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MEETING HELD VIA ZOOM

TOWN WORKSHOP MEETING
of the Town Board of the Town of Newburgh
held at 1496 Route 300 in said township
at 7:01 p.m. on Monday, the 23rd of November 2020

PRESENT Gilbert J. Piaquadio, Supervisor
Elizabeth J. Greene, Councilwoman
Joseph P. Pedi, Town Clerk

PRESENT Scott M. Manley, Deputy Supervisor
REMOTELY Paul R. Ruggiero, Councilman
Anthony LoBiondo, Councilman
Mark C. Taylor, Attorney for the Town

REPORTED BY: Michelle L. Conero
Court Reporter
3 Francis Street
Newburgh, New York 12550
(845)541-4163

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MR. PEDI: It is 7:01 p.m. Today is Monday, the 23rd of November 2020, and this is a regularly scheduled workshop meeting.

First we'll start with a roll call.
Mrs. Greene.

MS. GREENE: Here.

MR. PEDI: Mr. Ruggiero.

MR. RUGGIERO: Present.

MR. PEDI: Mr. Manley.

MR. MANLEY: Here.

MR. PEDI: How are you doing, Scott.

Mr. LoBiondo.

MR. LOBIONDO: Here.

MR. PEDI: And Mr. Piaquadio.

SUPERVISOR PIAQUADIO: Here.

MR. PEDI: Everybody stand for the Pledge of Allegiance and a Moment of Silence.

(Pledge of Allegiance and Moment of Silence.)

MR. PEDI: Thank you very much.

Mr. Supervisor, any changes to the agenda?

SUPERVISOR PIAQUADIO: Mr. Pedi, I have no changes.

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MR. MANLEY: I've got none.

MS. GREENE: I have none.

MR. LOBIONDO: None.

MR. PEDI: Okay. Next we go on to item 5, approval of the audit.

SUPERVISOR PIAQUADIO: I'm looking for a motion to approve this audit in the amount of \$2,862,804.81.

MR. RUGGIERO: I'll make the motion.

MR. MANLEY: I'll second it.

MR. PEDI: Any discussion?

(No response.)

MR. PEDI: Mrs. Greene?

MS. GREENE: I abstain.

MR. PEDI: Mr. Ruggiero?

MR. RUGGIERO: Yes.

MR. PEDI: Mr. Manley?

MR. MANLEY: Yes.

MR. PEDI: Mr. LoBiondo?

MR. LOBIONDO: Yes.

MR. PEDI: And Mr. Piaquadio?

SUPERVISOR PIAQUADIO: Yes.

MR. PEDI: Next we go on to item 6 for the Engineering Department, a budget transfer for

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Crossroads Sewer District.

SUPERVISOR PIAQUADIO: James Osborne, the Town Engineer, is requesting a transfer. The reason for this transfer is the increased charges from the City of Newburgh for treatment and disposal of sewage from the Crossroads Consolidated Sewer District. He's looking for a \$230,000 transfer from the interfund transfer account G5010.9902.5900, and that's going to go to the contractor treatment services of G5010.8130.8456. Does someone want to make that motion?

MS. GREENE: So moved.

MR. MANLEY: I'll second it.

MR. PEDI: Any further discussion?

(No response.)

MR. PEDI: Mrs. Greene?

MS. GREENE: Yes.

MR. PEDI: Mr. Ruggiero?

MR. RUGGIERO: Yes.

MR. PEDI: Mr. Manley?

MR. MANLEY: Yes.

MR. PEDI: Mr. LoBiondo?

MR. LOBIONDO: Yes.

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MR. PEDI: And Mr. Piaquadio?

SUPERVISOR PIAQUADIO: Yes.

MR. PEDI: Next we go on to item 7 for Animal Control.

SUPERVISOR PIAQUADIO: Cheryl Cunningham, Animal Control Officer, is asking to make a withdrawal from the T-94 account in the amount of \$287, and that is to T.A.R.A., Animal Rights Alliance. This is not taxpayer money but a donation account. Does someone want to make that motion?

