

**Town Board**  
**Town of North Greenbush**  
**Regular Meeting Minutes**  
**March 11, 2021**  
**7:00 p.m.**

Call to order was made by Supervisor Bott at 7:01 p.m. with the Pledge Allegiance.

**ROLL CALL:**

<b>Supervisor Bott</b>	<b>Present</b>
<b>Councilwoman Hoffman</b>	<b>Present</b>
<b>Councilwoman Sabo</b>	<b>Present</b>
<b>Councilman Rogers</b>	<b>Present</b>
<b>Councilwoman Merola</b>	<b>Present</b>

**Comments from Residents:**

No emails or comments were received on agenda items.

**Announcements:**

Supervisor Bott started off the meeting with a few announcements. He started off with mentioning that he was interviewed on the news about how the town was awarded with the American Rescue Plan of \$1,343,302. He's eagerly waiting to hear what exactly the funds can be used for, but knows that the town has many projects they would love to begin.

Supervisor Bott mentioned that with Easter just around the corner, Councilwomen Hoffman & Merola along with Town Clerk, Janice Kerwin were discussing plans for Easter. A Poster contest will be announced for pre-k through 5<sup>th</sup> grade, it will be judged and 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> place prizes will be awarded. We will again have the Easter Bunny do a drive-by around town for the children to come out and wave at special locations throughout town. A list of locations will be placed on our town's website for residence to plan ahead for the arrival of the Easter Bunny at the different locations. Ads will be placed in the Advertiser with the specifics.

He spoke of the daily Covid count in our town. Every day the count seems to be lowering and vaccines are being received by our town residents daily.

Supervisor Bott asked the board if we could move the 1<sup>st</sup> discussion item, The Ambulance discussion up to now so that we could hear it 1<sup>st</sup>, so that if they need to leave we would be able to hear the presentation. The board was all in agreement.

**Ryan French, Director of operations from the North Greenbush Ambulance introduced himself and began the discussion.**

Ryan started off with how he's been working hand in hand with the Ambulance Commission. The town has been slowly growing, but over the past few years it has had an impact on the ambulance.

Staffing concerns and location are at a high priority. A second station is in need for the town with its growth and development. Calls for the past 3 years have increased immensely. As of this February the ambulance had 136 calls, the busiest month by far in the town's history. The station is not geographically located and a 2<sup>nd</sup> location is needed to suitably operate. Our town's zip codes are 12198, 12180 and 12144. The majority of the calls were 12198 but now with the development on the other side of town 12180 & 12144 combined has surpassed 12198. Response times are very important. In the 12198 zip code area their response times average 6.29 minutes, their goal is to be

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under 8 mins. 12180 zip code response time is 7.85 minutes, but 12144 zip code response time is on average 10.72 minutes. Busiest time is during the day, they need to have 24/7 coverage, with paid staff along with 2 volunteer drivers. They have on call, paid members if needed for backup with 2<sup>nd</sup> calls happening at the same time.

Supervisor Bott thanked Ryan French for coming in and presenting all the information to the board. Councilman Rogers appreciated the presentation and feels we need to move on helping with the staffing situation and a new building for the Ambulance. Councilwoman Sabo thanked Councilman Rogers for being part of the Ambulance Commission and for bringing this need to the attention of the board. The discussion on the North Greenbush Ambulance ended at 7:21pm.

**New Business:**

**Resolution 2021-3-23: Councilwoman Hoffman** made a motion In The Matter of Appointing a Part Time, Per Budget, Deputy Clerk/ Deputy Registrar of Vital Statistics in the Town Clerk's Office, seconded by **Supervisor Bott**. All board members present voted Aye, motion carried.

**Resolution 2021-3-24: Councilman Rogers** made a motion In The Matter of Appointing Evelyn Kohler to the Board of Assessment Review, seconded by **Councilwoman Hoffman**. All members of the board voted Aye, motion carried.

**Resolution 2021-3-25: Councilman Rogers** made the motion In The Matter of Adopting the Town of North Greenbush Police Reform and Reinvention Collaborative Plan, seconded by **Councilwoman Merola**. All members of the board voted Aye, motion carried.

Chief Keevern spoke briefly on the Police Reform explaining the 51 page report and thanked the board in advance for adopting it. Councilwoman Hoffman mentioned that during the meeting they tried to ensure that the recommendations were to be obtainable and felt and they were. Councilman Rogers said he would like to make sure that all officers receive a copy of the report. Chief Keevern agreed and said they already did.

**Resolution 2021-3-26: Councilwoman Hoffman** made a motion In The Matter of Approving Submission of the Police Reform and Reinvention Collaborative Plan to the New York State Division of the Budget, seconded by **Supervisor Bott**. All board members present voted Aye, motion carried.

**Resolution 2021-3-27: Councilwoman Sabo** made a motion In The Matter of Accepting the Audit of the Town Financial Statement for Fiscal Year 2020, the Annual Financial Report Update Document for 2020 and Authorizing the Town Comptroller to Make Necessary Budget Amendments for 2020, seconded by **Supervisor Bott**. All board members present voted Aye, motion carried. Summary of the resolution was described by Anthony Germano, Town Comptroller.

