

MINUTES OF THE FEBRUARY 4, 2020 MEETING OF THE TOWN BOARD OF THE TOWN OF POUND RIDGE HELD AT THE POUND RIDGE TOWN HOUSE, 179 WESTCHESTER AVENUE, POUND RIDGE, NY, COMMENCING AT 8:00 PM

PRESENT: SUPERVISOR KEVIN HANSAN, COUNCILPERSON ALISON BOAK, COUNCILPERSON CARLA BRAND, COUNCILPERSON DIANE BRIGGS, COUNCILPERSON DANIEL PASCHKES

**ALSO PRESENT: TOWN ATTORNEY, WILLIAM P. HARRINGTON, ESQ
TOWN CLERK ERIN TROSTLE**

NOT PRESENT: DEPUTY SUPERVISOR LES MARON

CALL TO ORDER: Supervisor Hansan called the meeting to order at 8:03 pm.

CALL FOR EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Board Action: Motion by Councilperson Paschkes, seconded by Councilperson Briggs, all voting aye, to hold an Executive Session on Tuesday, February 4, 2020, immediately after the Town Board meeting to discuss personnel matters.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- Project Pound Ridge Cupid needs volunteers Sunday, February 9, 1:00–4:00pm, at Conant Hall to help with baking, packaging, or delivering Valentine treats to seniors.
- The Recreation Department is hosting an open mic night at Conant Hall Sunday, February 9, 5:00–8:00pm. This event is “BYOFD” (bring your own food and drink).
- The Bedford–Pound Ridge Lighting baseball team will host a casino night Friday, February 28 as a fundraiser for their Cooperstown trip.

MINUTES: Acknowledge/correct/accept minutes of Town Board meeting of January 21, 2020.

Board Action: Motion by Councilperson Paschkes, seconded by Councilperson Briggs, all voting aye, to accept the minutes of the Town Board meeting of January 21, 2020.

NEW BUSINESS:

A. Boards and Commissions

RESOLUTION: #32-20

Board Action: Motion by Councilperson Paschkes, seconded by Councilperson Briggs, all voting aye, on the following:

Amended per
Resolution
#72-20

RESOLVED, that Jodi Elkins-Desforbes is hereby appointed to the Conservation Board for a two-year term expiring in ~~2022~~. 2021

RESOLUTION: #33-20

Board Action: Motion by Councilperson Boak, seconded by Councilperson Paschkes, all voting aye, on the following:

RESOLVED, that Elizabeth Montgomery is hereby appointed to the Landmarks and Historic District Commission for a three-year term expiring in 2023.

RESOLUTION: #34-20

Board Action: Motion by Councilperson Paschkes, seconded by Councilperson Briggs, all voting aye, on the following:

Amended per
Resolution
#72-20

RESOLVED, that Robert Knorr is hereby reappointed to the Zoning Board of Appeals for a ~~five-year term expiring in 2025~~. the remainder of a five-year term expiring in 2024

B. Police Department

- **Replacement of Computers at Police Department and Office of Emergency Management**

RESOLUTION: #35-20

Board Action: Motion by Councilperson Paschkes, seconded by Councilperson Boak, all voting aye, on the following:

RESOLVED, that Chief David Ryan be authorized to purchase three computers for the Police Department and two for the Office of Emergency Management.

- **Replacement Engine for Police Vehicle**

RESOLUTION: #36-20

Board Action: Motion by Councilperson Paschkes, seconded by Councilperson Boak, all voting aye, on the following:

RESOLVED, that Chief David Ryan be authorized to replace the engine of Pound Ridge Police Unit 366 at an estimated cost of \$6700; AND BE IT

FURTHER RESOLVED, that funds be transferred from contingency to cover the expense.

[Town Clerk note: Chief Ryan indicated after the meeting that there are sufficient funds in the maintenance and repair line item to cover the cost of the new engine.]

