March 10, 2025

Meeting was held at Town Hall, 420 Route 209, Huguenot, New York 12746

Invocation: Art Trovei

Pledge of Allegiance: Robert Whitney

Call to Order: 7:31PM

Attendance:

Supervisor: Gary Spears

Councilpersons: Art Trovei, Robert Whitney, Al Schock, Christa Hoovler

Town Clerk: Flo Santini **Attorney:** Glen Plotsky

Police Chief: Richard Sztyndor

Highway Superintendent: Raymond Cirulli

Additions/Deletions to Agenda:

Supervisor Spears- Add PJ Little League & PJ Schools Facilities use permits, approval of Sub-Registrar & Deputy Town Clerk #2, and approval of Junkyard License for Eckes Auto Body.

Motion to Add Items to the Agenda

Motion by Al Schock 2nd by Christa Hoovler

VOTES: 5 AYES: Arthur Trovei, Robert Whitney, Alan Schock, Christa Hoovler, Gary Spears **MOTION CARRIED**

Presentations/Communications:

Supervisor Spears welcomes UDC members, Virginia and Bill Dudko, for a presentation to raise awareness on the ongoing events held by the Upper Delaware Council. Discussion followed in regard to the increased National Park Service permit fees for the river's liveries. Virginia also discussed how important the continued protection of private property owners' rights is along the corridor. UDC is also looking for anyone interested in volunteering and/or donations. Interested parties can visit the UDC Facebook page or website for more information.

Bill explained the on-going events of the Upper Delaware Scenic byway.

Supervisor Spears announces the 2025 May Bulk Clean-up – Permits available April 1st at the Town Clerks Office. Mobile DMV will be at the Senior Center Wednesday, March 26, 2025 10a-12p & 1p-3:30p. Senator James Skoufis will visit the Town Hall on Friday, March 14th for a presentation of the Crest Grant Items awarded at 1:30 pm. NYS Burn Ban is in effect starting March 10th through May 15th.

Public Comments:

Sherri Hummel – 495 Big Pond Road – Questioned whether the board would re-evaluate the status of the Town of Deerpark's Ethics Code. Supervisor Spears gives a summary of the anonymous Ethics complaint that was mailed to Multiple local, county and state offices. Town Attorney, Glen Plotsky suggests no discussion

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should be conducted until all parties have finalized their review. Supervisor Spears explains how the process of filing a complaint should work and is collaborating with the Orange County Board of Ethics.

Dave Ofshinsky spoke about his concerns and how the Deerpark Town Board should update the ethics code similarly to how Chester Recently updated theirs.

Grace Woodard states the Highway Department has done a great job on Guymard Turnpike. She also mentioned traffic concerns at Brim Recyclers and Dollar General as well as illegal junkyards and greenhouses. Grace Woodard reads letter from Burt Thelander about Ethics.

Department Head Reports:

Highway Superintendent, Ray Cirulli reads February 2025 Monthly Report (Attached to Minutes)

Deerpark Police Chief, Richard Sztyndor reads his February 2025 Monthly Report. (Attached to Minutes)

Motion to Approve February 10, 2025 Minutes

Motion by Al Schock 2nd by Art Trovei

VOTES: 4 AYES: Arthur Trovei, Robert Whitney, Alan Schock, Gary Spears

1 abstained: Christa Hoovler

MOTION CARRIED

Old Business:

Supervisor Spears started a discussion in regards to Battery Storage Facilities. Counselman Robert Whitney explained what he had learned from the Orange County Hazmat Organization. Christa Hoovler spoke that no two battery storage facilities are the same. This information was gathered while speaking with other attendees at the Association of Towns Conference. Supervisor Spears and Council members agreed to wait for guidance to come from the state.

Supervisor Spears opened a discussion regarding the Board of Ethics, Code of Ethics and the complaint form. Suggested a 5-person board with staggered 5- year terms, as well as mirroring the Orange County Board of Ethics complaint form. Town Attorney Glen Plotsky will be sending out letters to the 3 named entities that were addressed in the October complaint that was sent to Orange County.

