

**Town Board Workshop Meeting
November 3, 2022**

A regularly scheduled Town Board Workshop meeting was held in person at the Esopus Town Hall, 1 Town Hall Way, Ulster Park, NY on Thursday November 3, 2022, at 7:00 PM with the following persons in attendance:

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

Recording Administrator Holly A. Netter, Town Clerk, RMC

4 ways to give public comment:

In person at meeting

Phone – 845 331 0676

Email – lreynolds@esopus.com with subject line “Public Comment” and meeting date

Mail – Town of Esopus PO BOX 700 Port Ewen, NY 12466

SUPERVISOR FREER CALLED THE MEETING TO ORDER AT 7:00 PM

PLEDGE

PUBLIC COMMENT – NONE

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

CORNELL COOPERATIVE EXTENSION PRESENTATION ON CLIMATE SMART COMMUNITIES ACTION PLAN

Steph Herbstritt from Cornell Cooperative Extension (CCE) gave an update on the NYS Climate Smart Communities Program Certification Assessment for the Town of Esopus. She reviewed what has been completed and provided a chart on how the Town can gain the necessary points to reach the Bronze – level certification. The Environmental Board and Town have been committed to increase their Climate Smart Community status. Steph Herbstritt also thanked Gillian Matthews and Melinda Herzog from Cornell Cooperative Extension and recognized Mark Ellison, Chairperson of the Esopus Environment Board and Laura Petit, Esopus Climate Smart Chairperson for their participation and commitment to the project. A link to the presentation can be found on the town website with the following link: <https://www.esopus.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/11/CCE-CSC-Presentation-11.04.22.mp4>

EXECUTIVE SESSION

SUPERVISOR FREER MADE A MOTION TO ENTER INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION AT 7:32 PM FOR THE PURPOSE OF WATER AND SEWER DEPARTMENT OPERATOR/TRAINEE INTERVIEWS AND INVITED WATER SUPERINTENDENT, NICK BUTLER, TO JOIN. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COUNCILMAN JARED GEUSS. ALL MEMBERS WERE IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIED.

SUPERVISOR FREER MADE A MOTION TO COME OUT OF EXECUTIVE SESSION AT 9:05 PM. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COUNCILMAN JARED GEUSS. ALL MEMBERS WERE IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIED.

ACTION:

A MOTION WAS MADE BY SUPERVISOR DANIELLE FREER TO APPOINT MICHAEL W. MILLER II AS WATER SEWER OPERATOR/TRAINEE AT A RATE OF \$26.25. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COUNCILMAN EVELYN CLARKE. ALL MEMBERS PRESENT WERE IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIED.

WATER AND SEWER DEPARTMENT UPDATES AND DISCUSSION

There are several water projects being started and although there will be grant funds and bonding, it is also necessary to raise the current water rates to help offset rising costs. The Town Board thanked Water Superintendent, Nick Butler, for his effort put forth over the past year and appreciated the work his team does daily. Nick responded saying his predecessor Don Kiernan set him up for success and he is grateful every day for his team of hard-working dedicated employees.

**RESOLUTION
WATER RATE**

WHEREAS, the law requires the cost of the operation and maintenance of the Port Ewen Water District to be paid by revenue derived from the sale of the service,

WHEREAS, this Town Board has adopted a Water District budget, for year 2023, based on a rate of a minimum charge of \$20.12 for the first 0 to 4,000 gallons and a rate of \$5.03 per 1,000 gallons thereafter, based on the water meter.

THEREFORE, be it resolved that the Town Board increase the rate charged for Water service from a minimum of \$19.16 for the first 0 to 4,000 gallons and \$4.79 per 1,000 gallons thereafter, based on the water meter, to a minimum of \$20.12 for the first 0 to 4,000 gallons and the rate of \$5.03 per 1,000 gallons thereafter, based on the water meter, with the new rate to be effective upon adoption of this resolution.

Resolution offered for adoption by **Supervisor Danielle Freer**

Seconded by **Councilperson Laura Robinson**

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

The Board was polled

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

Resolution duly adopted 11/3/2022.

