

**TOWN OF ROSENDALE
TOWN BOARD MEETING
February 5, 2025**

Supervisor Walsh called the meeting to order at 7:02P.M followed by the Pledge of Allegiance with a moment of silence for Douglas V. Fox, Janice M. (Freer) Hotaling and Lorraine M. De Felicis.

PRESENT:	Supervisor	Jeanne L. Walsh
	Councilman	Joseph Havranek
	Councilmember	Carrie Wykoff
	Councilman	Marc Cassidy
	Councilmember	Ashley Sweeney

ALSO PRESENT: Ken Hassett; Deputy Town Supervisor, Jill LaFera; Supervisor's Assistant, Joseph LaFera; Building Manager

Public Comments:

Marty Einemann – Rosendale Resident

Marty discussed the concern of residents not being notified about the rise in the tax bills at the third quarter of the water district billing. Supervisor Walsh mentioned the concern was discussed during the budget meetings Mr. Einemann had attended, how the third quarter billing is not aligned with the budget, from September through November the Town Board had multiple discussions making residents aware of the changes, information is posted on the website, discussion of the Water Sewer project being held up by COVID and rise in cost of material, building of a new tower, increases in fees in all departments and it was also discussed about the town having to get ambulance service.

Cheryl Schneider – Rosendale Resident

Cheryl shared documents with the Town Board. One with a change.org QR code for an ongoing petition and help from Heart & Soul in reference to the speed on Main Street Rosendale. Cheryl mentioned she came to the Town Clerk's office wanting to speak with either the Supervisor, Deputy Town Supervisor or Town Board members. The Deputy Town Clerk stated there wasn't anyone in the offices at this time (3:50PM) to meet with her and advised Cheryl to go to the Town Board meeting as they ask for public comments or concerns at each meeting and what she is asking for may have to go to the County or State. Cheryl stated she has begun an ongoing petition, understands the Town and the County have sent letters to the regional DOT, Cheryl spoke with Legislature, a Traffic Safety Advocate, looking towards a safety study, support by the Town and a Resolution. Cheryl stated that she is working on this as a friendly thing with no hostility knowing the community wants to make a speed change. Cheryl also stated she wasn't sure that what the town was doing had the teeth to move forward and didn't understand why the town is not already doing what she is doing to change things.

Supervisor Walsh stated that over the past 14 years the town has completed many letters, meetings and get-togethers with DOT and had Safety Studies done for different locations in the town. It is a process and unfortunately has always been denied. There are rules/regulations they have to follow and maybe some of that will change soon to make it an easier process for this to be supported. Supervisor Walsh stated the town will continue to work on this for the safety of the town and advised Cheryl to write a letter to Sarahana Shrestha and Michelle Hinchey for support. The town will accept a petition once it is completed and would review it at a later time to see how the town can support the request. Cheryl became aggravated, raised her voice stating that she doesn't understand why the town doesn't want to make this happen, that what the town is doing may not allow things to move forward and felt bad the town disagreed with the information she presented. Supervisor Walsh stated the town does not disagree with what was presented and she will be reaching out to those she needs to but they have to follow a process, asked Cheryl to present a completed petition at a later time, stated the town is presently working on the process and wants to work with her, but felt Cheryl needed to take a seat as she had become hostile. Cheryl decided to leave the meeting.

Amanda Monges – Rosendale Resident

Amanda wanted to let the town know that she appreciated the Supervisor and Jen Metzger writing letters to the State in reference to the speed on Main Street. Supervisor Walsh stated we are trying to make a team effort for this. The Supervisor was interrupted by Cheryl Schneider by the door of the meeting room shouting, “I thought we could work together, but I guess not” and left the meeting. Amanda stated maybe she could work with Cheryl. Supervisor Walsh wanted the public to understand we can’t accept Cheryl Schneiders documents as it’s a picture of a QR code of an ongoing petition that the Town Board has not been able to review to move forward and are in agreement that changes need to be made.

Billy Liggan- Rosendale Resident

Billy asked Supervisor Walsh about the last request the town made to lower the speed limit by the Rosendale Community Center. Supervisor Walsh stated they responded as denied and advised the town to make a traffic circle.

Supervisor Walsh mentioned the town is working with Sarahana Shrestha and Michell Hinchey having discussion about how important these changes are needed and wanted by the residents.

The Deputy Town Supervisor mentioned this and many safety study tests have been on going since the building of the senior apartments and stated how frustrated they were with the response that was received at that time to not lowering the speed, nor would they implement a turning lane because there weren’t enough traffic deaths. We do know that the Legislature is on the right track, but as the Supervisor said we need to take the correct approach to the process.

Colleen Cody- Rosendale Resident

Colleen asked what civilians can do to help. Supervisor Walsh said call or write your Legislature, Sarahana Shrestha and Michelle Hinchey, because if they get enough letters or calls it may help to motivate them.

Colby Harvish- Rosendale Resident

Mr. Harvish stated he lives on Springtown Road in Tillson by the Fire Department and since there is discussion about Main Street speed he wanted to discuss his location as well. Mr. Harvish wanted to voice his concern about trucks and their speed being way over what is posted and felt even though if the speed is posted at 35mph that the psychological thought is I can go a little above that and if the speed was lowered to say 30MPH the thought is I can go 35 or 40. He had spoken with the Police Department two winters ago and Councilman Havranek mentioned reaching out to Chief Schaffrick about the two speed signs that the Police Department have been placing in some areas to collect data on traffic.

