

## **Summary**

### **Rhinebeck Regular Town Board Meeting**

### **Tuesday, October 15, 2024**

For more information regarding this meeting's agenda and resolutions, go to Rhinebeck Town Government Agenda webpage at <https://ecode360.com/RH0960/documents/Agendas> Scroll down to **Town Board** and choose the date and agenda you wish to view.

Present:        Supervisor Elizabeth Spinzia  
                 Deputy Supervisor Chauncey Walker  
                 Councilperson Allan Scherr  
                 Councilperson Chad Kleitsch

### **Announcements**

- The Children's fall Festival Event will be held at the Thompson/Mazzarella Park on October 19<sup>th</sup> from 9:00-3:00 PM.
- All dogs living or harbored in Rhinebeck must be registered for a yearly license.
- The skateboard park is almost complete, but residents were advised not to use the facility until the project is done. Using the facility now would ruin the curing process, causing permanent damage.

### **Public Hearing**

There was a public hearing at tonight's TB meeting regarding a proposed amendment to the existing Fire Protection Contract with the Village of Rhinebeck Fire Department, and on a proposed Fire Protection Contract with the Hillside Fire District. All interested parties had an opportunity to be heard on said contracts. There were no comments from any representatives from either fire department or members from the community. Copies of the proposed 2025 contracts are available for review at the Town Clerk's Office during normal business hours.

### **Resolutions**

The Town Board (TB) addressed 13 resolutions, passing all 13 unanimously. Below is a summary of the major resolutions addressed and passed by the TB. Other resolutions addressed by the board may be viewed on the town's website noted in the opening paragraph.

**Resolution 2024-340** – Resolution adopting a negative declaration (\*) for the Locust Hill Workforce Housing Project.

\* A **negative declaration** is a legal statement saying that a project will not significantly harm the environment, often referred to as a no impact statement.

(A **positive declaration** says the project will have a moderate to large impact on the environment. It would then require an additional environmental impact statement to further assess the impact. This would delay the proposed commencement of the project.)

The TB, acting as the lead agency with this project, reviewed the Environmental Assessment Form (EAF) submitted by the developer. It then voted on each of the EAF's 18 categories.

The Town Board found and determined that the development would not have any significant adverse impacts on the environment and, therefore, issued a **negative declaration** of environmental significance pursuant to the State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQRA).

**Categories** – For a complete explanation of the TB's negative declaration on all the categories and items, go to the TB's agenda page <https://ecode360.com/RH0960/document/753094390.pdf> and scroll down to Resolution 2024-340, pages 1-19.

1. Impact on Land (a – f)
2. Impact on Geological Features (d, e, h & i)
3. Impacts on Surface Water
4. Impact on Ground Water
5. Impact of Flooding (d)
6. Impacts on Air
7. Impact on Plants and Animals (a, b, d, & g)

- (a) The proposed development will involve the grading and disturbance of 11.2 acres, or 48 percent of the project site. A total of 12.1 acres will remain undisturbed with the existing vegetation preserved. The Developer has voluntarily agreed to contribute \$25,000 to the Town of Rhinebeck to be used for the planting of new (shade) trees at the nearby Thompson/Mazzarella Town Park.

This donation was mentioned by town attorney, Warren Replansky, during his review of the EAF at tonight's meeting.

8. Impact on Agricultural Resources
9. Impact on Aesthetic Resources (a, c, d, & f)
10. Impact on Historical and Archeological Resources (b)
11. Impact on Open Space and Recreation
12. Impact on Critical Environmental Areas
13. Impact on Transportation (e)
14. Impact on Energy (b & c)
15. Impact on Noise, Odor and Light (b, d, & e)

- (b) Rock removal will be done mechanically to the extent practical. Some blasting of rock removal will likely be required for construction. If blasting is necessary, the Applicant will adhere to all New York State requirements (Title 12 of the New York Code of Rules and Regulations [12 NYCRR Part 39]} for the possession, handling, storage, and transportation of explosives). The Applicant will coordinate with the Town of Rhinebeck for all necessary approvals, permits and protocols related to blasting to minimize potential impacts to neighbors.

16. Impact on Human Health

17. Consistency with Community Plans (a & f)
18. Consistency with Community Character (b & f)

**Resolution 2024-341** – Resolution approving concept plan for the Locust Hill Workforce Housing Development/Project (WHP).

The TB has determined that the proposed concept plan and supporting documentation for the WHP are sufficient in form and content to be forwarded to the Planning Board for commencement of the site plan review and approval process as will be set forth in the Town Code.

**Resolution 2024-343** – Purchase of updated automated external defibrillators (AED) for town locations.

The TB approved the purchase of (4) new, updated AED's to be located at the town hall, highway department, town pool and concession stand at a cost of \$7,208.99.

**Resolution 2024-343** – Setting for public hearing for 2025 Town budget.

A public hearing for the 2025 Town Budget shall be held on Thursday, November 7, 2024 at 5:00 PM at the Rhinebeck Town Hall.

**Resolution 2024-345** – Contract with the Village of Rhinebeck for fire protection and emergency rescue squad services.

The TB approved a contract for fire protection services and emergency rescue squad services with the Village of Rhinebeck for the sum of \$277,963 for 2025 and \$286,302 for 2026.

**Resolution 2024-346** – Approving the 2025-2027 contract with Hillside Fire District.

The TB approved the 2025-2027 contract renewal with the Hillside Fire District for the sum of \$38,200 for 2025, \$38,964 for 2026, and \$39,743 for 2027.

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### **Public Comments on Non-Agenda Items**

When asked by Supervisor Spinzia about Sunday's marathon route using Mill Road, a resident responded that the event organizers did not comply with a promise to inform residents about the upcoming event and did not provide cautionary traffic cones at curves near the Van Steenburgh bridge as a protection for runners and drivers using this route. Ms. Spinzia stated that she would share these concerns with the organizers as well as with concerned residents along Mill Road.

The next TB meeting will be held on Tuesday, November 12, 2024 at 6:00 PM.