

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING OF
THE TOWN BOARD OF THE TOWN OF NEW LEBANON
HELD ON SEPTEMBER 13, 2022**

Present: Tistrya Houghtling, Supervisor
Marianna Anthonisen, Councilmember
Britt Buckenroth, Councilmember
John Trainor, Councilmember

Absent: Deborah Gordon, Councilmember

Recording Secretary: Marsha “Marcie” Robertson, Town Clerk

Others Present: Peg Munves, CAC & BEDC Member
Mary Young, NL Rep to CC Office for the Aging & NL Rep
to CC Traffic Safety
Sharon Powers, IT Website Support & BEDC & QOL
Committee
Steve Powers, CAC Member & CSC Chair
Adelia Moore, CSC Member (7:28pm)
Members of the Public

CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order at 7:14pm by Supervisor Houghtling. The meeting was held in person at the New Lebanon Town Hall, 14755 State Route 22 North, New Lebanon, NY 12125 with members of the public also being able to view the meeting at the following link: https://townhallstreams.com/towns/new_lebanon_ny.

A moment of silence was held in remembrance of John Koepp followed by the flag salute. The emergency exits were pointed out.

MINUTES:

The minutes of the **July 26, 2022 Special Meeting, August 9, 2022 Public Hearing and August 9, 2022 Regular Meeting** were reviewed.

A motion was made by Supervisor Houghtling, seconded by Councilmember Anthonisen and approved unanimously with the exception of Councilmember Gordon who is absent to approve the minutes as typed.

FINANCIAL:

Supervisor’s Report:

The Supervisor’s Report as of August 31, 2022 was available to the public via the Town Clerk’s email and the Town website and the Town Board was emailed the Supervisor’s Report by Supervisor Houghtling.

A motion was made by Councilmember Trainor to accept the Supervisor’s report as typed. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Buckenroth.

Roll Call Vote:

Councilmember Buckenroth -	Aye
Councilmember Gordon -	Absent
Supervisor Houghtling -	Aye
Councilmember Trainor -	Aye
Councilmember Anthonisen-	Aye

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR:

In addition to an in-person privilege of the floor, Supervisor Houghtling will read all comments, questions and concerns emailed to supervisor@townofnewlebanon.com during the meeting. No one in person spoke and there were no emails received for the first POF.

BUDGET AMENDMENT #8 OF 2022:

Supervisor Houghtling stated that they had previously discussed the NY Main Street Grant Application fee of \$3,500 being paid out of ARPA funds, if the board still agrees that is part of this budget amendment.

Supervisor Houghtling stated that she received two budget amendment requests from Highway Superintendent Winestock moving \$1,500 into brush and weeds (miscellaneous) and \$20,000 into snow removal. She explained that part of the increase in expense is because we are no longer making our own sand at the Old Post Mine. She stated that he is spending about \$10,000 a month on sand, whereas before we were spending about \$3,000 a month through Joy Sherman. She stated that Highway Superintendent Winestock had requested to take the \$21,500 out of his highway unallocated funds, however this year we have already taken \$44,860 for the backhoe, \$38,250 for the truck engine and \$5,882 into machinery from his unallocated funds leaving him with less than \$200.00 in his unallocated funds. She stated that he does have money in his highway medical insurance budget line because they had budgeted for four full-time highway employees and their benefits. Supervisor Houghtling left Highway Superintendent Winestock a voicemail last Friday letting him know that he didn’t have enough money in his unallocated funds but he did have it in his medical insurance and that is where the budget amendment will come from unless he has a problem with that. She did not hear back from him.

General Fund:

- \$ 3,500.00 from A-04900 (Federal Aid - ARPA)
- \$ 3,500.00 to A-1010.4A (Town Board - ARPA)

Highway Fund:

\$ 21,500.00 from DA-9060.8 (Employee Benefits – Medical Insurance)
\$ 1,500.00 to DA-5140.4 (Brush & Weeds - Contractual)
\$ 20,00.00 to DA-5142.4 (Snow Removal - Contractual)

A motion was made by Supervisor Houghtling to approve the above noted budget amendment #8 of 2022 as typed. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Trainor.

Roll Call Vote:

Councilmember Buckenroth -	Aye
Councilmember Gordon -	Absent
Supervisor Houghtling -	Aye
Councilmember Trainor -	Aye
Councilmember Anthonisen-	Aye

AMENDMENT TO GENERAL ABSTRACT #8 – VOIDED PAYMENT:

Supervisor Houghtling stated that one of the Music in The Park artists was unable to come due to COVID, that check was held. Check #5412 in the amount of \$75.00 has been voided and abstract #8 has been amended.

A motion was made by Supervisor Houghtling to amend General Abstract #8 to the total amount of \$30,909.42 instead of the previous approved amount of \$30,984.42 by voiding check number 5412 in the amount of \$75.00. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Buckenroth.

Roll Call Vote:

Councilmember Buckenroth -	Aye
Councilmember Gordon -	Absent
Supervisor Houghtling -	Aye
Councilmember Trainor -	Aye
Councilmember Anthonisen-	Aye

AUDIT OF BILLS:

2022 Bills:

Highway No. 96, in the amount of \$1,340.42;
As listed on Abstract No. 8A dated September 13, 2022.

General Nos. 337 through 384, in the amount of \$90,191.94;
Highway Nos. 97 through 110, in the amount of \$79,093.51; and
Escrow No. 9, in the amount of \$200.00;
As listed on Abstract No. 9 dated September 13, 2022.

A motion was made by Supervisor Houghtling to pay the bills. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Anthonisen.

Roll Call Vote:

Councilmember Buckenroth -	Aye
Councilmember Gordon -	Absent
Supervisor Houghtling -	Aye
Councilmember Trainor -	Aye
Councilmember Anthonisen-	Aye

COMMITTEE/LIAISON REPORTS:

Assessor (Councilmember Gordon):

Town Clerk Robertson read the following report from the Assessor:

Summary of activities:

Finished production of "sales book" for residents to view inhouse when we hold informals in Feb.

Complete with photos, etc. I will continue to keep this current from now on as it is useful for all.

During production of this book, I was also verifying/validating the information which will be used for sales comps to produce new values in reassessment.

Created an excel query of all residential data to provide to the Consultant.

Worked with the consultant on land information used to produce land values.

Will be applying and reviewing new land values within a few days. I do this in bulk/by spreadsheet, in the database by bulk and then within the database individually.

I have been working with the Assessor Clerk, teaching her all that is involved when a new deed comes in. (Too much to explain.).

She has come a long way and is learning "the bigger picture". She is learning permit administration and finishing up other clerical work.

I have processed, mapping changes, including splits and merges and created new parcels based on the deeds and surveys. This is ongoing.

I was asked for an apportionment of one of these changes. This is when the owner requests the current assessment be divided for tax purposes. The information then goes to the tax collector.

Entered sales, address changes, etc.