C. Pound Ridge Partnership

- **Pound Ridge Pride Day**

James Best, Co-President of the Pound Ridge Partnership, described proposed plans for Pound Ridge Pride Day, including beautification, a block party at the Market Square, and a battle of the bands event in the open space near Key Bank. Councilperson Boak noted that it will be important for event organizers to coordinate with TEP scheduling. She also noted that although her name appears on Partnership permit applications, she has resigned her position on the Partnership and thus does not have a conflict of interest.

RESOLUTION: #37-20

Board Action: Motion by Councilperson Paschkes, seconded by Councilperson Boak, the board polled and all voting aye, on the following:

RESOLVED, that the Pound Ridge Partnership's Special Use Permit Application for Pride Day 2020 on May 31 be approved; AND BE IT

FURTHER RESOLVED that the Pound Ridge Partnership be granted permission to hang a Pride Day Banner in Scotts Corners May 6 through June 1.

- **Food Truck Fridays**

Melissa Kamen, Chair of the Pound Ridge Partnership's Food Truck Friday Committee, described plans for Food Truck Fridays in 2020.

RESOLUTION: #38-20

Board Action: Motion by Councilperson Paschkes, seconded by Councilperson Boak, all voting aye, on the following:

RESOLVED, that the Pound Ridge Partnership's Special Use Permit Application for Food Truck Fridays on May 15, June 19, July 17, August 21, September 11, 2020, be approved; AND BE IT

FURTHER RESOLVED that the Pound Ridge Partnership be granted permission to hang a Pride Day Banner in Scotts Corners for one week before each event.

- **Pound Ridge Harvest Festival**

Tanja Vogel, Co-President of the Pound Ridge Partnership, described plans for the ninth annual Pound Ridge Harvest Festival. Councilperson Brand suggested that the Partnership consider working toward a zero-waste event. The amount of waste was down last year, and the Partnership continues to work to reduce waste further.

RESOLUTION: #39-20

Board Action: Motion by Councilperson Brand, seconded by Councilperson Paschkes, the board polled and all voting aye, on the following:

RESOLVED, that approval for Special Event Permit Application for the use of Pound Ridge facilities for Harvest Festival on October 10, 2020, be granted; AND BE IT

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Pound Ridge Partnership be granted permission to hang a Harvest Festival banner in Scotts Corners September 5 through October 10, 2020; AND BE IT

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Pound Ridge Partnership be granted permission for the use of town bus to shuttle vendors and volunteers for the Harvest Festival from 11:00am to 6:30pm (as needed).

D. Supervisor

- **Resolution opposing the State of Connecticut's plan to impose a toll on I-684**

Supervisor Hansan proposed the following resolution:

WHEREAS, the Town of Pound Ridge, in conjunction with Westchester County, has always welcomed a partnership with our neighbors in Connecticut and has worked cohesively on the issues that connect us, including Westchester County Airport, the Long Island Sound, and other border matters; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Pound Ridge understands that Connecticut has a significant budget gap to close, as well as outstanding infrastructure needs, and is sympathetic to the need for revenue, yet also recognizes that those needs are not unique to the State of Connecticut; and

WHEREAS, the State of Connecticut has proposed a toll site on the one-mile stretch of Interstate 684 in Greenwich, which is used primarily by New York traffic for both trucks and passenger cars, where a toll to benefit the State of Connecticut would be an unfair taxation to those who do not have a voice, which the Town of Pound Ridge strictly opposes; and

WHEREAS, Connecticut stands to gain an estimated \$5 million dollars per year in revenue from the Greenwich toll, a tax that would largely be on the backs of New York State drivers, which the Town of Pound Ridge also opposes; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Pound Ridge does not believe in retaliatory border tolls between neighboring states, as this will create an unhealthy relationship where even with a toll on trucks only, avoidance traffic would follow on New York's local roads, creating a quality-of-life issue for all who live and work nearby. As well, the proposed toll is virtually certain to push traffic onto local roads causing congestion, road damage and higher risk of collisions.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town of Pound Ridge recognizes this toll as an enhancement to Connecticut's infrastructure by imposing a toll on New York State's truck drivers and commuters without justification and stands in support of Westchester County Executive George Latimer's submitted written testimony opposing the toll; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, as New York has not requested or received financial contributions from Connecticut with respect to the maintenance of the roadway or with respect to the emergency calls, that the Town of Pound Ridge joins Westchester County Executive George Latimer in urging Connecticut lawmakers to forego the proposed toll.

