

**Minutes for a Ticonderoga Regular Town Board Meeting held on February 9, 2023,
commencing at 6:00 p.m. with Public Hearings regarding a repeal of LL #3-2007 for the
Administration & Enforcement of NYS uniform Fire Prevention & Bldg Code and
regarding EMS Services in the Town**

Present: Mark A. Wright, Supervisor
Dave Woods, Councilman
Joyce Cooper, Councilwoman
Tom Thatcher, Councilman
Tom Cunningham, Councilman
Matthew Fuller, Town Attorney
Tonya M. Thompson, Town Clerk

Others: Heath Towne, Wayne Taylor, Laura Wright, Mike LaVallie, Deb & Jack Mulcahy, Lucky & Loretta Euber, Renee Kennedy, Patty Cook, Corinna Woods, Anne Morette, Mickey Fitzgerald, Jordan Quesnel, Cole Plumstead, Michael Thompson, Jeff Greenough, Jr., Scott Cook, Zack Stagg, Shaundra Yaw, Samantha Montville, Matt Watts, Marge Cross, Nicole Justice-Greene, Robert Crammond, Tim Hailiday, Greg Swart, Brenda Wells, Keith & Patti Osier, Frank Sheldon, Bob Dedrick, John Shehadi, Anthony Watkins and many others in person (standing room only). Via Go-To- Meeting, Tim Rowland, Dave Cerry, Keith Park, Kim Clifton, Mara Dix, B. Clifton, Mark Wilson, Rolf Tiedemann and others

Supervisor Wright called the meeting to order and recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Opening Remarks

No COVID updates or Board of Health reports.

Presentations

Supervisor Wright invited Sole Assessor, Patti Osier to the floor to speak, he understands that she is resigning her position with the Town. You may be turning your resignation letter in and your keys tonight, that is fine. The board and he and certainly the residents appreciate everything and for your many years of service. Please come up.

Patti Osier stated that she actually wanted to talk to her people that have been receiving the card in the mail. An update for those that she hasn't talked to on the phone that the card was due to a mass mailing that was mandated from the Governor. We had to do two mailings so one was on the back of your tax bill and the other was this post card that went out. What it is for, is to remind people to check to see where you are with your exemptions. There are two exemptions, there is a basic star and there is an enhanced star. To be on the enhanced star, you have to be 65 and older and your income has to be less than \$93,200.00. That is what the card is about and then the other reminder that she wanted to do is, she has a list of seniors that have to come in to her every year to show her their income and she has a lot of them that have not showed up here and they have to have the information to her by March 1st. We have to make a copy of their income. She has a list, which she is leaving with the Supervisor, so that somebody can notify these people because they have to be in by March 1st. Her resignation, which is going in today, meaning she will be getting done next Friday. You locked her out of her computer tonight, so she couldn't go in to do some stuff for somebody...

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Supervisor Wright stated that he does not know anything about being locked out of the computer.

Mrs. Osier stated that she went up to get in to her computer and it was locked up. She does not know who did it, but...what is really sad, she has been in this Town for 16 years working here and she has a great repour with all the people in this Town and she really, it is not that she wants to leave, it is just that she asked you people to have a 2% or 3% raise, she is a Town worker, just like everybody else. She knows you all think that she is a 2 day person and she makes a lot of money, but she is not 2 days, she is like you 24/7. When she goes in to a store or goes in to eat dinner or wherever she goes in Ticonderoga, she is always approached and she is always asked questions, so she is not just two days, she is like you 24/7. So, it is really sad that she is treated that way, so again, so she is trying to get her evaluation book up and her exemption book up to par before she leaves next week. When she goes, she does not know who will be getting her phone messages, they have to go to somebody. You will have to let her know on Tuesday, when she is done. Then, here is her list of people that you will need to contact, here you go. Her keys will be handed in to Tonya at 4:00 p.m. when she leaves.

Supervisor Wright stated for the record, he is not going to get into personnel matters, but for the record, every employee received a 2% raise...

Mrs. Osier stated that she did not get one, look on her budget... she did not get one, she gets the same amount of money that she has been getting the last few years, so, you did not give her one.

Fiscal Advisors & Marketing - John Shehadi & Anthony Watkins

Supervisor Wright explained that he asked John and Anthony to come to the board to discuss some of the products that they have. We have a number of capital project which have associated grant amounts for certain projects and a lot of times there are local matches and over time as they accumulate it really creates a tax burden on the tax payers so we are trying to get to the point where we can understand how much the Town can financially bear with the projects that we have currently going on and what are we looking toward in the future.

John Shehadi explained that they are a municipal advisory service that is based in Syracuse and we have an office in Saratoga. Fiscal was founded in 1967 and he is a former CEO and is probably in his last year there, he is 72. He was a part-time Comptroller for a Town in Syracuse, where he worked for 44 years there. There agenda was maybe 1 or 2 pages and this Town's agenda is 4 (laughs). What we do is assist municipalities, school district in borrowing money and setting rates either for water or sewer rated for general tax rates or highway rates to collect the debts. If you are considering borrowing money and we know the fund and either the unit count or the assessed values, we run schedules of estimated debt service based on market conditions, to give you an idea of what those projects would cost. You don't have to do one at a time, if you have a number of different schedules to meet, we can consolidate them into one issue to make it more attractive to the banking community. We also assisted in rate studies and we have a specialist, Kelly Latham, who is our guru for water and waste, we see you have a 5

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million dollar award and you have a local share. Those are the kinds of things that she can do. We work in concert with your engineers, we don't duplicate efforts, but if you want our service, we provide it however it works. When it comes to borrowing, we have a set fee schedule, we have to we are registered with the FCC and the MSRP and they require us to give you a tax bracket that delineates line by line, purpose for purpose what our fees would be.

Andrew Watkins continued explaining that any borrowing you would have, we would work with that in creating the official statement for each issue or borrowing. You would have multiple municipal advisors doing that and providing comments and questions back to make sure that the appropriate disclosures are all made to the market and it is done in an upright fashion. In addition to the borrowing, we would really act as a head point for it as well, so, when you do borrowing you do have various different legal counsels, bond counsels, local counsels all working on it, but we are the point guard for the Town where we kind of, they all have separate rolls, but we are the main contact helping everybody move the issue along.

Supervisor Wright asked how we would go about the process of, we would give you the information of all of our various capital projects and the associated information and requirements for the grant such as matching. Is this something that you would look at and evaluate.

Mr. Shehadi explained as it says in here, the FCC requires us to have that written agreement in place. It doesn't have to be prior to us doing any work, but within reasonable insurance that we are going to have a contract in the near future. We will be happy to provide you that information.

Councilman Cunningham believes what we have talked about here with the Town Board is that we pretty much know where we are with our present grants, loans and money. What we would like to be able to do is have some kind of an idea going forward what the sticking point is if you will. So, we know we have some multiple projects out there coming up and we need to get some funding and grants, but before we get a five million dollar grant to do an eight million dollar project and we still need this three million dollars and you can do that year after year after year, but at what point does it become financially unfeasible for the community to abstain from that going forward. If we have a project and grant money coming in and it is matching funds, is that a project that we feel comfortable moving forward with or should we not because it would put too much of a tax burden on them.

Mr. Shahadi stated that we would put a schedule together and go from there.

Supervisor Wright stated that some of our projects are mandated projects, if we know where we are, then it will help us decide on those that aren't mandatory and the things that we do want to accomplish over time we will know when to schedule those out.

Mr. Watkins agreed that this is another thing that we drag along the way too is just that you have these various projects and this might be longer down the line but, as some of that debt falls off where would you want to start and add a new project. We would help you fill in that gap of the

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debt that is falling off and going away, but you are still maximizing those tax dollars that you are already putting out and bringing into the community.

Matthew Fuller introduced himself and explained that part of why you ended up here is the work we've done in Whitehall. Doug Goodfriend is our bond counsel.

Public Hearing

Local Law Repealing Local Law 3 of 2007 for the Administration & Enforcement of NYS Uniform Fire Prevention & Bldg Code

Supervisor Wright explained that this takes care of some old business. We had already repealed the amendment and installed the new law but had never gotten around to repealing this law in 2007.

No Public Comment.

Public hearing closed at 6:17 p.m.

EMS Services in Ticonderoga

Supervisor Wright explained that we did hold a Public Workshop on February second regarding EMS. We exchanged a lot of great information and learned a lot. We had a lot of subject matter experts here to discuss the different areas of the EMS. A lot of information is on the Town website right now under the meeting section and it was put there in anticipation of tonight's meeting. Last night Ti EMS had an open house and sadly to report, only a few people showed up. That is unfortunate. He is sure Lamoille is also open for anyone who wants to go in and ask questions about EMS services and what they provide and entail. Events like this, these open houses and other events like this are your opportunity to ask questions, learn information and make informed decisions. So, it is unfortunate that only a few people chose to participate last night. It is important for the board to hear everyone's comments on this subject regarding EMS. EMS is no different than any other service like Police and Fire, when you need, you need it. Unfortunately, as he has said in the past, those services come with a cost. He cautions everyone in regarding what you may believe what this service costs and how it can be funded. Fund raisers are certainly beneficial, but you are not going to pay an EMT salary by having a bake sale. Grants are great, they help alleviate expenses, but you do not plan an affective budget based on grants, which are not guaranteed revenue year after year. The Town in the past has supplemented some EMS funding for one or two years it was \$30,000.00, last year it was \$70,000.00, these were not the costs of Ti EMS, these were Band-Aids that funded for some shortfalls. Please, don't think that is what it costs, EMS services can cost anywhere from 300 to 500 thousand dollars a year or more depending on a number of factors. The Town does feel a moral responsibility in this area to do what we can to provide services for residents. Whatever is in our authority and capability that we can do. Basically, we have 3 options here 1: Take no action – no funding, when you dial 911 whatever the responding agency is whether it be local or remote, responds. 2: Establish an EMS district 3: Fund an EMS service through

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appropriations in the budget. Option 2 and 3 really involve the same amount of money, it is just how it is funded and collected, the whole subject of EMS district has been discussed a number of times, there is a lot of information he had with some information on the website. There is other information out there, you can talk to your EMS providers and learn about that. Right now, the floor will be open to speak.

Laura Wright

Before I speak tonight, I wanted to say that my comments are not directed towards specific people. I am removing people out of this equation because we are talking longevity, and in 5 years the people in these organizations may be changed. I would also like to say that I am not an expert in this situation. I took some time and did some research, read the notes of the recent EMS workshop, spoke with individuals at the Ti EMS at length, and have spoken to some of my friends about their experiences. What I have to say is MY opinion, and is not necessarily the opinion of my husband, who is the Town of Ticonderoga Supervisor.

I am in total favor of funding Ticonderoga EMS.

In 2014, the town of Lockport, NY, a population of just over 20,000 people, made cuts to their town budget, which resulted in the loss of their town funded ambulance service. A for-profit ambulance company expanded their services to cover Lockport and so ambulance services continued. Just last month, due to staffing shortages, the for-profit ambulance company discontinued coverage of Lockport. At this time, Lockport has no local ambulance coverage and times to reach patients from other towns is, on the average, over 30 minutes. The town is now scrambling trying to decide what to do.

Before this situation happened in Lockport, I was not in favor of turning our emergency services completely over to a for profit company, in this case, Lamoille. Our Ti EMS is struggling because of the costs that they cannot bill for....the calls that cannot be billed...Lamoille has stated they would take over all of the calls, and I would assume that includes the calls that can't be billed, resulting in costs to Lamoille that would result in lost monies. As a for-profit, monies can be moved around from other parts of the company to compensate, but I would imagine that wouldn't be sustainable. Lamoille stated in a letter to the town that they have been here since 1996 and will remain in Ticonderoga regardless of the decision made by the Town Board. I would like to take them up on that and ask them to stay in their current capacity, with Ti EMS being the primary ambulance service in town, and thank them for their continued service.

But how does the Ti EMS get funded? I have seen previous town leadership put our EMS leaders through a dog and pony show, making them provide information that is just not necessary to get a measly \$20,000 check for their annual funding. I am witnessing current

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town leadership addressing this issue with much more respect and support. I am mentioning this, because this indifferent support, depending on government leadership, is one of the reasons I am leaning towards a district for the Ti EMS. The funding of such an imperative service to our residents should not depend on how the town leaders happen to be feeling in that particular term or creative funding as in being promised by others or creative funding as is being promised by others. As I understand it, the town would still be involved in the budgeting of the EMS District, but not in the

*the tax levy base would be expanded to include some exempt properties who are currently not paying property taxes. If we did not go with a district and just funded Ti EMS through budget appropriations, these exempt properties would not be taxed.

*a district, based on my research, would be more of a guarantee of longevity for our Ti EMS. We have a fire district, and there is no discussion about how important this service is and I have never heard someone talk about doing away with it. I don't want the Ti EMS to have to fight for survival every year, or even every 10 years. Let's put things in place now, to insure our children, grandchildren and their children are able to benefit from Ti EMS.

*a district would be a more stable career choice for those up and coming EMTs and EMS staff.

So, what has changed, you ask, for this to suddenly become such a major financial issue? Ti EMS has been an important fixture in Ticonderoga for over 74 years. More than likely, each and every one of us has known someone that volunteered or worked for the Ti EMS over those 74 years. Some of you, yourselves, volunteered for the Ti EMS. According to a letter submitted to the Town by the Ti EMS, some of the biggest concerns revolves around the lack of volunteerism. Some people have multiple jobs to make ends meet but are still required to spend hours of their own time training. There are only so many hours in a day. Something has to give. Volunteering does not pay your bills. A few years ago, Essex County required paid staffing to ensure the best chance of avoiding dropped calls. They paid for the funding the first year, but now payroll falls onto Ti EMS. This, along with skyrocketing costs for medical supplies, utilities, etc. has resulted in a huge financial hit to our beloved n EMS. New York State and Medicaid restrictions have only added to the negative financial impact. Our ambulances have gone from a vessel used for transport to the local hospital, to a mobile hospital, which requires higher skill levels and additional training for the squad. As some notes I have read stated, back in the day, Nursing was a completely volunteer movement, and you can see where that has ended up today. The heart of Ti EMS continues to beat through the passions of those currently working there. Even

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with paid staff, in 2022, 4,485 volunteer hours were put in at Ti EMS. Now if that doesn't speak of the passion and care that these folks have to take care of our residents in their time of need, I don't know what would. There is also a commitment to continue a level of volunteer hours, even as a district, to help cut down on funding needs.

Multiple towns around us, Schroon Lake, Warrensburg, Lake George and others have turned to a district for their Emergency Medical Services. Districts are becoming a sign of the times.

Ti EMS has had 5 people recently pass testing to advance their skillsets, and in some cases, put them in a position to make this their career path.

Let's face it, we are not getting any younger. I turn 60 this year and, whether I like it or not, I am now labeled as part of the "aging group" and my medical needs are changing, and not for the better. My likelihood of needing to call 911 is more likely now than ever before. I, personally, cannot afford to wonder if my emergency medical services will be around as I age. I have enough things to stress about.

And talking about stress, how are we going to pay for guaranteed services? We are already taxed plenty. The Ti EMS lawyer stated the average annual increase in our taxes for a district would be around \$50 per household. I am just repeating his number, this is not a number I came up with. So, as difficult as our personal finances may be, you have to ask yourself if an average of \$50 per year or .14 a day is worth it, to know that Ti EMS would be available to take care of **us**, our/loved ones, our friends...you get the picture.

I don't want one of those people to not be in a picture I take next year because the ambulance service wasn't available.

Frank Sheldon started by saying before I go too far, he wants to say he is all for the EMS group, ok, but he is also for the people of the community that are stuck with the taxes and this year (inaudible) so he is going to tell that to you right up front. Before you even talk about appropriations, with taking more taxes from people here, you have to really think about this, ok. Number one, you need a referendum, if you are going to add a tax, you need to let people, every property owner decide that they are ok with that. You don't just get a handful of people to say we are going to do it and then do a resolution and pass it. His suggestion is, he has a check sheet here that he just threw together that can be done on a 3x5 card. Take this, look at it, send out a check sheet to every property owner in Town and let them decide if they are ok with this. If they are, wonderful, but if they are not, then

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we have to find another way to support this. Mark, he is going to tell you something, he had two people in this Town that couldn't pay their property taxes and he wrote cashiers checks out to them, he had a couple of people that couldn't pay their water and sewer taxes and he handed them \$276.00 in cash. We have a lot of people like that, we have to look at the whole. Sixty percent of our people are on a fixed income, retirees, they are, we know that. Just deciding that you are going to bring the cap up, take more money out of their pockets, \$50.00 is not going to be \$50.00 for long, it will be \$70, \$80 and \$100.00..

Supervisor Wright asked what this was based on.

Mr. Sheldon continued that he is just telling you, it never stays the same, if you are telling him that \$50.00 is going to be \$50.00 for ten years....

Supervisor Wright is not telling him anything, he is just asking how you are basing this...

Mr. Sheldon interrupted, because you are going to raise assessments, you raise property taxes, school taxes all of that, so tell him that that is not going beyond \$50.00. You can't tell me that, he isn't going to prove it, he doesn't need to because it will happen, our assessments are going up because of poor management and our money, we are paying more. He knows people, Mark, let's get real, he knows people here and this all goes back to this that got \$10,000.00 assessment increase, \$20,000.00

Supervisor Wright stated that is not to discuss assessments...

Mr. Sheldon stated, yes, it does because you don't (inaudible) this is what he is talking, this is money and you can't keep taking it out of the back of the taxpayers without trying to find another way. He is all for the people, he is not for wasteless spending and (inaudible)

Supervisor Wright stated that this is not a campaign platform for your personal agenda, if you have something to turn into the Town Clerk, please turn it in and we will look at it. (inaudible) This meeting is for the public to express their opinion on how they want to fund EMS.

Mr. Sheldon stated that this is just what he told you, he is going to give this check sheet, but this needs a referendum, do not just randomly get a handful of people and say we are

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going to pass this. That will cause more grief than you know.