New Business:

Motion to hire Joseph Fitzpatrick as a PT Police Officer

Motion by Arthur Trovei 2nd by Christa Hoovler

VOTES: 5 AYES: Arthur Trovei, Robert Whitney, Alan Schock, Christa Hoovler, Gary Spears

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MOTION CARRIED

Motion to approve the renewal of Junkyard License for Brim Recyclers, Inc.

Motion by Al Schock 2nd by Robert Whitney

VOTES: 5 AYES: Arthur Trovei, Robert Whitney, Alan Schock, Chista Hoovler, Gary Spears

MOTION CARRIED

Motion to approve the renewal of Junkyard License to Arhtur Trovei & Son's Inc.

Motion by Al Schock 2nd by Christa Hoovler

VOTES: 4 AYES: Robert Whitney, Alan Schock, Christa Hoovler, Gary Spears

1 Abstained: Arthur Trovei

MOTION CARRIED

Motion to approve the renewal of Junkyard License to Eckes Auto Body

Motion by Al Schock 2nd by Robert Whitney

VOTES: 5 AYES: Arthur Trovei, Robert Whitney, Alan Schock, Christa Hoovler, Gary Spears

MOTION CARRIED

Motion to approve a Campground License to Neversink River Resort

Motion by Robert Whitney 2nd by Christa Hoovler

VOTES: 5 AYES: Arthur Trovei, Robert Whitney, Alan Schock, Christa Hoovler, Gary Spears

MOTION CARRIED

Motion to approve a Racetrack License to Oakland Valley Racetrack

Motion by Al Schock 2nd by Robert Whitney

VOTES: 5 AYES: Arthur Trovei, Robert Whitney, Alan Schock, Christa Hoovler, Gary Spears

MOTION CARRIED

Motion to Allow Town Clerk to Put an Ad in the Local Newspaper for Fuel Bids

Motion by Christa Hoovler 2nd by Alan Schock

VOTES: 5 AYES: Arthur Trovei, Alan Schock, Robert Whitney, Christa Hoovler, Gary Spears

MOTION CARRIED

Motion to allow Supervisor to open two Escrow Accounts, one for \$80,000 and one for \$42,550 for

Sparrowbush 1 & 2 Solar Decommissioning

Motion by Arthur Trovei 2nd by Alan Schock

VOTES: 5 AYES: Arthur Trovei, Robert Whitney, Alan Schock, Christa Hoovler, Gary Spears

MOTION CARRIED

Motion to approve Port Jervis Little League use of the Harriet Space Park, Sparrowbush and Police

Department fields

Motion by Christa Hoovler 2nd by Robert Whitney

VOTES: 5 AYES: Arthur Trovei, Robert Whitney, Alan Schock, Christa Hoovler, Gary Spears

MOTION CARRIED

March 10, 2025

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Motion to approve Port Jervis School District to use the Baseball field at Harriet Space Park

Motion by Christa Hoovler 2nd by Alan Schock

VOTES: 5 AYES: Arthur Trovei, Robert Whitney, Alan Schock, Christa Hoovler, Gary Spears

MOTION CARRIED

Motion to appoint Roseann Jenks as Sub-Registrar

Motion by Al Schock 2nd by Art Trovei

VOTES: 5 AYES: Arthur Trovei, Robert Whitney, Alan Schock, Christa Hoovler, Gary Spears

MOTION CARRIED

Motion to appoint Roseann Jenks as Deputy Clerk

Motion by Art Trovei 2nd by Alan Schock

VOTES: 5 AYES: Arthur Trovei, Robert Whitney, Alan Schock, Christa Hoovler, Gary Spears

MOTION CARRIED

Motion to approve New Century's Mass Gathering Permit, America the Beautiful 6.14.25 & 6.15.25

Motion by Al Schock 2nd by Robert Whitney

VOTES: 5 AYES: Arthur Trovei, Robert Whitney, Alan Schock, Christa Hoovler, Gary Spears

MOTION CARRIED

Motion to approve New Century's Mass Gathering Permit, The Grand American BBQ 8.2.25 & 8.3.25

pending updated Proof of Insurance

Motion by Al Schock 2nd by Christa Hoovler

VOTES: 5 AYES: Arthur Trovei, Robert Whitney, Alan Schock, Christa Hoovler, Gary Spears

