

**TOWN OF BINGHAMTON
TOWN BOARD
September 19, 2023 – 6:00 PM**

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MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE TOWN OF BINGHAMTON TOWN BOARD HELD ON TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 2023, 6:00 P.M., TOWN OF BINGHAMTON TOWN HALL, 279 PARK AVENUE, BINGHAMTON, NEW YORK.

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Supervisor Rounds.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL:

E. Rounds, Supervisor	Present	C. Conklin, Councilperson	Present
M. Donahue, Deputy Supervisor	Present	M. Bensley, Councilperson	Absent
D. Nye, Councilperson	Present		

OTHERS PRESENT:

T. Tokos, Town Clerk
G. Middleton, Town Attorney
M. Leighton, Highway Superintendent.
K. Olds, TOB Volunteer Fire Co.
Z. Soboleski, Code Enforcement Officer/Building and Grounds

GUEST:

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. There was a meeting.

APPROVAL OF AUDITED CLAIMS:

Deputy Supervisor Donahue questioned invoice # 647 for EZ Release. He recommended that it be purchased local rather than ordering it online and paying shipping fees.

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

General	Claim No. 746 - 766	\$ 18,756.11
Highway	Claim No. 727 - 736	\$ 13,628.18
Lighting	Claim No. 737	\$ 27.35
Sewer	Claim No. 739 - 740	\$ 10,826.06
Water	Claim No. 740 - 745	<u>\$ 86,343.45</u>
	TOTAL	\$ 129,581.15

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

Ayes: Rounds, Nye, Conklin, Donahue

Nays: None

Abstained: None

Absent: Bensley

Declared adopted.

(Resolution Appended)

RECOGNITION OF MINUTES:

There were no corrections made to the September 5, 2023 Work Session minutes.

VOICE OF THE PUBLIC:

1. Sally Dorak – 25 Adams Street, Binghamton N.Y. – resident of Binghamton for 8 years. Discussed New York Citizens Audit, voter rolls, and discrepancies in voter rolls. Example given was counties that are 155% registered. Local voter boards cannot see any discrepancies. Results of voter rolls v. votes should be the same. Handout with data passed out.
2. Holly Gruskay – 2520 Vestal Parkway, Vestal N.Y. –Poll worker, has lived here since 2020. Registered in 3 different counties due to moves. Discussed voter clones, if there is more than one State Board of Elections I.D vote counted, it's a felony. Information was gathered by local data "geeks", and was presented to the New York State Police and the FBI. No action taken by either group. Decision was made to bring information to local towns and villages. To make people aware of the dilution of votes. Poll workers have been instructed NOT to check ID's. The New York Citizens Audit group believes that an end to end audit should take place to find answers as to who is manipulating data on the state level.
3. Linda Burghardt – Lisle, New York presented summary sheets with information taken directly from the New York State Voter Data Base which is available to the public directly from the New York State Secretary of State. Research was performed by Dr. Andrew McKett (head researcher) and was peer reviewed by 3 cyber security specialists in a blind review. This information was published in the Journal of Scientific Warfare after 6 months of review. Research has substantiated data that Albany is ignoring regarding election manipulation. Information that was presented in Albany was returned unread. The election system must follow the law. No one without an address, birthdate, or deceased cannot have votes counted, but this is being allowed 'through a back door' involving 4 algorithms, purge data is missing and there are counterfeit votes noted. Ms. Burghardt stated that Albany is breaking election laws and the public has a right to have clean voter rolls as there is no accurate voter database and that Broome County Legislature needs to push Albany on this matter. Ms. Burghardt stated that the BC Legislature does not have a public comments portion of their meetings and also submitted a resolution to the Town Board that she hopes the board will review and agree to as support for these issues.

COMMUNICATIONS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS:

OFFICIALS AND COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Planning Board:

Joint meeting with Zoning Board of Appeals scheduled for October 24th 2023 at 6:30p.m. Attorney Middleton has no updates on Mill Street or other ongoing property issues. She has also received a request to speak about Home Rule Law and will do a presentation on that at the October Meeting.

Zoning Board of Appeals:

See above.

Youth Commission:

There is no meeting this week and possibly next. Football and Cheerleading is going well. Preliminary league offers from Tony Lindsey have been emailed out and the league might possibly be going back to pre - Covid league play where towns host their own games however there is no definitive answer just yet.

