

**Town of Jackson Town Board Meeting
August 7, 2024**

The Town Board of the Town of Jackson met on August 7, 2024 at 7:45 pm at the Town Hall for the regular monthly meeting.

PRESENT:

- Jay Skellie..... Supervisor
- Travis Rea..... Councilman [entered at 7:52 pm]
- Carol Rich..... Councilwoman
- Jennifer VanDeWater..... Councilwoman
- Tim Grogan..... Councilman
- Molly Dixson..... Town Clerk
- Sean Carney..... Highway Superintendent
- Donna Nolan..... Budget Officer

Also present: Planning Board Chair Kelly Donahue, Norbut Solar representative Nathan Cobb, Christine Eldred of the Eagle and several residents of the Town.

RESOLUTION #73-24

A motion by Councilwoman Rich, seconded by Councilman Grogan; Resolution passed 4-0, **to accept the July 3rd, 2024 Town Board meeting minutes as read.**

RESOLUTION #74-24

A motion by Councilwoman VanDeWater, seconded by Councilman Grogan; Resolution passed 4-0, **to accept the July 16th, 2024 Local Law #2 of 2024 Public Hearing minutes as read.**

RESOLUTION #75-24

A motion by Councilwoman Rich, seconded by Councilwoman VanDeWater; Resolution passed 4-0, **to approve the Town Clerk & Supervisor Reports for July 2024 as follows:**

Town Clerk Fees to Town	\$120.00
Supervisor Receipts	\$217,310.38
Supervisor Disbursements	\$261,936.99

REPORTS

Highway – Superintendent Carney was present to report on the Department’s activity over the month of July. The dept. helped to install retaining wall and dig ditches at the Murray Hollow Road bridge project. The tractor is up and running again and most roads within the Town have been mowed at least once. Stoned was hauled in and more blocks were put in for the salt shed. The crew has been busy cleaning up after storms and grading several roads. They have also received the plow for the new pickup.

Planning Board Report – Planning Board Chair Kelly Donahue was present to report on Tuesday’s Planning Board meeting:

- Jackson Solar 1, LLC project owners Generate Capital and contractors Millcreek Renewables had originally asked to be on the meeting’s agenda but cancelled the night before. As of right now, they will continue to work with engineers at Barton and Loguidice to ensure their site plans are in alignment with what the Town had originally approved. Erosion, sediment control, retention pond, and SWPPP changes were made to the plans by the EPC firm without the Town’s approval and are currently being reviewed. Generate Capital did not appear to be aware of said changes. The Town Planning Board Clerk and Chair attended a virtual meeting with Generate Capital project sponsors, Millcreek Renewables engineers, Barton and Loguidice and Whiteman Osterman and Hanna LLP in which Millcreek Renewables engineers advised of some changes that may need to be made to the final set of preconstruction drawings. They are currently permitted to stabilize the site of the project but are not permitted to do any further work until the issues are resolved. Chair Donahue will continue to update the Town Board as they know more.
- Chair Donahue has a working draft of the Battery Energy Storage Law that she will be sending out to Planning Board members for reviewal. The Planning Board also plans to consult with emergency service responders on safety regulations. Although there is a month remaining in the current moratorium, the Planning Board will need more time to prepare a final law. The Planning Board is requesting a 3-month extension of the Commercial Battery Energy Storage System moratorium from the Town Board.
- Board members agreed to request Michael Ammaturo be appointed to the open position on the Planning Board.

[Councilman Rea entered at 7:52 pm during the reading of the Planning Board Report.]

OLD BUSINESS

Planning Board Member Appointment – Town Board members all agreed they would like to meet Michael Ammaturo at the September regular Town Board meeting and tabled the vote on his appointment till that time.

RESOLUTION #76-24

A motion by Councilman Rea, seconded by Councilman Grogan; Resolution passed 5-0, **to extend the current moratorium on Commercial Battery Energy Storage Systems by three months concluding December 11, 2024.**

Roll Call:

Councilwoman Rich	Aye
Councilwoman VanDeWater	Aye
Supervisor Skellie	Aye
Councilman Grogan	Aye
Councilman Rea	Aye

RESOLUTION #77-24

A motion by Councilman Rea, seconded by Councilman Grogan; Resolution passed 5-0, **to pass Local Law #2 of 2024 to enact a temporary moratorium on approvals of utility scale solar energy facilities, wind generated energy facilities and alternative energy facilities within the Town of Jackson effective immediately upon filing with the Department of State.**

Roll Call:

Councilwoman Rich	Aye
Councilwoman VanDeWater	Aye
Supervisor Skellie	Aye
Councilman Grogan	Aye
Councilman Rea	Aye

NEW BUSINESS

Great Meadows Closure Resolution – Supervisor Skellie read aloud Resolution No. 235 titled ‘Resolution in Opposition to the Closure of the Great Meadow Correctional Facility in the Town of Fort Ann’ that was passed at the July 30, 2024 Special Meeting of the Washington County Board of Supervisors. Supervisor Skellie questioned if Board members would make a motion to sign the resolution in opposition of the closure of the facility. Jim Reid stated that the facility is old and understaffed and he believes there are implications whether the facility closes or not. He added that a documented impacts study would help people to better understand the effects of the closure. Supervisor Skellie stated that Washington County is currently working to get impact figures together.

RESOLUTION #78-24

A motion by Councilwoman Rich, seconded by Councilman Rea; Resolution passed 5-0, **to approve Town Council members sign the Washington County Board of Supervisors Resolution No.235 in opposition of the closure of the Great Meadow Correctional Facility in the Town of Fort Ann.**

2024 Town Picnic – The Town picnic was reported to have a poor turnout of only 45 people this year. Supervisor Skellie welcomed suggestions for next year on how to better get the word out and plan for the event.

At this time, resident Alan Brownell questioned the exclusions of the solar/wind/alternative energy facilities moratorium. Chair Kelly Donahue explained that the only completed solar project application that would not be prohibited by the moratorium is that of Jackson Solar 1, LLC. There are no other applications for solar, wind or alternative energy facility projects at this time.

Supervisors Report – There was no Supervisor’s Report for the month.

RESOLUTION #79-24

A motion by Councilman Grogan, seconded by Councilwoman VanDeWater; Resolution passed 5-0, **to approve the following budget transfers:**

- A1990.4 Contingent – A8020.4 Planning Board for \$968.50 to cover attorney expenses.
- A1620.4 Town Building Schoolhouse - A1620.4 Misc. for \$47.91

RESOLUTION #80-24

A motion by Councilwoman VanDeWater, seconded by Councilwoman Rich; Resolution passed 5-0, **to approve the payment of the following bills as audited on August 8th, 2024, Abstract #8 and authorized the Supervisor to pay said bills from the respective funds:**

FUND	BILL #	AMOUNT
General	71-82	\$4,958.46
Highway	118-139	\$12,780.62
<i>(Note: Payroll missing in March HW abstract, 3 payrolls #16, #17, #18 in August will bring up to date.)</i>		
Capital	5	\$5,018.07
Machinery 7A	1	\$31,624.61
Machinery	2	\$8,269.00

RESOLUTION #81-24

A motion by Councilwoman Rich, seconded by Councilwoman VanDeWater; Resolution passed 5-0, **to adjourn at approximately 8:42 pm.**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:42 pm.

Molly Dixson, Town Clerk