

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE VETERAN TOWN BOARD**  
**November 10, 2022**

**Pledge of Allegiance**

**Board members present:**

Lapierre  
Henke  
O'Brien  
Lewis

**Absent:**

Winkky

**Others present:**

Residents:

P. Coon, E. Speck, B. Gruver, D. Marks, C. Jones  
M. Coon, C. Edwards, T. Edwards, D. Jones  
C. Rhodes- highway superintendent  
N. Cervoni- Sprague insurance  
S. McInerney- T&C fire dept.  
J. Groff- Town Attorney via phone

**Supervisor Lewis opened the public hearing at 7pm concerning Local Law #6/2022 "Tax Cap Override"**

D. Marks: asked questions about revenue from compression station, Vargo Rd. Solar farm and raises

B. Gruver: attended previous public hearing concerning same and stated that there is no reason

M. Coon: Against raising taxes with town tax she gets nothing

C. Edwards: Do not override, 4.5% raise full time employees only

M. Hall: does not understand tax cap

Motion was made by Lewis seconded by O'Brien to close public hearing at 7:17pm.

AYES: Lapierre, Henke, O'Brien, Lewis

NAYS: None

**Supervisor Lewis opened the public hearing at 7:17pm concerning Town & Country Fire contract**

E. Speck: asked if this is in addition to the Millport Fire contract

P. Coon: does Odessa have a fire contract

M. Hall: worth every penny

Motion was made by Lewis seconded by Lapierre to close said public hearing at 7:21pm

AYES: Henke, O'Brien, Lapierre, Lewis

NAYS: None

**Supervisor Lewis opened the public hearing concerning the 2023 Preliminary budget**

Written comments from M. Little were read:

1. Pay raise concerns
2. Keep town website current
3. Highway superintendent should get a raise

D. Marks: doe this include override at this time? Options, compensations to adjust?

M. Coon: Do you have it in writing majority vote?

P. Coon: Option always options

E. Speck: Retired group look at budget

D. Marks: Once taxes go up they do not go down

Motion was made by Lewis seconded by O'Brien to close such hearing at 7:29pm

AYES: O'Brien, Lapierre, Henke, Lewis

NAYS: None

Nicole from Sprague Insurance was present to explain the coverage for the year 2023. Board asked her to go back and do some work to options.

**Audit the Bills:**

Motion was made by Henke seconded by Lewis to authorize the payment of the bills with the totals that follow:

“A” Fund: \$33,182.69

“B” Fund: \$4,776.24

“DA” Fund: \$8,116.02

“DB” Fund: \$120,734.79

AYES: Lapierre, Henke, O’Brien, Lewis

NAYS: None

**Minutes:**

Motion was made by Lapierre seconded by O’Brien to approve the minutes of 10/13, 10/20, 10/27, and 11/3 as submitted.

AYES: Henke for 10/13, 10/20 and 11/3 Abstain to 10/27

O’Brien, Lapierre, Lewis

NAYS: None

**Petitions and Communications:**

Sprague Comp. Alliance

New NYS Comp policy \$50,000

**Planning Board/ Zoning Board of Appeals:**

No meeting was held for planning board

No meeting was held for zoning board of appeals

**Code Enforcement Officers Report:**

Motion was made by Henke seconded by Lewis to accept the report as submitted.

AYES: O’Brien, Lapierre, Henke, Lewis

NAYS: None

**Green Committee/Stormwater Committee:**

No meeting last month

Short discussion was held about how the water tables have changed.

**Supervisors Report:**

Millport fire dept. monthly report

Dog control report

Financial

Motion was made by Henke seconded by Lapierre to accept the report as given.

AYES: Lapierre, Henke, O’Brien, Lewis

NAYS: None

**Clerks Report:**

Motion was made by Henke seconded by O’Brien to accept the report as submitted.

Henke asked if the state receives any of the money for dog licenses.

AYES: Henke, O'Brien, Lapierre, Lewis  
NAYS: None

**Highway Superintendents Report:**

Motion was made by Lewis seconded by Lapierre to accept the report as submitted.

AYES: O'Brien, Lapierre, Henke, Lewis  
NAYS: None

**Public Comment:**

C. Edwards; commented about the condition of Parrott Rd after the traffic is rerouted for accidents etc. and asked if dust oil could be extended to include the entire road.

D. Marks; commented that Lesky Rd. has the washboard effect

D. Jones: inquired about the tax revenue from the solar on Vargo Rd and how to protect the countryside as he moved here not long ago for the country and is now faced looking at solar panels.

Resolutions and Motions:

No comments from public comments were moved to new business

**Resolution No.81/22  
Relative to Budget Transfers**

Motion by: Lewis  
Seconded by: Henke

Motion was made to make the following budget transfers.

<b>Fund:</b>	<b>Debit</b>	<b>Credit</b>
A3005- Mortgage Tax	\$22,000	
A2770- Unclassified Revenue		\$16,000
A599- Appr. Fund Balance		\$6,000
DA5130.200- Machinery- Equip		\$158,762.92
DA599- Appr. Fund Balance	\$158,762.92	
DB5112.200- Per. Improv, Capital Outlay		\$248,076
DB599- Appro. Fund Balance	\$248,076	

AYES: Lapierre, Henke, O'Brien, Lewis  
NAYS: None

**RESOLUTION No.82/22  
Relative to Local Law #6/ 22 Override Tax Cap**

Motion by: Lewis  
Seconded by: Lapierre

**WHEREAS**, the State of New York has amended the General Municipal Law to require the municipalities, with certain exceptions, must maintain property tax levies that do not grow by greater than 2%, year to year; and

**WHEREAS**, there is uncertainty relating to the application of various provisions of General Municipal Law Section 3-c, including but not limited to the proper calculation of the tax levy limit; and

**WHEREAS**, Subdivision 5 of General Municipal Law Section 3-c authorizes a governing body of a local government to override the tax levy limit for the coming fiscal year by a vote of 60% of the total voting power of such body; and

**WHEREAS**, this Board has considered the benefit to the residents and property owners in the Town of Veteran of overriding the tax levy limit and has conducted a public hearing on November 10, 2022.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, be it resolved that this Board does hereby adopt proposed Local Law # 6 of 2022 providing for the override of the tax levy limit established in General Municipal Law Section 3-c for the fiscal year 2023.

