

TOWN OF BINGHAMTON  
TOWN BOARD WORK SESSION  
November 9, 2023 at 4:00 PM

- Page 2-3 Meeting call to order  
Roll Call  
Public hearing  
Approval of Audited Claims
- Page 4-5 Approval of Audited Claims (Continued)  
Recognition of Minutes  
Communications and Announcements  
Officials and Committee Reports  
    Planning Board  
    Zoning Board of Appeals  
    Youth Commission  
    Code Enforcement/ Buildings & Grounds  
    Highway Department  
    TOB Volunteer Fire Co.  
    Supervisor
- Page 5 Unfinished Business  
New Business
- Adjournment  
Looking ahead

**MINUTES OF THE WORK SESSION OF THE TOWN OF BINGHAMTON TOWN BOARD HELD ON THURSDAY NOVEMBER 9, 2023, 4:00 P.M., TOWN OF BINGHAMTON TOWN HALL, 279 PARK AVENUE, BINGHAMTON NEW YORK.**

**CALL TO ORDER 4:05 p.m.**

**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  
R. Pope, Town Attorney  
M. Leighton, Highway Superintendent.

2 Guests – Patrick Wagner  
                  Lisa Young

**The Town Clerk affirms that the Notice of Public Hearings had been properly posted and published.**

**The purpose of the first Public Hearing is to consider the Proposed Budget for the Fiscal year 2024. And the second Public Hearing is to consider input on the Proposed Local Law Repealing and Replacing Local Law No. 1 of 1981, NYS Uniform Fire Prevention and Building Code.**

**PUBLIC HEARING - 4:05 p.m.– To consider the Proposed Budget for the Fiscal year 2024.**

The copies are available to anyone interested. Supervisor Rounds and The Town Bookkeeper Sandra Reifler met with each individual Department head, The Board had their annual Board meeting working on this together going through the budget line item by line item, to come to the tentative Preliminary Budget with a 0.26% decrease in the Town of Binghamton taxes for 2024. This is the fifth consecutive year for a decrease in the Town taxes.

Supervisor Rounds opened the floor at 4:09 p.m.- One resident spoke - Lisa Young 749 Hawleyton Rd. asked a question clarifying the % decrease. No other residents came forward.

The Floor was closed at 4:10 p.m.

A motion was made by Councilperson Bensley to adopt a Resolution approving and adopting the Town of Binghamton Preliminary Budget for the fiscal year 2024, the motion was duly seconded by Councilperson Conklin. All those present voted in favor of the motion. Motion carried. A roll call vote resulted in the following:

Ayes: Rounds, Donahue, Bensley, Nye, Conklin

Absent: None

Nays: None

Abstained: None

Declared Adopted.

(Notice of Public Hearing Appended)

(Resolution Appended)

**PUBLIC HEARING - 4:10 p.m. - To consider input on the proposed Local Law Repealing and replacing Local Law No. 1 of 1981, NYS Uniform Fire Prevention and Building Code.**

The copies are available for the proposed Local Law.

Supervisor Rounds opened the floor at 4:11 p.m. – One resident spoke- Lisa Young 749 Hawleyton Rd. was inquiring as to what the change is. At this time, it is not clear what the change is, Supervisor Rounds stated that there may not be a change, just the fact that they needed it to be reintroduced after 45 years. Since we are unable to determine the change, it was decided by Attorney Pope and Supervisor Rounds to leave the Public Hearing open and to readdress it at the Town Board Meeting on Tuesday November 21, 2023 at 6:00 p.m.

There were no other residents present to speak.

Supervisor Rounds closed the floor at 4:17 p.m.

**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: Abstract #24 – Dated- November 9, 2023**

Councilperson Conklin made a motion to pass a resolution to approve the following claims as audited:

<u>AUDITED CLAIMS</u>	<u>CLAIM #'S</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
GENERAL	895 - 939	\$ 66,890.48
HIGHWAY	864 - 884	\$ 172,871.65
LIGHTING	885	\$ 729.20
SEWER	886 - 887	\$ 1,212.44
WATER	771 -779	\$ 3,124.47
	<b><u>TOTAL</u></b>	<b><u>\$244,828.24</u></b>

There was discussion regarding the Bodine Furnace invoice for P&J. Councilperson Nye had some confusion on the amount of the prior estimates. Councilperson Conklin brought up the previous quotes. P&J were the highest of the quotes, Highway Superintendent Leighton explained that P&J have the County contract so he went with their quote. There was further discussion and it was decided that the one chosen was specifically a high efficiency furnace.

