

TB Meeting, November 14, 2024
REGULAR TOWN MEETING
Colden Town Hall – 7:00 pm

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER AT 7:03pm
SUPERVISOR DePASQUALE OPENED THE MEETING WITH A MOMENT OF SILENCE
IN MEMORY OF ELLEN NICHTER FOLLOWED BY THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE.

PRESENT

Councilman Dennis Robinson
Councilman Jesse Hrycik - remote
Councilman Patricia Zurbrick - excused
Councilman Gerald Pietraszek
Supervisor James DePasquale

ALSO PRESENT

Erie County Officer Shane Miller	Town Accountant Mark Adamchick
Highway Superintendent Lee Wohlhueter	Adamchick's Asst Brittany Harrison
CEO John Kotlarsz	Planning Board Chairman Walter Kammer
CEO Tom Dziulko	Town Clerk Deborah Jusiak
DCO Officer Michelle Zak	Max Borsuk Springville Journal Editor
Recreation Director Kip Palmateer	Approximately 2 residents

Supervisor DePasquale asked the Board for a motion to allow Councilman Hrycik to attend the meeting by phone due to sickness.

MOTION made by Councilman Robinson seconded by Councilman Pietraszek and unanimously approved to allow Councilman Hrycik to attend the meeting by phone.

Councilman Hrycik was connected and stayed on the phone for the duration of the meeting.

REGULAR TOWN BOARD MEETING

MINUTES:

MOTION made by Councilman Pietraszek, seconded by Councilman Robinson, and unanimously approved by the Town Board members to approve the minutes from the Budget Workshop on October 3, 2024, and Regular Town Board Meeting held on October 10, 2024.

OLD BUSINESS

No Report

NEW BUSINESS

No Report

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PUBLIC HEARING

2025 Proposed Budget Hearing

Supervisor DePasquale opened the 2025 Budget Public Hearing at 7:05 pm. There were no questions or comments from the public. Supervisor DePasquale explained that the 2025 Proposed Budget includes small increases to correspond with rising costs of garbage and utilities. There is no General Fund tax. Only two changes were made to the Proposed Budget on General Fund line A7310. The salary for the first assistant recreation supervisor was changed to \$10,300, and the second assistant supervisor position was removed.

Supervisor DePasquale closed the Public Hearing at 7:10 pm.

Approval of 2025 Town Budget

MOTION made by Councilman Pietraszek and seconded by Councilman Robinson and unanimously voted to approve the Proposed 2025 Budget as noted.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

PUBLIC SAFETY

Officer Shane Miller reported Erie County Sheriff's Office responses in October in Colden. The Department responded to 115 calls, 5 traffic stops, 20 premise checks, 1 DWI arrest and attended many Colden events. He also reported a break-in at the Colden Highway Garage. The Sheriffs assessed the damage and strongly urged the Town Board to consider getting cameras at the Highway Building. Officer Miller advised residents to lock their cars and house doors.

BUILDING REPORT

Councilman Robinson reported that construction of the new Highway Garage Roof is complete, and installation of the Senior Center generator is almost finished. He reported that the Park Building upgrades are mostly complete and Parks Kirby is preparing an insulation proposal for the building.

CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICE REPORT

Report for the month of October 2024 – CEO Dziulko read the following report:

14 Building Permits Issued
17 Certificates of Compliance
1 Stop Work Order
2 Fire Inspections

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CEO Dziulko reported that there are many active building projects in Town and that the Dollar General landscaping needs to be closely monitored next year.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

No report

DOG CONTROL OFFICER REPORT

Councilman Robinson read the October Dog Control report from DCO Zak:

10/21/24 - A resident of 8545 State Road called to inform DCO Zak that an adjoining neighbor's dogs frequently come into her yard. DCO Zak will contact the neighbor.

Councilman Robinson introduced a new Service Animal Acknowledgement Form. Residents with service animals will register with the form yearly.

MOTION made by Councilman Robinson, seconded by Councilman Pietraszek and unanimously approved to accept the Service Animal Acknowledgement Form for Town use.

Councilman Robinson also reported on an upcoming grant opportunity that would allow DCO Zak to expand her kennel area. Supervisor DePasquale said he would get a copy to Rotella.

ENVIRONMENTAL BOARD REPORT

No Report

HIGHWAY AND PARKS REPORT

Superintendent Wohlhueter reported the following:

November Highway Report

- Plow fleet is harnessed up and ready to go when needed.
- The new freightliner plow truck chassis has arrived in Batavia, it needs some work and it will be stored at our facility to do Town work to it before it goes to the upfitter as they are extremely backed up at this time.
- We have started tree work and right-of-way clearing on town roads where needed until the weather turns.

Parks Report

- Work continues at the Park Building improvements, a concrete floor and woodstove have been installed.
- The water at the Park has been turned off.
- Disc golf baskets are installed on holes 10-17 and fairways clearing continues.

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Councilman Robinson asked about the winter status of an aboveground water hotbox located at the Park. Superintendent Wohlhueter said that Kirby will ensure it stays above freezing.

INSURANCE REPORT

No report

LIBRARY REPORT

Councilman Hrycik reported that the West Falls Library's programming is back to normal. The Boston Free Library is having a Hawk Creek Event on November 22, registration is appreciated, and they are holding a Kid's Karate class.

