

**AGENDA**  
**TOWN OF NEW BALTIMORE, COUNTY OF GREENE**  
**REGULAR TOWN BOARD MEETING**

**JULY 8, 2024**

*Please turn off all cell phones and electronic devices.*

**Pledge of Allegiance**

**Adoption of Minutes**

- June 10, 2024 Town Board Regular Meeting

**Public Comment Period**

**New Business**

- Resolution to Approve Bid for Replacement of Mechanical Screen for Wastewater Treatment Plant
- Resolution to Authorize the Town Supervisor to Sign Building Permit for New Baltimore Conservancy Project
- Audit of Claims

**Upcoming Meetings**

- July 11, 2024 Planning Board Meeting at 7 PM
- July 22, 2024 Town Board Work Meeting at 7 PM
- July 28, 2024 Veterans Committee Picnic at 12 Noon at Cecil Hallock Park, Rain Location at Cornell Hook & Ladder Fire Company on Gill Road
- August 7, 2024 Zoning Board of Appeals Meeting at 7 PM
- August 8, 2024 Planning Board Meeting at 7 PM
- August 12, 2024 Town Board Work Meeting at 7 PM
- August 26, 2024 Town Board Work Meeting at 7 PM
- September 5, 2024 Senior Picnic at 12 PM at Cecil Hallock Park
- September 21, 2024 Townwide Yard Sale Beginning at 9 AM
- October 5, 2024 Mobile Spay/Neuter Clinic at Town Hall, Pre-Registration Required at [jkash@townofnewbaltimore.org](mailto:jkash@townofnewbaltimore.org)

**Public Comment Period/Community Events**

**Adjournment**

**\*\*\*\* Agenda Subject to Change\*\*\*\***

## **GUIDELINES FOR PUBLIC CONDUCT DURING TOWN BOARD MEETINGS**

1. The Supervisor shall preside at the meetings of the Town Board. In the absence of the Supervisor, the Deputy Supervisor shall be the acting Supervisor. In the event both the Supervisor and the Deputy Supervisor are absent, the other members shall designate one of their members to act as temporary chairman. A majority of the Board shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business, but a lesser number may adjourn.
2. Town residents who wish to speak shall fill out a card at the entrance of the meeting room listing their name, contact information, and the subject matter in which they would like to speak. These cards will be collected prior to the beginning of the Town Board meeting and given to the Town Supervisor or Deputy Supervisor in the absence of the Supervisor.
3. Speakers must be recognized by the presiding officer and then proceed to the lectern and state their name and address. They must limit their remarks on official town business to up to three minutes on a given topic and may not yield any remaining time to another speaker. They must address their remarks to the Board as a body and not to any member thereof and not to other members of the audience in the form of a debate.
4. Speakers should present their remarks in a courteous manner and may not make disparaging remarks or personal comments about public officials, town residents, or others. All speakers will observe the commonly accepted rules of courtesy, decorum, dignity, and good taste with no cursing, swearing, clapping, booing, finger pointing, bullying, whispering, or talking that disrupts the proceedings of the business of the Town Board.
5. Any speaker who disregards the directives of the presiding officer in enforcing the rules, disturbs the peace at a meeting, makes impertinent or slanderous remarks, or generally conducts themselves in an inappropriate manner shall be barred from further participation and will forfeit any balance of time remaining for their comments.
6. After a final warning, if a speaker willfully refuses to step down, the Town Supervisor shall contact the appropriate authorities to remove the speaker from the meeting room and to restore order.
7. The Town Supervisor, or in their absence the Deputy Supervisor, shall ensure compliance with these rules.

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Supervisor Ruso opened the meeting at 7:00 PM and the Pledge of Allegiance was said. Also attending Councilmembers Kash, Sottolano, and VanEtten; Mackenzie Kesterke, Esq.; Deputy Supervisor Dellisanti; Town Clerk Finke; and 9 members of the public who signed the attendance book. Absent: Councilmember Downes and Highway Superintendent VanWormer

**ADOPTION OF MINUTES**

The June 10, 2024 Town Board Regular Meeting submitted by Town Clerk Finke, Moved by Supervisor Ruso and was seconded by Councilmember Kash and VanEtten. The adoption of the foregoing Motion was duly put to a vote and the vote was as follows:

AYES: Ruso, Kash, Sottolano, VanEtten

NAYS:

