

TOWN OF BINGHAMTON
TOWN BOARD
November 15, 2022

- Page 2 Public Hearing – 7:01 p.m. – 2023 TOB Volunteer Fire Co. Contract
- Page 4 Approval of Audited Claims
Recognition of Minutes
Voice of Public
New Business
 Broome County 2023 Budget Update – Robin Laabs, BC Director of Purchasing
Communications and Announcements
Officials and Committee Reports
 Planning Board
- Page 5 Officials and Committee Reports (Continued)
 Zoning Board of Appeals
 Youth Commission
 Code Enforcement/Buildings & Grounds
 Highway Department
 Receipt of Reports
 TOB Volunteer Fire Co.
 Supervisor
Unfinished Business
 Planning Board – Kathy Kiekel – Reappointment as Member by Resolution
- Page 6 New Business (Continued)
 Contracts for Shared Services w/Town of Conklin – DCO, Code Enforcement
 Officer and Court Clerk – Approval
 CDBG – Applicant Approvals – Kenneth Gow; Donald Gow
 Councilman Mark Leighton – Resignation
 Voice of Public

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE TOWN OF BINGHAMTON TOWN BOARD HELD ON TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 15, 2022, 7:00 P.M., TOWN OF BINGHAMTON TOWN HALL, 279 PARK AVENUE, BINGHAMTON, NEW YORK.

The meeting was called to order at 7:03 p.m. by Supervisor Rounds.

ROLL CALL:

E. Rounds, Supervisor	Present	M. Leighton, Councilperson	Present
M. Bensley, Councilperson	Present	D. Nye, Councilperson	Present
M. Donahue, Deputy Supervisor	Present		

OTHERS PRESENT:

V. Conklin, Town Clerk	J. Emmons, Chief, TOB Volunteer Fire Co.
G. Middleton, Town Attorney	K. Olds, President, TOB Volunteer Fire Co.
N. Pappas, Code Enforcement/Buildings & Grounds	R. Laabs, Director, BC Purchasing
	3 Guests

PUBLIC HEARINGS – 7:04 p.m. – 2023 TOB Volunteer Fire Co. Contract

Town Clerk Conklin affirmed that the Notice of Public Hearing had been properly posted and published. The purpose of the Public Hearing is to consider public input on the proposed 2023 Town of Binghamton Volunteer Fire Company contract.

Supervisor Rounds opened the floor to the public at 7:04 p.m.

There being no presentations, the floor was declared closed at 7:04 p.m.

There was discussion wherein questions were asked and answered. A motion was made by Councilperson Donahue to adopt a Resolution to approve the 2023 Contract between the Town of Binghamton and the Town of Binghamton Volunteer Fire Company, and the motion was duly seconded by Councilperson Bensley. There was discussion. All those present voted in favor of the motion. Motion carried. A roll call vote resulted in the following:

Ayes: Rounds, Donahue, Bensley, Nye, Leighton Absent: None

Nays: None

Abstained: None

Declared adopted.

(Notice of Public Hearing Appended)
(Resolution Appended)

Supervisor Rounds stated: A motion may be made to go into an executive session to discuss a legal matter and/or a personnel matter regarding a particular employee after the meeting is convened.

APPROVAL OF AUDITED CLAIMS:

Councilperson Nye made a motion to adopt a Resolution to approve the following claims as audited:

Lighting	Claim No. 911	\$ 35.16
Special Districts	Claim No. 912	\$ 16,921.88
Sewer	Claim No. 913-918	\$ 15,307.18
Water	Claim No. 918-922	\$ 11,155.37
Highway	Claim No. 923-934	\$ 66,408.60
General	Claim No. 935-957	\$ 100,594.86

The motion was duly seconded by Councilperson Donahue. All those present voted in favor of the motion. Motion carried. A roll call vote resulted in the following:

Ayes: Rounds, Donahue, Nye, Leighton, Bensley Absent: None

Nays: None

Abstained: None

Declared adopted.

(Resolution Appended)

RECOGNITION OF MINUTES:

There were no corrections made to the November 1, 2022 Work Session minutes.

VOICE OF THE PUBLIC:

Supervisor Rounds opened the floor to the public for comments at 7:36 p.m.

There being no presentations, the floor was declared closed at 7:36 p.m.

NEW BUSINESS:

Broome County 2023 Budget Update – Robin Laabs, BC Director of Purchasing – A copy of Ms. Laabs BC 2023 Budget Update is appended hereto. Questions were asked and answered.