The State finally gave me information and go ahead as to a conservation easement that happened back in 2020. This needed to be applied to prior Rolls and I had to get a "fix" to the database from the State.

We worked with the State concerning mismatched sales data between their records and the Towns records. We do this every year at this time.

I reviewed and interpreted the new legislation concerning the Low-income seniors and the low-income disabled exemption. I used that info to create a scenario for the supervisor to get a better understanding of what any changes would mean to other taxpayers. The County is also going to present a more in-depth presentation to the supervisors.

I also prepared for the 1 SCAR hearing that I will have to attend. Date still unknown.

I attended a day long class to keep up with continuing Ed. That class was Commercial valuation.

I started entering mismatched and missing 911 numbers as provided by emergency services. This is the first time we have gotten a listing of this type from them.

*Also, I have been doing road work, data and permit review.
There is more but it is all just "in a normal day" in the office.*

Building Department (Councilmember Buckenroth):

Councilmember Buckenroth stated no report at this time.

Business & Economic Development (Councilmember Gordon):

Monte Wasch, was absent, Supervisor Houghtling read Monte's report in his absence.

BEDC Report

- ARPA: Town Clerk has received a number of ARPA applications, and the BEDC has established a working group to assist applicants with strengthening their applications in order to be approved for funding. Reminder to businesses: you have until October 7, 2022 to apply for this program.

- Budget: BEDC has requested funding for two mailers in 2023, including an updated Business Directory, funds for distribution of the map/brochure.

- New York Forward application: A public meeting was held on September 10th, which was well-attended. Participants helped identify the Town's strengths and areas for improvement, and priorities for using NY Forward money should we receive the grant. Bob Gilson, principal grant-writer for this application deserves a round of applause for his selfless efforts, and also Sharon Powers who put the draft into an attractive presentation format.

- Infrastructure: the sub-committee continues to work with a consultant to locate funding for a feasibility study of wastewater treatment for the Town's business corridor.

Supervisor Houghtling added that when they created the application for the ARPA funding for businesses it was requested that the sub-committee did not get the tax return documents submitted with the application. The sub-committee now feels that this information is beneficial to them in their review process. They are asking the Town Board to amend this procedure.

A motion was made by Supervisor Houghtling, seconded by Councilmember Buckenroth and approved unanimously with the exception of Councilmember Gordon who is absent to authorize the Town Clerk to share with Monte Wasch, BEDC and Sub-Committee Chair all of the tax documents and the entire application with anything included and for Monte to have the discretion to then create a spreadsheet with relevant information to share with the rest of the sub-committee.

***CAC & Environmental Management & Climate Smart Task Force
(Councilmember Gordon):***

Peg Munves, CAC member reported the following:

Budget request from CAC/ for Water Monitoring Project

The CAC has a new Water Monitoring Subcommittee – Bill O'Neill and Donald Lamonaca are co-chairs with support from Tyler Fogg and Peg Munves as needed.

The CAC has been asked to work with Steve Winkley of NYRWA to create a plan to continue to monitor water in New Lebanon, and to come up with a 2023 budget and using ARPA funds. The number of \$30,000 for testing for 2023 would mean that we could test 28 homes for both general water testing AND PFAS using the newest methods.

With other items (submitted by CAC Chair David Farren) that the CAC is requesting, the 2023 CAC budget request will be \$31,054.00.

For \$30,000 the Town could pay for testing of roughly 28 households for PFAS compounds and basic water quality like what the NYSDOH did in 2021. That's 1065\$ for PFAS and \$265 for general testing.

Not everyone will need PFAS testing – that testing would be prioritized to those areas with potential sources. See the checklist of potential sources in separate attachment.

The committee has several things to still to work out with Steve Winkley and with the Town Board's input – maintaining confidentiality of those residents who will be tested – like we did with the 2021 NYSDOH testing, figuring out what to test for and where as well as how to do the testing. The committee also needs to research commercial and industrial uses of PFAS over the past 60 years in New Lebanon.

As volunteers, we are not sure if CAC members should be responsible for physically testing homeowner water. This would open us up to potential liability. Since it's key to know how our water is, The Town must get results of the sampling.

We support a reimbursable program. First, the Town would solicit the public for well testing. The CAC will work together with Steve Winkley to select from this pool of applicants. Landowners could be selected primarily based upon their location. These landowners would then be given laboratory information and sampling procedures. Once the results from this testing are made available to the Town and CAC, the Town would reimburse the landowners for the cost of the sampling using the ARPA funds.

Update on the Source Water Protection Plan; A plan to help mitigate the risk of water supply contamination and depletion presented by NYRWA's Steve Winkley:

On Sept 12 Steve shared an overview of the whole plan. A 4-year project, it is really good, in depth,

lots of new mapping and will be helpful. It's almost done – he will come and present to the Town Board we hope in October.

The plan essentially:

- Identifies drinking water resources, source water protection areas, and potential sources of contamination.

Defines priorities and protection strategies.

States implementation tasks, milestones and a timetable for achieving the plan goals.

Outlines process for periodically evaluating progress towards these goals.

The plan will also garner points for CSC and we will be working with CSC to address Climate Change, Inc. hazard mitigation and staying safe in both drought and flooding times. The CAC and Water monitoring committee will be eager to get input from the Town Board about priority of projects.

Peg Munves, CAC member presented the following to the Town Board on behalf of the CAC:

Town of New Lebanon Conservation Advisory Council (CAC)

Response and Recommendations to the Current Draft Shatford Park Improvement Plan

The Conservation Advisory Council (CAC) appreciates the opportunity to again comment on the final draft of the Shatford Park Improvement Plan (Plan). The CAC also appreciates the accommodations made to the Plan as a result of the first set of recommendations by the Town Board.

Concerning the current state of the Plan, the CAC again recommends that the proposed realigned road be sited to the north of the tennis courts, not to the south as currently shown in the Plan. There are several reasons for this recommendation.

First, the construction of a road between the tennis courts and the existing trees will cause damage to those trees. The tree's root systems would be substantially damaged by the grading and alignment of the road regardless of the surfacing of the road. The distance between the tennis court fence and the nearest tree is approximately 35 feet. Further, the traffic on such a road will cause compaction of the soil adding to the damage to the tree's root system. One or both of these conditions could cause the death of a substantial tree.

Accommodation of a 20-foot road in a 35-foot gap would also create a potential 'pinch point' between pedestrian and vehicular traffic, something the Plan seeks to avoid in other locations. From a recreational point of view, vehicles traveling close to the tennis courts may prove to be distracting to people using the courts. Also, the hill by the trees proves an area for sledding in the winter that would be affected by the potential pedestrian/traffic interface mentioned above.

The Plan as currently presented shows a path going around the north of the tennis courts. Given the potentially fatal construction hazards to the existing trees, the potential for unwanted

pedestrian/traffic interface, and disruption of existing recreational activities such as sledding, tennis and picnicking, the CAC recommends that the path be placed south of the tennis courts and the road to the north of the courts. Current vehicle traffic uses this route as more direct and safer route to the Pavilion area.