MR. LOBIONDO: I'll make the motion.

MR. RUGGIERO: I'll second it.

MR. PEDI: Any further discussion?

(No response.)

MR. PEDI: Mrs. Greene?

MS. GREENE: Yes.

MR. PEDI: Mr. Ruggiero?

MR. RUGGIERO: Yes.

MR. PEDI: Mr. Manley?

MR. MANLEY: Yes.

MR. PEDI: Mr. LoBiondo?

MR. LOBIONDO: Yes.

MR. PEDI: And Mr. Piaquadio?

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SUPERVISOR PIAQUADIO: Yes.

MR. PEDI: Next we go on to item 8 for the Highway Department, promotion to MEO position.

SUPERVISOR PIAQUADIO: All right. So Mark Hall, our Highway Superintendent, is recommending that we promote Frank Marr to an MEO 1-A -- from an MEO 1-A to an MEO position. It's in the 2020 budget and it's in accordance with the CSEA contract. The starting date is November 30, 2020. If someone could make that motion.

MS. GREENE: I'll make the motion.

MR. LOBIONDO: I'll second the motion.

MR. PEDI: Any discussion?

(No response.)

MR. PEDI: Mrs. Greene?

MS. GREENE: Yes.

MR. PEDI: Mr. Ruggiero?

MR. RUGGIERO: Yes.

MR. PEDI: Mr. Manley?

MR. MANLEY: Yes.

MR. PEDI: Mr. LoBiondo?

MR. LOBIONDO: Yes.

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MR. PEDI: And Mr. Piaquadio?

SUPERVISOR PIAQUADIO: Yes.

MR. PEDI: Next we go on to item 9,
labor attorney agreement for 2021, Roemer,
Wallens, Gold & Mineaux.

SUPERVISOR PIAQUADIO: And this would
be for the new year. This will not be funds from
this year. This vote will be on the
reorganization meeting that we will appoint this
firm. This firm has been our labor attorneys for
many years and they're looking to be reappointed
with a monthly retainer of \$3,300 per month.
So if we're in favor of this, Elayne Gold, we'll
make a motion to keep her our labor attorney for
2021.

MR. MANLEY: I'll make the motion.

MR. RUGGIERO: I'll second it.

MR. PEDI: Any further discussion?

(No response.)

MR. PEDI: Mrs. Greene?

MS. GREENE: Yes.

MR. PEDI: Mr. Ruggiero?

MR. RUGGIERO: Yes.

MR. PEDI: Mr. Manley?

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MR. MANLEY: Yes.

MR. PEDI: Mr. LoBiondo?

MR. LOBIONDO: Yes.

MR. PEDI: And Mr. Piaquadio?

SUPERVISOR PIAQUADIO: Yes.

MR. PEDI: Next we go on to item 10,
tax certiorari settlement for AMAR, Limited
Liability Company.

SUPERVISOR PIAQUADIO: All right. So
this is a tax certiorari case. It has to do with
5 Jeanne Drive.

Mark, if you're out there, we've had
this for some time, but can you give us a quick
rundown? Our Town Attorney, Mark Taylor. Mark,
you've got to unmute yourself. Mark.

MR. TAYLOR: Okay. Can you hear me
now?

MS. GREENE: Yes.

SUPERVISOR PIAQUADIO: We can hear you
now.

MR. TAYLOR: So this parcel is at the
northeast corner of the intersection of Route 300
and Jeanne Drive. The owner has appealed the
assessment for 2019 and 2020. The settlement

1 provides for a reduction of \$81,800 in the 2019
2 assessment and a reduction of \$181,500 in the
3 2020 assessment, going from \$1,800,000 in
4 assessed value to \$898,500 assessed value for
5 2020. That assessment will remain fixed for an
6 additional three years, not subject to challenge
7 or adjustment by the Town unless certain
8 circumstances warrant changes under the statute.
9

10 The total refund liability for the
11 Town, including town and highway taxes and the
12 fire district, will be about \$1,239 for 2019.
13 Depending on whether there's a reduction prior to
14 the 2020 roll being submitted and the judge
15 shunning the order, there may be an additional
16 refund liability of \$2,749 for the 2020 tax bill.