AYES: O'Brien, Lapierre, Lewis

NAYS: Henke

#### **RESOLUTION No.83/22**

##### **Relative to Authorizing Supervisor to Execute Fire Protection Contract for 2023**

Motion by: Lewis

Seconded by: Henke

WHEREAS, the Veteran Town Board having on November 10, 2022 at 6:55 P.M., duly held a public hearing for the purpose of considering a new contract for the calendar year 2023 with the Town and Country Fire Department, Inc. which contract shall be for fire protection to "Town of Veteran Fire Protection District No. 3", and having heard all persons desiring to be heard in the matter, and the matter of said contract for such fiscal years having been fully discussed and considered,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that Supervisor David Lewis be and hereby is authorized to execute said contract, copies of which are on file in the office of the Town Clerk, on the terms and conditions contained therein, for the calendar year 2023, in the following amount:

2023	\$79,000.00
------	-------------

AYES: O'Brien, Lapierre, Henke, Lewis

NAYS: None

#### **Resolution No.84/22**

##### **Relative to Budget Revisions**

Motion by: Henke

Seconded by:

Motion was made to revise the budget so that only full time employees received a raise and no increases for the remainder.

MOTION FAILED TO NO SECOND

MOTION DIES

**Resolution No.85/22  
Relative to Adoption of 2023 Budget**

Motion by: Lewis

Seconded by: Lapierre

**WHEREAS**, the Town Board of the Town of Veteran having, on November 10, 2022 at 6:55 o'clock P.M., duly held a public hearing on the preliminary budget approved by this Board and filed with the Town Clerk for the fiscal year commencing January 1, 2023, including the fire protection district budgets for 2023 and having heard all persons desiring to be heard in the matter, and

**WHEREAS**, the matter of the budget for this Town for such fiscal year having been fully discussed and considered,

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that said preliminary budget approved and filed as aforesaid including the fire protection district budgets for 2023 is hereby approved and established as the annual budget for this Town for the fiscal year beginning January 1, 2023 and that such annual budget be so adopted in detail in the minutes of the proceedings of this Board, and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Town Clerk of the Town shall prepare and certify as provided by law, duplicate copies of the said annual budget hereby adopted, shall attach thereto an exemption report in compliance with the requirements of Chapter 258 of the Laws of 2008, and deliver one of such copies to the Supervisor of the Town, and that the Supervisor shall present such copy to the Board of Legislators of Chemung County as required by law.

AYES: Lapierre, O'Brien, Lewis

NAYS: Henke

**Resolution No.86/22  
Relative to Bookkeepers Resignation, Appoint New Bookkeeper**

Motion by: Lewis

Seconded by: Henke

Letter of resignation from Minling Li from bookkeeper.

With regret and Thanks for all her service and extended service beyond her retirement as we search for a new bookkeeper, I accept her resignation.

AYES: Lapierre, Henke, O'Brien, Lewis

NAYS: None

Motion by: Lewis

Seconded by: Henke

Whereas, a resignation has been received from Minling Li, as bookkeeper for the Town of Veteran, to be effective on the close of business on November 27, 2022, and

Whereas, the resignation has been accepted by the Town Board, and

Whereas, Town officials and staff have an interviewed individuals to perform bookkeeping functions for the Town, and

Whereas, Town Supervisor David Lewis has recommended to this Board that John Savash be employed by the Town as its bookkeeper effective November 28, 2022, and

Whereas, Town Law Sec 29(15) authorizes the Supervisor to designate a bookkeeper,

Be It Resolved, that this Board does hereby authorize Supervisor Lewis to designate a bookkeeper.  
Be It Further Resolved, that Supervisor Lewis does hereby employ and appoint, effective November 28, 2022, John Savash to position of bookkeeper for the Town to be paid at a 2022 salary of \$16,733 per year, in bi-weekly installments. Future salary will be established in the A1320.100 appropriation of the adopted budget of the Town of Veteran.

AYES: Henke, O'Brien, Lapierre, Lewis

NAYS: None

**Resolution No. 87/2022  
Relative to Second Notice Fee**

Motion by: Henke

Seconded by: Lewis

Motion was made for the Town Clerk/Tax Collector to collect and additional \$2.00 per parcel for taxes relative to second notices for the year 2023.

AYES: O'Brien, Henke, Lapierre, Lewis

NAYS: None

**Resolution No. 88/2022  
Relative to Sales Tax**

Motion By: Henke

Seconded by: Lapierre

Motion was made not to share any of the Towns' share any of the sales tax monies to offset the tax bills.

AYES: Lapierre, Henke, O'Brien, Lewis

NAYS: None

**Old Business:**

Website update: Have been looking for different vendors. Discussed what the most important items needed. Fee sheet was handed out.

Comprehensive plan review committee: first meeting will be Nov. 30 at 6pm

Wedge solar project: Supervisor Lewis and O'Brien explained to the public about businesses and the PIOLT program. Wedge Solar applied to the IDA for reduced taxes to the town AKA: PILOT.

Motion was made by Lewis seconded by Henke to adjourn at 9:12pm

All in favor

Patricia R. Manwaring  
Clerk

