

MINUTES OF THE APRIL 5, 2022 MEETING OF THE TOWN BOARD OF THE TOWN OF POUND RIDGE HELD AT 179 WESTCHESTER AVENUE, POUND RIDGE, NEW YORK, AND VIA ZOOM VIDEOCONFERENCE, COMMENCING AT 8:00 PM

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

ALSO

PRESENT: TOWN ATTORNEY WILLIAM HARRINGTON
DEPUTY SUPERVISOR LES MARON
TOWN CLERK ERIN TROSTLE

NOT

PRESENT: COUNCILPERSON DIANE BRIGGS

I. CALL TO ORDER OF REGULAR MEETING

Supervisor Hansan called the meeting to order at 8:07 pm.

II. CALL FOR EXECUTIVE SESSION

Board Action: Motion by Councilperson Boak, seconded by Councilperson Brand, all voting aye, to call for an Executive Session on Thursday, April 7, 2022 at 7:00 pm.

III. ANNOUNCEMENTS

- The Conservation Board will host the Repair Café this weekend at Conant Hall.
- The St. Patrick's Carnival is returning to Bedford starting Wednesday, May 18, 2022. Anyone interested in volunteering should visit the St. Patrick's website.
- Councilperson Paschkes reminded residents that there are still active Covid cases in the community.

IV. MINUTES

Board Action: Motion by Councilperson Boak, seconded by Councilperson Brand, all voting aye, to accept the minutes of the March 8, 2022 meeting of the Town Board.

V. PUBLIC HEARINGS

Board Action: Motion by Councilperson Boak, seconded by Councilperson Brand, all voting aye, to call for a public hearing on April 12, 2022 to increase limits on veterans exemptions.

Board Action: Motion by Councilperson Boak, seconded by Councilperson Brand, all voting aye, to open a public hearing on the 2022 Draft MS4 Report.

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Town Engineer Jason Pitingaro described the MS4 report, which the town is required to submit to the Department of Environmental Conservation as evidence that it is maintaining its storm sewers properly.

Board Action: Motion by Councilperson Paschkes, seconded by Councilperson Brand, all voting aye, to close the public hearing.

VI. NEW BUSINESS

A. Supervisor – Address issue of possible revaluation

Pound Ridge resident John McCown presented a petition signed by approximately thirty residents in favor of the town's engaging an independent appraisal firm to analyze the assessment of water utility parcels. Mr. McCown also distributed a copy of an email from Victor Mallison, Executive Director of the Westchester County Tax Commission, expressing the view that "a reval of a segment of the properties, ie, commercial, could be done legally," but that "they would then have to be assessed at the same percentage of their Market Value as the rest of the properties in the town."

Town Attorney William Harrington pointed out that selective reassessment is illegal. He said that town-wide reassessment would be time-consuming and expensive and that hiring a consultant would not generate a windfall that would lower property taxes for all residential property owners in town.

Attorney Harrington also noted that the hypothetical valuation methodology Mr. McCown has presented has not been accepted in New York courts. However, a test case for applying an accepted methodology – replacement value – to utility parcels is currently working its way through the court system. Attorney Harrington advised the Town Board that it would be prudent to await the outcome of this pending case before taking any action related to revaluation. He noted that the current volatility of the real estate market also argues against immediate action and that opening a dialogue with the Aquarion Water Company would be more productive in the short term.

Resident Michael Kaplan expressed the view that Pound Ridge is overdue for a town-wide revaluation and that this should be a focus of consideration rather than the approach Mr. McCown has suggested.

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B. Bedford Central School District – Update from Bond Committee

Bedford Central School District (BCSD) Board of Education Trustee Jessica Cambareri gave a presentation on two bond propositions totaling \$62.6 million, including \$2.2 million for infrastructure improvements at Pound Ridge Elementary School, which will be put to a vote on May 17, 2022.

C. Highway Department – Approval to attend Annual Highway School

RESOLUTION 70-22

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

RESOLVED, that the Town Board hereby authorizes Highway Superintendent Vinnie Duffield to attend the Annual Highway School at Cornell June 6-7, 2022, at a cost not to exceed \$600.00.

D. Police Department

1. Ratify decision to hire Nicole Fields as a Discovery Officer

RESOLUTION 71-22

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

RESOLVED, that the Town Board hereby ratifies the decision made in Executive Session to hire Nicole Fields as an on-call part-time Discovery Officer in the Police Department at a rate of \$33.50/hour effective April 5, 2022.

