

**TOWN OF BINGHAMTON  
TOWN BOARD MEETING  
OCTOBER 17, 2023 – 6:00 PM**

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**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE TOWN OF BINGHAMTON TOWN BOARD HELD ON TUESDAY, OCTOBER 17, 2023, 6:00 P.M., TOWN OF BINGHAMTON TOWN HALL, 279 PARK AVENUE, BINGHAMTON, NEW YORK.**

The meeting was called to order at 6:01 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	Present
D. Nye, Councilperson	Present		

**OTHERS PRESENT:**

T. Tokos, Town Clerk  
G. Middleton, Town Attorney Via Zoom  
N. Pappas, Code Enforcement Officer/Buildings and Grounds.  
Z. Soboleski, Code Enforcement Officer/Building and Grounds.  
K. Olds, TOB Volunteer Fire Co.

**GUEST:** Sheriff Josh Davidson – Broome County Sheriff’s Office, Highway Patrol Division

**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 no meeting.**

**APPROVAL OF AUDITED CLAIMS:**

Questions and discussion regarding voucher #820, Northern Supply Plow blades were answered in a statement from Highway Superintendent, read via Town Supervisor Rounds. Also, voucher #820 will be looked into as to what budget it should come out of. Discussion for Voucher #824 – Fire extinguishers for the pump station. Must use C02 extinguishers due to the chloride at the station.

Church pews were purchased for the court room and can be bolted to the floor. The Court System has applied for a grant, which will also go to fix the door in the courtroom. This grant will allow the court room to become as safe as possible.

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

General	Claim No. 839 – 863	\$ 82,887.41
Highway	Claim No. 826 - 838	\$ 74,390.22
Lighting	Claim No. 816	\$ 30.41
Sewer	Claim No. 817 - 819	\$ 89,904.97
Water	Claim No. 819 - 825	\$ <u>6,003.45</u>

**TOTAL**

**\$ 253,216.46**

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

Ayes: Rounds, Nye, Conklin, Donahue, Bensley

Nays: None

Abstained: None

Declared adopted.

(Resolution Appended)

**RECOGNITION OF MINUTES:**

There were no corrections made to the October 3, 2023 Work Session minutes. The Special Budget meeting minutes from October 10, 2023 are recognized.

**VOICE OF THE PUBLIC:**

Floor open: 6:08p.m.

Lieutenant Josh Davidson from the Broome County Sheriff's Office spoke regarding overseeing the highway patrol division and issues/complaints from town residents. All questions from constituents can be directed to Lieutenant Davidson who will figure out a solution to resolve issues. The Sheriff's department hopes to start a strategic response group (1 Sargeant, 3 Deputies) in their upcoming budget. Which will benefit the Town of Binghamton residents with quicker results from the Sheriff's department when needed.

Floor closed: 6:13p.m.

**COMMUNICATIONS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

No new announcements at this time.

## **OFFICIALS AND COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

### **Planning Board / Zoning Board of Appeals:**

Mark Bordeau has submitted his resignation as chairman of the Zoning Board of Appeals. Thank you Mark for your service to the Town of Binghamton ZBA. There will be a meeting on Tuesday, October 24, 2023 at 6:30p.m. Everyone should be there for training. There are no updates on the Mill Hill Golden View Retirement Community. A call has been put out to Tim Cooper, as the Town is looking for an interim chair person. Supervisor Rounds will keep everyone updated when she hears back from him.

### **Youth Commission:**

There was no meeting in September, and there was trouble finding a date to meet in October. Football season has wrapped up. Cheerleaders are practicing for two upcoming competitions. Football/Cheer banquet is Friday, November 3<sup>rd</sup> at S.V. High School. Friday the 20<sup>th</sup> is Youth Football night at the varsity football game at S.V. All football players and cheerleaders will be announced and will form a line on the field as the varsity football players enter the game. Basketball registration is now open and the forms have been delivered to the schools.

New varsity coach Dave Springer will be hosting a K2 skills and drills program on Saturday mornings to incorporate the youth program with the school programs. This program is open to ALL S.V. kids and not a separate program for individual towns. Registrations for this program will be at the schools by Friday, October 20<sup>th</sup>.

The Lacrosse program is hoping to add grades 3 through 4 next year in addition to the K-2 teams.

The Town has recently lost a few Youth Commission members and is looking for new members. Check the Town website soon for more information.

Councilperson Bensley has had good feedback on the new program and has additional interest in a Field Hockey team as the only Field Hockey team now is in Vestal N.Y.