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT: Downes

**Motion Carried**

**Public Comment Period**

**Harold Vadney:** First, as a general matter the Freedom of Information Law is based on the presumption of public access. Stated differently all records of the Town are available except to the extent that records or portions thereof fall within one or more exceptions and Freedom of Information Law lays down those exceptions. There's also authority to withhold or not to disclose records. I think we're all familiar with that. A single record for example might include portions that are available under the statute but it also may include others that can be redacted. In other words, the whole document isn't produced. Under the Freedom of Information Law, the Town Board is responsible for implementation of the Freedom of Information Law and its provisions. The regulations promulgated by the Committee on Open Government require that the Town Board designate at least one person as the Records Access Officer and in the great majority of cases this Records Access Officer is the Town Clerk, as we know here in New Baltimore. If that is so, it's within the Clerk's authority and responsibility to coordinate the Town's response to requests for records. If the Town Clerk believes that it would be appropriate for the Town Attorney to review the request, I believe that would be within the Clerk's authority to do so. I do not believe that the Clerk must seek review of all requests by the Town Attorney nor do I believe that it would be appropriate if any other Town officer injects himself into the FOIL process. Section 87.1 requires the governing body of a Town to adopt rules and regulations consistent with those promulgated by the Committee on Open Government and the Freedom of Information Law. I note that in the Freedom of Information Law it's very expansive in it's description of what documents are available for disclosure and I quote 'any information kept, held, filed, produced, reproduced by with or for an agency or the State Legislature in any physical form whatsoever. If a Town officer or employee attempts to influence, ignore, reject the determination of the Records Access Officer the FOIL will be for all practical purposes useless and meaningless and the governing body of the Town would lose its ability to govern in a manner consistent with the law.' Stated differently, if agency personnel do as they please, notwithstanding the authority of the rule of law, the result would be chaos. The public would no longer be able to rely or expect the government would recognize or abide by its own laws. Given that background on July 17, 2023 I served a FOIL demand for production of records relating to George McHugh. I served it on the Town Clerk, Records Access Officer. McHugh, who was at the time Town Attorney for New Baltimore and three other municipalities. I served that demand on five municipalities, two of which responded sufficiently. On June 30, 2024 I received from a very reliable source a screen shot of a text message sent from George McHugh's phone to several Clerks. In that text message George McHugh asks "Did you receive a FOIL from Harold Vadney." The Clerk asks McHugh if they should be expecting to receive that FOIL and McHugh responds 'Yes.' McHugh writes that 'New Baltimore and Athens received the same FOIL.' There seems to be some communication with Mr. McHugh by one or many of these Clerks regarding my FOILs. The word out is that he went from Town to Town inquiring whether they had received a FOIL from me. McHugh, and here's the good part, McHugh then proceeds to tell the Clerk which documents should be produced. In the circumstance in which a public officer refuses to abide by the law and instead chooses to refuse to recognize his or her responsibilities imposed by law a court might very well find that the public officer acted beyond the scope of the officer's authority and, therefore, is personally, civilly, and/or criminally liable for any abuse of office or other misconduct such as abuse of office as I just mentioned or obstruction of governmental administration. Of course, I'm not an expert in Criminal Law, but it is possible that one or

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more provisions of Criminal Law might be applicable. For example, Penal Law §195 concerning official misconduct applies when a public servant with intent to deprive another person of benefit knowingly refrains from performing a duty which is imposed upon him by law.

**Supervisor Ruso:** Mr. Vadney, I'm gonna ask you to get to your crust of your point. You're well over three minutes.

**Harold Vadney:** I have just, I have just, that's fine.

**Supervisor Ruso:** No, it isn't.

**Harold Vadney:** You have all of one resolution to take care of tonight and you might even spend..., you might even spend...

**Supervisor Ruso:** Mr. Vadney, your time is up on topic number one. You can proceed to topic number two.

**Harold Vadney:** You might even spend a half an hour here. This incident casts the Town's compliance...

**Supervisor Ruso:** Three minutes.

**Harold Vadney:** With the FOIL in a very bad light.

**Supervisor Ruso:** This is the same as topic number one. That topic is over. We've gone five minutes on topic number one. It is a three-minute rule that you well know exists.

**Harold Vadney:** When you get the Article 78 you can talk more.

**Supervisor Ruso:** Fine, you can send us the Article 78, you have topic number two.

**Harold Vadney:** Or rather, the Notice of Claim then we'll proceed to Article 78.

**Supervisor Ruso:** Fine.

**Harold Vadney:** Okay.

**Supervisor Ruso:** Topic number two. If I give you five minutes I gotta give everybody five minutes. I just can't roll over and look the other way for you. I can't do it anymore.

