

Zoom Video Conference Meeting of the Town Board, Town of Yorktown held on Tuesday, December 22, 2020 held in Yorktown Heights, New York 10598.

Present: Matthew J. Slater, Supervisor  
Thomas P. Diana, Councilman  
Edward Lachterman, Councilman  
Vishnu Patel, Councilman  
Alice E. Roker, Councilwoman

Also Present: Diana L. Quast, Town Clerk  
Adam Rodriguez, Town Attorney

### EXECUTIVE SESSION

Upon motion made by Councilman Diana, seconded by Councilman Patel, the Town Board voted to go into Executive Session to discuss the employment of a particular person, and litigation and negotiations. Upon motion made by Councilman Patel, seconded by Councilman Diana, to move out of Executive Session and return to the Work Session.

### TOWN BOARD MEETING

Supervisor Matthew Slater called the meeting to order.

### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Supervisor Matt Slater led the Pledge of Allegiance

### MOMENT OF SILENCE

Supervisor Matt Slater:

Would you all join me in a moment of silence as we say a special prayer as we are here in the holiday season and we embrace the idea of hope as we come to the close of this most challenging year. We pray for all those inflicted with COVID -19 and those who are continuing to fight it and those who've lost their battle with COVID-19. We pray for our frontline workers and our first responders and, of course, those brave men and women protecting our freedoms overseas.

Supervisor Matt Slater:

I want to wish everyone a blessed holiday season and a Happy New Year – 2021 is just a few days away, and I know I speak for everyone when I say good riddance to 2020. My name is Matt Slater, Town Supervisor, joined by Councilman Tom Diana, Councilwoman Alice Roker, Councilman Vishnu Patel, and Councilman Ed Lachterman. We are joined by our Town Clerk Diana Quast and we have our Town Attorney, Adam Rodriguez. I see that we have our county legislator from the fourth district, Vedat Gashi, who will be joining us momentarily with our first agenda item. Very quickly in regard to garbage pickup. There is a change in the garbage pickup because Christmas is on Friday. So for kitchen trash collections, Thursday collections will be picked up on Wednesday, December 23. Friday collections will be picked up on Thursday, December 24. The same goes for recycling. So if your recycling is collected on Thursday, it'll be picked up Wednesday, December 23, or if you have recycling on Friday, it'll be picked up on Thursday, December 24. All of this can be found right on our website. I do want to let folks know that an executive order was signed by Governor Cuomo regarding the filing of tax exemptions, specifically for seniors and those with disabilities. They are allowing those exemptions that were previously filed to roll right over to the coming year. So you do not need to re-file for your senior or disability tax exemption – that's in response again to COVID. Our Town Assessor, Kim Penner, will be issuing a letter to those who did file previously to make sure that you were properly notified. If you have any questions, please contact the Assessor's office. No one needs to do anything now, though – that's the most important thing.

Lastly, in regards to COVID, I know we've all anxiously awaited, almost daily, the release of the map that the counties put out. The county is transitioning. Again, we have County Legislator Gashi with us. The county is transitioning to a more sophisticated interactive dashboard. When we received those numbers, there was a gap in their accuracy anywhere from two to three days, but those two to three days grew. Again, they're getting that data from the State of New York. So that accuracy that we were seeing there was a lag from one to two days to three to four days and it continued to grow to the point where the county executive said enough and suspended the issuing of the map because it just wasn't accurate at that point in time. So the county is working diligently and I've been in touch with the county executive's staff and the Department of Health and they're

working diligently to put an interactive dashboard that they're going to launch next week. That will, once again, provide specific data for each community, including the Town of Yorktown. So until then, I've said this before, I'm committed to providing and the Town Board is committed to providing accurate and verified information. I'm not going to be sharing information that's rumored or I cannot verify with facts and data. So until that point, we are relying on the State's dashboard, which only provides information based on our region and county. I know there are residents who are upset about that and I understand and share those frustrations, but bad data doesn't help up make good decisions. We have to make sure the data that we're going to be sharing moving forward is, in fact, accurate and that only helps you make those really good decisions. The vaccine is being distributed throughout the community. I had a great meeting today with Scott Hayworth, president of Mount Kisco Medical Group and they are getting to be a central hub of distribution for the vaccine. I had a conference call earlier today with our first responders. We're starting that coordination to make sure that those who are in line to get it, as the state has provided, do actually receive it. We have also spoken with the nursing home facilities to make sure they have the resources they need. We are trying our best to help coordinate it in the best way possible as the vaccine becomes more readily available. Even though we keep hearing the great news about the vaccine, it's the light and the end of this long and terrible tunnel we've been down. The fact of the matter is, with the holidays here, you have to continue to make smart and responsible decisions. I know it's difficult. Christmas at my house is usually a 30 person ordeal for two or three days. But this year it's not happening. It's just my immediate family and that's because we are trying to make sure that, frankly, my grandmother is going to be here for next year's Christmas. We've all made that conscious decision to protect her. Even with the vaccine, these types of decisions need to be made. So please, this holiday season, we're so close to the end and getting the vaccine and emerging from this terrible year, let's continue to be smart and continue to be focused. Let's continue to be good neighbors to each other making those good decisions. So please, as you make those last minute holiday arrangements, keep that in mind. If you're not feeling well, please stay home. That's really the key. Of course, as I continue to remind everyone, wear the mask, wash your hands, and practice that social distancing. Those are all proven to work. This town has really proven to me, once again, the importance of community and how strong we are when we're united. We've done it all year; we've survived this together. We have to continue to do so and continue to be there for each other and be good neighbors to each other. I just also want to thank the Town Board and all of our partners in government because it's a year I still can't put into words, but we've gotten through it together. We've worked well together and I do want to thank everyone involved for all of their efforts.

Having said that, we do have some personnel issues that we are going to discuss. I'm thrilled to welcome Yorktown resident Phil Marino and we're going to pass a resolution tonight appointing Mr. Marino to the position of General Foreman.

Matt Slater, Town Supervisor:

Mr. Marino is going to be overseeing our Refuse and Recycling Department and overseeing the Central Garage and the Building Maintenance Department, all of which are just so essential to the functionality of our town and the services that we provide to our residents. He's bringing with him just an incredible wealth of knowledge and experience that every resident of this town is going to benefit from and he has been a Yorktown resident for decades. I know that he's going to have great pride in his work, great pride in the results that his departments are going to produce. I'm going to entertain a motion to pass this resolution.

APPOINTMENT OF PHILIP MARINO AS GENERAL FOREMAN  
RESOLUTION #421

Upon motion made by Councilwoman Roker, seconded by Councilman Lachterman,

BE IT RESOLVED, that Philip Marino of Yorktown Heights, NY, is hereby appointed General Foreman, job class code 0420-02, effective January 4, 2021, to be paid from Yorktown CSEA Salary Schedule A, Group 16, Step 5, which is 90,159.00 annually,

BE IT RESOLVED, contingent upon successful completion of a drug test,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this appointment is subject to a probationary period of not less than 12 nor more than 52 weeks, commencing on the first date of appointment on January 4, 2021.

BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board of the Town of Yorktown authorize Philip Marino to be paid a stipend of \$763.12 per pay period for the performance of Building Maintenance duties.

Slater, Diana, Lachterman, Patel, Roker Voting Aye  
Resolution adopted.

Supervisor Matt Slater:  
Welcome aboard, Phil. Mr. Marino, is there anything you'd like to say to the residents of Yorktown?

Philip Marino, General Foreman:  
I just want to say thank you very much. I'm looking forward to the task in front of me. Nobody can be happier than my family with all of the service that I've done for New York City, they're very happy that I'm now here working in Yorktown. I'm looking forward to a nice long career.

Councilwoman Alice Roker:  
Phil, you worked for New York City Sanitation. Can you tell people a little bit about how long and what you did there?

Philip Marino, General Foreman:  
Well, I worked there 30 years. I started out as a sanitation worker and then moved up the ranks. I was a district superintendent, which would handle like a town where you would have a garage, somewhat like the highway garage. It would be like 100 people, 30 collection trucks, etc. and then you moved up the ranks as Assistant Chief of Facilities. I also was the Assistant Chief of Cleaning for all five boroughs, which are mechanical brooms, basket services, all the big events like Times Square New Year's Eve celebration. I was also the Borough Chief in the Bronx, where I was responsible for refuse, recycling, snow, cleaning, moving equipment, facilities under my command. I retired as the Chief of Operations for the NYC Department of Sanitation. Under that job title I was responsible for snow operations for the five boroughs under which job facilities fell. You ran the day-to-day, twenty-four/seven.

Councilwoman Alice Roker:  
We thank you for coming to Yorktown.

Supervisor Matt Slater:  
We have two additional resolutions that are coming out of closed session that relate to personnel.

APPOINTMENT OF ROBERT J. REDDY, LABORER – HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT  
RESOLUTION #422

Upon motion made by Councilwoman Roker, seconded by Councilman Diana,

BE IT RESOLVED, that Robert J. Reddy, Jr. of Pleasant Valley, NY, is hereby appointed Laborer, job class code 0425-05, within the Highway Department, to be paid from Yorktown CSEA Salary Schedule A, Group 5, Step 1 which is \$45,258.00 annually;

BE IT RESOLVED, contingent upon successful completion of a drug test and reference checks,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this appointment is subject to a probationary period of not less than 12 nor more than 52 weeks, commencing on the first date of appointment on January 4, 2021.

Slater, Diana, Lachterman, Patel, Roker Voting Aye  
Resolution adopted.

APPOINTMENT OF DANIEL J. WALCZEWSKI AS ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT –  
RECREATION  
RESOLUTION #423

Upon motion made by Councilwoman Roker, seconded by Councilman Lachterman,

BE IT RESOLVED, that Daniel J. Walczewski of White Plains, NY, is hereby appointed permanent to the civil service title, Assistant Superintendent Recreation, job class code 0261-01, from Eligible list No. 66-354, effective January 11, 2021, to be paid \$85,000.00 annually,

BE IT RESOLVED, contingent upon successful completion of a drug test and reference checks;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this appointment is subject to a probationary period of not less than 12 nor more than 52 weeks, commencing on the first date of appointment on January 11, 2021.

Slater, Diana, Lachterman, Patel, Roker Voting Aye  
Resolution adopted.

Supervisor Matt Slater:

It's a great Parks & Recreation Department that continues to grow and thrive and he's bringing his expertise to the Town of Yorktown. He has a lot of tools that we're going to benefit from, so we're excited to have him.

#### THOMPSON & BENDER REPORT

Supervisor Matt Slater:

We're going to move to our first work session agenda item. We have with us a team from Thompson & Bender to give us a year-end summary of the PR and communications work. Welcome, Elizabeth Bracken-Thompson, Valerie Hovasapian, and Geoff Thompson. Thank you for joining us. This is to provide an end-of-year summary of the great work that Thompson & Bender has done for the Town of Yorktown, today. I know that you have a presentation that you wanted to show.

Geoff Thompson, Thompson & Bender (Zoom Presentation):

Well, it's hard to believe it's been about a year now since we've been working on this and working with the Town. It took us a while to get the campaign up and running, of course, but we're very proud of what we've done. Liz and I are town residents and were proud to be part of this effort. I think we've come a long way in a pretty short period of time. We'll give you a quick run-through of what we've come up with to report on this year.

