**TOWN OF WHITE CREEK TOWN BOARD MINUTES**

**NOVEMBER 12, 2024**

The White Creek Town Board held their regular monthly meeting on Tuesday, November 12, 2024 at the Major General John Wilson Sprague Building in Cambridge, New York. Supervisor Lance Wang called the meeting to order at 7pm. Following the pledge to the flag, roll call was taken by the Town Clerk. Board members present at the meeting were **Supervisor Lance Allen Wang and Town Board Members Gregory Austin, Carey Murphy, Tammy Taber and Gregory Woodcock.** Also present were **Highway Superintendent Chris Rieben** and **Budget Officer Lester Losaw.**

**Public Hearings for 2025 Budget**

Carey Murphy made a motion to open the Public Hearing for the Fire Contracts for 2025, motion seconded by Tammy Taber and all voted in favor.

2025 Fire Contracts: White Creek Fire $93,500.00

Buskirk Fire $22,268.00

Cambridge Fire $41,790.00

Carey Murphy also made the motion to open the Public Hearing for the 2025 Town Budget as presented, Gregory Woodcock seconded the motion and all voted in favor.

2025 Town Budget: Total appropriations: $1,725485.00

Minus Revenues: $ 500,298.00

Unexpended: $ 112,000.00

Amount to be raised by taxes :$1,113,187.00

The Public Hearings will remain open as the meeting continues.

**Approval of Minutes- Resolution 60-2024**

Cary Murphy made a motion to approve the minutes of the October 08, 2024 Board Meeting as presented. Tammy Taber seconded the motion and all others voted in favor of approval.

**Opening of Bids**

**Propane Bid – Resolution 61-2024**

The Board accepted the one bid that was submitted for propane by G.A. Bove Fuels at a price of twenty-five cents ($.25) over the rack price. Motion to accept the bid from G.A. Bove Fuels was made by Gregory Austin and seconded by Gregory Woodcock. All voted in favor of awarding the propane bid for 2025 to G.A. Bove Fuels.

**Diesel Fuel Bid – Resolution 62-2024**

The Board accepted the one bid that had been received from G.A. Bove Fuels at a price of twenty-five cents ($.25) over the average price on the JOC. Tammy Taber made the motion to accept the bid from G.A. Bove Fuels for On Road Diesel Fuel. Motion was seconded by Gregory Woodcock and all voted in favor.

**Building Committee Report**

Councilman Austin reported that the painting is nearing completion at the Highway Garage. Engineer William Cottrell is still working on the drawings for the proposed addition to the town office building. He indicated that the drawings should be ready for review at the December 10th meeting.

**Assessor’s Report**

Assessor Darryl Caputo submitted a monthly report of activities to the Board. He has completed the course “Fundamentals of Farm Appraisal and is working on his final course for certification. Still no action has been taken on the 3 Article 7 filings. The Board of Review met with Darryl for the final time this year and he transferred the changes to Real Property.

**Town Clerk’s Report**

Town Clerk Lisa Austin-Cuddihy reported revenues of $2,645.00 for the month of October with $335.69 as the town’s portion. She also reported that DEC has a newly approved regulation that will allow agents to charge a one dollar ($1.00) fee when a customer chooses to have their transaction printed at that location. Lisa stated that the town is paying for the paper and ink used to print the license for the customer and thought it was reasonable to add the one dollar charge. The Board discussed the option and decided to revisit in January and asked the Town Clerk to reach out to see what other municipalities are doing.

**Budget Officer’s Report**

Budget Officer Lester Losaw submitted the monthly operating statement to the Board members.

**Highway Superintendent’s Report**

Highway Superintendent Chris Rieben submitted a monthly report of activities to the Board.

They have been blowing out ditches and checking culverts. A culvert will need to be replaced on Ash Grove Road. The pickup will be put on another auction site to try and get a better price for it than what was bid on Auctions International.

**Audit Report – Resolution 63-2024**

After review of the monthly vouchers submitted for payment, Councilman Gregory Woodcock made the motion to approve all vouchers. Motion was seconded by Gregory Austin and all others voted in favor of approval.

General account: $ 8,553.60

Highway account: $24,448.33

ARPA account: $ 8,775.00

**Total: $41,776.93**

**Justice Court Report**

Town Justice Scott Lucey submitted the October court report collecting $2,620.00.

**Supervisor Report**

**Resolution 64-2024 – Pilot Agreement with Cambridge Woods/Cambridge Square**

The Town Board voted to approve a five year Pilot Agreement between Town of White Creek and the Village of Cambridge with Cambridge Limited Partners LLC the owners of Cambridge Woods and Cambridge Square and authorized the Town Supervisor to sign the agreement following legal review and approval by the Village of Cambridge as well. The motion was made by Gregory Woodcock, seconded by Tammy Taber and all others voted in favor of said resolution.

Supervisor Wang spoke about the 2025 budget, stating that staying under the 2 percent tax cap was one of the goals that was achieved and using all the ARPA funds before the end of the year. The budget increased by 1.69 percent.

**Public Comment**

Mr. Perry Young asked if the town saved money with a reduction in the highway accounts. Supervisor Wang stated that the DB account was reduced by 3.36 percent.

Mr. Ron McEvilly inquired on the status of the farm committee that was being organized earlier this year. Councilman Austin stated that he had reached out to a number of people that make their living with agriculture and there seemed to be no interest to form a committee. Efforts will continue to promote agricultural in the town.

**Executive Session**

The Board went into Executive Session at 7:46pm to discuss personnel matters. Motion by Gregory Austin, seconded by Tammy Taber and all voted in favor. The Board returned to regular session at 7:55pm. Motion by Gregory Austin, seconded by Tammy Taber and all voted in favor.

**Teamsters Contract 2025-2027 Resolution 65-2024**

After the review and discussion of the Teamsters Contract for 2025, 2026 and 2027 the Board moved to accept the contract. The three year contract will include salary increases of 7% for 2025, 2% for 2026 and 2027. Motion to approve was made by Gregory Austin, seconded by Gregory Woodcock and all others voted in favor of approval.

**2025 Town Budget Approval**

The Public Hearings for the 2025 Fire Protection and the 2025 Town Budget were closed at 7:57 pm. Motion to close the Public Hearings was made by Gregory Woodcock, seconded by Gregory Austin and all were in favor.

**Resolution 66-2024 – Approval of 2025 Town Budget and Fire Protection**

Carey Murphy made the motion to approve the 2025 Town Budget and Fire Protection as presented. Tammy Taber seconded the motion and all members voted in favor of resolution.

Ayes: Austin, Murphy, Taber, Wang, Woodcock

Nays: None

**Adjourn – Resolution 67-2024**

There being no further business before the Town Board, Tammy Taber made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Motion was seconded by Carey Murphy and all others voted in favor.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:00pm.

Respectfully submitted by,

Lisa Austin-Cuddihy

White Creek Town Clerk