

MINUTES
TOWN OF EAST FISHKILL
TOWN BOARD MEETING
MARCH 26, 2020
7:00 p.m.

REGULAR BOARD MEETING

The Town of East Fishkill's Town Board Meeting on March 26, 2020 was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Supervisor D'Alessandro with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Supervisor's Announcements

Supervisor D'Alessandro stated this was the first time in East Fishkill history that the Town Board Meeting is not open to the public. It is unprecedented times. The past two weeks have been very rough, but we are resilient and as a country have been through much worse. He has had many meetings with County Executive Molinaro, Dutchess County Emergency Services, Dutchess County Department of Health, and almost daily meetings with the mayors and supervisors within the County. The County Executive has been in constant communication with the Governor. The County Executive has done a great job with keeping everyone in the loop and explaining what the Governor's Executive Orders have meant. Our emergency services have been working with Dutchess County emergency services and Department of Health and they have been trying to fulfill all requests for masks and gloves as quickly as they can.

On February 14 Supervisor D'Alessandro spoke at the Association of Realtors in Poughkeepsie. There is a lot of economic growth in East Fishkill so this was a good meeting.

On February 19 Supervisor D'Alessandro met with Highway Superintendent Williams, the Town Engineer, and Councilman Marinaro to discuss paving plans. March 3 was a meeting with the Recreation Directors and the Comptroller. They are working on a bathroom project at Redwing Park. They did receive a grant for this.

Dutchess County Transportation and Safety Council met on March 4 for a biannual voting meeting. This council does fund many projects.

The monthly Mayors and Supervisors Meeting was in Poughkeepsie and they had guest speakers from various police departments.

There was a meeting with the Town Engineer, the Highway Superintendent, and the Commissioner of the Dutchess County DPW to discuss the Phillips Road bridge replacement and possible improvements on Beekman Road. They will post signage when traffic will be impacted.

Supervisor D'Alessandro congratulated Town Assessor Kathy Martin. She has been asked to serve on the Dutchess County Ethics Board.

Supervisor D'Alessandro did declare a local state of emergency and implemented

some rules as far as dealing with COVID-19. All offices are closed to the public. Essential staff is continuing to work. He thanked the residents and the employees for persevering during this tough time. All of the Planning and Zoning Board Meetings have been canceled. This meeting is a Zoom meeting with various people attending via videoconference. If this continues to work well he will reschedule the Planning and Zoning Board Meetings in April. All senior and recreation programs have been suspended until further notice. He thanked his staff who works with the seniors for all of the continued work they have been doing during this time to continue to check on our seniors and work with other programs to ensure meals are getting to them throughout the County. He also thanked the Commissioner of the Office of the Aging for his assistance with getting additional seniors meals delivered to their homes.

A lot of employees have been working from home and that is due to the IT upgrades that were due last year. He thanked the Town Board for approving them as it would not have been possible without that.

He also thanked the residents, all of the people on the front lines, the Police Department, the Fire and EMS people, and all of the people who have essential jobs that are continuing to work. The emergency responders have been second to none and he thanked them from the bottom of his heart. He is getting calls and e-mails about it regularly. The town employees and professional staff have been wonderful. He has received a lot of phone calls from people offering to help. We have a wonderful town here and it is second to none.

Roll Call: Supervisor D'Alessandro asked Town Clerk Hurray to call the rolls.

Board Members in attendance were

Peter	Emanuele	Nicolas
Cassidy	Marinero	D'Alessandro

In attendance via video conference:

Anil	Thomas
Beephan	Franco

Also in attendance were:

Scott Bryant, Engineer; Ken Williams, Highway Superintendent; Chief Bellino, East Fishkill Police Department.

Also in attendance via video conference:

Carol Hurray, Town Clerk; Tom Wood, Attorney; Mark Pozniak, Comptroller.

Supervisor D'Alessandro stated the open meeting laws have been suspended for

now so they are able to hold a meeting without the public in attendance. Attorney Wood stated that under the current situations and the Governor's Executive Order this is a preferred meeting for now. All voting is legal this way as long as all members can hear and be heard.

Public Hearing:

1. Open Public Hearing to update The Town's status as a Suburban Town

Motion to adjourn this Public Hearing until May 28, 2020: Board Member Cassidy. Seconded: Board Member Marinaro. All voted in favor. Motion carried.