Recommendation

The CAC recommends the proposed road in the current draft of the Plan follow the existing traffic pattern north of the tennis courts. The CAC also recommends that the proposed path north of the courts be located to the south thereby preserving the existing trees and recreational uses of that area.

*Respectfully submitted, The Conservation Advisory Committee
Town of New Lebanon, NY.
September 13, 2022*

Steve Powers, CSC Chair reported the following:

The 4 bike racks that were approved at a previous Town Board meeting were ordered and should arrive tomorrow. Two will be set up in Shatford Park, one at Town Hall and one in the Midtown Mall.

The CSC needs to have a separate electric meter on the Town Garage in order to do accurate benchmarking reports. The electrician we got said it would be over \$10,000 to run a separate line there. However, he said he could put a sub-meter for the garage in the Town Hall basement that would only run \$650 and show what we needed for the garage use. I think that makes the most sense. We're asking the Board to approve the \$650 expense and since the CSC has requested it, the funding should come from the CSC grant monies already received.

A motion was made by Supervisor Houghtling authorizing the installment of a sub-meter not to exceed \$700.00. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Trainor.

Roll Call Vote:

Councilmember Buckenroth -	Aye
Councilmember Gordon -	Absent
Supervisor Houghtling -	Aye
Councilmember Trainor -	Aye
Councilmember Anthonisen-	Aye

Today, Tistrya and I had a call with NYSEERDA to come up with a way for them to cover the costs of Heat Pumps for all of Town Hall. They proposed a method that we could achieve this in two steps. If we install heat pumps for 51% of Town Hall that will qualify us for the 700 points in their clean energy Communities program that will get us to the 5000-point level which gets us \$70,000 in grant money. So, we are asking the Board to approve the CSC embarking on a CLEAN HEATING AND COOLING DEMO Program which is NYSEERDA's name for installing heat pumps in town buildings. This is the first step in the project.

A motion was made by Supervisor Houghtling, seconded by Councilmember Buckenroth and approved unanimously with the exception of Councilmember Gordon who is absent authorizing the CSC to embark on a Clean Heating and Demo Program.

In addition, we'd like to ask that the Board approve advancing the \$30,000 for heat pump installation that NYSERDA has already approved for reimbursement to New Lebanon for energy related projects. This is subject to NYSERDA confirming the 51% figure.

Last Friday, the CSC was invited to speak about the NL experience to a conference in Syracuse called Locally Sourced: Municipal Green Policy Solutions. They wanted to Highlight successful projects and practices that have addressed sustainability at the local level. I was joined by Rebecca Brenner from Cornell and CSC adviser Marc Anthonisen. We were one of the few presentations that gave a local perspective and were well received.

The CSC has approved Cathy Wilkerson & Kris Cottom are attending a composting conference over the next few weeks to see how we can expand in New Lebanon.

This Saturday, Sept 17, CSC members will participate in another Repair Café in East Nassau at the Firehouse from 10am-2pm. We encourage everyone to bring their broken items that need mending instead of throwing them away.

Reminder- Town Cleanup Day is Sept 24th 8-2pm and the CSC is sponsoring the electronics recycling.

The bike program continues to see a lot of donations and requests for bikes that are being handled by our team. THANK YOU

Bruce Shenker, Environmental Management is absent, Supervisor Houghtling read his report in his absence:

I do not have anything big to report except we are working on a county wide roundtable for CAC and Climate Smart Community members. It will be a sharing session with many accomplishments entered into Hudson Valley Climate Action Network (hvcan.org) resources website. We are hoping to hold it at Basilica Hudson on October 20 at 530 but that still needs to be confirmed.

Fire, Law Enforcement & Emergency (Councilmember Trainor):

Councilmember Trainor reported that for August, the LVPA had 91 people put in 141 plus hours, 7 alarm activations, wires down, 2 drills, special detail and the town picnic.

Highway (Superintendent Winestock & Councilmember Trainor):

Councilmember Trainor reported that he has not been made aware of any complaints at this time and the staff seems to be working well.

Historian & LVHS: (Councilmember Trainor):

Historian:

Councilmember Trainor stated that the Historian is taking a short break.

LVHS:

Councilmember Trainor reported that the LVHS has had three successful programs. There is an upcoming presentation on September 18th at 2:00pm, Glen Fisher and Jeannine Tonetti are presenting a program on Louis Bouche an artist who drew a well-known picture, the original is at the Smithsonian. At the end of October, Mary Young and Bitsy Sheffer-Winig are going to do a program at the Church of Our Savior on the stained-glass window. On November 14th the membership meeting will be held at the Hall at the Church of the Immaculate Conception.

Justice Court/Constable (Councilmember Anthonisen):

Councilmember Anthonisen stated no report at this time.

Library (Councilmember Buckenroth):

Councilmember Buckenroth reported the following from the NL Library:

- *We had a very busy Summer Reading Program, with 65 participants registered:*
 - *51 children, who read a total of 27,298 minutes*
 - *8 teens who read a total of 108 books. This is the highest teen participation we've seen in many years!*
 - *6 adults, who read a total of 39 books*
- *Movie Nights are returning this month! Both will be shown in our Program Room, and are free and open to the public:*
 - *Family Movie Night on Friday, Sept. 23rd at 6:30 PM: "Minions: The Rise of Gru"*
 - *Community Film Night on Thursday, Sept. 29th at 6:30 PM: "Seed: The Untold Story"*

Buildings, Parks & Recreation (Councilmember Buckenroth):

Councilmember Buckenroth reported the following from Abbie Shoobs, Recreation Commission Chair:

Rail Trail walks:

The first one had about 12 attendees, it was a morning walk at 8:30AM on 8/26.

The second is scheduled for 9/27 at 5:30PM, meeting at the pavilion.

The third will be in October, date tbd, a walk at the new Sassafras/Shaker Museum on Darrow Road.

We're having a newcomer's event at the library, planned for 10/21 5-7PM, with a second event in the spring - date tbd.

Please mention to the board that they're invited too.

*We're working on an outdoor movie showing with the library.
(We asked for our own license next year as part of our 2023 budget.)
It is planned for 10/28, in the early evening. The movie will be "The Addams Family".*

Also upcoming, the ice rink will open the beginning of December, pending cold weather. We'll be serving hot chocolate; we hope to have one of the town non-profits do fundraising snack sales at the same time.

Update on Community Education Program with NLCSD

Michelle Bienes and I just met with Andrew Kourt and we are finalizing details. Making sure insurance is in place and what procedures need to be followed for programs to begin. There will be a website soon and more information to follow. The community can look forward to having access to the pool and facilities at both the elementary and Jr/Sr high schools.

Councilmember Buckenroth reported that the picnic tables in the park along the Route 22 area are dilapidated. She received the following quotes: Uline Company \$4,124.47 and TreeTop Products \$4,038.33.