MOTION CARRIED

<u>Motion to approve New Century's Mass Gathering Permit, The Moon Festival 9.20.25 & 9.21.25 – pending updated Proof of Insurance</u>

Motion by Christa Hoovler 2nd by Robert Whitney

VOTES: 5 AYES: Arthur Trovei, Robert Whitney, Alan Schock, Christa Hoovler, Gary Spears

MOTION CARRIED

Bills to pay:

 General Fund Abstract #4 of 2025
 \$239,666.49

 Highway Fund Abstract #4 of 2025
 \$47,503.50

 Special Revenue Reserve Abstract #1 of 2025
 \$1,642.80

 Street Lighting Abstract #1 of 2025
 \$346.42

Total \$289,159.21

Motion to Pay Bills

Motion by Christa Hoovler 2nd by Al Schock

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<u>VOTES: 5 AYES (ROLL CALL):</u> Arthur Trovei, Robert Whitney, Al Schock, Christa Hoovler, Gary Spears

MOTION CARRIED

Bills to pay:

General Fund Abstract #5 of 2025 Highway Fund Abstract #5 of 2025

Street Lighting Abstract #2 of 2025 \$344.34

Total \$344.34

Motion to Pay Bills

Motion by Al Schock 2nd by Robert Whitney

<u>VOTES: 5 AYES (ROLL CALL):</u> Arthur Trovei, Robert Whitney, Al Schock, Christa Hoovler, Gary Spears

MOTION CARRIED

<u>Motion to Enter Executive Session after a 15 Minute Recess at pm and to Invite Town Attorney to Discuss Litigation Matters</u>

Motion by Al Schock 2nd by Robert Whitney

VOTES: 5 AYES: Arthur Trovei, Robert Whitney, Alan Schock, Christa Hoovler, Gary Spears

MOTION CARRIED

Closing Comments:

Gary Spears: Pavilion at Harriet Space Park coming along well and will be a great addition to the town.

Art Trovei: Encourages people to go visit the Harriet Space Park.

Al Schock: Thank you Ginny and Bill Dudko.

Motion to Re-Enter Regular Session at 10:05 PM

Motion by Al Schock 2nd by Christa Hoovler

VOTES: 5 AYES: Arthur Trovei, Robert Whitney, Alan Schock, Christa Hoovler, Gary Spears

MOTION CARRIED

Modify appropriation from March 10, 2025 as follows:

 General Fund Abstract #5 of 2025
 \$158,502.52

 Highway Fund Abstract #5 of 2025
 \$71,698.93

 Street Lighting Abstract #2 of 2025
 \$344.34

Total \$230545.79

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Motion to Modify Appropriation on 3/10/2025

Motion by Christa Hoovler 2nd by Al Schock

<u>VOTES: 5 AYES (ROLL CALL):</u> Arthur Trovei, Robert Whitney, Al Schock, Christa Hoovler, Gary Spears

MOTION CARRIED

Discussion during executive session to increase salaries as follows:

Danielle Osowick Salary Increase from \$19.50 to \$20.50 per hour Roseann Jenks Salary Increase from \$17.00 to \$18.00 per hour Nancy Mir-Elcik Salary Increase from \$17.00 to \$18.00 per hour Leanne La Palme Increase from \$17.50 to \$18.00 per hour Aimee Keane Increase from \$18.00 to \$19.00 per hour

Motion to Increase Salaries of Part Time Employees

Motion by Christa Hoovler 2nd by Al Schock

<u>VOTES: 5 AYES (ROLL CALL):</u> Arthur Trovei, Robert Whitney, Al Schock, Christa Hoovler, Gary Spears

MOTION CARRIED

Motion to Adjourn at 10:08 PM

Motion by Robert Whitney 2nd by Arthur Trovei

VOTES: 4 AYES: Arthur Trovei, Robert Whitney, Alan Schock, Gary Spears

MOTION CARRIED

Respectfully Submitted,

Flo Santini, Town Clerk

Flo Santini