**Harold Vadney:** Then give everybody five minutes. Change it from three minutes which is absolutely ridiculous.

**Supervisor Ruso:** Okay.

**Harold Vadney:** When you look at neighboring communities here they have five minutes.

**Supervisor Ruso:** I can't be special on your behalf. I can't look the other way.

**Harold Vadney:** Five minutes. What are you gonna cover in three minutes? Tell me.

**Councilmember VanEtten:** Most people do.

**Supervisor Ruso:** You certainly can't even get to the point. I don't even know what you're talking about before. You never got close to it.

**Harold Vadney:** That's not surprising that you don't know what I'm talking about, it's Town Law.

**Supervisor Ruso:** Thank you very much, Sir. Topic number two if you would proceed please.

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**Harold Vadney:** Not surprising you don't know what I'm talking about.

**Supervisor Ruso:** Please sit down, Sir. Enough with the disparaging comments.

**Harold Vadney:** Excuse me, I'm on topic two.

**Supervisor Ruso:** Sit down, Sir. You are no longer on topic two.

**Harold Vadney:** I'm on topic two.

**Supervisor Ruso:** You are no longer allowed to disparage comments here.

**Harold Vadney:** I am maintaining decorum and dignity in presenting...

**Supervisor Ruso:** You have no dignity. You're presenting no dignity.

**Harold Vadney:** I beg your pardon.

**Supervisor Ruso:** You cannot sit here and impugn my intelligence.

**Harold Vadney:** I beg your pardon. Did you just say I have no dignity?

**Supervisor Ruso:** You are implying no dignity is what I'm saying.

**Harold Vadney:** Did you just say I have no dignity?

**Supervisor Ruso:** Yes, I did.

**Harold Vadney:** Okay, good.

**Supervisor Ruso:** And how you presented toward me.

**Harold Vadney:** Would you like to proceed with your comments?

**Supervisor Ruso:** Yes, you provide no dignity to anyone else.

**Harold Vadney:** Excuse me, I have far more dignity than most of you.

**Supervisor Ruso:** Okay, enough's enough. You've evolved into something rather strange here tonight.

**Harold Vadney:** Shall we proceed? Shall we proceed to topic two?

**Supervisor Ruso:** No, I think you're done for the night.

**Harold Vadney:** You do?

**Supervisor Ruso:** Yes.

**Harold Vadney:** Are you refusing me the Floor?

**Supervisor Ruso:** Yes, I am.

**Harold Vadney:** On topic two.

**Supervisor Ruso:** You've had ample opportunity for one...

**Harold Vadney:** On topic one. I'm going to proceed to two.

**Supervisor Ruso:** Two, and you've also had ample opportunity.

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**Harold Vadney:** Excuse me, I'm arguing with you taking up time here. Let me proceed.

**Supervisor Ruso:** Mr. Vadney...

**Harold Vadney:** Let me proceed.

**Supervisor Ruso:** You have had ample opportunity.

**Harold Vadney:** Excuse me.

**Supervisor Ruso:** To say disparaging comments about my intelligence and inability to understand you. So, therefore, I don't understand you. I agree. I don't understand you.

**Harold Vadney:** Excuse me, we'll go to the official Minutes and we'll look at what you just said and compare them to the official Minutes.

**Supervisor Ruso:** Fine. Mr. Vadney, I do not understand you. I agree.

**Harold Vadney:** Shall I proceed to topic two or you going to shut me down?

**Supervisor Ruso:** If you can't get this done in three minutes, then I will shut you down.

**Harold Vadney:** Okay, agreed. Just give me one minute before the three minutes are up.

**Supervisor Ruso:** No, no, we're not getting into a preamble, heaven help us.

**Harold Vadney:** Just let me know when I'm approaching...

**Supervisor Ruso:** You don't run this Board meeting sir.

**Harold Vadney:** Just let me know when I'm approaching the end of time. That's what I'm asking you to do. Can you do that? I know Ms. VanEtten is constantly watching the clock.

**Councilmember VanEtten:** I didn't have a clock.

**Harold Vadney:** Okay. For several months now a member of this Town Board has had a chronic cough which has not escaped the interest and concern of residents attending these Town Board meetings. Apparently the Board's...

