



TOWN BOARD MINUTES

August 19, 2020

7:00 PM

Present

Absent

Supervisor J. Conway
Councilor T. Tierney
Councilor H. Kennedy
Councilor R. Matters
Councilor B. Fritz

Communications/Announcements/Reports

Councilor Tierney – Said she did not have any comments and that she was excited for the K-9 presentation.

Councilor Kennedy – Congratulated our stellar Community Services Department, Mike Martin and Taylor Tibbetts for completing a successful 6 weeks of summer youth activities. With protocols in place, it resulted in no COVID cases. Extended thanks to activity counselors, Emily Dick, Mike Iula, Caitlin Lallier, Kelsey Hall and Kara Blakeman – all returning from last year.

Councilor Matters – Welcomed Supervisor Conway back, and mentioned stellar job by Deputy Supervisor Tierney. Speaking of challenges, brought to attention the school district and their plan to reopen. Derives comfort from our Superintendent and his ability to meet those challenges.

Councilor Fritz – Pointed out the progress on the rail trail. Reminded everyone to do their part to help keep our community clean.

Supervisor Conway – Stated that as a society we need to recognize that our teachers are facing a problematic school year. Said they have to worry about their students’ health as well as their own while finding a way to teach kids what they need to learn. Mentioned teachers are essential beyond any doubt and we need to support them as well as the kids. Indicated we have a lot of great teachers and know they’ll do great. As a community we need to acknowledge them as they face a tough road and we need to support them in any way we can.

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.

Presentation: K-9 Unit for the Police Department – Officer Josh Witko

Officer Witko, for over 5 years now, has been with the East Greenbush Police Department, thanked the Town Board for giving him the opportunity to present. Also thanked Troy Police Department and their two K-9 handlers and their new K-9 who attended. Officer Witko did a fine presentation discussing the K-9 Unit and reestablishing a program in East Greenbush.

***Presentation attached.**

Comments:

Supervisor Conway – Asked if we got a dog, if it would be a drug or bomb dog. Officer Witko mentioned it would be something that would have to be agreed upon. He thinks for what our town needs and our Police Department deals with, a drug dog would be more beneficial. Supervisor didn't like to hear the cost involved, however, Officer Witko explained how to pay for it, including a substantial donation from Regeneron – they said they would love to donate. Supervisor asked about a dog and a certain age when they retire. Officer Witko and Troy Police Officer mentioned typically the dog serves 6-8 years, however, its dog dependent.

Councilor Tierney – thanked Officer Witko very much for doing this and for Troy Police coming as well. Stated this was excellent. Particularly glad the school district functions was one of the events on the list, and also glad to see Wal-Mart on the list for grants as they are clearly generous when asked. Officer Witko was asked what interests him in particular to this. He mentioned this has always been a dream to him. He'd love to see a K-9 Unit reestablished in East Greenbush. Even if a dog didn't go to him, it would still benefit him and our Police Department in their work. Troy has been called numerous times. Councilor Tierney commended his talent for presentations.

Councilor Matters – Indicated he was here when Rick Kemner ran the program and did hear of the benefits. Would like to look at what metric we would want to observe in terms of the relevant benefits in our suburban class town. Community policing is appealing. Expressed concerns of recurring costs and that the rest of the Town Board is sensitive to that as well. Officer Witko mentioned the initial startup of the program is the hump to get over, then the costs are minimal.

Troy Police Officer – Added the initial startup is the significant cost, after that is what the agreement is between the municipality and the handler. Ongoing recurring costs are minimal and most vets will donate their services. Most places will donate food.

Councilor Fritz – Mentioned she would like to see some numbers on how many traffic stops this could be a potential for. Officer Witko mentioned essentially any traffic stop. If an officer can articulate why he would need a dog, we would have one ready and on the street. He thinks we would see a vast increase in drug seizures, which accumulates to money made for the town. Supervisor Conway mentioned asset forfeiture. Other options as well going into schools,

Post Office, train station – not just traffic stops. Troy Police Officer stated they are constantly being called outside of their jurisdiction to assist other federal agencies.

