



A **Regular Meeting** of the Town Board of the Town of Cortlandt was conducted on **March 20, 2023**, rescheduled from March 14, 2023 due to inclement weather, with the following elected officials and appointed staff in attendance:

RICHARD H. BECKER	Supervisor
FRANCIS X. FARRELL	Councilmember
CRISTIN JACOBY	Councilmember
ROBERT MAYES	Councilmember
JAMES CREIGHTON	Councilmember

Also present:

TOM WOOD	Town Attorney
MICHAEL CUNNINGHAM	Assistant Town Attorney
LAROUÉ ROSE SHATZKIN	Town Clerk
CHRISTINE B. COTHREN	Deputy Town Clerk
PATRICIA ROBCKE	Comptroller
MICHAEL PREZIOSI	Director, DOTS - ABSENT
CLAUDIA VAHEY	Human Resources Coordinator
STEPHEN FERREIRA	Director, DES
MICHELLE ROBBINS	Assistant Planner
JOE BASSELL	Junior Network Specialist

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MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 6:57 p.m.

PLEDGE TO THE FLAG

SUPERVISOR'S PROCLAMATIONS & REPORTS

Supervisor Becker began the meeting by recognizing the Hendrick Hudson High School Varsity Cheerleaders who made great achievements during their Fall Season. They won the Westchester County cheerleading competition, placed second in NY State, and 6th in the nation. The Town Board and Supervisor Becker recognized each player with an award certificate.

Supervisor Becker gave a brief update of some of the resolutions that were on the agenda:

Letter being sent to Westchester Municipal Officer in favor of Home Rule.

Holtec – strong letter of opposition being sent by the Town regarding the waste being dumped into Hudson River during decommissioning.

MOD (Medically Oriented Dist.) – The Town Board will be closing the public hearing, adopting a Local Law, and referring the matter to the Planning Board for full review, which will be a long process.

Supervisor Becker announced the following upcoming events:

4/1 Easter Egg Hunt – Cortlandt Youth Center
4/15 Teatown Earth Day hike
4/21 West. Co. Mobile Shredder at Town Hall from 10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.
Cortlandt Green Team community clean up days.
Summer Recreation Brochure coming out in April.

ROLL CALL

Laroue Rose Shatzkin, Town Clerk took roll call, and all Town Board members were present.

TOWN BOARD REPORTS

Councilperson Frank Farrell gave his report **OF NOTE:**

Councilperson Farrell also spoke in favor of a letter being sent to Westchester Municipal Officer in favor of Home Rule. He also spoke about the GIS mapping system that the Town currently uses, and wanted to commend Holly Haight, Rosemary Boyle Lasher, and John Schembari on their input and improvements to the GIS specifically regarding water main hook ups for fire fighters.

Councilperson James Creighton gave his report **OF NOTE:**

Councilperson Creighton also spoke in favor of:

Letter being sent from the Town of Cortlandt to Westchester Municipal Officer in favor of Home Rule.

Holtec – strong letter of opposition regarding the waste being dumped into Hudson River during decommissioning.

Councilperson Creighton mentioned the following upcoming events:

Earth Day hikes and clean ups in Town.
5/6/23 I Love my Parks day clean up in the “unique area” of Croton River.

Councilperson Robert Mayes gave his report
OF NOTE:

Councilperson Mayes stated that he was also in favor of:

Letter being sent from the Town of Cortlandt to Westchester Municipal Officer in favor of Home Rule.

Holtec – strong letter of opposition regarding the waste being dumped into Hudson River during decommissioning.

Councilperson Mayes also wanted to state some of his reasons for voting Yes for the MOD; necessary development, part of growth, sewers, traffic flow. He feels as though this will benefit the Town as a whole.

Councilperson Mayes mentioned opening day for baseball on 4/15/23 for Cortlandt National Little League and Cortlandt American Little League.

Councilperson Cristin Jacoby gave her report
OF NOTE:

Councilperson Jacoby wanted to encourage people to visit the Croton Arboretum, and shared her knowledge of such.

Councilperson Jacoby spoke about the MOD vote this evening. She stated how difficult it was for her to make her decision to vote Yes this evening, and cited some of her reasons for doing so; ie. Job growth, housing, medical care, more walkability with sidewalks, and spoke about lot lines, buffers, and reduced number of units since the onset of the application.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Approve the Minutes for the February 14, 2023 Regular Meeting

Councilperson Mayes made a motion to approve the above Minutes, seconded by Councilperson Jacoby with all voting **AYE**.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

The Public Hearing was opened at 7:44 PM

Public Hearing to consider Proposed Zoning Text Amendments for Meadowbrook Commons.