Elizabeth Bracken-Thompson, Thompson & Bender:

First, I want to say that it's been a challenging year for everyone, but I have to say that the Town of Yorktown should really be proud because you pivoted and reacted to this challenge in such a meaningful way by supporting this economic development campaign, that we positioned ourselves as the go-to place. We're going to walk you through some of the goals, messaging, and results. So, first, our original goal when we all joined forces about a year ago was to position Yorktown as a community that is open for business with streamlined processes in place. That was the message we wanted to deliver to our target audience that you see here were business owners and executives who live in Westchester, but we're looking for suburban satellite offices, also real estate developers, not only here in Westchester, but regional as well, and commercial real estate brokers. Our target geography was New York City and the county. The timing was to launch this in August, just as we were moving into the fall and bring it through November. Our messaging was to communicate to those target audiences I just mentioned that Yorktown offers the streamlined municipal approval processes, shovel-ready sites, with zoning in place – development locations that have pre-approved zoning in key locations throughout the Town and a wide diversity of existing retail, warehouse, and office locations. Not certainly last and certainly not least, a safe environment, which really appealed to a lot of business people who didn't want to travel into downtown New York City anymore.

Next we moved on to our creative campaign development. As you all know, we came up and you all helped decide on the many approaches we took. The approach was Destination Y – Yorktown “Up Where You Belong” speaking, again, to those people who were moving, who were working in New York City, or thinking about down county locations, to think about Yorktown. The next was campaign tactics. What we did, and you'll see this on the next slide, was put together a marketing mix. We included PR, digital advertising, out-of-home signage, the website landing page and paid social media. We ended up not doing the page, just boosted social media, because of our budget. But the message was clear: Yorktown is open for business. The overview was again, we started in mid-August and we've already gone through our targets and geography, but our total media spend was \$30,707 and that includes all digital and all advertising.

In the next slide you'll see our strategy and our strategy, with this small budget, was to utilize highly targeted mix of digital advertising that places Yorktown in front of those target audiences, people I just described. One hundred percent focus was on good opportunities to keep our plan nimble and cost efficient, then strong targeting ensuring that the success of our message delivery and to our business and real estate folks focused media, providing the relevant synergies and then multiple touchpoints, increasing reach and frequency over a consistent period of time.

Now I'm going to walk you through our flowchart that we started in August and continued through November. These are all the different tactics that we use in our flowchart. So we were always present in the market. At some point, from mid-August through November, we wanted to make sure our presence was always there, no downtime. Next, you'll see the first thing we tacked in the next slide was our DestinationY.org landing page; this is so when anyone touched on any of those digital ads or decided to go to DestinationY.org, they landed on this page. Now I don't know if we can go live to the page but I think Val is going to try and do that for you and show you what we communicated when people clicked on those digital ads or they wrote in DestinationY.org or then followed it on social media. This was the landing page where you saw a mix of the beautiful outdoors that Yorktown is famous for, but also some of our commercial sites there on the left. We stressed as you see as Val scrolls down on the landing page, the accessible location, the affordable space and the fast track approvals. That's what really appeals to these commercial real estate developers. We will respond to every inquiry who contacts us. We put a face and a name out there with telephone numbers and email addresses so people didn't have to go through a lot of red tape to go directly to the source. Of course, we wanted to spotlight our wonderful Town Board members who made this all happen; so that was a landing page. We even had an inquiry slot here where if people didn't feel like they wanted a call or email, they could fill out this inquiry page, and it would end up in a mass email or in John Tegeder's email. Then we wanted to tell people a little bit about Yorktown for people who didn't know where it's located in proximity to New York City. All of the bullet points you see, one of the most important ones we felt was that it's only 40 miles north of midtown Manhattan, which a lot of people think of Yorktown as somewhere upstate. An then all the other plans, message points, and then the plan design overlay districts where you could actually click on that and view the press releases, which we'll show you later. Then you see Yorktown by the numbers with all the town's stats and data points, and then our closing. So this is our landing page where everyone was driven, hammering home the message.

Geoff Thompson, Thompson & Bender:

It also is worth noting that at the same time, the Town upgraded its website. Robyn (Steinberg) and company did a great job with that – it's far better than it was.

Elizabeth Bracken-Thompson, Thompson & Bender:

Next we talk about out-of-home signage after our landing page. You've all seen the banners that hang in front of town Hall with our Destination Y – Live, Work, Play, Dine because we didn't want to forget the local merchants and businesses that had been shuttered during our lockdown, and wanted to welcome everyone back and let people know we're open for business.

On the next slide, you'll see the window clings with our Destination Y logo that we shared with all our local merchants because, after all, they are our best ambassadors, aren't they? On the next slide, I'm going to show you the actual digital ads that appeared and then I'm going to show you where they appeared. These are the ads that I told you people could click on. Actually, they were animated, so maybe Val can play it one more time. If anyone saw these ads, you saw that it wasn't just a static digital ad. It hit home with all of our numerous commercial sites, flexible zoning, etc. These are all the different slides that appeared on the animation in the digital form you see here and also in our banner ads. Next, our E-newsletter spotlighting businesses as part of our email communications, which was very successful. Then we did our big PR rollout. You were there – you know what we did. We announced the launch. We spotlighted businesses in that month Town newsletter you saw and promoted on boosted social media. The next slide will show you the media launch. I'm just going to scroll through some of these slides because we got a ton of news coverage you see here in all these different news publications, News12, Lohud.com, NBC, Westchester magazine. There are more stories on the overlay districts. We kept unveiling new stories and communications about businesses through the entire period of the campaign to keep it all fresh. Again, you see just some of the highlights – Westchester Fairfield Business Journal, companies actually moving to Yorktown. We show them that we “walk the walk,” we don't just “talk the talk.”

Now on to the thing we're most proud of is the metrics and reporting. As I said before, you saw the digital ads; we wanted to focus on our target audience. We know they were real estate focused and we used these media partners. In the first column you see the Westchester Fairfield Business Journal, Crain's New York Business, the Real Deal, which is the bible of commercial real estate developers and brokers throughout the New York metro area, and then boosted posts. The column next to it you'll see the total impressions. Impressions are "eyeballs" – how many people saw these publication that we were targeting. One and a half million for the Business Journal over that period of time, almost 250,000 for Crains, almost 500,000 for the Real Deal, and then almost 150,000 in boosted. What you always want to see is the total clicks and we gave you some benchmarks at the bottom of the page. What's considered a really good benchmark for digital ads is 0.01% click-through rate. If you look at the far right column, we exceeded that in every one of the publications. That meant that we were delivering the right message to the right audience, otherwise they wouldn't have been clicking through. Finally, the Facebook boosted posts, incredible, 1739 total clicks for a grand total of over 3,000 click-throughs. That's really amazing and we're super proud of that. I'm going to take you through the next slides to show you what each one of these did. You'll see our ad – these are the actual leaderboard ads for the Westchester Fairfield Business Journal that is a digital format and goes out every day. You see here the breakdown and you see where our ad was placed. They over delivered – we negotiated with them so they delivered 54,000 more impressions than we actually paid for. Then in the next slide you'll see our ad and where it appeared in Crain's New York. Again, we did a run of site banner ads, and total impressions of almost 250,000. You see our banner ads right at the top and the bottom of that highlighted new page, which is great positioning impressions again, and the over delivered by almost 90,000 impressions. The next slide is the Real Deal. This one, again, we were super proud of – you see where ads appear to the right on the page. Then on the next slide, we show our boosted posts. Again, the Lohud article boosted posts, an incredible number of engagements, and shares, and link clicks. The same with the next up and you see that was also animated as a social media post. So we were really pleased with the metrics and the way they evolved in the reporting. Now I just want to share with you some of the general PR and communications metrics for you. Here is something we use in a format. I've explained what all of these number mean, and we love number and we love data. So over the course of the last 11 months or so, or maybe 10 months, we had 115 pieces of coverage. That's a total number of both online and offline print coverage of stories. And then the online readership and this may astound you, but it's actual data and real number is almost over 1 billion. That is the combined total number of people who visited the websites where our stories appeared. The 1.49 million estimated coverage views is that not everyone who visits the websites will see the coverage so they come up with this number on a percentage base of who might have actually seen our article that was received during its time living on that website; these articles don't go away, they live on these websites. And then 19,000 social shares, that's where people took an article and chose to share it with someone they know. That's incredible – 19,000 social shares – and then 65 average domain authority. Just to kind of give you a sense of what's considered good, 60 to 80 is very, very, strong and that's where we end up in that category. Then in terms of print circulation – 914,000 – that's the circulation numbers of the print and media that we appeared in. I'm just going to scroll through some to show you examples of where these articles appeared. You'll see the Examiner, Lohud, etc. The next slide just shows you more – Mid Hudson and Lohud and then the next just shows you more samples of those articles of the data I just showed you before. Just to give you a sense from the newsletter we write that you see here, we did 10 e-newsletters over the last 10 months and over 9,000 people receive this newsletter and we had an incredible open rate of more than half of those people, which is incredible.

Geoff Thompson:

It would be nice to have that list be bigger, right? Because a lot more people in Town still are getting it online, which is unfortunate.

Elizabeth Bracken-Thompson, Thompson & Bender:

Exactly right. So as I said, the open rate was more than half at 65.7%. The total clicks were over 17000 and then almost a 20% click-through rate on to those deeper stories that you see on the right, where they actually read the newsletter but then decide to go deeper into the newsletter reading the article. So overall, it's been a really busy year. The next slide will show you our recommendations based on this summary we gave you. First of all, our accomplishments and the highlights show that I think there was no other place in Westchester County that promoted its economic development agenda better than Yorktown during the past 10 months of COVID. I think we developed a brand identity for Yorktown during this period and created a campaign to target

business prospects. The landing page gained recognition that we're open for business and, of course, the monthly newsletter and our recommendations. First and most importantly, we continue to maintain a presence through these targeted media channels, which performed best for us to continue our PR and communication initiatives and outreach and then expand the outreach, explore new platforms and build on the momentum. I think, as I heard someone say, we've set the table and now we've got to keep serving the different courses of the meal and we want to keep building on that momentum. I'll turn it back to Geoff to close.

Geoff Thompson, Thompson & Bender:

I think that the Town has become a model for the county, and there are a lot of imitators. Now they're trying to get on board to do what Yorktown has been doing for Yorktown to be, it seems, to be a leadership community now. I think that only augurs well for the future. Hopefully, we're also changing the attitude of the residents in town to see that the Town Board has made this a bipartisan effort. We feel very well supported by all of you on the Board and we thank you for that and I think it's terrific. I think the Town is really showing that it's got some moxie and is really going after this kind of thing and it's paying off. So we're happy to answer any questions. We're very pleased to have been working with you and we look forward to continuing this relationship.

