

**TOWN OF COLUMBIA
REGULAR TOWN BOARD MEETING
DECEMBER 9, 2021**

The Town of Columbia Town Board held a regular monthly meeting December 9, 2021, at the town building.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Supervisor Weiss, Councilmen Burke, Cotton, Learned and Reed

MEMBERS ABSENT: None

OTHERS PRESENT: Pat Woytowich, Clerk; Mark Buddle, Highway Supt.; Bill Keeler, Cty. Legislature Dist. #1; 4 Planning Board Members; 3 residents

Prior to meeting, Ray Donley, CO/ZO, spoke briefly to Board Members as he had another meeting to attend. Ray stated that Application by EDF Renewables under Article 10 has been closed. Columbia Solar Energy made necessary notifications New York State Board and the Secretary of Siting Board of its election to become subject to the provisions of Executive Law Section 94-c.

Supervisor Weiss called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Pledge of Allegiance and prayer

PUBLIC HEARING Local Law #2021-02:

Supervisor Weiss opened the Public Hearing. Legal notice of Public Hearing was published in the Times Telegram on November 30th. Discussion. This law is same that Town of Litchfield and Warren adopted. Will need training and equipment for Firemen, EMT's and others. Discussion followed. Codes Officer will need to monitor. With no further comments/questions the hearing was closed at 7:15 p.m.

A **motion** was made by Councilman Learned, seconded by Councilman Cotton, to accept the minutes of 11/11/2021

VOTE: All members voted aye.

A **motion** was made by Councilman Reed, seconded by Councilman Cotton, to accept the Supervisor and Town Clerk monthly reports.

VOTE: All members voted aye.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

-**PLANNING BOARD:** Minutes of 11/17/2021 were distributed

-**HIGHWAY:** Mark reported that Highway Dept. is keeping busy doing seasonal "catch up".

CORRESPONDENCE:

- Herkimer Cty. Soil & Water - Envirothon
- EDF Renewables application under Article 10 closed and now under 94-c

- Dept. of State 2021 Winter Webinar Series
- NYSEG & RG&E safety tips to avoid Carbon Monoxide Exposure
- NYSEG Recognized by EPA's Responsible Appliance Disposal Program

NEW BUSINESS:

Upon motion of Councilman Burke, seconded by Councilman Reed, the following **resolution 2021-#16** was introduced:

RESOLVED: The Town of Columbia Town Board hereby authorizes the Supervisor to transfer \$5,000.00 from Highway MMDA to HRA Account.

VOTE: Councilmen Burke, aye; Cotton, aye;
Learned, aye; Reed, aye
Supervisor Weiss, aye

The Board discussed the possibility that Town Bookkeeper, Mrs. Wells, may need legal assistance with reporting requirement for the ARPA government funding received by the town. A **motion** was made by Councilman Cotton, seconded by Councilman Burke, for the Supervisor to sign agreement with Attorney David S. Merzig for legal assistance/reporting requirements if needed for the ARPA government funding received by the town. The cost will be at \$200.00 per hour.

VOTE: All members voted aye.

A **motion** was made by Councilman Burke, seconded by Councilman Reed, to authorize the Supervisor to sign the Assessing Contract with Herkimer County to extend the agreement from 12/31/2021 to 12/31/2022.

Upon motion of Councilman Cotton, seconded by Councilman Learned, the following **resolution 2021-#17** was introduced:

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE Town of Columbia Town Board that Local Law #2021-02, Battery Energy Storage System, on file on file/attached hereby is enacted and adopted.

The foregoing resolution was duly put to a vote on roll call which resulted as follows:

VOTE: Councilmen Burke, aye; Cotton, aye;
Learned, aye; Reed, aye
Supervisor Weiss, aye

BOARD DISCUSSION: Brief discussion on highway salaries

INPUT: The Board received input from those attending. Assessing services and McKoons Rd. speed survey briefly discussed.

BILLS: The Board audited the monthly bills. A **motion** was made by Councilman Cotton, seconded by Councilman Learned, to accept the following bills:

General Fund, #132 - #158 for \$15,695.32
Petrie Brown, #1 for \$128.80
Trust & Agency, #12 for \$ 331.98
Highway, Item 3, #117 - #122 for \$1,640.53
Highway, Item 4, #74 - #79 for \$9,539.73

VOTE: All members voted aye.

Next meetings:
Organizational meeting will be held January 3rd
Regular monthly meeting will be held January 13th

A **motion** was made by Councilman Learned, seconded by Councilman Cotton, to adjourn.
The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Supervisor

Town Clerk

Councilman

Councilman

Councilman

Councilman