Supervisor Houghtling stated for the CAC members, these are hexagon shaped recycled plastic picnic tables and are supposed to hold up better than wood.

A motion was made by Councilmember Buckenroth to approve the purchase of three picnic tables from TreeTop Products for a total of \$4,038.33. The motion was seconded by Supervisor Houghtling.

Roll Call Vote:

Councilmember Buckenroth -	Aye
Councilmember Gordon -	Absent
Supervisor Houghtling -	Aye
Councilmember Trainor -	Aye
Councilmember Anthonisen-	Aye

Supervisor Houghtling added that they met with Donnie Sears, Park Maintenance Supervisor and discussed the pavilion roof. They did budget for painting the sealant on the roof of the pavilion. She stated that it doesn't need a new roof, the current roof needs to be seal coated and he is going to work with previous Councilmember Newton to get the seal coating and get it done this coming fall.

Seniors (Councilmember Gordon):

Mary Young reported the following:

Columbia County Office of the Aging held a picnic for any Senior who wanted to come on 9/8/22 at the Stuyvesant VFW. There was food, music, and vendors for seniors to enjoy. Flu vaccine for 2022 and the Covid vaccines including the newest one was available.

I brought some material for Marcie to add to the Senior section pamphlet rack.

One on Palatine Manor, which is a Senior living in Germantown for Seniors who do not want to live alone, it has age and income eligibility.

The Yellow dot program sponsored by the County Sheriff's office is free for anyone. This program has you fill out a form with information EMS or the Sheriff might need if you are in an emergency. You place a yellow dot on the car window or on the refrigerator in your home and the form in your glove compartment or refrigerator in plastic bag and then emergency personnel will know to look for this information. Contact them at www.nysheriffs.org/yellowdot

A new program sponsored by Habitat for Humanity called Habitat Helping Hands. This program assists seniors and low-income homeowners with repairs to their home such as minor plumbing repairs or adding grab bars, ramps, minor outside repairs. The group is also looking for people who may wish to help these homeowners. Contact them at 518-828-0892 or www.columbiacountyhabitat.org or helpinghands@columbiacountyhabitat.org

The Senior reps had a table of information at the Community Picnic and met with the Meals on Wheels drivers. If anyone is interested in driving for Meals on Wheels there are openings, contact the Office of the Aging to be put in contact with the New Lebanon leader.

Seniors should check the Office of the Aging Web site for programs what will become available to assist with fall home projects and trips and educational programs as well as Heap and other weatherization programs.

The New Lebanon Seniors put an event article in the Eastwick press weekly.

Volunteers (Councilmember Anthonisen):

Councilmember Anthonisen reported that she would like to have conversation on adding a budget line for volunteers and she is working with Councilmember Buckenroth to send out a survey to the volunteer list in an attempt to put together an informational book on who the volunteers are in town.

Supervisor Houghtling requested that she email her what she is looking for and how much so it can be included into the tentative budget.

If anyone is interested in volunteering, please contact Councilmember Anthonisen at: manthonisen@townofnewlebanon.com.

Traffic Safety (Mary Young):

Mary Young stated nothing to report at this time.

Comparison Committee (Councilmember Anthonisen & Supervisor Houghtling):

Supervisor Houghtling reported that she and Councilmember Anthonisen are meeting this Friday to start discussion on the Supervisor and Town Clerk offices.

Quality of Life Committee (Councilmember Anthonisen, Councilmember Buckenroth & Supervisor Houghtling):

Councilmember Anthonisen reported that they are working on looking into affordable and senior housing options, getting a feasibility study of the health and wellness needs of the town residents completed and looking into ARPA funds to help create health and wellness programs in town.

Comprehensive Plan Action Item Update (Supervisor Houghtling):

Supervisor Houghtling went over the action item progress in detail and stated that at next month's meeting the board can update the dates to be completed by based on follow-up with the committees tasked with the action items.

County Update (Supervisor Houghtling):

Supervisor Houghtling stated that there isn't much to report at this time.

OLD BUSINESS:

Skatepark:

Supervisor Houghtling reported that they were estimating \$60-80K for the skatepark slab/multi-use court, the quote came in at \$111,000. The Town Board voted, three against two to be committed to getting this wooden skatepark up. We have spent \$7,000 on engineered plans. She stated that the board held a special meeting because the position of one of the board members had changed from when they voted to spend the money to not. Supervisor Houghtling stated that she wanted to make sure they weren't going to waste \$7,000 on something that they weren't going to follow through with. She stated that they did get three Town Board members who committed to seeing the project through but this was when the board thought the cost was going to be about \$60,000, it has now doubled.

Supervisor Houghtling stated that now that they know what the cost of the slab is, if the board decides to move forward, she would like to budget for it in 2023's budget and get the skatepark moved and wrapped in shrink wrap so that they don't deteriorate further.

Prior Councilmember Newton has volunteers and they are ready to proceed, he estimates about \$1,500 for equipment rental and materials. Supervisor Houghtling stated that before they make any motions and include the skatepark in the upcoming tentative budget, she wanted to check back in with the board to get thoughts. She stated that Councilmember Gordon is absent but she knows that she would be a no vote.

Councilmember Buckenroth stated that she doesn't think they should move forward with the wooden skatepark, she thinks it is dangerous and not cost effective to re-assemble without professional engineers. She stated that she is in favor of the multi-use concrete slab. She would like to pursue a permanent cement skatepark as well.

Councilmember Trainor stated that he is of the same opinion.

The Town Board held further discussion regarding the skatepark.

Councilmember Buckenroth stated that per our town attorney the wooden skatepark is a town asset and the town would need to have the value assessed if the town decides to get rid of the wooden skatepark.

Supervisor Houghtling asked that even though the town got the skatepark for free, the attorney said the town would have to sell it to get rid of it.

Councilmember Buckenroth read to the board what the town attorney wrote her, that the town will need to determine if the skatepark has value based on some estimate received from a knowledgeable person. The attorney wrote, if an audit is conducted or the transaction is questioned by the Comptroller's office it will assess if the town acted reasonably in determining the value and may render its own conclusion of value. She stated that they need to keep in mind that the Comptroller could audit the town and make a decision on that.

Supervisor Houghtling stated that after the town was given the skatepark for free she doesn't think that it is right for the town to turn around and sell it for a profit. It doesn't seem very moral. Supervisor Houghtling stated that the skate lite product is very expensive and we do have extra of it that has not been sitting outside.

Councilmember Anthonisen stated that she agrees that the multi-use concrete slab would be an asset to the park and is all for it. She stated that it is great that the skatepark was donated to the town but it was used as an indoor skatepark that has been sitting outside and the underpart really rotting and looks unsafe to her. She stated that she is also uncomfortable with volunteers reassembling the skatepark. She agreed that it feels bad to have something donated, not be able to use it and to have to sell it. She stated that if they are going to put the Master Park Plan together, she wants to do it well. She stated that she has too many questions, she would vote yes to the concrete slab and no to the skatepark. Supervisor Houghtling responded that if they are going to put the concrete slab in anyway and they have come this far, can they spend \$1,500 to store the skatepark for the winter and get the answers that the board is looking for.