COMMUNICATIONS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Highway Department – Leaf Pickup – October 17, 2022 thru November 23, 2022

Thanksgiving – TOB Municipal Buildings - Closed Thursday, November 24, 2022 & Friday, November 25, 2022 in Observance of Thanksgiving

OFFICIALS AND COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Planning Board – A meeting will be held on Thursday, November 17, 2022 at 6:30 p.m. at the TOB Town Hall to continue discussions with Atlas Solar on issues related to its site plan. The next regularly scheduled quarterly meeting will be held on January 9, 2023 at 6:30 p.m. at the TOB Town Hall.

Zoning Board of Appeals – A meeting was held on November 14, 2022 at 6:30 p.m. at the TOB Community Center to conduct a public hearing pursuant to the Binghamton Town Code Chapter 240-6 to consider an application by Karen Seager for the property located at 3323 Maxian Road seeking an area variance to harbor farm animals on less than three acres of land. The withdrawal of Sigma Solar’s application for a solar farm on Powderhouse/Ingraham Hill Road was a topic of discussion.

Youth Commission – Basketball has started, along with practices.

Code Enforcement/Buildings and Grounds – The TOB Town Hall parking lot has been paved. The striping of the parking lot may take place, depending on weather. They are finished working on the Court entrance. There was a roof drain plugged up over the weekend.

Highway Department – There was no update.

Receipt of Reports – The Town Board is in receipt of the following reports:

- Town Clerk’s Monthly Report for October 2022
- DCO Monthly Report for October 2022
- Code Enforcement Officer’s Monthly Report for October 2022

TOB Volunteer Fire Co. – There have been 19 calls in the last four weeks.

Supervisor – Supervisor Rounds met with John Martin and Dave Chase from Clark Patterson Lee regarding the Orchard Park water tank project. The new water tank is up and running, and the old tank will be torn down next week. They also discussed the proposed new development on Mill Street, which will now be townhouses, and no single-family homes.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Planning Board – Kathy Kiekel – Reappointment as Member by Resolution – A motion was made by Councilperson Donahue to reappoint Kathy Kiekel as a Member to the Planning Board for a five-year term beginning January 1, 2023 through December 31, 2027, and the motion was duly seconded by Councilperson Nye. All those present voted in favor of the motion. Motion carried. A roll call vote resulted in the following:

Ayes: Rounds, Donahue, Nye, Leighton, Bensley Absent: None

Nays: None

Abstained: None

Declared adopted.

(Resolution Appended)

NEW BUSINESS (Continued):

Contracts for Shared Services w/Town of Conklin – DCO, Code Enforcement Officer and Court Clerk – Approval – A motion was made by Councilperson Bensley to adopt a Resolution to approve the Intermunicipal Agreement for Shared Services between the Town of Binghamton and the Town of Conklin for Town Justice Court Clerk for the 2023 calendar year, and the motion was duly seconded by Councilperson Leighton. There was discussion. All those present voted in favor of the motion. Motion carried. A roll call vote resulted in the following:

Ayes: Rounds, Donahue, Nye, Leighton, Bensley Absent: None

Nays: None

Abstained: None

Declared adopted.

(Resolution Appended)

A motion was made by Councilperson Bensley to adopt a Resolution to approve the Intermunicipal Agreement for Shared Services between the Town of Binghamton and the Town of Conklin for Dog Control Officer for the 2023 calendar year, and the motion was duly seconded by Councilperson Leighton. There was discussion. All those present voted in favor of the motion. Motion carried. A roll call vote resulted in the following:

Ayes: Rounds, Donahue, Nye, Leighton, Bensley Absent: None

Nays: None

Abstained: None

Declared adopted.

(Resolution Appended)

A motion was made by Councilperson Bensley to adopt a Resolution to approve the Intermunicipal Agreement for Shared Services between the Town of Binghamton and the Town of Conklin for Code Enforcement Officer for the 2023 calendar year, and the motion was duly

seconded by Councilperson Leighton. All those present voted in favor of the motion. Motion carried. A roll call vote resulted in the following:

Ayes: Rounds, Donahue, Nye, Leighton, Bensley Absent: None

Nays: None

Abstained: None

Declared adopted.

(Resolution Appended)

CDBG – Applicant Approvals – Kenneth Gow; Donald Gow – Resident Donald Gow has been prequalified for the CDBG funds for roofing, siding, windows and doors, plumbing and other (detectors) for property located at 3857 Roberts Road, Binghamton, New York in the amount of \$28,503.20. A motion was made by Councilperson Nye to adopt a Resolution to approve the allocation of funds for the Gow property located at 3857 Roberts Road, Binghamton, New York, in the amount of \$28,503.20, and the motion was duly seconded by Councilperson Bensley. All those present voted in favor of the motion. Motion carried. A roll call vote resulted in the following:

Ayes: Rounds, Donahue, Nye, Leighton, Bensley Absent: None

Nays: None

Abstained: None

Declared adopted.