17 SUPERVISOR PIAQUADIO: Okay. So we've
18 had a chance to look at it. I guess this is the
19 recommendation from our certiorari attorney also,
20 Kathy Drobne.

21 Does someone want to make a motion to
22 settle this on 5 Jeanne Drive?

23 MR. MANLEY: I'll make the motion.

24 MR. RUGGIERO: And I'll second it.

25 MR. PEDI: Any further discussion?

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MS. GREENE: I have a question. I see on this list for each of the years a library tax. That's part of the Newburgh School District. Wouldn't that appear on their school tax bill rather than their property tax bill? Mark?

MR. TAYLOR: Yes, it would, but we do -- this is basically just a breakdown of the liabilities. They break out the school and the library because they are separate items on the --

MS. GREENE: Wouldn't the school have to approve it in their passing of the certiorari and not us? It just popped into my mind -- and I looked at all this today and it just popped into my mind now, that old hat of being the receiver of taxes.

MR. TAYLOR: The school district is a signatory to the agreement -- the settlement agreement also.

MS. GREENE: Okay. Well I don't know if -- since this is the categories that the Town is responsible for other than the library, I didn't know if that would have a bearing on it. I'll go by what you tell me.

SUPERVISOR PIAQUADIO: I think we have

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a motion and a second. Don't we, Joe?

MR. PEDI: Yes, we do.

SUPERVISOR PIAQUADIO: I guess we can
vote it.

MR. PEDI: Mrs. Greene?

MS. GREENE: I'll abstain.

MR. PEDI: Mr. Ruggiero?

MR. RUGGIERO: Yes.

MR. PEDI: Mr. Manley?

MR. MANLEY: Yes.

MR. PEDI: Mr. LoBiondo?

MR. LOBIONDO: Yes.

MR. PEDI: And Mr. Piaquadio?

SUPERVISOR PIAQUADIO: Yes.

MR. PEDI: Next we go on to item 11 for
the Accounting Department, a set of budget
transfers.

SUPERVISOR PIAQUADIO: So here again,
Ron Clum, our Town Accountant, is talking about
some transfers. Of course we're getting near the
end of the year. I'm going to ask for a motion
as presented. There's transfers here ranging
from \$5,000 to \$37,000. So I'm going to look for
a motion as presented on these transfers.

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MR. RUGGIERO: I'll make the motion.

MR. LOBIONDO: I'll second it.

MR. PEDI: Any further discussion?

(No response.)

SUPERVISOR PIAQUADIO: Mrs. Greene?

MS. GREENE: Yes.

MR. PEDI: Mr. Ruggiero?

MR. RUGGIERO: Yes.

MR. PEDI: Mr. Manley?

MR. MANLEY: Yes.

MR. PEDI: Mr. LoBiondo?

MR. LOBIONDO: Yes.

MR. PEDI: And Mr. Piaquadio?

SUPERVISOR PIAQUADIO: Yes.

MR. PEDI: Next we go on to item 12,
property purchase request for an Anchor Drive.

SUPERVISOR PIAQUADIO: So last year we
purchased the Anchorage property on the
waterfront, and now we have a neighbor, Nicholas
Dibrizzi, and he's asking if he can purchase a
certain portion of our land. So I just want to
poll the board to see if there's any interest. I
think I'll poll Betty first.

Betty, do you have any interest in

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selling any part of that property at this time?

MS. GREENE: At this time; no, I do not.