Supervisor Matt Slater:

Thank you. Thank you, Liz. Thank you, Geoff, Val, and Ernie, who's been just absolutely terrific to work with. He continues to be a workhorse and is just a great asset for us. You nailed a lot of it – the metrics speak for themselves. From my office, I can tell you that we've got direct solicitation because of the Destination Y campaign. We had people trying to move business out of Manhattan to Yorktown – we didn't even have buildings big enough to fit them. It was amazing to experience. To your point, we set the table, but now we still have to continue to build. I think there's a lot of good things on the horizon. Look what the Planning Board did last night – they approved three really important projects for this Town. They gave site plan approval for the Lowe's Pad A, which will be a specialty grocer. Hopefully next year, they'll give approval to fill the vacant Toys R Us building and the battery storage site, which is the first to be approved under the new framework that we passed earlier this year. So all of those things are moving and they're really milestone projects. I think they really do indicate, to Geoff's point, to the business community, but also to our residents, that we're open for business, that we mean business, and that we're trying to do really good things for this community to really help bring about true progress to this community that we haven't seen in quite some time. I really do appreciate all the efforts from Thompson & Bender both on the communication side for the Town – helping us especially during COVID. You guys were a blessing during COVID to help with all the information that we were trying to put out there and Ernie was turning out our press releases and memos and then updating the website, almost hourly. And, again, the Destination Y campaign I think speaks volumes to what you said earlier. I've said this before, we're once again leading from the front and that's where I think we should be as a community.

Councilwoman Alice Roker:

I think you guys did a great job. When we sent out the RFP, which was a lot of years ago, one of the things I remember saying to the then supervisor was you "got to be in it to win it" and we are now and I'm so appreciative. You have to really be out there and there's no way anyone in town government can do what you do. Thank you for what you've done – it's a great project.

Supervisor Matt Slater:

Any other questions from the Board?

Councilman Tom Diana:

Nice job, guys. That's all I can say. I'm impressed by it.

Councilman Ed Lachterman:

I'm still in awe over the 66% open rate. I'm scratching my head on how I could do that for my business.

Councilman Vishnu Patel:

Great – this was a good investment.

Supervisor Matt Slater:

We're looking forward to building on the work that we've already done and looking forward to another year with Thompson & Bender. We do appreciate all you've already done for this town and, to your point, keep the momentum going.

#### ALLIANCE FOR SAFE KIDS

Supervisor Matt Slater:

We're going to move on to our next agenda item and welcome member of the Alliance for Safe Kids. We're also going to welcome our county legislator, Vedat Gashi of the Fourth District. We should have with us Tricy Cushner and Liz Talbert. They are going to be providing a proposal regarding youth mental health services, as well as a proposal on diversity, equity and inclusion, education and action. Liz and Tricy, it's great to have you. Again, I do want to thank and welcome Vedat Gashi, one of our great county legislators. Tricy, I don't know if you want to start with what Vedat's been able to accomplish for your organization or if you're putting in into part of your proposal?

Tricy Cushner, Alliance for Safe Kids:

I'm definitely going to speak for a second and lead right in so everyone can follow the story. Even before I mention Vedat, I will also include who he spoke with that enabled us to move forward with this presentation. I just want to mention what a lovely presentation to follow. We work the community and it's so exciting to see not just Destination Y, but see such positivity and to see everyone coming together and getting very excited about supporting each other and supporting a wonderful place. We're excited tonight because we're able to share some very positive news at a crucial time for Yorktown and for the country and for the world. Sometimes we have to start looking within our homes and our neighbors in our community to be able to extend that help. What we wanted to talk about tonight was that we're looking at a beautiful opportunity where the Alliance for Safe Kids continues to connect with the community and put out our programs and resources that support youth mental health and the prevention of substance abuse and provide opportunities for thoughtful service, we actually have an opportunity where we can extend some of Alliance for Safe Kids programming. During our last few presentations, all of the councilmembers and Supervisor Slater and many community members have identified places where we could look for funding to continue to bring valuable programs and we've filled out multiple applications and have been working on that. What has transpired was that Alice (Roker) was able to get in touch with Vedat Gashi and talk about possibly county legislator funding. As we started talking to Vedat, it was very difficult to figure out if we had enough time or were we really looking at a possible missed opportunity to connect the dots, even for him to come through with a basic amount of funding. Then we have this wonderful phone call from Vedat about an amount of money that would enable us to bring programs for months at a very opportune time. I'm going to let Vedat share the process of the funding and then come right back to let you know how we're hoping to partner with the Town and connect these dots so that we can get the tremendous return on investment. What this allowed us to do was to then come back and visit some additional funding. The limitations that presented themselves with this funding were that it brings in programs but would not support a program manager or a salary type of scenario. There are programs that we're able to run through volunteers but when it comes to these research-based evidence, real programs that are able to connect you through the county, state, and federal government, we've found that we absolutely have to have it managed. We're working with our youth, we're working with mental health and, as wonderful as our volunteers are, in order to really bring these programs and be effective, we need to have a manager to do that. So what our board has been able to do is that we're using every last penny that we can into this because we knew that this funding was going to get us so that we could support a manager into the spring. We've been able to get in touch with more funding through state education funds and through possible funds from State Farm but each of that have that same limitation – they can support the programming, especially the evidence-based research programming. Our schools will only accept evidence-based research programs, as they should. Again, we're in a situation where we thought let's come back to the town and see if we can possibly enter into some type of service contract where, if we could, continue for an amount such as \$15,000, that would enable us to accept over \$50,000 of additional funding for programs. We could use service contract money for a manager, which would of course, be our Executive Director, Liz Talbert. She would share what we would love to offer. There's just been a tremendous amount of research. I just want to speak for a second to the need that there's not been a single day that we have not received personal phone calls, emails, text messages of community members, and families in dire straits. We sit on a county faith-based leader board and we have access to their information. They're in the middle of doing surveys

because each are experiencing a tremendous increase in youth mental health, adult mental illness, suicidal ideation – unmet needs for mental health. We just want to be that community where we are the ones that are saying “let’s walk the walk, talk the talk.” We just came off of a whole month of “walk the talk” with mental health and services. We want to be a community that responds to these types of questions. We have also had a tremendous amount of questions about awareness and about what actions our community can be a part of when it comes to diversity, equity, and inclusion. We are so excited – Liz has done, not just research, but has sat in on committees and meetings, all through Westchester Youth Alliance, through Race Amity, etc. – there’s so many places and she’ll let you know more details. We have the ability to make these connections and bring them to Yorktown. So in addition to the \$50,000 of additional funds that could come back to the community and once the program has come, you could not begin to put a value on what that overall impact would be. Our entire purpose is using empathy to have these thoughtful connections and to really do community awareness with community actions and make those evidence-based and real programs that other communities can model after. So I’m going to end with what we’re hoping for is this small service contract that could open huge doors to more funding. Liz will now share what we would like to propose.

Vedat Gashi, County Legislator:

Can I interrupt just one second? One further point I want to make is that we spoke to Liz and Tricy – I want to applaud the Alliance for Safe Kids for how responsible they were throughout the process. We were looking to see would the money actually make a difference? When would it actually come in? What’s the point? There wasn’t an immediate yes. The goal wasn’t publicity or a photo op; the goal was to get this and allow Alliance for Safe Kids to continue. You guys were fantastic in understanding the restrictions, understanding the parameters, and being reasonable and responsible throughout it. Thank you.

Liz Talbert, Alliance for Safe Kids:

Thank you so much for that. I just want to start by saying that by entering into a service contract with the Town will allow us to continue to work with all of the sectors in the community and use the managerial experience that I have acquired over my seven plus years with the organization to not only share awareness, but to implement actions to address areas of concern that are community wide currently, that being mental health as well as diversity, equity, and inclusion. I have had the opportunity to both network and work with professionals at the local, state, county, and national level, and provide evidence-based programming within the community on mental health and substance abuse prevention. I have planned and hosted forums for hundreds within the community, smaller workshops and documentary screens, all using local venues. I understand how they work; I understand what the needs are and those venues being the schools, the John C. Hart Library, the Community and Cultural Center, and the Jefferson Valley Mall. So I just want to add that I have established good working relationships with different key people in the community that will, in turn, help facilitate the programming that we’re talking about bringing into the community. I’ve also worked, as I said, with all of the sectors for close to 10 years and have very good relationships, as well as tried and true methods of getting the information out to the different groups because sometimes different audiences need to hear things from their pastor or the president of the local youth sports organization. These lines of communication have already been established and we can utilize them to the furthest extent. The list of affiliations that I’m able to work with when planning programming and bringing resources to Yorktown is that, when I think about the topic of mental health, we work very closely with the Youth Mental Health Project, the Youth Mental Health First Aid community, as well as right here in Westchester working with the Department of Community Mental Health, we have ongoing conversations monthly with them and share lots of resources. They’re very aware of what’s going on in northern Westchester, and Yorktown in particular, and what the needs are and what the opportunities are that we can bring to the community. I’m looking to build relationships with professionals and accredited programs to address diversity, equity, and inclusion. I feel like I definitely have some connections with the Yorktown for Justice movement. I’m definitely interested in working with our own Coalition on Community Safety and Engagement. We have been looking at national programs, race unity being one, and definitely are looking toward others that are, as Tricy mentioned, evidence based accredited programming that we can offer the community. So the goal is to not just share awareness, but to actually take action and bring in some programming that will benefit our community in its entirety, from youth on up to seniors, on the subjects of mental health, diversity, equity, and inclusion. I look forward to working with all of you and the community and I’m grateful for the opportunity to be a part of helping Yorktown in general.

Tricy Cushman, Alliance for Safe Kids:

I'll just mention one thing. We were charged with identifying four mental health programs that would meet the needs of the community and then two activity programs to go hand in hand with awareness for diversity, equity, and inclusion. In that way, as we are proposing these specific programs, we would have support of that almost \$50,000 of funding to bring the programs. So what we're looking to the Town to consider this a service contract so that we can have a manager so that we are getting the absolute most advantageous and most important information put into the community, put into our faith-based leaders, our sports groups, our schools. Liz has worked with both school districts, almost on a daily basis. We do know how to connect to the families. If we just rely on our group of volunteers, who are wonderful but they are not the liaison, the direct connection, and right now we have to go with what works. So instead of working towards our dissolution and handing off wonderful programs to our different civic groups, we would love the opportunity to move forward and not miss the opportunity for this additional funding and be able to really bring in valuable programming.

Supervisor Matt Slater:

Tricy, that's great. I can tell you that I've got a five-year-old at home and he has told me, almost on a daily basis, stories of kids his age who are going through serious anxiety because of the COVID situation – we just don't know how this is going to impact them. These are five-year-olds; it's heartbreaking. I really think that, obviously, providing that type of support network not just for five-year-olds (obviously) but the youth of Yorktown because right now we just don't know the impact this is going to have on them emotionally. We want to make sure that they are in a position to succeed with whatever they do with their lives moving forward and, obviously, being mentally fit and emotionally fit are two key components that I know Alliance for Safe Kids continues to advocate for, provide support for and so I think it's a great investment for the town and also partnering with the County. It's a great partnership between the town and the county, as well. I think the DEI program is great because we know, as much as people may not want to admit it, we know racism exists. We know racism is in communities all across America, including ours. We also know that racism is taught, it's not innate, right? So if we can make sure that we are teaching the kids of our community ... Councilman Lachterman and I were in a meeting the other day talking about drunk driving and we were talking about the generational shift away from drunk driving and that all came from educating that generation at a very young age. I just think the DEI program, very similarly, will educate the youth. I think in a lot of ways we're doing that, but I think it will help us even more to educate the youth about diversity, equity, and inclusion. If we can educate them at a young age, then hopefully we'll see that generational shift. Hopefully, if we keep doing these things at one point in our lives, we can say that racism doesn't exist or bias doesn't exist, but it starts with education of our youth. I think both programs are full of merit and are really important for this community in a lot of different ways.