**Councilmember Kash:** Sorry, I had a hairball.

**Harold Vadney:** Was that supposed to be funny?

**Supervisor Ruso:** This is devolving into...

**Harold Vadney:** And you talk about my dignity.

**Supervisor Ruso:** This is devolving into something outrageous.

**Harold Vadney:** You talk about my dignity.

**Supervisor Ruso:** Please.

**Harold Vadney:** She sits there and tells me she coughed up a hairball.

**Councilmember Kash:** Mr. Supervisor.

**Supervisor Ruso:** I don't want to talk about the health of any individual.

**Councilmember Kash:** Mr. Supervisor, may I reply?

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**Harold Vadney:** We're not talking about the health of any particular individual...

**Supervisor Ruso:** Yes, we are.

**Harold Vadney:** Unless that individual wishes to make her identity known.

**Councilmember Kash:** Mr. Supervisor, may I reply to Mr. Vadney?

**Supervisor Ruso:** Of course, you can always do that.

**Councilmember Kash:** Well, I have read both of the emails.

**Harold Vadney:** I'm not done with my comment. Let me finish my comment, then you can rebut. Okay? Can we agree on some parliamentary procedure here?

**Supervisor Ruso:** Any speaker...

**Harold Vadney:** I had, I had the Floor.

**Supervisor Ruso:** 'Any speaker who disregards the directives of the presiding officer in enforcing the rules, disturbs the peace at a meeting, makes impertinent or slanderous remarks' which you most certainly have...

**Harold Vadney:** Which was?

**Supervisor Ruso:** How you're not surprised that I don't understand the details of law.

**Harold Vadney:** I'm not, I'm not. How can that be slanderous?

**Supervisor Ruso:** 'or generally conducts themselves in an inappropriate manner shall be barred from further participation and will forfeit any balance of time remaining for their comments.' Okay, we're crossing into dangerous territory here.

**Harold Vadney:** So far...

**Supervisor Ruso:** I will allow you to continue tonight.

**Harold Vadney:** So far you're interrupted me consistently and now you're telling me that I'm behaving indecorously.

**Supervisor Ruso:** Yes, indeed. Yes, indeed, I am telling you that. So I'm glad you understood me.

**Harold Vadney:** So I just want you to...

**Supervisor Ruso:** You are approaching the level here where

**Harold Vadney:** I just...

**Supervisor Ruso:** Further involvement in Town Board meetings, we may take action and bar you. I'd rather not do that.

**Harold Vadney:** I would invite you to do that.

**Supervisor Ruso:** Okay.

**Harold Vadney:** I would challenge you to do that.

**Supervisor Ruso:** Alright, let's go. Let's go. Let's move on with our Agenda.

**Harold Vadney:** Okay, may I continue with my comments

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**Supervisor Ruso:** Good heavens.

**Harold Vadney:** May I continue? You've interrupted me continuously now. May I continue with my comments?

**Supervisor Ruso:** If you finish up and I hope there's no more need for interruption.

**Harold Vadney:** It's not up to you. The rules are...

**Mackenzie Kesterke, Esq.:** Sir, that's really not a back and forth.

**Supervisor Ruso:** Alright, enough, sit down folks. Everybody. Oh, I'm sorry, you are sitting down.

**Harold Vadney:** Are you shutting me down?

**Supervisor Ruso:** Yes, you are ... We're done with you for the night.

**Harold Vadney:** Okay, thank you.

**Supervisor Ruso:** Enough's enough.

**Harold Vadney:** We'll get an advanced copy of the Minutes.

**Supervisor Ruso:** Yes, of course. Thank you very much or actually I'd rather not say that. What else do we have? Do you have any input to provide?

**Mackenzie Kesterke, Esq.:** Really this isn't a back and forth. So if you're doing comments you do your comment, you do what you need to say, and not this back and forth and this derogatory comments.

