

**Town of Jackson Town Board Meeting
January 3, 2024**

The Town Board of the Town of Jackson met on January 3, 2024 at 1:00 pm at the Town Hall for the annual organizational meeting.

PRESENT:

- Jay Skellie..... Supervisor
- Carol Rich..... Councilwoman
- Jennifer VanDeWater..... Councilwoman
- Tim Grogan..... Councilman
- Molly Dixson..... Town Clerk
- Donna Nolan..... Budget Officer

Also present: Planning Board Chair Kelly Donahue, Residents John Pederson and Lewis Steele

Absent: Councilman Travis Rea and Highway Superintendent Sean Carney

RESOLUTION #1-24

A motion by Councilwoman Rich, seconded by Councilwoman VanDeWater; Resolution passed 4-0, **to accept the December 27th Year-end meeting minutes as read.**

RESOLUTION #2-24

A motion by Councilwoman VanDeWater, seconded by Councilman Grogan; Resolution passed 4-0, **to approve the Town Clerk & Supervisor Reports for December 2023 as follows:**

Town Clerk Fees to Town	\$169.86
Supervisor Receipts	\$115,413.17
Supervisor Disbursements	\$105,875.24

REPORTS

Highway – There was no Highway report for the month of December as Supt. Carney was absent.

Planning Board – Chair Kelly Donahue reported on Tuesday’s Planning Board Meeting:

- There were no items of action on the agenda. The Planning Board focused on organizational tasks.
- Norbut Solar was not on the agenda or present at the meeting and will most likely be on the agenda for February.
- Board member Erik VandenBerg will be spearheading the Comprehensive Plan Committee and set the date for the first Committee meeting to January 23rd at 6:30 pm, pending confirmation from other members on their availability.
- The Planning Board is spending time looking at the PB bylaws as they are outdated and need to be reviewed.

- The Board discussed the next priority to tackle, and agreed that focusing on a commercial battery storage law would be the most pressing. They request the Town Board consider putting a moratorium on commercial battery storage while they work to better understand the effects and develop a law accordingly. Chair Donahue stated that she will work together with Town Attorney David Klingebiel to draft up a moratorium on commercial battery storage.
- The Board received letters from residents Lewis Steele and Director of Dionondehowa School Board Bonnie Hoag regarding their concerns with the potential Norbut Solar farm on Ackley Road. Those letters are on file at Town Hall.

Supervisor Skellie questioned if battery storage could be combined into the Solar Law. Chair Donahue stated that based on information from Attorneys at Whiteman, Osterman and Hanna during the drafting of the Solar Law, they could not be combined because there are specific elements to each renewable energy source that require separate siting laws. At this time, Resident John Pederson questioned what the purpose of a battery storage law would be and if it would be to regulate for homes. Sup. Skellie stated it would be to regulate commercial battery storage energy use only. Mr. Pederson asked how a Comprehensive Plan could be created without zoning. He does not believe it is possible because he's never seen a plan without zoning language. Chair Donahue stated it is not about zoning, but to create more of a protection from solar and similar projects. Mr. Pederson asked what is wrong with solar. Chair Donahue stated the Town is just trying to protect from any issues that could arise from potential solar projects. She added that the Comprehensive Plan would be more of a general guideline and not zoning.

OLD BUSINESS – There was no Old Business for the month.

NEW BUSINESS

RESOLUTION #3-24

A motion by Councilman Grogan, seconded by Councilwoman Rich; Resolution passed 4-0, **to approve the following appointments for the year 2024:**

- | | |
|---|---------------------------------|
| • Deputy Supervisor | Travis Rea |
| • Deputy Town Clerk/Collector/
Registrar | Victoria Ruggles |
| • Deputy Highway Supt. | Dan Carney |
| • Chairman of Assessors | Amanda Weber |
| • Chairman of Planning Board | Kelly Donahue |
| • Planning Board Clerk | Molly Dixson |
| • Chairman Bd. Of Review | John Gilbert |
| • Budget Officer to Supervisor | Donna Nolan |
| • Court Clerk | Alexis Knouse |
| • Registrar of Vital Statistics /
Records Management Officer | Molly Dixson |
| • Town Historian | James Kennelly |
| • Dog Warden | Animal Safe Rehabilitation, LLC |

- Attorney for Town David Klingebiel
- Health Officer / Jay B. Skellie
Wetlands/FEMA Administrator
- Health Board Town Board
- FOIL Appeals Officer Town Board
- Audit Committee – Town Clerk-Tax Co. Carol Rich
- Audit Committee – Justice Travis Rea & Tim Grogan

RESOLUTION #4-24

A motion by Councilwoman Rich, seconded by Councilwoman VanDeWater; Resolution passed 4-0, **that the bank depository for the Supervisor, Justice and Town Clerk-Tax Collector accounts will be the Greenwich Branch of the Glens Falls National Bank & Trust.**

RESOLUTION #5-24

A motion by Councilwoman VanDeWater, seconded by Councilman Grogan; Resolution passed 4-0, **giving the Highway Superintendent permission to spend up to \$5,000 maximum per month or \$2,000 per item without permission of the Town Board.**

RESOLUTION #6-24

A motion by Councilwoman Rich, seconded by Councilwoman VanDeWater; Resolution passed 4-0, **giving the Supervisor permission to invest Town money in interest bearing accounts.**

RESOLUTION #7-24

A motion by Councilwoman Rich, seconded by Councilman Grogan; Resolution passed 4-0, **selecting the *Eagle Press* as the official newspaper of the Town of Jackson.**

RESOLUTION #8-24

A motion by Councilwoman VanDeWater, seconded by Councilman Grogan; Resolution passed 4-0, **establishing mileage reimbursement at \$.32/mile.**

RESOLUTION #9-24

A motion by Councilman Grogan, seconded by Councilwoman VanDeWater; Resolution passed 3-1 with Supervisor Skellie voting against, **to amend Resolution #8-24 to establish mileage reimbursement at \$.45/mile.**

RESOLUTION #10-24

A motion by Councilwoman Rich, seconded by Councilman Grogan; Resolution passed 4-0, **giving the Town Supervisor permission to pay certain monthly bills in advance of the regular monthly meetings if the due date is too close to the meeting date, thus making the payment late (i.e. phone bill, internet, electric).**

RESOLUTION #11-24

A motion by Councilwoman VanDeWater, seconded by Councilman Grogan; Resolution passed 4-0, **to appoint Councilman Rea and Grogan to audit the Court accounts.**

RESOLUTION #12-24

A motion by Councilwoman VanDeWater, seconded by Councilman Grogan; Resolution passed 4-0, **to appoint Councilwoman Rich to audit the Town Clerk-Tax Collector accounts.**

Supervisors Report-

- Robert Henke will remain Chair of the County Board of Supervisors with David O’Brien as Vice Chair and Ryan Campbell as Budget Officer. Committee members have shifted around as well.

RESOLUTION #13-24

A motion by Councilwoman VanDeWater, seconded by Councilman Grogan; Resolution passed 4-0, **to approve the payment of the following bills as audited on January 3, 2024, Abstract #1 and authorized the Supervisor to pay said bills from the respective funds:**

FUND	BILL #	AMOUNT
General	1-2	\$193.06
Highway	1-5	\$2,495.16

RESOLUTION #14-24

A motion by Councilwoman Rich, seconded by Councilwoman VanDeWater; Resolution passed 4-0, **to adjourn at approximately 1:42 pm.**

The meeting was adjourned at 1:42 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Molly Dixson, Town Clerk