Tricy Cushman, Alliance for Safe Kids:

I just want to say one thing. We've had for the last couple of weeks a group of college students who are home for the break. When we talk about that we want to educate and bring awareness to our youth, I will tell you these college students – their empathy is out of the park and the information that we're getting from them and their connection to Westchester Youth Alliance and Race Amity. It's just absolutely amazing what they research and what they find right here in Westchester, right here in Yorktown – we have members that sit on their steering committees. We have a tremendous amount of assets right in Yorktown, but our youth and these college students, they're actually going to be leading us down this path that is so necessary to make the changes and to live and think in a different way. I think they're going to have the greatest impact on our young and on their parents and grandparents because we're hearing it from people we love. It's our 20-somethings that won't be quiet about this; they want to have an impact in the community, but they need a program manager not to micromanage them, but to help make the connections and to help bring in the resources. So that's where we have one person connecting 100 dots. Where we miss that management is where we don't get the full level that we can get from programs and from our own community members.

Councilman Tom Diana:

I have long time said, Tricy, that our youth is our future. The other day we went to a little Christmas party where there were about six children, about 7-9 years old. I asked one little girl what she wanted for Christmas. She said, "I want COVID to be over." That about broke my heart to think that 7 and 8-year-olds are so inundated with all of this information that this is what their

thinking about and not “visions of sugar plums dancing in their heads.” This is where I think we need to concentrate on our youth and our mental health.

Councilman Vishnu Patel:

I have known Liz and Tricy for a long, long time. They have a wonderful program that supports the community and brings everyone together. We can put in more time and energy and resources to make this program work for our community, as well as surrounding communities. Whatever we can do to make a difference will go a long way because children are our biggest accomplishments in life.

Councilwoman Alice Roker:

Tricy and Liz, when I think of Alliance for Safe Kids, I think of Yorktown. This is our community. I remember the night you came and told us you were dissolving the group, I was like “Alliance for Safe Kids is what makes us Yorktown.” The volunteers who work for you understand the needs of the community. They can relate to people that we can’t relate to. What I can say is that I’m in total agreement, Matt, with doing this partnership with them. I think that when you say community, it is as much a part of the community as Thompson & Bender is. We’re not going to stop looking for other funding sources for you; however, at least we can get to the summer with this.

Councilman Ed Lachterman:

Well, I’ll throw my two cents in and for what it’s worth, Tricy, you know how I feel about the program. We work with you very closely with you with the Lions. It’s just amazing. I’ve been the recipient of some of your training, which has been unbelievable – actually, life changing training. Your Mental Health Days are unbelievable. You’ve brought such great things to the Town. When I heard about the trouble, I know the Lions were trying to find some solutions to help out, too. It was disheartening because, you know, 2020 has been such a, pardon me, crappy year and then we heard that we had an institution like ASK that is so essential for our kids at risk. When I heard that you wanted to come before the Board, I was just so thrilled and I really support this. We can’t thank you enough. I don’t know if everyone who doesn’t have kids and doesn’t work with ASK, knows how well your team has motivated our youth. There are a lot of youth groups out there, the Leos being one, which is another great group. You do such a great job making what is a hard lesson for them to learn – being involved in the community, doing the right thing and staying away from drinking, drugs, bullying, and looking for how to end these new social prejudices that are out there, as well – you make it fun, entertaining, interesting, and motivating for them to participate. So whatever we can do to help and God bless you guys for the work, in general.

Tricy Cushman, Alliance for Safe Kids:

I just want to mention, and I know Liz would join me in saying, that when we talk about the students through the Leos and through ASK, 99% of the time the same students who volunteer with us are already Leos. As you may find with each of you sitting there, you wear many hats and you do many wonderful things in the community. I just want to make sure that I speak to that extent because the Leos sign up for numerous events through the Leos, but anytime that the Alliance for Safe Kids is running a program, they jump right in and help us as well. We’re all wearing the same hats – it’s almost impossible to put a name on a great volunteer in Yorktown.

Supervisor Matt Slater:

We appreciate all you do and we appreciate Vedat Gashi, our county legislator, for his leadership and counseling on this. We will go back and work with our town attorney and town comptroller and we’ll move this forward since it seems to have support from the Board.

Tricy Cushman, Alliance for Safe Kids:

Thank you so much and Happy, Happy Holidays and a wonderful 2021 we wish for everyone.

### BRIDGE NY PROJECT

Supervisor Matt Slater:

We’re going to move on to our next agenda item, Bridge NY Project. We have Dave Paganelli, Highway Superintendent, and Mike Quinn, Town Engineer, to give an update to the Town of the progress. This is regarding Veterans Road and Hill Boulevard culvert replacements.

Michael Quinn, Town Engineer:

Supervisor, we also have Ken Rundle (Water Department Superintendent) here. We wanted to give a little update to the Board and to the public on the Bridge NY projects. The contractor has been working for the last several weeks doing activities that can be done prior to the road closure. So right now, the schedule is to close the Veterans Road location the week of January 4. Once that closure is officially done, the contractor will take over for removal and installation of the new culvert, which has been fabricated already off site. It's made out of precast concrete and so that structure is actually ready for delivery. Prior to the delivery, the contractor has to set up a stream bypass so we can run the stream through the location and he also has to complete the utility relocations. Ken Rundle, Dave, the Supervisor, and I have been meeting with the contractor on a weekly basis just troubleshooting issues as they come up. The last time we were before the Board, we were working to get a health department approval for the water relocation at Veterans Road. We did get that a few weeks ago and so we're fully ready to go. Once the road is closed, the schedule in the contract is that the contractor will have 10 to 12 weeks to complete the work and get the road reopened. We're hoping and the contractor is hoping that he can improve on that, but he did do some of this work in advance by setting up the sheeting. We will have to wait and see what the weather is, but every measure is being taken to make sure the work can occur as expeditiously as possible. So that's Veterans Road.

Councilwoman Alice Roker:

Can I stop you and ask you a question? Not everyone knows what a culvert is. So can you kind of explain what you're doing. Do you have any visuals here?

Michael Quinn, Town Engineer:

I probably do have a visual here. Let me see if I can open it up.

Councilwoman Alice Roker:

Okay, because maybe you can use that to explain what it is you're doing and why.

*(Technical difficulties with screen sharing)*

Councilman Vishnu Patel:

He could explain it by the time you have a screen.

Councilwoman Alice Roker:

It's better if he showed a video. People don't understand, Vishnu. Not everyone knows what a culvert is.

Supervisor Matt Slater:

Mike, do you want to send me a picture and I can share my screen, if that's helpful. Diana Quast is saying it's one – do you see the share screen at the bottom of the screen? Here we go. We got it.

Michael Quinn, Town Engineer *(displaying photos)*:

This is a picture looking down Veterans Road to the intersection with Greenwood Street and you can see the red arrows pointing to the head wall to the culvert. The picture on the right is the culvert. The difference between a culvert and a bridge is anything that's 20 feet or less, as far as the crossing goes, is considered a culvert. So if the crossing was more than 20 feet, this would be considered a bridge. That's the way DOT defines a culvert and a bridge. So on these pictures on the right, you can see the degradative condition; there's actually two corrugated metal pipes that pass underneath the road. Those pipes are in extremely poor condition, and we'll be replacing that structure with the new precast concrete culvert. The new precast concrete structure has a 75 year design life. We anticipate that this will last a generation or two after we're done. This slide currently up here is the detour that's in place. The little box down here in the lower right is the location of the culvert and that's where the road will be closed. The detour is down Greenwood Street to Route 202 and then back to Commerce Street and then down Veterans Road. The red is considered the vehicle detour and the pedestrian detour is what is shown in green, where they could use the North County Trailway to access around that area. So this is essentially our Veterans Road project. Again, this will be starting the week of January 4.

Dave Paganelli, Highway Superintendent:

Michael, if I can just interrupt for a moment. I think it's important because a lot of people have been a bit confused as to the detour. They need to understand that Solaris Sports Club will not be affected. The medical building on the corner of Maple Hill and Veterans Road, as well as the one across the street, which is between Solaris and the American Legion – those will all have access. So this closure will be very, very strictly confined to the culvert, which is about 30 feet from the intersection with Greenwood Street. Residents should understand that they'll still have access to those buildings but the detour will take them around out onto Route 35/202 and come around on Greenwood Street.

Councilman Tom Diana:

Dave, the parking lot will be all open – correct?

Dave Paganelli, Highway Superintendent:

Yes.

Michael Quinn, Town Engineer:

We also have been working with Ken Rundle and his team on the water relocations. There's a town water line that passes through this area of Veterans Road and so we've worked out a plan so that any interruption of water service will be done in the overnight hours to minimize any disruption to any business or user in this area.

Dave Paganelli, Highway Superintendent:

Michael, have we addressed at any point our change work order with the Board?

Michael Quinn, Town Engineer:

I can do that right now. The contract with Transit Construction is for \$2,995,000 (let's just say \$3 million to round up) and included in that is \$120,000 for extra work items that inevitably occur when you're doing a project of this magnitude. There have been two items that have come up that we want to make the Board aware of. The first item was the water that we were just discussing, how we're going to do the interruption of service, the Water Department did not have good information about the water lines and the sizes. The contractor had to do some extra test pits, which he submitted a price proposal for \$15,000. The price proposal was vetted by WSP, which is the engineering company providing the oversight here. There's also a unit price in the contract for test pits. We do think that the price is fair for the work that was involved. There's a second extra work order pending for \$26,000 that was for some requirements of the Westchester County Health Department. Essentially, on either side of the culvert, they wanted an access point where the water department could go in and they could have access to a valve or meter to see if there was any leaking of water where the pipe passes over the stream. So that would essentially be an inaccessible location; however, they would have access on either side to do a test. So that was an extra cost of \$26,000. That was vetted, reviewed, and recommended by WSP. The extras that are pending right now total \$40,000 and, again, that would be all part of the field work order of \$120,000 so we're not asking for a change order. We're just really informing the Board about these two changes that have occurred today.

Councilman Tom Diana:

Kenny, can you explain the meter pits, etc., that are being proposed at this point and your findings? I remember we had a discussion about this, whether it's one or two, and that these are water lines that actually go underneath the street, correct?

Ken Rundle, Water Superintendent:

That's correct. I'm just going to try to show my video. Thanks for bringing that up because I just wanted to touch on that. To follow up with what Mike Quinn was saying about these meter pits, originally the health department was requesting these great big concrete vaults to put these little pressure gauges in. I've worked with Mike and went back and forth, because personally, I thought it was a little bit of overkill. I don't have that much experience doing stream crossings, but I have been around a little bit and I just thought it was overkill. So we worked together to figure out a way to do these meter pits and put these pressure gauges in that would be acceptable to the health department. What we ended up doing was putting in 24-inch plastic pipes on the office side of the road as opposed to concrete vault structures that would be there, and I'm sure that saved quite a bit of money on the project.

Councilman Tom Diana:

Is there going to be one or two? Because we had discussed something that they wanted two because at some point that water runs in two directions, if I'm not mistaken.

Ken Rundle, Water Superintendent:

The health department is requiring two.