Chief Rudzinski – In discussing missing residents, she said we’ve been fortunate that Troy and Chief Owens have come on numerous occasions to assist in searches.

Resident, Oji Reed – In support of this and stated it was an asset when the sergeant was here. Talked about opioid problem in area schools and also 9J and 9&20.

Supervisor Conway – Mentioned we will proceed with next step with meeting with Meaghan Hart, Director of Finance, Chief Rudzinski and Officer Witko. Costs should be itemized, look at grant programs, and need statistics. Taking next step, however, making no commitment as it is expensive.

Open Public Comments:

Oji Reed – Complaint about Oriel Lane and new house built behind him. Thinks limitation is 35 feet for height and its 46 feet. He was told they were supposed to get a variance and that never occurred. He or other neighbors were not notified. Supervisor Conway mentioned we should look into the issue of the variance and see if one was needed.

Resolutions and Proposals by Town Board Members:

159-2020 A Resolution to Approve Meeting Minutes

WHEREAS, the minutes of Town Board meetings, as provided in §106 of Article 7 of the New York Public Officers Law, shall be approved by the Board prior to them being finalized, deemed official and disseminated to the public by the Town Clerk; and

WHEREAS, the minutes of the regular Town Board Meeting held on July 15, 2020 have been presented; and

WHEREAS, the Town Board has reviewed these minutes and any necessary corrections have been made;

now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the minutes of the regular Town Board Meeting held on July 15, 2020 are hereby approved as submitted.

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

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

160-2020 A Resolution Recognizing Ava K. Johnson for Having Been Selected to Represent the Town of East Greenbush as a Delegate at the 79th American Legion Auxiliary Girls State Conference

WHEREAS, the American Legion Auxiliary Girls State Conference (“Conference”), initiated in 1937 and regarded as a premier leadership conference and one of the most respected and coveted experiential learning programs presented in the United States, provides a valuable, unique, and outstanding government-in-action learning opportunity to a select group of young women who represent communities all across the county during a weeklong conference; and

WHEREAS, the Conference epitomizes the American Legion Auxiliary’s mission to honor those whose sacrifices have delivered unto us our freedom by and through our enduring commitment to develop young women as future leaders who are grounded in patriotism, civic duty, and the American rule of law; and

WHEREAS, through the development of delegates’ leadership skills, confidence, and action-based understanding of public administration, the Conference is designed to instill the ideals and principles of American government and citizenship, resulting in their edification of processes attendant to our democratic republic that will serve as a lasting foundation for their empowerment and success, both personally and professionally; and

WHEREAS, selection by the American Legion Auxiliary to participate at the Conference is predicated upon a competitive and rigorous vetting of candidates who are adjudged against high standards of leadership, moral character, and academic performance; and

WHEREAS, Ava K. Johnson, an upcoming senior at Columbia High School who, in addition to her scholastic achievement, has been proactive in school activities and community service, including Future Business Leader of America, Amnesty International, and Girl Scouts of America (Troop 1474);

now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that Ava K. Johnson be, and the same hereby is, proudly recognized by the East Greenbush town board (“Town Board”) for having been selected to represent the town of East Greenbush as a delegate to the 79th American Legion Auxiliary Girls State Conference which was held virtually on June 28, 2020 through July 4, 2020 in Brockport, New York; and be it further

RESOLVED, that, on behalf of the residents of the town of East Greenbush, the Town Board congratulates Ms. Johnson upon her participation at the Conference and wishes her continued success in all of her future endeavors.

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

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

Supervisor Conway – mentioned how very proud we are of Ava. For someone of her age to be interested in these issues and to be involved in Amnesty International, indicated she is right where she needs to be. Looking at this experience, it’s very impressive. Extended congratulations.

Councilor Tierney – This is a nice way for Ava to kick off her senior year, and to be recognized for her hard work and dedication.

