Town Board minutes for the December 12, 2024 meeting. Supervisor Richardson called the meeting to order at 6:59 PM and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**PRESENT:** Vernon Richardson, Supervisor

Doug Blumer, Councilor

Floyd Duger, Councilor

Todd Platten, Councilor

Mike Caron, Councilor

**RECORDING SECRETARY:** Danielle Karlik, Town Clerk

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Town Attorney Joe Frateschi, Codes Officer Howard Tanner, Deputy Town Clerk Deborah Blasko, Mary Jo Davis, Eric Howard, Renee Howard, Phillip Crim, Mike McConnell, Michael Barrigar, Chrystal Barrigar, Cindy Wiers, Delaney Barrigar, Mike Barrigar, Carolynn Frearson, Stafford Frearson

**ADOPT MINUTES:** On a motion by Councilor Duger, seconded by Councilor Platten, the minutes from November 26, 2024 were entered into record. Councilor Caron abstained.

**BUDGET MODIFICATION:** On a motion by Councilor Caron, seconded by Councilor Blumer, the following budget modification were approved, unanimously.

From: A1990.4 – Contingency - $5,287.30

To: A1420.4 – Attorney (to cover year end expenses)

From: A1990.4 – Contingency - $100.00

To: A1320.4 – Auditors (to cover year end expenses)

From: A1620.2 – Bldgs. & Grounds Equipment - $2,000.00

To: A1620.1 – Bldgs. & Grounds Personal Services (to cover year end payroll)

From: DB5148.1 – Services to Other Govts. Personal Services - $7,000.00

To: DB5110.1 – General Repairs – Personal Services (to cover year end payroll)

**COMMUNICATIONS:** The December 17th Joint Municipal Water Public Meeting has been canceled. The water committee will still meet. A petition, for water, from residents on Eno Point, Grimes Road and Stevens Road has been received and distributed to the Board. The Board was asked to consider moving the time of the December 26th Town Board meeting from 7:00 PM to 9:00 AM.

**GUEST:** Phillip Crim from Limeledge Botanical Gardens addressed the Board. He briefly discussed a possible NYS DEC grant, and asked the Board for a letter of support. It is his hope to have a June opening, with five miles of trails for public use. There is a lot of cleanup to be done, for public safety, and it is Mr. Crim’s hope to use the grant monies to renovate the barns to use as a community information space. Mr. Crim also plans to incorporate apps for plant collections and trails. Currently visitation is by appointment only, but the property will be open to public soon.

**OLD BUSINESS**:

* Historical Archives – nothing new to report.
* Association of Town Delegates – no decision has been made.

**RESOLVED:**

On a motion by Councilor Blumer, seconded by Councilor Duger, the following resolution was

ADOPTED: 5 AYES Richardson Blumer Duger Caron Platten

 0 NAYS

*Resolutions 120/24*

The Town Board resolves to have the Town Supervisor draft a letter of support for Limeledge Botanical Gardens’ project.

On a motion by Councilor Caron, seconded by Councilor Platten, the following resolution was

ADOPTED: 5 AYES Richardson Blumer Duger Caron Platten

 0 NAYS

*Resolutions 121/24*

The Elbridge Town Board resolves to reappoint Tim Gannon, for a five-year term to the Board of Assessment Review, ending on December 31, 2029.

On a motion by Councilor Blumer, seconded by Councilor Duger, the following resolution was

ADOPTED: 5 AYES Richardson Blumer Duger Caron Platten

 0 NAYS

*Resolutions 122/24*

The Elbridge Town Board resolves to enter into contract with International Union of Operating Engineers for the Town of Elbridge Highway Department beginning 1/1/2025 and ending 12/31/2027, pending final review by Council.

On a motion by Councilor Blumer, seconded by Councilor Duger, the following resolution was

ADOPTED: 5 AYES Richardson Blumer Duger Caron Platten

 0 NAYS

*Resolutions 123/24*

The Town Board approves the destruction of unused/obsolete Town furniture and equipment stored in the Highway overhead storage room, pole barn, and Highway hallway, with a destruction list submitted to records management.