### **Code Enforcement/Buildings and Grounds:**

The roof will go on the Town Hall garage addition on Wednesday October 18th. Concrete walls have been poured. The Highway Department will provide gravel from Bayless Creek for the backfill.

Current updated photos of the Park Avenue and Montrose Avenue properties have been taken and will be forwarded to Attorney Middleton. Paperwork filing is imminent and the newest photos will be shown to the court that property updates have not continued as of the filing date.

### **Highway Department:**

Supervisor Rounds read the information regarding a few Highway vouchers during the approval of audited claims.

**Highway Department: (Continued)**

Brush and branch clearing, and leaf cleaning is ongoing.  
Beechknoll, Alpine Road, and Coventry Drive have all been paved.  
New road signs have been received for the Morgan and Gardner Road intersection and just waiting on UDig NY before signs can be installed.  
Highway employees on their way to Ohio to retrieve the Jetter.  
Contractor with DEC is at the dump drilling test holes.  
Orchard Park and South Mountain Street sign inventory shows signs missing. They will be updated on November 7<sup>th</sup>. Park Terrace will be updated next.  
Bob Firmstone has not approved the Town CDL policy as of yet.  
Pat Wagner will not be returning to the Highway Department.

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

Town Clerk Monthly Report  
DCO Monthly Report

**TOB Volunteer Fire Co:**

Kevin Olds represented the TOBVFC this month. 11 calls have come in since the last meeting there were 2 mutual aid, 8 fire calls (one being a major garage fire), and 1 EMS assist call.

Starting next week, the parking lot project begins at the fire station on Park Avenue as the front of the parking lot will be torn up and repaved. This project should only take approximately 2 days to complete.

Councilperson Nye inquired about the new radio system. Mr. Olds stated that the radios work great – good communication, no dead spots. Phones for the fire department have been converted over and fax line for the fire department has been canceled. Mr. Olds will bring first bill to Supervisor Rounds to examine.

**Supervisor:**

Supervisor Rounds received a message from Chuck Rogers from the County. The Verizon tower extensions on Ingraham Hill has been completed since October 11<sup>th</sup>. There is some testing and optimization still going on, on the towers. Hopefully, this testing should be finished by the end of this week. It was advised by Supervisor Rounds that people should watch for the dropped call areas to see if there have been any improvements. Some will notice an improvement and others may not.

Councilperson Conklin will meet with Nancy Yezzi to discuss senior activities for the TOB.

**Unfinished Business:**

No unfinished business at this time.

**New Business:**

The Fire Company contract will be tweaked to be clearer on when financial records need to be submitted to the Supervisor. Audit results will also need to be reviewed. Records need to be available for review by the Town Council and Supervisor by January. The changes in the contract will be given to the fire company for review.

As stated earlier, Mark Bordeau has given his resignation as chairperson of the Zoning Board of Appeals. Councilperson Conklin made a motion to accept the resignation from Mr. Bordeau immediately. Deputy Supervisor Donahue duly seconded the motion. All those present voted in favor of the motion. A roll call vote resulted in the following:

Ayes: Rounds, Donahue, Nye, Conklin, Bensley  
Nays: None  
Abstain: None.

Motion Carried.

There will be a meeting with an interested party, to go over the “need to know” issues regarding this position. Attorney Middleton will also need to meet with this person to go over the particulars for training of this position as person will need to know variances etc. Mr. Bordeau will have all the fundamental information available at the time of the meeting. Attorney Middleton will be available for the training and information on Home Rule on Tuesday, October 24<sup>th</sup> at the Planning/ZBA Board meeting.

Supervisor Rounds met with David West regarding reaching out to other engineering firms. Tim from Hunt Engineering has already contacted Supervisor Rounds. She will meet with him on Tuesday, October 24<sup>th</sup>, a time to be determined to discuss their options, and would like board members to also attend the meeting if available.

**VOICE OF THE PUBLIC**

No speakers for second Voice of the Public

**ADJOURNMENT**

- A motion was made by Councilperson Bensley to adjourn the Board Meeting at 6:46 p.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 – Thursday, November 9, 2023, at 4:00 p.m.
- Public Hearing set for Local Law Repealing and Replacing Local Law #1 of 1981 NYS Uniform Fire Prevention and Building Code at 4:01 p.m.
- Public Hearing set for Budget approval on November 9, 2023. At 4:02p.m.
- Town Board Regular Meeting – Tuesday, November 21, 2023 at 6:00 p.m.

Respectfully transcribed and submitted by,



Tracy Tokos  
Town Clerk



Paula J. Edwards  
Deputy Town Clerk