SEND A CHECKSHEET OUT IN THE MAIL TO ALL OF THE TAXPAYERS

DO NOT LET A HANDFUL OF PEOPLE APPROVE A TAX FOR THE WHOLE TOWN ASK TAXPAYERS IF THEY WILL APPROVE AN ADDITIONAL TAX

DO NOT LET A HANDFUL OF PEOPLE APPROVE A TAX FOR THE WHOLE TOWN

_____ I/WE AS TAXPAYERS **APPROVE** OF AN ADDITIONAL TAX TO SUPPORT THE EMERGENCY SERVICES PROGRAM IN TICONDEROGA

_____ I/WE AS TAXPAYERS **DO NOT APPROVE** OF AN ADDITIONAL TAX TO SUPPORT THE EMERGENCY SERVICES PROGRAM IN TICONDEROGA

Councilman Cunningham stated that this is a platform to hopefully educate the people in Ticonderoga about what is presently going on. Laura, thanks for your input. What he would like to do is take a few minutes to talk about where Ticonderoga presently is with EMS. We have two separate EMS services in Ticonderoga, one is Ti EMS, which has historically provided 911 services. So, when a resident of Ticonderoga dials 911, the chances are that Ti EMS is going to show up at your doorstep and provide whatever service needs to be provided to you in home and if need be, they will take you to the mobile emergency care center, which keep in mind, Ticonderoga is not a hospital anymore, it is an emergent care unit. If service is provided there and it is determined that you need to be transported to a larger facility, historically Lamoille has provided that service over the past several years. That is their business plan, they provide transports to and from the larger facilities, Plattsburgh, Burlington, Glens Falls, maybe Middlebury. On occasion, if Ti EMS is unavailable on a different call and they can't make a 911 call, then it falls to mutual aid, which means that Lamoille may show up at your doorstep to provide that 911 service. On the other hand, if for some reason Lamoille is not available to make a transport then Ti EMS may be called upon to do so. Ti EMS, last year did 700 plus 911 calls, of those Lamoille maybe serviced 6 if that is correct and he thinks that Ti EMS did less than a handful of transports. So, the issue here is, 911 service as a business plan has become very difficult when you are running mostly 911 calls, many of those calls are unable to be collected for, you can't collect, so you show up at somebody's doorstep and it is an overdose and Ti EMS shows up and provides care, the person wakes up and they don't want to go to a facility, then you either can't bill for or they don't have insurance. Ti EMS also provides services, where someone can fall down in their home and they show up, then they

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don't bill for that service. Where Lamoille's business plan providing transports is almost always a billable service and they always get proper revenue for that to cover their costs where 911's does not always. So, even when they can bill for it and they bill for insurance purposes the insurance doesn't always cover their costs. In 2022, Ti EMS had a net loss of \$145,000.00. It appears that this year, and they have held their salaries and costs frozen in 2023 to keep them down and they haven't added any paid staff this year and they are still showing and anticipated loss and we don't know what their revenue is going to be because you don't know how many calls they will get, assuming that things stay average, they are going to show another loss of \$150 ish thousand, maybe more. If he was to anticipate that in 2024, because they will unfreeze salaries and make up that difference and they will move, eventually, to a fully paid staff as people have said that this is the direction it is going to be because the amount of training that staff members have to take and perform to ride on an ambulance is increasing and there are requirements by NYS and some are federal requirements that people are making a career out of EMS and volunteerism is dropping off and they will go to an all paid staff, which means their cost is going to increase. So, he would anticipate and also ask Ti EMS to look at a 2024 anticipated budget with the potential increase for staff and what salaries may be next year and get an idea for that cost. It would not surprise me to see their deficit in 2024 to go from \$150,000.00 to \$200,000.00, \$250,000.00. That would be his estimate, haven't seen the budget, that is a guess on his part. With that being said, Ti EMS has come to the board and one of the reasons we are here today is to discuss a few options, 1. Was to form a district and that district would be very similar to a fire district, but slightly different because it is still billable. So, if there is a district formed, the full budget goes into the tax base and it is recovered and as they perform 911 services or transports and billables, that revenue would come into the Town to offset those expenses, but you would still have whatever deficit that is being run that the Town would have to cover through a tax levy, so, the beginning balance for year one would probably be the entire operating budget for Ti EMS, which is presently a half a million dollars or so. The fact is that it costs a certain amount of money to perform their business and the business plan for 911 is relatively unsustainable as a business plan because 911 calls are hard to recover from as a stand alone business plan. The proposal from Ti EMS is to form a district or fund their losses through annual budget as a line item which we kind of have. So, what the Town is faced with is a couple of options – what the Supervisor said, we could do nothing and doing nothing would mean as it appears, that Ti EMS will not be sustainable for the next 12 – 18 months, maybe sooner and they would be out of business because you can only lose money for so many years and you go out of business, that is just a fact. We can support them through a tax district, which would take at least a year probably to form, so it would not be formed until 2024. We can say that we don't think funding Ti EMS is sustainable and we can move

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towards setting up a contract with Lamoille as Lamoille has also put a proposal in to the Town and their proposal is presently \$2,000.00 a month to perform and pick up the 911 services. So, those are the things that we need to discuss and they are the reason of why we are where we are today. We have to decide as a community, it will not be fully up to this Town Board, to make that decision, it has to be a decision by the community and we are here to try to answer any questions, Ti EMS is here, Lamoille is here to answer questions if they need to be. Those are the three options that we have. Nothing, let the cards fall where they may, form a tax district or fund Ti EMS through funding or set up a contract with Lamoille. Personally, for him, the long term solution to this problem, which is being faced by many communities is for the county to pick up EMS services and have a county funded EMS service, we don't think that is going to happen. Certainly, it is not going to happen any time soon, but that to him, would be the proper way to have EMS and then have strategic locations around the county for the ambulances to be housed and staffing to be provided. Again, that is not the situation that we are in, it is not a short term fix and it may never come to pass. That is where we are, he wanted to get that out there to try to avoid some of what we just went through so people understand why we are here and the present situation and the path moving forward.

Supervisor Wright would like to point out that the notes from our EMS workshop are on the web page, there is a lot of information there that everyone should look at. Especially in terms of what Medicaid and Medicare's involvement is, what you can recover, what you cannot recover, what NYS laws allow you to recover and not recover, so that you have a full understand of why it is difficult to recover revenue for EMS type activities. If you haven't seen that already, you should probably take a look.

Samantha Montville has been a volunteer at Ti EMS for 2 years, she just recently became paid staff as she passed her EMT course. She does other volunteer activities around the facility. She wanted to say that volunteerism is going down, but in your statement she heard a lot of probably's and maybe's about financials, we can't go off from probably's and maybe's. She knows coming in as an EMT she is very passionate about the Town and what she is doing. She for sure will be volunteering half of what she is doing now. She is getting paid full time, volunteering – she is going to do 40 hours of volunteering or whatever it may be. If they need a call pick-up, she is going to volunteer. She knows that it is hard to live on a smaller income, she is a college student and is paying out of pocket, she understands it, so, volunteerism is still there, there are people in this Town that has a heart for it. Her grandma used to volunteer for Ti EMS, it goes back many, many years. So we can't base off from probably or maybe, volunteerism is going down, but that doesn't mean that we are going to increase whatever we

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need by a quarter or a double and it is not going to happen that quick, within 2024. Those probably's and maybe's need to be stopped, there is volunteerism, there is still people that have passion and she has seen it Ti EMS is a big family, we care about everyone that is there for us including ourselves and it is something that has given her a lot of drive to do what she is doing today.

Supervisor Wright appreciates the comment and thanks her for her service and congratulations on her recent accomplishments.

Renee Kennedy handed out a letter of support.

To Whom It May Concern:

The Essex County EMS Association is a collaborative group that consists of Essex County EMS leadership, agency leadership and representatives from Essex County EMS agencies. The goal of Association is to create a forum where agencies can discuss issues and concerns, can exchange information and seek advice.

Staffing concerns and financial issues are a common topic of discussion at our meetings. Many agencies are reaching the point where it is necessary to hire personnel to supplement their volunteer coverage. One of the biggest hurdles of hiring EMS personnel is expense.

The Essex County EMS Association is in support of Ticonderoga EMS and their efforts to ensure their community has EMS coverage.

Regards,
Rebecca Crowningshield, Secretary/Treasurer Essex
county EMS Association

**Mission
Statement"**

Ticonderoga Emergency Squad is a professional healthcare team, that provides the highest quality of patient care for our community with integrity, respect and pride.

Good evening,

My name is Renee Kennedy and currently I'm the Operations Manager for Ticonderoga Emergency Squad and an Essex County employee. As we all know fire, police and EMS services are a necessary part of the community. Ticonderoga EMS

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has been in service for 74 years strong. It was approximately five years ago when Ticonderoga EMS and other surrounding communities had a significant number of dropped calls which were answered by Lamoille Ambulance Service or other mutual aid services. The County created a grant that would help in providing staff to agencies in need. It was a decision of the board to take advantage of what the County was offering. This put two full time employees in our station for daytime coverage. Through this difficulty time, volunteers continued to put in countless hours to serve the community when needed. This program was a huge success for Ticonderoga EMS but we knew this wouldn't be enough. With call volumes continuing to rise and volunteers starting to minimize we needed to look at our future. We needed to put more paid employees on to cover the night shifts along with weekend coverage. Volunteers continued to provide as much support as they could however, it was obvious, that like other surrounding communities, providers needed to start working two jobs to make ends meet.

We are so proud to announce for the past three years we have had no dropped calls. This is a huge accomplishment for our agency, and we couldn't have done this without the help of the County program and adding more paid staff on but most important the volunteers continuing to put in countless hours.

A challenge for every EMS agency in the United States right now is providing cost effective and timely treatment for patients when they need it. Just like every other business that was affected by inflation, the cost of providing help to others has increased. The cost of medications, and supplies and insurances have increased by at least 9% this year. Ticonderoga EMS has some fantastic ideas for fundraising events for 2023. We have applied for equipment grants in order to repair and update our current lifesaving equipment. We have increased our billing rates and explored the option of following up with those patients that have not met their financial obligations. However, these efforts will only cover a small amount of our expenses at Ticonderoga EMS. In the past five years, our agency has been gravely underfunded. We are the largest call volume agency in the county, comparable to Lake George and during the summer, our call volumes increase dramatically due to the number of tourists and summer residents that provide a boost to our community's economy.

Our budget is transparent. We, as an organization and board of directors allow any member of the community the opportunity to review it. There is nothing to hide. Ticonderoga EMS has come to the town board to ask for assistance with our financial needs, either through appropriation of funding or the creation of a tax district.

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It is true that Lamoille Ambulance Service has placed two different bids to provide services to the Town of Ticonderoga for a much lower price, but we can't help but ask ourselves "WHY?" Why does a multimillion-dollar corporation need to cover Ticonderoga for 911 calls, knowing that Ticonderoga EMS will not be sustainable without financial assistance. Both services are needed in the town. Lamoille has a very crucial role in transporting patients to area hospitals where they can receive definitive care.

Lamoille has a very crucial role in providing expert ALS mutual aid to several area agencies. If their availability is limited who wins? Not the patient. Elizabethtown Community Hospital's Ticonderoga Campus can already tell you that wait times for transportation is a problem. Some patients spend hours at the ER, taking up vital space and resources. It is important for the board to consider the impact that losing an emergency services agency has on a community. Residents may wait longer for help.

Residents may wait longer to get to hospitals they need to be treated at. Residents may wait longer for lifesaving measures. Collaboration between agencies is the best way to cover a district. This is evident in the reduction of dropped calls in Ticonderoga in the last three years.

Thank You for your time and consideration.

Nicole Justice-Greene has two comments one as the Executive Director of PRIDE of Ticonderoga and also then as a mother of 5 who moved with here with her young family to Ticonderoga just right up the road from out local EMS station. One of the comments that she does want to give some support to that has been thrown around is that grant funding to support emergency services is not predictable, she spent at least 10 hours looking up grants to potentially apply just for like stock and general operating costs, not equipment costs. They do not, anywhere in this stated, that she can find. She will be happy to show a few grants that she found specifically for equipment costs, but that is not guaranteed funding for every year. It is not going to help with operating costs and so, she did just want to make sure that was made clear to the community because she does not want folks to have feeling that there is funding elsewhere. She really, professionally speaking, only see the funding that you all really truly need to function appropriately through an EMS district or appropriations. More personally, as a mother of 5 who moved to Ticonderoga and one of the things that made her feel confident of the move was that we have a local EMS right down the road from us being very heavily pregnant and an hour plus from where she could deliver, just last year her daughter was eating a lollipop that she got from school and she started to choke and it was the most terrifying moment in her life, even though she knew the Heimlich maneuver and first aid, she almost turned blue to the point where we were about to call 911. It filled her with fear, but she knew if we had to get to that point, you all would be there. Not another agency, but one from our community and staffed by out

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community. Someone that is reliable and someone who is trained, who knows the need and we need that if you want to continue to attract young families to move to this area, that they have the assurance that the Town is potentially invested in making sure those emergency services are available and that they are available at a fair cost to the main people that we provide help to and a number of people struggle to pay their medical bills and it does concern her with other agencies depending on what their billing may be if out local residents aren't able to pay their bills and are going into medical debt. That is something more professionally on a daily basis she deals with when people come to PRIDE looking for financial help with various housing and budgeting issues. So, these are just a number of concerns that she did want to speak publicly about and thank you for your time.

Tanya Sisco, Operation manager for Lamoille, and she does think this is a great question as to how billing works. We follow federal guidelines, if we take you in an ambulance and you fall under policy guidelines. If we go to a call and you do not get transported, well we are not going to get paid either. The question she has is out of 700 calls, how many of those are not transports, where you are not taking them anywhere. (answer was 120) So that is about 300 hours of time that you lost money for. The biggest thing that we want to do is let people know we are here. You guys could go another 5 years, another 20 years, you could go another 70 years, but if something happens and you aren't here, it would put a strain on Lamoille, whether or not we could maintain a crew all the time. It is a priority if we are to be contracted, we would have a crew in town, but realistically, you can say we have Crown Point and you have another call, which it seems to be a two call a day basis, then you really are stretched right, at three calls (this is what the mutual aid system is for) exactly, we are here and provide back-up. So, what is it really that you would like, is it something that we can do to be more helpful to you guys, realistically she said to Mr. Wright on the phone, we should be working together, if you need and ALS intercept, we are there for you, she believes that they have proven that. She thinks the question is, from what she is hearing from the discussion is what is it going to cost for you to stay alive. She knows running Lamoille, if you had 600 calls and say 400 is billable, then you are looking at maybe \$300.00 a call, so that is \$120,000.00 can that fund an EMS service, probably not and in five years that is a truck which are not up to \$300,000.00, that is a big expense. They have doubled the cost to put a stretcher and lift in the van, you have to have that, otherwise you have to hire specific people that can do the lifting of the patients and then how many people go out on injuries and that will limit the amount of calls you can do. She thinks the reality of things is that it is great that there are two services in one Town. For us, we would like to do some 911 and because you took the Crown Point.

Mrs. Kennedy stopped her, we did not take the Crown Point contract, we were approached by Crown Point to put in a bid and they asked for our services. We did not go to them and say can we have your Town.

Ms. Sisco agreed, but she heard the question of why are we interested, why do we care about it and why can we do it for \$20,000.00? Well, we are already fully staffed, we have three crews every day, so yes, we would like to do some 911 calls, that is what it really boils down to, we would like to train our paramedics better when we get new people in, train the AMT's better. If they don't have 911's to go on then they have to be out at services in other Towns running their

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911 calls, so they can get 911 experience. You can't just take a brand new paramedic and put them on the truck and send them off to the hospital and hope that they are going to have a transport. It takes a lot of experience, she is sure any of you that are running on the trucks know that you could see a call 10 times and you go there and that one call isn't like the other 10, so granted, she doesn't ever want to see an ambulance service go out of business or go away or not be funded. She thinks that we would just like to be here and maybe if it is an ALS call, we get called out for it, so that we can start training the new people that we are trying to bring in. Otherwise, we can't offer or attract people to be here that are on those higher services and she thinks for you guys and she is not presuming to know what it is like, but for you to go to the hospital and go on a long distance transport for somewhere 50 or 60 miles away is too much, then your people are out of Town a lot.

Mrs. Kennedy stated that right now we are not doing transports because 911 comes first.

Ms. Sisco agreed and said her people get a lot of experience on the truck with the calls at the hospital, but they also need the other experience. She can also tell you that paramedics do not want to work for a service that do not do 911 calls. It did say in her letter that we are not going anywhere, we came here because this Town needed help and we are staying here because she feels like we do offer a lot to this Town. Whether or not we would be sustainable without you, she does not know. She does not think there is a lot of research out there that says there are other Town's with two services, there isn't. It is phenomenal for this community and she is excited, she just thinks if there was a way that we could do some 911's so that we could train people on what it is like to go out on a 911 call and not be shipping them out to other areas so they are missing and they are not here to help. On average we do two calls a day, so if there is 4 calls a day then maybe it is possible we could do a certain number of 911's it is something to think about. Again, she is here for anybody that has any questions. As far as billing goes, it is a hard road and everybody knows it, we have a contract with Ti right now for ALS runs, when we set it up, we set it up to be fair. If they don't get, we don't bill them, because how can they pay us for something that they didn't get paid for. If they got paid less than \$200.00, she believes that we don't charge you (\$400.00) ok, but the sustainable rate for a call is \$400.00, so when you get paid \$300.00 for what they are doing for runs, you are losing \$100.00 for that run. If they do 580 payable runs, they've lost \$58,000.00 in revenue and it is Medicare and Medicaid and she heard a statement of being paid for all the calls coming out of the hospital, there is a third of them that are either uninsured or NY Medicaid, your Medicaid is \$100.00. That is what you are going to get, and then \$2.00 to \$3.00 a mile, so you are losing money even moving the bus, so sustainable, she does not believe that EMS is sustainable at all anymore whether you are private, volunteer, it doesn't matter, the government itself, much greater than this room has to make better decisions. Again, it is not her place to tell you what to do, but you have a fire department, start paying those fire guys to do medic calls, that is not helpful to us who would like to do 911's but realistically they already have a budget. There are some places to go to pick up some employees, some departments now are running medics, so if you run one truck and not two, less equipment.