**Harold Vadney:** I was interrupted.

**Mackenzie Kesterke, Esq.:** No, that's enough,

**Harold Vadney:** I was interrupted.

**Mackenzie Kesterke, Esq.:** That's enough now.

**Harold Vadney:** Okay, I was told I didn't have dignity.

**Mackenzie Kesterke, Esq.:** That's enough now.

**Harold Vadney:** Okay.

**Supervisor Ruso:** Yup, we're moving on.

**Harold Vadney:** I was shut down.

**New Business**

**TOWN OF NEW BALTIMORE, COUNTY OF GREENE**

**RESOLUTION 102-2024**

**JULY 8, 2024**

**RESOLUTION TO APPROVE BID FOR REPLACEMENT OF MECHANICAL  
SCREEN FOR WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT**

*WHEREAS* bids were requested and advertised for the replacement of the mechanical screen at the wastewater treatment plant, and,

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**WHEREAS** 4 bids were received prior to the deadline of June 26, at 1:00 p.m., opened by two representatives of Delaware Engineering with the following quotes:

1. 3-D Rigging, \$377,500
2. MCJ, \$368,000
3. Flack Industries, Inc, \$339,660
4. J-Squared, \$318,000

**WHEREAS** Delaware Engineering had determined that each of the above companies maintains appropriate qualifications to perform the project and that they recommended J-Squared,

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** the Town Board of the Town of New Baltimore awards said bid to J-Squared for \$318,000.

Motion by Supervisor Ruso seconded by Councilmember Sottolano

**Supervisor Ruso:** If you folks have looked, you'll see Delaware Engineering's correspondence regarding the bids.

AYES: Ruso, Kash, Sottolano, VanEtten

NAYS:

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT: Downes

**Motion Carried**

**Supervisor Ruso:** Alright, so now we have another topic that has come up in the last couple days and I think when we're done with this resolution we'll just, Deb, you and I, will describe our conversation as you and I had earlier today about the Conservancy agreements I think.

**TOWN OF NEW BALTIMORE, COUNTY OF GREENE**

**RESOLUTION 103-2024**

**JULY 8, 2024**

**RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE THE TOWN SUPERVISOR TO SIGN BUILDING PERMIT FOR NEW BALTIMORE CONSERVANCY PROJECT**

**WHEREAS** the New Baltimore Conservancy has filled out a building permit for the repair of the Tidal Pond viewing deck which is in disrepair, and,

**WHEREAS** said deck is on Town Property and thus the building permit must be approved and signed by the Town,

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** the Town Board of the Town of New Baltimore authorizes the Town Supervisor to sign the building permit allowing the New Baltimore Conservancy to pay for and repair said deck located on the HRIT trail, and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** such repairs shall be in compliance with all state and town codes.

Motion by Supervisor Ruso seconded by Councilmember VanEtten

**Supervisor Ruso:** I will say there's been some dialogue regarding the need to be Code compliant, I've even included Michelle in on this. She made some great points that if we're expecting the Town residents to be compliant with the Town and State codes, then certainly on Town property we should be compliant with Codes as well. I know that there was some concern about that. I don't want to overstate it or understate it. Any other points to be made?

**Councilmember VanEtten:** Well, the Town's insurance covers this right so we do have to make sure it's done right or the Conservancy's.

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**Supervisor Ruso:** Neither.

**Councilmember VanEtten:** Conservancy's.

**Supervisor Ruso:** Neither. Neither or both is a better way to put it.

**Councilmember VanEtten:** Both do, okay.

**Supervisor Ruso:** Both will cover okay. As Michelle said there is no, what word did she use, delegable was that the word?

**Councilmember Sottolano:** Yeah, that the Town can't really delegate it to...

**Supervisor Ruso:** We cannot delegate our liability to another party. There are insurance policies that the Conservancy have that pays first, but if someone were to be injured beyond the I believe it's \$2 million that the Conservancy has and let's say they have injuries that they want to sue for \$2,100,000 whatever,, our insurance would be secondary if that's the right word. Is that the right word?

**Mackenzie Kesterke, Esq.;** Yes.

**Supervisor Ruso:** So there is liability for whoever asked that question, but it's down the path.

**Councilmember VanEtten:** And are you hiring a contractor to do this or...?

**Councilmember Sottolano:** Well, the work that the Conservancy was proposing on the permit was going to be done by Conservancy staff.