Approve Minutes:

February 13, 2020
March 12, 2020 – Special Meeting

Motion to approve the minutes for the February 13th and March 12th, 2020 meetings: Board Member Beephan. Seconded: Board Member Marinaro. All voted in favor. Motion carried.

Announcement of Additions to the Agenda:

Supervisor D'Alessandro said there are no additions to the agenda.

Courtesy of the Floor:

Supervisor D'Alessandro stated he did put on the town websites and offer for people to send in comments or questions. Clerk Hurray stated there were none and she checked her e-mail, voicemail, and mailbox. Board Member Marinaro stated approximately 1 hour ago he was contacted by Mr. Grasso who requested that if these type meetings were going to continue for a few months, if people could call in with questions during the meeting. Supervisor D'Alessandro stated it may be a possibility they can look into.

Receive and File:

Supervisor D'Alessandro stated there was a letter from the Scanlon family regarding the demolition of the house at 16 Fishkill Hook Road. Supervisor D'Alessandro stated this has been discussed with the Town Engineer. They are unsure how long this process could take so he is asking for a 90-day extension to be discussed again in the June meeting.

Motion to extend this demolition 90 days to be discussed at the June 2020 meeting: Board Member Franco. Seconded: Board Member Cassidy. All voted in

favor. Motion carried.

Resolutions:

1. Authorize April as Parkinson’s Awareness Month

RESOLUTION

(DESIGNATE APRIL AS PARKINSON’S AWARENESS MONTH)

WHEREAS, Parkinson’s disease is a progressive neurological movement disorder of the central nervous system, which has a unique impact on each patient; and

WHEREAS, according to the Parkinson’s Action Network, the Parkinson’s Disease Foundation, the American Parkinson’s Disease Association and the National Institutes of Health, there are over one million Americans diagnosed with Parkinson’s disease; and

WHEREAS, symptoms include slowness, tremor, difficulty with balance and speaking, rigidity, cognitive and memory problems; and

WHEREAS, although new medicines and therapies may enhance life for some time for people with Parkinson’s, more work is needed for a cure; and

WHEREAS, increased education and research are needed to help find more effective treatments with fewer side effects and ultimately a cure for Parkinson’s disease; and

WHEREAS, a multidisciplinary approach to Parkinson’s disease care includes local wellness, support, and caregiver groups; and

WHEREAS, April has been proclaimed as World Wide Parkinson’s Awareness Month for all to recognize the need for more research and help in dealing with the devastating effects of Parkinson’s disease.

NOW, THEREFORE, we the Town Board of East Fishkill do hereby proclaim April as Parkinson’s Awareness Month in 2020.

2. Authorizing the Settlement of a Tax Certiorari for Rite Aide

(RESOLUTION)

**(AUTHORIZING THE SETTLEMENT OF TAX CERTIORARI
RITE AIDE OF N.Y. INC. (HOPEWELL HOLDING) vs. TOWN OF EAST
FISHKILL)**

WHEREAS, from time to time property owners file Article 7 proceedings challenging their assessments following denials by the Board of Assessment review; and

WHEREAS, following negotiations between the Town Attorney and the Town Assessor the tax certiorari set forth herein is able to be resolved; and

WHEREAS, it would appear to be in the best interest of the Town to resolve these upon these terms and conditions;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Attorney be and hereby is authorized to execute Stipulation of Settlement settling the following matter:

Grid #

<u>Assessment Roll</u>	<u>Current Assessment</u>	<u>Reduced Assessment</u>	<u>Amount of Reduction</u>
2018	\$1,250,000.00	\$1,150,000.00	\$100,000.00

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Town Attorney be and hereby is authorized to take all steps necessary and appropriate to effectuate the settlement of these matters; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that all officials of the Town be and hereby are authorized and enabled to effectuate the intent of the Order once it is entered by a Justice of the Supreme Court.

3. Award IT Equipment Bids

RESOLUTION

(AWARD THE BID FOR IT EQUIPMENT)

WHEREAS, the Town Supervisor and Town Comptroller have requested that we need to purchase new IT Equipment for certain outdated equipment; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Clerk has duly advertised for and has received the attached sole bid; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Sullivan Data has submitted a bid for the equipment. Sullivan Data be and hereby is awarded the bid in the amount of \$19,340.96.

