

**TOWN OF ESOPUS
TOWN BOARD MEETING**

January 20, 2022 7:00 PM

A regularly scheduled Town Board Meeting was held on January 20, 2022 in person at 1 Town Hall Way, Ulster Park. Meeting was also available on TV 23, available via zoom and Live Streamed on the Town of Esopus Facebook page. The following persons in attendance:

**Councilman Laura Robinson
Councilman Evelyn Clarke
Councilman Kathie Quick
Councilman Jared Guess
Supervisor Danielle Freer**

Administrative Recorder: Holly A. Netter, Town Clerk, RMC

4 WAYS TO GIVE PUBLIC COMMENT:

- 1.) **In-Person – Attend the Workshop**
- 2.) **Phone in: Leave voicemail on 845 331 0676 prior to the meeting**
- 3.) **EMAIL – lreynolds@esopus.com with the subject line “Public Comment”**
- 4.) **MAIL – mail written comments to:
*Town of Esopus, P.O. Box 700
Port Ewen, NY 12466***

Supervisor Danielle Freer called the meeting to order at 7:02 pm.

PLEDGE TO THE FLAG

A MOTION WAS MADE MY SUPERVISOR FREER TO OPEN PUBLIC COMMENT. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COUNCILMAN JARED GUESS. ALL MEMBERS WERE IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIED.

Supervisor Freer recapped how the meetings for 2022 were going to be held for those not in attendance at the Organizational Meeting on 1/1/2022. Meetings will continue to be held on the first and third Thursdays of the month. As per the Open Meetings Law all meetings are open to the public. This year the Workshops will be held the first Thursday of the month at 7pm. They will be held in a round table manner to encourage dialog and brainstorming on topics between the Board members to work through and discuss Town issues. As needed, guest speakers with expertise and members from other boards will be asked to join for collaboration on the subject matter. The Town Board meeting on the third Thursday will be a more formal meeting which will be televised and aired on TV 23, Zoom and live streamed on Facebook.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Roger Burgold , Esopus, has lived in Ulster county for 60 years and urged the Board to move forward with the noise ordinance that has been revised.

Chris Farrell, Ulster Park complimented Supervisor Freer on her meeting strategy for 2022. He wondered when the Board would be looking at addressing the noise ordinance.

Supervisor Freer said she wanted to have a discussion at the next workshop on the topic to talk about how we got there, where they are heading, whether the Board has any further edits to figure out the next steps.

Chris also wondered what the Boards intention was for filling the position of Judge caused by the death of Peter Matera in late November. He urged the Board to interview candidates and expressed an interest in interviewing for the position. He said along with his professional experience he felt he was a fair minded and balanced individual.

Chris also wanted to thank the water department for all of their hard work this past weekend handling the 9 breaks in the frigid temperatures.

Chris Marta – Sleightsburgh, Asked how public comment would be brought in by groups; email, invite etc.?

A MOTION WAS MADE BY SUPERVISOR FREER TO CLOSE PUBLIC COMMENT. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COUNCILMAN LAURA ROBINSON. ALL MEMBERS WERE IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIED.

2022 Insurance Renewal Policies

MARSHALL & STERLING

A MOTION WAS MADE BY DANIELLE FREER TO APPROVE THE 2022 ANNUAL INSURANCE CONTRACT WITH MARSHALL & STERLING IN THE AMOUNT OF \$99,775.10. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COUNCILMAN JARED GEUSS. ALL MEMBERS PRESENT WERE IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIED.

QUILTY, DWYER & LARKIN – PORT EWEN WATER/ SEWER

A MOTION WAS MADE BY DANIELLE FREER TO APPROVE THE 2022 ANNUAL INSURANCE CONTRACT WITH QUILTY, DWYER & LARKIN FOR COVERAGE OF THE PORT EWEN WATER & SEWER DEPARTMENT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$26,806.00. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY

COUNCILMAN LAURA ROBINSON. ALL MEMBERS PRESENT WERE IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIED.

2022 FIRE INSPECTOR STIPEND

A MOTION WAS MADE BY SUPERVISOR FREER TO APPROVE THE ANNUAL FIRE INSPECTOR STIPEND FOR MARK JAFFEE IN THE AMOUNT OF \$13,000. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COUNCILMAN JARED GEUSS. ALL MEMBERS PRESENT WERE IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIED.

THE ASSOCIATION OF TOWNS ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING - DELEGATE AND ALTERNATE

A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCILMAN EVELYN CLARK TO DESIGNATE SUPERVISOR DANIELLE FREER AS THE DELEGATE AND COUNCILMAN KATHIE QUICK AS THE ALTERNATE TO ASSUME VOTING RESPONSIBILITY AT THE 2022 ASSOCIATION OF TOWNS MEETING. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COUNCILMAN LAURA ROBINSON. ALL MEMBERS PRESENT WERE IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIED.

NATIONAL BUSINESS TECHNOLOGIES - IT SUPPORT

A MOTION WAS MADE BY SUPERVISOR DANIELLE FREER TO AMEND THE CURRENT NATIONAL BUSINESS TECHNOLOGIES CONTRACT TO INCLUDE REMOTE AND ONSITE SUPPORT. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COUNCILMAN LAURA ROBINSON. ALL MEMBERS PRESENT ARE IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIED.

