**REGULAR MEETING**

**TOWN OF ELIZABETHTOWN**

**APRIL 16, 2024**

The 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 on April 16, 2024, and the public could attend in person or via GoToMeeting.

PRESENT: Cathleen Reusser-Supervisor

William Wright-Councilperson

Ben Morris-Councilperson

Adam Bailey-Councilperson

Jeffrey Allott-Councilperson

GUESTS: Aaron Wolff, Bruce Pushee, Mary McGowan, Charlie Moisan, Alana Perry (Sun News), Patty Bashaw, Ethan Farmer, Paige Saltamach, Gordon Costin, Evelyn Hatch & Mike Dunsmore.

The following attended by GoToMeeting: Harry Gough, Bridgett Allen, and Megan Hall.

This meeting was called to order at 6:30 PM.

**RESOLUTION NO. 82-24**

Motion to accept the minutes of the March 19, 2024, meeting was 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

**BUSINESS:**

1. WATER- Regarding the redundant water system going in at Foot Bridge Lane, it is moving along, and the Supervisor is working with the County Attorney to transfer the County property that is needed to the Town of Elizabethtown. Hydro Source is who the town will use, and the Town is now on their calendar.
2. WASTE WATER TREATMENT-Supervisor Reusser said the project should be renamed Water Reclamation. Councilpersons Allott and Bailey are working with KSPE, and they gave an update on the project. Councilperson Bailey said that as of last week KSPE has rebranded to Suozzo, Doty & Associates. The big next step is narrowing down where the system will go. Next Tuesday there will be a workshop from 5:00 pm to 6:30 pm in the Board Room to discuss this. There will be another workshop on May 7th from 6:30 pm to 8:00 pm. Working on getting the necessary funding lined up and showing the State and Federal Agencies that the Town does in fact need the system. Councilperson Allott stated that they have been working with the County and there is lots of energy around this project. Councilperson Bailey said that there will be a website up soon dedicated to this project. The Supervisor said that the Intermunicipal Agreement with the County is a supportive Agreement not a monetary or services agreement. Just that the County sees this project as being needed.
3. HIGHWAY-Very busy cleaning up the Golf Course and sweeping streets.
4. ZONING-Codes Officer Costin said he was waiting on the ZBA for answers on a few projects. He said it has been busy now that the weather is getting warmer.
5. BUDGET-The Supervisor gave the bills to the Board and also said that the Town needs them to sign off that they have completed the Sexual Harassment Course.
6. COBBLE HILL GOLF COURSE-LEASE VS PURCHASE: Michael Dunsmore was introduced as the new Golf Course Manager. Been busy cleaning up from winter. He spoke and said the Club House has been cleaned up and reorganized. Starting to clean up the Fairways and soon aerating the greens. Hoping to open May 3rd.

-The Club House roof sustained damage during a wind event in March. A lot of shingles were blown off and damage was done to the pavilion as well. A claim was submitted to the insurance

company who sent out an adjustor. The Town has received 3

estimates for repair which the Board looked at. Discussion on metal roofing as opposed to shingles and the cost. Submitting

Gates proposal to the Insurance Company to see what they say.

**RESOLUTION NO. 83-24**

Motion to submit Gates Roofing proposal to NYMER 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

1. BOARD MEMBER EMAIL ADDRESSES-It was asked if anyone on

the Board would like their own town email address. Councilperson Allott was the only one who said yes.

-Re: item 6-CHGC-The Board had 2 proposals regarding the Golf Carts. Mike Dunsmore gave an explanation on the town-owned carts and the issues with them. He said that they would like to lease 15 carts and keep 6. He discussed the 3-, 4- or 5-years lease options. Gordon Costin explained about monies in the Reserve account, and they were going to purchase 2 carts this year and 2 more next year. Lots of discussion on the cost, charges for repair, the age and looks of the carts, and selling the carts ourselves. Councilperson Wright asked how much cost to the taxpayers are we going to spend to do everything that is wanted at the Course. He did not feel we should keep spending all kinds of money on the Course all at once when we are trying to get out of a hole that the taxpayers have had to pay for. He felt improvements should be spread out over time not just in 2024.

**RESOLUTION NO. 84-24**

Motion to determine if the Town will lease or purchase golf carts offered by Councilperson Allott and seconded by Councilperson Morris.

Councilperson Bailey questioned the time staff have had to use to maintain the carts. Mr. Costin explained that it took $1100.00 over 3 years to keep the carts operational, and that the Town has storage for all the carts. They do need some upgrade but that doesn't have to be done all at once. All 20 carts are operational with 2 needing to be replaced. Councilperson Allott asked if there was another cart provider and was told yes, 5 Star, but that they are usually more expensive. Supervisor Reusser said we have 21 Carts, perhaps keep 6 and sell 15. More discussion on this topic with Councilperson Allott expressing that this is an important year for the Course as people are watching now regarding profit/loss. Need to show that it’s going in the right direction profitability wise and everyone, not just the golfers, to be happy that it’s moving in the right direction. Discussion on what the Course might serve for food. It was asked to table this Motion until the Board gets more information. More discussion on leasing.

Resolution no. 84-24 was tabled until the next Board meeting which will be held on April 23rd at 4:30 PM. See Resolution 96-24 for the final vote.

**RESOLUTION NO. 85-24**

Motion to table Resolution 84-24 offered by Councilperson Wright and seconded by Councilperson Morris. All in favor. Motion carried.

AYES-5 Supervisor Reusser NAYS-0

Councilperson Wright

Councilperson Morris

Councilperson Bailey

Councilperson Allott

Councilperson Allott and Mike Dunsmore will gather more

information.

