

# The Town of East Greenbush

225 Columbia Turnpike, Rensselaer, New York 12144

## TOWN BOARD MINUTES SPECIAL MEETING March 24, 2021

To view a recording of the full meeting, please see YouTube link below: <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ekdiIh6j9Nc">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ekdiIh6j9Nc</a>

The following is a summary of the Town Board Special Meeting as recorded by the Town Clerk.

Call to Order Pledge of Allegiance Town Board Meeting:	6:00 PM		
	Members of Present	of Town Board Absent	
			Supervisor J. Conway Councilor T. Tierney Councilor H. Kennedy Councilor R. Matters Councilor B. Fritz

Special Meeting Notice - March 24, 2021

The Town Board of the Town of East Greenbush hereby schedules a Special Meeting for Wednesday, March 24, 2021 at 6 p.m. by remote means to adopt the Police Reform and Reinvention Collaborative Plan and to authorize the Town Supervisor to complete the Plan Certification Form and to address any other business that may be brought to the attention of the Town Board.

Pursuant to Executive Order No. 202.1, issued by Governor Cuomo on March 12, 2020, and advisories issued by Federal, State and Local officials related to the COVID-19 virus, the Town Board will convene its March 24, 2021 Special Town Board Meeting remotely.

#### Communications/Announcements/Reports

Town Boards members – Stated their comments and mentioned taking this plan seriously and commended committee on a great job.

#### **Open Public Privilege**

Committee member, Jennifer Hixon, stated her comments, and mentioned she was very impressed with the thoroughness of the report.

Committee Members: Maria Barrington and Robin Cole – each extended thanks for their opportunity to be a part of this committee and the great work they did. Also stated how great of a learning experience this was.

## 79-2021 A Resolution to Adopt the Police Reform and Reinvention Collaborative Final Plan and Authorize the Supervisor to Complete and Submit the Plan Certification Form

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to Executive Order No. 203 issued by Governor Cuomo, each local government entity which has a police agency must perform a comprehensive review of current police force deployments, strategies, policies, procedures, and practices, and develop a plan for improvement to address the particular needs of the community, promote community engagement, foster trust, fairness, and legitimacy, and to address any racial bias and disproportionate policing of communities of color; and

**WHEREAS**, the Governor's Executive Order required that the Chief Operating Officer of a municipality convene, in consultation with the Chief of Police, a group of stakeholders from the community to conduct the review and prepare the Plan: and

**WHEREAS**, in response to the Executive Order, the Town Board convened a committee of community stakeholders to develop such plan (the "Plan"); the committee has performed a comprehensive review of current police force deployments, strategies, policies, procedures, and practices; and the committee has developed a draft Plan to improve such deployments, strategies, policies, procedures, and practices; and

**WHEREAS**, the committee also designed and solicited responses to two surveys, one for the community to measure their perception of the job done by the East Greenbush Police Department, and one for employees of the Police Department to understand their perception of the issues under review; and

**WHEREAS**, the community survey garnered 404 responses and the Police Department survey was completed by 28 employees of the department; and

**WHEREAS**, the committee that produced the Plan consisted of Maria Barrington, Robin Cole, Jack Conway, Roger Johnson, Aaron Matthews, Assistant Police Chief Jonathan Reickert, Police Chief Elaine Rudzinski, Tina Tierney and Ingrid Werge; and

**WHEREAS**, the committee held a series of meetings over a three-month period and performed a comprehensive review of police force deployments, strategies, policies, procedures and practices in order to create the Final Plan, reviewed numerous drafts of the Plan and agreed to its final contents; and

**WHEREAS**, a public hearing was duly scheduled and held on March 17, 2021 offering the Plan in draft form for public comment and everyone who wished to be heard was heard; 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 adopts the Police Reform and Reinvention Collaborative Final Plan as submitted, effective immediately; and be it further

**RESOLVED**, that the Town Board hereby authorizes the Supervisor to complete the New York State Police Reform and Reinvention Collaborative Plan Certification form and submit the completed form to the Director of the New York State Division of the Budget; and be it further

**RESOLVED**, that the Town Board thanks the committee that produced the Plan for their diligence and professionalism.

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: ABSENT

### A Resolution Designating Jennifer Dean as Chairperson of the East Greenbush Conservation Advisory Council

**WHEREAS**, on October 21, 2020, the Town Board appointed Jennifer Dean to the East Greenbush Conservation Advisory Council (CAC) for a term not to exceed one (1) full year; and

**WHEREAS**, Local Law 2 of 2020, which established the CAC, provides that the Town Board shall designate a member of the Council to act as Chairperson for the length of that member's appointment; and