SUPERVISOR PIAQUADIO: Okay. I'll go to Councilman Ruggiero. Any interest in selling any of that property at this time?

MR. RUGGIERO: No. No.

SUPERVISOR PIAQUADIO: Okay. Then I'll go to Scott Manley. Any interest, Scott?

MR. MANLEY: No.

SUPERVISOR PIAQUADIO: I'll go to Anthony LoBiondo.

MR. LOBIONDO: No. No interest.

SUPERVISOR PIAQUADIO: Okay. For myself the same thing, no interest. I think it's way too soon to be selling off anything. We'll answer Mr. Dibrizzi not at this time but thanks for his interest.

Okay. With that, Joe, we can move on I guess.

MR. PEDI: Next we go on to item 13, proclamation for Small Business Saturday.

SUPERVISOR PIAQUADIO: This is a proclamation. I've got to give Scott Manley some

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credit here for putting this together. It talks about Saturday and the importance of shopping local. It's probably more important than ever, the way things have been, to the local retailers.

I'm going to ask Scott. Can you read this off for us, Scott, please?

MR. MANLEY: Yeah. I just want to give a quick background. Obviously small businesses are very much hurting. There's just a report out by the businesses about the billions of dollars they made, but small businesses are down 200 billion dollars. Saturday is Shop Small Saturday. I've been pushing small businesses for ages. Anthony LoBiondo, as soon as he became a Councilman, jumped right on there with me. Both Anthony and Councilman Ruggiero have their own small business, so it means a lot to all of us, and we need to support our local businesses.

So based on that, we're doing a proclamation for the Town Board. Whereas, the Town of Newburgh, New York celebrates our local small businesses and the contributions they make to our local economy and community. According to the United States Small Business Administration,

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2 there are 31.7 million small businesses in the
3 United States. They represent 99.9 percent of
4 all firms with paid employees in the United
5 States, are responsible for 65.1 percent of net
6 new jobs created from 2000 to 2019.

7 And whereas, small businesses employ
8 47.1 percent of the employees in the private
9 sector in the United States. 62 percent of
10 United States small businesses reported that they
11 need to see consumer spending return to pre-COVID
12 levels by the end of 2020 in order to stay in
13 business. 65 percent of the United States small
14 business owners said it would be the most helpful
15 to their businesses to have their regulars return
16 and start making purchases again, and
17 three-quarters of consumers are currently looking
18 for ways to shop small and support their
19 community.

20 And whereas, 96 percent of consumers
21 who shop on Small Business Saturday agree that
22 shopping at small, independently-owned businesses
23 support their commitment to making purchases that
24 have a positive social, economic and
25 environmental impact. And 97 percent of

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consumers who shopped on Small Business Saturday agree that small businesses are essential to their community.

And whereas, 95 percent of consumers who shop on Small Business Saturday reported the day makes them want to shop or eat at small, independently-owned businesses all year long, not just during the holiday season.

And whereas, the Town of Newburgh, New York supports our local businesses that create jobs, boost our local economy and preserve our communities.

And whereas, advocacy groups, as well as public and private organizations across the country, have endorsed the Saturday after Thanksgiving as Small Business Saturday.

Be it resolved, the Town Board of the Town of Newburgh do hereby proclaim November 28, 2020 as Small Business Saturday.

SUPERVISOR PIAQUADIO: All right. Very good, Scott. I appreciate that.

I know someone who might make a motion on this proclamation, and then we will advertise it.

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MR. RUGGIERO: I'll make the motion.

MR. LOBIONDO: I'll gladly second the motion.

MR. PEDI: Any further discussion?

(No response.)

MR. PEDI: Mrs. Greene?

MR. RUGGIERO: I'd just like to thank Scott for this, and Anthony too. I really want to get involved with you guys more on this, being a small business owner myself. So thank you, both of you.

MR. MANLEY: You're welcome.

MR. LOBIONDO: You're welcome.

MS. GREENE: And I'll make the motion to approve this.

