

TOWN OF ELBRIDGE
TOWN BOARD MEETING
May 9, 2024

Minutes for the May 9, 2024 meeting, held by the Elbridge Town Board. Supervisor Richardson called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

PRESENT: Vernon Richardson, Supervisor
Doug Blumer, Councilor
Floyd Duger, Councilor (via phone, non-voting)
Todd Platten, Councilor

RECORDING SECRETARY: Danielle Karlik, Town Clerk

OTHERS PRESENT: Town Attorney Joe Frateschi, Codes Officer Howard Tanner, Highway Superintendent Jim White, Deputy Town Clerk Deborah Blasko, Maggie Frateschi, Mary Jo & Andrew Davis, Lou McIntyre, Ruth Kinch, Kathy Ford, Dick Ottman, Eric Howard, Jay Whitten, Mike McConnell

ADOPT MINUTES: On a motion by Councilor Platten, seconded by Councilor Blumer, the minutes from April 25, 2024 were entered into record, unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS:

- Wildwood Sports Center – Mike McConnell presented the Board with plans for expanding to an event center. A Planned Development District would need to be formed.
- Appointments – two letters of interest for the Assessor’s clerk position, and three for the Board of Assessment Review seat have been submitted. Interviews will be set up with Councilor Platten and Councilor Blumer.

NEW BUSINESS: Supervisor Richardson reminded the Board of conversations that took place in August of 2023 in regards to Senior Exemption limits. 15 out of 19 towns have raised the limit. Supervisor Richardson would like the entire Board to discuss this, The Town’s current senior income limit is \$37,400.

RESOLVED:

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

ADOPTED: 3 AYES Richardson Blumer Platten
0 NAYS

Resolutions 67/24

The Elbridge Town Board resolves to appoint Deborah Blasko as secretary to the Board of Assessment Review.

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

ADOPTED: 3 AYES Richardson Blumer Platten
0 NAYS

Resolutions 68/24

The Elbridge Town Board resolves to send the proposed Planned Development District for Wildwood Sports Center to the Planning Board for review and recommendation.

TOWN OF ELBRIDGE
TOWN BOARD MEETING
May 9, 2024

On a motion by Councilor Blumer, seconded by Councilor Platten, the following resolution was
ADOPTED: 3 AYES Richardson Blumer Platten
0 NAYS

Resolutions 69/24

The Elbridge Town Board approves \$25 per hour to McKensy Minnig, up to 10 hours, based on availability and need of the public, with assistance in the Assessor's office, evenings and Saturdays.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Councilor Blumer: Historian has stated that both signs have been installed in recognition of the cannonball from the Lincoln funeral train, and have scheduled a dedication ceremony on June 11, 2024. Volunteers are being requested for cemetery headstone cleaning. Two dates are scheduled, May 18th at Mount Pleasant, and May 25th at the Hill Street Cemetery. Planning Board has not met this month, yet.

Requests for changes or comments in regards to the Comprehensive Plan will be taken up until May 24th. Can be submitted through the email on the Town website or through the Town Clerk.

Councilor Platten: Environmental Commission is working on checking and updating bluebird houses. Some work at the Don Duger Memorial, was also done. They will be reaching out to the liaison for the Comprehensive Plan to discuss some items.

Troy Waffner from the SPCA has submitted an update. There were six calls and two pickups for dogs, and they do travel through the Town weekly.

The Assessor's clerk position has two letters of interest and three Board of Assessment Review. Councilor Platten will reach out to applicants and see what times are available.

Supervisor Richardson: Request from residents and a business to consider doing a study to extend the OWCA waterline from Laird Road down Route 31. Supervisor Richardson would like the input of the full Board. A survey of parcel owners should happen first.

MONTHLY REPORTS ON FILE: Sr/Rec, Dog Control, Highway, Codes

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION: Mary Jo Davis inquired about the Assessor's position and what is expected from the Assessor. Councilor Blumer explained the six-year term and removable can only happen with just cause. At this time discussion took place in regards to available hours, sitting with the rolls, and added schedule days. Mrs. Davis further inquired about what is able to be discussed with the Assessor in regards to the new assessments and Board of Assessment Review. Councilor Platten stated that the Assessor could take all the given information and make changes, and if agreed upon, she can then submit the changes to the BOAR to be approved, or she can take the information, discuss options and then the resident goes to the BOAR. June 11th will be Grievance Day, but there will not be enough time to see everyone, additional times will need to be added. Further discussion ensued.

Mr. McIntyre stated that he came to the Office on April 30th to speak with the Assessor, as he was under the impression that people would be able to sit down with her prior to, and this would cut down on those having to go to the BOAR. He further stated that when he did speak with her, she said she'd make the appointment, but would not be able to do anything for him. He, as a tax

TOWN OF ELBRIDGE
TOWN BOARD MEETING
May 9, 2024

payer, felt disrespected. Supervisor Richardson will look into this, as there have been other complaints.

Mrs. Davis inquired if there were bylaws or a code of conduct for the public to review. There are five members and one seems to be absent often. Is there a policy that states how many meetings can be missed? Mr. McIntyre asked the Town Attorney if there was a constitution or bylaws that incorporates this constitution. Mr. Howard asked at what point can the public remove a Board member? Attorney Frateschi stated there is a Code of Ethics from NYS the Town complies with. The State law frowns upon Board members trying to remove other Board members. The recourse is the ballot. Supervisor Richardson stated the Board will have to look into this further, and Attorney Frateschi will take a look at the policy the school Board has in place for its members, and what can be done within the confines of the State. The Town Code is online to view under E-code 360, from the Town website.

ADJOURNMENT: On a motion by Councilor Blumer, seconded by Councilor Platten, the May 9, 2023 Town Board meeting was unanimously adjourned at 8:10 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

**Danielle Karlik
Elbridge Town Clerk**