

**THE TOWN OF MAMAKATING TOWN BOARD MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY, JANUARY 17, 2023 AT 6:00 P.M. AT 2948 ROUTE 209, WURTSBORO, N.Y. AND VIA ZOOM.**

**Present:** Michael Robbins- Supervisor  
John Rufer, Jr. – Deputy Supervisor – Councilman (via zoom)  
Gary Forthoffer – Councilman  
Peter Goodman – Councilman  
Matthew Mordas - Councilman  
Tyler Wood – Councilman  
James Post - Councilman  
J. Benjamin Gailey- Attorney for the Town  
Jean M. Dougherty- Town Clerk

**Also present:** Thomas Morrow – Highway Superintendent  
Jackie Broder – Director MEEC  
Lorrence Green – Planning Board Chairman

**Worksession Items for Discussion**

1. Budget Modifications
2. Add funds to NY Class Account
3. Appraiser for Tax Certiorari Proceeding
4. Set Public Hearing Drainage District Lane Meadows Farm

**CALL TO ORDER/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

- The January 17, 2023 meeting was called to order with the pledge to the flag.

**SULLIVAN COUNTY LEGISLATORS ACCOMPLISHMENTS REPORT – Nicholas Salomone**

**TAXES AND FINANCES**

- Undertook careful and prudent fiscal management that led to the adoption of a 2023 budget which does not raise taxes
- Eliminated the Solid Waste Access Fee, saving taxpayers between \$45 and \$750 per parcel
- Eliminated \$9 million in short-term debt
- Settled all outstanding labor union contracts with Sullivan County employees -a first in
- The history of the County Legislature – giving much – needed certainty to future budget planning
- Sullivan County remains free of fiscal stress, as ranked by the NYS Comptroller’s Office

**SULLIVAN COUNTY LEGISLATORS ACCOMPLISHMENTS REPORT – Nicholas Salomone, Jr.**

(continued)

**INFRASTRUCTURE**

- Division of Public Works paved 39 miles of roads (20 more miles than in 2021), repaired another 36 miles, sealed 52 miles more, and striped(painted) 79 miles in total
- Authorized \$12 million for road and bridgework in 2022(nearly \$3 million more than in 2021), without any need for bonding
- Welcomed charitable emergency transporter HatzolAir to County Airport, where it has already based aviation equipment and intends to construct its world headquarters
- Landed \$18.5 million State grant to begin major improvements to Airport, including new terminal building, all in a concerted effort to make this resource a revenue-generator

**PUBLIC HEALTH, WELFARE AND SAFETY**

- Relocate and expanded the Veterans Service Agency office space to better serve those who have served our nation
- Increased starting salaries for critically needed positions in Sheriff's Office and Health & Human Services, in order to attract more candidates

**ECONOMIC AND WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT**

- Expanded the Move Sullivan public transportation service from two routes to four and made all rides free to the public
- Sullivan County maintained #1 spot in job growth in the entire State for much of 2022.

**HIGHWAY SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

- Pole barns are completed at this point. Lighting is done- thanks again to the board for all their assistance in getting this long-awaited project done.
- Crews have been working on cleaning ditches of tree debris.
- Thanks to the Wurtsboro Fire District for allowing us to use their lift- additional lighting be added to the shop.

**SUPERVISOR'S REPORT**

- There will be an Agricultural Training on Feb.15<sup>th</sup> at 6:00pm
- Myself and Tyler are looking into a 30x30 pole barn at park by tennis courts .

## ABSTRACTS

- A motion was made by G. Forthoffer, seconded by T. Wood to approve the following abstract as presented: Abstract #28 (Voucher #20221620-20221686) in the amount of \$92,620.69. All in favor.
- A motion was made by G. Forthoffer, seconded by M. Mordas to approve the following abstract as presented: Abstract #2 (Voucher #20230035-20230088) in the amount of \$193,724.15. All in favor.

## FINANCIAL REPORTS

A motion was made by P. Goodman, seconded by T. Wood to acknowledge the receipt of the Expenditures, Encumbrances & Appropriations Report, Revenues & Expenditures Report. All in favor.

## MINUTES

- A motion was made by P. Goodman, seconded by M. Mordas to accept the Minutes of December 6, 2022. All in favor.
- A motion was made by G. Forthoffer, seconded by P. Goodman to accept the Minutes of January 3, 2023. All in favor.

## RESOLUTIONS

- A motion to approve the Budget Modifications as presented was made by T. Wood, seconded by G. Forthoffer. All in favor.
- A motion was made by P. Goodman and seconded by T. Wood to approve additional funds for NY Class in the amounts as follows:
  - \$1,000,000.00 from the General Fund
  - \$380,176.18 from the American Rescue Fund
  - \$349,070.12 from the Highway Vehicle & Equipment Reserve
  - \$9,510.15 from the Repair Fund
  - \$321,117.45 from the Employment Benefit Procurement Liability Account
  - \$52,066.05 from the HUD Account
  - \$8,766.13 from the Highway Construction Repair Fund
  - \$41,284.55 from the Park Midland Account

All voting in favor. 6 ayes, 0 nays, 1 abstention. (J. Rufer)

**TOWN OF MAMAKATING**  
**County of Sullivan, State of New York**  
**RESOLUTION to Retain Appraiser for Tax Certiorari Proceeding**

***BE IT RESOLVED,***

At a meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Mamakating, County of Sullivan, State of New York, held at the Town Hall in said Town on the 17<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2023;

WHEREAS, Kohl's of NY has commenced tax certiorari proceedings against the Town of Mamakating in the Supreme Court, State of New York, County of Sullivan, under Index No. E2022-1262; and

WHEREAS, it appears from the recommendation of the Town Assessor and Kara J. Cavallo, Esq., of Jacobowitz and Gubits, LLP, Town counsel for the Town in the aforesaid proceeding, that a full trial-ready appraisal of the above matter is required; and

WHEREAS, the fee proposal from Ackerly & Hubbell Appraisal Corp., is reasonable and reflects the appropriate standard of expertise required for the assignment;

NOW, BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED, that the fee proposal submitted by Ackerly & Hubbell Appraisal Corp., is accepted and is hereby retained to provide the necessary appraisal opinions, any required additional work and, if necessary, trial testimony, as presented in Ackerly & Hubbell Appraisal Corp.'s proposal described above.

