



PUBLIC HEARING MINUTES

Town Board

Town of North Greenbush

November 7, 2024

6:45 P.M.

6:50 P.M.

6:55 P.M.

Supervisor Bott called the Public Hearing to order @ 6:45 PM. He asked all to rise for The Pledge of Allegiance. Supervisor Bott asked for roll call to be taken.

Supervisor Bott	<u>Present</u>
Councilwoman Hoffman	<u>Present</u>
Councilwoman Merola	<u>Absent</u>
Councilman Gordon	<u>Present</u>
Councilwoman Sabo	<u>Present</u>

Also present at meeting:

Town Clerk, Janice Hannigan Kerwin

Deputy Clerk, Janet Dickinson

Town Attorney, Fred Kirwin

6:45 P.M. To consider the Special District Assessment Roll for 2025

Supervisor Bott opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance, asking all to rise. He opened the floor up to the public for comment. No comments given. A motion was made to close the meeting by **Councilman Gordon**, seconded by **Councilwoman Hoffman**. All members present voted Aye; motion carried.



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Meeting adjourned @ 6:52 p.m.

6:50 P.M. To consider the Operation & Maintenance Charges for 2025

Supervisor Bott opened the meeting on the O& M charges, since the pledge was just done, he will continue into each Public Hearing. No comments were received on the agenda item. A motion was made to close the Public Hearing by **Councilman Gordon**, seconded by **Councilwoman Hoffman**. All members voted Aye; motion carried. Meeting adjourned @ 6:53 p.m.

6:55 P.M. To consider the 2025 Preliminary Budget

Supervisor Bott asked the town's Comptroller to explain the Preliminary Budget. Michael Chaires, Town Comptroller started with the increase this year with the Health Insurance, Vehicle insurance and Police Officer additions to the Department. All the inflation in equipment and materials. The board had a lengthy discussion on the 2% and increase. All record of the meeting can be seen on the town's streaming online. Kathy Allen, President of the North Greenbush Ambulance asked about the budget she submitted. The Comptroller stated the board had no feedback on the budget and it was accepted as received.

A motion to close the Public Meeting was made by **Councilwoman Hoffman**, seconded by **Councilman Gordon**. All board members present voted Aye; motion carried. Public meeting adjourned @ 7:00 p.m.



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

Respectfully Submitted
Janice Hannigan Kerwin
Town Clerk, Town of North Greenbush



Town Board
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7:00 p.m.

Supervisor Bott called the meeting to order @ 7:16 P.M. and led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance. Supervisor Bott then asked the Town Clerk, Janice Kerwin, to do roll call. The following Board Members were present.

Supervisor Bott	<u>Present</u>
Councilwoman Hoffman	<u>Present</u>
Councilman Sabo	<u>Present</u>
Councilwoman Merola	<u>Absent</u>
Councilman Gordon	<u>Present</u>

Also present at meeting:

Town Clerk, Janice Kerwin
Deputy Clerk, Janet Dickinson
Town Attorney, Fred Kirwin

Announcements from Supervisor Bott:

Supervisor Bott started the announcement off with the mentioning of our Halloween Parade. He stated how it was a nice parade with good weather this year. He continued by letting everyone know that the lake is almost 100% done. December 7th @ 6:00 p.m. is our annual Christmas Parade with the Starry Night, tree lighting ceremony. Our town park is just about finished he stated. He mentioned that we are waiting on 2 pieces and the fencing to be put up along with the lighting.

Comments on Agenda Items:

No comments from the public.

Presentations:

Supervisor Bott made a special announcement about Eva Varady, a town resident, who will be turning 100 years old. He will be presenting a certificate to her at her 100th birthday celebration this weekend at the West Sand Lake fire house.

Supervisor Bott stated that the recognitions for the Emergency workers will be next month.



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Supervisor Bott asked Councilwoman Sabo to discuss her findings for the Heating and Cooling for town hall. Councilwoman Sabo investigated the grants for such a project and there is no relief at this time. Supervisor Bott mentioned how Seamen investigated this also and it will be very expensive. Councilwoman Sabo said there should be some type of rebates through NYSEG, she will look into it if that something the board would like.