Further discussion took place among the board members and they agreed that Supervisor Houghtling will budget for the concrete slab, reach out to skate companies for information and advice on the skatepark itself and go from there.

Employee Evaluation Process & Form Update:

Supervisor Houghtling thanked Councilmember Buckenroth who updated and simplified the evaluation form and the performance appraisal.

A motion was made by Supervisor Houghtling, seconded by Councilmember Buckenroth and approved unanimously with the exception of Councilmember Gordon who is absent to re-adopt the new edited Performance Evaluation Form and the new edited Performance Appraisal PowerPoint presentation.

Walkable Downtown:

Supervisor Houghtling stated that she and Tony Murad have a date set in October to meet with DOT to discuss what is and isn't allowed.

Recreation Commission Resignation & Letters of Interest:

Supervisor Houghtling stated there was one vacancy on the Recreation Commission, went out for letters of interest. We have since received a second resignation and they received two letters of interest.

A motion was made by Supervisor Houghtling, seconded by Councilmember Trainor and approved unanimously with the exception of Councilmember Gordon who is absent to accept the resignation from Katherine Levitan from the Recreation Commission.

A motion was made by Supervisor Houghtling, seconded by Councilmember Trainor and approved unanimously with the exception of Councilmember Gordon who is absent to appoint Shelley Hurst to the vacancy expiring 12/31/2023 and Shantel Schonour for the vacancy expiring 12/31/2026.

Master Park Plan Adoption:

Supervisor Houghtling stated as Peg Munves indicated in her CAC report, they met with the engineer and went over the document that was presented to the Town Board last month with all of the requested edits and concerns expressed by the CAC. We incorporated all of the feedback with the exception of the road around the tennis courts, however we verified with the engineers that the trees & sledding hill will remain, which was the CAC concern.

Councilmember Buckenroth read the following email from Councilmember Gordon in her absence:

1. Park Master Plan

I worked for NYS Parks for 30 years. I have reviewed and participated in the drafting of many Master Plans. Just pointing out that I have some experience in this arena.

As Supervisor, Tistrya has done something that, to my knowledge, no other Supervisor (perhaps since Katzenstein?) has even attempted to do: actually, pursue the goals identified in the Town's Comprehensive Plan (CP). She deserves a huge amount of credit for this.

But where Shatford Park is concerned, she has preferred, without discussion, to promote her own agenda for the park over the recommendations of the CP. And the Board has followed. It is disappointing, to say the least, to those of us who volunteered for two years to update the plan, to have it so casually passed over when it was useful to do so. More importantly, it sends a terrible message to the town's other boards. If the Town Board can ignore the CP when it suits us, why can't the Planning Board or the ZBA do the same?

One of the things I was looking for when I read the Master Plan (MP) was some evidence that the consultant was aware of the contents of our CP. I found none. The above probably explains why. The CP reiterates time and time again that we are a rural community, ag-based, and we are proud of it and we want it to remain that way. If the consultant had realized that, they could presumably have designed a park that would incorporate the desired new amenities without changing the whole nature of the park. But instead, they designed a park for a wealthy suburb. Nothing in any of the many surveys, focus groups, community conversations that have taken place over the past few years suggests that that is the direction our residents care to go in.

Along this line I would also like to point out that the Board's conversations about the park have revolved almost entirely around young people, and how to make the park more attractive to them. They are of course important, but they are not our only constituents, not the only age group that might use the park more often if we made it more attractive to them. Five residents who fall into the Sr Citizen category took the time and made the effort to attend Board meetings on the subject of the park. Their comments fell largely on deaf ears and are not reflected in the plan as far as I can tell. What do they need to do to be taken seriously?

As for the specific contents of the report:

*In reading the report, I was also looking for the rationales offered for the changes to circulation and for the many formal parking areas. On page 37 they state: "The improvements recommended in the Master Plan include Park enhancements community members **rated the highest through the online Park Survey.**" Maybe "include" is the operative word here because the roadways are not even mentioned in the survey, and parking was not a high priority at all. No explanation is given for the highly disruptive and expensive rerouting of the road, and the only rationale offered for the many formal parking areas is "safety." In my experience, unless supported by evidence, the "safety" argument is the argument you use when you don't have an argument. Parking on the grass is unsafe? Does Tanglewood know that? Does the Columbia County Fair know that? It may make city people uncomfortable, but in the country, it is considered normal.*

It is interesting that one of the few places in the MP where the subject of safety does not come up in the parts that deal with the skate park, easily the most dangerous amenity being contemplated for the park.

Regarding the splash pad: After complimenting us for having this amenity, the consultant goes on to say (p.39): "An existing splash pad...(has)...no pedestrian pathway leading to it and no designated parking in that area. Due to its location and lack of parking, accessibility to the splash pad is an issue and it remains underused."

*What to say. Maybe the problem is not lack of adequate parking but lack of **water**?*

Page 42: New Trees. Suggest adding Tulip Poplar to the list. T4T has planted some. They are tall and beautiful and are particularly well suited to the high-water table in the park. And a bit unusual, compared to oaks and maples.

Bank Stabilization: I do not understand the fixation on this. Unless erosion is threatening some valuable feature (like the tennis court for instance), let it go. Moving water drags stuff along with it, whether we like it or not. Our ability to control nature is limited. You can prevent erosion in one location by barricading the bank, but you sacrifice the natural look and feel of the stream, and the erosion will simply continue at a different location. Unless we have a specific problem, what is the point?

Councilmember Buckenroth addressed the following points in Councilmember Gordon's email:

The issue with it being a suburban park vs. a rural one. Councilmember Buckenroth stated that she doesn't think that the park that they are suggesting takes away from our rural small-town character. She stated that she felt really bad about the five people that came to a meeting and it was implied that the board didn't care about what they had to say. Councilmember Buckenroth stated that she never knew what small town government looked like before being elected to the Town Board and she sees that the people attending the meetings and filling out these surveys are not representing our young people. She stated that the first project in the park impacts older residents and anyone with disabilities or mobility issues, so to say the only thing that the board is thinking about is the youth she feels is inaccurate. She also commented that who will be here when the older generations move on and how many things in the town are specifically for young people, except for the schools there isn't anywhere cool to take kids to do things in New Lebanon. She also stated that she thinks the park is a great way to attract families, more young people and more business to our town.

Councilmember Buckenroth commented, in regard to the bank stabilization comment in the email, the CAC has reported that this should be a priority so really didn't have a response. Councilmember Buckenroth responded to the comments regarding parking on the grass by saying that Tanglewood and the fairgrounds have acres of land to park on and we only have a small area that can be dangerous when the park is busy with rentals, summer camp or events.

Councilmember Buckenroth stated that at the end of the day, she stands by this park plan. She thinks that it addresses so many things that will be beneficial to the community.

