

MINUTES
TOWN BOARD
July 26, 2023

The Town of Manlius Town Board held a hybrid meeting with in-person attendees and virtual attendees. The meeting was live streamed on the Town Facebook page and the Town YouTube Channel. The recording of the meeting can be viewed here;
<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC3pS9-uTiX4l7aEgciGEVSA>

Supervisor Deer presided, and the following Board members were present:

	Sara Bollinger, Councilor
Absent	Elaine Denton, Councilor
	Heather Waters, Councilor
	Alissa Italiano, Councilor
	William Nicholson, Councilor
	Katelyn M. Kriesel, Councilor

The following Town Officers were present: Tim Frateschi, Attorney for the Town. Ann Oot, Town Manager. Kay Blythe, Deputy Town Manager. Allison Weber, Town Clerk. Jeffrey Slater, Police Captain. Maria Lenway, Comptroller. Rob Cushing, Highway Superintendent.

The following Town Officers Attending Virtually: None

1. Attendees

In-Person Meeting Attendees: Tim Kelly, Fayetteville. Karen Abyoub, Manlius. Mark & Cheryl Matt, Fayetteville. Joe Messineo, Manlius. Ken Kuntsen, Fayetteville, Amanda Mazzoni, CNYRPDB. Craig Dudczak, Fayetteville. Mike Friend, Manlius. Erin Trojan, Manlius. Nevaeh Foster, Kirkville. Callie DeForest, Chittenango. Haley Foster, Kirkville. Carlie Gill, E. Syracuse. Hollie Meehan, Minoa. Logan Wilson, Minoa. Ken Knutsen, Fayetteville. Phil Berrigan, Manlius. Shawn Foster, Kirkville. Barb Wilson, Manlius. Alex Behm, Chittenango. Mary Karpinski, Manlius. Steve Hoefler, Manlius. John & Andrea Belton, Manlius. Lisa Chapman, Fayetteville. Katherine & Craig Polhamus, Fayetteville. Pete Wirth, Fayetteville. Roseann Loreface, Manlius. Annette Patterson, Manlius. Deb Tooker, Manlius. Rick & Mary Minoski, Chittenango. Madeleine Boart, Fayetteville. Chris Flaherty (Clear Path), Manlius. Robert DeForest, Manlius. Donna Edgar, Chittenango. Kimberly Edgar, Chittenango. Ingrid McCurdy, E. Syracuse. Marlene Denney, Manlius. Tom Oot, Manlius. John Cayenne, Manlius.

Virtual Meeting Attendees: RuthAnn Winschel, Manlius. Janice (no last name given). Jeff Storch. Marley (no last name given). Andrea Scamehorn. Maggie Neuhierl. Warren Linhart. Faith Binder. Ronald Bort.

2. 6:34 PM The Pledge of Allegiance

Supervisor Deer called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM. Boy Scout Troop 210 of Kirkville, N.Y. led the Pledge of Allegiance. Supervisor Deer welcomed everyone and thanked all for attending.

3. 6:36 PM Open Podium – None

4. 6:36 PM Proclamation Recognizing July 26th to be National Americans with Disabilities Act Awareness Day in the Town of Manlius.

Councilor Italiano read a proclamation recognizing July 26th as National Americans with Disabilities Act Awareness Day.

Councilor Italiano made a motion, seconded by Councilor Bollinger, to adopt the proclamation recognizing July 26th as National Americans with Disabilities Act Awareness Day.

Ayes: Supervisor Deer, Councilor Bollinger, Councilor Waters, Councilor Italiano, Councilor Nicholson, Councilor Kriesel.

Nayes: 0 All in Favor. Motion Carries.

5. 6:39 PM 7:21 PM Public Hearing - Skyridge Water District Improvement Project

Town Attorney Frateschi reviewed the SEQR part two that was completed at the last meeting.

Councilor Bollinger made a motion, seconded by Councilor Nicholson, to issue a negative declaration for SEQR purposes pursuant to the resolution prepared by the Attorney for the Town in the matter of the Skyridge Water District 202b Project and the Skyridge Water District Extension Number 1.

