

**TOWN OF ESOPUS
TOWN BOARD MEETING
September 22, 2022
7:00 PM**

A regularly scheduled Town Board Meeting was held on September 22, 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*

Regularly scheduled meeting was called to order at 7:07 pm,

Pledge of Allegiance

Public Comment

Lidia Gershey, 79 Riverview, came to follow up with the meeting at Freer Park expressing her continued concerns about the removal of the Willow Trees at Freer Park. Lydia attended a meeting that was held at Freer Park with faculty, Waterfront Advisory Board Members, Supervisor Freer and Councilman Kathie Quick. She shared a sculpture that was made from glass she picked up during her walks at the park.

Lydia read an excerpt from a recent email to the Board:

We propose that it would be an equitable compromise, and greatly improve park planning with diversity and variation, to support the preservation of the remaining five Willows, as compensation for those five that have already been cut down ground up and lost. I can only image what actions writer and naturalist John Burroughs might have taken, under threat of cutting down these remaining magnificent trees.

We also noted the following:

1. *The General Tree Care Estimate for the 5 park Willows averages approximately the same cost per tree, as would the cost of cutting down the trees.*
2. *The Special Equipment estimated cost can possibly be saved, if the necessary equipment can be provided by the Town Highway Department.*
3. *The Environmental Recycling cost can definitely be saved with the assistance of the Parks Department.*
4. *Seasonal Plant Health Care costs can be divided periodically over annual budgets.*
5. *We can assist through fund raising*

As you review the following report and estimate, kindly keep in mind the above considerations, and advise us on how we proceed from here. We look forward to further review and discussion with all parties, as necessary.

Judith Barton Riverview, submitted an estimate from arborist Michael Barker and said the willows do not need to be cut down. The report with estimate for pruning was provided to the board via email, and she said the arborist is willing to meet with the town personnel to answer questions.

Lidia and Judith said they want to assist in fund raising efforts. Supervisor Freer said we hear your concerns and are here to work with you.

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

RESOLUTION REGARDING PROPANE BIDS

Resolution
Propane Bids

Whereas, The Port Ewen Water/Sewer District advertised and received bids for Propane to be supplied for a period of (1) one year, beginning October 1, 2022 and ending September 30, 2023.

Whereas, bids were received and opened at the office of the Town of Esopus Town Clerk, on September 21, 2022.

Whereas, the lowest bidder for Propane was Britt & Graff Propane and Oil, PO Box

1118, Port Ewen, NY 12466, at a price of \$1.80 per gallon.

Therefore, be it resolved that the Town of Esopus Town Board award the bid to

Britt & Graff Propane and Oil.

Resolution offered by: Supervisor Danielle Freer
Seconded by: Councilman Kathie Quick

The Board was polled

Supervisor Freer	AYE
Councilperson Geuss	AYE
Councilperson Quick	AYE
Councilperson Clarke	AYE
Councilperson Robinson	AYE

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE FILING OF AN APPLICATION FOR A STATE GRANT-IN-AID FOR A MUNICIPAL ELECTRIC VEHICLE CHARGING STATION INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECT AND THE TOWN OF ESOPUS SIGNING OF THE ASSOCIATED STATE CONTRACT UNDER THE APPROPRIATE LAWS OF NYS

WHEREAS, the State of New York provides financial aid for electric vehicle infrastructure projects; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Esopus herein called the Town, has examined and duly considered the applicable laws of the State of New York and the Town deems it to be in the public interest and benefit to file an application under these laws; and

WHEREAS, it is necessary that a contract by and between THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK, herein called the STATE, and the Town be executed for such STATE Aid;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED By the Town of Esopus Town Board:

1. That the filing of an application in the form required by the State of New York in conformity with the applicable laws of the State of New York including all understanding and assurances contained in said application is hereby authorized.
2. That the Town of Esopus Supervisor is directed and authorized as the official representative of the MUNICIPALITY to act in connection with the application and to provide such additional information as may be required and to sign the resulting contract if said application is approved by the STATE;

3. That the Town agrees that it will fund its portion of the cost of said Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Project.

4. That five (5) Certified Copies of this Resolution be prepared and sent to the NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION, ALBANY, NEW YORK 12233- 7253, together with ONE complete application.

5. That this Resolution shall take effect immediately.

Resolution offered by: SUPERVISOR DANIELLE FREER

Resolution seconded by: COUNCILMAN EVELYN CLARKE

The foregoing resolution was voted upon with all councilmen voting as follows:

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

Resolution duly adopted.

RESOLUTION REGARDING FITZHUGH PROPERTY IN SLEIGHTSBURGH

TOWN BOARD RESOLUTION

SUPERVISOR DANIELLE FREER offered the following Resolution, which was seconded by **COUNCILMAN LAURA ROBINSON**, who moved its adoption:

Whereas; the Town Board has received a request dated July 6, 2022 by Nick Fitzhugh to convey a portion of the Town's property adjacent to Fitzhugh's property, located at Parsell Street, SBL 56.44-2-13.400; and

Whereas; upon investigation, the Town Board determined ownership of the subject property was transferred to the Town of Esopus by Scenic Hudson July 15, 1996.; and

Whereas; Mr. Fitzhugh would like to apply for a lot line adjustment along the northly boundary line of his property to accommodate a 12'2" deck; and

Whereas; Mr. Fitzhugh has supplied a description of lands prepared by Holtz Surveying, dated June 21, 2022, ("survey"); and

Whereas; the property to be conveyed to accommodate the deck is deemed unusable by the Town and has been unused for a significant period of time; and

Whereas; Mr. Fitzhugh has offered a \$250.00 payment to the Town of Esopus in return for conveyance of sufficient portion of the parcel to accommodate the deck as shown on the survey; and

