

**Summary**  
**Rhinebeck Regular Board Meeting**  
**Monday, August 12, 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.

**Announcements**

Supervisor Spinzia announced that South Mill Road (County Road 85) will remain closed. An engineer will be assessing the issue to find the underlying cause of the road collapse. Any findings will be presented at the October TB meeting.

**Public Hearing**

**Amendments to the Proposed Short-Term Rental Law**

The Town Board has added three amendments to the proposed Short-Term Rental Code (STR).

- The number of people occupying an overnight STR unit shall not exceed ten (10) people total.
- Each sleeping room in an STR unit and any furnished basement shall have a window as a point of egress.
- The inspection process in an STR application may include a pre-inspection at the time of application, and a final inspection upon completion of the application process. All inspection fees shall be paid by the applicant.

**Workforce Housing Project (WHP) at Locust Hill**

The Town Board is the lead agency conducting the State Environmental Quality Review (SEQR) requirement for the WHP. The findings will be presented at the September 9<sup>th</sup> Town Board meeting, where it will be open to public comments.

**Public Speaker**

A local resident spoke about the issue of large, overweight commercial trucks and busses illegally using Montgomery Street/Mount Rutsen Road, especially during times when the fair grounds are in use for public events. Vehicles over three tons are prohibited from using Mt. Rutsen Road but should be banned on Montgomery Street before it becomes Mount Rutsen. These vehicles are causing structural and other damage to local houses. The resident asked that village police monitor the road and suggested the installation of speed humps to slow down these oversized vehicles.

Supervisor Spinzia stated that she would discuss this concern with Town Highway Superintendent Bob Wyant and will get back to the resident with any proposed solutions.

## **Resolutions**

The Town Board (TB) addressed 22 Resolutions, approving 21 and tabling one resolution (2024-296 - Local Highway Functional Class) to be addressed at the September TB meeting. Below is a summary of the major resolutions addressed and approved by the TB. The other resolutions passed may be viewed on the town website noted in the opening paragraph.

### **RESOLUTION 2024-295 - RESCIND RESOLUTION 2024-270 SKATE PARK ADD-ONS**

At the July 8<sup>th</sup> TB meeting, the Board had approved an add-on element, a kidney-shaped bowl, to be built at the skate park site at the Thompson Mazzarella Park. However, it was determined that the proposed bowl would be too large for the area. The Board resolved to rescind the previous resolution.

### **RESOLUTION 2024-301 - REAFFIRM SEXUAL HARASSMENT POLICY**

As required by the NYS Comptroller's Office, the Town Board reviewed its Sexual Harassment Policy and resolved to renew and reaffirm the policy as included in the Employment Practices and Compliance Manual. To review the revised Sexual Harassment Policy, go to Rhinebeck Town Board Agendas at <https://ecode360.com/RH0960/document/753078541.pdf> and scroll down to pp. 40-52.

### **RESOLUTION 2024-302 - REAFFIRM WORKPLACE VIOLENCE POLICY**

The Town Board renewed and reaffirmed the Workplace Violence Policy included in the Employment Practices and Compliance Manual. (See Agenda, p. 54)

### **RESOLUTION 2024-304 - SPORTS TURF FIELD MAINTENANCE CONTRACT**

The Town Board approved a one-year maintenance proposal, submitted by Chenango Contracting, Inc. for the yearly maintenance of the existing turf (sports) field at the Thompson Mazarella Park. The cost of this one-year contract will be \$5,700.00.

### **RESOLUTION 2024-308 - APPROVAL OF RECREATION PARK POLLINATOR GARDEN DESIGN AND PLANTING - STUDIO HOPELAND, LLC**

The Town Board approved the hiring of Ashley Gamell of Studio Hopeland LLC, an ecological garden design company to work at addressing the Mugwort (invasive species) problem and the replanting of the two pollinator-friendly gardens at the Thompson Mazarella Park. The total cost of this project is not to exceed \$3,000.00.

The new rain garden planting adjacent to the Trail Head Pavilion will include appropriate native plantings, incorporating more flowering plants. The surrounding berm will be planted with natives or groundcovers that require mowing only once per year to reduce lawn maintenance on the slope. The new

rain garden bed may extend to meet the building's overhang in order to address maintenance challenges.<sup>1</sup>

**RESOLUTION 2024-293 - RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF AN INTERMUNICIPAL (IMA) AGREEMENT FOR SHARED SERVICES WITH THE TOWN OF RED HOOK REGARDING THE RHINEBECK KENNEL**

The Towns of Rhinebeck and Red Hook have determined that their arrangement regarding the Rhinebeck Kennel, located at the Town's Highway Building site, would result in a fair and equitable sharing of costs of needed services. Red Hook will be billed by Rhinebeck for kennel boarding for each day of use up to \$50 per day. The Town of Red Hook would be responsible for any veterinary care used, including rabies shots, for animals from their town. For dogs that are reclaimed by their owner, the owner will be required to pay the boarding fee and any veterinary care required to the Rhinebeck town clerk prior to picking up the dog.

**RESOLUTION 2024-297 - PURCHASE OF ELECTRIC CAR**

The Town Board approved the purchase of a 2024 Volkswagen ID 4 electric car at a price not to exceed \$31,000. The vehicle will be used by the Zoning Enforcement Officer, as well as for any town staff needing to travel to the county offices in Poughkeepsie. An additional resolution (2024-298) allows for the purchase of an electric charging station to be installed at the Town Hall. The cost of the charging station will be \$592.29.

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The next TB meeting will be held on Monday, September 9<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 PM.

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<sup>1</sup> Town Board Agenda, August 12, 2024, p. 64. Found at <https://ecode360.com/RH0960/document/753078541.pdf>