Ayes: Supervisor Deer, Councilor Bollinger, Councilor Waters, Councilor Italiano, Councilor Nicholson, Councilor Kriesel.

Nayes: 0 All in Favor. Motion Carries.

The Town Board re-opened the continued public hearing from the July 12th town board meeting.

Mary Karpinski, Manlius, stated there are historic stone walls near the excavation area and mature trees along the excavation site. Ms. Karpinski stated that none of the councilors have visited Salt Springs Road area or responded to the residents' questions that were previously submitted. Ms. Karpinski reviewed questions and asked that the public hearing stay open and the Town Board take no further action until the questions are answered.

Erin Trojan, Manlius stated that she is speaking on behalf of the Skyridge Water District. Ms. Trojan stated that all of the residents in the Skyridge Water District were surveyed and the results were unanimous that the residents are in favor of the Town pursuing funding to construct a new water main to provide municipal water to the Skyridge District.

John Cayanne, Manlius, stated that he is a Veteran. Mr. Cayanne asked why the property owned by Clear Path at Skyridge LLC pays no property taxes on 15.79 acres? Mr. Cayanne discussed how the parcel is currently tax-exempt status and asked why the property is tax exempt? Mr. Cayanne stated that the property is not owned by the non-profit so why is it tax exempt?

Councilor Bollinger stated that it is a use variance, and the use is tax exempt.

Mr. Cayanne asked why the Town is in such a rush to dump 13 million into a property when there are very few veterans in the area. Mr. Cayanne stated that this project would be better suited near a military base.

Councilor Italiano stated this water project is also for 29 residential homes.

Kimberly Edgar, Sullivan, stated that she works for comptrollers' office and her office is not aware of the \$800,00 dollars in funding from Onondaga County. Ms. Edgar asked The Town Board who the contact would be for the county funding. Councilor Bollinger stated that Legislator Mark Olson is the contact for the county funding.

Ms. Edgar asked about the two million dollars in funding that Al Stirpe promised and asked if the town has that promise of funding in writing? Councilor Bollinger answered yes, it is a DASNY grant.

Ms. Edgar asked why Sleepy Hollow was mentioned? Ms. Edgar asked how much money the Town of Sullivan has put into this project and the project has never moved forward. Ms. Edgar asked why the Town of Sullivan has been allowed to work in the Town of Manlius?

Rick Minoski, Chittenango (Town of Sullivan), recently moved to Chittenango in October. He stated this directly affects his property and they were never given notice.

Joe Messineo, Manlius, stated that OCWA paid the initial expense for the Barton and Loguidice report on this project and the last time the town spent \$40,000 out of the general fund. Mr. Messineo asked who is paying for these current expenses on this project that are accruing now?

Supervisor Deer stated if the larger project does not go through the costs will be paid for by the district.

With there being no further comments from the public, Councilor Italiano made a motion, seconded by Councilor Waters, to close the public hearing at 6:57 PM in the matter of the resolution of the Town Board pursuant to Section 202-b of the Town Law determining that it is in the public interest to undertake certain improvements to the Town's Skyridge Water District as outlined in the resolution prepared by the Attorney for the town.

Ayes: Supervisor Deer, Councilor Bollinger, Councilor Waters, Councilor Italiano, Councilor Nicholson, Councilor Kriesel.

Nayes: 0

All in Favor.

Motion Carries.

6. 6:42 PM Public Hearing – Skyridge Water District Extension # 1 (Clear Path for Veterans)

The Town Board re-opened the continued public hearing from the July 12th town board meeting.

Mary Karpinski, Manlius, made comments about the revised Map, Plan and Report. Ms. Karpinski stated that the Skyridge Water District project is being pushed forward based on assumptions about possible funding. Ms. Karpinski asked why the Town of Manlius is named as lead agency and why would so many dollars are being spent to provide water to twenty-nine homes and a non-profit?

Chris Flaherty, CEO of Clear Path for Veterans, asked for continued support for the Skyridge Water District and stated that this is both a town and veteran issue.

Donna Edgar, Manlius, stated that she went through this in 2017, she has a well and has all the water she needs.