Councilor Kennedy – Mentioned we're very lucky to have Ava as a member of our community. Extended congratulations on her achievement.

Councilor Matters – Pointed out Ava's success at Columbia. East Greenbush is proud of her achievements, particularly the Town Board. Congratulated her and in all her future endeavors.

Councilor Fritz – Congratulated Ava. Stated this is a great honor for the town, and a great opportunity for Ava to learn and to continue.

161-2020 A Resolution Scheduling a Special Meeting for the Town Clerk to Present the 2021 Tentative Budget to the Town Board

WHEREAS, the Town Clerk of the Town of East Greenbush wishes to schedule a Special Meeting to present the 2021 Tentative Budget to the Town Board as is required by §62 of the New York State Town Law (see Opinion of the State Comptroller No. 82-145); and

WHEREAS, the Town Comptroller has confirmed that the provisions of this proposed Board action will have no material impact on the Town's finances;
now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of East Greenbush shall conduct a Special Meeting on Tuesday, October 1, 2020 at 5:00 p.m., at the East Greenbush Town Hall, 225 Columbia Turnpike in the Town of East Greenbush, County of Rensselaer, State of New York for the Town Clerk to present the 2021 Tentative Budget to the Town Board;
and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Town Clerk of the Town of East Greenbush is hereby authorized and directed to give notice of such Special Meeting as required by law.

The foregoing resolution was 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: YES
Councilor R. Matters	VOTED: YES
Councilor B. Fritz	VOTED: YES

162-2020 A Resolution Authorizing the Execution of a Settlement Agreement in the Matter of Rudolf P. Schlegel, Inc. V. the Zoning Board of Appeals of the Town of East Greenbush and Adam Yagelski, Director of Planning and Zoning

WHEREAS, by petition and notice of petition dated January 8, 2020, a proceeding pursuant to Article 78 of the Civil Practice Law and Rules was brought by Rudolph P. Schlegel, Inc., against the Zoning Board of Appeals of the Town of East Greenbush and Adam Yagelski, as Director of Planning and Zoning; and

WHEREAS, Rudolf P. Schlegel, Inc. is the owner of certain property located at 103 Columbia Turnpike, and a separate parcel directly behind 103 Columbia Turnpike; and

WHEREAS, said Article 78 proceeding challenged a certain determination by the East Greenbush Zoning Board of Appeals, dated December 13, 2019, denying Schlegel's application for a use variance to allow the rear vacant lot to be used as accessory parking to the automotive and repair business at 103 Columbia Turnpike; and

WHEREAS, upon service of such petition and notice of petition, the Town respondents and the attorney for the petitioner entered into discussions about possible resolutions of the matter, thereby avoiding the need for the Town to expend funds for legal representation; and

WHEREAS, the Town representatives and the petitioner have reached a proposed Settlement Agreement, providing that the premises at 103 Columbia Turnpike can continue to be used for automotive service and repair operations, and that the petitioner and/or a new tenant of the property may use the property for such purposes; that such use shall not be considered discontinued pursuant to the Comprehensive Zoning Law of the Town of East Greenbush (provided such use is commenced within one year from the date the agreement is executed by all parties); and

WHEREAS, said agreement also provides that the Town never abandoned the original Catskill Avenue right-of-way in the Town of East Greenbush, so that the rear parcel located behind 103 Columbia Turnpike continues to have uninterrupted direct access to Catskill Avenue; and

WHEREAS, it appears to both parties to this litigation that this resolution resolves the Petitioner's concerns, while maintaining consistent Town enforcement of its zoning and planning laws; and

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

RESOLVED, that the Town Board hereby authorizes Jeffrey Pangburn, the Chair of the Zoning Board of Appeals of the Town of East Greenbush, and Adam Yagelski, Director Planning and Zoning, to execute said Settlement Agreement on behalf of the Town.

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

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

163-2020 A Resolution to Authorize Base Percentages, Current Base Percentages, Current Base Proportions, and Certificate of Adjusted Base Proportions for the East Greenbush Central School District and the Town of East Greenbush for the 2020-21 year.