WHEREAS, Jennifer Dean, Ph. D., is a member of the CAC, is a Town resident; served as a Member of the Natural Resources Work Group (NRWG); holds a Ph. D. in entomology from Penn State University and a BS in plant Biology from Ohio University; brings specific and related knowledge, skills, and experience from her current position as Invasive Species Biologist with the New York Natural Heritage Program; and

**WHEREAS**, Jennifer Dean's knowledge, skills, training, professional background, and experience as a member of the NRWG which helped draft Local Law 2 of 2020 uniquely qualify her for the position of Chairperson; and

**WHEREAS**, the Town Comptroller has confirmed that this proposed Board action will not have a material impact on the Town's finances;

now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED**, that the Town Board hereby appoints Jennifer Dean as Chairperson of the East Greenbush Conservation Advisory Council for a term to run coterminous with the Town Board's above-mentioned appointment of Jennifer Dean as a member of the CAC;

and be it further

**RESOLVED**, that this resolution will take effect immediately.

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

Councilor T. Tierney

Councilor H. Kennedy

Councilor R. Matters

Councilor B. Fritz

VOTED: YES

VOTED: YES

VOTED: YES

A Resolution Authorizing the Implementation and Funding of a Federal-Aid Transportation Project to Fund the Local Share of Federal- and State-Aid Eligible and Ineligible Project Costs and Obtaining Funds Therefore as Set Forth Below.

WHEREAS, a Project known as the US Route 4/I-90 Intersection Safety Enhancements and US Route 4 and State Route 151 Various Intersection Improvements P.I.N. 1089.79 (the Project") is eligible for funding under Title 23 U.S. Code, as amended, that calls for the apportionment of the costs of such program to be borne at the ratio of 55 % Federal funds and 45% non-federal funds; and

**WHEREAS**, the Town of East Greenbush desires to advance the Project by making a commitment of 100% of the non-federal share of the costs of Construction for Intersection Improvements of US Route 4/Hampton Inn Entrance, US Route 4/State Route 151, and State Route 151/Tempel Lane using funds provided to the Town by Regeneron Pharmaceuticals, Inc. (Regeneron); and

**WHEREAS**, the Town of East Greenbush Town Board has required that certain traffic mitigation measures be undertaken by Regeneron as a part of the NYS Environmental Quality Review Act process for Regeneron's projects on the Tempel Lane Campus located in the Town of East Greenbush; and

WHEREAS, the Town of East Greenbush understands that NYSDOT has determined that those certain traffic mitigation measures which intersect with NYSDOT improvements to NYS Route 4 corridor, are equivalent in cost to the non-federal share of the Project; and

**WHEREAS,** the Town is entering into a Betterment Agreement with NYSDOT using the developer mitigation fees provided by Regeneron to the Town for the non-federal share of the Project; and

**WHEREAS,** the Town has agreed to do so subject to the execution and funding of an Escrow Agreement between the Town Board and Regeneron such that Regeneron provides all of the funding of the non-federal share of the project to the Town of East Greenbush with the Town transferring the funds to the NYSDOT in the manner provided for in the Betterment Agreement; and

**WHEREAS**, the Town Comptroller confirms this resolution will not have a material impact on the Town's finances; and

**WHEREAS**, the Town Board is adopting this resolution to correct an error in the resolution adopted on March 17 as resolution 72-2021;

now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED**, that the Town Board hereby approves the Betterment Agreement attached as Exhibit A and the Escrow Agreement attached as Exhibit B finding that the Betterment Agreement can only be executed by the Town Supervisor upon the Escrow Agreement being

fully executed and payment to the Town by Regeneron of the sum of \$2,360,913.00 for the Town to provide to NYSDOT, as identified in the Betterment Agreement Schedule A;

and be it further

**RESOLVED,** that a certified copy of this resolution be filed with the New York State Commissioner of Transportation by attaching it to the Betterment Agreement in connection with the Project;

and be it further

**RESOLVED**, that this Resolution shall take effect immediately.

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

Chief of Police, Elaine Rudzinski – Addressed her comments and mentioned how appreciative she is of the committee that was formed, including Supervisor Conway and Councilor Tierney.

Assistant Chief of Police, Jon Reickert – Addressed his comments about the reform and noted this gave the police the opportunity to have a voice and work with our community. Stated he is privileged to work with these folks and Chief. Commended our Police Department.

#### ADJOURNMENT 6:29 p.m.

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

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

Respectfully,

Ellen Pangburn

East Greenbush Town Clerk