Loretta Euber has one statement, she is a commissioner in Crown Point and we did contract with Ti, we approached them to put in a bid. One of the reasons was because your people weren't

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really.... Well, they did not treat our people, our first responders with any respect and she knows you know about this because Cindy tried to get a hold of you.

Ms. Sisco stated that yes, Cindy said she sent an email, she never got it and then they didn't follow up.. She has given her the direct email and she still did not receive anything and to be honest with you, for every 5 calls you get saying how great it was, she will get one that says, so and so didn't do this. She is sure that you all also get complaints from some patients, if not then someone is not communicating. Not every call goes wonderfully. People go on a call and put in as much energy as they can to help that patient and sometimes it is enough and sometimes it is not. She is not sure about the dialogue between the Town of Crown Point first responders and her people, but you had a fire chief (Joe) who called her quite a few times and they talked about the calls, they have tried to work together and there were a couple of trainings after that, but she thinks a lot of times, we come on to a scene and they want to take control and she feels the deal is when we come onto a scene with another Town, there control is really not over care. She says this not very lightly, but she thinks all EMT's and first responders are kind of – this is my patient, she is not sure... she is sorry if there was a bad experience, she knows that every time our people go out on a call they are trying their best.

Mrs. Justice-Greene would like clarification, you are saying that your billing is exactly the same amount billing as Ti EMS bills for calls of service, there is no different.

Ms. Sisco stated in the rates – Ti is \$1,200.00 for BLS call, mileage is \$32.00 – Lamoille is \$2,500.00 (inaudible)

Matt Watts stated that it really doesn't matter what the rate is, insurance companies are going to pay what they pay, especially Medicare and Medicaid (inaudible)

Supervisor Wright asked that we do not focus on rates, if you want to focus on costs in general, you know Medicaid and Medicare that is fine, but if you want to get into the nitty gritty, we will be here till next week.

Ms. Sisco continued to re-state, because she is hearing hardship, that is what it is called hardship paperwork. We make it very simple, it is not like the hospitals, it is two pages, it asks you for a tax return and asks you for your monthly income and then what we do is run it against the government scale. There is a guideline. We make payment plans with our patients, honestly we have payment plans of \$5.00 a month, \$10.00 a month \$50.00 a month, it depends on their bill. A private paid patient that needs a transport automatically gets a 30% discount right off the top. In the long haul, if you went in the ambulance and didn't have insurance and you made a certain amount of money you are going to get a bill, we will work with you, it is not that you have to pay it off in six month, we are going to work with you.

Tom Hudon, Commissioner of Crown Point fire district, stated, yes, we approached Ti EMS for services. We had our reasons and those we are not going to get into tonight, if you want to know, come to a commission meeting, second Wednesday of every month. First and foremost, we do feel there is a significant conflict of interest between Lamoille Ambulance and Essex

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County Emergency Services, that is our main reason, but it is just real funny that he is hearing tonight that they want to bill you \$2,000.00 a month. We just came off a \$30,000.00 a year contract with them. So, he is trying to figure out why all of a sudden (Tanya Sisco stated it was \$20,000.00)

Supervisor Wright stated that we do not need to get into those fees.

Mr. Hudon stated anyway, he is pretty sure it was \$30,000.00, we, long story short, our relationship with Ti EMS is the smoothest we have had doing calls right now. There are reasons, like he said before, but we support Ti EMS and we are a fire district and taxes are going to go up, the fire service, the EMS service the Police is a tough business and every year the state pushes more. Equipment manufacturers keep jumping their prices, obscenely, so there will always be cost increase, you can't do anything about it. You have to recover it somehow, he understands with Lamoille, they are a bigger company and can absorb some of that, but how long can that go on for. Thank you.

Councilman Cunningham asked if Ticonderoga moves ahead with a district for EMS, it would be for the Town of Ticonderoga and there would then force Crown Point or any other surrounding community who wants to be part of that service would need to enter a contract with Ticonderoga for us to supply services to you and we would assume this will be based on a percentage of calls going forward, so whatever you are paying to contract with Ti EMS right now, if we look at their current numbers you would need to anti-up 25% of whatever that amount is.

Mr. Hudon agreed there has been discussions regarding this, and they are also not sure of the amount that they have contracted right now, but everything has been great, there have been no dropped calls, EMS response has been phenomenal.

Heath Towne stated that he could labor this with probably 6 million stories, but he is not going to. You look around, there is probably 1 or 2 stories per person here, he has 3 personal minimum, but he won't bother you with that. We need to look at this an economic issue as well. We are trying to get the Town up and running, we are trying to increase our population, we are trying to get people to move here, we are trying to get people to move here, we are trying to get businesses to come in and it is very difficult to do that if you do not show that you have adequate emergency services. When people look to move to a town they are looking at schools, fire and hospital and emergency services, those are the things that people want in an area. If we fail in any of those points, then somebody won't want to move here. If a business is looking to re-locate here and they think that their employees or people that they bring in will not be able to get adequate care then they will move on to somewhere else that will provide adequate care. That is a huge financial loss, especially around here when every penny that we can get, we really scrape for every penny that we can get in economic support. He doesn't think we want to lose sight of that part of it. You can tug at heartstrings all you want, but if you want to look at pure penny's, you want to be sure that we have adequate service for population growth and for economic and business growth, because without it we are going to be even farther behind the eight ball. To be perfectly honest, you know we are already 6 to 10 miles behind the eight ball as it is.

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Bob Dedrick is aware that there are three options, first is to do nothing, which would result in the demise of the emergency squad, that is not an option, besides that there is debt on that building that you have to consider also. Number two - appropriations from the Town, that is not an option, you can't afford \$300,000.00. No town, no city can afford that, that is not an option. The only real option is to have a tax district. His question is, how is that formed. Is it by Town resolution or by public referendum, what is the process for that. If they are already in debt, which they are, you want to try to move on this as quickly as you can because there is going to be a certain period of time where that is going to have to go into effect. If you are going to do this, you had better do this soon. As far as people who can't afford this, he does not know one person in Ticonderoga that would have a difficult time, would object to paying for emergency services. If you ask them if they would pay the \$50.00 or whatever it is to afford emergency services here in Ticonderoga, he cannot believe anyone in this Town would say no. If they did, they can go to 106, he will pay for it. His question would be simply how, is this a public referendum or is this a board resolution, how is this happening.

Mr. Fuller explained that this is very similar to the formation of a district, there needs to be a Map, Plan, Report of the area that is going to be served and who is going to pay the tax and it could be a permissive referendum, but with any permissive referendum the Town Board has the authority by resolution to bypass the permissive referendum and put any item that is subject to a referendum up to a referendum.

Mr. Dedrick asked that there are two options to that and what is the time frame?

Mr. Fuller continued to explain that somebody would have to prepare the Map, Plan and Report and he does not know the time frame on that, he couldn't ball park that. To give you an example, Lake George did it a year or two ago, but it is done for the year and it would start the next. It is not anything that would impose a tax this year. You can't budget it.

Mr. Dedrick stated that the longer you wait, the more debt there is. He would say move as quickly as possible.

Mrs. Kennedy stated that our attorney explained that it could be created in 90 days, but it wouldn't start until 2024.

Mr. Dedrick stated to at least get it started, if you don't get it started now, you won't get it starting in 2024, start it.

Mr. Fuller added that if the Town Board did a Map, Plan Report the taxpayers can petition. There is a petition process. If the tax payers got together and funded a Map, Plan Report and if enough of the taxpayers do it, they can petition the formation of a district. There is a Town Board route and there is a Taxpayers initiated route. They would take about the same time.

Mr. Dedrick stated whatever can get it done, he hates to tread water on this, he would like to have this done for next year. There is nothing more than the comfort of seeing two ambulances pull into your house. It is such a comfort.

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Councilman Cunningham wanted to be clear that whether we fund it through appropriations through a budget or form a district, the cost is the same. The debt will be there, whatever revenues they get come back to the Town, so if we fund their negative balance for one year, or we form a tax district that actual cost is the same. It will be the same burden on the taxpayers whether it is a district or not.

Mr. Dedrick stated that there is more entities that would be put into that tax base if you went through a district, quite a few more. There are many tax exempt properties that would be pulled in to help pay it.

Mrs. Wright asked what the timeline is for this, in terms of the board making a decision. She was watching the January meeting and if she remembers correctly the discussion was that there would be a possible appropriation to the EMS for a short period of time to help them live through the year when you were making this decision. What is the timeline on that?

Supervisor Wright agreed there had been discussion and it needs to be decided, if we are going to do any kind of Band-Aid funding to Ti EMS along the lines of sustaining them before we go into a district, that would have to be decided now. It would kick the can down the road. So, tonight, he would like to have the discussion as to whether we are going to fund anything for Ti EMS.

Mrs. Wright stated even if it is while you are deciding something else.

Supervisor Wright agreed it would be a parallel effort. Mr. Dedrick mentioned why would anyone not want to pay some amount of money, is there anybody here that would willingly pay tax dollars for EMS services (appears all hands were raised).

Wayne Taylor asked in terms of this district, who would oversee the district fiscal operation and would it be elected officers or...

Supervisor Wright stated it would be a Board of Commissioners, similar to the Fire District, it could be the board or the board could assign certain commissioners that would be in charge of reviewing their budget.

Mr. Taylor asked if they would have their own procurement policy that they would follow.

Supervisor Wright stated that the actual vendor of the service would run operations the way they run the operations, they elect their own officers.

Mr. Taylor continued; would it be considered Crown Point's town proper to be included in the district formation if Ti EMS is going to serve them now.

Supervisor Wright explained that this is what we were just discussing, how they will be blended in terms of having an agreement or contract with outlying communities. He does not know legally how other communities will be formed into the district.

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Mr. Fuller stated it would be with a contract. A question he has is who holds the Certificate of Need right now. (Ticonderoga EMS does) And who does the billing (Ticonderoga EMS does).

Supervisor Wright clarified that a Map, Plan and Report would cover Ticonderoga and additional contracts with any other outlying communities to be part of that service.

Mr. Fuller asked if this District is formed, do you see that Certificate of Need going by way of the Town? You may need to check with your counsel, he believes it has to. When you get into a Map, Plan and Report, that poses some discussion for the Town because the Town becomes the biller and the revenue comes to the Town.

Mrs. Kennedy stated that she does not know why it would, she will check with their attorney. She believes it will stay the same, with us.

Councilman Woods stated that he is for funding Ti EMS, he believes we should start with \$70,000.00 and see moving forward.

Supervisor Wright stated that any money we decide to give Ti EMS will be coming from fund balance.

Councilman Cunningham notes that his concern is putting this Band-Aid on this and going down the road finding out that the public doesn't want a district and doesn't want to fund them and we have just spend money and we have gotten money for it. It is not just \$70,000.00 now it is \$140,000.00 for the year to keep them sustainable for they year. That is his only concern, he believes there needs to be a plan in place to know that we are going to spend this money and then continue if it is a tax district or if it will be funded next year before we get decided to sustain them for this 90 days.

Supervisor Wright's concern is, if we don't do something, we risk losing the service. His own personal opinion of the one of five here, as far as he knows, Ti EMS has provided quality service over the years. He is willing to do anything legally financially that will accomplish this effort to see them survive, but not at the risk of making some unfound fiscal decision based on feeling alone. Or, making any decision that does not benefit the residents of Ticonderoga or violating the oath that he took for this job. If Ti EMS has to cease to exist because of factors outside of his control or this boards control then that is just destiny, but if that occurs then Ti EMS won't go away because he didn't try to do everything that he could to see that it survives. We have talked about things that have changed, prices, costs, volunteerism, he just thinks that we should do what we can to make them survive and if that means this board giving them \$50,000.00 or \$70,000.00 on that hope, then he is in favor of that. But we need to actively pursue what we are going to do about appropriations. At one point, he was totally against a district for many reasons, but he has more information which he found beneficial and there are some other things that he would like to clear up, but he is now bending towards a district. He has heard the talks from Lamoille and he does not understand them. They are a private service, they set up shop in Ticonderoga many years ago, we value the fact that they are here and support the Town, but they are a private endeavor, no one asked them to settle here, but we appreciate that they are here. The Town

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never offered to give them any money to remain here, again he is thrilled that they are here. As Tanya said, how many communities have two ambulance services, some don't have any. For him, he is not crazy about throwing money out of fund balance but if it gives us time and keeps them alive for a certain amount of time while we stop procrastinating and actually make a decision then he is for it.

Councilman Woods stated that it is pretty obvious how every one in this room feels, if somebody, for \$70,000.00, in this room or one of their family members go down tonight, he wants to make sure that they are there.

Supervisor Wright does here what Tom is saying and he is right, we do have to be careful with money that we are throwing away and are we just throwing it away for nothing. He believes, his personal opinion, that we are not throwing it away, we are using this as an insurance, small insurance factor until we can figure out what we are going to do in terms of district or appropriations.

Councilwoman Cooper asked how many calls are for Putnam (answer was 58)

Councilman Thatcher believes that we need to let the Town of Ticonderoga decide this for us. We need to make that happen as soon as possible. We have the best of both possibilities and he felt that all along, we have a back-up ambulance service and we have a full-time ambulance service. We need to continue that; we are a very lucky community to have that.

Supervisor Wright totally agrees, the public has to give their opinion, but that means the public has to give their damn opinion. Eight people showed up at Ti EMS last night, last time he looked at the population of Ticonderoga, there were more than eight. A lot of people showed up here tonight a few people are actually listening on-line, but this has to be a Town decision. We are elected members and we represent the Town, we do what we believe is best for the Town, but there has to be some sort of input from the Town as to what they are willing to bear. He doesn't want the board to take action on a Thursday and have the Town on a Friday say that well it didn't work out, it is all your fault. Well, there is some invested responsibility from the residents here.

Councilman Cunningham reiterated to be clear to the residents, forming a district is a long term situation. It is not something that you can form and realize two years later that I wish I hadn't had done that and try to get out of it, it is not something that you can turn around and unform. We are obligated at that point.

Mr. Fuller stated that it can be dissolved, but it is a process.

Councilman Woods stated why you would want to dissolve it is beyond me.

Mrs. Wright stated that her concern as a member of the paying taxpayer base here is that is this goes solely 100% to the community for a decision, she has a concern with that. That is because there are informed voters, there are uniformed voters and there are Facebook informed voters. The last two are very bad and so you are essentially putting the life of this group into the hands

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of the people that don't have the right information to make their informed decisions. If they have the right information and they choose not to support them, then there is no problem; but you will have Facebook information that is not correct. You will have uninformed voters who didn't take the time to ask the questions, but will go to the polls and then you have the people that take the time and as a taxpayer, she is not ok with that, because these guys are in jeopardy based on mis information and lack of information and that is where her vote to put all five of you on this board comes into play, because you, right now, are the most informed people in this community about this situation.

Supervisor Wright stated that we are not shirking our responsibilities in regard to making a decision, but we want the public to say – we want to know what the public wants.

Mrs. Wright continued, if we do a referendum and the public votes no, the Town can then not finance it through the budget.

Councilman Cunningham has this question for the attorney, if the Town decides to move forward with looking into the district, does the Town have to hire somebody to create a Map, Plan, Report in conjunction with Ti EMS.

Mr. Fuller stated not necessarily Ti EMS, but using some of that data and maybe Lamoille and wherever else they would get that data, such as different comparable municipalities. He also added that if the district gets voted down the Town could still fund Ti EMS.

Councilman Cunningham continued that this is an expense that the Town would incur to create that Map, Plan, Report, which would then bring us to the point that the Town can eventually have this referendum.

Mr. Fuller stated that there would be a permissive referendum, or the Town Board could put it out directly on its own.

Mrs. Wright asked if the Town voted no on the referendum and the district is dead, the Town cannot resurrect that, but the Town can fund it through budget appropriations (all of this is correct).

Councilman Cunningham believes that would be difficult if the voters elect not to fund Ti EMS through a district, they probably wouldn't want to budget through ...

Mrs. Wright stated that this is not what is being asked ...(inaudible)

Councilman Cunningham stated that it is, it is the same thing. The district is taxes, money and it is taxes whether we pay through fund balance, through appropriation in a tax or a district, it is all coming down to the dollars.

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Mrs. Wright stated as a taxpayer, she would like/prefer her elected officials to make this decision. Have a workshop for the community to put their input in, but again you guys are the most informed. This is where she stands as a taxpayer.

Supervisor Wright stated that we had a workshop, the community could have participated and listened.

Resolution #43-2023 brought by Dave Woods, seconded by Mark Wright to fund the Ti EMS \$70,000.00 until we can proceed with the District. **All in Favor (roll-call)** Mark Wright – Aye, Dave Woods – Aye, Joyce Cooper – Aye, Tom Thatcher – Aye. Tom Cunningham – Nay. **Carried.**

Supervisor Wright stated that we do need to have a serious discussion on what we want to do, district or appropriations.

Councilman Woods stated that there were a lot of questions tonight that were answered, but we need to move forward.

Supervisor Wright stated that with this \$70,000.00 we will need to see how Ti EMS revenue, expenditures go over the next quarter, we will work closely with you. At the same time in a parallel effort, we will discuss what we want to do with a district or no district. We can't wait any longer.

Mr. Fuller stated that this monetary agreement will be with a contract agreement.

Anne Morette has been a member since 1978 and that is back in the old days, we were ALL volunteers, she had 5 kids at that time and you left them with somebody to go on a call. It is important that the men that began Ti EMS all those years ago, Bud Dolback, Lawrence Hurlburt all those guys who started with nothing and that this Ti EMS survived. It is part of her life and she wants to see it survive and if she had the money she would give it to them, but she doesn't.

Public Hearing closed at 7:39 p.m.

Report of Committees

Airport – Tom Thatcher, Councilman

TICONDEROGA AIRPORT 4B6

7 February 2023

The meeting was called to order at 0830 in the Town Hall followed by the pledge of allegiance.