Whereas; pursuant to Town Law (TWN) § 64, General Powers of Town Boards, a Town Board may, upon the adoption of a resolution, convey or lease real property in the name of the town, which resolution shall be subject to permissive referendum; and

Therefore; be it resolved; the Town Board accepts such offer of payment of \$250 for a portion of its property to accommodate the deck and agrees to a lot line adjustment to convey said property to Mr. Fitzhugh, subject to permissive referendum; and

Further; directs the Town of Esopus Town Clerk to advertise the conveyance of property for permissive referendum opportunity in the official Town newspaper; and

Further; Mr. Fitzhugh shall provide to the Town of Esopus Town Clerk a survey and description of portion of the property to be conveyed by a lot line adjustment and shall be required to bear any and all costs for the advertisement of permissive referendum, survey, transfer, filing of such real property conveyance, and any other transfer of property fees, including any Attorney for the Town fees; and

Further; Such land is conveyed with the understanding Mr. Fitzhugh shall join said property with their adjacent owned land located at Parsell Street, SBL 56.44-2-13.400 by Lot Line Adjustment Application before the Town of Esopus Planning Board.

The foregoing resolution was voted upon with all councilmen voting as the foregoing resolution was voted upon with all councilmen voting as follows:

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

Resolution duly adopted.

DATED: Ulster Park, New York
September 22, 2022
HOLLY A. NETTER, TOWN CLERK

***** This resolution was revised and Readopted 10-6-22 to clarify the SBL and include the Metes and Bounds description.**

CENTRAL HUDSON PIPE REPLACEMENT PROJECT UPDATE

Traffic as anticipated – we have been talking about the project for the past 4-5 meetings. Central Hudson notified homeowners by mail and held an informational open house at Ross Park. Updates have been provided on Facebook and Town Website. Updates will continue to be placed on social media as well as on the Central Hudson web page. Central Hudson Representative Shawn Farrell has offered to field any calls directly from the public, his number is 845-249-5797, please leave a voice mail and he will return the call. Residents may also call Central Hudson directly at 845-452-2000.

Miscellaneous / Liaison Updates

September 24th Events happening around town:

- * 51st Apple Festival at the Port Ewen Methodist Church
- * Town Wade Yard Sales, information and maps available online
- * Emergency preparedness Expo with the County at Ross Park, 15 vendors, possible helicopter landing
- * Touch a truck
- * Movie night – “Neverending” Story

Town Clerk Hosting Passport Night at Town hall with the County Clerk’s office October 5, 2022
5:30 pm – 7:30 pm.

Councilman Jared Geuss

Water Sewer repairs which were approved at a previous meeting for the two manholes on the interceptor have been completed. The Water Department did not have overflow at the Connelly Pump Station even after the heavy rain we received. Others will be completed at a later date. Planning Board held open the Public Hearing on the Port Ewen Fire Department. The Public Hearing on Red Maple Vineyards was closed. Councilman Geuss said the Planning Board has taken an interest in the sewer interception line for projects that are before them now and future development.

ZBA – cancelled for Aug & September

Councilman Kathie Quick

Waterfront Advisory Board continues to work on the rewrite of the LWRP
Assessor’s office working on the tax certs and continuing education
Seniors went on a trip Tuesday about 35 people went to see a tribute to Frankie Valli
October 3rd at 1pm the Seniors will host a meet the candidates. All are invited to attend

Councilman Laura Robinson

All the new basketball backboards have been installed at the parks.
Food Truck Fridays are done for the year.
Free Movie Night at Ross Park 9/24 – “Neverending” Story Free Pop Corn
Cas Landi - new fence is going up, Church Communities has finished the painting

Councilman Evelyn Clarke

Environmental Board continues to work items for being a Climate Smart Community
Economic Development is meeting Tuesday, September 27th at 6 pm in the Community Room

Wedding at Freer Park 10/1/2022

Due to the inclement weather approaching from Ian, the Wedding at Freer Park has requested permission to use tents. This couple has full insurance on the event and it has been planned since March.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY SUPERVISOR FREER TO ALLOW THE USE OF A TENT AT THE EVENT SCHEDULED FOR OCTOBER 1ST AT FREER PARK. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COUNCILMAN JARED GEUSS. ALL MEMBERS WERE IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIED.

SEPTEMBER 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:

BUDGET ADJUSTMENTS FOR SEPTEMBER 2022

AO. 0599.000 Fund Balance	AO1221.422	\$4,009.00	EDC -Greenway Grant
	AO7620.400	\$165.00	Adult Rec

Offered by: COUNCILMAN JARED GEUSS

Seconded by: SUPERVISOR DANIELLE FREER

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

Resolution duly adopted.

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING PAYMENT OF BILLS SEPTEMBER 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	221439 -221494	\$86,543.27
HIGHWAY FUND	222211 - 222232	\$35,703.86
STREETLIGHTS		
PORT EWEN SEWER FUND	223099 -223116	\$67,405.23
PORT EWEN WATER	224206 - 224217	\$12,455.95
Capital Water	225000-225001	\$136,997.00
ARPA	227008 -227020	\$17,182.25
Visa		
		\$356,287,56

OFFERED BY: SUPERVISOR DANIELLE FREER
SECONDED BY: COUNCILMAN LAURA ROBINSON

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

Resolution duly adopted.

ADJOURNMENT

A MOTION TO ADJOURN THE MEETING WAS MADE BY SUPERVISOR DANIELLE FREER AT 7:55 PM. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COUNCILMAN GEUSS. ALL MEMBERS PRESENT WERE IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIED.

*Respectively Submitted,
 Holly A. Netter
 Town Clerk, RMC*