Michael Quinn, Town Engineer:

Tom, I also wanted to just clarify, and I'm not sure I've made this clear when I started to introduce this, that those two pits would be required at Veterans Road and at Hill Boulevard. This cost of \$26,000 covers both locations. It actually covers for four pits.

Councilman Tom Diana:

Okay. The water runs underneath Hill Boulevard underneath the stream? I thought it was above on the bridge or is that just the sewer?

Michael Quinn, Town Engineer:

I believe that while there's a water and a sewer crossing there, there's also a Town of Somers sewer crossing at Hill.

Ken Rundle, Water Superintendent:

I believe that's a sewer pipe wall. So if you go down into the stream, you can actually see the pipe hanging – it goes right through the culvert – and I believe that's the sewer pipe.

Councilman Tom Diana:

That's a sewer pipe. Okay, because I had been down in there. I was down in the other one, too, but, I think Dave will back me up on that, it's no time too soon to fix Veterans Road.

Dave Paganelli, Highway Superintendent:

Actually, it's worse than you think because we just got a lawsuit as a result of Veterans Road, and that's the cost of, unfortunately, kicking the can down the road. You end up with a lawsuit and probably could have done the job for free. We have other areas that we're aware of and you know there's only "X" amount of dollars in the kitty – that's the problem. What are you going to do?

Supervisor Matt Slater:

Mike, you said earlier that the water department didn't have good info or good data. Can you explain what that means?

Ken Rundle, Water Superintendent:

So when the maps were drawn up when that pipe was installed, it was actually conflicting where the pipe was. So when we go to try to find a water line, we have maps that we can go by or we have our GIS system on our computers, or the tablets and then we actually go out there and physically go with a pipe locator. It's a two-piece unit that just sends down the signal and it comes up to the other signal and kind of bounces off and carries through the pipe. A lot of different factors are the ground conditions, the conditions of the pipe, and I was out there myself down walking in the brook trying to locate this pipe. As a matter of fact, Councilman Diana was out there that day. Our pipe locator was giving me a great signal saying that this pipe was over here, but, in fact, it was not over there, it was on the opposite side of the road. So in conjunction with the maps not being accurate, something was not conducive with the pipe locators. Again, I've had several staff members, senior people out there and myself ...

Supervisor Matt Slater:

How old is the map?

Ken Rundle, Water Superintendent:

They're quite old, I would say, I'm guessing the '50s. That's only a guess. The only sure way to verify the location of the utility is to excavate and get eyes on it. We do the best that we can with what we have. We go by what our equipment tells us and sometimes there's just things that come up. Like I said, it could be the pipes not conducive – it's just giving different readings. It could pick up something else in the ground, another utility in the ground.

Supervisor Matt Slater:

Any other questions from the Board?

Councilman Tom Diana:

Should we expect any other surprises?

Michael Quinn, Town Engineer:

So right now, we've gone through the majority of the submittals, the paperwork, fabrications underway. We discussed extras at our weekly meetings. There are no other extras out there right now. Hill Boulevard is a bigger project and we are still waiting for the health department approval. We know that the water meter side – we think the water is pretty much resolved, but we are still waiting on the health department approval for the sewer relocations. We need it for sewer and water. Right now we've gotten a bunch of comments and WSP is reviewing and responding to the comments. Right now we do not know of any other extras on this project and we're hoping that it will stay that way.

Councilman Tom Diana:

What are some of the comments if you have them in front of you, by chance, on what they're expecting?

Michael Quinn, Town Engineer:

I could send that over to the Board tomorrow. I think that we got a series of comments last week and they seem to be relatively minor. One of the more challenging aspects of Hill Boulevard is that the Town of Somers has a license agreement to run a sewer through Yorktown to get to a county discharged manhole and in order to keep that line in service for them, the contractor is required to put in like a bypass pumping system. I know that the county had a few comments about that. I understand from doing the design work with WSP that there's a pretty robust bypass pumping system set up so that hoping everything is covered. We're still doing the review for that.

Councilman Vishnu Patel:

In case of heavy rain or something and if any kind of damage occurs, who's going to pay the extra cost or will it be absorbed?

Michael Quinn, Town Engineer:

That's one of the good things about this design is the stream bypass. We're basically doing a new routing to run the stream 24/7, and there won't be any pumping involved. So we don't have to worry about pumps being overwhelmed, the flow will be the same flow it always is in the stream. Part of the design work was modeling the stream levels to make sure that this new culvert will be high enough that we'll never be overtopped by a stream of water. We had to raise it to meet those requirements while maintaining the road elevation. A lot of that prep work has already been done. There are some erosion controls that are established so we don't have any dirty water running into the stream. Again, the contractor will be maintaining that on a regular basis to make sure that good practices are followed.

Councilman Tom Diana:

Mike, when WSP comes out, do they do a checklist to say let's bring in the DEC, the health department, DEP, if necessary, to have them out here and have a conference and get all our ducks in a row before we put shovels in the ground to find out what we may or may not need, etc. It always seems like the health department is a sticking point on any of these jobs we are doing. It just seems like WSP should have a checklist. They're a big firm – they should know what they're doing and have a conference with these people.

Dave Paganelli, Highway Superintendent:

Yes, I don't disagree with that but, unfortunately, the protocols don't work that way. You submit your plans to the health department, they kick back 50 questions, and then they want an answer. They're not all that amenable to coming out and brainstorming, because that would make sense and would make things a lot easier. I don't want to say it's obstructionist, but it doesn't work that way. It would be great if you can get all the heads together and say this is what we're planning, but, unfortunately, the protocols don't follow that way. If a pre-construction meeting happens, the health department is not interested in them.

Councilman Ed Lachterman:

They came out for the Lowe's site.

Dave Paganelli, Highway Superintendent:  
I don't think they came out for a pre-construction meeting.

Councilman Tom Diana:  
Yes, they did.

Dave Paganelli, Highway Superintendent:  
The water utilities all around that site were probably a major concern to them. They were the ones who pushed for us to take the responsibility of that water service for that entire shopping center.

Michael Quinn, Town Engineer:  
I would say there's regular engagement. I mean, we have certain notifications that are required by the health department. We also have a DPW stream permit for Hill Boulevard; it's a county regulated stream and they require notification. I don't know – some of these county agencies aren't as proactive as we would like them to be and then when they come out, it seems like sometimes they want to find violations or they need to find violations to justify why they're there. I know, like we have a new representative now from the health department who's much easier to work with than the issues we dealt with on the pump station job. So we're cautiously optimistic that we're doing better with these folks that are now engaged on Yorktown projects.

Councilman Tom Diana:  
It seems like they're very proactive with our dollars with their unfunded mandates that they all of a sudden come up with out of the blue – but that's another story.

Dave Paganelli, Highway Superintendent:  
That's 100% correct.

Councilman Ed Lachterman:  
I had a couple of questions sent to me by people over the past couple of weeks, especially since we put up a sign about the road closing. So just to stress – it's a temporary closing. Mike, what did you say? Ten to twelve weeks, was it?

Michael Quinn, Town Engineer:  
Yes, that's the contract – they have 10-12 weeks to complete.

Councilman Ed Lachterman:  
At this point, I assume the school buses for BOCES have been notified. Are they doing anything in person there?

Dave Paganelli, Highway Superintendent:  
I'm not aware of that.

Councilman Ed Lachterman:  
All right, but have they been notified? Or is that just an assumption?

Supervisor Matt Slater:  
They've been notified.

Dave Paganelli, Highway Superintendent:  
BOCES has been notified.

Councilman Tom Diana:  
In all actuality, they're not supposed to come out that way, anyway.

Dave Paganelli, Highway Superintendent:  
Exactly.

Councilman Ed Lachterman:  
I was hoping they would get used to not using it.

Dave Paganelli, Highway Superintendent:

Well, in three months they may very well get used to not using it. Something good will come of that.

Councilwoman Alice Roker:

Is there somewhere where people can click on? Let's say our website and look at where you are month to month.

Michael Quinn, Town Engineer:

Yes, Alice, thank you for asking. We set up a web page on the engineering website and there's a tab for this Bridge NY Project. We get a monthly status report, which I think I forwarded to the Board. I've actually just got the December update today, so we'll have that posted. I'll send that to the Board, as well. It's just basically a summary of what's occurred in the month and tracking the progress of the job. Anyone that's interested could check there. We probably could upload some photos, too, if you think that would be a good idea.

Supervisor Matt Slater:

Mike, can you just reach out to Robyn Steinberg at some point this week or next week and she can put the banner up on the top of the homepage of the website, reminding people that it's closing January 4. We should probably get that up next week so for people visiting the town website, it's right there as another reminder.

Michael Quinn, Town Engineer:

Okay.

Councilman Tom Diana:

With Hill Boulevard – if you would, Mike, please reach out to me about 60 days before the closing of Hill Boulevard. I know that's a little bit in the future but I just want to get that on your radar.

Michael Quinn, Town Engineer:

Right now, Tom, the plan on Hill Boulevard is that we're hoping, and we've been working regularly back and forth with the health department, to get their approval by the third week of January. The contractor wants to start the road closure and the same steps I just mentioned for Veterans Road the last week of January or early February – that's what his schedule shows because he needs to contractually finish this project by the end of May. Again, with DOT funding, it's not that easy to just run late; they really need to get this job done.

Supervisor Matt Slater:

That's predicated on department of health approval, right?

Michael Quinn, Town Engineer:

Yes. We have the health department regularly engaged in the project so WSP anticipates their approval by the second or third week of January.

Councilman Tom Diana:

My reason for asking this is our residents in Jefferson Village. I've been queried by them to let know as soon as we can so they can put it in their newsletter. Their newsletter goes out on or before the first of every month so it needs to be prior to that.

Dave Paganelli, Highway Superintendent:

Councilman, I would then shoot for the first week in February so they get it in January's newsletter. Let them know that the intention is, at this point, to close those roads in the first week in February. Right, Michael?

Michael Quinn, Town Engineer:

Yes.

Councilman Tom Diana:

All right, then I'll make a phone call tomorrow and let them know that. This way their advice would be the first week of February that the road will be closed.

Dave Paganelli, Highway Superintendent:

That's the anticipated plan. Better it runs a little later than they're surprised by it.

Councilman Tom Diana:

That's right. Okay – very good.

### FLUORIDE PROJECT UPDATE

Supervisor Matt Slater:

Okay, we'll move on to fluoride as a topic of discussion. We're joined by Vanessa (McPherson), who's been patiently waiting. We discussed this at our last work session and so I just wanted to see if there are any other questions from the Board. There is a resolution later on regarding the approval of \$40,338.08 for them to continue the project. So I just wanted to see if there are any additional questions from the Board to either Mike or Vanessa on the project.

Councilman Tom Diana:

Okay, I'm waiting for the next shoe to fall. What's my next unexpected expense going to be?

Vanessa McPherson:

We did talk about this a little bit – we had a progress meeting for the project just last week that Supervisor Slater was able to participate in which was very helpful. We did probe the contractor extensively about anything else that they might anticipate. We talked about schedule extension possibilities, due to the additional work that we were asking them to do for the masonry and whether they'd be seeking any compensation for extension of schedule, to which they said time extensions would be no cost extensions, and did discuss as well anything that they saw from their mobilization or work done to date that would be a future item.