Code Enforcement/Buildings and Grounds:

Addition to downstairs garage has been started. Officer Soboleski thanked the highway department for their equipment and help. Area is grated and pins set but foundation is not yet started. Cleanup days coming up this week. Check for roof should be sent prior to prices going up. Trusses have been ordered. Emails to Amy regarding Montrose Street, are being ignored. Follow up has been sent by Jen Fancher, and has been instructed by Attorney Middleton to follow up with one more letter. If exterior work is not completed by the end of this month, and if date is not given in which demolition will occur the town will proceed with action. If there is no written response from Amy by next week, the Town documents will be finalized and filed. Attorney Middleton will drive by property to see if there is any progression on exterior work. Documents for the Park Avenue Property have been finalized for cause. These should be finalized this week for an order to show cause. There should be a court date within a month.

Highway Department:

Brush and branch pickup has started. This will go till the third week of October, to be followed by leaf pickup. Going out on Thursday to do second round of hydroseeding in ditches that the highway has been digging out all summer, also, there are some shared services happening with Conklin on Thursday as they have been helped out twice with drivers for stone and oil, so the

TOB will return the favor. There will be a few more rounds of hand patching done. The second hydrant-flush will take place on October 3rd, 4th and 5th.

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

Town Clerk’s Monthly Report for August 2023
DCO Monthly Report for August 2023
Code Enforcement Officer’s Monthly Report for August 2023

TOB Volunteer Fire Co:

There have been 20 calls to the TBVF since the last meeting; 8 fire calls, 2 gas leak calls, 5 smoke calls, 1 EMS call, 3 trees down, and 1 MVA call.

Supervisor:

Supervisor Rounds and other municipal leaders met with the representatives for Senator Leah Webb and State Senator Patricia Cousins. One conversation was held with Mandy who was the rep for Senator Leah Webb regarding the town cell phone service. The town is waiting for the tower/addition which is still being constructed on Ingraham Hill Road. There should be some cell service mapping by the year 2025. The town will see if there is improvement in the cell service at that time. Also, Supervisor Rounds informed the representatives regarding the law that was passed about not suspending drivers licenses. She informed them of the 10 thousand dollars that is owed to the Town of Binghamton in unpaid traffic violations. They gave the people the ability to pay the fines, or make payment plans but there is no recourse if the fines are not paid. Supervisor Rounds will stay on top of the issue. Mandy did call her back but Supervisor rounds did not have a chance to speak to her at that time. All municipal leaders that were there spoke regarding this matter as they are all having the same problem with fines not being collected.

Unfinished Business:

The town received a quote from Griffiths Engineering for \$4200.00 for the park fence and decided to put out an RFP for the specifications and distribute it to vendors for bids CPL, Delta and Hunt Engineers were discussed. Supervisor Rounds would like 3 bids. Code Officer Soboleski informed the Council that the ground at the park is very wet at this time and he doesn’t believe it will dry out before spring, and that it might not be possible to install a fence at this time.

New Business:

Attorney Middleton spoke on the proposed uniform code and energy code local law. This is something that New York State updated and created in the beginning of the year, and calls for requirement of a new uniform code. It is in the executive law. The Town already enforces the uniform code but because it is already in the executive law, in order to have Code Officers Pappas and Soboleski enforce the law, they have to have something that says they can do so.

This will repeal the local law and code from 1981, and update the current code. Attorney Middleton has handed out a 3 page synopsis to the Councilmembers to review for the next meeting, at which time a Public Hearing will be set.

VOICE OF THE PUBLIC

Open 6:52p.m.
Closed 6:52p.m.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Councilperson Nye made a motion to adjourn into an Executive Session at 6:53p.m. Motion duly seconded by Councilperson Donahue.

Councilperson Conklin made a motion to adjourn the Executive session at 7:40p.m. Motion was duly seconded by Councilperson Nye.

ADJOURNMENT

- A motion was made by Councilperson Donahue to Adjourn the Board Meeting at 7:42p.m. the motion was seconded by Councilperson Conklin . All those present voted in favor of the motion. Motion carried.

LOOKING AHEAD:

- Town Board Work session – Tuesday, October 3, 2023, at 4:00 p.m.
- Town Board Regular Meeting – Tuesday, October 17, 2023 at 6:00 p.m.

Respectfully transcribed and submitted by,

Tracy Tokos
Town Clerk

Paula J. Edwards
Deputy Town Clerk