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

RESOLVED, the Town Board of the Town of East Greenbush, County of Rensselaer, State of New York is required to provide the certified Current Base Percentages, Current Base

Proportions and the Adjusted Base Proportions for the Homestead and Non Homestead classes, that have been approved by the State of New York, pursuant to Section 1905 of the Real Property Tax Law, and the Town Board hereby directs the Town Clerk to transmit a certified copy of this Resolution and Certificates to:

East Greenbush Central School District
29 Englewood Ave., East Greenbush, NY 12061;

Carey O'Neil, NYS Department of Tax & Finance
WA Harriman Campus, Bldg. 8-A, Albany, NY 12227

Certificates of Base Percentages, Current Percentages and Current Base Proportions Pursuant to Article 19 RPTL, for the Levy of Taxes on the 2020 Assessment Roll

Homestead Class		Non Homestead Class
	East Greenbush Central School District	
67.72170		32.27830
	Town of East Greenbush	
67.0959		32.9041

Certificates of Adjusted Base Proportions, Pursuant to Article 19, RPTL, for the Levy of Taxes on the 2020 Assessment Roll

Homestead Class		Non Homestead Class
	East Greenbush Central School District	
67.89751		32.10249
	Town Of East Greenbush	
67.15988		32.84012

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

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

164-2020 A Resolution Authorizing Tree Removal by Allmark Tree and Crane Service

WHEREAS, the Highway Department is responsible for removal of dangerous or dead trees in the Town Highway Right of Way; and

WHEREAS, the Highway General Foreman has identified some of these trees that are outside of the Highway Department's ability to safely remove without risk to employees or property; and

WHEREAS, the Rensselaer County bid for Tree and Stump Removal was awarded on August 1, 2019 and is in effect until July 31st, 2022, and the results of the bid were made available to all municipalities and school districts in Rensselaer County, and

WHEREAS, Allmark Tree and Crane Service is the selected contractor on the Rensselaer County Bid; and

WHEREAS, the Town of East Greenbush Purchasing Policy requires purchases of \$10,000 or more require approval by the Town Board; and

WHEREAS, the Town Comptroller confirms the financial impact of this resolution can be funded for the not exceed \$13,000.00 from Budget Line 51404.02.04 Brush and Weeds now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Town Board authorizes the Commissioner of Public Works to contract with Allmark Tree and Crane Service to remove the trees as specified on the estimate attached at a cost not to exceed \$13,000.00.

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

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

165-2020 A Resolution Authorizing Cured-In-Place Pipe Lining to the Sewer Main Located on Parkview Drive

WHEREAS, in accordance with Town policy and General Municipal Law, all public works expenses in excess of \$10,000 require Town Board approval; and

WHEREAS, on August 5th at 2:00 p.m., the Commissioner of Public Works was notified of a blockage in the sewer main in the vicinity of 14 Parkview Drive; and

WHEREAS, the Commissioner of Public Works had Wm. J. Keller and Sons Construction Corp. conduct the initial repair, then had the remainder of the sewer main video inspected to determine the extent of the problem; and

WHEREAS, the video inspection showed that there was significant root intrusion on each joint in the clay tile sewer main; and

WHEREAS, Precision Trenchless LLC has been awarded the Onondaga County Bid to install cured-in-place pipe lining and the Bid has been made available to other political subdivisions state-wide; and

WHEREAS, the Commissioner of Public Works has determined that the most cost effective solution to rebuilding the sewer main at that location is to install cured-in-place pipe lining; and

WHEREAS, the Town Comptroller has confirmed that the financial impact of this resolution is \$19,095.68 from the Sewer Fund charge code 8120.4.07; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Town Board authorizes the Commissioner of Public Works to enter into a contract with Precision Trenchless LLC to install the lining in the sewer main at Parkview Drive for a price not to exceed \$19,095.68.

