

**TOWN OF WHITEHALL  
REGULAR TOWN BOARD MEETING  
57 SKENESBOROUGH DRIVE  
WHITEHALL, NY 12887  
7:00PM**

**MARCH 20, 2024**

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:** John Rozell, Supervisor  
David Hollister, Councilperson  
Christopher Dudley, Councilperson  
Stephanie Safka, Councilperson  
Francis Wilbur, Councilperson

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Erika Seller-Ryan, Attorney; Louis D. Pratt, Highway Superintendent; Laura Tyluk-Rossi, Gavin Boule, Brock Fox, Lukas Longtin, Tammy Rocque, David Rathbun

Supervisor Rozell called the board meeting to order with the Pledge of Allegiance at 7:12 pm.

Public Comments: David Rathbun from the Whitehall Youth League asked the Town Board if they could purchase more dirt for the fields again this year and would like to thank Tim Martindale for using his own equipment to help. Mr. Rathbun stated that they usually go through 30 tons a year per field. The bases need to be in by 4/1 so they would like to have the money now. Historically they get one ton donated, they would like to get 50 yards now. Superintendent of Highways Louis Pratt stated that the only issue would be is that the ground is too soft in the spring and recommends in the future to do it in the fall. Mr. Pratt said that he could get a load the following day and would dump it in the parking lot so that the fields do not get tore up. The board discussed the matter and calculated that 4 loads would equal 48 yards at a cost of \$1,000.00. Councilperson Hollister also commented that a couple years ago we approved \$2,500.00 for the fields.

**MOTION** for the Town to purchase \$1,000.00 with of dirt for the Youth League made by Councilperson Dudley and Seconded by Councilperson Safka.

**ADOPTED**      **AYES 5 Rozell, Hollister, Dudley, Safka, Kingsley**  
                         **NAYS 0**

**MOTION** to approve the monthly minutes from the February 21, 2024 Town Board meeting made by Councilperson Hollister and Seconded by Councilperson Dudley.

**ADOPTED**      **AYES 5 Rozell, Hollister, Dudley, Safka, Wilbur**  
                         **NAYS 0**

**MONTHLY REPORTS:**

**Town Recreation Report** by Timothy Martindale – Written

- Parking lot lights are not bright enough, possibly lowering lights would help.
- Looking for an update on the resealing/resurfacing parking and stripping project.
- Highway Superintendent Pratt said that new quotes are needed for this year.
- Foresight will be giving the Town a proposal to install more security cameras.
- When the building closes at night, the playground and the basket ball courts are locked due to the vandalism and vagrancy issues. There has been all sorts of garbage left in the playground area as well as the basketball courts such as broken glass and needles. Councilperson Safka agreed there should be

more cameras and suggested contacting Saratoga Surveillance or purchasing them somewhere else. Supervisor Rozell wanted it noted that even though there are cameras, no charges have ever been filed from them.

-The Youth wrestling league would like to use the Senior Center for their awards banquet on 4/11/2024. -Rec Leader Martindale wants to know what authority the Rec Booster Club has at the Recreation Center; he has heard there have been several complaints on how it is being run and that they would like to take over the Rec Center and Youth League. The Board discussed several issues with the Rec Booster Club Committee. Supervisor Rozell stated that the Town Board has told the Rec Booster Club Committee that they must go through Tim Martindale and he will bring it to the Town Board before anything is done on Town property and this is not being done. Councilperson Safka provided a history of "lack of communication between the Rec Booster Club and the Town Board. David Rathbun of the Youth League stated that David Waters is telling people that the Youth League should be dissolved which is impacting sponsorships.

-Councilperson Dudley outlined the three demands/priority from the Rec Booster Club: (1) The Walking Track (2) A New Scoreboard and (3) A New Playground. The Board showed unanimous support for Tim Martindale and the Rec Booster Clubs needs to work with him on what he feels is needed.

-Supervisor Rozell asked Councilperson Wilbur if he would like to be on the Rec Committee in place of Councilperson Kingsley; Councilperson Wilbur agreed to be on the committee.

-The old pool table is not usable and Rec Leader Martindale would like to dispose of it.

**MOTION** to declare the pool table as damaged, unsafe surplus property that needs to be destroyed-declared unsafe made by Councilperson Dudley and Seconded by Councilperson Hollister.

**ADOPTED**      **AYES 5 Rozell, Hollister, Dudley, Safka, Wilbur**  
                         **NAYS 0**

-The refrigerator on the Senior Side is not working, they would like to know who is responsible to purchase a new one. Supervisor Rozell stated it was their responsibility to purchase another one.

**Town Dog Control Report** by Kathy Hall – No Report

**Town Compliance Report** by Martin Rocque – No report; moving forward with litigation

**Town Clerk Report** by Patti Gordon – Written

-Town Clerk's Office will be open 3/29/2024 for tax collection.

