
Barbara J. Darrah
St. Armand Town Clerk

QUESTIONS, COMMENTS OR CONCERNS

There were no questions, comments or concerns.

MEETING ADJOURNMENT

The Special Board Meeting adjourned at 5:59 pm.

REGULAR TOWN BOARD MEETING – 6:30 pm

The Regular Town Board Meeting of the Town of St. Armand was held on the above date and time via webinar and in person at the Town Hall, Bloomingdale, NY. The meeting was advertised and made available to the public.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Town Supervisor Davina Winemiller, Deputy Supervisor Karl Law, Councilperson Donald Amell, Councilperson Stephanie Mikesell and Councilperson Sheridan Swinyer were all in attendance.

A quorum of the Board was in attendance.

TOWN EMPLOYEES PRESENT: Highway Superintendent Douglas Snickles, Water Superintendent Cory Skiff, Wastewater Superintendent Joshua Woodruff, and Town Clerk Barbara Darrah.

GUEST SPEAKER: Lindsey Murray, Lil' Tykes Day Care Director

GUESTS FROM THE COMMUNITY: Sandy Hayes, Warren McCarthy, Rebecca Snickles, Heather Wood (on-line), and three (3) unidentified callers.

Supervisor Davina Winemiller called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm and asked all to join in the Pledge of Allegiance. Supervisor Winemiller introduced guest Lindsey Murray, Lil' Tykes Day Care and invited her to the floor.

Lindsey introduced herself, stating she was the new owner of St. Paul's Church, and her intention was to renovate the church to accommodate a new day care/enrichment center where infants, toddlers and children will learn the essential life skills. She is also hoping to provide a before and after school program where families can bring their child. Those children will work on peer relationships, homework and have free time to unwind from the school day. Lindsey wants to take care of the staff, as well, with paid vacations and holidays, health insurance benefits and free professional development to help continue their own education. Lindsey asked the Board to support this project and community need. There are a lot of renovations that need to be done to get the building up to NYS code. There will be fundraisers to assist in the costs. In closing, on behalf of her staff and herself, she welcomed the Bloomingdale community.

Supervisor Winemiller thanked Lindsey for her presentation and offered her assistance in searching for possible grants for this project.

HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT MONTHLY REPORT

Town of St. Armand Highway Report for the April 18, 2023 Board Meeting

- 1) All ditches were dug out and all thaw water is running good.
- 2) The new excavator is here.
- 3) We have both broom tractors ready for sand pickup.
- 4) We are painting plows and getting them ready to take off.
- 5) The court chairs from the Town Hall are all sanded.
- 6) Spring cleaning of the Highway garage has started.
- 7) The Moose Pond water level is up to the road.

Supervisor Winemiller asked Doug about the auction sale of the 2013 Ford F550 1 Ton Dump Truck repair cost input received from Bob Besaw. Doug reported Bob estimated the repair cost at approximately \$1,000. The Board agreed to a \$1,000 reduction in the auction sale price to the buyer of the truck. Supervisor Winemiller asked for a Motion to approve the \$1,000 reduction.

MOTION:

Councilperson Sheridan Swinyer made a Motion to grant a \$1,000 reduction in the auction sale price to the buyer of the truck. The Motion was seconded by Deputy Supervisor Karl Law. All in favor. Supervisor Winemiller requested a Roll Call Vote:

Supervisor Davina Winemiller	AYE
Deputy Supervisor Karl Law	AYE
Councilperson Donald Amell	AYE
Councilperson Stephanie Mikesell	AYE
Councilperson Sheridan Swinyer	AYE

There were no further questions or comments regarding the Highway report.

WATER DEPARTMENT REPORT

Water Report for the April 18, 2023 Town Board Meeting
Submitted by Cory Skiff

3/3/23: Yearly water withdrawal report to the DEC
3/8/23: Monthly report to the Health Department
Monthly sample to the lab

There were no questions regarding the Water report.

WASTEWATER DEPARTMENT REPORT

Wastewater Superintendent Joshua Woodruff presented the following report to the Board at the April 18, 2023 Board Meeting.