New Business:

Resolution 2024-11-96: Councilwoman Hoffman made a motion in the matter of approving Special District Assessment Rolls, Operation & Maintenance Charges & Final 2025 Budget seconded by **Supervisor Bott**. Supervisor Bott asked the Comptroller to explain some of the changes in the budget. Health insurance has increased 13 ½% which we have no control over, along with vehicle insurance and an increase in employment. State retirement sent estimates in August of \$284,099.00 which are now \$341,324.00. Several items are unavoidable costs. The growth in the town required the Utilities Department to higher addition needed employees to be able to keep up with the growth. Councilman Gordon wanted changes in the sales tax area. Michael, the Comptroller, feels the numbers are what they are estimated from the past years. Several new projects were done, the beach, town park playground and vehicle purchases. All board members started to discuss budget numbers. The Comptroller went to his office to input the new numbers for the board. Councilwoman Sabo asked questions about employment of additional positions and what are their duties. Discussion on increasing the greenspace or a fee to developers to be reasonable to the sales for units being built. She felt the \$600.00 fee is too low for the demand for housing in the town.

Supervisor Bott decided to set aside this resolution and wait for the Comptroller to come back with the numbers he was using with the changes before they vote. Councilman Gordon felt the numbers should be changed.

Resolution 2024-11-97: Supervisor Bott made a motion in the matter of approving purchase of an offsite Server, seconded by **Councilwoman Hoffman**. All board members present voted Aye; motion carried. Chief Keevern was asked to speak on the resolutions he presented, and he wanted to make it clear that all 3 resolutions were to be paid by grants.

Resolution 2024-11-98: Councilwoman Sabo made the motion in the matter of approving the purchase of a Virtual Private Network, seconded by **Councilwoman Hoffman**. All board members present voted Aye; motion carried.



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Resolution 2024-11-99: Councilman Gordon made a motion in the matter of approving the purchase of a License Plate Reader, seconded by Supervisor Bott. All board members present voted Aye; motion carried.

Resolution 2024-11-100: Supervisor Bott made a motion in the matter of Standard Workday for employees, seconded by Councilman Gordon. All board members present voted Aye; motion carried. Comptroller, Michael Chaires, commented that this resolution was for retirement purposes.

Amendment was made to the title of Resolution 2024-11-100 to reflect a correction to caption from Standard workday and reporting for Elected and Appointed Officials to Standard Workday for Employees.

The Board went back to the final vote for **Resolution 2024-11-96**. Supervisor Bott said he felt comfortable with the numbers the Comptroller came back with; Councilman Gordon had some input on the numbers. A final vote was taken with 4 Aye; motion carried.

Comments:

Lori Gardner, North Greenbush stood up to speak about the issues she has ongoing about her taxes and the dealings with the Tax Collector. She sold property at Jordan Pointe at the same time she purchased a place across the street. She paid her taxes at closing, but the escrow did too. She has proof that they were paid twice with a letter from Michelle Wessells, Receiver of taxes. She has yet to get back the double payment, as the County states the property was never paid for. There are late fees on the property and a lien. She has gotten no help or answers with Michelle or even responses pertaining to it. She is here to get it straightened out, as she has canceled checks and escrow proof it is paid, but the County says there is nothing they can do as it's up to the town to fix the mistake. Councilman Gordon discussed with her to go to the County tomorrow morning at 9:30 a.m. and he will meet her there and straighten out the miscommunication and get it settled.



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Department Reports Review:

Supervisor Bott directed the board to review the Departmental Reports at their leisure.

Approval of Minutes:

Supervisor Bott made a motion to approve the Public Hearing meeting minutes for October 10, 2024, seconded by **Councilwoman Hoffman**. All board members present voted Aye; motion carried.

Supervisor Bott made a motion to approve the Regular Town Board meeting minutes for October 10, 2024, seconded by **Councilman Gordon**. All board members present voted Aye; motion carried.

Adjournment:

Supervisor Bott made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by **Councilman Gordon**. All board members present voted Aye; motion carried. Meeting adjourned @ 8:28 p.m.

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

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Respectfully Submitted,
Janice Hannigan Kerwin
Town Clerk, Town of North Greenbush