UPDATES

1. COVID Rapid Test Kit Update (USPS Offer) The town has hosted 3 give aways for the Masks and covid kits. Information will be updated on website if we receive more.
2. Water Infrastructure Update – Compliments were given to the Highway and Water department team for their hard work this weekend handling the water breaks.
3. Buildings & Grounds Position Available, see website for details.
4. Local Water Revitalization Plan Virtual Open House – Encourage everyone to take survey around our waterfront. Councilman Kathie Quick said they are trying to improve waterfront access and would like input of what people would like to see. They hope to have another open house in April when there is better weather. www.esopus.com/local-waterfront-revitalization-program/.
5. Call for volunteers for all Committees and Boards.

BUDGET ADJUSTMENTS

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 budget adjustments and the adjustments have been examined and approved by the Town Board.

Therefore, Be It Resolved, that the following budget adjustments be approved for payment:

FINAL BUDGET ADJUSTMENT FOR DECEMBER 2021

AO 0599.000	Fund Balance	AO 1355.401	\$2,400.00
		D. Baker	
		AO.1620.405	\$ 744.02
		Phone	
		AO 5182.401	\$5,525.81
		ESOPUSOL	

A MOTION WAS MADE TO APPROVE THE BUDGET ADJUSTMENTS.

OFFERED BY: SUPERVISOR DANIELLE FREER

SECONDED BY: COUNCILMAN KATHIE QUICK

COUNCILMAN LAURA ROBINSON	AYE
COUNCILMAN EVELYN CLARKE	AYE
COUNCILMAN KATHIE QUICK	AYE
COUNCILMAN JARED GEUSS	AYE
SUPERVISOR DANIELLE FREER	AYE

ALL TOWN BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT VOTED IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIED.

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING PAYMENT OF BILLS DECEMBER 2021- FINAL

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	211687 - 211744	\$68,401.81
HIGHWAY FUND	212248 - 212274	\$53,176.13
STREETLIGHTS	216009	\$6235.67
PORT EWEN SEWER FUND	213137 - 213146	\$ 1,875.14
PORT EWEN WATER	214263 - 214301	\$61,677.84
Capital Water		
AAPA		
		\$191,366.59

Offered by: SUPERVISOR DANIELLE FREER

Seconded by: COUNCILMAN JARED GEUSS

COUNCILMAN LAURA ROBINSON	AYE
COUNCILMAN EVELYN CLARKE	AYE
COUNCILMAN KATHIE QUICK	AYE
COUNCILMAN JARED GEUSS	AYE
SUPERVISOR DANIELLE FREER	AYE

ALL TOWN BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT VOTED IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIED.

JANUARY– NO BUDGET ADJUSTMENTS

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING PAYMENT OF BILLS JANUARY 2022

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	221000 – 221018	\$21,243.34
HIGHWAY FUND	222000 – 222003	\$15,960.34
STREETLIGHTS		
PORT EWEN SEWER FUND	223000 – 223001	\$13,658.00
PORT EWEN WATER	224000 – 224005	\$36,143.25
Capital Water		
AAPA		
		\$87,004.93

Offered by: COUNCILMAN JARED GEUSS

Seconded by: COUNCILMAN KATHIE QUICK

COUNCILMAN LAURA ROBINSON	AYE
COUNCILMAN EVELYN CLARKE	AYE
COUNCILMAN KATHIE QUICK	AYE
COUNCILMAN JARED GEUSS	AYE
SUPERVISOR DANIELLE FREER	AYE

ALL TOWN BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT VOTED IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIED.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

A MOTION WAS MADE BY SUPERVISOR DANIELLE FREER TO ENTER EXECUTIVE SESSION AT 7:33 PM FOR THE PURPOSE OF CONDUCTING INTERVIEWS FOR THE WATER DEPARTMENT OPERATOR/TRAINEE VACANCY AND TO DISCUSS PARTICULAR EMPLOYEE PERSONNEL HISTORY. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COUNCILMAN JARED GEUSS. ALL MEMBERS PRESENT WERE IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIED. WATER SUPERINTENDENT NICHOLAS BUTLER WAS INVITED INTO THE SESSION.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCILMAN GEUSS TO COME OUT OF EXECUTIVE SESSION AT 9:55 AND WAS SECONDED BY SUPERVISOR FREER. ALL MEMBERS PRESENT WERE IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIED.

Action:

A MOTION WAS MADE BY SUPERVISOR FREER TO APPOINT WILLIAM MC NAMARA AS WATER OPERATOR TRAINEE AT A RATE OF \$25.25. CONTINGENT UPON REFERENCE CHECKS AND SUBJECT TO A 6 MONTH PROBATION PERIOD AND SATISFACTORY PASSING OF NECESSARY TESTS. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COUNCILMAN LAURA ROBINSON. ALL MEMBERS PRESENT WERE IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIED.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY SUPERVISOR FREER TO HIRE KEN SOLAAS FOR PROPER COVERAGE AS WATER TREATMENT OPERATOR TO FILL IN AS NEEDED AT A RATE OF \$26.09. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COUNCILMAN GEUSS. ALL MEMBERS PRESENT WERE IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIED.

ADJOURNMENT

A MOTION TO ADJOURN THE MEETING WAS MADE BY SUPERVISOR FREER AT 9:56 PM. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COUNCILMAN ROBINSON. ALL MEMBERS PRESENT WERE IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIED.

Respectively Submitted,

*Holly A. Netter
Town Clerk, RMC*