

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE TOWN BOARD**  
**TOWN OF RICHLAND**  
**1 BRIDGE STREET, PULASKI, NY**

**DATE:** December 31, 2024

**KIND OF MEETING:** Town Board Meeting

**PLACE:** Grand Jury Room, H. Douglas Barclay Courthouse, Pulaski, NY

**BOARD MEMBERS' PRESENT:** Supervisor Robert North  
Councilwoman Donna Gilson  
Councilwoman Sue Haynes  
Councilman Larry Atkinson

**OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE:** Kevin Balcom, Julie Peterson, Tim Crouch, and Jeff Edick

**CALL TO ORDER:** The meeting was called to order at 10 a.m. with Supervisor North leading in the Pledge of Allegiance, followed by Councilman Atkinson offering the blessing.

**WARRANT OF BILLS:** *A motion was made by Atkinson and seconded by Haynes to approve Abstract #13 as submitted. In a roll call vote, all members were in favor with a vote of "AYE."*

**ZONING:** *A motion was made by Gilson and seconded by Haynes to accept the resignation from Swiatoslav Kaczmar from the Zoning Board. In a roll call vote, all members were in favor with a vote of "AYE." A motion was made by Atkinson and seconded by Haynes to appoint Mr. Kaczmar to the Planning Board effective January 1, 2025. In a roll call vote, all members were in favor with a vote of "AYE." A motion was made by Gilson and seconded by Haynes to accept James Sprague as an in-training appointee as CEO/ZEO. In a roll call vote, all members were in favor with a vote of "AYE." A motion was made by Haynes and seconded by Atkinson to hire James Sprague as the new Zone and Code Enforcement Officer effective January 1, 2025. In a roll call vote, all members were in favor with a vote of "AYE." A motion was made by Atkinson and seconded by Gilson to extend the resignation of John Howland as CEO/ZEO for training of the new appointee. In a roll call vote, all members were in favor with a vote of "AYE."*

**MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS:** Supervisor North updated the board on the status of the lawsuit from the individual in the Village of Pulaski on Box St. that fell on a public sidewalk and hurt himself. The Town insurance company states that the location of the loss on Box St. is not a

road or sidewalk that is owned and controlled, designed, built or maintained by the Town of Richland, therefore, we respectfully decline to make any such payments in connection with this claim. Any further correspondence needs to be turned over to the insurance company and as far as the Town is concerned, the matter is done.

**HIGHWAY REPORT:** Highway Superintendent, Kevin Balcom, spoke to the board about the flagged bridge report on Clark Rd. He spoke with state who said we need an engineer to look at the bridge to see what needs to be done to fix it, and that the Town has a year to fix it. He then called and met with an engineer from B & L. At this time the water is too high to get in there and look at it. After the water goes down, he will let us know what needs to be done to repair it. At that time Kevin will determine if it is something we can do ourselves or if we will have to hire someone to do it.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** Jeff Edick asked for clarification on the moratorium, at the planning board meeting it was stated that the town does not need to go into a moratorium to make changes to the zoning law regarding campgrounds. At the Town Board meeting the attorney said that we needed to enter a moratorium to change the laws and then exit it after the changes are made. Councilwoman Gilson said that it puts a stop to campgrounds and gives them time to make the changes to the zoning law that the board recommends and then lift the moratorium. Councilman Atkinson would really like to work hard with the Comprehensive Planning, Zoning and Planning Boards to update our Zoning Laws. He would like to get this done this year in anticipation of Micron coming to the area and to be proactive.

Kevin asked the board to look at what they are planning to do with the windmill at the wellsite. Councilwoman Gilson will read the grant paperwork and contact the grant company to see what we need to do to decommission it and how to proceed.

**NEXT SCHEDULED BOARD MEETING:** The next town board meeting will be held on January 14, 2025, at 6 p.m.

**MEETING ADJOURNED:** *A motion was made by Atkinson and seconded by Haynes to adjourn the meeting at 10:55 a.m. All members were in favor with a vote of "AYE."*

Respectfully submitted by  
Julie Peterson  
Deputy Town Clerk