- a. Receive and File Letter and Updated Zoning Petition regarding Meadowbrook Commons.
- b. Adjourn ~~to April 18th, 2023~~ *and refer to Planning Board AS AMENDED*

Councilperson Jacoby made a motion to Receive and File Letter and Updated Zoning Petition regarding Meadowbrook Commons and adjourn ~~to April 18th, 2023~~ *and refer to Planning Board* as amended, seconded by Councilperson Creighton with all voting **AYE**.

The Public Hearing was closed at 7:45 PM

Public Hearing to Consider State-updated Tax Exemption Limits.

The Public Hearing was opened at 7:45 p.m.

- a. Receive and File Letter from Continental Village Volunteer Fire Department regarding property tax exemption for volunteer firefighters.
- b. Adjourn to April 18th, 2023

Tom Wood, Town Attorney stated that the State legislature authorizes the Town to grant volunteer fire fighter, or ambulance worker a tax exemption up to 10% of the assessed value on their homes. These positions are volunteer and this would be a way of compensating an individual who gives their time to protect and serve the community in this capacity.

Supervisor Becker added that it was a good incentive to pass to attract more people to volunteer for these services.

Councilperson Creighton made a motion to Receive and File Letter from Continental Village Volunteer Fire Department regarding property tax exemption for volunteer firefighters and adjourn to April 18th, 2023, seconded by Councilperson Farrell with all voting **AYE**.

The Public Hearing was closed at 7:48 PM

HEARING OF CITIZENS – AGENDA ITEMS ONLY

David Weinberger appeared before the Board. He spoke **against** the MOD.

Bernard Vaughey appeared before the Board. He expressed his agreement with the Home Rule Resolution. He also inquired if MOD units would count toward the required number under the

Governor's mandate. He thanked the Board for their efforts to prevent radioactive dumping into the Hudson, and for upcoming work in the Quarry area.

Warren Smith appeared before the Board, and spoke **against** the MOD. He questioned the wording "town center" being used to describe the new proposed area.

Michelle Robbins, Planning Department explained that it was meant to describe some additional hamlet center services with walkability for residents.

Chris Vargo appeared before the Board. He wanted to thank the Board for speaking out against the radioactive release of water by Holtec. He also asked about the intent to enter into an IMA with Buchanan. He asked about the Cortlandt Waterfront Amphitheatre. Clarified that it is a stage and not an amphitheater, if the public would be able to utilize the facility, and asked how that would be regulated? He questioned about Montrose Sewer District paying for their own sewer district. Mr. Vargo suggested that the Town leave the Verplanck waterfront as it is.

Miriam Weinberger appeared before the Board. She spoke **against** the MOD.

REPORTS

Receive and File the following:

For the month of January 2023 from the Recreation Department.

For the month of February 2023 from the Office of the Aging, Purchasing Department, Receiver of Taxes and the Town Clerk.

2022 Submittal to NYS Division of Building Standards and Codes from DOTS – Code Enforcement.

OLD BUSINESS:

Receive and File the following:

NEW BUSINESS

Receive and File the following:

1. Letter from Montrose Improvement District requesting appoint of Interim District Commissioner. (see Resolutions)
2. Letter from Friends of the Old Croton Aqueduct requesting parking restrictions be lifted for I Love My Parks Day on May 6th. (see Resolutions)

Councilperson Farrell made a motion to receive and file the above, seconded by Councilperson Mayes with all voting **AYE**.

RESOLUTIONS

RESOLUTION NO. 103-23 RE: Authorize Supervisor to submit letter in Opposition to Indian Point's Discharge of Contaminated Water into the Hudson River.

Councilperson Mayes made a motion to adopt the above, seconded by Councilperson Jacoby with all voting **AYE**.

Regarding the Medical Oriented District:

RESOLUTION NO. 104-23 RE: Adopt SEQRA Findings Statement.

RESOLUTION NO. 105-23 RE: Adopt Local Law establishing a MOD.

Councilperson Jacoby made a motion to adopt the above, seconded by Councilperson Creighton with all voting **AYE**.

RESOLUTION NO. 106-23 RE: Declare Town Board as Lead Agent and adopt Negative Declaration for the Amphitheatre and Playground Projects at Cortlandt Waterfront Park.

RESOLUTION NO. 107-23 RE: Authorize Agreements with Westchester County for Organic Waste, Solid Waste and Recycling, and IMA with adjacent communities regarding Transfer Station.

RESOLUTION NO. 108-23 RE: Authorize Agreement with Westchester County regarding Enhanced 911 Service.

RESOLUTION NO. 109-23 RE: Express Intent to Enter into an Intermunicipal Agreement with the Village of Buchanan for Sewer Service.

RESOLUTION NO. 110-23 RE: Authorize the extension of an OASAS Grant and extend contract for Teen Services.