Phil Berrigan, Manlius, stated that everyone is concerned about putting a utility down the road and the that is something that happens every day. Mr. Berrigan stated that the town would be responsible for creating the funds for either option 1 or option 2 (Options in the Map Plan and Report . He stated this issue has been going on for fifteen years and he hopes the board can come up with a solution.

Joe Messineo, Manlius, stated that he fully supports helping Horseshoe Lane. Mr. Messineo stated further that Clear Path is offering support with their clout and the organization should also be offering money.

Stephen Benson, Manlius, stated he reviewed what looked like a strong Comprehensive Plan until he got to the land use issue. Mr. Benson stated that it is tied to Micron and the influx of people it will bring to the area. Mr. Benson further stated that if everyone thinks this water supply issue is about the veterans (ClearPath), it is not.

Maggie Neuhierl, Manlius, stated that Clear Path professes to serve lots of veterans which they may but she does not see that much activity. Ms. Neuhierl stated that Clear Path has not been a good neighbor unless it has been to their advantage.

The Board offered their responses to any new questions that were presented in this meeting.

Supervisor Deer stated that:

- Unless a resident lives in in the Skyridge Water District or in Skyridge Extension #1 they will not be forced to connect to public water, and residents outside the district will not be charged. Any residents who will be given access to the public water line have signed a letter stating that they would like to connect.
- The Town Engineer has reviewed the proposals. There is a substantial public benefit to a loop system.
- The intention is not to spend 13.7 million dollars, but so that a WIIA application can be submitted for additional funding. The merit of the project will be decided by the people who oversee the WIIA. If the Town does not get additional funding, this project doesn't happen. There will be other agencies deciding if this project has merit.
- The town has a responsibility to make sure the residents in the water district have clean water. This has been ongoing and looked at by other boards and this is the last shot the people in the water district have.

Councilor Italiano stated that she did visit the Salt Springs Road area several times. Councilor Italiano stated that she did find that there are two fire hydrants on Horseshoe Lane.

Ken Knutsen, Barton and Loguidice, stated that the existing tank does not have the capacity or the flow to handle a residential structure fire.

Councilor Waters discussed the compromise of having to remove mature trees for this project. Councilor Waters stated that should the project move forward there will be attention paid to making sure that as many mature trees as possible are preserved.

Councilor Nicholson stated that he does understand the impact that construction will have on property while a project like this is undertaken.

Councilor Italiano stated that it is very expensive, and disruptive but there are 29 homes that do not have access to clean water on demand that they have a right to. Councilor Italiano stated that this option, while costly makes the most sense long term and prior boards did not handle this.

Supervisor Deer discussed the notification process for the Town of Manlius.

Councilor Kriesel stated that inflation is driving the higher costs associated with this project.

With there being no further comments from the public, Councilor Bollinger made a motion, seconded by Councilor Waters, to close the public hearing at 7:15 PM in the matter of the resolution and order for Skyridge Water District Extension No. 1 as prepared by the Attorney for the Town

Ayes: Supervisor Deer, Councilor Bollinger, Councilor Waters, Councilor Italiano, Councilor Nicholson, Councilor Kriesel.

Nayes: 0 All in Favor. Motion Carries.

Jeff Storch, Bond Counsel, stated that authorizations are subject to grants. Mr. Storch further stated that this action should not affect the Towns credit rating and likely to be exempt from the Towns debt limit.

Councilor Bollinger made a motion, seconded by Councilor Italiano, to adopt the resolution of the Town Board pursuant to Section 202-b of the Town Law determining that it is in the public interest to undertake certain improvements to the Town's Skyridge Water District as outlined in the resolution prepared by the Attorney for the town.

Ayes: Supervisor Deer, Councilor Bollinger, Councilor Waters, Councilor Italiano, Councilor Nicholson, Councilor Kriesel.

Nayes: 0 All in Favor. Motion Carries.

Councilor Bollinger made a motion, seconded by Councilor Waters, to adopt the resolution and order for Skyridge Water District Extension No. 1 as prepared by the Attorney for the Town

Ayes: Supervisor Deer, Councilor Bollinger, Councilor Waters, Councilor Italiano, Councilor Nicholson, Councilor Kriesel.