The foregoing resolution was 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: YES
Councilor R. Matters	VOTED: YES
Councilor B. Fritz	VOTED: YES

166-2020 A Resolution Authorizing Landscaping at the Waste Water Treatment Plant

WHEREAS, a landscaping project was scheduled as part of the final phase of the Waste Water Treatment Plant upgrade project to improve the appearance of the facility and contribute to the beautification of Columbia Turnpike; and

WHEREAS, in accordance with the Town of East Greenbush Purchasing Policy three quotes for this landscaping project were solicited, with the lowest responsible quote being submitted by Brad Rose Landscaping, Inc.; and

WHEREAS, the Town of East Greenbush Purchasing Policy requires that purchases of \$10,000 or more must be approved by the Town Board, and

WHEREAS, the Town Comptroller has confirmed that the financial impact of this resolution is \$29,135.60 from the Special Items charge code 1960.4.1.

now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Town Board authorizes the Commissioner of Public Works to enter into a contract with Brad Rose Landscaping, Inc. to perform the landscaping project in an amount not to exceed \$29,135.60.

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

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

167-2020 A Resolution Authorizing Installation of Control Valves and Flow Meters at the Corliss Pump Station Using GEIS Funds

WHEREAS, Resolution 194-2018 authorized the solicitation of bids for the upgrade of the Corliss Pump Station using GEIS Sewer/Water Funds; and

WHEREAS, as part of the upgrade project it is necessary to install new control valves and flow meters to restore the functionality of the one million gallon equalization tank; and

WHEREAS, H.V. LaBarba solicited quotes for both control valves and flow meters and wrote a justification for a sole source purchase; and

WHEREAS, H.V. LaBarba estimated that three different contractors would be required for the specialty tasks of installing the valves at an approximate cost of \$25,000.00, and

WHEREAS, the Town of East Greenbush Purchasing Policy requires that purchases of \$10,000 or more must be approved by the Town Board, and

WHEREAS, the Town Comptroller has confirmed that the financial impact of this resolution is \$75,929.21 from the General Assigned Fund Balance GEIS Water & Sewer Fund for this expense;

Fund	Transfer in	Transfer out
GEIS Water & Sewer Fund Balance A-915		\$75,929.21

GEIS Water & Sewer Appropriations 80304.01.04	\$75,929.21	
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now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Town Board authorizes the Commissioner of Public Works to contract with DynaTech Control Solutions Inc. to purchase the Flow Meters in an amount not to exceed \$10,210.00 and to contract R.M. Headlee Valves and Controls to purchase two control valves in an amount not to exceed \$33,219.21,

and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Town Board authorizes the Commissioner of Public Works to contract with the appropriate mechanical, electrical, and instrumentation contractors in accordance with the Town's procurement policy to install the above instruments at a cost not to exceed \$32,500.00 as outlined in H.V. LaBarba's Justification for Sole Source Purchase.

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

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

168-2020 A Resolution Authorizing Emergency Repairs to the Sewer Main Located on Parkview Drive

WHEREAS, in accordance with Town policy and General Municipal Law, all public works expenses in excess of \$10,000 require Town Board approval; and

WHEREAS, on August 5th at 2:00 p.m., the Commissioner of Public Works was notified of a blockage in the sewer main in the vicinity of 14 Parkview Drive; and

WHEREAS, the Commissioner of Public Works assessed the situation, and determined that immediate action was required to prevent additional damage to the residence at 14 Parkview Drive; and

WHEREAS, the Sewer Department attempted to clear the blockage with no success; and

WHEREAS, based on their past experience with sewer and water main emergency repairs and the depth of this section of sewer main, Wm. J. Keller and Sons Construction Corp. was called in to immediately excavate and stabilize the site so that repairs could be made by the East Greenbush Sewer Department; and

WHEREAS, the Town Comptroller has confirmed that the financial impact of this resolution is \$5,688.00 from the Sewer Fund charge code 8120.4.07;

now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Town Board ratifies the payment of \$5,688.00 to Wm. J. Keller and Sons Construction Corp. for emergency repairs to the sewer main on Parkview Drive.

