The Town of Kent Town Board Meeting was held on Tuesday, February 20, 2024 at 7:00 p.m. To see the full meeting visit the Town of Kent’s website at [www.townofkentny.gov](http://www.townofkentny.gov) under Video’s on Demand.

**Pledge of Allegiance**

Supervisor Jaime McGlasson called the meeting to order with the Salute to the Flag at 7:00 p.m.

**Roll Call**

Supervisor Jaime McGlasson – present Councilman Jorma Tompuri –not present

Councilwoman Anne Campbell – present Councilman Chris Ruthven – present

Councilman Shaun Boyd – not present

Also present: Assemblyman Matt Slater, Town Clerk Cappelli, Highway Superintendent Othmer, Highway Clerk Verity, Town Counsel Tagliafiero, Police Chief Owens, Chairperson of Recycling Kotzur, Planning Board Chair Carey, Members of Kent Fire Department, and several residents

**Resolution #79 - Old Town Hall Renovation Project**

On a motion by Councilman Ruthven

Seconded by Councilwoman Campbell

**WHEREAS**, the Town of Kent is in receipt of a proposal dated January 31, 2024 from Barton & Loguidice (the “Proposal”) to assist the Town of Kent in the preparation and development of contract documents for the phased renovation of the former Town Hall facility at 770 Route 52, as set forth in the Proposal annexed hereto and hereby incorporated by reference; and

**WHEREAS**, the services proposed are a professional service that are exempt from bidding requirements under the Town Procurement Policy and New York State law; and

**WHEREAS**, the Town Board believes it to be in the best interests of the Town to accept the Proposal and authorize the consulting services.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Town Board of the Town of Kent hereby accepts the Proposal from Barton & Loguidice and authorizes the services consistent with the Proposal; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Town Supervisor is hereby authorized and directed to execute any and all agreements and other documents necessary to give effect to this Resolution, consistent with the terms hereof, all in form satisfactory to the Supervisor and the Town Attorney.

Motion carried unanimously

**Resolution #80 - Bid for Legal Services**

On a motion by Councilman Ruthven

Seconded by Councilwoman Campbell

**WHEREAS**, the Town of Kent duly advertised for proposals for Part 1, Part 2 and Part 3 Legal Services; and

**WHEREAS**, in the bid documents the Town reserved the right to reject any and all proposals; and

**WHEREAS**, the Town Board wishes to reject all the proposals for legal services received; and

**WHEREAS,** at this time, the Town Board wishes to reappoint Hogan, Rossi & Liguori to Legal Services Parts 1 and 2 and Laura Roberts, Esq. to provide Legal Services Part 3;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Town Board of the Town of Kent hereby rejects the Part 1, Part 2 and Part 3 Legal Service proposals, and reappoints Hogan, Rossi & Liguori to provide Legal Services Parts 1 and 2 and Laura Roberts, Esq. to provide Legal Services Part 3.

Motion carried unanimously

**Resolution #81 - Award Cleaning Service Bid**

On a motion by Councilman Ruthven

Seconded by Councilwoman Campbell

**WHEREAS**, the Town of Kent duly advertised for proposals for cleaning services for the Town Hall, Kent Library, Police Department and Highway Department; and

**WHEREAS**, the bids were opened and publicly read; and

**WHEREAS**, the Town Board wishes to accept the bid submitted by Facilities Maintenance Corporation of Florida for the following monthly fees:

Town Hall: $1,820 per month

Kent Library: $1,400 per month

Police Dept: $1,280 per month; and

Highway Dept: $. 425 per month.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Town Board of the Town of Kent hereby accepts the bid of Facilities Maintenance Corporation of Florida as further detailed above; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Town Supervisor is authorized and directed to execute any agreements in connection with the above.

Motion carried unanimously

**Resolution #82 – Award Bids for Highway Tree Work and Excavator with Stump Shear & Grinder**

On a motion by Councilman Ruthven

Seconded by Councilwoman Campbell

Resolved: The bid received from Barney Zipkin Tree Service, Inc. was accepted for Tree Work. In addition the bid received from R. T. I. Industries, LC was accepted for the Excavator with Stump Shear as attached.