Councilman Tom Diana:

Only because this project has been a bummer from day one. It just has not been smooth and it's to the point where "are we throwing good money after bad?" I don't know. It's probably a little bit of a lack of communication. But I just want to know with what you're telling me know, we do not anticipate anything further happening – is that what I'm understanding?

Vanessa McPherson:

That is my message, and I agree, it has been a bumpy road here – a long a winding road, if you will, on this project to get it to this point and we're committed to seeing it through and delivering it for Yorktown.

Councilwoman Alice Roker:

Michael, do you have this project on your website, as well?

Michael Quinn, Town Engineer:

Yes, we do, Alice. We do updates on this as well – it's a separate tab. You could look up either project on the engineering website.

Councilwoman Alice Roker:

Okay. Perfect. Thank you.

Supervisor Matt Slater:

Any other questions from the Board?

Councilman Tom Diana:

What phase are we at right now? Are they ready to what they have to do to get the roof over this thing so we can get building inside? Where are we at?

Vanessa McPherson:

They are pending the Board's authorization of the costs. The contractor is prepared to program them into their schedule and begin work immediately for the masonry replacement and the roofing.

Supervisor Matt Slater:

We're still on a timeline for March, right?

Vanessa McPherson:

I'm waiting for their updated comprehensive schedule that we discussed at the progress meeting. If they cannot complete by March, given the time that we've lost here (a couple weeks) with getting the masonry work squared away, they have committed to completing by May when the grant would expire. So if we do need more time, it would be at no overhead cost by the contractor. They've committed to and still maintaining that they can achieve project completion by the grand opening.

Supervisor Matt Slater:

Very good. Thank you. Appreciate it. Michael, Kenny – thank you.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE NO PARKING ZONES (COMMERCE ST. & WHITE HILL ROAD)

We're going to move on to Adam Rodriguez and we still have Dave Paganelli with us. We have circulated the legislation for the no parking zones for Commerce Street and White Hill Road. So this is a legislative update. Adam or Dave, would you like to speak on this?

Dave Paganelli, Highway Superintendent:

So we had proposed no parking on Commerce Street from the Route 202/35 intersection to where it intersects with Hanover Street by the firehouse there – both sides of the street. White Hill is from Mohansic Avenue down to Hunterbrook Avenue, both sides, as that's a narrow road. The problem with them and we actually saw this, this past snowstorm when the wind rose, we're about two feet off the curb edges. Unfortunately, in the middle of town, we had some people that were parking on either side and cars couldn't get through and backed up traffic. We had it on Veterans Road as well, where cars were parked and trucks were parked. When the UPS trucks were coming out as the school buses were going back in, there was a gridlock all the way up to Commerce Street. We feel that these are necessary public safety measure that need to be taken.

Supervisor Matt Slater:

Adam, anything from your side?

Adam Rodriguez, Town Attorney:

No, he said it all.

Supervisor Matt Slater:

I'll make a motion to refer these out and when we come back in January, the Clerk will set the public hearings.

REFERRAL OF PROPOSED LOCAL LAW AMENDING CHAPTER 275 – NO PARKING AREAS ON COMMERCE STREET AND WHITE HILL ROAD

RESOLUTION #424

Upon motion made by Councilwoman Roker, seconded by Councilman Diana,

RESOLVED, the Town Clerk is authorized to refer to the appropriate agencies a proposed local law amendment to Chapter 275 of the Town Code of the Town of Yorktown entitled "VEHICLES AND TRAFFIC" by adding the following no parking areas:

- Commerce Street, both sides, from its intersection with Route 118 to its intersection with Hanover Street.
- White Hill Road, both sides, from its intersection with Mohansic Avenue to its intersection with Hunterbrook Road.

Slater, Diana, Lachterman, Patel, Roker Voting Aye

Resolution adopted.

Councilman Tom Diana:

Dave, I'm getting a little pressure on our project over here on the three corners.

Dave Paganelli, Highway Superintendent:

I'm sure you are. I had it all marked out and then we had the snow issue. I was ready to go and, unfortunately, the we're still cleaning up after the storm. Once we get it out of the way, hopefully, this frame that's coming will clear up a lot of the snow. Hopefully, we'll be able to get it next week. We were all set to go up there where you and I marked that out. I went back and Mark kept

it marked out so we didn't lose our marks. We had called twice for mark outs on it and weren't able to get there in time because of various weather related stuff. I apologize for that. I've been wanting to get those up. I'm very curious because it's a great time to see, particularly with school and be able to ease into it – it'd be a good time.

### ZOMBIE PROPERTIES

Supervisor Matt Slater:

We're going to move on to Zombie Property legislation. Adam circulated this to the Board. Adam, do you want to walk through this legislation?

Councilman Tom Diana:

Thank you, Adam, for this. You and I had talked a couple of weeks ago about it. I called John Landi with regard to this and I wanted to see this get moved because of the several properties that I know we have, not only in Town, but over here on the north side of Town with the InterCity Tire property, the Avgush property, and you have the one that's behind the property that have been abandoned for many years. That's just three right off the top of my head that I come up with. I think this is going to aid us. I know Avgush has a demo permit but nothing's been done there yet.

Adam Rodriguez, Town Attorney:

My pleasure. The way it's been drafted, it would be an amendment to Chapter 135, which is entitled "Unsafe Buildings." It would add a new Section 135-13 and has a variety of provisions but, essentially, the law would apply (it'll be known as the Yorktown Zombie Properties Law) to mortgages, both commercial and residential, that are in default by the lender, in which case they must be registered with the Building Department and they'll have to pay a semi-annual \$500 registration fee and have to appoint a local property manager to ensure that the property is maintained in accordance with the Town Code and other applicable laws and also secure the high level aspects of law.

Councilman Vishnu Patel:

I have a question; this may be for Mr. Landi or our town attorney. If the houses or properties are abandoned and how do we know who to get in touch with?

Adam Rodriguez, Town Attorney:

We have instituted some foreclosure actions against properties that haven't paid the taxes, but this does provide for a situation where the properties are unoccupied and the mortgagee would have to hire a property manager to look after the property and keep notes.

Supervisor Matt Slater:

Are there any questions from the Board on this? No? Why don't we do the same as before? We'll make a motion to refer it out to all necessary agencies and when we come back in the first week of January with the Town Clerk, we'll set the public hearing on this legislation.

### REFERRAL OF PROPOSED LEGISLATION – CHAPTER 135 “YORKTOWN ZOMBIE PROPERTIES LAW RESOLUTION #425

Upon motion made by Councilman Lachterman, seconded by Councilwoman Roker,

RESOLVED, the Town Clerk is authorized to refer to the appropriate agencies a proposed local law amendment to Chapter 135 of the Town Code of the Town of Yorktown entitled “UNSAFE BUILDING” by adding a new Section 135-13, “Yorktown Zombie Properties Law.”

Slater, Diana, Lachterman, Patel, Roker Voting Aye  
Resolution adopted.

Supervisor Matt Slater:

That brings us to our last two items with Ken Belfer. We're going to begin with the Bridle Ridge Affordable Housing Units. If you want to update us as to where you're at with that piece of property, then we can discuss what the next steps are from the Town's perspective.

### AFFORDABLE HOUSING UNIT – RIGHT OF FIRST REFUSAL

Ken Belfer, Community Housing Board:

The Town Board met about this about eight months ago regarding the owner of an existing affordable housing unit that dates back to the early 1990s passed away and her daughter, in accordance with the deed restrictions, send a notice to the Town of intent to sell. The Housing Board had recommended that the Town exercise its right of first refusal and assign that right to an eligible person on our Affordable Housing waiting lists. The Town Board then seemed positively inclined, but there was one issue that the Town Attorney identified, which was that the owner passed away with no will and the daughter, therefore, really didn't have legal authority at that time. So fast forward eight months later, and it's taking that long because of COVID for the family to get a ruling out of Westchester County Surrogate Court. About a week ago, they submitted that ruling to the Town, which appointed one of the two daughters as the administrator of the estate with the right to settle things out. So we are back with our recommendation that the Town Board exercise its right of first refusal and assign that right to an eligible person through Yorktown's Affordable Housing Program. I did conduct a lottery, in the meantime, and we have 554 people who responded to the lottery with interest and are on the waiting list. We've been down approximately the first 20 on the list screening them so that we will have one or more applicants ready to submit starting with the first person on the list to see if they're ready, willing, and able to purchase that unit, but we can't proceed without the Town Board making its decision.

Councilman Tom Diana:

May I ask a quick question? Is there any way within the affordable housing regulations that if this should happen again, where a resident of one of our affordable housing units passes away with no will that, at that point, it is automatically given to, Adam – help me out here, the Town so that it doesn't take eight months?

Adam Rodriguez, Town Attorney:

Like reverts to us or something?

Supervisor Matt Slater:

I think in this case it's because the former tenant didn't have a will.

Councilman Tom Diana:

Right, and that's what I'd like to know because, although they own the house, the Affordable Housing Board has to kind of mediate the whole thing.

Councilwoman Alice Roker:

It's a deed restriction, but it doesn't say you own it and, no, I don't think it's going to revert to the Town. I think the person who purchased it would have to make that decision.

Ken Belfer, Community Housing Board:

If it was a private party who owned the house and this happened, I think they'd have to go through the same process before they could have a real estate agent sell it. I would defer to the town attorney as to whether we could put anything else in future deed restrictions that could expedite this.

Councilman Ed Lachterman:

Normally it would go through an administrative law judge through the Surrogate Court and someone would be appointed as administrator. Usually, even in the worst of the good times, I know Queens will pump it out in eight to ten weeks – two months or so. They're probably one of the worst that I've heard of to deal with, and I had to deal with them and it was not fun. COVID probably did have a big effect on this one because the courts totally shut down. Normally, when there's an heir somewhere and it's intestate, they go right for administrative so they can start the process. Once they are afforded the power of administrator for the estate, then they could start that process the next day. It's just a matter of getting that and with the courts closed, I'm sure that caused delays. Adam, I don't know if you have any experience in Westchester, but I think six to eight weeks is usually their rulings and administrators set up.

Councilman Vishnu Patel:

I have a question for the town attorney. Is there any cost involved in going to the court, etc. and who pays for it?

Adam Rodriguez, Town Attorney:

Yes, there are filing fees. I don't know if they hired an attorney; it's possible. The way this is supposed to be structured, ideally, is that we assign our right to the prospective buyer and they hire their own attorney. I would be involved in the assignment but the closing should really be between the seller and the prospective purchaser that the affordable housing group will select through their parameters, so there really shouldn't be any cost to the Town.

Councilman Vishnu Patel:

Yes, thank you.

Councilwoman Alice Roker:

Let me ask you a question because it came up earlier tonight. I thought it was 1,000 but it's over 500 applications you got, and the main reason that a lot of the people were taken out from the first one is because of the size of the family.

Ken Belfer, Community Housing Board:

That is correct. Each person is screened. The Town Code has family size restrictions so that you don't have 10 people in a two bedroom home. There're occupancy standards and there's also income eligibility. People have been screened out for both of those reasons because they don't meet the occupancy standards. There were a couple of six person households, for instance, that I knew were screened out and they could qualify for a three-bedroom unit if that became available but not for a two bedroom. Others were screened out because their income was over the eligibility limits.

Councilwoman Alice Roker:

A second question: do you have any doubts that any of those 500+ people are not going to buy the house; meaning, do you believe we're going to sell this house?

