**REGULAR MEETING**

**TOWN OF ELIZABETHTOWN**

**DECEMBER 17,2024**

A Regular Meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Elizabethtown, County of Essex in the State of New York was held at the Town Hall, 7563 Court Street, Elizabethtown, NY 12932 on December 17, 2024, and the public was welcome to attend in person or via GoToMeeting.

PRESENT: Cathleen Reusser-Supervisor

 Jeffrey Allott-Councilperson

 William Wright-Councilperson

 Ben Morris-Councilperson

 Adam Bailey-Councilperson

GUESTS: Greg Swart, Dylan Thisse, Mike Dunsmore and Harry Gough and Megan Hall via GoToMeeting

This meeting started at 6:30 PM

**BUSINESS:**

1. WRIGHT PIERCE/MACKENZIE WATROBA PRESENTATION ASSET MGMT PLAN-Dylan Thisse from Wright Pierce gave a presentation regarding management of our drinking water assets and could incorporate the sewer when that is ready. He has done this for various towns in Essex County. He explained what Asset Management is, where they are from, how long they have been in the area and what “assets” are. He explained about this regarding our water system infrastructure. They will send the hard copy and USB sometime in January for the town to review.
2. SUOZZO, DOTY & ASSOCIATES-Engineer Greg Swart spoke, and the town is down to one last big decision which is method and location of the where the wastewater effluent will go. He explained the various places that were looked at and gave an overview of the options for wastewater discharge. The next big step in the first quarter of 2025 is to finalize SEQR and Bonding. Discussion on where the building will be on the Golf Course. Councilperson Morris asked if there could be a combination ground and water discharge and was told yes but the cost would be double. Mr Swart said the next step is to update the Engineering report and include all the testing results. There is a call with DEC and EFC to review what was found and to see if there is anything else that needs to be done. He feels we stand pretty good with scoring. The Supervisor explained about the timing of bonding and the BAN.

**RESOLUTION NO. 185-24**

Motion to put on the table for discussion and approval the Suozzo, Doty & Associates contract offered by Councilperson Bailey and seconded by Councilperson Morris. Roll call vote held.

Councilperson Bailey-Yes

Councilperson Wright-yes

Councilperson Allott-yes

Councilperson Morris-Yes

Supervisor Reusser-yes

With 5 yes votes this motion carries.

-The next Wastewater meeting will be January 7, 2025, at 1:30 pm.

3. COBBLE HILL GOLF COURSE-P&L-Will do a review with the Supervisors Clerk on Monday December 23rd.

**RESOLUTION NO. 186-24**

Motion to approve the November 19, 2024, Public Hearing minutes for Restore New York offered by Councilperson Allott and seconded by Councilperson Morris. All in favor. Motion carried.

AYES-5 Supervisor Reusser NAYS-0

 Councilperson Allott

 Councilperson Morris

 Councilperson Wright

 Councilperson Bailey

**RESOLUTION NO. 187-24**

Motion to approve the November 19, 2024, 2025 Budget Hearing minutes offered by Councilperson Morris and seconded by Councilperson Bailey. All in favor. Motion carried.

AYES-5 Supervisor Reusser NAYS-0

 Councilperson Morris

 Councilperson Bailey

 Councilperson Allott

 Councilperson Wright

**RESOLUTION NO. 188-24**

Motion to approve the November 19, 2024, Regular Meeting minutes offered by Councilperson Allott and seconded by Councilperson Bailey. All in favor. Motion carried.

AYES-5 Supervisor Reusser NAYS-0

 Councilperson Allott

 Councilperson Bailey

 Councilperson Wright

 Councilperson Morris

**RESOLUTION NO. 189-24**

Motion to approve the November 20, 2024, Emergency Meeting to correct a calculation error in the 2025 Budget offered by offered by Councilperson Wright and seconded by Councilperson Allott. The Supervisor explained that the Tax Cap is 1.8% so it is still under the 2% cap. All in favor. Motion carried.

AYES-5 Supervisor Reusser NAYS-0

 Councilperson Wright

 Councilperson Allott

 Councilperson Morris

 Councilperson Bailey

**RESOLUTION NO. 190-24**

Motion to approve the December 3, 2024, Wastewater/Regular Meeting offered by Councilperson Bailey and seconded by Councilperson Allott. All in favor. Motion carried.

AYES-5 Supervisor Reusser NAYS-0

 Councilperson Bailey

 Councilperson Allott

 Councilperson Morris

 Councilperson Wright

1. EMS DISTRICT CONTRACT 2025-RESOLUTION, INDEPENDENT FINANCIAL REVIEW-The Elizabethtown-Lewis Ambulance sent the Town the 2025 Contract. It denotes that the Town has an Ambulance District for the cost of $ 216,671.60 to be collected from the Land Taxes.

**RESOLUTION NO. 191-24**

Motion to sign the contract with the Elizabethtown-Lewis Ambulance Squad offered by Councilperson Bailey and seconded by Councilperson Wright. All in favor. Motion

carried.

AYES-5 Supervisor Reusser NAYS-0

 Councilperson Bailey

 Councilperson Wright

 Councilperson Allott

 Councilperson Morris

-Councilperson Allott questioned if Lewis is still planning on trying to form a district and was told yes. The Supervisor said that the Independent Financial Review for the Squad was done and was pleased with the findings with only a recommendation for them to move from a cash-based accounting system to accrual.

-Discussed reimbursement and the possibility of a County wide Ambulance service.