Present: Ash Alexander, Mark Wright, Tom Thatcher, Alan Denmore

Excused: Bryan Douros, Dave Woods, Chris Kneppers and Jon Hanna

Guests: Bob Salls, Terry Smith

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Fuel sales for January were 701 gallons. Fuel levels currently are acceptable. Our current price will remain the same. Expected next fuel delivery around May. Discussion on checking NOTAM to see if GPS nighttime landing restriction is still in place. FAA project to clear the obstacle from the database was completed. The tower update, the crane work is expected sometime in May. Obstruction project for the tower is with the FAA awaiting clearance. A discussion on filing information with the APA. Jurisdictional inquiry form is not required. Discussion on moving the original support structure for the beacon/tower. Approx footprint is 16x12. There was discussion as to whether this may require a permit if moved to town property.

Hanger discussion. No changes or direction as to how to use private money in construction. The plan for future hanger construction is in the FAA master plan. Current plan allows for 2 additional structures. Discussion on ability of town to fund additional local matches for grants.

Question from Sylvamo involved what size aircraft could land at airport. Maximum capacity is 12,500 lb. Airport specifications were previously provided to Sylvamo.

Meeting adjourned at 0853.

Next monthly meeting will be 0830, Tuesday, the 7 of March, at the town hall.

Submitted by Jon Hanna

Resolution #44-2023 brought by Joyce Cooper, seconded by Mark Wright to appoint the following Airport Committee Members: C. Tom Thatcher (chair), Mark Wright (co-chair), Jon Hanna, Bryan Douros, Ash Alexander, Chris Kneppers, Dave Woods, and Alan Densmore. **All in Favor** Mark Wright – Aye, Dave Woods – Aye, Joyce Cooper – Aye, Tom Thatcher – Aye, Tom Cunningham – Aye. **Opposed** – none. **Carried.**

Resolution #45-2023 brought by Tom Cunningham, seconded by Dave Woods to advertise the Runway 2-20 Pavement Rehabilitation Construction Project at the Ticonderoga Municipal Airport (4B6). **All in Favor** Mark Wright – Aye, Dave Woods – Aye, Joyce Cooper – Aye, Tom Thatcher – Aye, Tom Cunningham – Aye. **Opposed** – none. **Carried.**

Resolution #46-2023 brought by Dave Woods, seconded by Mark Wright authorizing the Supervisor to execute the FY '23 Application for Federal Assistance (FAA Form SF-424) for Apron Expansion (Phase 1) - Design. **All in Favor** Mark Wright – Aye, Dave Woods – Aye, Joyce Cooper – Aye, Tom Thatcher – Aye, Tom Cunningham – Aye. **Opposed** – none. **Carried.**

Resolution #47-2023 brought by Tom Cunningham, seconded by Joyce Cooper authorizing the Supervisor to execute the Combined Sponsor Certification for 4B6 Apron Expansion (Phase 1) – Design. This certifies to the FAA that the sponsor will comply with the statutory and administrative requirements in carrying out a project under the Airport Improvement Program (AIP). **All in Favor** Mark Wright – Aye, Dave Woods – Aye, Joyce Cooper – Aye, Tom Thatcher – Aye, Tom Cunningham – Aye. **Opposed** – none. **Carried.**

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Resolution #48-2023 brought by Dave Woods, seconded by Joyce Cooper authorizing the Supervisor to execute the fee negotiation letter with Passero Associates and submit to the FAA for the Ticonderoga Municipal Airport (4B6) Apron Expansion (Phase 1) – Design FAA Project No. 3-36-0196- XX -23 Airport Engineering Design Services Consultant Agreement. This is required to obtain FAA approval of the Passero consultant agreement. **All in Favor** Mark Wright – Aye, Dave Woods – Aye, Joyce Cooper – Aye, Tom Thatcher – Aye, Tom Cunningham – Aye. **Opposed** – none. **Carried.**

Resolution #49-2023 brought by Mark Wright, seconded by Tom Cunningham authorizing the Town of Ticonderoga to enter into an agreement with the State of New York for financial assistance for the Aircraft Apron Reconstruction and Taxiway Rehabilitation Construction project (FAA AIP Project No. 3-36-0196-031-2022 NYSPIN 1907.35). This project reconstructs 8,950 Square Yds of the existing main apron pavement and rehabilitates 820 feet of the existing access taxiway pavement. **All in Favor** Mark Wright – Aye, Dave Woods – Aye, Joyce Cooper – Aye, Tom Thatcher – Aye, Tom Cunningham – Aye. **Opposed** – none. **Carried.**

Resolution #50-2023 brought by Joyce Cooper, seconded by Tom Cunningham authorizing the Town of Ticonderoga to enter into an agreement with the State of New York for financial assistance for Runway 2-20 Pavement Rehabilitation Design project (FAA AIP Project No. 3-36-0196-030-2022 NYSPIN 1907.34). This project will rehabilitate the existing Runway 2-20 pavement. **All in Favor** Mark Wright – Aye, Dave Woods – Aye, Joyce Cooper – Aye, Tom Thatcher – Aye, Tom Cunningham – Aye. **Opposed** – none. **Carried.**

Resolution #51-2023 brought by Tom Thatcher, seconded by Tom Cunningham authorizing the Supervisor to execute an Aviation Capital Project Agreement between the Town of Ticonderoga and State of New York for Ticonderoga Municipal Airport Project Nos. 1907.34 (Rehabilitate the Existing Runway 2-20 Pavement - Design - Phase 1/2) and 1907.35 (Reconstruct 8,950 Square Yds of the Existing Main Apron Pavement - Construction - Phase 2/2), Contract No. K007519. **All in Favor** Mark Wright – Aye, Dave Woods – Aye, Joyce Cooper – Aye, Tom Thatcher – Aye, Tom Cunningham – Aye. **Opposed** – none. **Carried.**

Building and Grounds – Dave Woods, Councilman

No Report

Parks, Recreation, Historical Lands, Beach, Monuments and Cemeteries

Joyce Cooper, Councilwoman

Resolution #52-2023 brought by Tom Cunningham, seconded by Tom Thatcher to appoint the following Buildings Grounds Parks Rec Committee Members: Joyce Cooper (co-chair), Dave Woods (co-chair), Nicole Justice Green, Bill Dolback, Shawn Ross, Jerry Cooper, Nancy Kelley, Grant Spaulding, and Tonya Thompson. **All in Favor** Mark Wright – Aye, Dave Woods – Aye, Joyce Cooper – Aye, Tom Thatcher – Aye, Tom Cunningham – Aye. **Opposed** – none. **Carried.**

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Parks and Recreation Committee Meeting Minutes
January 17, 2023

Committee members present were Bill Dolback, Nicole Justice Green, Nancy Kelley, Dave Woods, and Joyce Cooper.
Also present was Tom Thatcher.

Ed Vosburgh:

Joyce Cooper informed the group of the recent death of Ed Vosburgh. Ed was a long-time member of the Parks and Recreation Committee. He played an important role in the development of Fields 2 and 3 in Recreation Park and was asked by the committee to serve as a volunteer Recreational Facilities Advisor. He oversaw the maintenance of these 2 fields and even provided a portable restroom there for several years. He also worked on the development of a fourth field behind Field 2 and was a strong supporter and coach for girls' softball teams. Ed also assisted Linda Mackey in the location and construction of the town's Dog Park on Lord Howe Street. The committee is most appreciative of his support of town facilities and girls' sports.

Skating Rink:

The warming hut at the skating rink was discussed. Nicole Green is investigating inexpensive ways to heat the building. Champlain Valley Plumbing has been contacted for advice and a quote to provide some source of heat for the building. The ice cleaner has been ordered and the walls for the rink are going up. A new liner for the ice has been received. No discussion of hours and rink use by various groups took place because work on the rink has not been completed. It is hoped the rink will be ready for use soon.

Providing for the Handicapped:

Handicap ramps are needed on two town properties. In Bicentennial Park, a ramp is needed at the new playground and one of the 8 or 10 foot wooden boards that frame the playground is damaged and should be replaced. At the beach, ramps are needed for handicapped access to the beach building and picnic pavilion.

Beach Playground:

The swings and teeter-totter at the beach have been in place for many years and are beginning to show their age. Further discussion of the beach playground is needed

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and a plan for its improvement undertaken by the committee. Grants for new equipment should be investigated.

Town Christmas Tree:

The location and plans for the town's Christmas tree were again discussed. The existing spruce tree in the park does not seem a good option because of its shape and lack of visibility from all directions. Planting a new tree by the park's gazebo would present many problems and would take away from the open space and present use of the park. The Community Building lawn still appears to be the best location for a town Christmas tree. Joyce will contact an arborist for advice regarding this tree as well existing and any potential new trees for Bicentennial Park.

The next Parks and Recreation Committee Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, February 21st at 8:30 am. Joyce has a conflict and this date may have to be changed.

Economic Development – Mark Wright, Supervisor

Resolution #53-2023 brought by Tom Cunningham, seconded by Dave Woods to appoint the following Economic Development Committee Members: Mark Wright (chair), Tom Cunningham (co-chair), Donna Wotton, Matt Courtright, Nicole Justice Green, John Bartlett, Heath Towne, and Beth Hill. **All in Favor** Mark Wright – Aye, Dave Woods – Aye, Joyce Cooper – Aye, Tom Thatcher – Aye, Tom Cunningham – Aye. **Opposed** – none. **Carried.**

Town of Ticonderoga

Economic Development Committee (EDC) Minutes (01/18/2023)

Attendees: Mark A. Wright (Chair); Tom Cunningham (Vice-Chair); Nicole Justice Green (PRIDE); Matt Courtright (TACC); John Bartlett (TMSP); Donna Wotton (TRA); Beth Hill (Fort Ticonderoga Association)

Excused: Heath Towne

Guests: Carole Calabrese (ECIDA)

Mark Wright opened the meeting (1500).

RESTORE NY Status

Mark Wright reported there are 5 projects in Essex County competing for the latest round of RESTORE NY funding. The application for 108 Montcalm is due January 27. Donna Wotton reported this is looking like a \$2M project considering mold and asbestos abatement and roof work. Some costs can be lowered with in-kind work. There will be a general contractor. Tom

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Cunningham recommended looking into a builder's risk insurance policy be added to the proposal. A Zoom meeting was scheduled for January 19 at 1345 with Empire State Development.

Comprehensive Plan

Mark Wright informed the group that the Town would begin the process of updating its comprehensive plan. He inquired if anyone had knowledge of other local communities who have recently pursued this action. Wright took an action to reach out to the other Essex Country Supervisors and well as Community Resources.

Event Schedules

Mark Wright asked the group about plans for additional events in Ticonderoga. Matt Courtright stated TACC has reached capacity for new events having recently added many and increased the scope of other existing events. There are several new events with plans already written waiting for the manpower and funding. John Bartlett added starting a new event is difficult and suggested tapping into local grants. The group discussed the need for deconfliction of events and TACC does what it can with its schedule to aid in this area. TACC provided its package of 2023 events and activities.

Other

Wright asked Beth Hill if the new Fort Ticonderoga 2023 rates were published. Rates are established and opening day at Fort Ticonderoga is May 6, 2023. The Fort is conducting visitor surveys. Nicole Justice Green reported PRIDE is increasing staff. PRIDE is involved in the Essex County Land Bank creation and development. Donna reported that TRA continues to investigate viable childcare options. Mark briefly mentioned the status of property at 130 The Portage and a break in access for NYS74/22 at the Fireman's Field. Other developments include a new rental of the Lakeside building. TACC provided a draft of business incentives for review next month. Matt also provided a list of possible incentives and current town fees for which the town could provide relief for new business. Upcoming ribbon cuttings could include Ledge Hill and North Country Nutrition to name a few. Ern Mullen is working these.

ACTION ITEMS:

- 1) Wright to contact Essex County Supervisors and County re: Comprehensive Plan.

Meeting adjourned: 1630

Highway/ Transfer Station – Dave Woods, Councilman

Resolution #54-2023 brought by Mark Wright, seconded by Joyce Cooper to appoint the following Highway/Transfer Station Committee Members: Dave Woods (chair), Mark Wright (co-chair), Sal Barnao, Mitch Cole, Heath Towne, and John Deming. **All in Favor** Mark Wright – Aye, Dave Woods – Aye, Joyce Cooper – Aye, Tom Thatcher – Aye, Tom Cunningham – Aye. **Opposed** – none. **Carried.**

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regarding EMS Services in the Town**

**Town of Ticonderoga
Highway and Transfer Station
January 31st, 2023, minutes of Meeting**

Present:

Sal Barnao, John Deming, Mark Wright, Dave Woods

Others:

Joyce Cooper, Matt Fuller, Tom Thatcher

Public Discussion

Said the Pledge of Allegiance

Public discussion

- No public comment

End public comment

Committee Discussion

- Discussion on Grove and St Clair on how to continue to move forward.
- Mark- What is the process we need to move forward putting up stop signs at McCormick and Champlain Ave (help with the farmer's market traffic)
Matt- this needs to be added to the ordinance law. I will work on this.

Resolutions for the next town board meeting

- No resolutions

Outstanding items not discussed

- None

Meeting was adjourned at 9:55am

Minutes were taken and prepared by Rebecca Norton

Municipal Facility Evaluation – Tom Cunningham, Councilman

Resolution #55-2023 brought by Tom Thatcher, seconded by Joyce Cooper to appoint the following Municipal Facility Evaluation Committee Members: Tom Cunningham (chair), C. Tom Thatcher (co-chair), Mike Moser, Chris Dotsie, and Jeff Cook. **All in Favor** Mark Wright – Aye, Dave Woods – Aye, Joyce Cooper – Aye, Tom Thatcher – Aye, Tom Cunningham – Aye. **Opposed** – none. **Carried.**

**Town of Ticonderoga
Municipal Facility Evaluation Committee**

**Minutes for a Ticonderoga Regular Town Board Meeting held on February 9, 2023,
commencing at 6:00 p.m. with Public Hearings regarding a repeal of LL #3-2007 for the
Administration & Enforcement of NYS uniform Fire Prevention & Bldg Code and
regarding EMS Services in the Town
January 24, 2023,
Minutes of Meeting**

Committee Members Present:

Tom Cunningham, Tom Thatcher, Chris Dostie, Mike Moser
Jeff Cook

Others Present:

Mark Wright, Erin Allison with AES, Kevin Farrington with AES

Pledge of Allegiance

Committee Discussion

- **Alfrandre report**
 - Chris has updated the report excluding only a few outstanding items from the Library, which Mike Moser will get to him.
 - Once it is completed it will go to buildings and grounds committee
- **Design/Build contractors update**
 - Mike Moser will set up a meeting with VMJR to give the committee a brief presentation on what they can offer regarding a design/build and cost to complete the Police Station. He is going to contact them and set up a time to meet with the committee.
- **Hudson Headwaters building Potential lease**
 - Several investors are interested in purchasing the HHH building and leasing it to the town.
 - A discussion occurred about the benefits and problems associated with a lease. Including legal issues surrounding evaluating the cost benefit between purchasing and leasing, the cost to complete renovations to the Towns specifications etc.
 - Potential benefits would be to free up money set aside for a new police station to be used for another building.
 - AES has done some preliminary work on a Police station layout in the HHH building if we want to move forward
 - with this evaluation.
 - It was decided that since the Town has not received a formal proposal that this item would be tabled, and the Committee would continue to work towards a Town owned new Police station.

- **Police station update**

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- AES has completed a site plan with changes that the committee suggested in the November meeting.
 - It includes a separate fenced in area for Police officers Parking and storm water planning.
 - Included a possible plan to locate the W&S on the site but would include potentially moving the sand and salt storage.
 - Jeff Cook was concerned about building a new larger building for W&S just to store excess material. It was pointed out that this building would include the Building and Grounds not just W&S.
 - AES explained the thought behind the site plan including the driveway, parking areas, green spaces, locating the W&S department.
 - AES indicated that it is feasible to put all the Towns departments in this location, but it is a tight fit.
 - The committee discussed possible locations for the different department buildings.
 - Tom Thatcher stated we should focus on the police station and asked where the sally port would go.
 - Parking was discussed and whether the public parking area could be cut from 14 to 7 and increasing parking for the Police private parking.
 - Next steps for AES is to provide a schematic design for the Police Station.
- Highway Department
 - AES has contacted a private consultant to provide an estimate to renovate the Highway Department building and also provide a cost to build new. AES stated that a rule of thumb is that a savings of \$100.00 per square foot vs building new.
 - AES also stated that due to the amount of renovations the useful life of the building would be similar to a new build.
 - AES submitted a proposal to evaluate the Highway building renovation cost and cost to build new, the cost for that evaluation is \$3,220.00 including the cost of the third-party consulting VIS.
 - Jeff Cook asked whether in a renovation would the offices be separated and redesigned. AES stated that this renovation would include removing the entire building envelope and rebuilding it, only excluding slab, steel frame work and underground infrastructure.
 - The Committee agreed to bring this proposal to the Town board for approval. Tom Cunningham will draft a resolution for the next town board meeting.
- No other new business

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Public Discussion

- Meeting was opened to public comment, with no public comment

Next meeting scheduled for Monday February 27, 2023, at 18:30 PM

Meeting was adjourned at: 19:30

Minutes were taken and prepared by the Committee Chairman Thomas F Cunningham

Public Safety – Dave Woods, Councilman

Resolution #56-2023 brought by Dave Woods, seconded by Tom Thatcher to appoint the following Public Safety Committee Members: Dave Woods (chair), Joyce Cooper (co-chair), Adam Hurlburt, Ross Kelley, Dave Burrows, Rhiannon Peters, and Jen Gendron. **All in Favor** Mark Wright – Aye, Dave Woods – Aye, Joyce Cooper – Aye, Tom Thatcher – Aye, Tom Cunningham – Aye. **Opposed** – none. **Carried.**

Resolution #57-2023 brought by Mark Wright, seconded by Joyce Cooper to accept , with regret, the resignation of James Banish Effective January 24, 2023. **All in Favor** Mark Wright – Aye, Dave Woods – Aye, Joyce Cooper – Aye, Tom Thatcher – Aye, Tom Cunningham – Aye. **Opposed** – none. **Carried.**

**Public Safety
January 31, 2023**

Councilman Dave Woods calls the meeting at 8:00am with the Pledge of Allegiance.