STIPULATION OF SETTLEMENT - DYNO NOBEL

**RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN OF ESOPUS
AUTHORIZING APPROVAL TO ENTER INTO A STIPULATION OF SETTLEMENT IN THE RPTL
ARTICLE 7 PROCEEDINGS OF DYNO NOBEL Inc. f/k/a IRECO INCORPORATED (“Dyno”) against
TOWN OF ESOPUS, (“Town”) DESIGNATED BY INDEX NOS. EF2017-1901, EF2018-2581,
EF2019-2386, EF2020-1652, EF2021-1873, EF2022-1340**

Supervisor Danielle Freer introduced the following resolution, which was seconded by
Councilman Jared Geuss, as follows

WHEREAS, Dyno commenced RPTL Article 7 actions challenging the assessment for real property located at premises known at 161 Ulster Avenue, Town of Esopus, County of Ulster, State of New York (SBL: 63.2-2-1), (hereinafter “the Subject Property”); and

WHEREAS, the Town is desirous of entering into an Order and Stipulation regarding same;
and

WHEREAS, this action is categorized under 6 NYCRR, Part 617.5(c)(20) as Type II.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE TOWN, AS FOLLOWS:

The Town authorizes counsel for the Town, Van DeWater & Van DeWater, LLP, to enter into an Order and Stipulation, for a tax reduction on the subject property of located at SBL 63.2-

2-1, and to sign such other and further papers as are necessary to effectuate the settlement as follows:

Tax Year	Assessed Value	Reduced AV
2018	\$3,750,000	No Reduction
2019	\$3,750,000	\$3,015,000
2020	\$3,750,000	\$2,864,250
2021	\$3,750,000	\$2,743,650
2022	\$3,750,000	\$2,502,450
2023	\$3,750,000	\$1,890,000

The question of the adoption of the foregoing resolution was duly put to a vote on roll call, which resulted as follows:

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

DATED: Ulster Park, New York
November 3, 2022
HOLLY A. NETTER, TOWN CLERK, RMC

ASSESSMENT REVIEW BOARD APPOINTMENTS

SUPERVISOR FREER MADE A MOTION TO RE APPOINT NICHOLAS PASCARETTI AS A MEMBER OF THE ASSESSMENT REVIEW BOARD WITH A TERM EXPIRING 9/30/22. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COUNCILPERSON GEUSS. ALL MEMBERS WERE IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIED.

SUPERVISOR FREER MADE A MOTION TO APPOINT JARED KEPLINGER AS A MEMBER OF THE ASSESSMENT REVIEW BOARD CONTINGENT ON THE WRITTEN RESIGNATION LETTER OF GILBERT RAMOS. COUNCILMAN LAURA ROBINSON SECONDED THE MOTION. THE TERM WILL EXPIRE 9/30/2023. ALL MEMBERS WERE IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIED.

PLANNING FEE WAIVER - WITHALL

SUPERVISOR FREER MADE A MOTION TO WAIVE THE \$300 PLANNING BOARD FEE FOR MR. AND MRS. WITHALL PER A REQUEST MADE AT THE LAST TOWN BOARD MEETING. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COUNCILMAN EVELYN CLARKE. ALL MEMBERS WERE IN FAVOR.

2023 TRANSFER STATION PERMIT FEES

SUPERVISOR FREER MADE A MOTION TO RAISE THE 2023 TRANSFER STATION PERMIT FEES TO \$50 FOR RESIDENTS, VETERANS AND SENIORS WILL BE \$25. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COUNCILMAN LAURA ROBINSON. ALL MEMBERS WERE IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIED.

OTHER

Town Clerk Holly Netter advised the Board she had received a donation from K-thunder, Jose Lemus for the use of the Cas Landi Park for their soccer team. The \$500 check was given to the bookkeeper. Jose said they were grateful for the opportunity to use the field for their soccer league and look forward to expanding the league in 2023 to include an all-girls team.

This evening Councilman Laura Robinson was recognized and wished a Happy Birthday.

ADJOURNMENT

A MOTION TO ADJOURN THE MEETING WAS MADE BY SUPERVISOR FREER AT 9:35 PM. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COUNCILMAN JARED GEUSS. ALL MEMBERS PRESENT WERE IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIED.

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