(Resolution Appended)

Resident Kenneth Gow has been prequalified for the CDBG funds for roofing, painting and other (detectors) for property located at 3853 Roberts Road, Binghamton, New York in the amount of \$23,000. A motion was made by Councilperson Nye to adopt a Resolution to approve the allocation of funds for the Gow property located at 3853 Roberts Road, Binghamton, New York, in the amount of \$23,000, and the motion was duly seconded by Councilperson Bensley. All those present voted in favor of the motion. Motion carried. A roll call vote resulted in the following:

Ayes: Rounds, Donahue, Nye, Leighton, Bensley Absent: None

Nays: None

Abstained: None

Declared adopted.

(Resolution Appended)

Councilperson Mark Leighton – Resignation – A motion was made by Councilperson Bensley to accept the resignation of Councilperson Mark Leighton as of November 15, 2022 (11:59 p.m.), and the motion as duly seconded by Councilperson Nye. All those present voted in favor of the motion. Motion carried.

VOICE OF THE PUBLIC:

Supervisor Rounds opened the floor to the public for comment at 8:30 p.m.

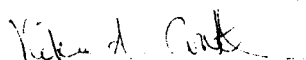
There being no presentations, Supervisor Rounds declared the floor closed at 8:30 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT:

A motion was made by Councilperson Bensley to adjourn the meeting at 8:32 p.m., and the motion was duly seconded by Councilperson Leighton. All those present voted in favor of the motion. Motion carried.

The next meeting of the Town of Binghamton Town Board will be a Work Session to be held on Tuesday, December 6, 2022, 5:30 p.m., at the Town of Binghamton Town Hall, 279 Park Avenue, Binghamton, NY.

Respectfully submitted,



Vickie A. Conklin
Town Clerk

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
TOWN OF BINGHAMTON**

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the Town Board of the Town of Binghamton, Broome County, New York has approved a resolution calling for a public hearing to consider input on the proposed 2023 Town of Binghamton Volunteer Fire Department Contract. A public hearing will be held on the same at the Town Hall, 279 Park Avenue, Binghamton, New York on Tuesday, November 15, 2022 at 7:01 P.M., at which time all persons interested in the subject matter thereof will be heard. The purpose of the public hearing shall be to receive public input on this issue and to evaluate and consider adoption of the foregoing.

Please take further notice that the proposed 2023 Town of Binghamton Volunteer Fire Department Contract, which is the subject matter of the public hearing, is available for inspection at the Town Hall in the Town Clerk's office Monday through Friday 9:00 A.M. through 4:00 P.M.

Dated: October 25, 2022

Vickie Conklin, Town Clerk

Good evening, thank you for allowing me to be here with you tonight

County Executive Jason Garnar recently delivered his 2023 Broome County Budget Address which includes major investments for our residents

Before we get into some of the details, a quick recap on how the County got to a place where the County Executive is able to propose these great investments

When he took office, the County's fund balance was just \$240 thousand...over the past five years, the County Executive has worked with the Legislature, Department Heads, and our Budget Director to pass responsible budgets that have helped grow our fund balance to \$35 million

This has helped us stabilize our finances, protect us during economic downturns, and allow us to keep taxes low

This work is being recognized – just recently Broome County received its best fiscal score EVER from the New York State Comptroller's Office

And because of this work to get our finances in great shape, the County Executive is able to propose the fifth-consecutive tax cut for County residents!

While the cost of living has gone up in recent years with higher food, utility, and gas prices, Broome County is actually reduced the cost of government to local taxpayers and we're very proud of that

And as a result, people and businesses are CHOOSING to come here

Major companies like Amazon which opened its distribution center in Conklin last winter; FEDEX is opening its warehouse in Kirkwood very soon; and Binghamton University recently received \$113 million in federal and state awards to spur the development of energy storage technology here in Broome County which has the potential to create thousands of jobs

The County is utilizing American Rescue Plan funds to spur additional economic growth...\$21 million in ARPA funding has been invested and as a result has generated \$225 million economic activity in our community

Projects like the Oakdale Commons where Beer Tree & Lourdes have opened up new facilities...and where Dick's Sporting Goods is building its largest store IN THE NATION

There are also plenty of more exciting announcements at that property that will be coming soon...

And we learned that for the first time in 20 years NEW service is coming to the Greater Binghamton Airport...Avelo Airlines is offering direct flights to Florida, something residents have been wanting for years!

The County Executive's proposed budget builds on this momentum and is investing in projects that will keep us moving forward

Hundreds of units of housing are in the works as we speak: the former Endicott Johnson Victory Building is being transformed by Paulus Development; the old IBM Country Club – an eyesore in Broome County for years – will be turned into affordable housing...