Ken Belfer, Community Housing Board:

Oh, absolutely – a house for just under \$121,000 in a very desirable development and in a desirable area of Yorktown, there's just no doubt – that's why 550 people responded and we kept the window very short for applying. I think it was only a little over three weeks long to make sure we didn't get overwhelmed with thousands of applications. For just that reason, we thought there would be tremendous interest.

Councilwoman Alice Roker:

Okay, so is everybody on the Board happy? There's no way we're not going to sell this house.

Supervisor Matt Slater:

No issues here. Anyone else? Any questions from the Board?

Councilman Vishnu Patel:

If a young couple buys it with one child and they have more children, are they still able to stay there? Are they able to stay there the same as somebody looking with three kids already, who are not eligible to buy?

Ken Belfer, Community Housing Board:

Because this is homeownership, once they buy it, it's theirs. The only restriction in the program is that it has to be their primary residents, but there're no further eligibility tests going forward. They're the owners of the home; the only thing that kicks in is if they go to sell it again and they come out with deed restrictions.

Supervisor Matt Slater:

Ken, can we go over to the Lake Mohegan Pesticide Treatments? I don't think there are any other questions from the Board?

Ken Belfer, Community Housing Board:

Just before you do, I would ask if the Town Board is willing and able to pass a resolution exercising their right of first refusal and assigning that right.

Councilwoman Alice Roker:

Don't we have that on the agenda?

Supervisor Matt Slater:  
I don't believe we do.

Councilwoman Alice Roker:  
Well, we need to put it on because this woman needs us to move. Adam, you spoke to Ken earlier this week, did you not?

Adam Rodriguez, Town Attorney:  
Yes.

Councilwoman Alice Roker:  
Did he not speak about a resolution?

Adam Rodriguez, Town Attorney:  
Yes. I have a draft. It's been circulated. Let me just pull it up. I will forward this back to the Supervisor.

Supervisor Matt Slater:  
Adam, just send it back to me if you could, and I'll just read it. Ken, do you want to move on to Lake Mohegan?

#### LAKE MOHEGAN PESTICIDE TREATMENTS

Ken Belfer, Community Housing Board:

Yes, certainly. There might be one or two others from the Lake District that might be interested in joining this. Just as an introduction, I want to say that we're working on both short and long term efforts. You can expect in the coming month, probably in January, to see two additional RFPs regarding the lake that address longer-term efforts. I want to thank the Town Board for getting the first phosphorus mitigation stormwater mitigation project done on Mohegan Avenue with the installation of phosphorus filtering inserts into the catch basins in the area where the Mohegan Avenue retaining wall was done. This is a first and it's really a great thing. One of the RFPs you'll be seeing soon is for soliciting proposals for the design of stormwater mitigation in other areas of the lake. A second RFP will be the exploration of more of a natural approach that includes aeration and stimulation of bacteria to eat away at the nutrient-rich mark at the bottom of the lake. So for that I hope we'll be getting an RFP ready for the Town Board to look at within the next month. In the meantime, despite these longer term efforts, we have to address the current health of the lake for the coming year to keep it suitable for recreational use; therefore, we're continuing to do our annual RFP for lake treatments and that's what is on for tonight's discussion. I want to just highlight the two differences between this RFP and prior years because, otherwise, it's pretty similar. The first is that we did separate RFPs in the past for the company that would do the permit applications and the company that would do the actual lake treatment. You have to apply to New York State DEC for a permit. This year, 2020, we ran into a problem in that two different companies won the different projects. When it came to the company that won the treatment bid, because the person who submits the permit has to put their license on it, DEC now has procedures where you have to resubmit permit applications all over again if it's a different party than the party that filed the permit – so it caused delays this year. So to avoid that, we've combined the preparation and submission of the permit applications to DEC with the treatments. Second, we're adding a third product to keep our options open in the summer based on lake conditions to utilize the best possible solution. We have three permits being applied for: one for copper sulfate, one for Cutrine-Ultra, which is a chelated copper product, and one for a product called Earthtech, which is also a copper product that uses less copper so that it's better for the environment. That's what we're asking that the Town Board approve advertising the RFP for this year's preparation and lake treatments.

Supervisor Matt Slater:  
I know you were working on this, Ken, with our Town Attorney and our Town Clerk. I don't know if they've finished their review of the RFP yet.

Adam Rodriguez, Town Attorney:  
No, I have not.

Supervisor Matt Slater:

Okay. So, Ken, would it be possible for us to approve it at the first meeting next month? Does that still work with your timeframe?

Ken Belfer, Community Housing Board:

Yes.

Councilman Vishnu Patel?

Can I ask one question? You know, now they have a phosphorus restriction in place. So does the water have less phosphorus concentration now or is it because of leaky septic systems, etc.?

Ken Belfer, Community Housing Board:

We had really hoped that with the restrictions on fertilizers, we would see an immediate impact on the lake. One of the things we've learned since we did not see that, and to quite the contrary we saw the opposite, is that when there have been decades of use of phosphorus fertilizer and decades of use of septic systems that you continue to get runoff with phosphorus for many year coming through stormwater and even coming underground through groundwater. So we have seen increases in the level of phosphorus, not decreases, and it's basically cumulative. So as more phosphorus comes in, the levels continue to rise.

Councilman Vishnu Patel:

This treatment is also dependent on the temperature of the water – that also makes a difference. No matter how much you're putting in when the water is too cool or there's heavy rain, you know both have a negative impact.

Ken Belfer, Community Housing Board:

Right. The treatments can only be done between May and September; really during the season of prime use of the lake. There are many factors that impact the effectiveness of the treatment. Before each treatment is done, there have been over the years of couple of treatments that couldn't take place because the oxygen levels were too low. There are a lot of factors that the treatment company has to consider based on DEC permit requirements before they can conduct each treatment.

Supervisor Matt Slater:

Ken, when are you hoping to open the RFP?

Ken Belfer, Community Housing Board:

The end of January. It's not set in stone, but obviously, we want to get the permits approved by the DEC and in place in time to start treatments as soon as blue-green algae is appearing in the lake.

Supervisor Matt Slater:

I'm just concerned about the time, though. If you're trying to open it at the end of next month and we not going to approve the clerk to advertise it next month, I'm wondering if the Board would be willing to a resolution to approve the Town Clerk to advertise it upon approval of the Town Attorney. This way, if Adam reviews it and approves it, we can get it out the door.

APPROVAL TO ADVERTISE RFP FOR LAKE MOHEGAN PESTICIDE TREATMENTS  
RESOLUTION #426

Upon motion made by Councilwoman Roker, seconded by Councilman Diana,

RESOLVED, the Town Clerk is authorized to advertise for Requests for Proposals for Lake Mohegan Aquatic Pesticide Treatment upon approval of the RFP documents by the Town Attorney.

Slater, Diana, Lachterman, Patel, Roker Voting Aye  
Resolution adopted.

Ken Belfer, Community Housing Board:

Thank you very much. That's a great outcome here.

Supervisor Matt Slater:

Ken, thanks so much; I appreciate all you're doing for the Town. Okay, so that ends the work session. We have resolutions to be passed.

AUTHORIZATION TO ENTER INTO AGREEMENT WITH NOR-WEST FOR THERAPEUTIC RECREATION PROGRAMS

RESOLUTION #427

Upon motion made by Councilman Lachterman, seconded by Councilwoman Roker,

BE IT RESOLVED, the Supervisor is authorized to enter into an agreement with Nor-West for the provision of therapeutic recreation programs for residents during the 2021 calendar year at a total price of \$38,232.00.

BE IT RESOLVED, the Supervisor is authorized to enter into an agreement with Nor-West for the provision of therapeutic recreation programs for residents during the 2021 calendar year at a total price of \$38,232.00.

Slater, Diana, Lachterman, Patel, Roker Voting Aye  
Resolution adopted.

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING SUPERVISOR TO SIGN LICENSE AGREEMENT WITH CAROL'S KITCHEN, INC.

RESOLUTION #428

Upon motion made by Councilman Lachterman, seconded by Councilwoman Roker,

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Supervisor is authorized to sign a License with Carol's Kitchen, Inc. (Licensee) owner of a mobile food and refreshment truck authorizing Licensee to enter upon a portion of the Town Commuter Parking Lot adjacent to Town Hall, for the purpose of conducting a mobile food and refreshment concession for the amount of four hundred dollars (\$400.00) per month. This License shall be for a period commencing on or about January 1, 2021 and ending on December 31, 2021.

Slater, Diana, Lachterman, Patel, Roker Voting Aye  
Resolution adopted.

AUTHORIZE SUPERVISOR TO EXECUTE DOCUMENTATION FOR VDER CREDIT PURCHASE WITH LODESTAR ENERGY

RESOLUTION #429

Upon motion made by Councilman Lachterman, seconded by Councilwoman Roker,

WHEREAS, on December 3, 2020, the Town entered into an agreement with Lodestar Energy for the Town to purchase VDER credits from the system at Smith Creek Road;

WHEREAS, Lodestar has informed the Town that energy savings could be achieved sooner by splitting the VDER credit purchase between the systems at Smith Creek Road and Hunt Creek Road;

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Supervisor is authorized to execute any documentation necessary to effectuate the splitting of the VDER credit purchase among those two systems, causing energy cost savings to flow to the Town sooner.

Slater, Diana, Lachterman, Patel, Roker Voting Aye  
Resolution adopted.

ACCEPTANCE OF PROJECT BOND – MOHEGAN LAKE MOTORS

RESOLUTION #430

Upon motion made by Councilman Lachterman, seconded by Councilwoman Roker,

WHEREAS, Mohegan Lake Motors, Inc., as applicant for the project known as Mohegan Audi Building Addition, has completed site work on the site plan approved by Planning Board Resolution #19-02 dated February 11, 2019; and

WHEREAS, due to winter conditions the applicant is not able to complete on-site landscaping;  
and

WHEREAS, Mohegan Lake Motors, Inc. has informed the Yorktown Planning Board and the Planning Board determined that, to insure the installation of the on-site landscaping, the applicant must post a cash bond; and

WHEREAS, the amount of the cash bond has been determined to be in the amount of \$10,000.00; and

Whereas, Mohegan Lake Motors, Inc. has provided the Town with check# 121695 in the amount of \$10,000.00, to serve as the required cash bond; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the monies required prior to issuance of the Certificate of Occupancy for the project known as Mohegan Audi Building Addition have been tendered to the Town and that the Town Comptroller is authorized to accept the above-referenced project bond for the purposes stated herein.

Slater, Diana, Lachterman, Patel, Roker Voting Aye  
Resolution adopted.

AUTHORIZATION TO SIGN PROPOSAL SUBMITTED BY ARTHUR J. GALLAGHER RISK MANAGEMENT SERVICE, INC.

RESOLUTION #431

Upon motion made by Councilman Lachterman, seconded by Councilwoman Roker,

Be It Resolved, that the Town Supervisor is authorized to sign the proposal submitted by Arthur J. Gallagher Risk Management Services, Inc to provide insurance coverage for the Town of Yorktown for the 2021 calendar year.

Slater, Diana, Lachterman, Patel, Roker Voting Aye  
Resolution adopted.

