

Summary
Rhinebeck Regular Town Board Meeting
Monday, December 9, 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

Resolutions

The Town Board (TB) addressed 21 resolutions, passing all 21 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 2024-368 - Appoint Jeffrey Potent to CAB

The Board approved the appointment of Jeffrey Potent, a retired sustainability professor at Columbia University, to the Conservation Advisory Board (CAB).

Resolution 2024-370 - Planning4Places 2025 Contract

The Board approved the contract addendum with the Town Planner (Planning4Places), granting its request to increase the billing rate to \$155.00 per hour and extending the contract term to December 31, 2025. As the Town Planner, Planning4Places is a professional planning service that provides advice, reviews projects, and testifies in court if needed.

Resolution 2024-373 - CEEP Contract

Through Resolution 2021-121, the Town Board furthered its commitment to Dutchess County by partaking in the Climate Action Planning Institute (CAPI). Through Resolution 2022-243, the Town Board entered into an agreement with Center for Economic and Environmental Partnership, Inc. (CEEP), to provide sustainability consulting services. CEEP is a not-for-profit corporation that has a long history of working with organizations throughout New York State in developing sustainability initiatives. As a result, Town of Rhinebeck has achieved their NYS DEC Climate Smart Communities Bronze Certification with the assistance from CEEP.

The Town wishes to continue their effort towards environmental sustainability, and therefore, approved the Agreement for Sustainability Consulting Service. A CEEP representative will work approximately 10 hours per week at a rate of \$33.00 per hour. The total compensation under this agreement shall not exceed \$16,500.

Resolution 2024-374 - NYSERDA Grant Agreement

The NYS Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA) has awarded the Town a grant for \$100,000 due to its participation in clean energy actions (reducing greenhouse emissions). The grant monies will be used to fund the installation of air-source heat pump systems (ASHP) in various town buildings. Five ASHP's will be installed at the town hall and one will be installed in a building at the Thompson Mazzarella Park.

Resolution 2024-375 – Village Police Contract

The Town will renew its contract with the Village for law enforcement presence and services for two years (2025 and 2026) at a rate of \$85 per hour for the 2025 calendar year and \$90 per hour for 2026. For court attendance, the hourly rate will be \$65 per hour.

Resolution 2024-376 - Tyler Technologies Contract

The Town approved a contract with Tyler Technologies to perform appraisal services related to the residential and commercial (assessment) update for the 2025, 2026 and 2027 assessment rolls. The contractual fee is listed below.

2025 Assessment Role Update (Residential and Commercial) - \$24,000
2026 Assessment Role Update (Residential and Commercial) - \$26,000
2027 Assessment Role Update (Residential and Commercial) - \$28,000

Resolutions 2024-381 & 382 – Recreation Department Indoor Men's and Women's Soccer Program

The Town approved both the men's and women's indoor soccer program for the 2025 Winter/Spring Season. The cost for either program is \$40 for full session and \$5 for one week "Walk-In".

Men's Schedule		Women's Schedule	
Day/Time:	Wednesdays, 7 – 8:30 PM	Day/Time:	Tuesdays 7 – 8:30 PM
Dates:	January 6, 13, 27 February 3, 10, 24 March 3, 10, 17, 24	Dates:	January 7, 14, 21, 28 February 4, 11, 18, 25 March 4, 11, 18, 25
Place:	Bulkeley Middle School gym	Place:	CLS Elementary School gym
Coach:	Matthew Grande	Coach:	Susannah Renzi

Resolution 2024-383 – Recreation Department 2025 Winter Festival

The Town approved a Winter Festival to be held at Thompson Mazzarella Park and in the Starr Library Community Room on Saturday, February 8, 2025, from 1:00 to 4:00 PM with an alternate date of Saturday, February 1, 2025. The Board allocated \$2,000 for this event in the 2025 budget.

Resolution 2024-384 – Creating Capital Project H120 (Hamlet of Rhinecliff)

The Town approved the creation of Capital Project H120 which will allow the Town to construct a pocket park in Rhinecliff, applying \$20,000 from the 2024 General Fund budget.

Public Comments on Non-Agenda Items

No comments were presented.

New Business

Supervisor Spinzia reported that she will reach out to the Dutchess County Sheriff's office, seeking its advice and service patrolling the Rhinecliff Hamlet parking areas and the dog-run area at the town park. There are ongoing issues/violations with each area and the Village Police Department cannot provide extra patrols. The Board also discussed the possibility of hiring a town constable to do the patrolling, however, the hiring of a town constable might not be the best solution. The Board will examine the law regarding town constables and how other towns are addressing the need for additional police patrols.

Supervisor Spinzia discussed how she is working with the Town Highway Superintendent, Bob Wyant and LaBella Associates (*) at addressing the commuter parking issue in the Hamlet of Rhinecliff. They are exploring the idea of no overnight parking anywhere in the hamlet all year long. Local residents could purchase overnight parking permits for the town parking lot in the hamlet. There would be 3-4 hour parking limit in designated areas in the hamlet and 15-minute parking outside the post office. These plans will need further examination along with input from the town attorney.

(*) For more information on this topic, see Resolution 2024-357 from the November 12th Town Board Meeting Summary.

Regarding the South Mill Road/County Rt. 85 closure, Councilperson Allan Scherr, asked if there were any new developments. Supervisor Spinzia stated that there has been some talk of the County purchasing land (Lynwood) owned by the Sisters of St. Ursula to be used for a new road at the closure site but will not know for certain until the end of the first quarter in 2025.

Supervisor Spinzia discussed an email sent to all the members of the board by Josh Pulver, an architect and former member of the town board, regarding his recommendation to create a committee to help with examining best practices and other ways to optimize the planning board process for applicants, particularly applicants unfamiliar with the planning board (application) process. Members of the board expressed their interest and support for this recommendation and will begin the process of organizing the committee and making a presentation before the town board at a later date.

The next TB meeting will be held on Monday, January 6, 2025 at 6:00 PM.