The Town Board met in a Workshop Session this evening at the Gardiner Town Hall at 7 PM. Present were Supervisor Majestic and Councilmembers Carucci and Hartner. There were approximately 10± audience members. Councilmembers Wiegand and Richman attended via Zoom as non-voting Councilmembers.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

New York State Ags & Markets mandates that every county containing Certified Agricultural Districts designate an annual application for landowners to request that their lands be included in the New York State Certified Agricultural District. The application period is from March 1st – March 30th. For more information, residents can contact Burt Samuelson at the Ulster County Planning Department.

St. Paulie Textile, Inc., which operates the clothing shed at the Transfer Station, submitted a report on the donations collected in 2024. A total of 9,472 pounds of clothing were donated, enough to provide clothing for 1,745 people worldwide. This effort generated $379.00 in revenue for the Town.

Ulster County sent a sales tax check for $64,203.66. Of that, $55,141.74 was for 2024, surpassing the 2024 budgeted sales tax amount by around $6,000.00.

The Town is desperately seeking a Summer Recreation Director and Assistant Director. Any interested parties, please contact the Town Hall.

There are vacancies on the Environmental Conservation Committee, Planning Board, and Board of Ethics. Any interested parties, please contact the Town Hall.

Town employees and volunteers participated in the required Harassment and Workplace Violence Training. Next week's agenda will have agenda items approving the Internal Complaint Form and Memo Initiating an Investigation.

Supervisor Majestic added 3 last-minute agenda items: Authorization for the Building Inspectors to attend a Conference on March 12th, authorization for the bookkeeper to establish an escrow account for the T-Mobile Construction Project of $2,000.00, and lastly, addition of Minutes from January.

At the upcoming meeting, Councilmember Hartner will provide an update on the status of the Modena Warehouse. He also shared that three residents from the Sewer District have raised concerns about an increase in the sewer tax on the 2025 Town and County tax bill. Supervisor Majestic clarified that this increase is due to a mandate from the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC), requiring the Town to adopt a new model sewer law. A key aspect of this law is the requirement for the Town to hire a Sewer Superintendent. Additionally, the district has faced various expenses related to necessary pump-outs, which have traditionally been absorbed by the Town but are now specified as the responsibility of the property owners in the new law. It's also worth noting that the Dusinberre Road pump station underwent significant renovations. Councilmember Hartner proposed hosting an informational session for residents in the Sewer District to explain the increase and address any additional questions.

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR

Linda Geary- One of the residents that inquired with Councilmember Hartner as to the Sewer District increase. Would be happy to help facilitate a meeting for interested residents looking to understand the Sewer District expenses better.

Tom Penichter- Gardiner Smart Housing Task Force is working closely on Gardiner's sewer issues; looking for potential grant opportunities in the future.

Janine Brutvan- Lazy River- Commented that the new lighting is great; who do they contact if there is a complaint? Suggested better staff training.

EMS PRESENTATION BY EVERETT ERICHSEN, ULSTER COUNTY DIRECTOR OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AND CHIEF MATTHEW GOODNOW

Everett Erichson, Director of Emergency Management Services for Ulster County, presented to the Board the challenges faced by the Town regarding Emergency Medical Support (EMS) services. Gardiner has been identified as being at serious risk with response times. In October, the Town of Gardiner was invited to a meeting with Everett Erichson in Marlboro. The County identified Gardiner as having deficiencies in EMS coverage. As a result of this meeting, the Town allocated $50,000 in the 2025 budget to address the issue. Mr. Erichson proposed the idea of "Supplemental Support," which involves the Town of Gardiner contracting with Ulster County. Ulster County will then contract with New Paltz Rescue Services to provide the Town with supplemental Advanced Life Support Services (ALS) from June 1 to December 31. In the meantime, Gardiner will take steps to establish an EMS District.

DISCUSSION ON TOWN HALL SOLAR INSTALLATION (SOLAR ELECTRIC CABLE LOCATION)

Councilmember Carucci explained that during the installation of the solar panels, a 2-inch conduit cable was required to run from the solar panels. According to Central Hudson, there is a regulation that mandates the conduit must lead to the emergency shut-off switch, which needs to be visible from the meter located on the east side of the building. The installation team will run the conduit through the attic to reach the east side and will paint it white to match the building for a seamless appearance.

ACCEPT ROAD PERFORMANCE BOND AND HIGHWAY CONSTRUCTION AGREEMENT, SCENIC MEADOWS

The discussion was postponed until next week's meeting.

