



A **Regular Meeting** of the Town Board of the Town of Cortlandt was conducted on **August 15, 2023** 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
CLAUDIA VAHEY	Human Resources Coordinator
STEPHEN FERREIRA	Director, DES
JOE BASSELL	Junior Network Specialist

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MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.

PLEDGE TO THE FLAG

SUPERVISOR'S PROCLAMATIONS & REPORTS

Supervisor Becker spoke about the following upcoming events in the Town.

Military and Veteran's family day event being held at Charles Cook Pool on Wednesday, 8/16/23, 5:00 p.m.

Renaming of the Croton Ave. Pickleball Courts in honor of Charles G. DiGiacomo. Charles DiGiacomo was a former Town of Cortlandt Supervisor in the 1980's. Sadly, Charlie passed away earlier in 2023.

Family Fun Day will be on Saturday 9/9/2023, 3:00 p.m. at 1 Memorial Dr., Croton. This is the 17th year for this exciting event for the community.

Charles J. Cook Pool will be open for another 2 weeks through Labor Day.

Supervisor Becker mentioned the following Agenda items:

Public Hearing to Remedy Zoning Laws. Zoning laws have evolved over time, and the Code needs to be updated to reflect these changes.

Public Hearing to consider regulating nicotine & tobacco sales in the Town of Cortlandt. Westchester County Police are requesting the Town to strengthen the laws to help prohibit the sale of tobacco and nicotine products to minors.

Resolution #5 regarding the retaining of counsel to represent the Town in litigation regarding AFFF. AFFF is aqueous fire fighting foam which can be potentially contaminating to drinking water. This is a class action lawsuit, but will not cost the Town anything to join in, and will safeguard the Town in case there was ever a need for legal representation regarding this matter.

ROLL CALL

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

TOWN BOARD REPORTS

Councilperson Robert Mayes gave his report OF NOTE:

Councilperson Mayes spoke about the following:

DOTS Agenda items 13a. Cortlandt Waterfront Performance Stage and Walking Trail, 13b. Pickleball Courts at 3 Memorial Dr., and 13g. Maintenance of Charles Cook Pool Bathhouse. These are all items that are good investments, and the importance of the maintenance of the investments.

Councilperson Mayes wished everyone safe travels, and an enjoyable rest of the summer.

Councilperson Cristin Jacoby gave her report OF NOTE:

Councilperson Jacoby spoke about the following:

Meeting with Wendy Talia, and the CAC regarding the discard of food scraps and their use in composting. She will be exploring this in the near future, and thanked Chris Kehoe, Dir. Of Planning, and Steve Ferreira, Dir. DES for their input as well.

Indian Point Decommissioning meeting was held on 7/31/23 at Cortlandt Town Hall. There is information on the Town website regarding this meeting. The next decommissioning meeting will be held on 9/21/23.

Gratitude to Supervisor Becker, and Claudia Vahey,..... for their responsiveness to the needs of Town of Cortlandt residents, and their hard work on prioritizing requests.

Councilperson James Creighton gave his report
OF NOTE:

Councilperson Creighton spoke about the following:

Pickleball Court dedication to former, late Supervisor Charles DiGiacomo.

Food scrap initiative mentioned by Councilperson Jacoby.

CREST Program, which is with respect to green energy programs. The Town is Expected to receive funding for this PILOT program.

Indian Point decommissioning. Senator Harckam and Assemblywoman Dana Levenberg are in full support of the bill on Governor Hochel regarding the filtration of the radiological water from the spent rods during this process.

Councilperson Francis Farrell gave his report
OF NOTE:

Councilperson Farrell spoke about the following:

New Pickleball Courts at 3 Memorial Dr., and what a great location for such as there are sometimes noise complaints related to this sport.

Kitchen waste, food scraps program, composting.

AFFF litigation retainment.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Approve the Minutes for the July 26, 2023 Regular Meeting

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

PUBLIC HEARINGS

Public Hearing to Remedy Zoning Inconsistencies in the Town of Cortlandt.

The Public Hearing was opened at 7:26 P.M.

Christopher Vargo appeared before the Board just clarifying that this was just for housekeeping purposes, and there were no new Zoning laws being proposed.

Supervisor Becker explained again that it was just to correct Zoning inconsistencies because the laws have evolved over time.

- a. Close Public Hearing

RESOLUTION NO. 254-23 RE: Adopt Negative Declaration

RESOLUTION NO. 255-23 RE: Adopt Resolution for Local Law No. 6-2023

Councilperson Jacoby made a motion to Close the Public Hearing, adopt a Negative Declaration, and adopt the Resolution, seconded by Councilperson Creighton, with all voting **AYE**.

The Public Hearing was closed at 7:28 P.M.

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Public Hearing to consider regulating Nicotine & Tobacco Sales in the Town of Cortlandt.

Public Hearing opened at 7:28 P.M.

Mr. John DeBenedictis appeared before the Board. He wanted to know if this was going to have any effect on marijuana dispensaries?

Supervisor Becker explained that this was for nicotine and tobacco products only. The State level regulates the laws for the sale of marijuana.

a. Close Public Hearing

RESOLUTION NO. 256-23 RE: Adopt Negative Declaration

RESOLUTION NO. 257-23 RE: Adopt Resolution for Local Law No. 7-2023.

Councilperson Creighton made a motion to Close the Public Hearing, adopt a Negative Declaration, and adopt the Resolution, seconded by Councilperson Farrell, with all voting **AYE**.

The Public Hearing was closed at 7:30 P.M.