4. Acknowledge Highway Seasonal and Part-Time Hires

RESOLUTION

(ACKNOWLEDGE HIRING OF SEASONAL LABORERS AND A PART-TIME CLERK FOR THE HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT)

WHEREAS, the Highway Superintendent has interviewed and hired Full-time Seasonal Laborers for the Highway Department, and

WHEREAS, the Highway Superintendent has hired Doris Higgs as a Part-time Clerk for the Highway Department; and

WHEREAS, the Highway Superintendent has submitted memos to the Town Board; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board does hereby acknowledge the hiring of Sean Heckert at an hourly rate of \$12.50 and Terrance McCabe at an hourly rate of \$12.50 as Full-time Seasonal Laborers. Peter Lacalamita, John O'Mara and Patrick Cirrincione will be returning as Full-Time Seasonal Laborers with an hourly rate of \$13.50 for Peter Lacalamita and \$13.00 for both John O'Mara and Patrick Cirrincione in the Highway Department; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board does hereby acknowledge the hiring of Doris Higgs as a Part-time Clerk with an hourly rate of \$26.18.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, upon completion of their task, Sean Heckert, Terrance McCabe, Peter Lacalamita, Patrick Cirrincione and John O'Mara will be removed from payroll.

5. Set Public Hearing for Special Permit for Residential Use in Hamlet Districts for June 25, 2020

(RESOLUTIONS)

(SETTING A PUBLIC HEARING FOR SPECIAL PERMIT FOR RESIDENTIAL USE IN THE HAMLET)

WHEREAS, it is the desire of the Town Board to hold a public hearing to consider the issuing of a Special Permit for Residential Use in the Hamlet Districts; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board will conduct a Public Hearing at 7:00 p.m. on June 25,2020 at its regular Town Board meeting; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Town Clerk be and hereby is authorized to advertise notice of said Public Hearing.

6. Adopt Standard Workday and Reporting for Elected Officials

(RESOLUTION)

Standard Work Day and Reporting Resolution

BE IT RESOLVED, that the **TOWN OF EAST FISHKILL** hereby establishes the following as standard workdays for these titles and will report the officials to the New York State and Local Employees' Retirement System based on the record of activities:

Standard Work Day and Reporting Resolution

RS 2417-A

Town of East Fishkill

Title	Standard Workday (hrs/days)	Name	Social Security No. (Last 4)	Reg. No.	Tier 1	Term Begins/ Ends	Days per Month (based on record of activities)
Elected Officials							
Supervisor	7 hours	Nicholas D'Alessandro	████	████████		1/1/2020 - 12/31/2021	21.67
Town Clerk	7 hours	Carol A. Hurray	████	████████	X	1/1/2020 - 12/31/2021	N/A
Highway Superintendent	7 hours	Kenneth A. Williams	████	████████		1/1/2020 - 12/31/2021	21.67
Receiver of Taxes	7 hours	Claudia D. Heckert	████	████████		1/1/2020 - 12/31/2023	21.67
Councilman	6 hours	Peter J. Cassidy	████	████████		1/1/2020 - 12/31/2023	11.11

Councilman	6 hours	Anil R. Beephan	████	████████		1/1/2020 - 12/31/2023	7.23
Councilman	6 hours	Thomas A. Franco	████	████████		1/1/2018 - 12/31/2021	7.33
Justice	6 hours	Frederick D. Romig	████	████████		1/1/2019 - 12/31/2022	16.81
Justice	6 hours	Brian M. Rudner	████	████████		1/1/2017 - 12/31/2020	7.88

7. Authorize the Hiring of a Dispatcher for the Police Department

RESOLUTION

(APPOINTING A DISPATCHER IN THE POLICE DEPARTMENT)

WHEREAS, a vacancy exists in the position of Dispatcher in the Town Police Department; and

WHEREAS, the Civil Service list for said title has been canvassed; and

WHEREAS, interviews have been conducted by the Police Department and members of the Town Board; and

WHEREAS, the Chief of Police has requested that the Town Board appoint Thomas Duffy as Police Dispatcher;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that Thomas Duffy be and hereby is appointed to the position of Police Dispatcher; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that said employee shall be hired under the CSEA agreement at Level 4 with a salary of \$17.10/per hour.