Supervisor Houghtling addressed the following points in Councilmember Gordon's email:

Supervisor Houghtling stated that the comment where Shatford Park is concerned; *"she has preferred, without discussion, to promote her own agenda for the park over the recommendations of the CP"*, she is taken aback by that comment, they have had a lot of discussion, public input and community sessions, CAC feedback and it is actually not her

agenda, it is what she ran on when she ran for Town Supervisor both times. She stated that she ran on a skatepark, community center and expanding things for our youth, she stated that this is not her agenda, it is the agenda of the people that overwhelmingly elected her. She stated that she also has two colleagues on the Town Board that also ran on a skatepark, community center and things for our young people. She pointed out that they received more respondents for the survey for the Master Park Plan than they did for the Comprehensive Plan. She believes a large reason for that is that Councilmember Buckenroth has a connection to our young people and their families. She stated that it is not her personal agenda, it is the agenda that she ran on and she is going to continue to fight for the things that she said she was going to fight for in New Lebanon.

Supervisor Houghtling stated that she would like to hear from Councilmember Gordon as to what in the Comprehensive Plan is being ignored by doing a Master Park Plan and expanding our park. The Comprehensive Plan talks a lot about parks and recreation.

Supervisor Houghtling stated that she wanted to address the comment regarding the five senior citizen residents that felt unheard. She stated that she feels badly that they felt that way. She stated that the comments that she recalls were that they don't want the town to do the skatepark and she stated that she ran on a skatepark, she is invested in our young people.

Adelia Moore stated that she appreciated that the board listened to the advice of the CAC. She would like to discuss the parking in more detail, she thinks it is excessive. She stated that she was appalled at the costs of some of the projects in the plan. She stated that she has concern for the life of the trees in the park with the amount of paving in the plan that is to take place.

Supervisor Houghtling responded that it will not be a paved road. She stated that the park plan is a living breathing document that can be edited.

Discussion took place regarding the splash pad.

A motion was made by Councilmember Buckenroth, seconded by Supervisor Houghtling and approved unanimously with the exception of Councilmember Gordon who is absent to adopt the Master Park Plan.

Letters of Interest for Shaker Preservation Committee:

Supervisor Houghtling stated we received two letters of interest to join the Shaker Preservation Committee and Town Clerk Robertson reached out to the committee to see if they are welcoming new members, they are.

A motion was made by Supervisor Houghtling, seconded by Councilmember Trainor and approved unanimously with the exception of Councilmember Gordon who is absent to appoint Stephen Pause and John Dax to the Shaker Preservation Committee.

Fund Balance & Reserve Accounts:

Supervisor Houghtling stated as a follow-up to the last Special Meeting, our Fund Balance is the same as it was when she last sent it out. She stated we currently have approximately \$823,000, plus ARPA funds and a small amount in highway fund. The town accountant's best guess estimate at this point is that we will have about \$200,000 at the end of the year. The funds for the splash pad and the kitchen might be encumbered, there is a way to bring money from one year's budget to the next instead of putting it back in unallocated and then pulling it in. She stated that right now they are looking at about \$400,000 that they want to put into capital reserve accounts. Once those accounts are set up and they know what the carryover is, they can add it in to get to the \$440,000 and put the rest out.

Supervisor Houghtling reported that she did get answers to questions from the town attorney that the town board had after the last meeting. She stated their goal is to be as generic as possible in naming and designated the accounts to be set up.

Supervisor Houghtling reviewed all of the information received from the town attorney for the rest of the Town Board. The board held discussion on the accounts to be set up and the amounts to go into them. All decided to start out with \$300,000 in Facilities, \$85,000 in Equipment and \$15,000 in Retirement for spikes. She stated that the board isn't voting tonight, they are sending this information to the attorney and he will prepare the resolutions for the October meeting.

NY Forward Grant Application:

Supervisor Houghtling reviewed the resolution with the board.

TOWN OF NEW LEBANON

RESOLUTION #33, 2022

AUTHORIZATION TO SUBMIT AN APPLICATION FOR A NY FORWARD GRANT

SEPTEMBER 13, 2022

At the Regular Meeting of the New Lebanon Town Board, held at the New Lebanon Town Hall, 14755 NYS Route 22, New Lebanon, New York, duly called and held on the 13th day of September 2022, the following Resolution was proposed and seconded:

Resolution by Supervisor Houghtling

Seconded by Councilmember Trainor

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE SUBMISSION OF AN APPLICATION FOR FUNDING THROUGH A NY FORWARD GRANT

WHEREAS, the Town of New Lebanon has determined it is in the best interests of the community that the Town in concert with its residents and local and regional stakeholders revitalize our downtown through a number of transformative projects; and

WHEREAS, New York State has allocated \$100 million in funding to assist communities in implementing transformative projects that revitalize their downtown; and

WHEREAS, the Town of New Lebanon has determined that it is desirable and in the public interest to undertake the necessary activities for the submittal of an application under the NY Forward Grant program; and

WHEREAS, the NY Forward Grant could provide funding to the Town of New Lebanon in the amount of \$2.25 million or \$4.5 million; and

WHEREAS, if awarded, the Town of New Lebanon will be required to establish a Local Planning Committee who will work with a consultant and a NYS Project Manager through a targeted six-month planning process focused on the development of a Strategic Investment Plan; and

WHEREAS, the Strategic Investment Plan will define the community's vision, goals, and strategies for revitalizing our downtown while identifying a suite of complementary and transformative projects, which will be submitted to the State for review and selection for funding;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Supervisor is authorized to submit an application for a NY Forward Grant and to execute all documents necessary for the implementation of this work relating to the financial and/or administrative processes of the grant program; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Town of New Lebanon has committed to working with local and regional stakeholders to identify and obtain the additional funding necessary to carry out these projects; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, to the extent any or all actions hereby authorized have been executed and/or performed by the Supervisor all are hereby ratified and confirmed and this Resolution takes effect immediately.

Upon the question of the foregoing Resolution, the following Town Board Members voted "Aye" or "Nay" for said Resolution:

Roll Call Vote:

Councilmember Britt Buckenroth	Aye
Councilmember Deborah Gordon	Absent
Supervisor Tistrya Houghtling	Aye
Councilmember John Trainor	Aye
Councilmember Marianna Anthonisen	Aye

The Resolution, having been approved by a majority vote of the Town Board, was declared duly adopted by the Supervisor of the Town of New Lebanon.

Dated: September 13, 2022

Marcie Robertson, New Lebanon Town Clerk

Councilmember Buckenroth read Councilmember Gordon's email into the record in her absence:

NY Forward

I'm running out of steam here. First of all, I think the idea is thrilling! One of the things that has always puzzled and frustrated me about our fair town is its adamant refusal to invest in itself in any meaningful way. This is a gigantic leap forward, and Bob has done an unbelievable job of pulling a rabbit out of a hat on very short order.