PERSONNEL REPORT

No report

PLANNING REPORT

Chairman Kammer reported that the Planning Board is working on another Erie County Clean Energy Community (CEC) initiative to help defray power delivery costs. Many Planning Board Members have completed their yearly training, and they are researching regulations on shipping containers, short-term rentals and Town fees and fines. Nussbaumer and Clarke has one property line at the Park that still needs to be staked, they will coordinate with Kirby.

WATER DISTRICT REPORT

Councilman Pietraszek read the following report:

Usage update: At present time consumption billed by ECWA for prior month 2020000 gal. cost \$ 7352.80 + \$361.92 = \$ 7714.72 expenditure.

- ECWA water cost \$3.80 / K
- Continue to rebuild meters as we replace radios with T-10 radios.
- Marked lots of services for gas line upgrade in town. The construction is back in town and was done 09/18/24. Gas company had hit two water lines for houses, lines marked by original diagrams.
- PZ logging and checks underway
- Union Concrete has finished all 3 water line rebuilds.
- Letter from ECWA advising of "Get the Lead Out" campaign in our delivery systems from start to meter. Our research showed we have no copper/lead issues from EECA through our water meters.
- Relevy done, posted and list given to Assessor and Town Clerk.

RECREATION REPORT

Recreation Director Palmateer read the following report:

- A new yoga session started on November 6th.
- The next Pound session starts November 14th

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- Sound Bath on November 15th
- Paint Night on November 22nd.
- The Town tree lighting will be on December 7th with professional carolers
- The Fire Department and Recreation Christmas event will be on December 14th
- Kissing Bridge Ski Club for discounted passes

Supervisor DePasquale added that the first Colden New Year's celebration is being planned in conjunction with the Colden Fire Dept. Activities include a midnight ball drop, photo booth, DJ and possibly a short fireworks show.

RESOLUTIONS

Councilman Pietraszek read the following Resolution:

**TOWN OF COLDEN
 RESOLUTION #2024-18
 RELEVY UNPAID WATER BILLS**

WHEREAS, The Town of Colden has 17 delinquent Water accounts in the amount of \$4573.21, remaining unpaid, including late charges.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: That no further payments will be accepted after October 31, 2024, and any and all unpaid water accounts as of this date, be relevied onto the 2025 Town of Colden Property Taxes.

MOTION made by Supervisor DePasquale and seconded by Councilman Robinson.

Duly adopted this 14th day of November 2024 by the following vote.

On the Vote:	Councilman Dennis Robinson - yes
	Councilman Jesse Hrycik -yes
	Councilwoman Patricia Zurbrick - excused
	Councilman Gerald Pietraszek - yes
	Supervisor James P. DePasquale - yes

BUDGET TRANSFERS

None

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TOWN CLERK REPORT

Town Clerk Jusiak reported that Local Law #1-2024 - Tax Cap Override was filed with NYS on October 16, 2024. The Town Clerk and Town Board discussed not charging the proposed 1\$/transaction fee for NYS DECALS.

Highway Superintendent Wohlhueter reported that the NYS DOT determined that the speed limit for Supervisor Ave will be 30 mph, the Highway Department will post it.

MOTION made by Supervisor DePasquale, seconded by Councilman Robinson and unanimously approved to have the Highway Department post the speed limit of 30 MPH on Supervisor Ave.

SUPERVISOR’S REPORT

Supervisor DePasquale reported that the new plow truck will be paid for with funds from the Highway Fund balance and CDs and the Highway Garage Roof will come out of Capital Outlay.

He also reported on an Erie County Rails to Trails (ECRT) meeting held at the Colden Fire Department on October 30, 2024. The next meeting is scheduled for December 10, 2024 in Orchard Park and will include a Report of Findings.

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR

Councilman Hrycik reported that he felled a dead tree behind the Town Hall and it was removed by the Highway Department with an equipment loan from the Town of Aurora.

A resident asked about a possible correlation between NYSEG’s increased bills and installation of their new smart meters. Supervisor DePasquale and Chairman Kammer explained that the increased fees are a result of NYS “carbon-free readiness” infrastructure charges and are unrelated to the use of smart meters.

A resident asked about the Town’s upcoming change to refuse totes. Supervisor DePasquale explained that residents cannot “opt out” from using the totes, they are part of the Town’s 2025 contract with Waste Management. The totes will be rolled out in the Spring of 2025.

A resident expressed weather-related concerns over a lady that frequently walks Center Rd and Crump Rd. Supervisor DePasquale said he would notify Officer Miller.

PAY BILLS

MOTION made by Councilman Pietraszek and seconded Councilman Robinson and unanimously approved to accept to pay the following bills:

General Fund Warrant Voucher	2024-452 to 2024-491	\$48,479.41
Highway Fund Abstract	2024-179 to 2023-202	\$20,157.98
Water District Voucher	2024-57 to 2023-64	\$7,704.34
Lighting District Voucher	2024-14	\$1,797.66
Refuse Fund Voucher	2024-11	\$26,844.67

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Supervisor DePasquale asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting.

MOTION made by Councilman Robinson and seconded by Councilman Pietraszek to adjourn meeting. Motion carried and

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 8:07PM

Respectfully submitted,

Deborah Jusiak
Town Clerk