**AT THE PUBLIC MEETING**

of the Town Board of the Town of Newburgh held

at 1496 Route 300 in said township at 7:00 p.m.

on Monday the 9th of December, 2024

**Present** Paul Ruggiero, Councilman

Gilbert J. Piaquadio, Supervisor

Scott M. Manley, Councilman

Anthony R. LoBiondo, Councilman

**Also Present**  Lisa M. Vance Ayers, Town Clerk

Dawnmarie Busweiler, Deputy Town Clerk

Mark C. Taylor, Town Attorney

*Meeting called to order at 7:03 p.m.*

**1. ROLL CALL**

**2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG**

**3. MOMENT OF SILENCE**

**4. CHANGES TO AGENDA-Add 2025 Chemical Bid & #10 Moved to after #5**

**5. ATHLETIC ACHIEVEMENT AWARD**

Supervisor Piaquadio and the Town Board awarded certificates of achievement for winning

the Superbowl to the Newburgh Goldbacks Division 1 & 3 Youth Football Teams.

At the Town of Newburgh Town Board Meeting, the Newburgh Goldbacks

Division 1 (D-1) and Division 3 (D-3) Youth Football Teams were awarded a Certificate of

Achievement for winning the Superbowl in their respective divisions. Town of Newburgh

Supervisor Gil Piaquadio presented the Certificate to each Newburgh Goldbacks Youth

Football Team in the presence of supporting families, friends, and fans. As part of the Orange

County Football League, the Newburgh Goldbacks D-1 Youth Football Teams consist of

players ages 8 and 9 years old, while the D-3 Team comprise of players ages 12 and 13 years

old. Head Coach Matt Haughton oversees the D-1 Team and Head Coach Greg Roe oversees

the D-3 Team. Both the Newburgh Goldbacks D-1 and D-3 Teams are 2024 Orange County

Youth Football Champions and undefeated this season. Town of Newburgh Supervisor Gil

Piaquadio and the Town of Newburgh Town Board congratulates the Newburgh Goldbacks D-

1 and D-3 Youth Football Teams on their remarkable achievement.

**6. PUBLIC HEARING: Local Law Amending Chapter 104 “Schedule of Fees” Water and Sewer**

**Rates for 2025**

Supervisor Piaquadio asked if Town Clerk Vance Ayers if all the postings and publications

have been completed.

Town Clerk Vance Ayers said the notice of this meeting was posted on the Town Website and

in Town Hall on December 2, 2024 and it was advertised in the Mid-Hudson Times

on December 5, 2024 This complies with all the requirements for a Public Hearing under

New York State Law.

**Open Meeting:**

MOTION made by Councilman LoBiondo to open the Public Hearing at 7:17 p.m. Motion

seconded by Councilman Manley. VOTE: Councilman Ruggiero – yes; Councilman Manley –

yes; Councilman LoBiondo – yes; Supervisor Piaquadio -yes. Motion passed: 4 yes; 0 no; 0

abstain; 0 absent.

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**Public Comments: No Public Comments**

**Close Meeting:**

MOTION made by Councilman LoBiondo to close the Public Hearing at 7:18 p.m. Motion

seconded by Councilman Ruggiero. VOTE: Councilman Ruggiero – yes; Councilman Manley –

yes; Councilman LoBiondo – yes; Supervisor Piaquadio – yes. Motion passed: 4 yes; 0 no; 0

abstain; 0 absent.

1. **Resolution on proposed Local Law Amending Chapter 104 Entitled Schedule of Fees of**

**the Code of the Town of Newburgh: Water and Sewer Rates Effective January 1, 2025**

MOTION made by Councilman Manley to approve the Adoption of Local Law Amending Chapter 104 Entitled Schedule of Fees of the Code of the Town of Newburgh: Water and Sewer Rates Effective January 1, 2025 Motion seconded by Councilman Ruggiero.

VOTE: Councilman Ruggiero – yes; Councilman Manley – yes; Councilman LoBiondo – yes; Supervisor Piaquadio – yes. Motion passed: 4 yes; 0 no; 0 abstain; 0 absent.