**Supervisor Ruso:** Yeah, it doesn't much matter who does it as far as I'm concerned.

**Councilmember VanEtten:** As long as it's done by the...

**Ellie Alfeld:** As long as they have insurance.

**Supervisor Ruso:** As long as it's done right yeah.

**Councilmember Sottolano:** They have the insurance and they have the skills.

**AYES:** Ruso, Kash, VanEtten

**NAYS:**

**ABSTAIN:** Sottolano

**ABSENT:** Downes

**Motion Carried**

**Supervisor Ruso:** Okay, so just as a matter of conversation, first off we have one of the agreements has expired in April and we were talking about renewing it and getting it renewed and we've come across the realization that we have three separate agreements with the New Baltimore Conservancy, each of them seemingly have different lengths of term and each of them seem to begin and end on different dates. So what we're looking to do with Deb's help, we're gonna meet with the President of the Board. I wanted to actually get that one tonight, but let's get 'em all done, let 'em all start and begin at the same time, and so we're gonna have to set up a meeting and get this done within a month anyway. And I will keep Michelle involved as well, but let's just get 'em all done. The three of them are: one is the lease of the Paper Trail which is on the west side of Route 144; the other one is the HRIT (the Hudson River Interpretive Trail) which is on the east side of Route 144. The Conservancy leases those two properties from the Town, those are Town-owned properties. They lease 'em. maintain the trail, manage it, what have you. The third lease is a bit different and it is that the Town has in the past -- it's currently expired -- but the Town has in the past leased the parking lot from the Conservancy for Town use. So there's three leases, we don't what them ending at different dates which doesn't make sense does it?

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**Someone Responded:** No.

**Supervisor Ruso:** Let's do them all. Now, they pay us \$1 for those first two, each of those first two, the Conservancy for which they give us an insurance statement and we give them \$1 for the lease of the parking lot or have in the past anyway. So just to make sure everyone's clear on what goes on here and let's just wrap it all up and get it done right. That's fine.

**Deputy Supervisor Dellisanti:** Are the insurance certificates from the Conservancy up to date?

**Councilmember Sottolano:** I have an update on that. I just spoke to Barb about it. I did receive the Certificate of Insurance for the HRIT and then I have to speak a little bit more because there is a question about the other one for the Falls and how that's gonna work. So I did speak to the insurance person.

**Supervisor Ruso:** Okay, well, obviously all those agreements are contingent upon those insurance documents. Alright, let's move on.

**Ellie Alfeld:** Deb, the Falls, is that actually part of the Conservancy's?

**Councilmember Sottolano:** It's the part that's the Town.

**Supervisor Ruso and Councilmember Sottolano:** That's the Paper Trail.

**Ellie Alfeld:** I just want to make sure okay.

**Supervisor Ruso:** Those are Town lands. Basically, all the lands on the east side of 144 are Town lands, town-owned. On the west side the first probably I don't even know how many acres, the first batch of acres is Conservancy property and then in the way-back, landlocked is six acres of Town property.

**Councilmember Sottolano:** And there's also a DEC trails back there too.

**Ellie Alfeld:** Yeah, I've been on there.

**Supervisor Ruso:** So, we're anticipating getting that done rather soon. Any other discussion?

**Councilmember VanEtten:** No.

**TOWN OF NEW BALTIMORE, COUNTY OF GREENE**

**RESOLUTION 104-2024**

**JULY 8, 2024**

**RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE SUPERVISOR TO PAY AUDITED CLAIMS**

*WHEREAS* the Town Clerk has presented claims to the Town Board for audit and review, and

*WHEREAS* the Town Board has audited claims 2024-07-01 to 2024-07-32, it is

*RESOLVED* that the Supervisor is hereby authorized to pay claims 2024-07-01 to 2024-07-32.

*BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED* that the Town Clerk will prepare an abstract and hold it for public review until August 31, 2024.

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Motion by Supervisor Ruso seconded by Councilmember VanEtten

AYES: Ruso, Kash, Sottolano, VanEtten

NAYS:

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT: Downes

**Motion Carried**

General \$8,153.51, Highway \$2,107.01, Sewer 1 \$3,466.60, Sewer 2 \$41.30, Water 2 \$3,545.00, Lighting District 2 \$230.59, Total \$17,544.01.

**Upcoming Meetings**

- July 11, 2024 Planning Board Meeting at 7 PM
- July 22, 2024 Town Board Work Meeting at 7 PM
- July 28, 2024 Veterans Committee Picnic at 12 Noon at Cecil Hallock Park, Rain Location at Cornell Hook & Ladder Fire Company on Gill Road

**Councilmember VanEtten:** If it's awfully hot we may have it at the Gill Road Fire Station too.

- August 7, 2024 Zoning Board of Appeals Meeting at 7 PM
- August 8, 2024 Planning Board Meeting at 7 PM
- August 12, 2024 Town Board Regular Meeting at 7 PM
- August 26, 2024 Town Board Work Meeting at 7 PM
- September 5, 2024 Senior Picnic at 12 PM at Cecil Hallock Park
- September 21, 2024 Townwide Yard Sale Beginning at 9 AM
- October 5, 2024 Mobile Spay/Neuter Clinic at Town Hall, Pre-Registration Required at [jkash@townofnewbaltimore.org](mailto:jkash@townofnewbaltimore.org)

**Councilmember Kash:** Sent out another advertisement about it today. I've had four or five people get back to me. I think a lot of people are away on vacation right now so they're not really thinking about it so...