Nayes: 0 All in Favor. Motion Carries.

Councilor Bollinger made a motion, seconded by Councilor Kriesel, to adopt the Memorandum of Understanding for the Skyridge Water District Improvement Project between the Town of Manlius, Town of Sullivan, Onondaga County Water Authority and ClearPath for Veterans as presented.

Ayes: Supervisor Deer, Councilor Bollinger, Councilor Waters, Councilor Italiano, Councilor Nicholson, Councilor Kriesel.

Nayes: 0 All in Favor. Motion Carries.

Councilor Bollinger made a motion, seconded by Councilor Waters, to adopt the bond resolution of the Town Board authorizing the issuance of up to \$13,693,000 in serial bonds of the Town to finance certain improvements to the Town's Skyridge Water District as prepared by bond counsel.

Ayes: Supervisor Deer, Councilor Bollinger, Councilor Waters, Councilor Italiano, Councilor Nicholson, Councilor Kriesel.

Nayes: 0 All in Favor. Motion Carries.

7. 7:39 PM Public Hearing – Climate Action Plan

Councilor Kriesel made a motion, seconded by Councilor Waters, to waive the reading of the public notice in the matter of the Climate Action Plan for the Town of Manlius as outlined in the resolution presented.

Ayes: Supervisor Deer, Councilor Bollinger, Councilor Waters, Councilor Italiano, Councilor Nicholson, Councilor Kriesel.

Nayes: 0 All in Favor. Motion Carries.

Councilor Kriesel made a motion, seconded by Councilor Waters, to open the public hearing at 7:39 PM in the matter of the Climate Action Plan for the Town of Manlius as outlined in the resolution presented.

Ayes: Supervisor Deer, Councilor Bollinger, Councilor Waters, Councilor Italiano, Councilor Nicholson, Councilor Kriesel.

Nayes: 0 All in Favor. Motion Carries.

Pete Wirth, Fayetteville, stated he is in support of the Climate Action Plan and believes the plan should be more aggressive in terms of emissions. Mr. Wirth discussed impacts of climate change.

Robert DeForest, CNY Home Builder, stated that housing affordability is a much greater problem than climate change. Mr. DeForest stated that he is against the Town and State Climate Action Plans due to costs for builders. Mr. DeForest discussed the building cost differences if the Town adopts the Climate Action Plan and New York Stretch Code. He discussed his cost to build houses based on these plans.

The Town Board had a discussion with Mr. DeForest regarding the parts of the Climate Action Plan that he is opposed to.

Tom Oot, President of Home Builders and Remodelers Association of Central New York. Mr. Oot stated that the board should consider existing homes when it comes to energy loss and conservation. Mr. Oot stated that builders are building homes at the highest standard ever. Mr. Oot discussed new technologies and asked that the board use common sense when looking at the new technologies mentioned in these plans.

Ingrid McCurdy, E. Syracuse spoke about her research done on EVs concerning the batteries, life expectancy and the cost. Ms. McCurdy stated that the number of EV vehicles in the Town of Manlius has tripled and thanked the Town Board for being mindful of climate change.

Town Clerk Weber read aloud a letter submitted by Brad Schwab. Mr. Schwab is in strong support of the Climate Action Plan proposed by the Town of Manlius.

Amanda Mazzoni from the Central New York Regional Planning and Development Board (CNY RPDB) spoke about the NYS Stretch Code and heat pumps. Ms. Mazzoni stated that the plan states that the town will consider adopting the stretch code, but does not require the town to adopt the stretch code.

Councilor Kriesel made a motion, seconded by Councilor Waters, to close the public hearing at 7:59 PM in the matter of the Climate Action Plan for the Town of Manlius as outlined in the resolution presented.

Ayes: Supervisor Deer, Councilor Bollinger, Councilor Waters, Councilor Italiano, Councilor Nicholson, Councilor Kriesel.

Nayes: 0 All in Favor. Motion Carries.

Councilor Kriesel made a motion, seconded by Councilor Waters, to adopt the Climate Action Plan for the Town of Manlius as outlined in the resolution presented.