**7. ACCOUNTING:**

**A. Approval of Audit**

MOTION made by Councilman Ruggiero to approve the audit in the amount of

$1,685,765.42. Motion seconded by Councilman Manley. VOTE: Councilman Ruggiero –

yes; Councilman Manley – yes; Councilman LoBiondo – yes; Supervisor Piaquadio – yes.

Motion passed: 4 yes; 0 no; 0 abstain; 0 absent.

**B. Review Budget Status Report for November 2024**

MOTION made by Councilman Manley to approve the Budget Status Report for

November 2024. Motion seconded by Councilman LoBiondo. VOTE: Councilman Ruggiero

– yes; Councilman Manley – yes; Councilman LoBiondo – yes; Supervisor Piaquadio – yes.

Motion passed: 4 yes; 0 no; 0 abstain; 0 absent.

**C. Water Fund to Transfer $1 million to Levinson Heights**

Ronald E. Clum, Town Accountant is requesting approval for Water Fund to Loan $1

Million to Levinson Heights. As you know we signed a contract with Arold Construction in

the amount of $4,197,979 for the Levison Heights-Old Post Road Area Water Main

Extension. This project will be totally reimbursed by the New York City DEC. At this time,

I’m asking for authorization to transfer $1,000,000 to cover the first 3 payments while

we wait for bonding authorizations to be finalized by the attorneys.

MOTION made by Councilman LoBiondo as presented to approve the Water Fund to

Transfer $1 million to Levinson Heights. Motion seconded by Councilman Manley. VOTE:

Councilman Ruggiero – yes; Councilman Manley – yes; Councilman LoBiondo – yes;

Supervisor Piaquadio – yes. Motion passed: 4 yes; 0 no; 0 abstain; 0 absent.

**8. WATER DEPARTMENT**

Daniel Bertola, Water supply Supervising Operator is requesting approval for to advise for

2025 Chemical Supplier and Alum Sludge Removal Bids. I will coordinate with the Town Clerk

to determine a date for publication of notices on Bid Net, and in the Town’s official

newspaper.

MOTION made by Councilman Ruggiero to approve to advise for 2025 Chemical Supplier and

Alum Sludge Removal Bids. Motion seconded by Councilman Manley. VOTE: Councilman

Ruggiero – yes; Councilman Manley – yes; Councilman LoBiondo – yes; Supervisor Piaquadio

– yes. Motion passed: 4 yes; 0 no; 0 abstain; 0 absent.

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**9. DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS:**

**A. Highway Department**

Mark A. Hall Jr., Highway Superintendent reported:

* That there were 6 water main breaks in a week.
* Another Fall Leaf and Brush Pick-up is done.
* Weather permitting, pouring the K-9 kennel this week.
* Will be starting Animal Control Cage dividers this week.
* Coordinating with Commissioner Presutti to keep around the lake.
* Thanks to Travis Smith & JJ for lights on the tree.
* We are into winter mode: trim, ditches & snow.
* Remembering Bill Hedog & Karl Doderer.
* Counting forward into next year.

1. Parks and Recreation

* Tree lighting was a success. A bit smaller crowd but worked out good due to limited parking. Thanks to Highway Department and Police Department for all of their help. Staff did a great job as usual!
* Our Itsy Bitsy programs are in full swing and are all full, so is our Little Sprouts and Twosies programs.
* Indoor basketball and soccer registration is still open with only a few slots left in a couple of age groups. All other age groups having waiting lists.
* Recreation Center has all the main framework/steel up. It looks great! They will begin with roof covering next.
* Desmond brochure is going out for winter/spring of 2025.
* Working on designing new trails for Chadwick, and a tree identification guide of our trees along the trails.

**10. RECREATION:**

**A. Hire Part-Time Laborer**

Jim Presutti, Commissioner of Parks and Recreation is requesting approval to hire Joseph

Finch, as a part-time laborer starting on or after December 9, 2024. The salary is $17.31

per hour. The applicant’s hiring is contingent on your approval and the completion of his

paperwork, drug/alcohol test and physical.

MOTION made by Councilman Ruggiero to approve the hiring of Joseph Finch as a part-

time laborer. Motion seconded by Councilman LoBiondo. VOTE: Councilman Ruggiero –

yes; Councilman Manley – yes; Councilman LoBiondo – yes; Supervisor Piaquadio – yes.

Motion passed: 4 yes; 0 no; 0 abstain; 0 absent.

