

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE TOWN BOARD
TOWN OF STEPHENTOWN
26 GRANGE HALL ROAD,
STEPHENTOWN, NEW YORK 12168
MAY 19, 2025**

The Regular meeting of the Town Board, Town of Stephentown was called to order by *Supervisor Philip (PJ) Roder* at 7:00 PM at the Town Hall.

MEMBERS & TOWN OFFICIALS PRESENT:

(X) Supervisor Philip (PJ) Roder

(X) Council Diana Clark

(X) Council Kyle Kidney

(X) Council John E. DeFreest Jr.

(X) Council Tammy Madden

(X) Town Clerk Stephanie Hoffman

() Alden Goodermote, Highway Superintendent

() Jennifer Van Deusen, Assessor

(X) Cyril Grant, Town Justice

(X) Mary Grant, Tax Collector

A quorum (X) was () wasn't established.

17 from the Public were present

RESOLUTION# 34 – 2025 OPENING OF SEALED BIDS FOR THE FURNISHING OF ALL LABOR, EQUIPMENT

AND MATERIAL AND INSTALLATION OF AIR SOURCE HEAT PUMPS FOR OFFICES OF TOWN HALL

WHEREAS: the Town Board solicited bids for the project identified as the “INSTALLATION OF AIR SOURCE

HEAT PUMPS FOR OFFICES OF TOWN HALL” and

WHEREAS: the Town Clerk's Office received 3 sealed BIDs by May 19, 2025, at 7:00PM from:

1. The Radiant Store for the amount of \$33,787.00
2. HOP Energy RYCOR for the amount of \$27,950.00
3. Bennington Cooling & Heating for the amount of \$39,460.00

now therefore be it

RESOLVED: that the Town Board acknowledges all BIDs for the “INSTALLATION OF AIR SOURCE HEAT PUMPS FOR OFFICES OF TOWN HALL” and will award at a later date after all BIDs have been reviewed by the Town Board. The Town Board has the authority to accept or reject any and all BIDs.

MOTION BY: Roder SECONDED BY: Madden

VOTES OF: 5 AYE 0 NAY

Resolution No. 32 of the year 2025

**RESOLUTION OF APPRECIATION AND
COMMENDATION HONORING RIK MCCLAVE FOR 61
YEARS OF SERVICE**

Whereas, the Town Board feels it is both right and appropriate to recognize members of our community who dedicate their time and effort to making our town a better place for all who live here; and

Whereas, no one better exemplifies this commitment than Rik McClave, who has served the

Stephentown community with distinction for an incredible 61 years as a member of the Stephentown Volunteer Fire Department, concluding his honorable service with his retirement in October 2024; and

Whereas, Rik McClave began answering calls during the administration of President Lyndon B. Johnson, and for over six decades selflessly responded to emergencies of all kinds-including accidents, fires, mishaps and calls for help-saving numerous lives and providing comfort and assistance to countless people; and

Whereas, Rik's dedication often required him to leave his beloved wife of 60 years, Bev, at funerals, parties, graduations, and even their children's school concerts in order to serve the community; and

Whereas, Rik has been vital in training the next generation of firefighters and first responders, and these trainees have attested to his skill, caring nature, energy and passion in all emergency service matters; and

Whereas, Rik served as an active Emergency Medical Technician for 47 years and was instrumental in establishing the volunteer ambulance service in Stephentown in 1993; and

Whereas, those in need of emergency services often hoped and prayed that the first person through the door would be Rik McClave-and indeed, many injured individuals would simply go directly to his home in search of help;

Now, Therefore, be it resolved, the Town Board of the Town of Stephentown hereby commends Rik McClave for his 61 years of selfless service and dedication to the Stephentown Volunteer Fire Department, and to the entire community of Stephentown and all its residents; and

Be it further Resolved, that this resolution be entered into the permanent record of the Town and that a copy be presented to Rik McClave as a token of our deepest gratitude and admiration.