Town of St. Armand Wastewater Department Report for the April 18, 2023 Town Board Meeting
Submitted by Joshua Woodruff

1. Mixing zone form/ WTC forms have been submitted to DEC.
2. Grade 1 wastewater license complete.
3. Flow Management certification form (2022)
4. Jake Gardner- Programs coordinator New York Rural Water Association (energy efficiency)
5. Blower Maintenance Update.
6. 2023 Inspection and Maintenance Plan
7. Daily INF./EFF. Sample.
8. Had a bit of an issue with a power surge at the pump house pump station. A new backup alarm was put in. Josh thanked Cory Skiff for responding. Josh was on the ferry to Vermont to take the Grade 1 Wastewater test.

Supervisor Winemiller reported there was an overflow. She explained the relay in the electrical panel blew the breaker. Because the floats to the high-water alarm are tied into that breaker, there was no alarm. It was brought to our attention that the septic was backing up into Clyde Rabideau's shop. The Village of Saranac Lake came and pumped four truckloads of sewer. The Highway crew, Greg Walker and Todd Hodgson all came to inspect. The alarm has now been connected to a separate breaker. Councilperson Sheridan Swinyer asked if any of the other lift stations are wired the same way? Josh named a couple of the streets where that could be possible. It was agreed that they should be looked at.

There were no questions regarding the Wastewater Report.

CODE ENFORCEMENT REPORT

Submitted by Rodger Tompkins for the April 18, 2023 Board Meeting – Report completed on April 13, 2023

New Residential Building Permits Issued Since Last Report: 5
Extension of Residential Building Permits Issued Since Last Report: 0
Commercial Building Permits Issued Since Last Report: 0
Certificates of Completion Issued Since Last Report: 0
Stop Work Orders Issued Since Last Report: 0
Demolition Permits Issued Since Last Report: 0
Solar PVS Permits Issued Since Last Report: 0
Code Violations Issued Since Last Report Issued: 0
Sewer Code Violations Issued Since Last Report: 0
Total number of Residential Building permits issued for the year 2023: 10
Total number of Residential Certificates of Completion issued for the year 2023: 6
Total number of Commercial Building permits issued for the year 2023: 0
Total number of Commercial Certificates of Completion issued for the year 2023: 1
Total number of Demolition permits issued for the year 2023: 0
Total number of Demolition Certificates of Completion issued for the year 2023: 1
Total number of Solar permits issued for the year 2023: 1
Total number of Solar Certificates of Completion issued for the year 2023: 0
Total number of Code Violations issued for the year 2023: 0

Total number of Code Violation Certificates of Completion issued for the year 2023: 0
Total number of Sewer Code Violations issued for the year 2023: 0
Total number of Sewer Code Violation Certificates of Completion issued for the year 2023: 0
Amount of fees collected for Code Office since last report: \$341.00
Amount of fees collected for Water Department since last report: \$0
Amount of fees collected for Sewer Department since last report: \$0
Total amount of fees collected via Code Office since last report: \$0
Total amount of fees collected via Code Office for the year 2023: \$1,422
\$25.00 due for extension that has not been picked up yet

I have continued to perform inspections and follow up with open Code Violations and open Building Permits.

TOWN JUSTICE REPORT

Hon. Francis Whitelaw submitted the following report to the Board for the April 18, 2023 Town Board Meeting.

St. Armand Town Court Report for April 2023

Total fines and surcharges collected for the month of April 2023: \$391.83
Total collected year-to-date: \$2494.83
Total parking fines for April 2023: \$0.00
Total parking fines year-to-date: \$275.00
There were no questions regarding the Town Justice Court Report.

Supervisor Winemiller notified the Board that one of the parking ticket volunteers has resigned. Discussion ensued regarding various suggestions. The Village of Saranac Lake parking enforcement agent has no authority over the parking there because the trailhead is located in the Town of St. Armand. Supervisor Winemiller called Doug Snickles and put him on speaker phone to address the Baker Mountain parking issue. Doug Snickles stated guardrails or boulders would not create a plowing issue, but if something is put up, parking would still take place in front of the barriers. Doug stated boulders would be better because he felt guardrails would pull out of the ground because it is so wet there. Boulders would go on the pond side on either side of the designated parking spot. Councilperson Stephanie Mikesell suggested doing the same kinds of signs used by the Keene hiking areas, placing them closer together so cars could not fit there. More parking signs would be needed. Councilperson Sheridan Swinyer, Doug Snickles and Davina Winemiller agreed to go to Moody Pond at 9:00 am the next day and review the situation