RESOLUTION: #40-20

Board Action: Motion by Councilperson Boak, seconded by Councilperson Briggs, all voting aye on the foregoing resolution.

- **Resolution condemning Anti-Semitism in Westchester County**

Supervisor Hansan also proposed the following resolution:

WHEREAS, in recent weeks and months, notably throughout the festival of Chanukah, there have been escalating incidents of anti-Semitism, hatred and divisiveness, such acts including anti-Semitic invective, vandalizing synagogues and other buildings with swastikas, broken glass, and overturned menorahs; violent attacks on Jewish people in public, during worship and in their homes; and

WHEREAS, such instances include recent crimes in Monsey, Yorktown, New York City; and

WHEREAS, the FBI notes that nationwide in 2014 609 anti-Jewish hate crime incidents were reported, a number that increased nearly 40% by 2018; and

WHEREAS, the FBI reports that nationally in 2018 there were 7,036 single-bias-related incidents that involved 8,327 offenses, of which, 59.5% were motivated by race/ethnicity/ancestry bias, 18.6% by religious bias, and 16.9% by sexual-orientation bias; and

WHEREAS, according to the Anti-Defamation League (ADL), which tracks anti-Semitic and other hate incidents, anti-Semitic incidents were at historic levels in the United States in 2018, with occurrences of assaults alone up 105 % from 2017 to 2018; and

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WHEREAS, the ADL states that preliminary analysis of 2019 data shows that New York will have recorded the most anti-Jewish hate crimes since 1992; and

WHEREAS, there is an urgent need to ensure the safety and security of our Jewish communities, including yeshivas, synagogues, schools, and other institutions; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Pound Ridge has a long history of standing up, speaking out and protecting human rights and has been asked to consider the adoption of a statement re-affirming its policies and practices as an open and affirming community, one that decries and denounces acts of anti-Semitism; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Pound Ridge takes pride in its enriched diversity, enriched by people of differing races, sexual orientations, gender identities, abilities, ages, and places of birth and origin; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Pound Ridge considers it our moral obligation and our obligation as the elected representatives of the community to work with other community leaders to condemn acts of hate against the Jewish community and all who are targeted for their differences.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town of Pound Ridge condemns the anti-Semitic attacks here at home and on our Rockland County neighbors and stands in solidarity with the people of Yorktown, Monsey and New York City and in rejecting all forms of bigotry, hatred, or discrimination of any kind; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that hate will have no home in the Town of Pound Ridge; that we are committed to promoting openness, inclusion, freedom and mutual understanding by ensuring all people regardless of race, religion, sexual orientation, gender identity, national origin or immigration status may live free from violence, harassment or prejudice; and that our Town will make every effort to ensure that our community is one where all people are welcome, included and respected; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Town of Pound Ridge will work with other levels of government and community groups to root out hate and promote understanding and that we encourage other municipalities to join this resolution and to join forces in ensuring that the vile history of anti-

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Semitism and other forms of intolerance in New York and around the world,
ends now and ends here; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a certified copy of this resolution shall
be forwarded to all those deemed necessary and proper so that the intent of
our elected leaders is widely known.

RESOLUTION: #41-20

Board Action: Motion by Councilperson Paschkes, seconded by Councilperson Briggs,
all voting aye, on the foregoing resolution.

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business to come before the Board,
Supervisor Hansan adjourned the regular meeting at 8:34 pm.

Erin Trostle
Dated at Pound Ridge, New York
February 7, 2020