

**TOWN OF ESOPUS  
TOWN BOARD WORKSHOP MEETING  
November 7, 2024, 7:00 PM**

A regularly scheduled Town Board Meeting was held in person on November 7, 2024, at 1 Town Hall Way, Ulster Park. Meeting. 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 a voicemail on 845 331 0676 prior to the meeting**
- 3.) **EMAIL – [lreynolds@esopus.com](mailto: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 7:00 pm.

Public Comment - None

**Port Ewen Water & Sewer District Proposed 2025 Rates**

**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, and

**WHEREAS**, this Town Board has adopted a Water District budget, for the year 2025, based on a rate of a minimum charge of \$22.19 for the first 0 to 4,000 gallons and a rate of \$5.54 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 \$21.13 for the first 0 to 4,000 gallons and \$5.28 per 1,000 gallons thereafter, based on the water meter, to a minimum of \$22.19 for the first 0 to 4,000 gallons

and the rate of \$5.54 per 1,000 gallons thereafter, based on the water meter, with the new rate to be effective upon adoption of this resolution.

**RESOLUTION OFFERED BY: SUPERVISOR DANIELLE FREER**

**RESOLUTION SECONDED BY: COUNCILMAN KATHIE QUICK**

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

<b>COUNCILMAN LAURA ROBINSON</b>	<b>AYE</b>
<b>COUNCILMAN EVELYN CLARKE</b>	<b>AYE</b>
<b>COUNCILMAN KATHIE QUICK</b>	<b>AYE</b>
<b>COUNCILMAN JARED GEUSS</b>	<b>AYE</b>
<b>SUPERVISOR DANIELLE FREER</b>	<b>AYE</b>

Resolution duly adopted.

**RESOLUTION**  
**SEWER RATE**

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

**WHEREAS**, this Town Board has adopted a Sewer District budget, for the year 2025, based on a rate of a minimum charge of \$23.11 for the first 0 to 4,000 gallons and a rate of \$5.78 per 1,000 gallons, thereafter, based on the water meter.

**THEREFORE**, be it resolved that the Town Board increase the rate charged for Sewer service from a minimum of \$22.01 for the first 0 to 4,000 gallons and \$5.50 per 1,000 gallons thereafter, based on the water meter, to a minimum of \$23.11 for the first 0 to 4,000 gallons and the rate of \$5.78 per 1,000 gallons thereafter, based on the water meter, with the new rate to be effective upon adoption of this resolution.

**RESOLUTION OFFERED BY: SUPERVISOR DANIELLE FREER**

**RESOLUTION SECONDED BY: COUNCILMAN LAURA ROBINSON**

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

<b>COUNCILMAN LAURA ROBINSON</b>	<b>AYE</b>
<b>COUNCILMAN EVELYN CLARKE</b>	<b>AYE</b>
<b>COUNCILMAN KATHIE QUICK</b>	<b>AYE</b>
<b>COUNCILMAN JARED GEUSS</b>	<b>AYE</b>
<b>SUPERVISOR DANIELLE FREER</b>	<b>AYE</b>

Resolution duly adopted

**AMEND ULSTER COUNTY SEWER & WATER INFRASTRUCTURE SUBAWARD AGREEMENT**

**COUNCILMAN JARED GEUSS MOTIONED TO AUTHORIZE SUPERVISOR FREER TO SIGN AMENDMENT NO. 1 TO CONTRACT NO. 2023-0000537 SEWER & WATER INFRASTRUCTURE SUBAWARD AGREEMENT. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COUNCILMAN EVELYN CLARKE. ALL THE MEMBERS PRESENT WERE IN FAVOR, AND THE MOTION CARRIED.**

**LIAISON LIGHTNING ROUND**

**Supervisor Freer:**

Building Department—The civil service position was approved at budget time. A civil service title already exists, which will be used; Senior Data Research/Typist.

The Highway Department is working on taking inventory of all street and stop signs in the Town; ARPA funds have been set aside for signs needing replacement. Union negotiations are underway.

**EDC**—Shop Local Tugboat Trail Event 12/7 Brick-and-mortar businesses will have a tugboat sign in front of their shops that shows they are participating. The list of businesses and activities happening throughout the town, such as the Vendor Fair at Town Hall, the Mount Community Craft Fair, and the Winter Wonderland Parade, will also be included.

Town Clerk—The Second round of Deer Management Permits is available. Zones 3 J and 3 M are available this year if anyone needs Doe tags.

**Councilman Geuss** Most of the water treatment plant upgrades have been completed. Next step is going to bid for the control panel replacement which we discussed the extension for. Site work for the new water tank has begun. The five percent increase in rates should help to offset the 60/40 grant match.

**Planning Board:** At the last meeting, the Lighthouse Village project was voted on but was voted down.

**Councilman Quick - Zoning Board** –There was a definition discussion on 10/15. The next meeting is on 11/19. **Waterfront Advisory Board** Next meeting 11/20 **Esopus Seniors-** next meeting 11/18@1pm

**Councilman Clarke** -The **Environmental Board** is working on a Partnership Grant with the Town of Esopus Library for Ecological Restoration.

11/7/24 workshop

**Councilman Robinson: Parks & Rec** RFQ for playground equipment for Cas Landi Park went out, and responses are due 11/15. The committee is working on the Winter Wonderland Parade. Anyone interested in participating can contact Hannah Palen from the Building Department.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**SUPERVISOR FREER MOTIONED TO ENTER EXECUTIVE SESSION AT 7:58 P.M. TO DISCUSS POTENTIAL LITIGATION. COUNCILMAN JARED GEUSS SECONDED THE MOTION. ALL MEMBERS PRESENT WERE IN FAVOR, AND THE MOTION CARRIED.**

**SUPERVISOR FREER MOTIONED TO COME OUT OF THE EXECUTIVE SESSION AT 8:48 P.M. COUNCILMAN JARED GEUSS SECONDED THE MOTION. ALL MEMBERS PRESENT WERE IN FAVOR, AND THE MOTION CARRIED.**

**Action:**

**COUNCILMAN JARED GEUSS MOTIONED TO AUTHORIZE SUPERVISOR FREER TO CONTACT THE FIRM OF RODENHAUSEN CHALE & POLIDORO FOR ASSISTANCE WITH POTENTIAL LITIGATION. COUNCILMAN EVELYN CLARKE SECONDED THE MOTION. ALL MEMBERS PRESENT WERE IN FAVOR, AND THE MOTION CARRIED.**

The Board discussed the potential meeting schedule for 2025.

**KEY UPCOMING DATES**

11.11 Town Hall Closed: Veterans Day Hometown Hero Banner Celebration

11.21 Next Town Board Meeting

11.23 Esopus Repair Café hosted by the Environmental Board 11.28-29

Town Hall Closed: Thanksgiving

12.5 Next Town Board Workshop

12.7 Winter Wonderland Parade-Shop Local Tugboat Trail Event hosted by the Economic Development Committee.

\*VISIT OUR WEBSITE AND SOCIAL MEDIA PAGES (FACEBOOK & INSTAGRAM) FOR MORE INFORMATION.

**ADJOURNMENT**

**SUPERVISOR FREER MOVED TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 8:50 PM. SECONDED BY COUNCILMAN JARED GEUSS. ALL MEMBERS PRESENT WERE IN FAVOR OF THE MOTION, WHICH CARRIED.**

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