RESOLUTIONS # 42 – # 45 OF 2023

RESOLUTION # 42 OF 2023 TOWN OF ST. ARMAND TOWN BOARD AUTHORIZATION TO PURCHASE A NEW E60 R2-SERIES BOBCAT COMPACT EXCAVATOR

Deputy Supervisor Karl Law, who moved its adoption, offered the following Resolution:

WHEREAS, the Town of St. Armand Highway Department is in need of a new excavator, and

WHEREAS, the purchase of a new excavator was anticipated in the 2023 Budget, and

WHEREAS, the old 2011 John Deere 50D excavator was placed out for bid on the online Auctions International bid site and the Town received a bid of \$50,600.00 for the old excavator, which was accepted, and

WHEREAS, the Town received quotes on new excavators from three dealers, and the Bobcat from Bobcat of Lake Placid, NY was determined to offer the best features and be the best value for a price of \$84,416.46, and

WHEREAS, a Motion to approve the purchase of the Bob Cat excavator was passed at the Regular Board Meeting on March 21, 2023, stating the same, with this Resolution to follow.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Town Board of the Town of St. Armand hereby approves the purchase of the Bobcat E60 R2-Series Bobcat Compact Excavator in the total amount of \$84,616.46 from Bobcat of Lake Placid, NY.

This Resolution was duly seconded by Councilperson Stephanie Mikesell, and adopted by Roll Call vote as follows:

Supervisor Davina Winemiller	AYE
Deputy Supervisor Karl Law	AYE
Councilperson Donald Amell	AYE
Councilperson Stephanie Mikesell	AYE
Councilperson Sheridan Swinyer	AYE

Dated: April 18, 2023

Barbara J. Darrah
St. Armand Town Clerk

RESOLUTION # 43 OF 2023 TOWN OF ST. ARMAND TOWN BOARD AUTHORIZATION
TO ORDER/PURCHASE VHF VEHICLE RADIOS WITH ONE
NEW BASE STATION AND EIGHT MOBILES WITH
ACCESSORY CONNECTOR AND ANTENNA ADAPTER
UTILIZING HIGHWAY SAVINGS FUNDS

Councilperson Stephanie Mikesell, who moved its adoption, offered the following Resolution:

WHEREAS, the Town of St. Armand Highway Department is in need of communication radios and a base antenna for all vehicles to include the excavator, and

WHEREAS, the pricing of the radio communication equipment and antenna are under State Contract and therefore require no bidding, and BEAR.COM, State Contract # PT68710, has the specified equipment for back order (one year out), and

WHEREAS, the proposal quote is \$6,994.62 for the radios, 1 new radio base station and programming fee, and the quote for mobile radio installation labor, fixed equipment installation labor, connecting parts and supplies and travel is \$5,556.69, for a grand total of \$12,551.31, and a Motion was passed at the Regular Town Board Meeting held on March 21, 2023, stating the same, to be followed by this Resolution.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Town Board of the Town of St. Armand hereby approves the order and purchase of communication radios, base and equipment for the Highway Vehicles in the amount of \$12,551.31, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Town Board of the Town of St. Armand hereby approves the use of Highway Savings funds for this purchase.

This Resolution was duly seconded by Councilperson Donald Amell, and adopted by Roll Call vote as follows:

Supervisor Davina Winemiller	AYE
Deputy Supervisor Karl Law	AYE
Councilperson Donald Amell	AYE
Councilperson Stephanie Mikesell	AYE
Councilperson Sheridan Swinyer	AYE

Dated: April 18, 2023

Barbara J. Darrah
St. Armand Town Clerk

RESOLUTION # 44 OF 2023 AUTHORIZATION FOR ST. ARMAND TOWN SUPERVISOR TO
SIGN USHERWOOD OFFICE TECHNOLOGY’S SERVICE AND
SALES AGREEMENTS FOR THE CANAN IMAGERUNNER
ADVANCE DX 5271F FOR 2ND FLOOR