The following committee members were present: Ross Kelly, Joyce Cooper, Chief Adam Hurlburt, Dave Woods, Dave Burrows. Rhiannon Peters and Jennifer Gendron.

Guests: Cole Hickland, Craig Cassidy, Robert Crammond, Tim Hailiday, Supervisor Wright, and Tom Thatcher.

Councilman Woods opens the floor to the public.

Cole Hickland, member of the Eagle Lake Property Owners Association, Mr. Hickland is looking to get some speed signs put in, the association is willing to contribute towards the signs, Councilman Woods states he will bring this to the Highway meeting and then to the upcoming Board meeting.

Craig Cassidy from the American Legion Post is looking for some help in getting some no parking signs and wondering if they can be hung on the building in the alleyway, the codes department is going to try and reach out to the owner of the building.

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Tim Holliday from Upstate Professional Management LLC is presenting a lease proposal for 102 Racetrack Road for possibly relocating the Ticonderoga Police Department. (See Attachment)

POLICE DEPARTMENT:

Chief Hurlburt goes over the report for the last two months (See attachment)

CODES DEPARTMENT:

Rhiannon Peters goes over the report for the last two months (See attachment)

Councilman Woods adjourned the meeting at 8:35am

Next Public Safety meeting will be February 28, 8:00am

The following is a summary of the activities of the Ticonderoga Police Department from November 28th, 2022, to December 27th, 2022.

<u>Patrol Statistics</u>	<u>Monthly</u>	<u>YTD</u>
Approx. Calls to Service:	581	4604
Incident reports:	21	337
Arrests:	10	233
Uniform traffic tickets:	11	615
DWI arrests:	1	15
Accidents investigated:	13	124

Reminder to all residents that the Winter Parking Ban is in effect. There should be NO vehicles parked along the side of the roadway between the hours of 1AM and 6AM. Any vehicles parked along the side of the roadway between those hours are subject to be ticketed and or Towed at the owner's expense.

*Speed Trailer: Taken out of service for the Winter

12/1/2022 – Arrested Jimmy M Drake for Criminal Possession of a Weapon 2nd, Criminal Possession of an assault weapon, Criminal Possession of a Weapon 3, Unlawful Possession of a Large Capacity Magazine.

12/7/2022 – Arrested Steven Gonzalez for Criminal Trespass 2nd. Endangering the Welfare of a Child and Harassment 2nd.

12/22/2022 – Arrested Kasie L Maye for Driving While Intoxicated.

12/24/2022 – Arrested Jordan A Millington for Burglary 3rd.

The following is a summary of the activities of the Ticonderoga Police Department from December 27th, 2022, to January 30, 2023.

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<u>Patrol Statistics</u>	<u>Monthly</u>	<u>YTD</u>
Approx. Calls to Service:	358	358
Incident reports:	37	37
Arrests:	30	30
Uniform traffic tickets:	46	46
DWI arrests:	1	1
Accidents investigated:	7	7

Reminder to all residents that the Winter Parking Ban is in effect. There should be NO vehicles parked along the side of the roadway between the house of 1AM and 6AM. Any vehicles parked along the side of the roadway between those hours are subject to be ticketed and or Towed at the owner's expense.

*Speed Trailer: Taken out of service for the Winter

12/28/2022 – Arrested Paul S Smith for Grand Larceny 4th (Vehicle valued over \$100) and Forgery 2nd.

1/02/2023 – Arrested Caleb G Fleming for Criminal Contempt 1st, Harassment 2nd, Criminal Contempt 2nd, Criminal Possession of a Controlled Substance 7th, and Attempted Burglary 2nd.

1/05/2023 – Arrested Douglas E Paquette for Use of a child in a sexual performance, Disseminating indecent material to a minor 1st, Sex Abuse 2nd, Forcible Touching, Patronizing a person for prostitution, Endangering the Welfare of a child, and Unlawfully dealing with a child 2nd.

1/07/2023 – Arrested Joseph J McLaughlin for Assault 3rd

1/16/2023 – Arrested Thomas L Cusack for Trespass and Petit Larceny

1/16/2023 – Arrested Connor R LaRock for Criminal Contempt 2nd and Criminal Mischief 4th

1/20/2023 – Arrested Deandre D Johnson for Criminal Possession of a Controlled Substance 3rd, Criminally using drug paraphernalia 2nd, Harassment 2nd, and Criminal Mischief 4th.

1/22/2023 – Arrested John R Stice for Assault 3rd and Criminal Obstruction of Breathing or Blood Circulation.

The following is a summary of the activities of the Building Inspection / Code Enforcement Department.

Building Inspection:

(Nov & Dec)

YTD

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regarding EMS Services in the Town**

Building Permits Issued:	10	101
Safety Inspections:	0	15
Pass/Fail:	0/0	13/1

Permit & Inspection Notes:

- 2- Deck Permits → Coates Pt & Amherst Ave
- 1- Stair & Landing replacement Permit → Locus Way
- 1- 15x16 Addition → Black Point Rd
- 3- Alterations/Repairs Permits → Park Ave, Grace Ave & Burgoyne Rd
- 1- Re-Roofing Permit → Sunset Dr
- 1- Roof Mounted Solar Permit → NYS Route 9N
- 1- Septic Permit → Casino Hill

Code Violation Notices:

(Nov & Dec)

YTD

Order to Remedy:	4	18
Remediated:	2	11
Clean-Up Contractor:	0	1
NYS DFS	0	0
Condemned:	0	0
Do Not Occupy:	0	1
Appearance Tickets:	0	2

Code Violation Notes

- 2 OTR for Garbage and Rubbish → Water St and John St
- 1 OTR-Stop work order, working without a Permit → The Portage
- 1 OTR for Unsafe Structure → The Portage

Miscellaneous:

(Nov & Dec)

YTD

*Complaints:	4	18
Resolved:	2	8/11

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Misc. Complaint Notes:

Garbage & Rubbish Complaints- 1 Remediated and 1 still open
Unsafe structure (Fire)on The Portage-Need Plan of action
Owner has not applied for Permit, but work has stopped.

Trainings:

- No Trainings this Month

Safety & Resource Grants (YTD):

- N/A

Noteworthy Highlights / Achievements:

****Discuss actions moving forward:**

- Delano Rd (Fleury's) and John St (Morins) burnt out structures.
- No new info for 65 & 67 Montcalm Burnt out structures, still in the Title search process last we heard.
- Whitford Property(9N) Asbestos survey done in 2019 we have sent 2 follow up letters regarding demo, No further contact from Owner. Appearance ticket being served to owner.
- Route 22 Junkyard still an issue, OTR Sent to Clear property and discontinue collecting items.
- 106 Montcalm Street Alley way Parking issue

We were notified of some concern regarding tenant parking in the alley way between the American Legion and the apartment building in regard to getting a fire apparatus in there in the event of a fire. From what we could determine, it looks like the alley way is ½ owned by the apartment building owner and ½ is owned by the American Legion. Our Building Inspector Rhiannon Peters was going to reach out to the owner of the apartment building to let them know about the situation and if they would voluntarily put up no parking signs there.

We have also been approached from some Eagle Lake property owners about installing some speed signs near the causeway on Route 74. Discussion was held on how they would be powered and the group is considering either fully funding or partially funding these signs that are hard wired, they go for \$4,000.00 or less. It is a state road and there may be a process that the

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Town may need to initiate that. The Supervisor has DOT contact information and can give that to the group, we can certainly support that, but it is in their hands.

Resolution #58-2023 brought by Dave Woods, seconded by Tom Thatcher to advertise for Part Time Police Officers in the Press Republican which is in addition to the Sun Community News. **All in Favor** Mark Wright – Aye, Dave Woods – Aye, Joyce Cooper – Aye, Tom Thatcher – Aye, Tom Cunningham – Aye. **Opposed** – none. **Carried.**

Resolution #59-2023 brought by Dave Woods, seconded by Tom Thatcher to advertise for an anticipated Full-Time Police Officer in the Press Republican which is in addition to the Sun Community News. **All in Favor** Mark Wright – Aye, Dave Woods – Aye, Joyce Cooper – Aye, Tom Thatcher – Aye, Tom Cunningham – Aye. **Opposed** – none. **Carried.**

Public Works – Mark Wright, Supervisor

**Town of Ticonderoga
Water/Sewer Committee Meeting Minutes
January 31, 2023
10:30 am**

Committee Members Present: Mark Wright, Tom Cunningham, Derrick Fleury, Eric Blanchard, Matt Fuller (Town Attorney), Sherry Veneto

Others: Greg Swart (AES-Architecture, Engineering, & Land Surveying), Paul DeDominicas (AES), Keith Germain (AES), Shannon Vogt (AES), Nicole Justice-Green (Pride), Hannah Neilly (Essex Co. Planning), Rob Wick (ECP), Anna Reynolds (ECP), Marlene Martin (DOH), Dave Woods (Town Board Member), Tom Thatcher (Town Board Member), Joyce Cooper (Town Board Member), Dave Burrows (Code Enforcement), Debbie & Jack Mulcahy, Deanna DiPofi, Mike Trybendis, Diane Brannock-Grunewald, Vic LaVallee, John DiPofi, Susan & Gary Clark, Dan Blanchette, Michael Moser, Betty & Jim Garrison, Robert Seissen.

Pledge to the Flag

Public Comment: Mike Trybendis is here on behalf of Chilson Fire Department to ask about the fire hydrants that supply Chilson. He is making a request that the Town of Ticonderoga provide information for the plan they have to keep the hydrants in working condition why Gooseneck is shut down. He is giving the Town 2 weeks; he will give his request in writing to the Town Clerk.

Deanna DiPofi asked if Mark had received the questions submitted on behalf of the Chilson/Eagle Lake residents, and if there are any responses to them. Residents were upset they were receiving the letters late, or past the reply by date. She was told the Town will continue to accept the surveys; we are just looking to get answers from the residents.

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Debbie Mulcahy is wondering if the same chlorination filtration system from Gooseneck would be used for the Municipal well being discussed or if a new system would have to be put in. Per Greg, it would be a small building with a small chlorination system, it would be designed to follow State standards.

Debbie Mulcahy asked if there is a legal limit that a municipality can be charged for water services. Per Matt, there is no limit in NYS. However, the State Comptroller needs to approve the amount being charged.

What if someone draws from Eagle Lake and years down the road it can't be used anymore, can they join the district then? Mark- If there is a municipal district formed, yes, the district can be expanded.

Will meters be going into the homes at the same time? Mark/Greg -Meters will be going into homes later, but only into houses that are in a district.

Can any of the grant money be used for this project? Mark- We have not received any information on how the 4 million dollars can be used.

Deanna DiPofi- Isn't it against NYS Sanitary Law to shut water off to our houses? Mark- No it isn't. The Town is not obligated to provide water, because you are not in a district. Contract users decided years ago to not for a district. Morally the Town is trying to help the residents find a solution. Matt- What the supervisor is telling you is correct.

Deanna DiPofi- Is the test well drilled on Hall Road a few years ago usable? Derrick- It came out that there was only enough to provide for a couple of properties.

Dan Blanchette- Middle/Old Chilson Roads would be a shared well? Who pays for the electricity, who pays for the pump if it goes bad? Mark- The owners of the well would share the cost.

Dan Blanchette- Invites AES to come to his property. He has an artesian spring and so does his neighbor. He has 10 acres; he invites them to come take a look to see if it is useful.

Debbie Mulcahy- There haven't been any test wells drilled along Eagle Lake yet, right? Derrick- No, not yet.

Debbie Mulcahy- Derrick, do you know of any properties along 74 that have drilled a well yet? Derrick- No, not along 74 that he is aware of.

How quickly is this going to be moving along? Mark- People need to respond to the survey, so we know what everyone's plan is.

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Will the people who choose not to be in a district be pulled into the district if the line runs by the property? Matt- Until the map comes out from the engineer, we can't answer that.

Deanna DiPofi- Can we set up a meeting with the 20 properties that could be included in a municipal district? Mark- that is possible, but we need the responses back from those properties. The Town needs that information. Deanna- how will people be notified about the meeting? Mark- it will be on the Town website, on social media, posted in the paper.

Sherry will share the Municipal letter list with Susan & Gary Clark and they will try to contact each of those residents to get them to answer the survey.

Deanna DiPofi- One residence has already disconnected from the Gooseneck system. People are afraid to begin because there's a potential for grant money. When will people know if there is money for private wells? Mark- we can't answer that. We don't know how that money can be used yet.

Items for Discussion:

1. 16 Amherst Avenue (Mike Moser)-
 - a. Mike wants to confirm that the Town has received his letter and pictures of the manhole on his property.
 - b. It was received and Derrick & Eric went to check it out.
 - i. Plan of action will be to dig it up to see if there is pipe there, he doesn't believe that manhole is in use. Once they get a break in weather, they will be on it.
2. Water/Sewer to Accessory Structures
 - a. Derrick is wondering if there is a current Town policy about connecting water and/or sewer to an accessory structure.
 - b. Dave Burrows had someone looking to add a bathroom to a new garage. He's concerned this may turn into an illegal apartment.
 - i. After a short discussion, it was determined that water and/or sewer can go to the accessory structure, but the owner needs to be notified the structure is not permitted for living area.
3. Lead Service Line Inventory
 - a. The Town seems to be further ahead than figured, the information just has to be organized.

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- b. Hannah- The County has reached out to each community to see where they are in the process and if they need assistance getting started. Initial inventory is due by October 24, 2024.
 - c. The Town of Ticonderoga has over 2500 services to complete a list of.
 - d. Greg believes the Town is in good shape right now.
4. 1489 NYS Route 9N (Anthony & Heather Wolfe)
- a. This property is now listed as a 2-family residence. The account will need to be increased to 2 O&M Water and 2 EDU Water.
 - i. It is recommended to the Town Board to increase the billing account for 1489 NYS Route 9N (Anthony & Heather Wolfe) to 2 O&M Water and 2 EDU Water, as the home is now listed as a 2-family dwelling.
5. 32 Water Street / 35 The Portage (Assembly of God Church)
- a. These 2 properties have been combined into 1 lot per the Assessor. The account for 35 The Portage will need to be deactivated, as the property is under the tax map # associated with 32 Water Street.
 - i. It is recommended to the Town Board to deactivate the billing account for 35 The Portage as it has been combined with 32 Water Street.
6. 170 Champlain Avenue (170 Champlain Ave LLC)
- a. The assessor has changed this property from 6 apartments to 1. They are looking to have their account reduced to 1 EDU Water & 1 EDU Sewer.
 - i. More information is needed from the Assessor about the determination of changing the property on her file.
7. 208 Black Point Road (Danny McQuay)
- a. The Assessor now has this property listed as a single-family residence. The account will need to be increased to 1 EDU Sewer and add 1 O&M Sewer to the account.

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- i. It is recommended to the Town Board to increase the billing account for 208 Black Point Road (Danny McQuay) to 1 EDU Sewer and add 1 O&M Sewer charge.

8. 63 Montcalm Street (Corey Trudeau)
 - a. Property has been updated on the Assessor's live file to multiple residence with 5 units. The billing account will need to be increased to 5 EDU Water and 5 EDU Sewer.
 - i. It is recommended to the Town Board to increase the billing account for 63 Montcalm Street (Corey Trudeau) to 5 EDU Water and 5 EDU Sewer. Per the change in the Assessor's live file.

9. 82 Outlet Drive (Ron O'Neil)
 - a. The account for this property needs to be increased to 1 EDU Water and 1 EDU Sewer, as it has been given a CO (Certificate of Occupancy).
 - i. It is recommended to the Town Board to increase the billing account for 82 Outlet Drive (Ron O'Neil) to 1 EDU Water & 1 EDU Sewer.

10. Task Force Update
 - a. Tom gave a quick recap of why the Task Force was put into place. To investigate whether or not to give a reduced rate for properties under construction.
 - b. It was found it would be too difficult to complete. Between billing periods, tracking from the Codes Department and Water Department, Inspections, water lines being shut down and back on, and creating a policy to go by, there is too much to create a process like this. Especially with meters being installed in the next few years.
 - c. It was determined that the vacant lot fee is not enough to cover the debt costs for the districts. These fees will be looked into further.

11. 89 The Portage

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- a. The property owner has been reimbursed for the septic hauler fees they paid for, due to the error of their septic line not being hooked up properly.

12. Black Point Pump Station

- a. Derrick would like to order the UV unit and get everything together. There should be enough in fund balance to pay for everything.

13. DOJ Update

- a. In the revision they talk about a district drinking water solution, which is a district that would be formed. Matt drafted in a definition of that, otherwise he didn't change the actual order parts, as it was pretty much in line with what was proposed.
- b. By August 15 of this year, we're going to submit a report as to where we are. Who's in going to ground water, who's in going to Eagle Lake surface water. Is there enough time to pull this all together for an MPR before the August date. Greg believes it can happen.
- c. Matt will look for approval at the February 9th Town Board meeting to report back on February 10th.

Superintendent's Report

- Johndrow's is all hooked up. The Town completed all of the work, minus the drilling under the road. The well abandonment still needs to be done.
- The local veterinarian is asking if the Town would take water cremation waste. He told them he would have to run some tests and look into it.
- Wondering how the Saint Clair Street project is going. He is getting sewer overflows.

Chief Wastewater Operator's Report

- Been working on the yearly reports. Bio solids report is out to EPA and DEC. He will need some help on the mercury minimization report from AES.
- Another blower motor went, he is going to see if there is any warranty is on it.

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- Tim from Lake George gave Eric the model number for the machine they use for the TES levels in the sewer. Wondering if it's something the Town needs to purchase.

Other

Greg- Marlene from DOH called him about a call she received from a property owner that wants to drill a well but can't meet setbacks. If a property owner can't meet setbacks, they need to fill out a waiver form for signoff from DOH. Marlene suggests that the Town set up a process for this, as there are going to be a good number of wells being drilled in the near future.