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

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

169-2020 A Resolution to Approve the Appointment of One Part-time Police Dispatcher

WHEREAS, the Town currently retains the services of Part-time Police Dispatchers in the Emergency Communications Center; and

WHEREAS, this individual currently meets the presumptive, non-competitive qualifications for this title as established by the Rensselaer County Civil Service Commission and whose name is listed below; and

WHEREAS, the Town Comptroller has certified that the provisions of this resolution were planned for in the current Budget and will have no material impact on the Town Finances; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that on the recommendation of the Chief of Police, the individual so listed below, and the same hereby is appointed to the position of Part-time Police Dispatcher, consistent with all terms and conditions as previously set forth by the Town Board, for a term to expire at the Town's next organizational meeting, or otherwise at the pleasure of the Town Board:

Michelle Merola

and be it further

RESOLVED, that said part-time dispatcher will be compensated as set forth in the appropriate Collective Bargaining Agreement.

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

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

Supervisor Conway – Mentioned Michelle Merola is a quality person and we're very glad to have her.

170-2020 A Resolution to Approve the Addition of an Office Pet Policy to the Employee Handbook

WHEREAS, the Human Resources Manager has written and distributed to staff an approved text of an Office Pet Policy; and

WHEREAS, the Town Board wishes to have this policy formally incorporated into the Employee Handbook; and

WHEREAS, the text of this policy reads as follows:

Town of East Greenbush Office Pet Policy

“The Town of East Greenbush is responsible for assuring the health and safety of all employees. In keeping with this objective, the Town of East Greenbush does not permit employees to bring their household pets to work. Animals may pose a threat of infection and may cause allergic reactions in other employees. Some employees may feel threatened or be distracted by the presence of animals, particularly dogs. In addition, the Town of East Greenbush wishes to prevent pets from fouling the office space or damaging company property.

An employee who requires the assistance of a service animal (defined by 28 CFR 36.104 as “any dog that is individually trained to do work or perform tasks for the benefit of an individual with a disability”) will be permitted to bring a service animal to the office, provided that the animal’s presence does not create a danger to others and does not impose an undue hardship upon the organization.”

WHEREAS, the Town Comptroller confirms 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 approves the addition of the Office Pet Policy, in the form of the text cited above, to the Employee Handbook and directs the Human Resources Manager to oversee its inclusion.

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

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

171-2020 A Resolution to Schedule the Continuance of the Public Hearing on Traffic Changes to be Made in Response to Regeneron’s Tempel Lane Development and Safety Concerns of the New York State Department of Transportation

WHEREAS, this resolution was not submitted in time to be considered on the regularly scheduled pre-board meeting of August 12, 2020 and was subsequently presented to the Town Board on August 19, 2020; and

WHEREAS, on August 12, 2020 the Town Board opened a Public Hearing to consider comments on traffic changes designed to mitigate the impact of Regeneron’s Tempel Lane development and other changes proposed by the New York State Department of Transportation (NYS-DOT) but due to social distancing and other requirements occasioned by the Covid-19 emergency it was decided that the public hearing should remain open so that more residents could be given a chance to comment; and

WHEREAS, the Town Comptroller confirms 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 schedules the continuation of the public hearing on traffic changes for September 16, 2020 at 6:15 p.m. at the Red Barn in the Town Park, 100 Town Park Road in the Town of East Greenbush.

The foregoing resolution was 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: YES
Councilor R. Matters	VOTED: YES
Councilor B. Fritz	VOTED: YES

Supervisor Conway – Meaghan Hart is in the process of exploring how we can stream live on Facebook. It will be a Public Hearing as well as an information session. We want residents to know these are major changes coming to East Greenbush. We want to make every effort to be transparent. Stressed importance of this.