Councilperson Donald Amell, who moved its adoption, offered the following Resolution:

WHEREAS, a Canan ImageRunner Advance DX 5271F photocopier to be used by the Town Justice Court on the 2nd Floor is in the process of being purchased, and

WHEREAS, a Sales Agreement generated by Usherwood Office Technology in the amount of \$2,000.00 requires the Town Supervisor’s signature, and

WHEREAS, a Service Agreement generated by Usherwood Office Technology as the Service Provider and the Town of St. Armand as the client, provides amended sections #2 regarding charges for copy overages and Section 2, Line 8, beginning with the words, “After the end of the first year...” amended to read “After the end of the 5th year (60 months) of this Agreement, and not more than once each successive twelve-month period thereafter, the Base Payment Amount (currently \$4.35 for the first five years and every 12 months thereafter) and the Excess per Image Charge (currently .0119 per page over base estimate) may be increased per the same time frames mentioned above.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Town Board of the Town of St. Armand hereby authorizes Town Supervisor Davina Winemiller to sign both the Sales Agreement and the Service Agreement as amended by Usherwood Office Technology.

This Resolution was duly seconded by Deputy Supervisor Karl Law, and adopted by Roll Call vote as follows:

Supervisor Davina Winemiller	AYE
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Deputy Supervisor Karl Law AYE
Councilperson Donald Amell AYE
Councilperson Stephanie Mikesell AYE
Councilperson Sheridan Swinyer AYE

Dated: April 18, 2023

Barbara J. Darrah
St. Armand Town Clerk

RESOLUTION # 45 OF 2023 TOWN OF ST. ARMAND OPPOSING THE PASSAGE OF CONSERVATION
SUBDIVISION DESIGN BILL A04608 AND CORRESPONDING SENATE BILL

Councilperson Sheridan Swinyer, who moved its adoption, offered the following Resolution:

Upon the recommendation of the Ways and Means Committee of Essex County, and the same appearing proper and necessary.

WHEREAS, the Adirondack Park Agency adopted a Large Subdivision Permit Application that incorporated many of the action items in the Conservation Subdivision Design Bill; and

WHEREAS, implementation of the Adirondack Park Agency Large Subdivision Permit, is possibly more protective of the Environment than the Conservation Subdivision Design allows for; and

WHEREAS, Conservation Design laws are seldom mandatory, and are a tool to keep open space in urban areas; and

WHEREAS, the State of New York as of March 20, 2018, owned 2,505,802 or 44.6 percent of the Adirondack Park in fee, the State as of November 12, 2018, also owns 785,434 acres of Conservation Easements, where development and subdivision rights have been extinguished; and

WHEREAS, this means there are more than 3.3 million acres of a 5.9 million acre Adirondack Park that will never be developed or subdivided; and

WHEREAS, of the remaining 2.6 million acres of private land, existing development, roads, lakes, rivers, streams, steep slopes, wetlands and high elevations are not suitable for development; and

WHEREAS, the proposed legislation would amend the existing Adirondack Park Agency Act which has been in effect for 50 years; and

WHEREAS, the proposed legislation is overly broad and vaguely worded giving too much authority to the Adirondack Park Agency in its rule-making capacity and regulatory authority to establish its own regulations supplementing and interpreting this law; and

WHEREAS, this law will effect property with acreage as low as 3.2 acres and mandates private property owners to incur excessive and unduly burdensome financial expenses to hire consultants to complete ecological evaluations, assessments and concept plans and will also add significant time to proposed developments; and

WHEREAS, the Adirondack Park Agency, without any conditions or parameters outlined in the law, will be charged with undertaking site evaluations and the authority to propose additional conditions vaguely allowed in the law incident to the development of property and ecological issues; and

WHEREAS, this proposed law would eliminate the potential for development on certain lands and would prevent development on certain lands which currently is allowed and is adequately protected under the existing rubric of the Adirondack Park Agency, is an attempt to further preclude residents and owners of real property in the Adirondack Park from developing their properties and will further result in severe economic hardship, loss of revenue and commerce within an area already plagued by substantial economic stressors; and