On a motion by Councilor Blumer, seconded by Councilor Duger, the following resolution was

ADOPTED: 5 AYES Richardson Blumer Duger Caron Platten

 0 NAYS

*Resolutions 124/24*

The Elbridge Town Board authorizes the Town Supervisor to execute a Separation Agreement with Heather Garner.

On a motion by Councilor Platten, seconded by Councilor Caron, the following resolution was

ADOPTED: 5 AYES Richardson Blumer Duger Caron Platten

 0 NAYS

*Resolutions 125/24*

The Elbridge Town Board resolves to advertise for the position of Town Assessor, details to be provided at a later date, with a closing date of four weeks from publication.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

Councilor Duger: The Highway has installed 3,000 feet of snow fence on Hamilton, Jordan and Kester Roads.

On December 3rd, 112 participants attended the Christmas luncheon at the Community Center. December 5th seniors participated in a trip to the Lion King, dinner, and Lights on the Lake. December 17th there will be a PEACE luncheon with Merry Mischief as the entertainment, and December 20th the JE Swinging Eagles will be the luncheon entertainment. April 22nd to June 3rd there will be a Fall Prevention program.

Councilor Blumer: The Planning Board met earlier in the week and approved a special permit for a home occupation use. A subdivision is waiting on a Public Hearing to be scheduled. They approved and amended a site plan for the Drake property wedding venue. Future plans for an apartment building on Route 5 East will be coming before them soon.

The Historian has submitted reports for October and November. There have been multiple inquiries.

Councilor Caron: Things are quiet with insurance and internet. Water was already addressed. Supervisor Richardson said that internet is now on Nash Road. Councilor Platten inquired about the mains on Crossett Road? Supervisor Richardson will speak with Highway Superintendent White.

Councilor Platten: Nothing from Assessing or Court. The Environmental Commission did not meet. Reached out to the Town Clerk for original notice of Assessor position. There was no ad. A discussion took place for advertising. An ad will be placed on NYSAA. Attorney Frateschi stated there is no legal requirement to advertise for the position. Councilor Blumer would like it placed on the website that Don Weber will be fielding phone calls for assessing issues to help assist through the transition.

Supervisor Richardson: The Supervisor’s meeting was not held this month.

**MONTHLY REPORTS ON FILE:** Highway, Historian, Supervisor, Sr/Rec, Codes

**AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION:** Town Clerk Karlik **-** Email blast subscriptions have jumped to 147. Taxes are coming up and the offices will be busy.

Deputy Blasko addressed the Board in regards to the 1st Amendment auditor posting. An email was sent to the Board with Councilor Blumer and Supervisor Richardson responding in appreciation.

Codes Officer Tanner introduced Mike McConnell to speak for the PPD for Wildwood Sports Center. Mr, McConnell spoke about some of the proposed plans for the venue, and signage. Councilor Blumer recommends writing down the ideas and taking them to the Planning Board to start the formal process of moving forward. There will be limitations. Once it comes back to the Town Board with approvals, and County, a Public Hearing can be scheduled for a Local Law.

Mary Jo Davis asked, if no one is in the Assessing Office, and hiring may not be until mid-January, the earliest return to office would be February, how will it affect exemption and office work that needs to be done. Supervisor Richardson stated Mrs. Minnig would be helping out, and Don Weber from the County. Will the budget need to be modified? It is possible. A brief discussion ensued.

Crystal Barrigar discussed their Agricultural exemption stating that she was informed a correction of errors was to be at the Town level, not the County. Councilor Blumer stated Don Weber would need to address this issue. Supervisor Richardson will give her the County number.

Michael Barrigar addressed the Board in regards to an ongoing neighbor dispute. He gave the Board copies of text messages, email copies from the Onondaga County Attorney, and a copy of U-Digg call.

Crystal Barrigar inquired about minutes from the prior meeting and what would be made public record. She was concerned about false information. She went on to further clarify items that were discussed in regards to the neighbor dispute. She did state that she turned in her agricultural exemption paper on March 1st to Assessor Clerk Evans.

**ADJOURNMENT:** On a motion by Councilor Caron, seconded by Councilor Platten, the December 12, 2024 Town Board meeting was adjourned at 8:20 PM, unanimously.