Ayes: Supervisor Deer, Councilor Bollinger, Councilor Waters, Councilor Italiano, Councilor Nicholson, Councilor Kriesel.

Nayes: 0 All in Favor. Motion Carries.

8. 8:09 PM Comprehensive Plan – Adopt Plan

Councilor Bollinger reviewed the comprehensive planning process and what the comprehensive plan is.

Councilor Bollinger made a motion, seconded by Councilor Waters, to adopt the 2023 Comprehensive Plan for the Town of Manlius as presented.

Ayes: Supervisor Deer, Councilor Bollinger, Councilor Waters, Councilor Italiano, Councilor Nicholson, Councilor Kriesel.

Nayes: 0 All in Favor. Motion Carries.

9. 8:15 PM Recreation Department New Hire

Councilor Italiano made a motion, seconded by Councilor Bollinger, to hire Taylor Buffum, Recreation Attendant (Pinegrove Playground) at \$15.75 per hour.

Ayes: Supervisor Deer, Councilor Bollinger, Councilor Nicholson, Councilor Italiano, Councilor Waters, Councilor Kriesel.

Nays: 0 All in Favor. Motion Carries.

Councilor Italiano congratulated the Recreation Department for their hard work on the Summer Musical and stated that there was great turnout with over 735 attendees.

10. 8:16 PM Resolution to Hire Harris Beach as the Attorney for the Town

Councilor Bollinger made a motion, seconded by Councilor Italiano, to retain Harris Beach PLLC as the Attorney for the Town as outlined in the resolution presented.

Ayes: Supervisor Deer, Councilor Bollinger, Councilor Nicholson, Councilor Italiano, Councilor Waters, Councilor Kriesel.

Nays: 0 All in Favor. Motion Carries.

11. 8:46 PM Petition for a Permissive Referendum to Establish a Ward District

Town Clerk Weber stated that a Petition for a Permissive Referendum was submitted in her office on July 14th to establish a ward system in the Town of Manlius. Clerk Weber stated she also received an objection on July 19th.

Clerk Weber and Attorney Frateschi discussed the petitions, the clerk’s role in the acceptance of the petitions and the ward system.

12. Approval of Minutes – July 12, 2023 - Tabled

13. 8:46 PM Approval of Abstract # 14 - Tabled

Councilor Bollinger made a motion, seconded by Councilor Nicholson, to approve Abstract # 14 in the amount of \$420,963.95 as submitted by Comptroller Lenway.

TOWN OF MANLIUS		
Fund Summary		
Abstract # 13 - 2023		
CODE	FUND	TOTALS
A	General Fund Townwide	\$94,478.35
B	General Fund Part Town	\$1,689.63
DA	Highway Fund Townwide	\$21,159.17
DB	Highway Fund Part Town	\$67,044.76
SD1	Consolidated Drainage #1	\$2,508.00
SR1	Trash	\$205,581.50

SR2	Brush	\$25,187.50
SW3	Skyridge Water District	\$3,315.00
	Total	\$420,963.95

Ayes: Supervisor Deer, Councilor Bollinger, Councilor Nicholson, Councilor Italiano, Councilor Waters, Councilor Kriesel.

Nays: 0

All in Favor.

Motion Carries.

14. 8:41 P.M. Resolution Authorizing the Supervisor to Sign the WIAA Grant Application

Councilor Bollinger made a motion, seconded by Councilor Waters, to authorize the Supervisor to sign the WIAA grant application.

Ayes: Supervisor Deer, Councilor Bollinger, Councilor Nicholson, Councilor Italiano, Councilor Waters, Councilor Kriesel.

Nays: 0

All in Favor.

Motion Carries.

15. 8:42 PM Adjournment

By motion made by Councilor Kriesel and seconded by Councilor Italiano, the Board voted unanimously to adjourn at 8:42 PM

Ayes: Supervisor Deer, Councilor Nicholson, Councilor Bollinger, Councilor Italiano, Councilor Waters, Councilor Kriesel.

Nays: 0

All in Favor.

Motion Carries.

Respectfully Submitted by:

Allison A. Weber
Town Clerk