8. Designating a Planning Board Vice-Chairman

RESOLUTION

(DESIGNATING A PLANNING BOARD VICE-CHAIRMAN)

WHEREAS, the Planning Board has recommended that John Eickman be designated as the Vice-Chairman of the Planning Board; and

WHEREAS, the Town Board accepts said recommendation;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that John Eickman be and hereby is designated as Vice-Chairman of the Planning Board for the calendar year 2020

9. Approve a 5-year lease for a Gradall for the Highway Department

RESOLUTION

(AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASE OF GRADALL)

WHEREAS, the Highway Superintendent has requested that the town purchase a new Gradall XL3100 V 4x2 Highway Excavator; and

WHEREAS, the Comptroller has received a quote from the Vantage Equipment, LL for **\$354,437.52** which does include a warranty price of \$6,019.00; and

WHEREAS, such price is quote from NYS OGS Contract PC66595; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board does hereby authorize the Highway Superintendent and Supervisor to execute all necessary documents to lease with an option to purchase such equipment for a 5 year period; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, such funds will be taken from the Highway Fund.

Motion to authorize all resolutions one through nine be approved as presented: Board Member Cassidy. Seconded: Board Member Marinaro. All voted in favor. Motion carried.

Additions to the Agenda by Majority Vote:

None.

Budget Transfer:

Supervisor D'Alessandro stated there were no budget transfers at this time.

Comments from Town Board Members:

Board Member Beephan stated that he hopes everyone is safe and healthy at home. He thanked the first responders, essential employees, cash register operators. Everyone is doing a great job.

Board Member Franco stated he had the great honor to interview Mark Coviello, the Director of Veterans Affairs, Dutchess County. As well as East Fishkill's Jim Reynolds, the Commander of the American Legion post in Hopewell Junction. They discussed the opportunities the County offers to veterans. He urged all veterans to look into this. He thanked the East Fishkill Chief of Police for how everything is being handled right now. He also thanked all first responders and all those who still have to go to work. Everyone keep washing your hands and keep your social distancing and we will get through this.

Board Member Marinaro stated this is a stressful time for the community. He is confident this community will be able to restore its tranquility. He asked that everyone please keep following the advice of the professionals and experts in order to ensure preventing exposure. He stated he prays every day for all of the community members for their safety. He stated the Highway Superintendent has brought it to the Board's attention regarding an issue with illegal dumping on certain roads. They will have a task force to help stop this. Anyone caught dumping illegally will be prosecuted to the fullest extent of the law. During the past few weeks he has ridden around with Superintendent Williams to see the state of the roads and work on existing plan. He wants to assure the community that the tax dollars will be spent efficiently. Even the town cleanup day has been canceled, he would like the Town Board to launch a town wide Cleanup Day right before recreation season begins. Last week the Town Supervisor and Board member Marinaro met with a very small group of business owners from the community to address the situations that the Coronavirus has caused. Starting next week the chair of the Economic Business Committee and himself will be visiting many businesses to listen to their concerns. He has reached out to multiple politicians to propose a tax freeze for all commercial property owners in the community. This would also include school taxes. Many businesses are suffering during the situation. He thanked the East Fishkill Fire District and EMS service for their great work in the community.

Board Member Cassidy thanked everyone who is out there still working. He said to be careful while they're out there. He said he has seen a lot of people helping out other people, which has been wonderful to see. Also, Happy Easter to all.

Board Member Franco stated there are a lot of great restaurants in East Fishkill. He asked if possible and if people are able to if they could order take-out once or twice a week to help these businesses stay afloat. Supervisor D'Alessandro stated a lot of times people ask these businesses for donations so now is the time to help them out.

Highway Superintendent Williams stated before COVID-19 hit they were doing a lot of outdoor tree work. Now they are on a modified schedule. The office is manned although it is closed to the public but they can answer any phone calls if anyone has questions.

Police Chief Bellino stated they have had 1476 calls for service and 27 arrests since the February meeting. He thanked several businesses who have helped out his officers. There was even a dentist office that donated masks and gloves. Sam's Club has donated cleaning supplies and the fire department may be able to help out if they run low also. As of right now there are cleaning supplies in each vehicle as well as PPE for the officers.

Supervisor D'Alessandro thanked everyone for joining the meeting. Hopefully they can get back to normal soon. If they need to continue doing meetings like this they will look into the possibility of having residence be able to call in during the meeting. He asked everyone to be safe and watch out for each other.

Motion for Adjournment: Time: Motion to adjourn the regular meeting at 7:42 PM: Board Member Franco. Seconded: Board Member Cassidy. All voted in favor. Motion carried.

Town Board Meetings:

Workshop:

April 9, 2020

Regular Meeting:

April 23, 2020

Respectfully submitted by Julie J. Beyer on behalf of Town Clerk Carol A. Hurray
– March 30, 2020