RESOLUTION NO. 111-23 RE: Authorize Town Officials to Bind Insurance Coverage for a Twelve-Month Period.

RESOLUTION NO. 112-23 RE: Appoint Joy Snyder as a Member, Reappoint Tino Martin, Michael Huvane and Pamela Bush Denenberg as Members to the PRC Advisory Board.

RESOLUTION NO. 113-23 RE: Appoint Craig Rodrigues as Interim District Commissioner of the Montrose Improvement District.

RESOLUTION NO. 114-23 RE: Award Contract for Network Cabling.

RESOLUTION NO. 115-23 RE: Award Contract for Coach Bus Transportation for the Office of the Aging.

RESOLUTION NO. 116-23 RE: Award Contract for Coach Bus Transportation for Youth Camp Trips.

RESOLUTION NO. 117-23 RE: Authorize Seasonal Farmer's Market on Town owned property at 1 Memorial Drive.

RESOLUTION NO. 118-23 RE: Authorize parking for I Love My Park Day for May 6, 2023 with a rain date of May 7, 2023.

Councilperson Creighton made a motion to adopt the above, seconded by Councilperson Farrell with all voting **AYE**.

RESOLUTION NO. 119-23 RE: Support Westchester Municipal Officials Association's Efforts to Preserve Municipal Home Rule Powers.

Agenda Items for Department of Technical Services:

RESOLUTION NO. 120-23 RE: Authorize Supplemental Services for Phase II Environmental Assessment for Cortlandt Quarry Park.

RESOLUTION NO. 121-23 RE: Authorize Consultant Services for Dickerson Pond Sewer District.

RESOLUTION NO. 122-23 RE: Authorize Consultant Services for Electrical Sound and Stage Lighting for Cortlandt Waterfront Park Amphitheatre.

Agenda Items for the Department of Environmental Services:

RESOLUTION NO. 123-23 RE: Authorize an adjustment for the Dickerson Pond/Valeria Condo I Water Bill.

RESOLUTION NO. 124-23 RE: Authorize the Purchase/Lease of DES Vehicles.

RESOLUTION NO. 125-23 RE: Award Contract for Asphalt Concrete Repair.

RESOLUTION NO. 126-23 RE: Award Service Contract for Heating and Air Conditioning.

RESOLUTION NO. 127-23 RE: Authorize Seasonal Workers for DES.

RESOLUTION NO. 128-23 RE: Authorize a Leave of Absence for an employee in DES – Sanitation.

Councilperson Farrell made a motion to adopt the above, seconded by Councilperson Mayes with all voting **AYE**.

ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

OLD BUSINESS:

Receive and File the following:

1. SEQR and Lead Agency Declaration from Westchester County Regarding Maiden Lane Dam Removal; Refer to DES and DOTs.
2. Correspondence regarding Clean Path proposed Transmission Lines.

RESOLUTIONS:

RESOLUTION NO. 129-23 RE: Appoint David Douglas and Kevin Kobasa to the Planning Board.

RESOLUTION NO. 130-23 RE: Appoint Michelle Piccolo-Hill to the Zoning Board of Appeals.

RESOLUTION NO. 131-23 RE: Appoint Fallon Miller as an Office Assistant-Automated Systems in Engineering – Code Department.

RESOLUTION NO. 132-23 RE: Appoint Jennifer Montero as a Part-Time Permit Clerk – Spanish Speaking in the Office of the Town Clerk.

RESOLUTION NO. 133-23 RE: Appoint Lindsay Cole and Jacqueline Chan Chee as Part-Time Employees at the Youth Center.

Councilperson Mayes made a motion to adopt the above, seconded by Councilperson Jacoby with all voting **AYE**.

BUDGET TRANSFERS – NONE

REPORTS FROM VARIOUS DEPARTMENTS

REPORTS FROM STANDING & SPECIAL COMMITTEES

SECOND HEARING OF CITIZENS

Warren Smith appeared before the Board. He congratulated the appointees for Zoning and Planning Boards. He also informed the Board that Riverkeeper had a meeting on Holtec, and it turns out radioactive water releases have been happening for over 60 years.

Bernard Vaughey appeared before the Board. He urged the Board to please continue to lobby the Federal Government on the radioactive water issue, and thanked them for their support on the ongoing issue with dust in Verplanck.

Chris Vargo appeared before the Board. He requested more information on the amphitheater at the Cortlandt Waterfront park.

ADJOURNMENT

Councilperson Jacoby made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Councilperson Creighton with all voting AYE.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 P.M.

NEXT TOWN BOARD MEETING

April 18, 2023 at 7:00 pm
Town Hall Web Site address: www.townofcortlandt.com

Respectfully submitted,

Laroue Rose Shatzkin
Town Clerk

Christine B. Cothren
Deputy Town Clerk