6. REDUNDANT WATER-DEED UPDATE-The deed for the Foot Bridge Lane property will be done before the end of the year.

7. DRINKING WATER-INSPECTION REPORT AND PUMP (LAYNE)-Gave an update to Jack Dodson regarding the pump and asked him for information. The Board discussed the issue with the pump.

-In mid-August there was an inspection of the New Russia and Etown water systems. New Russia had no violations, but Etown had 3. One is critical and 2 were deficiencies. Many of the violations will be remedied when the new chlorination building, and the redundant water system goes in. The Supervisor showed the board the report and the estimate of $5,200.00 for the new pump and installation.

**RESOLUTION NO. 192-24**

Motion to sign the order for the new pump and installation for an estimate of $5,200.00 offered by Councilperson Morris and seconded by Councilperson Wright. All in favor. Motion carried.

AYES-5 Supervisor Reusser NAYS-0

 Councilperson Morris

 Councilperson Wright

 Councilperson Bailey

 Councilperson Allott

8. WASTEWATER TREATMENT-UPDATE-Councilperson Bailey said the water quality testing came back “hot” for levels more than what is liked which should satisfy what the agencies are looking for.

-Councilperson Allott said that they had gone and talked with Assemblyman Jones who seemed very interested in helping.

9. 45TH ANNUAL DOC LOPEZ RUN FOR HEALTH APRIL 27, 2025-Councilperson Allott said the timers might not be available on April 27th and they were wondering if it could be moved to the 4th of May. Might be an issue because the Course is open then. The Supervisor signed the agreement for the run.

10. HIGHWAY-FEMA UPDATE- The Supervisor expressed how they are close to done and the submissions are being sent in.

11. H & T CHARLES TUTUNJIAN-BRAINARD’S FORGE, NOBLE TERRACE-He is working on the plans for Brainard’s Forge and Noble Terrace bridges. Supervisor Reusser said that it was decided that they didn’t want to do the 3-sided culvert. The Supervisor will discuss with Mr. Tutunjian what they plan on.

12. DCO-An ad was run for the position of Dog Control Officer, but no one has applied. The present DCO has a recommendation, and the Supervisor has reached out to this person.

13. The Youth Commission has received grant funding for Boquet Valley Youth Commission to build a Baseball field at Noble Terrace. It would be about $15,000.00. Discussion held on how long this has been in the works etc.

14. The Supervisor explained about a Notice of Claim that the town is named on. It does not involve a town road or right of way, so the town is asking to be removed from this claim. NYMIR attorneys are handling this.

15. ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING DATE FOR JANUARY 2025- Decision was made to have on January 21st at 6 PM.

-Councilperson Morris asked if there is a timeline for the ARPA monies and it was said that the funds must be under contract by December 31, 2024, or we lose it. Discussed using it for various projects. The Supervisor said that $4,300.00 was spent on Williamson Law for the Supervisors Clerk program. More discussion on where it could be used.

**COMMITTEES:**

16. HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT-Discussed already.

17. WATER DISTRICT-Discussed already.

18. BUILDINGS & CODES-No discussion.

19. PLANNING BOARD/ZONING BOARD-No discussion.

20. COBBLE HILL GOLF COURSE-Discussed already.

21. YOUTH COMMISSION-Discussed already.

22. TRAILS-No discussion.

23. GARBAGE-No discussion.

**FINANCIALS:**

TRANSFERS

**RESOLUTION NO.193-24**

Motion to approve the Transfers offered by Councilperson Wright and seconded by Councilperson Allott. All in favor. Motion carried.

AYES-5 Supervisor Reusser NAYS-0

 Councilperson Wright

 Councilperson Allott

 Councilperson Morris

 Councilperson Wright

SUPERVISORS REPORT

**RESOLUTION NO. 194-24**

Motion to approve the Supervisors Report offered by Councilperson Morris and seconded by Councilperson Bailey. All in favor. Motion carried

AYES-5 Supervisor Reusser NAYS-0

 Councilperson Morris

 Councilperson Bailey

 Councilperson Wright

 Councilperson Allott

PAY ALL BILLS

**RESOLUTION NO. 195-24**

Motion to pay all bills for Abstract #12 ABS 11-1 to 11-47 offered by Councilperson Wright and seconded by Councilperson Allott. All in favor. Motion carried.

AYES-5 Supervisor Reusser NAYS-0

 Councilperson Wright

 Councilperson Allott

 Councilperson Bailey

 Councilperson Morris

Resolved that the following bills be paid.

General Fund $59,935.00 PAID $72.00

Highway Fund $17,202.49

Sidewalk District $ 0.00

Garbage District $ 53.68

Lighting District $ 1,019.32

Water District 3 $18,735.80

Water Capital 2020 $ 91.34

Recreation Grant $11,473.71

**RESOLUTION NO. 196-24**

Motion to go into Executive Session at 8:23 PM to discuss personnel issues offered by Supervisor Reusser and seconded by Councilperson Allott. All in favor. Motion carried.

AYES-5 Supervisor Reusser NAYS-0

 Councilperson Allott

 Councilperson Morris

 Councilperson Wright

 Councilperson Bailey

**RESOLUTION NO. 197-24**

Motion to leave Executive Session at 9:00 PM offered by Supervisor Reusser. and seconded by Councilperson Allott. All in favor. Motion carried.

AYES-5 Supervisor Reusser NAYS-0

 Councilperson Allott

 Councilperson Bailey

 Councilperson Wright

 Councilperson Morris

This meeting was adjourned at 9:00 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Janet E. Cross,

Town Clerk