



# The Town of East Greenbush

225 Columbia Turnpike, Rensselaer, New York 12144

## TOWN BOARD SPECIAL MEETING Minutes February 12, 2020

**Call to Order** 6:00 PM  
**Pledge of Allegiance**  
**Town Board Meeting:**

### Members of Town Board

Present	Absent	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Supervisor J. Conway
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Councilor T. Tierney
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Councilor H. Kennedy
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Councilor R. Matters
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Councilor B. Fritz

### Schedule of Meeting:

The Town Board of the Town of East Greenbush will hold a Special Meeting on February 12, 2020 at 6:00 p.m. at Town Hall, 225 Columbia Turnpike, in the Town of East Greenbush to swear in two police officers and a Town Justice, conduct interviews for the position of Town Services Coordinator, hold two Public Hearings on the Best Luther and Third Avenue fire protection districts, review the agenda for the February 19, 2020 business meeting, and attend to any other business that may be brought to the attention of the Town Board.

By the Orders of the Town Board,

Ellen Pangburn  
Town Clerk

**Open Public Privilege:** NOTE – Each speaker may choose to state name and address prior to addressing the Board and shall be granted the floor for up to five minutes. The Board thanks everyone in attendance for their understanding and also for their desire to actively participate in the decision making process. All speakers must conduct themselves in a civil manner. Personal attacks will not be tolerated.

**Swearing-In of police officer, Ryan Buell, by Judge Kevin Engel.**

Chief Elaine Rudzinski extended her congratulations and was very proud to welcome him into the East Greenbush Police Department family.

**29-2020 A Resolution to Make a Conditional Job Offer to Anthony L. Belardo**

**WHEREAS**, this Board intends to maintain adequate staffing within the Town Police Department by appointing qualified individuals to replace positions that become vacant, and a police officer position has become vacant; and

**WHEREAS**, the Town Comptroller has confirmed that this position was included in the current budget and will not have an adverse impact on Town finances; and

**WHEREAS**, Anthony L. Belardo who resides in the Town of Schodack, a graduate of Maple Hill High School and a graduate of the Zone 14 Basic Course for Police Officers, who is currently a part-time police officer for the Town of Schodack and the Village of Nassau, has made application for said police officer position, has undergone a background investigation, has been interviewed by the Town Board and has been found to be eligible and qualified according to the Rensselaer County Civil Service Commission; and

**WHEREAS**, in order to further advance the lawful requirements of the town to provide medical, psychological and fingerprint clearance consistent with Homeland Security and Human Rights Law;

now therefore be it

**RESOLVED**, that Anthony L. Belardo be and hereby is offered a conditional appointment to the position of Police Officer, subject to the following conditions and stipulations:

- medical, psychological and drug test results meeting the standards of the Bureau for Municipal Police and the Rensselaer County Civil Service Commission;
- satisfactory fingerprint and background check;
- successful completion of the East Greenbush Police Department Field Training Program;
- full compliance with the Rules and Regulations of the Department.

and be it further

**RESOLVED**, that said job offer be affirmed by said appointee within 30 days by executing the oath of office as administered by the Town Clerk, or after which shall become null and void;

and be it further

**RESOLVED**, said conditional appointment shall become effective February 12, 2020 and shall be subject to a probationary period of one (1) year, and that upon successful completion of all said conditions and stipulations, shall be, and hereby is made permanent.

The foregoing resolution was duly moved by Supervisor Conway and seconded by Councilor Tierney and voted as follows:

Supervisor J. Conway	VOTED: YES
Councilor T. Tierney	VOTED: YES
Councilor H. Kennedy	VOTED: ABSENT
Councilor R. Matters	VOTED: ABSENT
Councilor B. Fritz	VOTED: YES

**Swearing-In of police officer, Anthony Belardo, by his father, Chief Joseph Belardo, from Schodack, NY.** Chief Elaine Rudzinski extended her congratulations and was very proud to welcome him into the East Greenbush Police Department family. Commented on how he is following in the footsteps of his father and grandfather.

Supervisor Conway stated how both new police officers had excellent interviews and that they're experienced and ready. He extended his congratulations and welcomed them.

**30-2020      A Resolution to Accept the Resignation of Jessica B. Mocerine From the Board of Ethics**

**WHEREAS**, Jessica B. Mocerine was appointed to the Board of Ethics on January 2, 2020; and

**WHEREAS**, Jessica B. Mocerine has indicated her willingness to accept the Town Board's offer of an appointment as Town Justice; and

**WHEREAS**, Ms. Mocerine has submitted her letter of resignation from the Board of Ethics to the Town Supervisor; and

**WHEREAS**, the Town Comptroller has confirmed that this resolution will not have a material impact on the Town's finances;  
now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED**, that the Town Board of the Town of East Greenbush accepts the resignation of Jessica B. Mocerine from the Board of Ethics and wishes her well in the fulfillment of her duties as a Town Justice.