I wonder how much flexibility is built into the grant because although I think the general thrust of the grant is appropriate, I think many of the details can be and should be improved upon. One month is simply not enough time to thoughtfully consider all our options for such a large project. Nobody's fault. There's only 24 hours in a day.

I don't doubt that the board will pass this, but I would recommend using the application as the basis for a conversation about optimizing our options (?) for this game-changing adventure. Apply next year.

P.S. Regarding the waste water survey: There are 33 landowners on the 20/22 corridor. 19 wanted the town to pursue a waste water feasibility study, 2 were opposed and the others either had no opinion or couldn't be reached.

Supervisor Houghtling stated this is a very hard grant to receive. If we don't receive the grant, Bob Gilson has stated that he would like to start next year's application and begin working on it. The state will give feedback if we don't get awarded the grant and that will be helpful.

EV Charging Station Plowing/Snow Removal:

Supervisor Houghtling stated we went out for bids last year and didn't receive any. She spoke to a local plow person, they said because it is not paved and its loose gravel, plowing is really difficult without damaging the parking spots.

Supervisor Houghtling will talk to the Lebanon Springs Excavating and get their recommendations.

NEW BUSINESS:

Change Time of Regular Monthly Meetings:

Supervisor Houghtling stated that she would like to propose that we start at 6pm instead of 7pm since our meetings tend to go so long.

A motion was made by Supervisor Houghtling, seconded by Councilmember Anthonisen and approved unanimously with the exception of Councilmember Gordon who is absent to

change Regular Town Board Meetings to 6:00pm and have the Town Clerk advertise as such.

Set Budget Workshop Dates:

Supervisor Houghtling stated she has to have the tentative budget to the Town Clerk by September 30th and the Town Clerk has to get it to the Town Board by October 5th. We have to have the public hearing on or before the Thursday immediately following the general election on November 8th. By November 10th, we have to have the public hearing and then adopt the budget. The Town Board held discussion and scheduled the budget workshops as follows:

Tuesday, October 4th, 2022 @ 4:30pm,
Friday, October 7th, 2022 @ 3:00pm,
Tuesday, October 11th, 2022 @ 4:00pm &
Monday, October 17th, 2022 @ 3:30pm.

Resolution to Develop a Vulnerability Assessment & Climate Adaption Plan

Supervisor Houghtling stated the County is working with CDRPC to develop a vulnerability assessment & climate adaptation plan and has invited each town to also work with them to create one at no charge to the town specific to New Lebanon.

TOWN OF NEW LEBANON

RESOLUTION #34, 2022

**AUTHORIZATION FOR THE TOWN OF NEW LEBANON TO ACCEPT
TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE BEING OFFERD BY CDRPC TO DEVELOP
AVULNERABILITY ASSESSMENT AND CLIMATE ADAPTATION PLAN
SEPTEMBER 13, 2022**

At a regular meeting of the New Lebanon Town Board, held on the 13th day of September 2022, the following Resolution was proposed and seconded:

Resolution by Supervisor Houghtling
Seconded by Councilmember Trainor

WHEREAS, the **TOWN OF NEW LEBANON** pledged to take part in the NYS DEC Climate Smart Communities Certification Program that may include preparation of a Vulnerability Assessment and Climate Adaptation Plan; and

WHEREAS, free technical assistance is available to support the development of these documents (PE7 Action: Climate Vulnerability Assessment and PE7 Action: Climate Adaptation Plan) from Cornell Cooperative Extension on behalf of the Capital District Regional Planning Commission (CDRPC) through a NYS DEC Climate Smart Communities Coordinator Services contract; and

WHEREAS, The Columbia County Board of Supervisors adopted resolution 347-2022 on August 11, 2022 to accept this technical assistance for a county plan; and

WHEREAS, the County CSC Coordinator in collaboration with Columbia County Climate Smart Communities Task Force will provide an opportunity to every municipality in the county to formally participate in the planning to create efficiencies, reduce redundancies, and increase coordination across the County; and

WHEREAS, the **TOWN OF NEW LEBANON** will appoint a task force and lead for the Climate Adaptation Process; and

WHEREAS, the municipality will provide an opportunity for public input and comment on the draft report; and

WHEREAS, the **TOWN OF NEW LEBANON** task force will present a summary of the vulnerability results and adaptation plan to the Town Board for consideration of adoption;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board hereby undertake the Vulnerability Assessment and Climate Adaptation Plan; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Municipal Board authorizes submission of these documents to the NYS DEC Office for Climate Change for consideration of points toward Climate Smart Communities certification for the **TOWN OF NEW LEBANON**.

Upon the question of the foregoing Resolution, the following Town Board Members voted “Aye” or “Nay” for said Resolution:

Roll Call Vote:

Councilmember John Trainor	Aye
Councilmember Deborah Gordon	Absent
Supervisor Tistrya Houghtling	Aye
Councilmember Marianna Anthonisen	Aye
Councilmember Britt Buckenroth	Aye

The Resolution, having been *approved* by a majority vote of the Town Board, was declared *duly adopted* by the Supervisor of the Town of New Lebanon.

CERTIFICATION

I, Marcie Robertson, hereby certify that I am the MUNICIPAL CLERK for the Town of New Lebanon in said County of Columbia, and do hereby certify the above is a true copy of the RESOLUTION TO UNDERTAKE THE **TOWN OF NEW LEBANON VULNERABILITY ASSESSMENT AND CLIMATE ADAPTATION PLAN**. I further certify the record is located at 14755 NY-22, New

Lebanon, NY 12125. I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the seal of said municipality this September 13, 2022

Dated: September 13, 2022

Marcie Robertson, Town Clerk Town of New Lebanon

Pavilion Refund Request:

Supervisor Houghtling stated we had a request to refund \$50 for a pavilion rental on 8/28/2022 that couldn't happen because of COVID. The board agreed to refund the money to the renter.

A motion was made by Supervisor Houghtling to refund \$50.00 to Beth LaGrange for the pavilion rental on 8/28/2022 that did not happen. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Trainor.

Roll Call Vote:

Councilmember Buckenroth -	Aye
Councilmember Gordon -	Absent
Supervisor Houghtling -	Aye
Councilmember Trainor -	Aye
Councilmember Anthonisen-	Aye

Highway Screener – Declare Surplus & Go Out to Bid:

Supervisor Houghtling stated that we have a 2002 Rawson Screen 3830 that we purchased from Chatham Highway Department in 2014 for \$40,000. Highway Superintendent Winestock wants to go out to bid to sell the screener, starting with noticing the paper and he will notify neighboring towns to see if any interest. If that doesn't work, we can go to Auctions International.

A motion was made by Supervisor Houghtling, seconded by Councilmember Buckenroth and approved unanimously with the exception of Councilmember Gordon who is absent to declare the 2002 Rawson Screener as surplus and to go out to bid with bids due by 4:00pm on October 7th, 2022 and authorizing the Town Clerk to advertise.

