authority was completed twice, told it could not be done and then we were told the money was not there any longer for the grant. Evan Gallo from Assemblyman Kevin Cahill's office attended the Town Board workshop meeting on February 18th. At that meeting the Board challenged Mr. Gallo to look into the grant which had been promised to the Town of Esopus some time ago. Supervisor Coutant was please to announce he received a phone call from the Dormitory Authority stating the Town of Esopus was back on schedule to get the funds thanks to the assistance of Assemblyman Cahill's office. The Dormitory Authority has agreed to make the transaction happen by the deadline date of March 18, 2014. This grant will allow the Town to purchase the parking lot located on Bowen Street from the Presentation Church. Supervisor Coutant and the Board are proud of this accomplishment.

RESIGNATION – DIANE DINTRUFF – ENVIRONMENTAL BOARD

Supervisor John Coutant announced the resignation of Diane Dindruff from the Environmental Board. In the February/March 2014 issue of Boating Magazine Diane wrote an article about the Water Chestnut activities on the Hudson River. In the four page article she mentions the activities the Town of Esopus has done over a period of time. Pictures of many volunteers who use to manually harvest the chestnuts as well as the new Water Chestnut harvester which was donated by the Maple Ridge Community are included in the article. A team of twenty seven trained volunteers operate the cutter and help to clear the water chestnuts every year. The Magazine is available in marinas and boating stores. Supervisor Coutant thanked Diane Dindruff , Marion Zimmer, Carol Tomassetti and all the volunteers for the fabulous job they do.

SUPERVISORS AUDIT

Supervisor John Coutant reviewed a letter from Brian Pickard,C.P.A. who performed the Town audit. All receipts and disbursements were found to be accurate and properly recorded for the Town Clerk, Tax Collector and Justice Court.

RESOLUTION TO SIGN MAIL MACHINE CONTRACT – PITNEY BOWES

**RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE TOWN SUPERVISOR
TO SIGN MAIL MACHINE CONTRACT**

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Town Board of the Town of Esopus, in the County of Ulster, State of New York, the following:

The Town Board of the Town of Esopus authorizes the Town Supervisor to sign the Pitney Bowes Global Financial Service Agreement – Contract #403012-PIT.

Resolution offered by: Councilperson Diane McCord
Resolution seconded by: Councilperson Kyle Barnett

The Board was polled:

Councilperson Wayne Freer	AYE
Councilperson Gloria Van Vliet	AYE
Councilperson Diane McCord	AYE
Councilperson Kyle Barnett	AYE
Supervisor John Coutant	AYE

Resolution duly adopted.

RESOLUTION OF THE APPOINTMENT TO THE ZBA CHAIRPERSON

**RESOLUTION TO APPOINT
ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS CHAIRPERSON**

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Town Board of the Town of Esopus, in the County of Ulster, State of New York, as follows,

WHEREAS, the Town of Esopus Zoning Board of Appeals has a vacant Chairperson position that needs to be filled, **THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, the Town of Esopus Town Board appoints Kathleen Kiernan to fill this vacancy which will expire on December 31, 2014.

Resolution offered by Councilperson Wayne Freer.

Resolution seconded by John Coutant.

The Board was polled:

Supervisor John Coutant	AYE
Councilperson Gloria Van Vliet	AYE
Councilperson Wayne Freer	AYE
Councilperson Kyle Barnett	AYE
Councilperson Diane McCord	AYE

Resolution duly adopted.

BUDGET ADJUSTMENTS

BUDGET ADJUSTMENT FOR FEBRUARY 2014

AO 0599.000 Fund Balance AO 3510.100 BLDG OFFICE SUPPLIES \$206.45

A MOTION TO APPROVE THE BUDGET ADJUSTMENTS WAS OFFERED BY COUNCILPERSON KYLE BARNETT AND SECONDED BY COUNCILPERSON GLORIA VAN VLIET. ALL TOWN BOARD MEMBERS VOTED IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIED.

Supervisor John Coutant	AYE
Councilperson Gloria Van Vliet	AYE
Councilperson Wayne Freer	AYE
Councilperson Kyle Barnett	AYE
Councilperson Diane McCord	AYE

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING PAYMENT OF BILLS

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Town Board of the Town of Esopus, County of Ulster as follows:

WHEREAS, the Town of Esopus has been presented with vouchers for payment and these vouchers have been examined and approved by the Town Board,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the following vouchers be approved for payment:

General Fund	141016 - 141083	\$ 41,372.01
Highway Fund	142003 - 142032	\$ 34,159.57
Street Lights	146002	\$ 6,850.96
Port Ewen Sewer Fund	143002 - 143023	\$ 65,442.09
Port Ewen Water Fund	144002 - 144037	\$ 50,608.24
Total.....		\$ 198,432.87

A MOTION TO APPROVE PAYMENT OF FEBRUARY'S VOUCHERS WAS OFFERED BY COUNCILPERSON DIANE MCCORD AND SECONDED BY COUNCILPERSON GLORIA VAN VLIET. ALL TOWN BOARD MEMBERS VOTED IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIED.

Supervisor John Coutant	AYE
Councilperson Gloria Van Vliet	AYE
Councilperson Wayne Freer	AYE
Councilperson Kyle Barnett	AYE
Councilperson Diane McCord	AYE

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A Motion to approve the minutes of previous meetings was made by Supervisor John Coutant and seconded by Councilperson Gloria Van Vliet. All Town Board Members voted in favor. Motion Carried.

Communication & Reports are available in the Town Clerk's Office.

MISCELLANEOUS

Councilperson Gloria Van Vliet stated there were two openings on the Environmental Board. If anyone is interested in volunteering on the Environmental Board or any of the volunteer boards they are encouraged to contact Town Hall for an interview.

The Town Library invites the Town Board and any interested members of the Town to meet the new Library Director the evening of February 26th.

ADJOURNMENT

A Motion to adjourn at 7:55 PM was made by Councilperson Wayne Freer and seconded by Councilperson Kyle Barnett. All Town Board Members voted in favor. Motion Carried.

Respectively Submitted,

**Holly A. Netter
Town Clerk**