Comments:

Councilor Tierney – Extended thanks to Chief Rudzinski for the presentation tonight and bringing it to our attention. Mentioned whether or not we go forward with it or not, it's great to interact with our officers in a different way. It's also great to hear their why they're interested in their work. It was a fantastic opportunity to see Officer Witko in a different light and he did a great job with his presentation.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn is made 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 R. Matters	VOTED: YES
Councilor H. Kennedy	VOTED: YES
Councilor B. Fritz	VOTED: YES

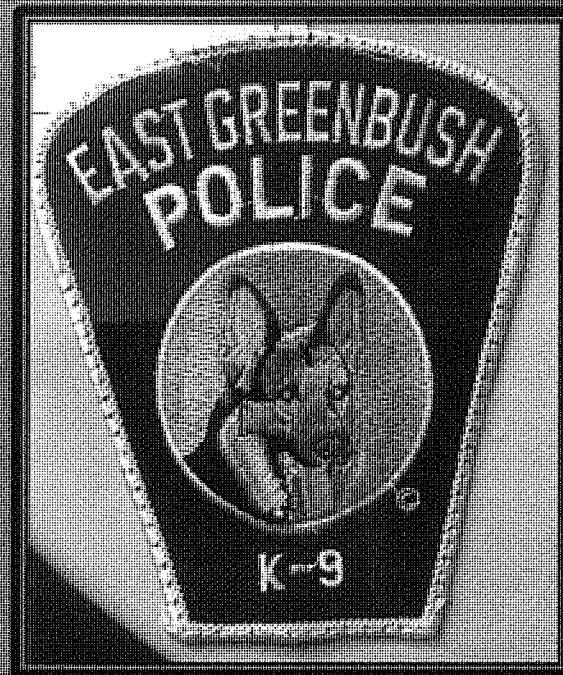
Adjourned 8:00 p.m.

Respectfully,

Ellen Pangburn
Town Clerk

EAST GREENBUSH POLICE

K-9 Program Proposal



Purpose of a K-9 Program

- ▣ A K-9 program will provide the Patrol Division and the Detective Division with additional tools and resources to efficiently and effectively complete:
 - Criminal investigations;
 - Drug and crime interdictions;
 - Provide officer safety; and
 - Increase community interaction and outreach.

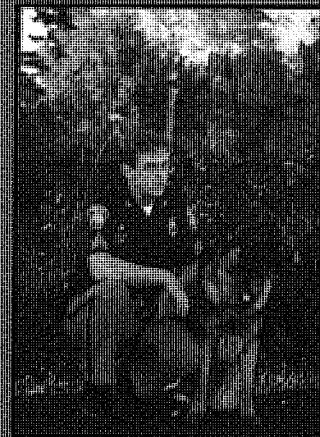
Benefits of a K-9 Program

The Police K-9's extraordinary ability to smell, and determination are recognized both nationally and internationally. The Police dog would be cross-trained to:

- ▣ Locate illegal drugs;
- ▣ Track lost and/or endangered children and adults;
- ▣ Reduce time and provide for a safer means to complete building searches;
- ▣ Assist officers during arrests, search warrants and apprehensions;
- ▣ Be a highly visible deterrent to criminal activity;
- ▣ Perform public relations between the Police and community; and
- ▣ Provide appearance and demonstrations at various community functions.

History of the East Greenbush Police K-9 Program

- ❑ Established in 1985 with unanimous support and approval by Chief John Burns and the Town Board.
- ❑ Following a one-year trial, the K-9 program was authorized to continue as part of the Patrol Division.
- ❑ There were five German Shepard K-9s all trained and handled by Sgt. Rick Kemner. The five K9s were:
 - K9-1 Askar (male)
 - K9-2 Belinda (female)
 - K9-3 Rio (male)
 - K9-4 Hilde (female)
 - K9-5 Artus (male)



K-9 History (Cont.)