AES Report

1. Water

I. Chilson Eagle Lake (Required by DOH)

- Further Outreach to be compiled and mailed to homeowners
 - Review public comments on packages
 - Review various funding applications
 - Review questions on properties
 - RD Funding
 - Set goals for 2023

II. Water Meters (Required by DEC)

- Awaiting GIGP Award Announcements (Expected soon?)
- Need to be online by May 1, 2025.
- Set meeting for February/March to make final decisions on water meter project

III. Water District Consolidation (In progress)

- Map, Plan, and Report
 - Finalize Maps
 - Finalize Metes and Bounds
 - Set meeting with Matt and Scott

IV. LSLRP

- Approx \$40-\$50K left over.
 - Time has been extended
 - Contract amendment for Reale for spring work

V. Additional Water System Upgrades

- \$5,000,000 WIIA Grant with 30 year subsidized loan (70% grant)
 - Set spring meeting to finalize goals

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2. Wastewater

I. AES #4394 Portage

- Plus minus change order in progress
 - Easements

II. Treatment Plant

- AES is preparing an EPG Report to address phosphorus and other deficiencies at the WPCP.

III. Collection System

- The Long-Term Control Plan EPG
 - The Updated Long Term Control Plan needs to be submitted to NYSDEC by August 1, 2023.

IV. BIL Funding

- Response Letter
 - RFQ for engineering should occur Q1 2023
 - Set meeting for scheduling final scoping decision.

V. Additional Permitting Requirements

- Annual Report due January 31st
 - On time

VI. Additional Wastewater System Upgrades

- Black Point Road Pump Station
 - Bidding?
 - Sewer District Consolidation
 - Sewer district consolidation has not yet begun but is slated to begin upon completion of the water district consolidation.

3. Additional Items

- Salt from hard water
 - Meeting adjourned at 1:17.
 - Next meeting will be Tuesday February 28, 2023, at 10:30
 -
- Minutes respectfully submitted by Sherry Veneto, Water/Wastewater Clerk.

Resolution #60-2023 brought by Tom Cunningham, seconded by Dave Woods to hold a Public Hearing on March 7, 2023 at 6:00 p.m. to allow citizens to ask questions regarding the Chilson/Eagle Lake letters they received and well program. **All in Favor** Mark Wright – Aye, Dave Woods – Aye, Joyce Cooper – Aye, Tom Thatcher – Aye, Tom Cunningham – Aye. **Opposed** – none. **Carried.**

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Resolution #61-2023 brought by Tom Thatcher, seconded by Tom Cunningham, to appoint the following Public Works Committee Members: Mark Wright (chair), Tom Cunningham (co-chair), Derrick Fleury, Eric Blanchard, and Sherry Veneto. **All in Favor** Mark Wright – Aye, Dave Woods – Aye, Joyce Cooper – Aye, Tom Thatcher – Aye, Tom Cunningham – Aye. **Opposed** – none. **Carried.**

Resolution #62-2023 brought by Dave Woods, seconded by Tom Cunningham to increase the account for 1489 NYS Route 9N (Anthony & Heather Wolfe) to 2 EDU Water and 2 O&M Water, as the property now has an apartment in the home, per the Assessor's live file. **All in Favor** Mark Wright – Aye, Dave Woods – Aye, Joyce Cooper – Aye, Tom Thatcher – Aye, Tom Cunningham – Aye. **Opposed** – none. **Carried. All in Favor** Mark Wright – Aye, Dave Woods – Aye, Joyce Cooper – Aye, Tom Thatcher – Aye, Tom Cunningham – Aye. **Opposed** – none. **Carried.**

Resolution #63-2023 brought by Tom Cunningham, seconded by Tom Thatcher to deactivate the account for 35 The Portage as it has been combined with 32 Water Street (Assembly of God Church). Per the Assessor's live file. **All in Favor** Mark Wright – Aye, Dave Woods – Aye, Joyce Cooper – Aye, Tom Thatcher – Aye, Tom Cunningham – Aye. **Opposed** – none. **Carried.**

Resolution #64-2023 brought by Tom Thatcher, seconded by Tom Cunningham to increase the account for 208 Black Point Road (Danny McQuay) to 1 EDU Sewer and add 1 O&M Sewer charge, as the lot now has a single-family dwelling on it. Per the Assessor's live file. **All in Favor** Mark Wright – Aye, Dave Woods – Aye, Joyce Cooper – Aye, Tom Thatcher – Aye, Tom Cunningham – Aye. **Opposed** – none. **Carried.**

Resolution #65-2023 brought by Dave Woods, seconded by Tom Thatcher to increase the account for 82 Outlet Drive (Ron O'Neil) to 1 EDU Water and 1 EDU Sewer, as it is listed as a single-family dwelling on the tax roll. **All in Favor** Mark Wright – Aye, Dave Woods – Aye, Joyce Cooper – Aye, Tom Thatcher – Aye, Tom Cunningham – Aye. **Opposed** – none. **Carried.**

Resolution #66-2023 brought by Tom Cunningham, seconded by Joyce Cooper to increase the account for 63 Montcalm St (Corey Trudeau) to 5 EDU Water and 5 EDU Sewer, as the Assessor has changed the property listing to 5 dwellings/rental properties on the live file. **All in Favor** Mark Wright – Aye, Dave Woods – Aye, Joyce Cooper – Aye, Tom Thatcher – Aye, Tom Cunningham – Aye. **Opposed** – none. **Carried.**

Resolution #67-2023 brought by Tom Cunningham, seconded by Tom Thatcher authorizing the creation of a purchase order in the amount of \$13,204.20 to Siewert Equipment for the purchase of four (4) E-one Replacement Pumps for SS09 Black Point Sewer. **All in Favor** Mark Wright – Aye, Dave Woods – Aye, Joyce Cooper – Aye, Tom Thatcher – Aye, Tom Cunningham – Aye. **Opposed** – none. **Carried.**

Comments from the Task force regarding reducing water and sewer accounts for properties under construction.

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Councilman Cunningham stated that the task force reviewed the request of reduced EDU's for property under construction and it was decided that it was not in the best interest to move forward with that for a few reasons. One was, in a couple of years we will have water meters in and that would eliminate the need for this reduction, if water isn't being used, you won't be billed for it. So, our recommendation to the board is to not move forward with changing the existing procedure to reflect a reduction in EDU's when buildings are under construction. One good thing that did come out of this is that we do need to have some additional review on the vacant lot billings, we feel they are under billed at this point and they are not covering the proper debt fee, which needs to be recovered as a minimum. This certainly will need to be done before we install the meters.

Resolution #68-2023 brought by Dave Woods, seconded by Tom Cunningham to maintain the current process regarding reduced water and sewer rates for those properties that are being renovated or are unoccupied **All in Favor** Mark Wright – Aye, Dave Woods – Aye, Joyce Cooper – Aye, Tom Thatcher – Aye, Tom Cunningham – Aye. **Opposed** – none. **Carried.**

Human Services – Youth; Joyce Cooper, Councilwoman

Resolution #69-2023 brought by Tom Cunningham, seconded by Tom Thatcher to appoint the following Youth Commission Members: Joyce Cooper (chair), C. Tom Thatcher (co-chair), Pamela Moser, Tonya Thompson, Richard Roessler, Jenee Iturrino and Katie Anderson. **All in Favor** Mark Wright – Aye, Dave Woods – Aye, Joyce Cooper – Aye, Tom Thatcher – Aye, Tom Cunningham – Aye. **Opposed** – none. **Carried.**

Councilwoman Cooper would like to say our after school program is really being well attended, he had 50 kids there. Our Rec Director, Shawn Ross, is doing a great job – at the high school girls Varsity basket ball game last night our half time entertainment was the kids from the biddy basket ball team playing basketball and the crowd was so excited. One thing that the committee will need to deal with is the issue of children not being picked up in a timely manner. She thinks that maybe a letter needs to be sent home to pick up their children at a certain time. There has been some issues with discipling behavior issues and that has been taken care of.

Resolution #70-2023 brought by Tom Thatcher, seconded by Dave Woods to advertise for Lifeguard and Head Lifeguard positions for the 2023 Beach season. **All in Favor** Mark Wright – Aye, Dave Woods – Aye, Joyce Cooper – Aye, Tom Thatcher – Aye, Tom Cunningham – Aye. **Opposed** – none. **Carried.**

Supervisor Wright announced that this year, the Town will be reimbursing the certification fee for our guards if they are hired for the season.

Resolution #71-2023 brought by Tom Cunningham, seconded by Tom Thatcher authorizing the expenditure of monies for the 2023 Ticonderoga Youth Program in the amount of \$122,961.00. **All in Favor** Mark Wright – Aye, Dave Woods – Aye, Joyce Cooper – Aye, Tom Thatcher – Aye, Tom Cunningham – Aye. **Opposed** – none. **Carried.**

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Resolution #72-2023 brought by Mark Wright, seconded by Tom Thatcher to advertise for Assistant Day Camp Director and Camp Counselors for the 2023 Summer Camp Program. **All in Favor** Mark Wright – Aye, Dave Woods – Aye, Joyce Cooper – Aye, Tom Thatcher – Aye, Tom Cunningham – Aye. **Opposed** – none. **Carried.**

Resolution #73-2023 brought by Dave Woods, seconded by Tom Thatcher to advertise for Activity Attendants for the Ticonderoga Youth Program. **All in Favor** Mark Wright – Aye, Dave Woods – Aye, Joyce Cooper – Aye, Tom Thatcher – Aye, Tom Cunningham – Aye. **Opposed** – none. **Carried.**

Human Services – Seniors; Tom Cunningham, Councilman

No meeting, the next meeting will be in April.

Health Insurance – Mark Wright, Supervisor

Nothing to report.

Contract Negotiations – Mark Wright, Supervisor

Nothing to report.

I.T./Cable T.V. – Mark Wright, Supervisor

This letter will serve as notice that on or around March 1, 2023, Spectrum Northeast, LLC (“Spectrum”), will launch Stellar TV in high definition on SPP Select, channel 178 or channel 201 on the channel lineup serving your community.

Resolutions for Consideration

Resolution #74-2023 brought by Tom Cunningham, seconded by Joyce Cooper to submit a mini bid for the Water/Wastewater Dept. for a new 2023 F-250 truck. **All in Favor** Mark Wright – Aye, Dave Woods – Aye, Joyce Cooper – Aye, Tom Thatcher – Aye, Tom Cunningham – Aye. **Opposed** – none. **Carried.**

Resolution #75-2023 brought by Dave Woods, seconded by Tom Thatcher authorizing the purchase of and creation of a purchase order in the amount of \$55,022.44, for a skid steer through Sourcewell Bidding for Water/Wastewater Dept. **All in Favor** Mark Wright – Aye, Dave Woods – Aye, Joyce Cooper – Aye, Tom Thatcher – Aye, Tom Cunningham – Aye. **Opposed** – none. **Carried.**

Resolution #76-2023 brought by Dave Woods, seconded by Tom Cunningham authorizing the creation of a purchase order in the amount of \$550.00, to Biometrics 4 All for the configuration and installation of new the fingerprint machine at the Police Station. **All in Favor** Mark Wright –

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Aye, Dave Woods – Aye, Joyce Cooper – Aye, Tom Thatcher – Aye, Tom Cunningham – Aye.
Opposed – none. Carried.

Resolution #77-2023 brought by Tom Cunningham, seconded by Joyce Cooper to amend
Resolution #15-2023 to correct the error stating the Sewer Account fund balances will be covering
increased costs for Water Accounts. It should state Water Fund Balance will cover increased costs
for water accounts. **All in Favor** Mark Wright – Aye, Dave Woods – Aye, Joyce Cooper – Aye,
Tom Thatcher – Aye, Tom Cunningham – Aye. **Opposed – none. Carried.**

Resolution #78-2023 brought by Tom Thatcher, seconded by Tom Cunningham authorizing the
following budget transfers:

- A.1989.400 Contingency (\$123.70)
- A.1220.499 Supervisor Professional Contractual Recording \$123.70

Fund underbudgeted General accounts from Contingency (Balance after transfer \$ 74,781.30).

All in Favor Mark Wright – Aye, Dave Woods – Aye, Joyce Cooper – Aye, Tom Thatcher – Aye,
Tom Cunningham – Aye. **Opposed – none. Carried.**

Resolution #79-2023 brought by Dave Woods, seconded by Tom Thatcher authorizing the
following budget adjustments:

- A.7310.861 Youth Programs General Employee Benefits \$22,494.12
- SW06.8310.475 Water Admin DOJ Compliance Advertising \$56.52
- SW05.8310.405 Water Administration Contractual \$1,445.13

Funding account by General Fund Balance for Budget Correction.

Funding underbudgeted account by Water Fund Balance.

Funding accounts by Water Fund Balances to cover increased costs.

All in Favor Mark Wright – Aye, Dave Woods – Aye, Joyce Cooper – Aye, Tom Thatcher – Aye,
Tom Cunningham – Aye. **Opposed – none. Carried.**

Resolution #80-2023 brought by Tom Cunningham, seconded by Tom Thatcher authorizing the
following Inter-Fund Transfer:

- A.9950.900 General Inter-fund Transfer (\$972.95)
- H61.5031 Chilson / Eagle Lake \$972.95

Transfer funds from General to Eagle Lake Water Project.

Minutes for a Ticonderoga Regular Town Board Meeting held on February 9, 2023, commencing at 6:00 p.m. with Public Hearings regarding a repeal of LL #3-2007 for the Administration & Enforcement of NYS uniform Fire Prevention & Bldg Code and regarding EMS Services in the Town

All in Favor Mark Wright – Aye, Dave Woods – Aye, Joyce Cooper – Aye, Tom Thatcher – Aye, Tom Cunningham – Aye. **Opposed** – none. **Carried.**

Resolution #81-2023 brought by Dave Woods, seconded by Tom Thatcher authorizing the following Inter-Fund Loans:

- DA.0391 Highway Due From Other Funds (\$4,801.06)
- H60.0630 Veterans Road Culvert/Bridge Project Due To Other Funds \$4,801.06

Transfer funds from Highway to Veterans Rd Culvert/Bridge project until funding is received.

- A.0391 General Due From Other Funds (\$1,500.00)
- H19.0630 Airport Apron Project Due To Other Funds \$1,500.00

Transfer funds from General to Airport Apron project under funding is received.

- A.0391 General Due From Other Funds (\$17,051.67)
- H18.0630 Airport Pavement Management Due To Other Funds \$17,051.67

Transfer funds from General to Airport Pavement project under funding is received.

- A.0391 General Due From Other Funds (\$17,612.87)
- H20.0630 Airport Environmental Assessment \$17,612.87

Transfer funds from General to Airport Apron project under funding is received.

All in Favor Mark Wright – Aye, Dave Woods – Aye, Joyce Cooper – Aye, Tom Thatcher – Aye, Tom Cunningham – Aye. **Opposed** – none. **Carried.**

Resolution #82-2023 brought by Joyce Cooper, seconded by Tom Thatcher to accept the satisfactory findings of the 2022 municipal court audit. **All in Favor** Mark Wright – Aye, Dave Woods – Aye, Joyce Cooper – Aye, Tom Thatcher – Aye, Tom Cunningham – Aye. **Opposed** – none. **Carried.**

Resolution #83-2023 brought by Dave Woods, seconded by Tom Cunningham to advertise for an anticipated Sole Assessor position. **All in Favor** Mark Wright – Aye, Dave Woods – Aye, Joyce Cooper – Aye, Tom Thatcher – Aye, Tom Cunningham – Aye. **Opposed** – none. **Carried.**

Supervisor Wright would like to correct a statement that he made earlier, that position did not get an increase, all of the elected positions and appointed positions were froze at their salary this year. Some Department heads and the Town Clerk voluntarily froze their salaries this year, he would like to make that clear, he was in correct earlier.

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Resolution #84-2023 brought by Tom Cunningham, seconded by Joyce Cooper authorizing the renewal of the Town's Pollution Liability coverage with an annual premium price quote of \$4,338. **All in Favor** Mark Wright – Aye, Dave Woods – Aye, Joyce Cooper – Aye, Tom Thatcher – Aye, Tom Cunningham – Aye. **Opposed** – none. **Carried.**

Resolution #85-2023 brought by Mark Wright, seconded by Joyce Cooper opposing the decision by the Adirondack Park Agency (APA) and department of environmental conservation (DEC) regarding trailered boats at the Eagle Lake Boat Launch site. **All in Favor** Mark Wright – Aye, Dave Woods – Aye, Joyce Cooper – Aye, Tom Thatcher – Aye, Tom Cunningham – Aye. **Opposed** – none. **Carried.**

RESOLUTION OPPOSING THE DECISION BY THE ADIRONDACK PARK AGENCY (APA) AND DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION (DEC) REGARDING TRAILERED BOATS AT THE EAGLE LAKE BOAT LAUNCH SITE

WHEREAS, the Adirondack Park Agency State Land Master Plan states launching sites for trailered boats will only be provided by the state on Adirondack lakes in conformity with specific management guidelines; and

WHEREAS, one of those management guidelines states boat launching sites will only be provided on large lakes regularly used by motorboats and a large lake is defined as a lake approximately 1,000 acres or more in area; and

WHEREAS, Eagle Lake Boat Launch site located in the Town of Ticonderoga, County of Essex is identified as non-conforming with the Master Plan for trailered boat access, with Eagle Lake being smaller than 1,000 acres at 400 acres; and

WHEREAS, the three (3) alternatives identified to County and Town officials included do nothing, convert the waterway access site, or perform an assessment and reclassify; and

WHEREAS, the Adirondack Park Agency decision, without Town or County input and discussion, was to convert the waterway access site resulting in an implementation process to begin after two (2) seasons which will consist of prohibiting the access for trailered boats; and

WHEREAS, the decision by the Adirondack Park Agency to prohibit trailered boat access at the Eagle Lake Boat Launch will negatively impact local residents and visitors to this site.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT

RESOLVED, that the Ticonderoga Town Board is hereby in opposition to this action.