**Supervisor Ruso:** How many do we need, like 40?

**Councilmember Kash:** We need to have 40 for the spay and neuter clinic to come.

**Supervisor Ruso:** How many do you have?

**Councilmember Kash:** We don't have that many yet, but like I said a lot of people are away on vacation, they're not thinking about it so I'm really boosting up the advertisement for it.

**Supervisor Ruso:** Are we half-way there?

**Councilmember Kash:** No, we are nowhere near halfway there yet.

**Audience Member:** Is there a fee for that?

**Councilmember Kash:** The spay/neuter of cats is \$90 and that includes a one year rabies vaccine which is very reasonable considering that at most vets you're going to be paying between \$200-\$300. They'll also be a clinic just for people to come and get rabies and distemper vaccines for their dogs and cats. Unfortunately, we can't do any dog spays and neuters this time, but, yeah, I'm continuing to advertise it. People in New Baltimore will get preference, but we're also going to allow people from outside of Town to come to get their cats spayed and neutered and it can be companion, can be feral. So, yeah, you know we're still gonna be working on that and I hope that we can actually pull this off because I think it would be a great thing both to reduce animal overpopulation to give owners a reasonable way to spay and neuter their cats within their budgets. I think we'll see. It's an experiment, we hope it's gonna work,

**Public Comment Period/Community Events**

**Councilmember Kash:** This Sunday, July 14, we have the New Baltimore Music and Arts Festival. Looks like Mother Nature is going to smiling on us. We have 12 acts. It's gonna be at Wyche Park from 1:30-6 PM. It's completely free. Everybody is welcome to come and

**TOWN OF NEW BALTIMORE**                      **Draft 7/25/2024**  
**COUNTY OF GREENE**                              **Adopted 8/12/2024**  
**TOWN BOARD REGULAR MEETING**  
**TOWN HALL, 3809 COUNTY ROUTE 51, HANNACROIX, NY 12087**  
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listen to the music and see some of the other great acts that are gonna happen. There's gonna be some great food. I want to publicly thank Cornell Hook & Ladder for giving us some extra parking. One of the residents here has also given us some additional parking for the festival and it's gonna be a great day. So I hope everybody comes out and it will also be dedicated to the life and legacy of our dear Thomasina Winslow who passed away suddenly in January of 2023. She was one of the founders of the concert series along with my husband and Brian Melick so this will be a great way to honor her life and legacy and we're happy to say that her brother, Carlton Winslow, is going to come and sing a song for us so it's gonna be a great day and we're also going to be collecting donations for the Thomasina Winslow Music Scholarship that has been set up at Schenectady County Community College. So we're hoping to keep her legacy alive in that way as well.

**Supervisor Ruso:** All these acts will be musical acts is what...?

**Councilmember Kash:** All musical acts ranging from percussion to Blue Grass to Rock and Roll, Gaelic music, some stuff...

**Audience Member:** Country?

**Councilmember Kash:** Yup, Dusk til Dawn, you know they're gonna be there so it's gonna be a potpourri of different acts and I'm happy to say that we're also going to have a little performance by Witches along the Hudson who will come and dance for us to all sorts of Rock and Roll. It's a Witches Dance Troupe and they're really, really cool. They go to all the festivals around here, Ellie, you know.

**Ellie Alfeld:** No, I don't know.

**Councilmember Kash:** Don't say no until you see 'em. I just want to know how they're gonna wear their witches outfit in the heat.

**Supervisor Ruso:** Thank you for that update on Community Events, be careful what you ask for you might get it. Alright, well, thank you everybody.

**Councilmember Kash:** Everybody can bring a broom.

**Adjournment**

Motion by Councilmember VanEtten seconded by Councilmember Sottolano, the meeting was adjourned at 7:29 PM

AYES: Ruso, Kash, Sottolano, VanEtten

NAYS:

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT: Downes

**Motion Carried**

Respectfully Submitted,

Barbara M. Finke RMC CTO  
Town Clerk