And the new budget will support even more housing throughout the community...if we're going to have hundreds and hundreds of people moving here with all the new businesses and jobs that are coming, they are going to need places to live and the County Executive's budget will help

Over the past two years, Broome County's Department of Public Works has repaired and replaced more miles of roads than ever before...the 2023 budget will once again support fixing our aging infrastructure to create better commutes for our residents and visitors

The budget also proposes the biggest Parks improvement project in the HISTORY of Broome County

From small enhancements like new drinking fountains and grills to new pavilions and bathrooms, virtually every amenity in our parks will be updated or replaced

And there will be new, never before seen features throughout the parks system: a new multi-use building at Grippen Park so it can be once again used by ALL members of the community

Next to that building will be an outdoor ice rink for those who have longed for the return of ice at the Park...and on the other side will be a state of the art wiffle ball stadium that will be available for public use, leagues, and tournaments

BAGSAI softball complex will be totally renovated with new turf fields and lights that will extend the softball season and attract more teams and tournaments...filling up our hotels and restaurants in the process

We'll also once again host our popular events like Spiedie Fest, a new and improved Festival of Lights, and Broome County Beach Bash which was a huge success in its first year

The County Executive has proposed continuing to use our Veterans Fund to find new ways to support our men and women that have served on our behalf...

Things like the Twin Tiers Honor Flight, Veterans Canteens, free tickets to our professional sports teams have all been small tokens of our appreciation to our veterans and we'll give back to them once again with support from the 2023 budget

The very popular and very successful Small Community Fund is proposed to be funded at its highest level ever: \$1 million!

This fund has supported the construction of new basketball courts at Port Dickinson Park, snow mobile trails in northern Broome County, a new highway truck for the Town of Windsor, expanding the food pantry at Salvation Temple Church in Binghamton and many more

These are projects that would not have been done without the support of the Small Community Fund and the County Executive is proposing this huge increase to the fund so more projects that directly affect our residents can be completed

In public safety, the County is continuing to operate its School Bus Stop Arm Camera program which catches every vehicle that illegally passes a stopped bus; our new emergency communications network is set to go online...

Crime is down 17% since 2017 and the 2023 budget supports our Sheriff's Office and Security Division to make sure we keep those numbers down!

And we'll also be investing funds received from settlements with companies that contributed to the opioid epidemic into new programs and services to help those with substance use disorders

County government does not operate without the 2,000 men and women that make up our workforce...and the budget is taking steps to make sure these individuals are compensated fairly for their work

More than 500 positions have been created or upgraded since the County Executive took office, and this budget will upgrade more than 130 more

This is just a start and with the resources available, the County Executive plans to build on this work in the years to come...

Thank you again for allowing me to be here with you this evening and share some of the things we're working on for the upcoming year...I'm happy to take questions if there are any...

RESOLUTION

At a regular meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Binghamton, Broome County, New York, duly called and held at the Town Hall, 279 Park Avenue, Binghamton, New York, on the 15th day of November, 2022 at 7:00 o'clock P.M. of said day, the following were:

PRESENT: Supervisor Elizabeth Rounds
Councilperson Dean Nye
Councilperson Michael Donahue
Councilperson Michael Bensley
Councilperson Mark Leighton

ABSENT: None

The Resolution set forth below was duly offered by Councilperson Nye, who moved its adoption, and was seconded by Councilperson Donahue.

A roll call vote was then taken upon the Motion for the adoption of said Resolution, which resulted as follows:

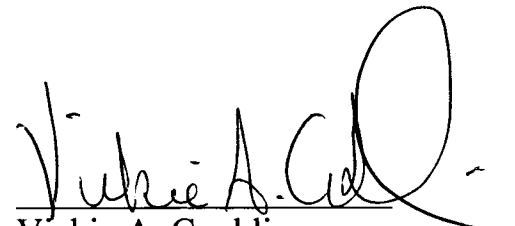
AYES: Supervisor Elizabeth Rounds
Councilperson Michael Donahue
Councilperson Dean Nye
Councilperson Mark Leighton
Councilperson Michael Bensley

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAINED: None

The Resolution was then declared adopted.


Vickie A. Conklin,
Town Clerk

RESOLUTION:

WHEREAS, by motion Councilperson Nye has recommended that the Town Board approve claim numbers 911; 912; 913-918; 918-922; 923-934, and 935-957 as audited, and

WHEREAS, the specific audited claims are as set forth in the attachment.

NOW, THEREFORE, be it

RESOLVED, that claim numbers 911; 912; 913-918; 918-922; 923-934, and 935-957 as audited are hereby adopted and approved; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Town Supervisor and such other Town officials are authorized to take such additional and further action as is necessary to implement this Resolution.