Motion carried unanimously

**Resolution #83 - Authorizing Town Clerk to Advertise for Motor Equipment Operator in Highway Department**

On a motion by Councilwoman Campbell

Seconded by Councilman Ruthven

WHEREAS, the Town of Kent is seeking to fill the position of motor equipment operator (“MEO”) in the Town of Kent Highway Department; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Kent wishes to advertise for applications to fill said position following the five day internal posting; and

WHEREAS, the Town Board of the Town of Kent wishes to authorize its Town Clerk, Yolanda D. Cappelli, to advertise for applications for the position of MEO in the Highway Department following the five day internal posting;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Kent hereby authorizes its Town Clerk, Yolanda D. Cappelli, to advertise for applications for the MEO in the Highway Department following the five day internal posting.

Motion carried unanimously

**Resolution #84 - Lead Mechanic to Chief Mechanic II for Municipal Repairs Department**

On a motion by Councilman Ruthven

Seconded by Councilwoman Campbell

WHEREAS, the Town Board wishes to promote Matt Kiernan from his current position as Lead Mechanic to Chief Mechanic II of the Municipal Repairs Department;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Kent hereby authorizes the promotion of Mr. Kiernan from Lead Mechanic to Chief Mechanic II in the Municipal Repairs Department; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Kent hereby authorizes the Supervisor to execute any and all documents necessary to give effect to this resolution.

Motion carried unanimously

**Assemblymen Matt Slater**

Assemblyman Matt Slater said he is proud to represent the 94th Assembly District which includes the entire Town of Kent. He appreciates local government as he served as Town Supervisor for Yorktown. He thinks it’s important to inform local communities how State Government impacts local government. He said some of the decisions made during the budget process may or may not impact the community. He said the proposed state budget is $235 billion dollars. He addressed a few items that might impact the town’s operation starting with Governors decrease in funding to public schools. He said the Carmel Central School District will not be impacted in fact in the proposed budget the CCSD will see a $1.2 million dollar increase in state aid. He is on the Transportation Committee and said local road funding as proposed by the Governor has been cut by 100 million dollars, specifically 60 million in CHIPS funding. He said this is unacceptable, they know costs for construction continues to rise by 58% over the last 3 years. He has met with local highway superintendents and seeking restoration of the 60 million dollars and an increase of 200 million dollars for local road investments. He explained there is infrastructure money that they expect to see flow from the Federal Government, however nearly 90% of local roads would not qualify. He said we had the first half of Route 52 paved in a collective effort from himself and Senator Harckman he said NYSDOT has added the second half of the project to the 2025 capital budget. He said it takes a year to have the project go to bid. Also in the budget is a 2.5 million dollar decrease in Veteran benefits directly impacting Putnam County, he said there was and continues funding to the Dwyer Peer to Peer Program. He said they were successful last year in restoring funding and hoping to restore it again the process already has begun. AIM Funding remains flat. He said this year’s budget was projected to be 4.5 billion deficit which projected would be 36 billion deficit over the next 3 years. The Carmel Central School District qualified for the free school meals program that NYS offers. He said the Governor has proposed a 2.4 billion dollar allotment to NYC to manage the ongoing migrate crisis. The mayor of NYC requested a total of 2.9 billion dollars. He said this is a serious issue, police officers are being assaulted, he hears a lot from his constituents about it, $2.4 billion when your cutting education program, veterans programs, cutting investments in local roads it makes it very hard pill to swallow, he is hopeful to come back to the negotiation table on this. The Ways and Means Committee is forecasting revenue to come in higher than anticipated which shows the economy is doing well. He said the Environmental Bond Act Money will begin later this year and encouraged the town to pay attention and will be part of the CFA process. He has been advocating for dollars to help deal with the harmful algae blooms impacting most lake communities including Kent. He suggested monitoring the States Grant Gateway Program. He explained last year the Governor proposed the Housing Compact. He thought it a disaster and would take away local control of zoning. He said it was defeated as part of the budget process however in July of 2023 the Governor signed an Executive Order #30 creating Pro Housing Community. It is an alternative way of moving the original agenda forward impacting your eligibility and access to discretionary funding. There is specific criteria for the downstate that must be met and recognized to be a Pro Housing Community. He said there are 129 communities who have already sent a letter of intent, 20 have submitted all the required documentation. He said this was not done by the legislature but by executive order. Councilman Ruthven suggested a letter in support of CHIPS and Veterans Services from the Town Supervisor. Assemblyman Slater appreciated that support noting it would go a long way. Councilwoman Campbell was interested in the criteria to become a Pro Housing Community. Assemblyman Slater briefly went over the requirements, the legislature did not want State Government to make these decisions on behalf of the municipalities, and we were clear and united. He said the municipalities he represents are unique and different. He said housing growth is great but living in the watershed hosts many problems he does not believe an arbitrary number is going to recognize that. He thinks that is where this policy fails but wants the Town to be aware of this. Highway Superintendent Othmer wanted all to know that Assemblyman Slater is an Active Naval Reserve Officer. He said as a Veteran he appreciates what he has done and is quiet about his service. Assemblyman Slater said that is one of his secrets, he is proud of his service and his commitment to the country. He thanked the board for allowing him to present tonight.