This resolution was duly moved by Councilor Fritz and seconded by Councilor Matters and brought to a vote resulting as follows:

Councilor B. Fritz	VOTED: YES
Councilor R. Matters	VOTED: ABSENT
Councilor T. Tierney	VOTED: YES
Supervisor J. Conway	VOTED: YES
Councilor H. Kennedy	VOTED: ABSENT

**31-2020      A Resolution to Accept the Resignation of George J. Hoffman, Jr. From the Position of Justice for the Town of East Greenbush**

**WHEREAS**, George J. Hoffman, Jr. has served as Town Justice for the Town of East Greenbush since April 18, 2018 and has performed with merit and distinction; and

**WHEREAS**, Justice Hoffman submitted his letter of resignation to the Town Supervisor on January 31, 2020, citing the effects of the new criminal justice reforms enacted by the New York State Legislature as a prime reason for his resignation; and

**WHEREAS**, the Town Comptroller has confirmed that this resolution will not have a material impact on the Town's finances;  
now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED**, that the Town Board of the Town of East Greenbush accepts the resignation of George J. Hoffman, Jr from the position of Justice for the Town of East Greenbush, effective February 7, 2020;

and be it further

**RESOLVED**, that the Town Board thanks Justice Hoffman for his distinguished record of service in the East Greenbush Town Court, and wishes him every success in his future endeavors.

This resolution is duly moved by Supervisor Conway and seconded by Councilor Tierney and brought to a vote resulting as follows:

Supervisor J. Conway	VOTED: YES
Councilor T. Tierney	VOTED: YES
Councilor H. Kennedy	VOTED: ABSENT
Councilor R. Matters	VOTED: ABSENT
Councilor B. Fritz	VOTED: YES

**Councilor Tierney** - mentioned we were very lucky to have Judge Hoffman and that it was wonderful to work with him. Commended him for how he conducted himself for the time he has worked for the Town of East Greenbush and that he will be missed.

**Supervisor Conway** – stated Judge Hoffman did a great job, worked hard, and is a person of tremendous integrity. He has made many contributions to this town and we wish him the best.

**Councilor Matters** – mentioned Judge Hoffman did a great job and thanked him for his service.

**Councilor Fritz** – thanked Judge Hoffman for the work he has done and wished him luck in his future endeavors.

**32-2020      A Resolution to Appoint Jessica B. Mocerine, Esq. to Fill the Vacant Position of Justice of the Town of East Greenbush**

**WHEREAS**, the Honorable George J. Hoffman, Esq. duly tendered his resignation as Justice of the Town of East Greenbush, effective February 8, 2020; and

**WHEREAS**, the Town Board wishes to convey its gratitude to Justice Hoffman for his dedicated and faithful service rendered to the residents of the Town East Greenbush and to the Judiciary of the State of New York; and

**WHEREAS**, Jessica B. Mocerine, Esq., a longtime and active East Greenbush Town resident who, having been duly admitted to practice law in the State of New York, has served as an Associate Attorney in the Law Office of Robert M. Jacon, has served as the Principal Law Clerk to the Honorable Robert M. Jacon, former Rensselaer County Court Judge and acting Justice of the third Judicial District of New York Supreme Court, and as the Principal Law Clerk to the Honorable Raymond J. Elliott, III, Justice of the third Judicial District of New York Supreme Court, honorably and with distinction for, collectively, over fifteen years; and

**WHEREAS**, after deliberative examination, the Town Board determined that Jessica B. Mocerine, Esq. notably possesses, in addition to all relevant educational and experiential qualifications, the acumen, character, and temperament requisite to the effective performance of a Town Justice; and

**WHEREAS**, the Town Comptroller attests that the financial impact of provisions of this resolution have been planned in the Town's 2020 annual budget;  
now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED**, that, pursuant to New York Town Law § 64, subd. 5, Jessica B. Mocerine, Esq. be, and the same hereby is, appointed to the position of Justice of the Town of East Greenbush hereby vacated by Judge Hoffman;

and be it further

**RESOLVED**, that this appointment is effective for the period February 9, 2020 through December 31, 2020.

The foregoing resolution was duly moved by Councilor Tierney and seconded by Supervisor Conway and brought to a vote resulting as follows:

Supervisor J. Conway	VOTED: YES
Councilor T. Tierney	VOTED: YES
Councilor H. Kennedy	VOTED: ABSENT
Councilor R. Matters	VOTED: YES
Councilor B. Fritz	VOTED: YES

**Supervisor Conway** – exciting appointment for what this means to the residents of this town. Jessica Mocerine is prepared for this, ready, and has worked hard for this. She’s a person of character, a great family person, and community person. She will do a great job as judge. We’re lucky to have her. Stated he is thrilled to second this resolution.

**Councilor Tierney** – stated it is quite an honor to move this resolution.

**Councilor Fritz** – so excited and think it’s a great thing for our town.

**Councilor Matters** – seeking qualifications for this position, we are lucky to have someone like Jessica who offers as much as she does. We’re very fortunate that she wants to serve this town.

**Town Clerk** – stated knowing Jessica and being honored to record these votes and extended congratulations.

**Swearing-In for Jessica Mocerine, Town Justice, by Judge Patrick McGrath.**

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

Motion to adjourn by Supervisor Conway, seconded by Councilor Tierney, and brought to a vote as follows:

Supervisor J. Conway	VOTED: YES
Councilor T. Tierney	VOTED: YES
Councilor H. Kennedy	VOTED: ABSENT
Councilor R. Matters	VOTED: YES
Councilor B. Fritz	VOTED: YES

Respectfully,

Ellen Pangburn  
Town Clerk