WHEREAS, the current Adirondack Park Agency law and its rules and regulations fully protect and regulate these lands and this new law is a “taking”, without compensation and is unfair as it only addresses the Adirondack Park and does not address any other wilderness, open space or other protected areas throughout the state:

WHEREAS, the proposed Bill places an additional burden on property owners within the Adirondack Park which is not necessary to protect the environment and ecological systems and is not beneficial to the wellbeing of the Adirondack Park and its residents.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of St. Armand does not approve of the proposed Bill; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of St. Armand does hereby call upon the local government to stand together, individually and through our associations to insist that the Conservation Subdivision Design Bill A04608 be withdrawn; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that copies of this Resolution be forwarded to: Governor Kathy Hochul, Senate Majority Leader, Senator Daniel Stec, Assembly Speaker, Assemblyman Billy Jones, Assemblyman Matthew Simpson, Association of Adirondack Towns and Villages and Chairpersons of Encon Committee, Senator Hareckham and Assemblywoman Glick.

This Resolution was duly seconded by Deputy Supervisor Karl Law, and adopted by Roll Call vote as follows:

Supervisor Davina Winemiller	AYE
Deputy Supervisor Karl Law	AYE
Councilperson Donald Amell	AYE
Councilperson Stephanie Mikesell	AYE
Councilperson Sheridan Swinyer	AYE

Dated: April 18, 2023

Barbara J. Darrah
St. Armand Town Clerk

MOTION TO PAY MONTHLY BILLS

The payment vouchers for April's bills were presented for the Board's approval as follows:

General Vouchers # 111 - # 141	in the amount of \$ 27,063.16
Trust and Agency Voucher # 7 - # 8	in the amount of \$ 209.50
Highway Vouchers # 54 - # 71	in the amount of \$ 105,959.73
Water and Sewer Vouchers # 39 - # 53	in the amount of \$ 6,025.26
HT Grant Vouchers # 11 - # 16	in the amount of \$ 145,214.70

Councilperson Stephanie Mikesell made the Motion to approve payment of April's bills; the Motion was seconded by Councilperson Sheridan Swinyer. A Roll Call Vote was as follows:

Supervisor Davina Winemiller	AYE
Deputy Supervisor Karl Law	AYE
Councilperson Donald Amell	AYE
Councilperson Stephanie Mikesell	AYE
Councilperson Sheridan Swinyer	AYE

All in favor. Motion carried.

Dated: April 18, 2023

Barbara J. Darrah,
St. Armand Town Clerk

MONTHLY REPORT FROM THE SUPERVISOR

Nancy Heath submitted has submitted a request for an extension on the Supervisor's Report for March 2023. Councilperson Donald Amell made the Motion to approve the extension. Councilperson Stephanie Mikesell seconded the Motion. All in favor. Motion carried.

REVIEW AND MOTION TO APPROVE PREVIOUS MONTH'S MINUTES

Barbara Darrah requested an extension on the minutes for the Special Board Meeting held on March 21, 2023 regarding STRs. Deputy Supervisor Karl Law made the Motion to approve the extension and the minutes of the Regular Board Meeting held on March 21, 2023. The Motion was seconded by Councilperson Sheridan Swinyer. All in favor. Motion carried.

TOWN CLERK'S MONTHLY REPORT

Town Clerk Barbara Darrah reported the following revenue collected from the Town Clerk for the Month of March 2023.

Dog Licenses (6): 3 FS, 3MN	\$ 42.00
Certified Marriage Certificate	\$ 10.00
Certified Death Certificates (5) Reynolds	\$ 50.00
Total Revenue:	\$ <u>102.00</u>

Total Checks Written:
Town Supervisor: General \$ 36.00 B Fund \$ 60.00 NYS Dept. of Agric. & Mkts. \$ 6.00

WATER AND SEWER BILLING MONTHLY REPORT:

The 1st quarter billing Receivables as of April 18, 2023 is \$14,413.54. The 2nd quarter bills should be completed by April 30th, with a due date of May 30th. Now that we are in April, shut off notices will be distributed in May. The LIHWAP program is still in effect to assist qualified customers with their unpaid balances.