MOTION BY: Roder SECONDED BY: Madden

VOTES OF: 5 AYE 0 NAY

Residents, fellow EMTs and First Responders memorize and honor Rik's service and all the accomplishments and experiences they had with him throughout his volunteer service.

AUDIT OF CLAIMS:

- Claim #96-25 through #116-25 in the amount of **\$43,033.31 to be approved** from the **General Account**
- Claim #79-25 through #99-25 in the amount of **\$133,863.91 to be approved** from the **Highway Account**
- For a **Total of \$176,897.22** audited and approved by the Town Board.

MOTION BY: CLARK SECONDED BY: DEFREEST, JR.

VOTES OF: 5 AYE 0 NAY

Minutes of the **APRIL 21, 2025, Regular Town Board Meeting** were approved by the Town Board as written.

MOTION BY: KIDNEY SECONDED BY: DEFREEST, JR.

VOTES OF: 5 AYE 0 NAY

TOWN CLERKS REPORT: The Town Clerk turned over the sum of **\$1,405.37** to the Supervisor for the month of **APRIL 2025**.

JUSTICE COURT REPORT: The distribution from the office of the State Comptroller, Justice Court Fund to the Town of Stephentown for the month of **February 2025** was \$_____.

TRANSFER STATION REPORT: The Transfer Station deposited a total of **\$8,165.00** for the month of **APRIL 2025**.

Bags: **\$5,764**

C&D & Metal: **\$2,171**

Tires: **\$36**

Stickers: **\$195**

Propane Tanks: **\$0**

Appliances: **\$15**

ACCOUNT TOTALS:

GENERAL \$1,099,590.47	HIGHWAY \$1,414,881.80
GENERAL RESERVE FUND \$912,730.94	HIGHWAY RESERVE FUND \$744,652.70
BEACON ESCROW \$ 885.19	BEACON ESCROW FOR PLANT (BOND) \$5,000 & \$70,000.

MEETING OPEN TO PUBLIC COMMENT:

Reminders to All Participants who would like to speak: (this meeting is on Live Stream and is being recorded)

- Raise your hand prior to speaking
- Announce your name and the Town you reside in.
- There is a 3-to-5-minute window for each speaker per Resolution 1 of the fiscal year
- Any disruptive conduct will be addressed at any meeting if the Town Board is willfully disrupted by a person or by a group of persons so as to render the orderly conduct of the meeting impossible. The Chair (Town Supervisor) may recess the meeting or order the person, group or groups of persons willfully disrupting the meeting to leave the meeting or to be removed from the meeting. Disruptive conduct includes addressing the Board without first being recognized, not addressing the subject before the Board, repetitiously addressing the same subject, failing to relinquish the podium when requested to do so, or otherwise preventing the Board from conducting its business.

J. Peabody provides an update on the Library, Food pantry and the Fire Department:

Library received a grant and is making some renovations to the children’s room and will be updating the heating system. The Easter event had lower numbers, but the egg hunt was popular. Summer reading program begins at the end of June, offering homeschooling resources and safety courses. Reminder that the deadline is approaching for the \$2,000 scholarship for seniors. Will be providing a Free AED training for 2.5 hours on 6/12 at 6:00pm and 6/14 at 2:00pm. The numbers for the food pantry have increased – From January to April 303 households were served approximately 771 household members which is around 7,000 meals. The 911 signs have been a success; people have been putting the signs up. More funding has been provided to get more signs for residents. Thanked Taconic and Hoag’s Corners for their mutual aid.