- ▣ All of the East Greenbush Police K9s were trained and certified in:
 - Tracking
 - General multi-purpose patrol functions
 - Narcotic detection
- ▣ The K-9 regularly assisted police agencies throughout the region. In addition to East Greenbush, Rensselaer Police and Schodack Police also had K-9s (which no longer exist today).
- ▣ The K-9 program was disbanded in 2007 with the retirement of Sgt. Kemner.

How will a K-9 Benefit East Greenbush?

- ▣ Assist officers conduct vehicle searches during traffic stops to locate drugs and contraband.
- ▣ Assist officers search for missing, endangered and wanted persons, without the delay or availability from a mutual aid agency.
- ▣ Deter drug and criminal activities in neighborhoods and high risk locations (e.g. WalMart, FedEx, East Greenbush Technology Park, the Port District, Regeneron, hotels and schools).
- ▣ Provide assistance and another level of Office safety on high risk calls. Provides a less lethal tool for use-of-force to combat resistance.

Benefits to East Greenbush (Cont.)

- ▣ Greater community interaction and public relations to support community policing activities:
 - “PWTs” – Park, walk and talk.
 - Property and location checks.
 - Support patrol on the Albany-Hudson Electric Trail.
 - Crime prevention and education events.
 - Town activities and functions (i.e. movies in the park, Saturday in the Park, day camp, activities sponsored at the Town Park, senior activities etc.).
 - School District functions and sporting events.

How to maintain a successful Program?

- ▣ **SUPPORT!!** In order for the program to be successful, there needs to be unanimous commitment from the Department and the Town Board to support the program financially and adjustments to day-to-day operations.

Operational Impacts:

- ▣ Initial program costs;
- ▣ On-going financial support;
- ▣ Day-to-Day operations; and
- ▣ New and/or revised policies and procedures.

Program Costs

- ▣ Purchase of a K-9: \$6,500-\$8,500
- ▣ Initial Recommended Equipment: \$25,000
- ▣ Dedicated K-9 patrol vehicle: \$45,000-\$50,000
- ▣ Annual costs (food, vet, care, miscellaneous): \$3,000
- ▣ In-Service Training (8 hours per month/certification)
- ▣ Handler Certification: TBD
- ▣ Handler Compensation (FLSA)- agreed upon amount per day for dog maintenance (bathing, grooming, exercising, feeding etc.)- Taken as pay or comp. time

Annual Training

- ▣ United States Police Canine Association membership costs (\$100 per year).
- ▣ Troy PD's K-9 program is growing fast and they will soon have a master instructor and be able to host their own training.
- ▣ Combined in-service training with Troy PD, Colonie PD, Saratoga CSO, Rensselaer CSO and Albany CSO.

Funding/Grant Opportunities

- ▣ *There are numerous organizations who offer grant and funding opportunities to establish and support a K9 program such as:*
 - Stanton Foundation Grant - \$25,000 for startup
 - National Association of Chief of Police K-9 Program for training, equipment and supplies – matching grant raised dollar for dollar up to \$5,000
 - National Police Dog Foundation – Grant for K-9 Heat Alarm, initial purchasing and training
 - Regeneron has offered \$30,000 (15k for startup and then 15k after program is up and running)
 - Brady's K9 Fund – K9 vest – *Committed Donation*
 - Project Paws Alive – K9 vest and trauma kits
 - Spirit of Blue Foundation – K9 equipment needs
 - K-9's for law.org – Training and initial purchase

Funding/Grant Opportunities (Cont.)

- ❑ Business donations (e.g. Regeneron, WalMart, Target, FedEx, Pet Smart, East Greenbush Vet, Fuccillo Ford).
- ❑ Fundraisers (pancake breakfast, softball tournament, golf tournament, Chinese raffles, car washes, national night out, coffee with a cop, cookies with a cop, park walk talks, etc.)

Summary

- ❑ We would like to reestablish a K-9 program in the East Greenbush Police Department.
- ❑ A K9 will benefit our community, officers, and keep our schools, businesses and community members safer.
- ❑ Although the initial cost is large, there will be a greater return on investment to the community as the *deterrent of a K-9 is unmatched!*