OLD BUSINESS

Town Hall Project – Verbal Update – Charles Phillion, CDBG grant, asked for more information to consider the request for additional funding. He felt some of the costs did not concern being ADA compliant. The construction costs have increased 30% since the grant was written. Supervisor Winemiller went through the expenditures and submitted more documentation regarding the estimate of \$58,000. Joe Krupka, AEDA felt it was a reasonable assessment. Supervisor Winemiller requested the Board consider funding that amount through the Cares Act Funds in order to complete the project, stating there was currently \$76,000.00 remaining in the Cares Act balance. Councilperson Donald Amell suggested using the remainder of the Cares Act Funds for the project, rather than limiting the amount to \$58,000.

MOTION:

Supervisor Winemiller asked for a Motion to use the remainder of the Cares Act Funds, not to exceed \$70,000, to ensure completion of the Town Hall Project.

Councilperson Sheridan Swinyer made a Motion to use \$70,000 of the Cares Act Funds to complete the Town Hall Project. The Motions was seconded by Councilperson Donald Amell. All in favor. The Motion was followed by a Roll Call Vote:

Supervisor Davina Winemiller	AYE
Deputy Supervisor Karl Law	AYE
Councilperson Donald Amell	AYE
Councilperson Stephanie Mikesell	AYE
Councilperson Sheridan Swinyer	AYE

Verizon Cell Tower Lease Update – Supervisor Winemiller reported she reviewed the Minute Books from 2007 through 2012 regarding the Verizon Cell Tower lease. Every mention of the cell tower lease prior to the building permit dated January 3, 2011, reports the building of the cell tower needing APA approval, and the Town Board agreeing not to start the lease until the cell tower was completed. Payments started coming in June of 2011. The payments they make now are in alignment for the 5-year increase.

Sandy Hayes asked if the company has the satellite, then AT&T owes the Town of St. Armand. Verizon is supposed to inform the Town if they have other companies joined on their satellite.

Warrene McCarthy asked the Board how long were they going to go without knowing if some other companies are attached to the cell tower?

The Board determined the Verizon lease should be taken to the County Attorney. Supervisor Winemiller stated she would take it there on Monday, April 23rd, when she went to County. She added that payments have been steadily increasing each year.

Volunteer Firefighter/Ambulance Property Tax Exemption – Chief Tim Woodruff, Chief Brendan Keough and the County are all working on defining the Property Tax Exemption for Volunteer Firefighter/Ambulance personnel.

Expansion of Youth Building and Playground Equipment Update – Supervisor Winemiller is attending a webinar on Playground Safety.

St. Armand Logo: Updated logos were presented to the Board and a selection was made. Supervisor Winemiller submitted the selected logo to the County IT person to add to our website.

NEW BUSINESS

Adirondack Planning Forum – April 26 & 27th – Supervisor Winemiller will attend this forum and report back next month.

Updated ROOST information – The Town is expected to receive ROOST funds in the amount of \$70,000.00 for 2023. ROOST Funds expenditures have been expanded to include playground equipment, Youth building, basketball court. There is still a balance of \$30,000, and with this payment in June, we could put it to the Youth Field Improvements.

Summer Help Update: Two previous employees for the Summer Help program will be returning: Devon Snickles and Gabe Faubert.

Wastewater Treatment Plant Back –up Operator – Matthew Crane has resigned. Taylor Munn is interested in filling in for that position.

Donation Appreciation Letter: The Village Improvement Society sent a card of appreciation for the Town's 2023 Donation to the organization.

QUESTIONS, COMMENTS OR CONCERNS FROM GUESTS AND STAFF:

There were no questions, comments or concerns.

MOTION TO ADJOURN REGULAR BOARD MEETING

Deputy Supervisor Karl Law made the Motion to adjourn the Regular Board Meeting. The Motion was seconded by Councilperson Sheridan Swinyer. The Regular Board Meeting adjourned at 8:48 pm.

I, Barbara J. Darrah, Town Clerk for the Town of St. Armand, do hereby certify that the above is a true and correct transcript of the Regular Board Meeting minutes held on the above-referenced date.

Dated: April 18, 2023

Barbara J. Darrah
St. Armand Town Clerk