Fire Department Report for	MARCH 2025	APRIL 2025
EMS with Transport	13	21
EMS without Transport	5	2
Extrication of any type		
Motor Vehicle with injury		1
Motor Vehicle no injury		1
Search for lost person		
EMS unable to respond		
Mutual Aid given EMS		1
Fire Mutual Aid given		1
Fire Mutual Aid received		2
Structure Fire	2	
Mobile Home Fire		
Chimney Fire CONTAINED		
Burner/Boiler Malfunction		
Vehicle Fire		
Outside Fire-trash, rubbish or other	2	1
Hazardous Condition		
Carbon Monoxide activation		
Cover Assignment/Standby		
Good Intent	2	
Call Cancelled		
False Alarm MALICIOUS		
False Alarm – system malfunction		
Weather Wires Down	6	2
Special Incident - other		
Monthly Total:	30	32
YTD:	78	110

R. McClave provided an update on the new ambulance that was expected to arrive in August to mid-September. After following up with the company it looks like there is a backlog and will be pushing the arrival date out to early winter.

The current ambulance has had a lot of work done on it and the department is hoping it will last until the new one is delivered.

New Resident next door from the Town Hall - moved to Stephentown last March, has concerns of the four wheelers driving into the brook that is on his and his husband's private property. He reportedly contacted DEC and they gave him some information and suggestions. The Town has been mowing and plowing it, which we are not opposed and don't want to take it away from those who use it as a swimming hole but we don't want the four wheelers driving through there. Council DeFreest Jr explained that there are fishing rights on the West Brook. People can fish within 50 feet of the bank whether it's private property or not, and it's not trespassing. This town is known for ATVs, snowmobiles, hunting and fishing. Council DeFreest suggests talking to the individuals. R. McClave reported that it's a Fire Department Water Access point.

B. McClave reported that the Cemetery Board met, and they have approximately 5 years left. If the cemetery goes "bellyup" it's the Town's responsibility. The Lawn care is the biggest cost. Supervisor Roder requests numbers and a breakdown of how funds are used. Supervisor Rober announced that Clean Up Day has been cancelled for now, and will reconsider at a later event.

Town Clerk Hoffman announces that the Berlin and New Lebanon School District budget voting is tomorrow. Council DeFreest & Clark appreciate the highway crew for putting up the Veteran flags.

RESOLUTION 33 OF 2025 AUTHORIZING THE SOLICITATION OF BIDS FOR A SCRUB BROOM AS DETAILED IN THE ACCOMPANYING BID SPECIFICATIONS FOR USE BY THE TOWN HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

Whereas, the town highway superintendent has requested the town board approve the solicitation of bids for a scrub broom or equivalent, as detailed in the company bid specifications for use by the town highway department, and

Whereas, the town board has reviewed the request and wishes to request sealed bids on the said item.

Now therefore be it Resolved, that the town board hereby authorizes the town clerk to advertise for sealed bids for the purchase of a scrub broom for the Stephentown highway department, and further be it

Resolved, that the bid specifications will be developed and provided to the town clerk's office by the town highway superintendent no later than Friday, May 23rd, 2025, and further be it

Resolved, all sealed bids received will be considered and opened publicly at the Town Hall on Monday, June 16th, 2025, at 7:00 p.m. located at 26 Grange Hall Road Stephentown New York 12168.

MOTION BY: DEFREEST SECONDED BY: CLARK
VOTES OF: 5 AYE 0 NAY

T. Dormady asks if the highway department currently has a broom or if we rent one. Town board could not answer entirely without the Highway Superintendent present.

B. Jennings provided an update on the NYSERDA grant funds for the Heat Pump updates in the Town Hall/Offices. He inquired if a company that had missed the deadline could still bid since that didn't get it in, in time. Supervisor Roder reported that they would reopen the request for BIDS if the ones received are not.

MOTION TO ADJOURN AT 8:12 PM

MOTION BY: DEFREEST SECONDED BY: KIDNEY
VOTES OF: 5 AYE 0 NAY

****The next Regular Meeting** of the Town Board, Town of Stephentown will be held on **Monday, June 16th, 2025** at **7:00 PM** at the Town Hall located at 26 Grange Hall Road, Stephentown, NY 12168.

Stephanie M. Hoffman
Town Clerk