

Town of German Flatts Board Meeting
Public Hearings Local Laws No. 3 & 4
66 E. Main Street, Mohawk, New York 13407
September 25, 2024

Present: Peter Rovazzi, Supervisor
Jack Fitzer, Deputy Supervisor
Penny Watkins, Councilwoman
Mike Stone, Councilman
Justin Dibble, Councilman
Scott Hendrix, Councilman
Carmen Newtown, Highway Superintendent
Rich Sweeney, Codes
Karl Manne, Town Attorney
Pam Jones, Town Clerk
Public: 4 people attended, see sign-in sheet

MEETING was called to order at 5:35 by Rovazzi, at the Town Community Center.
Pledge of Allegiance was said by all.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION by Hendrix, seconded by Dibble to approve the August 25, 2024 minutes.
Carried.

FINANCIAL REPORTSS

MOTION by Stone, seconded by Hendrix to approve the August 2024 Treasurer's report. Carried.

MOTION by Rovazzi, seconded by Watkins to approve the Town Clerk's August 2024 report for \$1,083.50. Carried.

MOTION by Hendrix, seconded by Stone to approve Judge Engert's August report for \$1,935.00. Dibble abstained. Carried.

MOTION by Watkins, seconded by Stone to approve Judge Stone's August 2024 report for \$10,730.00 Carried.

BILLS

MOTION by Hendrix, seconded by Dibble to pay GFIM bill for \$1,890.85. Carried
MOTION by Watkins, seconded by Stone to pay bills as audited. Carried.

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OTHER REPORTS

HIGHWAY – Newtown reported salt shed building project moving along, will be paving floors this coming Tuesday. Newtown invited everyone up to garage to view the new salt shed. Newtown is looking into a NYSERDA grant. Highway Department will start paving Bell Hill Road the 2nd week in October. The Department has stone & oil 3 ½ miles of road with some CHIPS funds.

DOG CONTROL – August report turned in.

CODES – Sweeney reported 17 permits out, including Solitude Solar. Sweeney reported the progress of solar project. Newtown would like a road plan of the trucks from contractors and Town documentation of roads before and after project.

SUPERVISOR/CLERK – Jones presented Supervisor's 2025 tentative budget to Board.

PUBLIC HEARING LOCAL LAW NO. 3, 2024 REGULATING CAMPING & LODGING

MOTION by Hendrix, seconded by Dibble at 6:06 to open Public Hearing on LL #3, 2024. Carried.

William Richards owner of property by Russell Park asked question concerned how the proposed law may adversely affect people hiking and camping on his property, board answered his concerns.

MOTION by Hendrix, seconded by Stone at 6:14 to close Public Hearing. Carried.

MOTION by Hendrix, seconded by Dibble to adopt Local Law No. 3, 2024 prohibit camping and lodging on public streets, publicly owned or leased property, public parks and other prohibited public spaces, unless formally granted approval by the Town of German Flatts. Carried.

PUBLIC HEARING LOCAL LAW NO. 4, 2024 PROPERTY TAX LEVY

MOTION by Hendrix seconded by Watkins at 6:15 to open public hearing on LL#4, 2024. Carried.

No one spoke. Rovazzi reported he does not think budget will go over tax cap.

MOTION by Hendrix, seconded by Stone to close public hearing at 6:16. Carried.

MOTION by Hendrix, seconded by Watkins to adopt LL #4, 2024 authorizing a property tax levy in excess of the limit established in General Municipal Law 3-C. Carried.

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PUBLIC COMMENT

MOTION by Hendrix, seconded by Dibble to open Public Comment at 6:17. Carried. Karen Slazak, informed the Board that she discussed with the Supervisor, that she saw a local meeting was held for community planning and agreed to reach out to Canal Corporation in Albany to ensure the committee working on the Comprehensive Plan receives future communications of upcoming meetings and events that might be pertinent to the plan.

MOTION by Hendrix, seconded by Watkins at 6:19 to close public comment. Carried.

CORRESPONDENCE

Rovazzi reported a rental had been cancelled the week of the date of rental, due to the lack of interest. Town will keep \$250.00 security deposit and return the rental fee of \$250.00.

Friends of the German Flatts Town Park has asked for a letter stating why their security deposit was not returned. Board said verbal communication was enough.

OLD BUSINESS

Trash day is October 19th. No paint will be collected.

NEW BUSINESS

PARK DAWN TO DUSK –

MOTION by Watkins, seconded by Stone to set the policy for Dawn to Dusk for the public use of the Town Park unless authorized differently by the Town Board. Carried. Town will put up signs No Trespassing Open Dawn to Dusk.

LOCAL LAW No. 2, 2024 ESTABLISHING A MORATORIUM ADOPTION

MOTION by Hendrix, seconded by Stone to adopt LL#2,2024 establishing a six month moratorium on applications, approvals and/or construction or installation on solar energy, solar farms and/or windmills within the Town of German Flatts. Carried.

REAPPOINT PATTI HESS BOARD OF ASSESSMENT REVIEW –

MOTION BY Hendrix, seconded by Watkins to reappoint Patti Hess to Board of Assessment Review. Carried.

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DELINQUENT WATER BILLS RESOLUTION -

MOTION by Rovazzi, seconded by Hendrix to approve resolution authorizing delinquent Manion Heights water bill be sent to Herkimer County for collection on the 2025 Town and County Tax bills. Carried.

WATER METER STANDARDIZATION RESOLUTION –

MOTION by Hendrix, seconded by Watkins to approve the standardization of water meters for Manion Height Water District #1. Carried.

AMENDED HIGHWAY 284 AGREEMENT –

MOTION by Hendrix, seconded by Dibble to approve amended 284 agreement for expenditure of highway moneys. Carried.

JUSTICE COURT JCAP GRANT

MOTION by Hendrix, seconded by Watkins to approve Justice to submit an application for the 2024 -2025 JCAP grant, for the ABDOO security quote as submitted. Carried.

BUDGET TRANSFER NO. 8, 2024 – To increase expenditure using fund balance.

Increase expenditure to \$30,000.00 from 2024 budgeted amount of \$25,192.00 in fund B-8010.4 account Zoning, Contr Expend

Decrease in fund balance to \$16,808.00 from 2024 budgeted amount of \$12,00.00 in fund B-911.0, account Unreserved fund balance.

MOTION by Watkins, seconded by Stone to approve budget transfer #8, 2024. Carried.

Budget workshop will be October 2, 2024 at 5:30pm at the Town Community Center.

October Meeting –moved to October 29, 2024

November meeting – moved to November 21,2024

December meeting – moved to December 17,2024

PRELIMINARY BUDGET PUBLIC HEARING

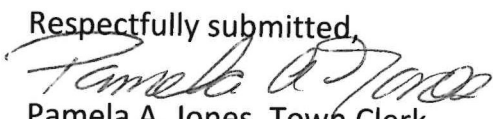
MOTION by Rovazzi, seconded by Dibble to hold public hearing on 2025 preliminary budget on October 29, 2024 at 6:00pm, at the Town Community Center. Carried.

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MOTION by Hendrix, seconded by Dibble approving a retainer agreement for interim employment of current CPA Kim Sanderson, to assist with the transfer of records to the new CPA at \$70.00 per hour not to exceed \$3,000.00. Carried.

MOTION by Stone seconded by Dibble at 6:55 to adjourn. Carried.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Pamela A. Jones", written over the printed name.

Pamela A. Jones, Town Clerk,
Town of German Flatts