MR. PEDI: I think the motion was already made by Councilman Ruggiero. It was seconded by Councilman LoBiondo.

Let's vote on it. Mrs. Greene?

MS. GREENE: Yes.

MR. PEDI: Mr. Ruggiero?

MR. RUGGIERO: Yes.

MR. PEDI: Mr. Manley?

MR. MANLEY: Yes.

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MR. PEDI: Mr. LoBiondo?

MR. LOBIONDO: Yes.

MR. PEDI: And Mr. Piaquadio?

SUPERVISOR PIAQUADIO: Yes.

MR. PEDI: Next we go on to item 14,
Recreation Department, approval to hire part-time
laborer.

SUPERVISOR PIAQUADIO: Does someone
want to make a motion here?

MS. GREENE: So moved.

MR. RUGGIERO: I'll make the motion.

MS. GREENE: Beat you to it.

SUPERVISOR PIAQUADIO: I think somebody
has to read out what the motion is, because I'm
not --

MS. GREENE: I understand. The motion
is to hire someone in Recreation, a part-time
laborer, starting after December 7, 2020 to
replace one of our employees who has resigned.
And I am making that motion. The person going to
be hired -- I don't see -- yes, I do. Sorry
about that. Gilbert Piaquadio Junior as a part-
time laborer. As I said, starting after December
7th.

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MR. PEDI: So councilwoman Greene made the motion. Is there a second, please?

MR. RUGGIERO: I'll second it.

SUPERVISOR PIAQUADIO: Was the amount put in? The hourly wage? I didn't hear that.

MR. PEDI: Yes, sir. It's an hourly salary of \$12.50.

May I have a second to Councilwoman Greene's motion?

MR. RUGGIERO: I seconded it.

MR. PEDI: Any further discussion?

(No response.)

MR. PEDI: Mrs. Greene?

MS. GREENE: Yes.

MR. PEDI: Mr. Ruggiero?

MR. RUGGIERO: Yes.

MR. PEDI: Mr. Manley?

MR. MANLEY: Yes.

MR. PEDI: Mr. LoBiondo?

MR. LOBIONDO: Yes.

MR. PEDI: And Mr. Piaquadio?

SUPERVISOR PIAQUADIO: Abstain.

MR. PEDI: Next we go to item 15 for adjournment.

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SUPERVISOR PIAQUADIO: All right. So we're looking for a motion to adjourn.

MS. GREENE: Before we adjourn, I would like to wish everybody a happy, safe and healthy Thanksgiving on Thursday.

MR. LOBIONDO: Thank you, Betty. You as well.

MR. MANLEY: Thank you. You, too.

SUPERVISOR PIAQUADIO: Absolutely. Same to everyone.

MR. PEDI: May I have a motion --

MR. RUGGIERO: I'll make the motion.

MR. MANLEY: I'll second it.

MR. RUGGIERO: Scott got it.

MR. PEDI: Motion made and seconded to adjourn at 7:22 p.m.

Mrs. Greene?

MS. GREENE: Yes.

MR. PEDI: Mr. Ruggiero?

MR. RUGGIERO: Yes.

MR. PEDI: Mr. Manley?

MR. MANLEY: Yes.

MR. PEDI: Mr. LoBiondo?

MR. LOBIONDO: Yes.

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MR. PEDI: And Mr. Piaquadio?

SUPERVISOR PIAQUADIO: Yes. Thank you,
everyone.

(Time noted: 7:22 p.m.)

C E R T I F I C A T I O N

I, MICHELLE CONERO, a Notary Public
for and within the State of New York, do hereby
certify:

That hereinbefore set forth is a
true record of the proceedings.

I further certify that I am not
related to any of the parties to this proceeding by
blood or by marriage and that I am in no way
interested in the outcome of this matter.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto
set my hand this 30th day of November 2020.

Michelle Conero

MICHELLE CONERO