**Resolution #85 - Approval Allocation of American Rescue Plan Act(“ARPA”) Funds for Library**

On a motion by Councilwoman Campbell

Seconded by Councilman Ruthven

**WHEREAS**, the American Rescue Plan Act of 2022 (“ARPA”) provided fiscal recovery funds to county governments, as well as other forms of government, pursuant to US Department of Treasury Compliance and Reporting Guidance, for the purpose of alleviating the fiscal stress caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, and the Town of Kent has received funding from ARPA; and

**WHEREAS,** by resolution dated June 20, 2023 the Town allocated ARPA funds to be used for the Town of Kent Public Library for computers, programs, and other materials to be used to improve the services the Library provides to Town residents; and

**WHEREAS,** the Town Board is in receipt of a voucher from the Library in the amount of $7,404 for the purchase of certain ebooks, audiobooks, laptops, cybersecurity classes and technical support to be paid out of the allocated funds and anticipates additional expenditures up to $46,444.00,

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Town Board of the Town of Kent hereby authorizes the initial payment of $7,404 out of the allocated ARPA funds for the purchases by the library referred to above; and

**BE IF FURTHER RESOLVED,** that the Town Board of the Town of Kent hereby ratifies and approves any actions previously taken to give effect to this Resolution.

Motion carried unanimously

**Resolution #86 - Authorizing Hiring of Emergency Medical Services Coordinator**

Matt Valente, Chief of the Kent Volunteer Fire Department said they have been looking into forming an EMS Service for the Town to be consolidated between the two districts. They have seen a decrease in recent years of certified EMTs which is needed on an ambulance making it difficult to staff their ambulances which has caused us to rely on neighboring towns, Carmel, Putnam Valley, Putnam County to receive EMS Service to our residents. The amount of time it takes has increased making it more difficult to become an EMT. They would like to continue EMT service along with their Fire Department, called an EMS First Response. They will take a fire truck there, assist them, start patient care if the ambulance is not there yet and eventually transfer the patient care over to the trained ambulance. Overall he thinks having an ambulance staffed 24, 7, 365 will improve the safety of town residents. He explained we are the last town in the county to have a paid service. Kathy Doherty asked if this is a private ambulance company. Chief Valente replied it will be a Town Municipal Ambulance Service. Councilman Ruthven explained there is Medicare, Medicaid, Insurance reimbursement from the ambulance runs. We will be obtaining the equipment from the two fire departments to get this running. Barry Sanel, Chairman of the Kent Fire District explained the Kent Fire District is a political subdivision of the Town of Kent with taxing entity. They are 23 square miles with 1,545 taxing units and cover about 3 miles of the Taconic Parkway. The District was established in 1958 and in 1971 the Kent Fire Department was established. Their budget is under $500,000. The State established a system where fire departments can bill, which they do not have the capabilities and volunteers to do so. He said they became an Ambulance Corp in 1975 being the majority of what they respond to. This has been discussed and challenging. He looks forward to working on the solution allowing excellent service.