ASSIGN RIGHTS TO PURCHASE AFFORDABLE HOUSING PROPERTY UNDER THE YORKTOWN AFFORDABLE HOUSING PROGRAM

RESOLUTION #432

Upon motion made by Councilwoman Roker, seconded by Councilman Lachterman,

WHEREAS, the Town holds a right of first refusal over the property known as 102 Hitching Post Lane, Yorktown, NY (“Property”), under a certain deed restriction placed on the Property through the Yorktown Affordable Housing Program;

WHEREAS, the Town received notice of an intention to sell the Property;

RESOLVED, that the Town hereby manifests its intention to assign its rights to purchase the Property to a designee picked by the applicable procedures under the Yorktown Affordable Housing Program.

Slater, Diana, Lachterman, Patel, Roker Voting Aye  
Resolution adopted.

Supervisor Matt Slater:

We have from the Senior Service & Nutrition a request to authorize the auction of a motor vehicle that is obsolete and no longer needed for public use by the Town and the Engineering Department. Also, a resolution that the Town Board authorizes the expenditure of \$40,488.08, as follows, and authorizes the supervisor sign an amendment to professional services agreement with Arcadis in the amount of \$4,800 and a sign Contract Amendment No. 2 in the amount of \$35,538.08 to ELQ Industries for extra work on the drinking water fluoridation project. Additionally, the Comptroller is authorized to transfer \$40,388.08 from the Water Fund-Fund Balance.

Councilman Tom Diana:  
I have a statement on that one.

Supervisor Matt Slater:

You want to have a discussion on that, Councilman Diana?

Councilman Tom Diana:

Yes, I would like to. I think everybody knows my position on the fluoride – I don't have to go into that. I am still waiting to see where the next shoe is going to fall with this project. I understand, after talking to Adam, that this opens us up for liability. If we back out of this project now and we have to pay back the money, we may have to pay back the money that we've already spent from the state for the project, to date. I can't say that for sure. Or, am I right on that? We were misguided on this project from the get-go. We were misguided in it from the prior administration – I was told that we were going to be able to transfer money from the General Fund to the Water Department, which is untrue and quite possibly illegal. I found that out later on, after I had voted to continue with this project. I find that very disturbing that the then town attorney, supervisor, and his administrative assistant would have done that.

Councilwoman Alice Roker:

Tommy, I'm going to just say I don't know what you were told, but this project started long before Lanny came on the Board.

Councilman Tom Diana:

Yes, but I had a motion, while Lanny was on the Board, to disband this project and he came back to me and said that we would be able to loan the Water District the \$900,000, or whatever it was, the money that they had to shell out for the completion of this project, which could have been used to reline pipes, you know, and I asked Kenny the direct question: "Can you say with 100% surety that if we had a fire up on California Road, could you supply the water needed to put that fire out and save a life?" He said he could not say that with 100% surety. And my statement was, "yeah, but we'll have good, strong teeth, won't we?" I believe you were there for that, Ed. This project would have been done two years ago, as far as I was concerned. I don't know if I would have had the rest of the Board's backing or not. I've done some research on it. I'm not a dentist; I don't propose to be a dentist. I have spoken to a dentist. We get more fluoride from everything else that we put in our mouth like toothpaste and mouthwash, etc. than we do from the fluoride that's in the water. The only people who really benefit from this are those with developing teeth, but they get that from their toothpaste and they get that from their mouthwash or a fluoride treatment that the dentist gives, if it's necessary.

Councilwoman Alice Roker:

I think seniors benefit from this, as well.

Councilman Tom Diana:

It's possible.

Councilwoman Alice Roker:

I understand your frustration. It is frustrating, but I don't think that it's the project that's frustrating. I think that everything that's happened is frustrating.

Councilman Tom Diana:

It's our fiduciary responsibility to be practical for our constituents. Quite frankly, we have approximately 30% of people in this Town that are on wells that aren't going to benefit from this at all – not one iota.

Councilwoman Alice Roker:

But they don't pay for it, either.

Councilman Tom Diana:

But their teeth don't benefit from it is what I'm saying, not that they don't pay for it. Plus, what we're not bringing into this whole thing is the somewhere between \$40,000 and \$60,000 O&M that it's going to take to maintain and run this system on a yearly basis. I know we have to go forward at this point to mitigate possible lawsuits that the contract could bring because of backing out of a project that we have signed contracts for, but I want it known that I am not for this project. I do not change my stripes. If I'm digging my heels in, that's what I feel. I don't feel that we were kept abreast of this situation from day one. It's just not right. It's not right for our taxpayers.

Councilman Vishnu Patel:

Councilman Diana, you have your right to speak what you feel but let me just tell you, when you take any kind of medicine in your body, the absorption rate to cure a disease in your body is different in many people, also at different ages. Even people taking care of themselves can get cavities. There are many naysayers and fake news out there in all fields. This could have been done between 2015 and 2016, but \$3.5 million was taken away to balance the budget. And then they increased the water rate 35%. That's why there was no money. And those monies were available to do the project. Things change and money is coming from the reimbursement, and now there are additional costs. You have your view but I have spoken to the Commissioner of Health and we all agreed. I think we are still almost ready to support this all the way because we are going to get some money, and most of the money will be coming back. I agree with you 100% that it was messed up in engineering and debt and delay. We all have a right to control the cost of running the project. That's my view.

Councilman Ed Lachterman:

First and foremost, I don't think it's fair to be dismissive of people that do not believe there's a benefit of fluoride and say its fake news. I think that people have the right to do their research; they have a right to their opinion. It's not the place of the Board, I or anyone on the Council, to tell people that your information is garbage because I don't agree with it. I'd also like to say, I know it was mentioned about raising the water rates – that we had to do. That was not a problem with the fact that we gave back money to the taxpayers. It was basically for the fact that for 10 years we never addressed the fact that the water rates were going up and no one wanted to raise that money until our Board at that time decided that we needed to do something.

Councilman Tom Diana:

And it was in the Code, Ed.

Councilman Ed Lachterman:

Yes, it was in the Code. I think that both are a little disparaging of the situation, but most important, if someone doesn't agree with it, I don't think that makes them wrong; it gives them a different opinion.

Councilman Vishnu Patel:

I have studied water since I was in high school and that was my passion. More people in the world today, tomorrow, in many years from now, die from diseases related to waterborne disease and contaminated water. Society has a responsibility to provide potable water for the good of humanity. People demand water everywhere by the regulations of the federal, state, county, and local laws. I have received 200 emails in reference to the fluoridation project and I know who they are.

Councilman Ed Lachterman:

I think we're talking about two different things. I just don't think it's right to be dismissive of our citizens who don't agree. I think we need to give that air, which we have, and we've all made our decision based on what we think the merits of the project are, even though that the scope has changed. If you want to double down on the fact that their opinion doesn't matter, that's up to you. I just think that it's inappropriate to make that statement because there are other people who have studied water their entire lives and they may not have the same opinion; they may not have come to the same conclusions.

*(Councilman Patel speaking)*

Councilwoman Alice Roker:

Can I...

Supervisor Matt Slater:

Councilman, can we let Councilwoman Roker speak, please?

Councilwoman Alice Roker:

Stop. The one thing that I'm proud about this Board is that we do have respect for one another. Not only should we have respect for one another, but that also translates to the residents of Yorktown. We may not always agree; we may not always be on that same page. I would never want to work in a place like Washington where they're all totally out of line. I appreciate that we

all get passionate about certain resolutions or whatever, but let's always be mindful that we must be respected.

Supervisor Matt Slater:  
Thank you, Councilwoman Roker.

Councilman Ed Lachterman:  
Thank you.

Supervisor Matt Slater:  
Any other comments from the Board? Otherwise, we do have two resolutions before us and I'll entertain a motion.

AUTHORIZE THE AUCTION OF AN OBSOLETE MOTOR VEHICLE NO LONGER NEEDED FOR PUBLIC USE BY THE TOWN  
RESOLUTION #433

Upon motion made by Councilman Lachterman, seconded by Councilwoman Roker,

WHEREAS, the Town of Yorktown has found that this motor vehicle is obsolete and no longer needed for public use by the Town, and

WHEREAS, the Central Garage and Senior Services Department recommend to the Town Board that the listed motor vehicle, be deemed obsolete and sold at auction by Absolute Auctions & Realty, Inc.

2006 FORD VAN VIN: 1FDXE45P16DA85652

Slater, Diana, Lachterman, Patel, Roker Voting Aye  
Resolution adopted.

AUTHORIZE CONTRACT AMENDMENT TO AGREEMENT WITH ARCADIS AND AUTHORIZATION TO SIGN CONTRACT AMENDMENT NO. 1 WITH ELQ INDUSTRIES REGARDING EXTRA WORK ON FLUORIDATION PROJECT BOTH TOTALING \$40,338.08

RESOLUTION #434

Whereas, the Town Engineer and Water Superintendent hereby request approval for the Town Supervisor to authorize additional expenditures to the drinking water fluoridation project for extra work items as described below.

A. PCO 005: The contractor provided change order proposal #5 to reflect additional roof framing deemed to be necessary upon preparation of engineered drawings for the work. This cost is still under review and negotiation.

B. Cost summary:

PCO 002A	Demolish & Replace Masonry Walls	\$36,823.31
	Arcadis Cost for Engineering Review	\$4,800.00
PCO 003	Catskill Suction Piping	\$14,404.33
PCO 004	Buried Infrastructure (Doghouse MH)	\$28,690.02
PCO 005	Structural Changes for Roof Framing	\$5,120.42
	<b>SUBTOTALS</b>	<b>\$89,838.08</b>
	Previously Approved by Town Board	(\$19,500.00)
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$70,338.08</b>
	Less Additional Work Allowance	(\$30,000.00)
	<b>Additional Expenditure</b>	<b>\$40,338.08</b>

C. The additional expenditure will be allocated as follows:

- Arcadis Amendment to Professional Service Agreement: \$4,800
- ELQ Contract Amendment #2: \$35,538.08

D. This work will be charged to Fluoride Capital Project Cost Code HI.8340.490 Professional Services (Arcadis) & Cost Code HI.8340.004 Contractual Expenditures (ELQ). We are requesting the Comptroller make the following budget transfer: \$40,338.08 from the Water Fund- Fund Balance.

Now, Therefore Be It Resolved, that the Town Board authorizes the expenditure of \$40,388.08 as follows: authorize the Town Supervisor to sign an amendment to the professional service agreement with Arcadis in the amount of \$4,800 and to sign Contract Amendment No. 2 in the amount of \$35,538.08 to ELQ Industries for extra work on the drinking water fluoridation project. Additionally, the Town Comptroller is authorized to transfer \$40,338.08 from the Water Fund-Fund Balance.

Slater, Lachterman, Patel, Roker      Voting    Aye  
Diana    Voting    Nay

Resolution adopted.

Supervisor Matt Slater:

There's no other business before the Board. I want to say again, I wish the Town of Yorktown and our entire Board a blessed holiday season and a very, very happy, healthy New Year. I'm looking forward to continuing the great work that we've started here in 2021. Thanks so much – God bless.

ADJOURN MEETING

Upon motion made by Councilman Lachterman, seconded by Councilman Diana, the public meeting was adjourned.

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DIANA L. QUAST, TOWN CLERK  
TOWN OF YORKTOWN  
CERTIFIED MUNICIPAL CLERK