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Resolution #86-2023 brought by Tom Cunningham, seconded by Joyce Cooper authorizing the Supervisor to execute the Agreement for Maintenance of County Roads between the Town of Ticonderoga and Essex County for 2023. **All in Favor** Mark Wright – Aye, Dave Woods – Aye, Joyce Cooper – Aye, Tom Thatcher – Aye, Tom Cunningham – Aye. **Opposed** – none. **Carried.**

Resolution #87-2023 brought by Dave Woods, seconded by Tom Thatcher authorizing the approval of an agreement between the Town of Ticonderoga and Essex County for the Annual Lease of DMV Office Space at 132 Montcalm Street in the amount of \$2,200 for the term of the 2023 lease. **All in Favor** Mark Wright – Aye, Dave Woods – Aye, Joyce Cooper – Aye, Tom Thatcher – Aye, Tom Cunningham – Aye. **Opposed** – none. **Carried.**

Resolution #88-2023 brought by Tom Cunningham, seconded by Joyce Cooper to approve the Town Clerk posting notification of the completed AUD for 2021 in the legals of the Sun Community News. **All in Favor** Mark Wright – Aye, Dave Woods – Aye, Joyce Cooper – Aye, Tom Thatcher – Aye, Tom Cunningham – Aye. **Opposed** – none. **Carried.**

Resolution #89-2023 brought by Tom Thatcher, seconded by Joyce Cooper to advertise for Food Service helpers and a cook for the 2023 Summer Meal Service Program. **All in Favor** Mark Wright – Aye, Dave Woods – Aye, Joyce Cooper – Aye, Tom Thatcher – Aye, Tom Cunningham – Aye. **Opposed** – none. **Carried.**

Resolution #90-2023 brought by Dave Woods, seconded by Tom Cunningham approving the annual subscription renewal of VMware vSphere cloud computing virtualization platform through StoredTech in an amount not to exceed \$175.00. **All in Favor** Mark Wright – Aye, Dave Woods – Aye, Joyce Cooper – Aye, Tom Thatcher – Aye, Tom Cunningham – Aye. **Opposed** – none. **Carried.**

Resolution #91-2023 brought by Mark Wright, seconded by Dave Woods opposing the application of ProcellaCOR in Lake George until such time that the necessary scientific evidence can be gathered on the potential adverse impacts to Lake George water quality, human health, and aquatic plant and animal life. **All in Favor** Mark Wright – Aye, Dave Woods – Aye, Joyce Cooper – Aye, Tom Thatcher – Aye. **Opposed** – none. Tom Cunningham – Abstain. **Carried.**

Councilman Cunningham explained that he is on a committee for the LGPC, so while it does not associate with this, it is appropriate for him to abstain from that resolution.

Resolution #92-2023 brought by Joyce Cooper, seconded by Tom Cunningham to set a public hearing for March 9, 2023, at 6 P.M. to discuss a proposed “Ordinance Prohibiting Parking on the West Side of Champlain Avenue between Algonkin Street and Father Jogues Place in the Town of Ticonderoga”. **All in Favor** Mark Wright – Aye, Dave Woods – Aye, Joyce Cooper – Aye, Tom Thatcher – Aye, Tom Cunningham – Aye. **Opposed** – none. **Carried.**

Resolution #93-2023 brought by Dave Woods, seconded by Tom Thatcher to accept the minutes of the January 12, 2023, Regular TB Meeting, the January 26, 2023 Finance Meeting, and the February 2, 2023 EMS Workshop. **All in Favor** Mark Wright – Aye, Dave Woods – Aye, Joyce Cooper – Aye, Tom Thatcher – Aye, Tom Cunningham – Aye. **Opposed** – none. **Carried.**

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regarding EMS Services in the Town**

Resolution #94-2023 brought by Tom Cunningham, seconded by Joyce Cooper to Pay the Abstract #2 of 2023. **All in Favor** Mark Wright – Aye, Dave Woods – Aye, Joyce Cooper – Aye, Tom Thatcher – Aye, Tom Cunningham – Aye. **Opposed** – none. **Carried.**

Board Meeting Date 2/9/2023				
Gross Payroll # 2	105,462.58			
Gross Payroll # 3	112,023.61			
Trust & Agency Total	\$217,486.19			
Pre-Pays:	\$0.00			

ABSTRACT # 2	2/9/2023	Cash Transfers	YTD Revenue	YTD Expenses
General (A)	189,401.27	842,924.27	3,142,198.66	564,630.09
CD20 LaChute Trail Connector	-	-		
CD21 LISC Zombie		-	-	-
CM Library Trust Special		-	120.32	-
Highway (DA)	87,636.08	87,636.08	1,378,599.82	226,342.59
H17 - Ticonderoga Airport Improvements		-	-	-
H18 - Airport Pavement Management	17,051.67	17,051.67	2.16	17,051.67
H19 - Airport Apron Reconstruction / Taxiway Rehab	1,500.00	1,500.00	0.57	1,500.00
H20 - Airport Environmental Assessment	17,612.87	17,612.87	0.47	17,612.87
H36 - C/P Chilson Res. Replacement		-	3.35	-
H45 - C/P Equipment Purchase		-	-	-
H48 - FEMA Chilson Water Main		-	0.02	-

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H49 - GIGP Daylight Streaming		4,902.75	-	-
H50 - C/P WQIP WWTP Disinfection	-	-	1.55	-
H51 - Res & Design French Sawmill	-	-	1.43	-
H53 - Clean Water Main Project	4,902.75	-	3.17	8,975.50
H54 - LaChute Signage Grant		-	-	30,499.83
H56 - Sewer Pollution Right to Know		-	0.28	-
H57 - Parking Lot Cannonball Path		-	0.08	-
H58 - WWTP HVAC Project		-	-	-
H59 - LCBP Storm Water Sewer Separation	-	-	4.57	-
H60 - Veterans RD Culvert/Bridge NY Project	4,801.06	-	120,184.19	-
H61 - Chilson/Eagle Lake Water Exploration	972.95	5,774.01	58,883.15	59,856.10
H62 - Lead Service Line Replacement Grant			-	-
H63 - Water Meter Project	-		-	-
H64 - WWTP Ventilation Project GIGP	-		-	-
H65 - 5052 WWTP Phosphorous removal EPG			0.48	-
H66 - NYS DEC EPG #104867			-	-
H67- Wet Weather Operating Plan	-	-	0.02	-
H68 - Black Point HVAC 5099	-	-	-	-
PN - Permanent Fund Mt. Hope Cemetery			97.07	-
SF01- Ticonderoga Town/Village Joint Fire District	557,108.00		557,108.00	557,108.00
SF02 - Chilson Fire Protection District	96,415.00		96,415.00	96,415.00

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Claymore Sewer District (SS01)	39.14		1,475.29	434.80
Park Ave Sewer District (SS02)	23.12		12,688.35	12,289.93
Alex Ave Sewer District (SS03)	30.30		8,879.00	8,741.16
Homelands Sewer Dist (SS04)	104.19		4,865.23	4,975.32
Central Sewer (SS05)	16,143.01	16,912.37	339,981.35	232,704.53
Commerce Park Sewer (SS06)	92.07		19,711.69	17,789.16
Delano Point Sewer (SS07)	77.27		6,408.34	4,543.31
Baldwin Road Sewer Dist (SS08)	96.55		11,278.29	7,110.42
Black Point Road Sewer (SS09)	87.24		68,250.00	106,972.66
Hague Road Sewer (SS10)	56.71		3,093.06	2,437.09
9N & 74 Sewer (SS11)	162.77		7,549.35	6,402.96
9N & 74 Water (SW01)	-		16,693.84	16,098.00
Street Road Water (SW02)	-		8,366.80	7,440.00
Alex Avenue I Water District (SW03)	-		6,945.51	6,720.00
Homelands Water District (SW04)	-		2,883.56	2,664.00
Alex Ave II Water District (SW05)	-		10,584.65	11,939.13
Central Water (SW06)	28,260.86	28,281.59	292,786.66	112,918.13
Park Ave Water Dist (SW07)	-		8,021.03	7,770.00
Shore Airport Water (SW09)	20.73		59,185.99	22,421.72
Multi Account Total	1,022,595.61	1,022,595.61	6,243,272.35	2,172,363.97
Total Expenditures This Abstract	\$1,240,081.80	TRUE		

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Resolution #95-2023 brought by Dave Woods, seconded by Tom Thatcher to accept the Supervisor's Report as submitted. **All in Favor** Mark Wright – Aye, Dave Woods – Aye, Joyce Cooper – Aye, Tom Thatcher – Aye, Tom Cunningham – Aye. **Opposed** – none. **Carried**.

Supervisor's Report

2/9/2023

Account Title	GFNB	NYCLASS	GFNB ICS	Total
General	1,613,013.25	169,385.33	6,113,784.24	7,896,182.82
Airport	86,712.63			86,712.63
Highway	94,303.28	84,994.70	1,467,259.06	1,646,557.04
H17 - Airport				-
H36 - Master Drinking Water	120,590.51			120,590.51
Clean Water H49 H50 H53	172,944.49			172,944.49
H56 - Sewer Pollution Right to Know				-
H57 - Parking Lot Cannonball Path				-
H58 - WWTP - HVAC Planning Grant				-
H59 - LCBP NEIWPC				-
H61 - Chilson Eagle Lake Project				-
All other Capital Projects	391,499.90			
SS01 - Claymore				-
SS02 - Park Ave				-
SS03 - Alex Ave				-
SS04 - Homelands				-
SS05 & All Districts	410,004.84	692,758.76	1,007,395.79	2,110,159.39
SW06 - Central Water All Districts	744,739.67	510,965.98	55,999.15	1,311,704.80
C/R - Carillon Park		5,215.85		5,215.85
C/R - Liberty Monument		10,692.20		10,692.20

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C/R - Unemployment		30,827.90		30,827.90
C/R - Police Equipment		75,507.18		75,507.18
C/R - Senior Bus		20,668.12		20,668.12
C/R - Frazier Bridge		6,728.12		6,728.12
C/R - Forfeiture		1,762.57		1,762.57
C/R - Building Improvement		331,565.19		331,565.19
C/R - General Sidewalk Improvement		203,581.95		
C/R - Building & Grounds Equipment		10,918.76		
C/R - Airport Development		101,765.45		
C/R - Highway Equipment		176,187.79		176,187.79
C/R - DA Sidewalk Repair		20,363.31		
C/R - Sewer Equipment + Infrastructure		82,117.57		82,117.57
C/R - Sewer Repair		102,255.20		102,255.20
C/R - Water Equipment + Infrastructure		262,782.44		262,782.44
C/R - Water Repair		51,009.64		51,009.64
0				-
Library Trust		34,152.00		34,152.00
Mount Hope Cemetery		27,458.51		27,458.51
				21,310,484.77
Total	10,380,507.38	3,013,664.52	8,644,442.24	22,038,614.14

DISCUSSION: Chilson Volunteer Fire Department letter.

February 1, 2023

Minutes for a Ticonderoga Regular Town Board Meeting held on February 9, 2023, commencing at 6:00 p.m. with Public Hearings regarding a repeal of LL #3-2007 for the Administration & Enforcement of NYS uniform Fire Prevention & Bldg Code and regarding EMS Services in the Town

To: Town of
Ticonderoga From:
MichaelTrybendis

Subject: Chilson/Eagle Lake Water Concern

I spoke at the water meeting on 1-31...2023 concerning the termination. Of Goose Neck water supply in 2025. The Chilson Volunteer Fire Company has 4 hydrants on the transmission line that are usable. The Chilson Fire Company needs documentation from the State of NY that the Town of Ticonderoga has authority to shut down the water supply to the Chilson Fire protection district. Please reply by 2-15-2023. Thank you for your help in This matter.

Michael Trybendis
Chief Chilson Volunteer Fire Company

Supervisor Wright would like to board to decide if they want him to return a letter to Mr. Trybendis in response to his letter. The board agreed. He continued explaining that the Chilson Vol. Fire Department provides fire protection by contract with the Town Board. The Chilson Vol. Fire Department does not possess oversight or authority over this protection district, the Town Board possess that sole authority. The Town cannot speak for NYS regarding a request for documentation, the Town is under a Consent Agreement with the DOJ to disconnect drinking water only. He can't address what is going to happen in the future. He assumes that means disconnect means disconnecting each home from the main water line. We have no other guidance as to what disconnect means. As far as he knows, water will continue to flow down that line until it doesn't.

130 The Portage – did we put this out? (No) We did agree, by resolution, to advertise the sale of that property but we wanted to put some specific development language in there and we will work on that. The property needs to be declared surplus.

Tonya M. Thompson, Town Clerk

A few resolutions.

Resolution #96-2023 brought by Tom Cunningham, seconded by Joyce Cooper to repeal Local Law #3-2007 providing for the administration and enforcement of the NYS uniform fire prevention and building code. **All in Favor** Mark Wright – Aye, Dave Woods – Aye, Joyce Cooper – Aye, Tom Thatcher – Aye, Tom Cunningham – Aye. **Opposed** – none. **Carried.**

Resolution #97-2023 brought by Dave Woods, seconded by Tom Cunningham to advertise for Day Camp Director for the 2023 Summer Program. **All in Favor** Mark Wright – Aye, Dave Woods – Aye, Joyce Cooper – Aye, Tom Thatcher – Aye, Tom Cunningham – Aye. **Opposed** – none. **Carried.**

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Matthew Fuller, Town Attorney

Mr. Fuller is poised to respond to the DOJ and the EPA tomorrow on the potential modification of the Consent Decree, he can give you the details here in public, if there are any questions we can have an executive session to discuss it. The short of this is to amend the interim time frame, the June 2025 time frame cannot be amended. We pushed for that, but it is not going to happen. The interim amendments are to really provide updates, we will update the EPA, DOJ and DOH as to our status with all the users that have decided they are going off-line, construct a well or connect to another water source and for those users, there is a pocket or so of users that may need assistance with a small municipal system such as a well, and to provide a Map, Plan and Report for them. That is by August of this year, we must have that prepared. That is really the big change. It removes the other interim dates we had for a full MPR for the entire district to move forward with the contracting and the bidding of that project, those dates are proposed to be removed. So, if the board has questions, we can go into executive for discussion; otherwise, he is poised to move that forward tomorrow. He also has a call with them tomorrow to discuss financing. The EPA continues to help us out here to explore finding missing avenues potentially for private as we have discussed at some of our meetings. There is no traditional hard funding mechanisms for the scope of private wells we need. He will have that call with them tomorrow and report back at public works. (the board is fine with this).

Public Comment

Debra and Jack Mulcahy sent an email directed to the Town Board members regarding the bridge project. Now that we have driven through the causeway just today, both lanes are open and the cones are gone, but it is still very, very dark and that is such a bad curve and that rock ledge right there. She really wishes that National Grid would put that other, second light back on the pole. They took down two poles, put two new poles in and only put street lights on one pole. It was very, very dark and when they closed down that bridge with the cones and the traffic light, the way traffic had to stop going toward Schroon, the lights were directly in your eyes and it was blinding with the lights, the reflection off the cones, but if there is anyway leverage that you have to get National Grid to put that second street light back on that pole.

Councilman Woods asked if there was any stipulations in the project contract to put back what was there?

Mrs. Mulcahy thought that there were, that light has now been down for..... Mr. Mulcahy interjected that one of the reasons that they took those poles down was because they were so old. He believes that the Town owns the street lights and why National Grid has not put that back up is beyond us. Mrs. Mulcahy asked if the Town pays the electrical bill.

Mrs. Thompson stated that the Town does pay for the lights, but we do not own the lights or those poles.

Mr. & Mrs. Mulcahy proceeded to ask about the radar signs, if the Town can get permits from DOT, we will pay for them, maybe 4 total.

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Supervisor Wright does not know what we can do to get a permit, that is a State Road. We can ask for some information.

Mrs. Mulcahy appreciates the speedy way of responding to the APA-DEC about the boat launch. It has been open for a very long time. We do have some lake residents and disabled children and there are some elderly that live on that lake that can only access their camp by boat.

Supervisor Wright agreed that it is not only for the obvious, but he is also opposed to this for the impact of economics. We have tourists and visitors that spread all over the area.

Mrs. Mulcahy agreed and also mentioned them talking about a barricade and with the American Disabilities Act they have to have some kind of pathway where a disabled person can get down to the lake. In a discussion with them in a lengthy zoom meeting the other night, that wasn't even mentioned. We have certainly been aware of that in our discussions. Thank you for that.

Tim Hailiday of Upstate Professional Management is here regarding a proposal to the Town for use of the Hudson Headwater Health Network building. He thanks the board for letting him speak, they thought they were on the agenda. What you have here is a solution for a whole bunch of problems for Ticonderoga.

Upstate Professional Management LLC is pleased to offer the following proposal for the leasing of 5,500 square feet of the premises at 102 Race Track Road, Ticonderoga, NY, to the Town of Ticonderoga for use as Ticonderoga Police Headquarters. Upstate Professional Management LLC has a contract to purchase the subject property.

5,500 square feet - 30 year lease - \$110,000 a year

We were seeking approval time, but it does not look like that will be happening since we were not on the agenda for tonight. We are proposing the first floor of the entire building would be for the police department, we have talked to the safety committee about it along with the Police Chief and they have given us a proposal for a floor plan layout. In this proposal we are offering to do the fit up at 100% our cost, so we would be responsible for changing the floor plan the way that is most beneficial to the police department. There is an option to add a sallyport if that is something that you want, we would do that inclusive in the same rental fee as the additional building right now. Also, they have asked us to define the responsibilities. We would offer this as a proposed proposal.

Landlord responsibilities:



- 1) Landlord shall complete the proposed alterations and improvements to the subject rental premises, plans and specs for which shall be submitted to Upstate Professional Management LLC for approval.

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- 2) Landlord shall perform maintenance of the leased premises, excluding the parking lot, grounds, and driveway areas, for the duration of the 30-year lease term.