HEARING OF CITIZENS – AGENDA ITEMS ONLY

REPORTS

Receive and File the following:

July 2023 Tri-Community Traffic Study.

For the month of June 2023 from the Recreation Department.

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

OLD BUSINESS:

Receive and File the following:

NEW BUSINESS

Receive and File the following:

1. Letter from Velocity – Columbia’s Ride to End Cancer, requesting use of Cook Pool Parking Lot on October 7th and 8th of 2023 (See Resolution 11)
2. Letter from Friends of the Old Croton Aqueduct requesting parking along Quaker Bridge Road for a follow-up event to I Love My Parks Day on September 22, 2023. (See Resolution 12)

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

RESOLUTIONS

RESOLUTION NO. 258-23 RE: Authorize Upgrade of Alarm Panels in Town Hall.

RESOLUTION NO. 259-23 RE: Authorize Renewal of Contract for Town Hall Security Services.

RESOLUTION NO. 260-23 RE: Authorize Upgrade of Financial Software to Springbrook for the Comptroller's Office.

RESOLUTION REMOVED RE: ~~Authorize Lease with Ecogy for Solar Canopies and Electric Charging Stations on Town-owned properties subject to Permissive Referendum.~~

RESOLUTION NO. 261-23 RE: Retain Napoli Shkolnik to represent the Town in Litigation Regarding AFFF.

RESOLUTION NO. 262-23 RE: Authorize a one-year Special Permit Extension for Previously Approved Solar Project on the corner of Lexington Ave and Route 202.

RESOLUTION NO. 263-23 RE: Authorize a renewal and extension of the CHOP program.

RESOLUTION NO. 264-23 RE: Authorize award of Janitorial Services for Town Owned properties.

RESOLUTION NO. 265-23 RE: Authorize a Fireworks Permit for Family Fun Day.

RESOLUTION NO. 266-23 RE: Approve Fee Schedule for Videography for "Taking Care of Business" to promote local businesses in the Town of Cortlandt.

RESOLUTION NO. 267-23 RE: Authorize a cycling fundraiser benefitting Cancer Research to use Charles Cook Pool Complex.

RESOLUTION NO. 268-23 RE: Authorize parking on Quaker Bridge Road on September 22, 2023 for an event for the Friends of the Old Croton Aqueduct.

Supervisor Becker comments that the CHOP program for home heating oil has been in place since 2007, and it is a good way to save some money on expensive oil heating costs.

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

Agenda items for DOTS:

RESOLUTION NO. 269-23 RE: Award TE Contract 2023.02 – Cortlandt Waterfront Performance Stage and Walking Trail.

RESOLUTION NO. 270-23 RE: Award TE Contract 2023.06 – Pickleball Courts at 3 Memorial Drive.

RESOLUTION NO. 271-23 RE: Authorize DOTS to prepare RFPs for design services and grant assistance for the Root Street Culvert Replacement.

RESOLUTION NO. 272-23 RE: Authorize DOTS to prepare RFPs for design services and grant assistance for the Gallows Hill Culvert Replacement.

RESOLUTION NO. 273-23 RE: Authorize the Supervisor to Execute Wastewater Operator Service Contract for Dickerson Pond Sanitary Treatment Plant (Valeria)

RESOLUTION NO. 274-23 RE: Authorize Flow Monitoring Studies and emergency repair of a portion of Sanitary Infrastructure within the Dickerson Pond Sewer District (Valeria)

RESOLUTION NO. 275-23 RE: Authorize DOTS to design and bid Flooring Enhancements at Charles J. Cook Pool Bathhouse.

Supervisor Becker wanted to thank Michael Preziosi, Dir. DOTS, and Steve Ferreira, Dir. DES for their hard work in maintaining the Dickerson Pond sanitary treatment plant.

Agenda items for DES:

RESOLUTION NO. 276-23 RE: Award Bid 23-13 for Line Painting.

RESOLUTION NO. 277-23 RE: Award Bid 23-11 for Highway Traffic Signs.

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

ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA - NONE

BUDGET TRANSFERS- NONE

REPORTS FROM VARIOUS DEPARTMENTS

REPORTS FROM STANDING & SPECIAL COMMITTEES

SECOND HEARING OF CITIZENS

Mr. John DeBenedictis appeared before the Board. He spoke about the harmfulness of toxic chemicals, and how it should not be taken lightly.

Mr. Christopher Vargo appeared before the Board. He thanked Councilperson Creighton for his participation, and impressive statements at the rally in White Plains regarding Indian Point decommissioning.

Mr. Vargo asked about the status of the following projects regarding Quarry in Verplanck:
NYS Health Dept. Water testing, Quarry Sub-Committee, several uses and
Proposals for the property.

Supervisor Becker reiterated that the Quarry Sub-Committee would be ultimately responsible for deciding what uses the Quarry property will entertain.

Mr. Warren Smith appeared before the Board. He spoke about the following items:

Quarry use, and potential proposals for the property.
Vape shops opening in the Town.

Supervisor Becker stated that the Vape shop Local Law on this agenda was for tobacco and nicotine shop sales, not cannabis.

Thomas Wood, Town Attorney cited language from the proposed Local Law regarding the location of cannabis dispensaries in the Town of Cortlandt.

Councilperson Mayes reassured Mr. Smith that any decisions regarding the use of the Quarry property are to be made by the Quarry Sub-Committee, and reiterated that Supervisor Becker has been very persistent with his efforts to make sure that the Quarry Sub-Committee was going to make all the decisions on this land use.

ADJOURNMENT

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

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 PM.

NEXT TOWN BOARD MEETING

September 19, 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**