2. Ratify decision to approve new job title for Police Officer William Pataky

RESOLUTION 72-22

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

RESOLVED, that the Town Board hereby ratifies the decision made in Executive Session to approve a change in title for Police Officer William Pataky to Detective at a pay rate of \$43.08/hour effective April 5, 2022.

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3. Ratify decision to approve retirement and reinstatement of Police Officer Stephen Mulcahy

RESOLUTION 73-22

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

RESOLVED, that the Town Board hereby ratifies the decision made in Executive Session to approve the retirement and reinstatement of Police Officer Stephen Mulcahy, effective April 26, 2022 and April 27, 2022 respectively.

E. Town Clerk

1. Approve Proud Day Special Event Permit Application and banner request

RESOLUTION 74-22

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

RESOLVED, that the Town Board hereby approves the Pound Ridge Partnership's Special Event Permit Application for Proud Day on June 4, 2022, as well as its request to hang a banner in the business district from May 20 through June 6, 2022.

2. Approve Food Truck Friday Special Use Permit Application and banner request

RESOLUTION 75-22

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

RESOLVED, that the Town Board hereby approves the Pound Ridge Partnership's Special Use Permit application for Food Truck Fridays on May 20, June 17, July 15, August 12, and September 9, 2022, as well as its request to hang a banner in the business district approximately one week before each event date.

3. Approve Kahlo Special Use Permit Application

RESOLUTION 76-22

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

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RESOLVED, that the Town Board hereby approves the Special Use Permit Application for a food truck to be parked in front of Kahlo from April through October of 2022.

4. Approve sale of cemetery plot

RESOLUTION 77-22

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

RESOLVED, that the Town Board hereby approves the sale of Plot 95-1 in Section 3 (one gravesite) to Carol and Jerome Brown, of 850 East Main Street, Apartment 312, Stamford, CT 06902, at a price of \$1,000.00

F. Conservation Board – Approval to hang Arbor Day banner

RESOLUTION 78-22

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

RESOLVED, that the Town Board hereby approves the Conservation Board's request to hang an Arbor Day banner in the business district from April 23 through April 30, 2022.

G. Planning Board – Approval for return of unused escrow

RESOLUTION 79-22

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

RESOLVED, that the Town Board hereby approves the return of unused Planning Board escrow #3711 to Jennifer Magnone, of 111 Horseshoe Hill Road, in the amount of \$2,488.00.

H. Receiver of Taxes – Approval of refunds

RESOLUTION 80-22

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

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RESOLVED, that the Town Board hereby approves the following tax refunds:

<u>Block and lot</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Reason</u>
9824-6.92	\$5,403.70	duplicate payment
9316-1	\$144.67	duplicate payment
9317-66.94	\$8,935.26	duplicate payment
9816-20	\$5,488.80	duplicate payment
9455-31	\$21.27	duplicate payment
10263-21	\$5,871.74	duplicate payment
10263-61	\$302.68	overpayment
9031-53	\$74.82	overpayment
9317-93	\$71.21	overpayment
10047-52	\$6.00	overpayment
10263-55	\$5.76	overpayment
10263-83	\$2.02	overpayment
9452-135	\$0.01	overpayment

I. Recreation

1. Approve change order for playground equipment

RESOLUTION 81-22

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

RESOLVED, that the Town Board hereby approves a change order for the installation of three previously approved springer rides at a cost of \$3,408.57.

2. Approve purchase of story walk frames

RESOLUTION 82-22

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

RESOLVED, that the Town Board hereby approves the purchase of story walk frames and posts at a cost of up to \$5,440.00, to be reimbursed by donations from the Morgenthau Foundation and the Friends of Pound Ridge.

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3. Approve refund

RESOLUTION 83-22

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

RESOLVED, that the Town Board hereby approves a refund of an overpayment of camp fees in the amount of \$185.00 to Nicole Quinn Gevertz, of 28 Old Logging Road.

J. Water Control Commission – Approval for bond release

RESOLUTION 84-22

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

RESOLVED, that the Town Board hereby approves the refund of Water Control Commission bond #2021-27 in the amount of \$4,000.00 to Dr. Luciano Tuluca, of 70 Park View Road.

VII. ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business to come before the Board, Supervisor Hansan adjourned the meeting at 10:01 pm.

Erin Trostle, Town Clerk
Dated at Pound Ridge, New York
May 2, 2022