Tenant responsibilities:



- 1) Tenant shall maintain the parking lot and driveway areas for the duration of the 30-year lease term.
- 2) Tenant shall pay the pro-rated share of property taxes and fire and liability insurance and shall pay for the interior cleaning and all utilities for the rental premises, including but not limited to heat, AC, water, electricity, gas and/or oil.
- 3) Tenant shall pay the cost of grounds maintenance and the cost of installing and maintaining security items, including but not limited to locks, cameras, metal detectors, and shielding materials.

He and Robert (Crammond) are for military so he operated a nuclear power plant and trained and did a pre-overhaul inspections for the US Navy when they did their re-fueling of one of the reactors so he was in charge of the pre-overhaul items, so trust him, they will have a schedule that will be very rigid and well defined and we will take great care of the building for you. We have the building under contract contingent upon the successful negotiation of this lease. We do not have that under contract for eternity so, his request would be if this is something that you are interested in, that you could make a decision as quickly as possible for a municipality to make a decision.

Supervisor Wright interject that they should be aware that municipalities normally operate on a schedule of eternity.

Councilman Woods asked how long the purchase agreement is.

Mr. Hailiday stated that we have had 60 days to secure the lease, he is confident that they will be able to secure an extension if we need to. So we are at about the 30 day mark, so we can easily go into a March meeting without any issues, but beyond that we will be holding them up and holding the building hostage. It is really at their whim at that point, it is not up to us to allow us to extend that lease.

Supervisor Wright agreed that you are correct, we can't come to a decision tonight, but he would like to ask Tom, you were originally expecting them to come to the Municipal Evaluation Committee as well as Public Safety. Public Safety is really just to let that committee know what

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is going on, but it really falls under the Municipal Facility in terms of recommending to the board if this is something that we even want to do.

Councilman Cunningham agreed and this came in after our last meeting and our next meeting is going to be the 27th of February, we will bring this up at the meeting. Councilman Thatcher is on that committee as well. He is sure that you are aware that we are a long ways down the road with looking at the building of a new police station on already owned grounds. Mr. Fuller can probably help out with the evaluations that would be required with a lease versus ownership. He doesn't think that is an easy or very quick evaluation that needs to be done. He will leave it at that.

Mr. Fuller agreed, if you have not leased to a government entity like a Town before, the Town has a fiduciary obligation to the taxpayers dollars so, they have to go through – there is no statutory rule about getting from point A to point B – but the general rule is there must be a comparison of this being more beneficial than a traditional design bid build. Town owning the facility versus the Town leasing a facility. That takes an accountant to evaluate costs and it takes a little bit more due diligence on your end too, such as taxes and things. If a Town leases something, the Town does not pay taxes, so there is generally an exemption, so you may want to do your due diligence, talk to the assessor or whoever that may be to understand what a tax situation is going to look at on that property and it may be a partial exemption. Obviously, the actual lease needs to be produced to the board to consider.

Councilman Cunningham noted that we have your proposal and we understand that we have to do some math on it, but we are also looking at building a new building and that is under schematic design and the next step for that is to go out and get some estimates for a new building which we would have to do regardless to compare it to this lease. What he is telling you, is, it is not going to happen in 30 or 60 days. It will take longer than that, so for your planning purposes, we could take a good long time for this to happen. It won't be a year, but it won't be 90 days to get that evaluation done.

Councilman Woods asked if we had gotten a price on that a few years ago (yes) it was how much (2.5). So, we don't need to go out and get a bunch of contractors....

Councilman Cunningham stated we don't need to get a bunch of contractors, but we.....

Councilman Woods stated if it was 2.5 why can't we just add the percentage of the increase and....

Councilman Cunningham stated that we have changed the design from what was done a few years ago on the back of a napkin that you have pointed out many times prior to this and so we are doing a little bit more detail. This is new to us, so we have been moving down the road on a new build and we will continue down that road until we get some pricing to compare and we need to do that.

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Supervisor Wright asked about the sallyport, was that decided on. Chief were you looking for a sallyport. (Yes). What he is getting at is that the police department needs one.

Mr. Hailiday stated that it doesn't escape anyone in this room that the police are currently operating out of a condemned building.

Councilman Cunningham stated that we are aware and that is why we are proceeding with this.

Supervisor Wright re-iterated that the reason he asked about the sallyport is because it is not something that is optional, it is something that we would like.

Mr. Hailiday stated that he wasn't led to believe that, it is optional as far as our proposal goes. You can have that or not. It is completely up to you, and again, there is an annual increase on that, but we are not changing the cost per square foot. Based on the fact that we are doing the entire fit up, it is basically a donation to the Town.

Councilman Cunningham stated that he will have you on the agenda for the meeting on the 27th.

Mr. Hailiday asked if there was some analysis that they can bring that would be of benefit you.

Discussion was held on floor plans and analysis'.

Mr. Fuller asked if the fit up was done, is there a scope of what the fit up would be?

Mr. Hailiday stated that they have a floor plan that they walked through with the Chief.

Mr. Fuller stated that you have to have a stamped document, an architect will have to go through it. When we were working with the fire department there were a lot of security stuff that had to be installed to be separate from fire department.

Councilman Cunningham added that we have this Municipal Evaluation committee for this specific reason. To follow the steps. Taking a drafted floor plan and trying to put a budget to not how we can operate. What you would need is a detailed scope of work from the Town on what exactly we need. That would obviously would cost the Town money because we have to get that drafted up for you based on the information we currently have. You would need to price that out, get it to us, we would need a copy of a formal lease in order to evaluate that whole process. There is a bit of work to be done before as opposed to approving something like this today. There is a process and it needs to come through this committee and it probably would behoove you to stay on that focus as opposed to trying to catch some people that are not involved in that committee.

Mr. Hailiday stated that understanding the process is key and that is one of the reasons why we are here tonight. He appreciates that and we will see you on the 27th. He stated that they have been provided a floor plan, is that the same floor plan that you are working with.

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Councilman Cunningham stated no, that floor plan was something that was done several years ago, engineering had looked at it, it would have to be gone through as that plan did not have specific details that are needed.

Mr. Hailiday asked we can get that ahead of time.

Councilman Woods stated that he has all the information from Codes when we were looking at it before, they gave us all the state codes and stuff that comply that says that this building complies.

Mr. Hailiday stated ok, do you have a floor plan?

Councilman Cunningham stated that we do not have an approved floor plan for that building.

Councilman Thatcher agreed.

Councilman Cunningham stated that there is a floor plan for the schematic for the new building that they are presently working on. They may or may not have it by the next meeting, but they are working on it.

Mr. Hailiday stated that they will bring a floor plant that they have talked to folks about that seemed like a good idea and we will compare apples and hopefully come up with a solution. We are here to solve your problem, so if you don't need this, then we don't need the building. We are here to help. Thank you.

Mrs. Mulcahy asked now that you have approved that resolution, is there a next step for that boat launch.

Supervisor Wright stated that there is no next step. He has no authority with the APA, this is about all we can think about doing is opposing it at the county and the town level. The county did this same thing, Dan Stec is aware of it also.

Greg Swart stayed to introduce Shannon Vogt; she has been working with us for a while but it has been on the construction side. Briefly, probably in the next month or so, all the other grants that we have talked about throughout the years, we would need to be making some decisions in the month of March.

Meeting adjourned at 9:11 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Tonya M. Thompson, Town Clerk

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Pledge to the Flag

Opening Remarks

COVID Update

Board of Health

Presentations

- Assessor statement.
- Fiscal Advisors & Marketing, Inc.

Public Hearings

- Repeal of Local Law 3 of 2007
- EMS for Ticonderoga

Committee reports

Airport TT

RESOLUTION to appoint the following Airport Committee Members: C. Tom Thatcher (chair), Mark Wright (co-chair), Jon Hanna, Bryan Douros, Ash Alexander, Chris Kneppers, Dave Woods, and Alan Densmore.

RESOLUTION to advertise the Runway 2-20 Pavement Rehabilitation Construction Project at the Ticonderoga Municipal Airport (4B6).

RESOLUTION authorizing the Supervisor to execute the FY '23 Application for Federal Assistance (FAA Form SF-424) for Apron Expansion (Phase 1) - Design.

RESOLUTION authorizing the Supervisor to execute the Combined Sponsor Certification for 4B6 Apron Expansion (Phase 1) – Design. This certifies to the FAA that the sponsor will comply with the statutory and administrative requirements in carrying out a project under the Airport Improvement Program (AIP).

RESOLUTION authorizing the Supervisor to execute the fee negotiation letter with Passero Associates and submit to the FAA for the Ticonderoga Municipal Airport (4B6) Apron Expansion (Phase 1) – Design FAA Project No. 3-36-0196- XX -23 Airport Engineering Design Services Consultant Agreement. This is required to obtain FAA approval of the Passero consultant agreement.

RESOLUTION authorizing the Town of Ticonderoga to enter into an agreement with the State of New York for financial assistance for the Aircraft Apron Reconstruction and Taxiway Rehabilitation Construction project (FAA AIP Project No. 3-36-0196-031-2022 NYSPIN 1907.35). This project reconstructs 8,950 Square Yds of the existing main apron pavement and rehabilitates 820 feet of the existing access taxiway pavement.

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RESOLUTION authorizing the Town of Ticonderoga to enter into an agreement with the State of New York for financial assistance for Runway 2-20 Pavement Rehabilitation Design project (FAA AIP Project No. 3-36-0196-030-2022 NYSPIN 1907.34). This project will rehabilitate the existing Runway 2-20 pavement.

RESOLUTION authorizing the Supervisor to execute an Aviation Capital Project Agreement between the Town of Ticonderoga and State of New York for Ticonderoga Municipal Airport Project Nos. 1907.34 (Rehabilitate the Existing Runway 2-20 Pavement - Design - Phase 1/2) and 1907.35 (Reconstruct 8,950 Square Yds of the Existing Main Apron Pavement - Construction - Phase 2/2), Contract No. K007519.

Building Grounds Parks Rec Library JC/DW

RESOLUTION to appoint the following Buildings Grounds Parks Rec Committee Members: Joyce Cooper (co-chair), Dave Woods (co-chair), Nicole Justice Green, Bill Dolback, Shawn Ross, Jerry Cooper, Nancy Kelley, Grant Spaulding, and Tonya Thompson.

Economic Development MW

RESOLUTION to appoint the following Economic Development Committee Members: Mark Wright (chair), Tom Cunningham (co-chair), Donna Wotton, Matt Courtright, Nicole Justice Green, John Bartlett, Heath Towne, and Beth Hill.

Highway / Transfer Station DW

RESOLUTION to appoint the following Highway/Transfer Station Committee Members: Dave Woods (chair), Mark Wright (co-chair), Sal Barnao, Mitch Cole, Heath Towne, and John Deming.

Municipal Facility Evaluation TC

RESOLUTION to appoint the following Municipal Facility Evaluation Committee Members: Tom Cunningham (chair), C. Tom Thatcher (co-chair), Mike Moser, Chris Dotsie, and Jeff Cook.

Public Safety DW

RESOLUTION to appoint the following Public Safety Committee Members: Dave Woods (chair), Joyce Cooper (co-chair), Adam Hurlburt, Ross Kelly, Dave Burrows, Rhiannon Peters, and Jen Gendron.

RESOLUTION to accept, with regret, the resignation of James Banish effective January 24, 2023.

DISCUSSION: American Legion alley – fire protection concerns.

DISCUSSION: Speed signs Eagle Lake.

DISCUSSION: Officer hiring process.

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Public Works MW

RESOLUTION to appoint the following Public Works Committee Members: Mark Wright (chair), Tom Cunningham (co-chair), Derrick Fleury, Eric Blanchard, and Sherry Veneto.

RESOLUTION to increase the account for 1489 NYS Route 9N (Anthony & Heather Wolfe) to 2 EDU Water and 2 O&M Water, as the property now has an apartment in the home, per the Assessor's live file.

RESOLUTION to deactivate the account for 35 The Portage as it has been combined with 32 Water Street (Assembly of God Church). Per the Assessor's live file.

RESOLUTION to increase the account for 208 Black Point Road (Danny McQuay) to 1 EDU Sewer and add 1 O&M Sewer charge, as the lot now has a single-family dwelling on it. Per the Assessor's live file.

RESOLUTION to increase the account for 82 Outlet Drive (Ron O'Neil) to 1 EDU Water and 1 EDU Sewer, as it is listed as a single-family dwelling on the tax roll.

RESOLUTION to increase the account for 63 Montcalm St (Corey Trudeau) to 5 EDU Water and 5 EDU Sewer, as the Assessor has changed the property listing to 5 dwellings/rental properties on the live file.

RESOLUTION authorizing the creation of a purchase order in the amount of \$13,204.20 to Siewert Equipment for the purchase of four (4) E-one Replacement Pumps for SS09 Black Point Sewer.

DISCUSSION: Task Force

DISCUSSION: Public Hearing for C/EL Well Letter Questions

Human Services - Youth JC

RESOLUTION to appoint the following Youth Commission Members: Joyce Cooper (chair), C. Tom Thatcher (co-chair), Pamela Moser, Tonya Thompson, Richard Roessler, Jenee Iturrino, and Katie Anderson.

RESOLUTION to advertise for Lifeguard and Head Lifeguard positions for the 2023 Beach season.

RESOLUTION authorizing the expenditure of monies for the 2023 Ticonderoga Youth Program in the amount of \$122,961.00.

RESOLUTION to advertise for Assistant Day Camp Director and Camp Counselors for the 2023 Summer Camp Program.

RESOLUTION to advertise for Activity Attendants for the Ticonderoga Youth Program.

Human Services - Seniors TC

Health Insurance MW

Contract Negotiations MW

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I.T. / Cable T.V. MW

Resolutions

RESOLUTION to submit a mini bid for the Water/Wastewater Dept. for a new 2023 F-250 truck.

RESOLUTION authorizing the purchase of and creation of a purchase order in the amount of \$55,022.44, for a skid steer through Sourcewell Bidding for Water/Wastewater Dept.

RESOLUTION authorizing the creation of a purchase order in the amount of \$550.00, to Biometrics 4 All for the configuration and installation of new the fingerprint machine at the Police Station.

RESOLUTION to amend **Resolution #15-2023** to correct the error stating the Sewer Account fund balances will be covering increased costs for Water Accounts. It should state Water Fund Balance will cover increased costs for water accounts.

RESOLUTION authorizing the following budget transfers:

- o A.1989.400 Contingency (\$123.70)
- o A.1220.499 Supervisor Professional Contractual Recording \$123.70

Fund underbudgeted General accounts from Contingency (Balance after transfer \$ 74,781.30).

RESOLUTION authorizing the following budget adjustments:

- o A.7310.861 Youth Programs General Employee Benefits \$22,494.12
Funding account by General Fund Balance for Budget Correction.
- o SW06.8310.475 Water Admin DOJ Compliance Advertising \$56.52
Funding underbudgeted account by Water Fund Balance.
- o SW05.8310.405 Water Administration Contractual \$1,445.13
Funding accounts by Water Fund Balances to cover increased costs.

RESOLUTION authorizing the following Inter-Fund Transfer:

- o A.9950.900 General Inter-fund Transfer (\$972.95)
- o H61.5031 Chilson / Eagle Lake \$972.95

Transfer funds from General to Eagle Lake Water Project.

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RESOLUTION authorizing the following Inter-Fund Loans:

- DA.0391 Highway Due From Other Funds (\$4,801.06)
- H60.0630 Veterans Road Culvert/Bridge Project Due To Other Funds \$4,801.06

Transfer funds from Highway to Veterans Rd Culvert/Bridge project until funding is received.

- A.0391 General Due From Other Funds (\$1,500.00)
- H19.0630 Airport Apron Project Due To Other Funds \$1,500.00

Transfer funds from General to Airport Apron project under funding is received.

- A.0391 General Due From Other Funds (\$17,051.67)
- H18.0630 Airport Pavement Management Due To Other Funds \$17,051.67

Transfer funds from General to Airport Pavement project under funding is received.

- A.0391 General Due From Other Funds (\$17,612.87)
- H20.0630 Airport Environmental Assessment \$17,612.87

Transfer funds from General to Airport Apron project under funding is received.

RESOLUTION to accept the satisfactory findings of the 2022 municipal court audit.

RESOLUTION to advertise for an anticipated Sole Assessor position.

RESOLUTION authorizing the renewal of the Town's Pollution Liability coverage with an annual premium price quote of \$4,338.

RESOLUTION opposing the decision by the Adirondack Park Agency (APA) and department of environmental conservation (DEC) regarding trailered boats at the Eagle Lake Boat Launch site.

RESOLUTION authorizing the Supervisor to execute the Agreement for Maintenance of County Roads between the Town of Ticonderoga and Essex County for 2023.

RESOLUTION authorizing the approval of an agreement between the Town of Ticonderoga and Essex County for the Annual Lease of DMV Office Space at 132 Montcalm Street in the amount of \$2,200 for the term of the 2023 lease.

RESOLUTION to approve the Town Clerk posting notification of the completed AUD for 2021 in the legals of the Sun Community News.

RESOLUTION to advertise for Food Service helpers and a cook for the 2023 Summer Meal Service Program.

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RESOLUTION approving the annual subscription renewal of VMware vSphere cloud computing virtualization platform through StoredTech in an amount not to exceed \$175.00.

RESOLUTION opposing the application of ProcellaCOR in Lake George until such time that the necessary scientific evidence can be gathered on the potential adverse impacts to Lake George water quality, human health, and aquatic plant and animal life.

RESOLUTION to set a public hearing for March 9, 2023, at 6 P.M. to discuss a proposed "Ordinance Prohibiting Parking on the West Side of Champlain Avenue between Algonkin Street and Father Jogues Place in the Town of Ticonderoga".

RESOLUTION to accept the minutes of the January 12, 2023 Regular TB Meeting, the January 26, 2023 Finance Meeting, and the February 2, 2023 EMS Workshop.

RESOLUTION to Pay the Abstract.

RESOLUTION to accept the Supervisor's Report as submitted.

DISCUSSION: Chilson Volunteer Fire Department letter.

Town Clerk, Tonya Thompson

Attorney, Matt Fuller

Public Comment

Adjourn the Town Board Meeting