**B. Start the Process to Hire Part Time Clerk**

Jim Presutti, Commissioner of Parks and Recreation is requesting approval to begin the

process to hire a Part-Time Clerk for the Desmond campus to fill the opening left upon

Janet Simmon’s resignation. The funds for this position are available in the 2025 budget.

MOTION made by Councilman Manley to approve the process of hiring a Part-Time Clerk.

Motion seconded by Councilman LoBiondo. VOTE: Councilman Ruggiero – yes; Councilman

Manley – yes; Councilman LoBiondo – yes; Supervisor Piaquadio – yes. Motion passed: 4

yes; 0 no; 0 abstain; 0 absent.

**C. Orange County Dial-A-Bus Agreement**

MOTION made by Councilman Ruggiero to approve the Resolution of Town Board

Authorizing Third Party Lease and Service Agreement for Capital Equipment with the

County of Orange and Acceptance of Leasehold Interest. Motion seconded by Councilman

Manley. VOTE: Councilman Ruggiero – yes; Councilman Manley – yes; Councilman

LoBiondo – yes; Supervisor Piaquadio – yes. Motion passed: 4 yes; 0 no; 0 abstain; 0

absent.

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**11. POLICE: Authorization to Hire Full-Time Police Officer**

Chief of Police, Donald B. Campbell has requested approval to hire Arthur Bongiorno as a

Full-Time Police Officer. His approval for transfer from Orange County Human Resources is

pending approval. He must complete all the necessary full-time paperwork, fingerprinting,

and drug/alcohol testing. Since he is already a full-time Police Officer in his other

jurisdiction. A start date is anticipated for on or after January 6, 2025.

MOTION made by Councilman Manley to approve the hiring of Arthur Bongiorno as a Full-

Time Police Officer. Motion seconded by Councilman Ruggiero. VOTE: Councilman Ruggiero

– yes; Councilman Manley – yes; Councilman LoBiondo – yes; Supervisor Piaquadio – yes.

Motion passed: 4 yes; 0 no; 0 abstain; 0 absent.

**12. ANIMAL CONTROL- T94 Withdrawal**

Tracy Carvell of Animal Control requests authorization to use the T-94 account to pay for

veterinarian services for Newburgh Veterinary Hospital in the total amount of $1,907.48 of

which $289.44 were for canine services and $1,618.04 were for feline services.

MOTION made by Councilman Ruggiero to approve the use the T-94 account to pay for

veterinarian services for Newburgh Veterinary Hospital in the total amount of $1,907.48.

Motion seconded by Councilman LoBiondo. VOTE: Councilman Ruggiero – yes; Councilman

Manley – yes; Councilman LoBiondo – yes; Supervisor Piaquadio – yes. Motion passed: 4

yes; 0 no; 0 abstain; 0 absent.

**13. ENGINEERING:**

**A. MHE Agreement – Town of Newburgh New Salt Storage Facility Design and Bidding**

**Phase Services**

Councilman Paul Ruggiero is looking for a Motion to approve MHE Engineering to

perform the study and report phase for the Town of Newburgh New Salt Storage Facility

in the amount of $40,000 which includes preparation of design plans, specifications and

bidding phase services.

MOTION made by Councilman Manley to approve MHE Engineering to perform the study

and report phase for the Town of Newburgh New Salt Storage Facility in the amount of

$40,000. Motion seconded by Councilman LoBiondo. VOTE: Councilman Ruggiero – yes;

Councilman Manley – yes; Councilman LoBiondo – yes; Supervisor Piaquadio – yes.

Motion passed: 4 yes; 0 no; 0 abstain; 0 absent.

**B. Darrigo Solar Stormwater Security**

Patrick J. Hines, Rep Town Engineer is requesting approval for the Darrigo Solar

(PB#2019-24) Stormwater Securities. The applicant’s representative has prepared a cost

estimate for stormwater improvements on the subject property. A cost estimate in the

amount of $1,002,916.00 has been prepared for improvements associated with the

stormwater improvements for the solar project. The cost estimate utilizes MHE standard

cost estimating template. Based on the above, the Town Board should establish securities

in the amount of $1,002,916 an inspection fee in compliance with Town Code is required

to be posted. A 4% inspection fee in the amount of $40,116.64 must be posted by the

applicant.