**Town Assessors Report** by Roberta Stone – Written

**Resolution #36 Extension of Town-Wide Reassessment into 2025**

**MOTION** to accept Resolution #36 Extension of Town Wide Reassessment made by Supervisor Rozell and Seconded by Councilperson Hollister.

**ADOPTED**      **AYES 5 Rozell, Hollister, Dudley, Safka, Wilbur**  
                         **NAYS 0**

Resolutions will be filed with the minutes, Resolution Book and Website.

**Town Supervisors Report** by John Rozell – Verbal

-Received information on Historic Preservation Grant for restaurants, will pass it along to the Owner of Historic Grounds.

**Town Budget Officers Report & Transfers** by Joel Carpenter – Written

**Town Planning Board Report** by Gregg Chappell – No Report

**Town Highway Report** by Louis D. Pratt II – Written

-New pick-up is ready. The 2018 Chevy 3500 1-ton pick-up surplus property.

**MOTION** to declare the 2018 Chevy 3500 1-ton pick-with 42,000 miles surplus property made by Councilperson Dudley and Seconded by Council Hollister.

**ADOPTED**      **AYES 5 Rozell, Hollister, Dudley, Safka, Wilbur**  
                         **NAYS 0**

**MOTION** to declare the Fischer Extreme 8 1/2 V-plow w/Wing and 2009 Fischer sander surplus made by Councilperson Safka and Seconded by Councilperson Hollister.

**ADOPTED**      **AYES**    5 **Rozell, Hollister, Dudley, Safka, Wilbur**  
                         **NAYS**    0

**MOTION** to sell the 2018 Chevy 3500 ton pick-up with Fischer Plow and Fischer Sander to the Whitehall Central School for \$38,300.00 made by Councilperson Hollister and Seconded by Councilperson Safka.

**ADOPTED**      **AYES**    5 **Rozell, Hollister, Dudley, Safka, Wilbur**  
                         **NAYS**    0

**MOTION** to approve the monthly reports made by Councilperson and Seconded by Councilperson.

**ADOPTED**      **AYES**    5 **Rozell, Hollister, Dudley, Safka, Wilbur**  
                         **NAYS**    0

#### **BUSINESS TO DISCUSS**

**Resolution #37 of 2024 Mowing Contract with Washington County**

**MOTION** to accept Resolution #37 Mowing Contract with Washington County for \$9,484.02 made by Councilperson Dudley and Seconded by Councilperson Safka

**ADOPTED**      **AYES**    5 **Rozell, Hollister, Dudley, Safka, Wilbur**  
                         **NAYS**    0

Skenesborough Emergency Squad Contract for \$15,500.00 for 2024.

**MOTION** to allow Supervisor Rozell to sign the contract once the Town receives and reviews all required documents per the contract made by Councilperson Dudley and Seconded Councilperson Safka.

**ADOPTED**      **AYES**    5 **Rozell, Hollister, Dudley, Safka, Wilbur**  
                         **NAYS**    0

An ad will be placed in the Whitehall times for the mowing of Sciota Cemetery and bids will be open at the April 17<sup>th</sup> board meeting.

Reschedule of Public Hearing for Disability Exemption

**MOTION** to schedule a Public Hearing for the RPTL Disability Exemption/Low Income Exemption on 4/17/2024 at 7:05pm made by Councilperson Dudley and Seconded by Councilperson Safka.

**ADOPTED**      **AYES**    5 **Rozell, Hollister, Dudley, Safka, Wilbur**  
                         **NAYS**    0

**MOTION** to approve all park requests: 6/22/2024 Chamber of Commerce, 7/20/2024 Our Lady of Hope Church, 9/28/2024 Sasquatch Festival made by Councilperson Dudley and Seconded by Councilperson Hollister.

**ADOPTED**      **AYES**    5 **Rozell, Hollister, Dudley, Safka, Wilbur**  
                         **NAYS**    4

#### **ABSTRACT #3 OF 2024**

**GENERAL FUND V/#1-20 \$16,141.21**  
**HIGHWAY FUND V/#1-10 \$13,212.01**

**MOTION** to approve the monthly Abstract #3 of 2024 made by Councilperson Hollister and Seconded by Supervisor Rozell.

**ADOPTED**      **AYES**    5 **Rozell, Hollister, Dudley, Safka, Wilbur**  
                         **NAYS**    0

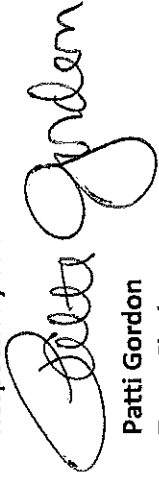
**MOTION** to go into Executive Session for litigation made by Supervisor Rozell and Seconded Councilperson Hollister.

**ADOPTED**    **AYES**   5 Rozell, Hollister, Dudley, Safka, Wilbur  
                  **NAYS**   0

**MOTION** to come out of Executive Session with no action taken and to adjourn the March Town Board at 9:42pm made by Councilperson Hollister and Seconded by Councilperson Safka.

