

Town of Alexandria  
 Reconvened Town Board Meeting  
 June 5, 2024  
 5:00 PM  
 Alexandria.statdvr.com  
 Audio/Video

Supervisor Sweet called the meeting to order at 5:00pm

**Pledge to Allegiance**

**Roll Call:**

Councilman Davidson - Present  
 Councilman Hunneyman - Absent – Arrived at 5:25 p.m.  
 Councilman Kring - Present  
 Councilman Thomas - Present  
 Supervisor Sweet - Present

Motion by Councilman Thomas to adjourn the public hearing for Local Law # 5 Volunteer Firefighter and Volunteer Ambulance Workers Real Property Tax Exemption, a local law to allow for a 10% tax reduction until June 19<sup>th</sup> at 6pm . Motion seconded by Councilman Davidson. Motion was carried all in favor.

Public Concerns: No one present.

Morgan Spencer of MSPEN Consulting introduced herself and talked to the Town Board about different grant options being offered by NYS and what the Town may qualify for.

Andrew Garlock was also present and gave an overview of the different options for the Ice Arena renovation project. He recommended that they apply for the full scope of the project costs.

Grants discussed were:

**Empire State Development Funds** – Cap is \$3,000,000 and this will fund at a maximum 20 percent of the project. ESD has \$100 million of capital grant funding from the Regional Council Capital Fund available for the State’s Regional Economic Development Council Initiative, which helps drive regional and local economic development across New York State in cooperation with ten Regional Economic Development Councils (“Regional Councils”).

**New York State Office of Parks, Recreation, and Historic Preservation** – Offering up to 26 million – For the development of parks and recreational facilities to preserve, rehabilitate or restore lands, waters or structures for park, recreation, or conservation purposes and for structural assessments or planning for such projects. This is a Reimbursement program with a match requirement of up to 50%. Awards are capped at \$675,000. \*Can acquire land. \*Reimbursement program.

**The Capital Improvement Grants for Pro-Housing Communities Program** – While projects through the ESD Grant Funds program are typically considered for awards of up to twenty percent of the financing for projects, projects applying to the Capital Improvement Grants for Pro-Housing Communities program will be considered for up to fifty percent of the eligible total project cost with a cap of \$3 million per project.

Councilman Hunneyman asked how important is having an up-to-date Comprehensive Plan for the Town of Alexandria. Our current plan is about 10 years old. Morgan stated it is very important, but it is a lengthy process and should be done every 10 years. It is often included in grant applications.

Supervisor Sweet inquired about grants for sidewalks in Redwood. Discussion was had on the businesses in Redwood, the post office that all the hamlet residents visit daily, and the historical society. The new Playground equipment that the Town put in at the playground and what the playground has to offer. It was also noted the Route 37 is a trucking corridor and people should not be on the edge of the road walking. Morgan said this could turn into a grant possibility.

**Water Quality Improvement Project (WQIP) Program** –WQIP is a competitive, statewide reimbursement grant program to implement projects that directly improve water quality or aquatic habitat or protect a drinking water source.

Eligible Projects Include:

Wastewater Treatment Improvement (25%)

Nonagricultural Nonpoint Source Abatement and Control (25%)

Vacuum Trucks in Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) Area (25%)

Land Acquisition for Source Water Protections (25%)

Salt Storage and Road Salt Reduction (25%)

Dam Safety Repair / Rehabilitation and Removal (25%)

Aquatic Connectivity Restoration (25%)

Marine District Habitat Restoration (25%)

Fish and Wildlife Habitat Restoration and Enhancement(25%)

Discussion of this grant for the Salt Barn. According to Morgan the subject of Salt Barns was a hot topic and almost always received funding. She is not sure if the State is feeling the same now, but she would like to try sooner than later with this grant if it is needed.

Motion by Councilman Davidson to engage Morgan Spencer with MSPEN Consulting to do the following grants applications for with the Ice arena Renovation. Empire State Development Funding for \$3,800. NYS Office of Park, Recreation and Historic Preservation for \$3,800. The Capital Improvement Grants for Pro-Housing Communities Program for \$4,000 and New York Main Street Program for \$3,500. These 4 grants are for the Ice Arena Renovation. Also to be included in the grant writing is the Water Quality Improvement Project (WQIP) Program for the Salt Barn at \$3,000. Morgan was also asked to investigate the HCR – Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and see what would need to be done to help small businesses in the community. Motion was seconded by Councilman Thomas and Kring. Motion carried all in favor.

Councilman Davidson inquired about MSPEN doing the Comprehensive Plan / Strategic Plan for the Town of Alexandria and what that process would look like. Morgan gave a brief overview and said she will email something to Supervisor Sweet for the Board to review.

Motion by Councilman Davidson to pay the Board of Assessment Review (BAR) members their annual fee of \$250. Motion seconded by Councilman Kring. Motion carried all in favor.

Motion by Councilman Davidson to pay Stewart's sign bill for parking lot signs for the Baptist Church. Motion seconded by Councilman Thomas. Motion carried all in favor.

Motion to go into executive session at 5:56 PM by Councilman Thomas to discussion historical and status of an employee and pending litigation. Motion Seconded by Councilman Davidson.

Motion by Councilman Kring to come out of executive session at 7:13 pm. Motion seconded by Councilman Thomas. Motion carried all in favor.

Motion by Councilman Kring to rescind accepting Rusty Johnson's bid for town barn drained based on conditional acceptance from Last meetings and to accept Mike Hoovers bid in totality. Motion was seconded by Councilman Davidson. Motion carried all in favor.

Motion by Councilman Thomas to accept Gouverneur Savings and Loan settlement order regarding assessment. Motion seconded by Councilman Kring. Motion passed all in favor.

Motion to adjourn until June 6 at 4:30 PM by Councilman Davidson. Motion seconded by Councilman Kring. Motion carried all in favor.