On a motion by Councilwoman Campbell

Seconded by Councilman Ruthven

**WHEREAS**, the Town of Kent is seeking to fill the position of Emergency Medical Service Coordinator; and

**WHEREAS,** per the email dated February 15, 2024, from Claudia Dworaczyk, Confidential Secretary to the Supervisor, following discussions with the Putnam County Personnel Department, the Town is recommending hiring Alex Roeher as Emergency Medical Service Coordinator.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Town Board of the Town of Kent hereby authorizes the hiring of Alex Roeher as Emergency Medical Service Coordinator at a rate of $37 per hour, effective as of February 22, 2024; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Town Board of the Town of Kent hereby authorizes the Supervisor to execute any and all documents necessary to give effect to this resolution.

Motion carried unanimously

**Resolution #87 - Authorizing Sale of Unneeded Town Property**

On a motion by Councilman Ruthven

Seconded by Councilwoman Campbell

**WHEREAS**, the Town of Kent is the owner of a parcel of vacant land adjacent to Montrose Drive in Kent, New York, as more fully set forth in the annexed metes and bounds description (hereinafter referred to as the “Property”); and

**WHEREAS**, Mr. Xavier Quinde and Ms. Olivia Morocho own the parcel at 4 Montrose Drive which adjoins the Property, and Mr. Quinde and Ms. Morocho wish to purchase the Property; and

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to Town Law 64(2), the Town Board is authorized to sell real property at private sale pursuant to a resolution which is subject to a permissive referendum, and provided the property is unneeded for town purposes and an adequate consideration is received; and

**WHEREAS**, the Property is currently not being used for any public purpose, and there is no future use contemplated for that portion of the Property, and it is therefore unnecessary for Town purposes; and

**WHEREAS**, Mr. Quinde and Ms. Morocho have offered to pay the Town the sum of $2,500 in exchange for the Property, and the Town Assessor has advised that this is a reasonable offer for the Property;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Town Board finds that the Property is currently not being used for any public purpose, and there is no future use contemplated for that portion of the Property, and it is therefore unnecessary for Town purposes, and it is of no value to anyone other than Mr. Quinde and Ms. Morocho; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Town Board agrees to sell the Property to Mr. Quinde and Ms. Morocho for the sum of $2,500, subject to permissive referendum, on the condition that the Property be merged with the adjoining lot owned by Mr. Quinde and Ms. Morocho.

Motion carried unanimously

**Resolution #88 - Authorizing Town Clerk to Advertise for Seasonal Park Maintenance Workers**

On a motion by Councilwoman Campbell

Seconded by Councilman Ruthven

WHEREAS, the Town of Kent is seeking to fill the positions of Seasonal Park Maintenance Workers for the Recreation and Parks Department; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Kent wishes to advertise for applications to fill said positions; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Kent hereby authorizes its Town Clerk, Yolanda D. Cappelli, to advertise for applications for Seasonal Park Maintenance Worker positions for the Recreation and Parks Department.

Motion carried unanimously

**Resolution #89 - Accepting Proposal for Lake Tibet Hydro Raking**

On a motion by Councilwoman Ruthven

Seconded by Councilman Campbell

**WHEREAS**, the Town Board of the Town of Kent has been advised there is a need for hydro-raking of Lake Tibet (Park District #2); and

**WHEREAS**, in accordance with the Town’s Procurement Policy, the Town requested four proposals from companies which provide this specialized service, and received one proposal, a copy of which is annexed hereto and incorporated herein by reference; and

**WHEREAS**, the Town received two proposals in response in the request; and

**WHEREAS,** by email dated February 2, 2024, the Lake Tibet Park Association has recommended that the Town accept the proposal of New England Aquatics as it represents the best value since multiple vehicles will be used for the extraction and removal; and

**WHEREAS**, the Town Board of the Town of Kent wishes to accept the recommendation of the Lake Tibet Park Association and the proposal submitted by New England Aquatics;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Town Board of the Town of Kent hereby approves the hydro raking of Lake Tibet by New England Aquatics for the price set forth on the proposal annexed hereto in an amount up to $35,000; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Town Supervisor is hereby authorized and directed to execute any and all agreements and other documents necessary to give effect to this Resolution.

Motion carried unanimously

**Resolution #90 - Add Item to the Agenda**

On a motion by Supervisor McGlasson

Seconded by Councilman Ruthven

Resolved: The Reassessment AARPA funding was added to the agenda.