AUTHORIZATION TO RENEW GENERAL INSURANCE AND REVIEW OD SCHEDULE OF VALUES

The discussion was postponed until next week's meeting.

DISCUSS LAZY RIVER 2025 LICENSE APPLICATION

The discussion was postponed until next week's meeting. Councilmember Carucci emphasized that the Town Board needs to prepare for the upcoming conversation, noting that Lazy River did not submit their Campground License Application 150 days in advance as required. Supervisor

Majestic reminded board members that the criteria outlined in Section 200 of the Town Code is separate from the Special Use Permit for the Campground Floating District, which has special conditions outside of Town Code.

APPROVE THE REQUEST OF ECC CHAIR, JOAN PARKER, TO ATTEND THE NY PLANNING FEDERATION ANNUAL CONFERENCE ON APRIL 7TH

On the motion of Supervisor Majestic, seconded by Councilmember Carucci and carried, to approve Joan Parker to attend the New York Planning Federation Annual Conference on April 7th. Councilmembers Wiegand and Richman were absent (Z).

DISCUSS GREEN INNOVATION GRANT PROGRAM FROM THE HVRC GRANT NEWSLETTER

The discussion was postponed until next week's meeting.

ACCEPT OR REJECT AUCTION RESULTS ON THE 1997 INTERNATIONAL DUMP TRUCK

On the motion of Supervisor Majestic, seconded by Councilmember Hartner and carried, to accept the Highway Superintendent's recommendation to accept the $5,500.00 auction bid of the 1997 International Dump Truck with plow. Councilmembers Wiegand and Richman were absent (Z).

AUTHORIZATION FOR THE BOOKKEEPER TO ESTABLISH AN ESCROW ACCOUNT FOR PROJECT #PB-25-03 GUNKS COURT HOUSE FOR $10,000.00

On the motion of Councilmember Carucci, seconded by Councilmember Hartner and carried, authorizing the Bookkeeper to establish an Escrow account for project #PB-25-03 Gunks Court House in the amount of $10,000.00. Councilmembers Wiegand and Richman were absent (Z).

On the motion of Supervisor Majestic, seconded Councilmember Hartner and carried, authorizing the Bookkeeper to establish an Escrow account for project #CP-25-01 T-Mobile Installation at 699 Route 208 for $2,000.00. Councilmembers Wiegand and Richman were absent (Z).

RESOLUTION FOR SPEED STUDY REQUEST FOR ROUTE 44/55

Resolution No. 59 – Offered by Councilmember Hartner;
Be it resolved that in light of recent and ongoing traffic concerns on Route 44-55 between Ireland Corners (Route 208) and the central hamlet of Gardiner, the Town Board of the Town of Gardiner does hereby request of the New York State Department of Transportation that a speed limit study be conducted on the 55-mph section of Route 44-55 beginning at the eastern end of the central hamlet's 35 mph zone and extending east to Route 208. It is requested that the speed limit on this section of road be lowered to 45 mph if warranted by the study.
Seconded by Councilmember Carucci and carried. Councilmembers Wiegand and Richman were absent (Z).

HIRING RESOLUTION FOR CONFIDENTIAL SECRETARY TO THE SUPERVISOR, TONI BENEVENTO

Resolution No. 60 – Offered by Councilmember Hartner;

WHEREAS, the Town Board of the Town of Gardiner accepted the resignation of Emily Sperry, as Confidential Secretary to the Supervisor.

WHEREAS, being this is a part-time position, Toni is not eligible for health insurance benefits;

WHEREAS, Toni began employment with the Town on February 10th, 2025

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board of the Town of Gardiner confirms employment of Toni Benevento as the Confidential Secretary to the Supervisor. Toni Benevento will be compensated at the salary rate of $23.92 an hour and will work between 10 and 17 hours a week.

Seconded by Councilmember Carucci and carried. Councilmembers Wiegand and Richman were absent (Z).

APPROVE THE REQUEST FROM THE BUILDING INSPECTORS TO ATTEND A CONFERENCE

On the motion of Supervisor Majestic, seconded by Councilmember Carucci and carried, to approve both Building Inspectors, Trevor Hults and Alex Piazza to attend a conference on March 12th. Councilmembers Wiegand and Richman were absent (Z).

MINUTES

Approval of Minutes were postponed until next weeks meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

On motion of Councilmember Carucci, seconded by Supervisor Majestic and carried, the meeting was adjourned at 9:15 PM. Councilmembers Wiegand and Richman were absent (Z).

Respectfully submitted,

Julia Hansen, Town Clerk