MOTION made by Councilman Ruggiero to approve the Darrigo Solar Stormwater

Securities in the total amount of $1,002,916.00 and a 4% inspection fee in the amount

of $40,116.64. Motion seconded by Councilman Manley. VOTE: Councilman Ruggiero –

yes; Councilman Manley – yes; Councilman LoBiondo – yes; Supervisor Piaquadio – yes.

Motion passed: 4 yes; 0 no; 0 abstain; 0 absent.

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**C. Darrigo Solar Landscape Security**

Patrick J. Hines Rep Town Engineer is requesting approval for Darrigo Solar (PB#2019-24)

Landscape Security. The applicant’s representatives have submitted a landscape cost

estimate in the amount of $210,663.00 the Planning Board approval resolution requires

the submission of landscape securities and inspection fees. Approval of the landscape

security amount requires Town Board action. Based on the above, we would recommend

the Town Board establish a landscape security in the amount of $210,663.00. A landscape

inspection fee in accordance with Town Code is also required. A landscape inspection fee

of $4,000.00 must be provided by the applicant for construction related review of the

landscape plantings.

MOTION made by Councilman Ruggiero to approve the Darrigo Solar Landscape Security

the total amount of $210,663.00 with a landscape inspection fee of $4,000.00. Motion

seconded by Councilman LoBiondo. VOTE: Councilman Ruggiero – yes; Councilman

Manley – yes; Councilman LoBiondo – yes; Supervisor Piaquadio – yes. Motion passed: 4

yes; 0 no; 0 abstain; 0 absent.

**14. ANNOUNCEMENTS-No Announcements**

**15. PUBLIC COMMENTS-No Public Comments**

**16. EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

MOTION made by Councilman Ruggiero to go into Executive Session at 7:34 p.m. Motion

seconded by Councilman LoBiondo. VOTE: Councilman Ruggiero – yes; Councilman Manley –

yes; Councilman LoBiondo – yes; Supervisor Piaquadio – yes. Motion passed: 4 yes; 0 no; 0

abstain; 0 absent.

**Supervisor Piaquadio said no action was taken in Executive session**

MOTION made by Councilman LoBiondo to adjourn the meeting at 7:45 p.m. Motion

seconded by Councilman Ruggiero. VOTE: Councilman Ruggiero – yes; Councilman Manley –

yes; Councilman LoBiondo – yes; Supervisor Piaquadio – yes.

Motion passed: 4 yes; 0 no; 0 abstain; 0 absent.

1. **Sick Bank for Code Employee**

Supervisor Piaquadio is requesting a motion to start a sick bank for a Code Compliance Employee in need of sick time due to a serious health condition.

MOTION made Councilman LoBiondo to approve starting a sick bank for a Code Compliance Employee. Motion seconded by Ruggiero. VOTE: Councilman Ruggiero – yes; Councilman Manley – yes; Councilman LoBiondo – yes; Supervisor Piaquadio. Motion passed: 4 yes; 0 no; 0 abstain; 0 absent.

1. **PBA Contract**

Supervisor Piaquadio is requesting a motion to approve the agreement between the Town of Newburgh and the Town of Newburgh Policemen’s Benevolent Association Inc.

MOTION made Councilman LoBiondo to approve the agreement between the Town of Newburgh and the Town of Newburgh Policemen’s Benevolent Association Inc. Motion seconded by Ruggiero. VOTE: Councilman Ruggiero – yes; Councilman Manley – yes; Councilman LoBiondo – yes; Supervisor Piaquadio. Motion passed: 4 yes; 0 no; 0 abstain; 0 absent.

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**17. ADJOURNMENT**

MOTION made by Councilman Ruggiero to adjourn the meeting at 7:47 p.m. Motion seconded by

Councilman Manley. VOTE: Councilman Ruggiero – yes; Councilman Manley – yes; Councilman

LoBiondo – yes; Supervisor Piaquadio – yes. Motion passed: 4 yes; 0 no; 0 abstain; 0 absent.

*Meeting adjourned at 7:47 p.m.*

*Respectfully submitted,*

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Lisa M. Vance Ayers Dawnmarie Busweiler

Town Clerk Deputy Town Clerk