Motion carried unanimously

**Resolution # 91 – Town Wide Reassessment/AARPA Funding**

On a motion by Councilman Ruthven

Seconded by Councilwoman Campbell

Resolved: The expenditure on $300,000 of AARPA Funding can be used for the 2024 charges for the Town wide Reassessment.

Motion carried unanimously

**Resolution #92 - Authorizing the Town to Apply for AARP & T-Mobile Grants**

On a motion by Councilwoman Campbell

Seconded by Councilman Ruthven

**WHEREAS**, the Town Board of the Town of Kent wishes to authorize the Town Supervisor to apply for the AARP and T-Mobile Grants;

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Town Board of the Town of Kent hereby

authorizes the Town Supervisor to apply for the AARP and T-Mobile grants; and it is

**FURTHER RESOLVED,** that the Town Board of the Town of Kent hereby authorizes and directs the Supervisor to execute any and all other documents necessary to give effect to this resolution.

Motion carried unanimously

**Resolution #93 -Approval of Vouchers and Claims**

On a motion by Councilman Ruthven

Seconded by Councilwoman Campbell

Resolved: All Vouchers #200170957 - # 200171058 and claims submitted by:

**2024 VOUCHERS**

1. Apalachee $91,004.17 Salt
2. Bill Reynold’s Jr. Garage Doors $2,175.00 Deposit: Ryan’s Field Garage Doors
3. Cemco Water $2,254.84 WD#1: January
4. GAR Associates $35,000.00 Contract Billing: Reassessment
5. Goosetown Communications $24,570.00 Semi-Annual Billing Radio System
6. Hudson River Truck & Trailer $9,095.00 Flatbed
7. Magna5 MS $7,547.50 Network Services: February
8. Managed Technologies of NY $3,857.77 Toughbook & Cradle: Police
9. NYS Dept. of Civil Service $270,801.89 Health Insurance: February
10. NYSEG $3,203.68 Electric: Highway
11. Ringsquared $3,329.36 Telephone Services: February
12. Robert Green Auto & Truck $5,548.27 Truck Parts
13. Laura Roberts $3,780.00 Prosecutor: January
14. Thunder Ridge Ski Area $8,670.00 Recreation Ski Program
15. Town of Kent PBA $17,760.00 2024 Welfare Fund
16. Verizon Wireless $2,401.41 Cell Phone Service: Police
17. Royal Carting $4,006.78 Recycling Garbage

**2023 VOUCHERS**

1. Motorola Solutions $2,395.60 Repeater for Cell Tower
2. Ringsquared $3,342.60 Telephone Service: August
3. State Comptroller $38,277.00 Justice Court: December
4. Town of Kent Municipal Repairs $4,739.67 Chargebacks: Recreation November

$4,539.51 Chargebacks: Police October

$2,145.71 Chargebacks: Police November

may be paid.

Motion carried unanimously

**Announcements**

-Supervisor McGlasson stated the Town of Kent Family Night at the Danbury Hat Tricks Hockey Game is February 24, 2024, discount tickets available through Kent Recreation.

–- The Lake Carmel Fire Department will be having a Public Open House on Sunday April 14th from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

- Kent Library is hosting a Make a Birdfeeder event and 2/21 at 11:00 a.m. registration is required.

- The Kent Library is hosting some events to go along with the Solar Eclipse. On February 25 at 4:30 they will be hosting Types of Stars and at 6:00 p.m. something about Classification of Stars.

-Kent Library is hosting a Workshop on how to Drastically Reduce College Costs on Saturday, March 9, at 11:00 a.m.

**Public Comment**

Sue Kotzur asked about the Emergency Services Coordinator, she asked how many hours and where will the person be working. Councilman Ruthven replied it is set up to 37 hours depending on the workload as it is being set up at Town Hall. Sue Kotzur asked the status of Sunberry Properties she was told the Supervisor had not signed. Supervisor McGlasson replied nothing new has developed.

**Resolution # 94 – Adjournment**

On a motion by Councilman Ruthven

Seconded by Councilwoman Campbell

Resolved: The Town Board Meeting of February 20, 2024 adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

Motion carried unanimously

Respectfully submitted,

Yolanda D. Cappelli