Laura Novack – Rosendale Resident

Ms. Novack stated she lives on Main Street across from the Fire Department and the signs that Councilman Havranek is referring to were located on Main Street for a week and it was the best week. The traffic slowed down, people watched what they were doing, but living right on Main Street has begun to feel unsafe. Ms. Novack was on her porch when a truck coming through took out her side view mirror. Ms. Novack also agreed some drivers yes psychologically they see 35MPH and that means they can drive 40MPH. Supervisor Walsh understands and agrees that it is the towns goal to try to get the speed lowered. But on the other hand to have the two Police signs that collects data at one location for too long of a period of time, people get use to the signs and go back to speeding.

Supervisor Walsh made a motion to accept the resignation of Jeremy Baracca as Assessor effective 01/31/2025 Seconded by Councilman Cassidy; ROLL VOTE 5 Yes.

Supervisor Walsh made a motion to accept the resignation of Geovanni Villalon as Police Officer effective 01/15/2025. Seconded by Councilman Havranek; ROLL VOTE 5 Yes.

Supervisor Walsh made a motion to re-appoint Richard Wright as Community Liaison to the Police Commission term expiring 12/31/2025. Seconded by Councilman Havranek; ROLL VOTE 5 Yes.

Supervisor Walsh made a motion to re-appoint David Hattenbrun to the Recreation Commission term expiring 12/31/31. Seconded by Councilmember Sweeney; ROLL VOTE 5 Yes.

Billy Liggan- Street Festival site plan review

Billy stated all is basically the same as last year. Except they are working on a zero waste goal for clean up and recycling. They discussed vendors using recyclable materials at the Garlic Festival. Billy is working with the vendors in reference to compostable packaging etc. The festival is also looking for more volunteers and reaching out to the Environmental Commission. Colby Harvish a Rosendale resident shared SUNY New Paltz students that work on programs for sustainability may be a suggestion to contact for volunteers. Billy will turn in his site plan map, contact who he needs to contact police, fire, highway, DOT etc. and insurance. Supervisor Walsh stated we will have to have Billy come back, the dates are good to discuss with vendors once you hear from DOT for road work etc., and we will review this at the next Town Board meeting with the checklist of what is completed, so we may be able to have a conditional approval at that time.

Billy Liggan – Farmers Market site plan review

Billy stated again basically the same as last year, except different locations for porta potties, parking, condensed vendor locations for more parking, and music from 11-1PM. At present we have 12-15 vendors some are there every weekend and some are not. Supervisor Walsh asked for a new site plan map showing all the changes that worked at last years Farmers Market and will review it at the next Town Board meeting.

Resolution 02-2025- #1 - Supervisor Walsh made a motion that the Town Board of the Town of Rosendale hereby authorizes Yuri Badovich of SAS Electrical Inspection to conduct business in the Town of Rosendale. Seconded by Councilman Cassidy; ROLL VOTE 5 Yes.

Resolution 02-2025- #2 - Supervisor Walsh made a motion that the Town Board of the Town of Rosendale hereby authorizes Supervisor Walsh to sign the agreement with Wayne Montecalvo to hold a series of Simple Drawing Classes. Seconded by Councilmember Sweeney; ROLL VOTE 5 Yes.

Resolution 02-2025- #3 - Supervisor Walsh made a motion that the Town Board of the Town of Rosendale hereby authorizes Supervisor Walsh to sign the agreement for Tax Collection Software Access with the County of Ulster. Seconded by Councilmember Sweeney; ROLL VOTE 5 Yes

Supervisor Walsh made a motion that the Town Board of the Town of Rosendale hereby authorizes the Supervisor to dissolve the 6-year agreement ending September 2025 with the Town of Rosendale, Marbletown and Rochester to share employment of Jeremy Baracca as Assessor. Seconded by Councilman Havranek; ROLL VOTE 5 Yes.

Supervisor Walsh made a motion to enter into Executive Session at 7:32PM to discuss employment of a particular person/persons. Seconded by Councilmember Sweeney; ROLL VOTE 5 Yes. (returned at 7:42PM with no motions made).

Resolution 02-2025- #4 - Supervisor Walsh made a motion that the Town Board of the Town of Rosendale hereby approves of the opportunity to share services with the Town of Marbletown to hire Susan Gentile at a rate of \$40 an hour for 11 hours a week effective January 21, 2025, to September 30, 2025 with the Town of Rosendale reimbursing the Town of Marbletown 50% for the Assessor position, upon its passage by both the Town Board of Rosendale and Town Board of Marbletown. Seconded by Councilmember Cassidy; ROLL VOTE 5 Yes.

Supervisor Walsh made a motion to pay the bills. Seconded by Councilmember Sweeney; ROLL VOTE 5 Yes.

GENERAL FUND	ABSTRACT 2	VOUCHER#S	22 – 65	\$32,316.75
HIGHWAY FUND	ABSTRACT 2	VOUCHER#S	1 – 22	\$12,857.86
SEWER FUND	ABSTRACT 2	VOUCHER#S	5 – 18	\$ 8,312.80
WATER FUND	ABSTRACT 2	VOUCHER#S	5 – 15	\$ 5,295.07
RMC FUND	ABSTRACT 2	VOUCHER#S	1 – 27	\$10,874.37

Supervisor Walsh made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:12PM. Seconded by Councilmember Wykoff; ROLL VOTE 5 Yes.

Respectfully submitted by

Christine Harrison
Deputy Town Clerk