The motion was duly seconded by Councilperson Nye. 4 members present voted in favor of the motion. Motion carried. A roll call vote resulted in the following:

Ayes: Rounds, Nye, Bensley, Conklin

Absent: None

Nays: None

Abstained: Donahue

Declared adopted.

(Resolution Appended)

### **RECOGNITION OF MINUTES**

- Town Board Minutes – October 17, 2023 - Recognized.

### **COMMUNICATIONS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

- Veterans Day – TOB Municipal Buildings were closed on Friday, November 10, 2023 in observance of the holiday.

### **OFFICIALS AND COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**Planning Board** – No updates.

**Zoning Board of Appeals** – No updates.

**Youth Commission** – No updates.

- Code Enforcement/Buildings & Grounds – Waiting on 3 quotes for a new garage door for the new addition. As soon as the quotes come in Supervisor Rounds will send them to the Board members and get an agreement to accept the proper one with the most supports for the door, with it being so heavy and the need to stabilize the door to prevent it from moving with the winds. Due to the 4-week lead time the order needs to be placed ASAP to get the garage closed up due to the weather changing.
- Update on 1978 Montrose Ave. – Unfortunately, Mr. Mapes has passed away. We express our sincere condolences to his family. Attorney Middleton will be in touch with the family to see what direction we will go from here.

### **Highway Department -**

- Brush and limbs are completed.
- Leaf pick-up is in process.

- Some new signs have been installed throughout the town.
- The Jetter has returned from Ohio it is working properly.
- There was discussion regarding a weight limit on Foland road for large trucks to be deterred from using this road as a travel route, also during the winter months the dangers of possible accidents on the hill. The study last year did not show whether the vehicle traffic is mainly cars or heavy trucks. After a lengthy discussion It was decided that the issue will resolve itself.
- Water bills have been sent out.

**TOB Volunteer Fire Co. – No one present – No report.**

### **Supervisor Report -**

- Supervisor Rounds noted a slight improvement in the cell service traveling on Park Ave. She is planning to contact the attorney on the project inquiring on a new map of coverage. Others have said they haven't noticed a difference.

### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

- The Board discussed the Town of Binghamton Fire Department contract and the updates that they will be requesting, Supervisor Rounds will make the adjustments to their upcoming 2024 Contract and will give it to Kevin Olds at the November 21, 2023 Board Meeting. There was a discussion and all members were in agreement to the contract update.

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

- Tom Hanna – A motion was made by Councilperson Nye to accept the appointment of Tom Hanna as the Deputy Superintendent of the Town of Binghamton Highway Department and the motion was duly seconded by Councilperson Bensley. All those present voted in favor of the motion. Motion carried.
- Zoning Board of Appeals – A motion was made by Deputy Supervisor Donahue to appoint Theresa Taro as Chairperson to replace Mark Bordeaux for the remainder of his term which expires December 31, 2023 and the motion was duly seconded by Councilperson Nye. All those present voted in favor of the motion. Motion carried.
- Zoning Board of Appeals – A motion was made by Councilperson Bensley to appoint Bob Strick as a new member for the remainder of the year to fill Mark Bordeaux's vacancy and the motion was duly seconded by Councilperson Nye. All those present voted in favor of the motion. Motion carried.
- Board of Assessment Review – At the request of Carol Herz via email A motion was made by Deputy Supervisor Donahue to reappoint Carol Herz to a 5-year term effective on October 1, 2023 to the Board of Assessment review and the motion was duly seconded by Councilperson Conklin. All present voted in favor of the motion. Motion carried.
- Procurement policy discussion – Supervisor Rounds wanted to review the policy in regards to Proposal and voucher approvals and the chain in which they are approved. The Board all seem to agree and she will have the verbiage at the next Board meeting for the update to the Policy.

- Councilperson Conklin suggested the idea of the Board members alternating their liaison roles. There was discussion.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

- A motion was made by Councilperson Bensley to adjourn the meeting at 5:28 p.m. and was duly seconded by Councilperson Nye.

**LOOKING AHEAD:** Town Board Regular Meeting – Tuesday, November 21, 2023 at 6:00p.m.  
Town Board Work Session – Tuesday December 5, 2023 at 4:00p.m.

Respectfully Transcribed and Submitted

Tracy Tokos  
Town Clerk