On a motion by Councilperson P. Goodman, seconded by Councilperson M. Mordas, the foregoing resolution was adopted on a vote of 6 Ayes, 0 Nays, 1 abstention (J. Rufer).

At a Meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Mamakating in the County of Sullivan, State of New York, held at Town Hall, 2948 US-209, Wurtsboro, NY 12790 on the 17<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2023.

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IN THE MATTER OF THE PETITION FOR THE  
ESTABLISHMENT OF LANE MEADOW FARM  
DRAINAGE DISTRICT IN THE TOWN OF  
MAMAKATING. SULLIVAN COUNTY,  
STATE OF NEW YORK  
-----x

ORDER SETTING A  
PUBLIC HEARING FOR  
FORMATION OF A  
DRAINAGE DISTRICT

WHEREAS, a petition dated January 21, 2022 has been duly presented to the Town Board of the Town of Mamakating, Sullivan County, New York (the "Town"), according to law, requesting that a drainage district, as hereinafter described, be established in the Town, and

WHEREAS, the boundaries of the proposed drainage district are set forth in the description annexed hereto as Schedule "A", and

WHEREAS, the improvements proposed in said district consist of the installation of all drainage structures, pipes, filters, and other drainage infrastructure detailed in the Drainage District Map, Plan and Report for the proposed Lane Meadow Farm Drainage District, Town of Mamakating, Sullivan County, New York, prepared by Engineering & Surveying Properties, PC, 71 Clinton Street, Montgomery, NY 12549, dated last revised January, 2022, and

WHEREAS, the estimated cost of all construction work for the laying out and installing of the improvements within the proposed District is \$50,000.00 and will be paid for by the Petitioner LANE MEADOW FARM, LLC so that no expense occasioned by the creation of the District shall be levied and collected from the land within the District by assessment or otherwise and all of such work shall be done and completed by the Petitioner LANE MEADOW FARM, LLC in accordance with the maps and plans herein described and submitted with the Petition. And

WHEREAS, the cost of the district to a typical property is approximately \$575.75 for each of the eleven (11) residential lots in the drainage district, it is

ORDERED, that the Town Board shall meet at the Town Hall, Town Hall, 2948 US-209, Wurtsboro, New York on the 7<sup>th</sup> day of February, at 6:00 p.m., to consider said petition and hear all persons interested in the subject thereof, and it is further

ORDERED, that the Town Clerk is hereby authorized and directed to publish a certified copy of this order in the official Town newspaper, and to post a copy of same on the sign-board and website of the Town in the time and manner required by law.

On a motion by Councilman M. Mordas, seconded by Councilman T. Wood, the foregoing Order was adopted on a vote of 6 Ayes, 0 Nays, 1 Abstention (J. Rufer)

#### **COMMITTEE REPORTS/ANNOUNCEMENTS**

##### **MEEC – Jackie Broder, Director (read by M. Mordas)**

1. Pam Golben's Common Birds at your feeder was a huge hit this past Saturday. At the audience's request, we will be revisiting Native Planting to Attract Birds in February. Stay tuned for details.
2. Our **Nature Tots** Program **ONLY Has A FEW SPACES LEFT**  
It will run weekly, **Friday January 27<sup>th</sup> – Friday, March 3<sup>rd</sup> 10:00 – 10:45am**  
Please call 845-644-5014 for details and to register
3. **Winter Plant Walk - Identifying Plants in Wintertime**  
**Saturday Jan 28<sup>th</sup> 1-2:30pm**  
Join botanist Richard Mandelbaum as we explore the sleeping plants and trees of MEEC. We will focus on bark, twigs, and green plants that persist throughout the winter. Please call for details.

**MEEC – Jackie Broder, Director (read by M. Mordas)**

(continued)

**4. Groundhogs and Hedgehogs!**

**Sunday January 29th, Drop in between 1 & 3, meet a live hedgehog at 1:30 and 2:30**

Learn fun and surprising facts about Groundhogs and Hedgehogs! Find out what groundhogs and hedgehogs have in common with Groundhog Day. Make a Groundhog bean bag craft.

**Meet a live hedgehog!**

Please call to register: 845-644-5014

**Parks & Recreation Report – Donna Consolo, Director (read by T. Wood)**

- Submitting final program expenditure reports to receive our \$10,000 grant from the County & State.
- Working on applications for permits for summer camp, pool, concession stand
- Accepting applications for summer camp/pool employment
- Working on Summer camp hardships & Programs

**Ward 1 – John Rufer, Jr.**

A reminder that there will be a Ward 1 meeting on Wednesday, January 25, 2022 at 6:00 p.m. in the Town Hall.

**Historical Markers – Michael Robbins**

Letting the public know that some of the Historical Markers have been removed temporarily and are being restored.

**ADJOURNMENT**

- A motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:33 p.m. was made by P. Goodman, seconded by M. Mordas. All in favor.

Respectfully Submitted;

Jean M. Dougherty, Town Clerk