1. RESTORE NY-HALE-Northern Forest Center is purchasing the Hale House, Law library and barn. They will be turned into middle income housing.

**RESOLUTION NO. 86-24**

Motion to enter into an agreement with Northern Forest which reads; WHEREAS the Town of Elizabethtown is eligible for grant funding under Round 8 of the Restore NY Communities Initiative Municipal Grant Program, and

WHEREAS the Town Council has considered proposals that qualify for funding under the program and selected one project to be included in an application that will be submitted to Empire State Development Corporation (ESDC) as follows:

-Rehabilitation of the historic Hale House and Hale Law Library in the Town of Elizabethtown. The project will rehabilitate the vacant 6,572 square foot main house and vacant 1,400 law library both at 14 Lawrence Way, into 5 units of middle-income housing.

WHEREAS this project is consistent with all existing local plans, the proposed financing is appropriate for the project, the project will facilitate effective and efficient use of existing and future public resources so as to promote both economic development and preservation of community resources and the project develops and enhances infrastructure and/or other facilities in a manner that will attract, create and sustain employment opportunities in the Town of Elizabethtown.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Council hereby supports and will sponsor an application for Restore NY funding for 14 Lawrence Way and will administer the grant in accordance with all applicable rules and regulations established by ESDC, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED the Town Supervisor is authorized to sign the applications and any agreements required by ESDC for grant funding that results from the application.

Councilperson Bailey recused himself as he works for NFC.

This motion was offered by Councilperson Allott and seconded by Councilperson Morris

It was explained that this was for administrative purposes only. Councilperson Morris asked if there were any plans for it and was told not now. It was explained that it is historical property. It will be added to the tax roll after purchase, as it isn’t at this time.

All in favor. Motion carried.

AYES-4 Supervisor Reusser NAYS-0

Councilperson Allott

Councilperson Morris

Councilperson Wright

ABSTAIN: Councilperson Bailey

1. E’TOWN DAY-JULY 20th-The Supervisor will see what the Chamber has planned. Councilperson Wright explained that the Fire Company organizes it. The Chamber usually pays for the marching band.

10.The town is updating the town’s Credit Card.

**RESOLUTION NO. 87-24**

Motion to apply for a Visa Account offered by Councilperson Wright and seconded by Councilperson Allott. All in favor. Motion

carried.

AYES-5 Supervisor Reusser NAYS-O

Councilperson Wright

Councilperson Allott

Councilperson Morris

Councilperson Bailey

**COMMITTEES:**

11.YOUTH COMMISSION-Paige Saltamach said that they are writing grants for more youth facilities, equipment, and infrastructure. Working on where they will play their games.

12.HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT-Regarding the Noble Terrace Bridge, they have received a report from Charles T Engineering which gave 2 options. Fix the road going through the Trailer Park as a permanent town road for approximately half a million dollars or replace the existing bridge which will be over a million of dollars. The supervisor asked for a more detailed plan for a bridge. Patty Bashaw from the Ambulance Squad said that it is difficult to get an ambulance through the Trailer Park. Discussion on a temporary steel plate being used over the damaged bridge.

13.TRAILS-Councilperson Allott said the trail Committee is being re-invigorated. Have met with BETA. The Trail Center is coming along and will be done by September. Golfers will be able to use its bathroom. Kiosks will be added at some point.

14.WATER-Discussed already.

15.PLANNING Board/Zoning Board-No discussion.

16.COBBLE HILL GOLF COURSE-Discussed already.

17. BUILDING & CODES- No discussion.

18.GARBAGE-No discussion.

19.Councilperson Bailey said following up on the Deep Hollow Pond and Memorial Park grant monies, Anna Reynolds from the County had reached out to him about getting movement behind this project.

-Supervisor Reusser spoke about an Ambulance district questioned where the ambulance responds to even if it’s not in the Town’s itself. More discussion on insurance reimbursement.

**FINANCIALS:**

TRANSFERS

**RESOLUTION NO. 88-24**

Motion to approve the Transfers 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

The Supervisor wanted the Board to know that the ARPA funds are sitting in a NYCLASS account. She is using that to pay the engineering consulting fees.

SUPERVISORS REPORT

**RESOLUTION NO. 89-24**

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

AYES-5 Supervisor Reusser NAYS-0

Councilperson Wright

Councilperson Morris

Councilperson Allott

Councilperson Bailey

PAY ALL BILLS

**RESOLUTION NO. 90-24**

Motion to pay all bills for Abstract #4 ABS April 4-1 to 4-40 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 bill(s) were paid:  
General Fund A $ 847.52

Resolved that the following bills be paid:

General Fund A $ 42,321.07

Highway Fund DA $ 4,667.88

Garbage District $ 0.00

Lighting District $ 244.10

Water District SW 1 $ 0.00

Water District SW 3 $ 4, 288.23

Water Capital 2020 $ 89.89

Recreation Grant $ 1,219.34

**COMMENTS:**

Councilperson Allott said that the Doc. Lopez Run is next Sunday the 28th.

**RESOLUTION 91-24**

Motion to accept the Map Plan and Report with the forthcoming updates offered by Councilperson Allott and seconded by Councilperson Wright. All in favor. Motion carried.

AYES-5 Supervisor Reusser NAYS-0

Councilperson Allott

Councilperson Wright

Councilperson Morris

Councilperson Bailey

-Harry Gough asked if there has been any interest in the position on the Planning Board and was told no.

**RESOLUTION 92-24**

Motion to adjourn the meeting 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

This meeting was adjourned at 8:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Janet E. Cross

Town Clerk