Highway Truck Request:

Supervisor Houghtling stated we budgeted for two new payments on highway trucks and equipment, she did that because that is how the budget has always been done. She stated moving forward she is hoping to put those payments into the reserve account and be able to purchase outright. The backhoe took one of those payments, she would like to not start with a new payment because they are looking to start the reserve accounts. That said, Highway Superintendent Winestock is requesting a current replacement of one of his small trucks. She stated that the money is in the budget for that but if we enter into a bond situation, they will end up not having the \$20,000 each year to put into a capital reserve

account. The one he is looking to replace is a 2011 Ford F550 dump truck. Supervisor Houghtling stated that she did ask Highway Superintendent Winestock to get her the mileage on the 2011, he called her office today and he has two 2011 trucks, one has 85,000 miles and one has 55,000 miles. He wants to replace the one with 55,000 miles because the bed is rotting out. The truck is the same make and model but the bed is made by Zwack and they used a different material. She stated that they don't have any NY State bids so this can't be approved tonight but the Highway Superintendent wanted the board to discuss this.

Supervisor Houghtling stated that her thought is that these beds are built by Zwack and they attach them to the trucks, if it's not that difficult, to swap the beds out. Put the rotting bed onto the truck with 85,000 miles truck and put the good bed on the 55,000-mile truck and get rid of the higher mileage truck with the rotting bed. Supervisor Houghtling tasked Councilmember Trainor to communicate with Highway Superintendent Winestock to get a price quote via NY State Contract and see what he thinks of the idea of swapping out the beds.

Approve Medical Insurance Plans for 12/1/2022 – 11/30/2023:

Supervisor Houghtling stated that she and Councilmember Anthonisen worked together with the insurance broker and they decide to stay with the current medical and dental plans that we currently offer. The costs are increasing slightly, it wasn't a large enough increase to look into decreasing coverage. She stated they are looking at an optional vision coverage that would be 100% employee paid.

A motion was made by Councilmember Trainor, seconded by Councilmember Buckenroth and approved unanimously with the exception of Councilmember Gordon who is absent to approve the three medical plans and the dental plan as provided and submit to the insurance broker.

Pavilion Kitchen Renovations:

Supervisor Houghtling stated as they were going over the park budget for 2023, she realized that we budgeted \$40,000 to renovate the pavilion kitchen this year. She reached out to LaBerge to see if they can provide a ballpark of what engineered plans would cost so that they can motion tonight, they estimate around \$11,000 for the plans and they are booked and cannot provide anything official until the beginning of the year.

Discussion was held about the cost of these engineers and how expensive they are. Supervisor Houghtling reached out to other towns to see who they use and they use the same firms that we do, we were just spoiled by our prior engineer and his low costs. Further discussion was held to brainstorm other ways to possibly get kitchen renovation plans done. Mary Young suggested someone like the Kitchen Architects, Curtiss Lumber to see if this is a service they can offer. Supervisor Houghtling will look into this further.

Fuel Assistance Program:

Supervisor Houghtling stated a resident reached out with an idea - with fuel prices up so high, they know of a few residents who don't qualify for HEAP (over by a slight amount), but are going to have a hard time heating their house this winter, do we want to consider some ARPA funds or other funds to have a fuel program and encourage residents to apply, then if they qualify for HEAP help them apply for it, but if they are just over that qualification but need help, help them get fuel? Supervisor Houghtling has also had talks with a local organization who may be able to help and could do a donation fund directly through the fuel providers instead of, or in addition to, using ARPA funds. The Town Board held discussion on this and they all agreed it is a good idea and that Supervisor Houghtling will look deeper into the possibility of making this happen.

Policy Review – Discrimination & Harassment Policy:

Supervisor Houghtling stated that NY State implemented a 1-800 number for harassment and discrimination where individuals can report harassment by a supervisor to. This has been added to our policy on page 6 that this number is now available for reporting.

A motion was made by Supervisor Houghtling, seconded by Councilmember Buckenroth and approved unanimously with the exception of Councilmember Gordon who is absent to amend our Anti-Discrimination and Harassment Policy and mark it as amended and edited today.

Article 78:

A motion was made by Supervisor Houghtling to authorize Gilchrist Tingley, P.C. to defend the Article 78 filed against the Town of New Lebanon and the New Lebanon Planning Board. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Trainor.

Roll Call Vote:

Councilmember Buckenroth -	Aye
Councilmember Gordon -	Absent
Supervisor Houghtling -	Aye
Councilmember Trainor -	Aye
Councilmember Anthonisen-	Aye

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

OCTOBER:

Tuesday, October 4th, 2022 at 4:30pm- Budget Workshop (LVPA @ 5:30pm)

Friday, October 7th, 2022 at 3:00pm- Budget Workshop

Tuesday, October 11th, 2022 at 4:00pm- Budget Workshop (Highway @ 4:00pm)

Tuesday, October 11th, 2022 at 6:00pm- Regular Monthly Meeting

Monday, October 17th, 2022 at 3:30pm- Budget Workshop (Pay Rate Discussion)

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR:

In addition to an in-person privilege of the floor, Supervisor Houghtling will read all comments, questions and concerns emailed to supervisor@townofnewlebanon.com during the meeting. There were no emails for POF.

Mary Young commented that she was a little girl when Mr. and Mrs. Shatford were alive, they were friends of her grandparents. She commented that she thinks that they would be very pleased with what the Town Board is doing for the park. They gave the money to purchase the land for the park to make the park a community thing as well as the pool, they wanted to have love for this community for all ages. She thinks that they would be very pleased.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

A motion was made by Supervisor Houghtling to enter into an executive session at 10:01pm. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Buckenroth.

Roll Call Vote:

Councilmember Buckenroth -	Aye
Councilmember Gordon -	Absent
Supervisor Houghtling -	Aye
Councilmember Trainor -	Aye
Councilmember Anthonisen -	Aye

A motion was made by Supervisor Houghtling to exit Executive Session at 10:24pm. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Buckenroth.

Roll Call Vote:

Councilmember Buckenroth -	Aye
Councilmember Gordon -	Absent
Supervisor Houghtling -	Aye
Councilmember Trainor -	Aye
Councilmember Anthonisen -	Aye

BEDC Resignation:

Supervisor Houghtling stated they received a letter of resignation from Peg Munves from the BEDC.

A motion was made by Supervisor Houghtling, seconded by Councilmember Buckenroth and approved unanimously with the exception of Councilmember Gordon who is absent to accept Peg Munves letter of resignation from the BEDC.

ADJOURNMENT:

A motion was made by Supervisor Houghtling, to adjourn the meeting at 10:25pm. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Trainor.

Roll Call Vote:

Councilmember Buckenroth -	Aye
Councilmember Gordon -	Absent
Supervisor Houghtling -	Aye
Councilmember Trainor -	Aye
Councilmember Anthonisen-	Aye

Respectfully submitted,

Marcie Robertson
New Lebanon Town Clerk