**Resolution 2021-3-28: Councilwoman Merola** made a motion In The Matter of Replacing Two (2) Highway Department Leaf and Debris Pick-Up Vehicles seconded by **Councilman Rogers**. All board members present voted Aye, motion carried. Mark Premo, Highway Superintendent gave a back ground discussion on the resolution.

**Town Board  
Town of North Greenbush  
Regular Meeting Minutes  
March 11, 2021  
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**Resolution 2021-3-29: Supervisor Bott** made a motion In The Matter of Replacement and Repair of High Velocity Pumps at the Pond Hill Sewer Pump Station, seconded by **Councilwoman Hoffman**. All board members present voted Aye, motion carried.

**Resolution 2021-3-30: Councilwoman Hoffman** made a motion In The Matter of Approving the Purchase of a Police Vehicle, seconded by **Councilwoman Sabo**. All board members present voted Aye, motion carried. Chief Keevern spoke about the Radar units.

**Resolution 2021-3-31: Supervisor Bott** made a motion In The Matter of Awarding Bid and Construction Contract with Carver Construction for Route 43 Water Transmission Line Project, seconded by **Councilwoman Hoffman**. All board members present voted Aye, motion carried.

**Resolution 2021-3-32: Councilwoman Merola** made a motion In The Matter of Approving RPTL Settlements, seconded by **Supervisor Bott**. All board members present voted Aye, motion carried.

Supervisor Bott asked if we received any emails on any of the agenda items, Town Clerk, Janice Kerwin said we did not.

**Discussion:**

Director of Operation of NGB Ambulance, Ryan French Presentation on Staffing & New Ambulance Facility (moved to the beginning of meeting.)

**Update on Climate Smart Committee and Open Space Committee:** Councilwoman Sabo wanted to let the board that next week will be their 1<sup>st</sup> meeting and they are getting certification and points for the LED lighting done at town hall. They are getting a vehicle charging station at Eastwyck and she continued with the locations of others throughout town. The other 4 locations are as follows: CDTA parking on Route #4, Hannaford on Main Avenue, Tech Park and Montessori School.

**Report on Association of Towns Conference:** Councilwoman Merola told the board she attended most of the Bootcamp online conference. The information obtained very helpful. They explained the roles and responsibilities of the board and how funding happens. The information was presented in Power Point slides. Councilwoman Merola said she would definitely recommend this training to any new Elected Official. Councilwoman Sabo attended the Annual Meeting that was presented over the holiday weekend. She learned various information about the cost of demolitions that needed to be done according to our Town Codes. The town can be reimbursed by the landowner for needed demolition.

**Discussion on Town Hall Opening Date:** Supervisor Bott has talked to Tony about an opening date. He has been working on a draft format and plan of procedure. With CDC Guidelines we are hoping look at this again in mid-April for a May opening target date. Councilwoman Sabo acknowledged that next week, hopefully Government workers will begin vaccinating. Supervisor Bott said we have been working on that and a large number of town workers have had their shot and are now getting their 2<sup>nd</sup> shot. We have a plan in place and feel this plan is moving forward. Anthony Germano said he feels town hall is doing a fabulous job with the needs of the public. The town

**Town Board**  
**Town of North Greenbush**  
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offices have walk up windows, drop boxes, appointment taking and even deliveries to homes and businesses. We are not getting any inquirer of when are you opening.....We are trying to defend against people roaming around the building. We need to have an area of entry with temperature taking, along with registration of contact tracing information.

Councilman Rogers agrees with all that has been said, but with the number of Covid numbers in town going down, he feels the meetings in town need to be open. He has been keeping track of the numbers and was wondering how we are planning for the playground use and summer concerts, are they too going to be secure. A discussion of painted circles on the ground for family pod areas will need to be placed for concerts. They will wait to see and not rush the tentative May opening date.

**Department Reports:** Supervisor Bott asked the board to review the reports at the leisure.

Eric Westfall, Town Engineer, wanted to discuss the Plan Water Plan that is all set. We will be having a new Town Law that he will bring to the board at the end of the month, as he has been working with LaBerge on it and it is almost complete. We have had 2 violations within the town that DEC has gotten involved with; the 1st has been given to the town to follow through with. The 2nd is still under DEC. Eric wanted to emphasize how important it is that landowner is able to work with the town on wet lands and storm water. The 1st case thought he did everything correct, but he did not do all that was needed. Laws and procedures change and it can be costly if mistakes are made and that is why the town willingly works with every permit holder to make sure steps are followed correctly. Eric wants everyone to know they can go on the town's website and look at the Storm Water page at any time.

**Approval of Minutes:**

Approval of February 11, 2021 minutes

**Adjournment:**

**Supervisor Bott** made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by **Councilwoman Hoffman**. All board members present voted Aye, motion was carried. The meeting ended at 8:24 p.m.

- **A COMPLETE ACCOUNTING OF ALL DISCUSSIONS ON THE AGENDA IS AVAILABLE TO REVIEW VIA STREAMING ON THE TOWN'S WEBSITE.**

Respectfully Submitted  
Janice Hannigan Kerwin  
Town Clerk  
Town of North Greenbush