**ADOPTED**    **AYES**   5 Rozell, Hollister, Dudley, Safka, Wilbur  
                  **NAYS**   0

Adjourned,  
Respectfully Submitted

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Patti Gordon", is written over a horizontal line.

Patti Gordon  
Town Clerk

**NOTE:** Minutes were transcribed from Town Attorney Seller-Ryan's notes and tape recording of the Town Board meeting.

**TOWN OF WHITEHALL**

57 Skenesborough Drive

Whitehall, NY 12887

Phone: (518)-499-1535 Fax: (518)-499-1546

Email: townofwhitehall@live.com

Supervisor, John W. Rozell

Councilperson, David Hollister  
Councilperson, Stephanie Safka

Town Assessor, Roberta Stone  
Town Clerk, Patti Gordon  
Councilperson, Christopher Dudley  
Councilperson, Francis Wilbur

**RESOLUTION # 36**  
**EXTENSION OF RESOLUTION #37 OF 2022 TOWN-WIDE REASSESSMENT FOR THE**  
**YEAR 2023 INTO 2025**

Motion made by John Rozell

Seconded by Dave Hollister

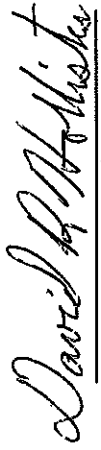
**WHEREAS**, the Town Board of the Town of Whitehall passed Resolution #37 of 2022, for the Sole Assessor to perform a Town-Wide Assessment for 2023 assessment roll, which was extended on 5/17/2023 to continue into 2024, there was not enough time for the reassessment to be completed due to discrepancies on values with New York State for the reassessment to be completed.

WHEREAS, The Town Board of the Town of Whitehall desires to maintain the equalization rate at 100% (one hundred percent),

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Whitehall does hereby accept the proposal of the Town of Whitehall Sole Assessor, Roberta Stone to perform a town-wide reassessment for the 2025 assessment roll.

Motion Carried

 John Rozell, Supervisor



David Hollister, Councilperson



Christopher Dudley, Councilperson



Stéphanie Safka, Councilperson



Francis Wilbur, Councilperson

**CERTIFICATION**

I, Patti Gordon, the duly qualified and acting Town Clerk of the Town of Whitehall, New York, do hereby certify that the above resolution was adopted at a regular board meeting of the Town Board of Whitehall held on 03/20/2024 and is on file and of record, and that the said resolution has not been altered, amended or revoked and is in full force and effect.

Patti Gordon



Whitehall Town Clerk

**TOWN OF WHITEHALL**  
57 Skenesborough Drive  
Whitehall, NY 12887

Phone: (518)-499-1535 Fax: (518)-499-1546  
Email: townofwhitehall@outlook.com

|                                |                              |                                   |
|--------------------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Councilperson, David Hollister | Supervisor, John W. Rozell   | Councilperson, Christopher Dudley |
| Councilperson, Stephanie Safka | Town Assessor, Roberta Stone |                                   |
|                                | Town Clerk, Patti Gordon     | Councilperson, Francis Wilbur     |

**RESOLUTION # 37**

Motion Made By Chris Dudley  
Seconded By David Hollister

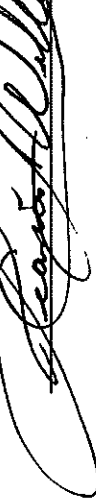
**Title:** Authorizing the Town Highway Superintendent to enter into an agreement with the Washington County Superintendent of Public Works to mow grass along the county roads located within the boundaries of the Town of Whitehall.

**WHEREAS,** for the past several years the Town has entered into an agreement with the County to mow county roads, and

**WHEREAS,** the County agrees to reimbursement the Town at a rate of \$351.00 per centerline mile highway for a total of \$9,484.02 for the season. In the Town of Whitehall there are approximately 27.02 miles of County highways.

**THEREFORE,** be it resolved that the Town Board of the Town of Whitehall does hereby authorize the Highway Superintendent to enter into an agreement with the Washington County Superintendent of Public Works to mow grass along the County roads within the Town of Whitehall.

Motion Carried

|                                                                                       |                                   |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
|  | John Rozell, Supervisor           |
|  | David Hollister, Councilperson    |
|  | Christopher Dudley, Councilperson |
|  | Stephanie Safka, Councilperson    |
|  | Francis Wilbur, Councilperson     |

**CERTIFICATION**

I, Patti Gordon, the duly qualified and acting Town Clerk of The Town of Whitehall, New York, do hereby certify that the above resolution was adopted at regular board meeting of the Town Board of Whitehall held on 03/20/2024 and is on file and of record, and that the said resolution has not been altered, amended or revoked and is in full force and effect.

Patti Gordon

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Patti Gordon". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned over the printed name and title.

Whitehall Town Clerk

**TOWN SEAL**