The workshop meeting of the Gardiner Town Board was held this evening at 7 PM. Present are Supervisor Majestic, Councilmembers Wiegand, Richman, Carucci, and Walls. There were approximately 11 ± audience members.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Gardiner Day was canceled due to the weather and conditions at Majestic Park.

Monday, October 9th the Town Hall and Highway Department will be closed for Indigenous People’s Day / Columbus Day.

Parks and Rec successfully hosted its Annual Dump Run on September 24th.

Supervisor Majestic informed the residents that an employee from the Office of the State Comptroller is completing a routine risk assessment.

**INTRODUCE PCA GRANT OPPORTUNITY FOR CLIMATE SMART GARDINER**

Steve Weir, representing Climate Smart Gardiner, delivered a presentation to the Board regarding a funding opportunity offered by Partners for Climate Action (PCA) Hudson Valley Grant. This grant provides a maximum of $100,000 to support decarbonization initiatives. Climate Smart Gardiner aims to utilize this funding to establish a solar energy array on the premises of the Town Hall. Additionally, Mr. Weir mentioned that Climate Smart Gardiner has secured a forthcoming grant of $10,000, which will be allocated towards covering the expenses associated with building audits and a mechanical assessment for implementing a Geothermal system at the Town Hall. To proceed further, the Town attorney will review the Resolution of support for the project’s approval. Climate Smart Gardiner is actively working towards submitting the application by November 15th.

**AUTHORIZE THE SUPERVISOR TO SUBMIT A LETTER OF APPROVAL FOR A CANNABIS CBD AND ACCESSORIES**

On the motion of Councilmember Richman, seconded by Councilmember Walls and carried, authorizing Supervisor Majestic to submit a letter of approval for a Cannabis Growers Showcase to be held at Honey’s Cannabis CBD & Accessories. Councilmember Wiegand opposed.

**LAZY RIVER SITE PLAN DISCUSSION**

Councilmember Richman spoke to the Board regarding her apprehensions about Lazy River’s failure to comply with the buffers mandated by the Special Use Permit the Town Board granted. The Board decided to draft a memorandum to the Planning Board, notifying them of the Town Board’s intention to request the Building Inspector’s expert opinion on Lazy River’s adherence to buffering and other requirements outlined in the Resolution, which will be shared with the Town Board.

**SCHEDULE PUBLIC HEARING TO ZONE FOR CANNABIS DISPENSARIES**

On the motion of Supervisor Majestic, seconded by Councilmember Wiegand and carried to schedule a Public Hearing to zone for Cannabis Dispensaries for November 9, 2023 at 7:00 PM.

**INTRODUCE TENTATIVE BUDGET**

The members of the Board have received the preliminary budget for the year 2024. The Supervisor made a point to mention that the budget has been made available on the website for everyone to access. The preliminary budget includes the submissions from all departments, as per the request. To help reduce taxes, the Supervisor has allocated $300,000 from the unexpended fund to the general fund, $75,000 to the highway fund, and $25,000 to the sewer fund. The Supervisor has proposed that the Town Board schedule a Public Hearing on November 9th, but also reminded the Board members that the salaries of elected officials need to be advertised. She suggested that the Board members include the salaries at the requested amount. It is important to note while the advertised salary for elected officials can be decreased, it cannot be increased. The Board decided to address this matter during the Budget Workshop meeting, which is scheduled for October 17th.

**RESOLUTION FOR VACATION ACCRUAL FOR BUILDING DEPARTMENT CLERK**

Resolution No. 125 - Correct Vacation Hour Accrual for Building Department Clerk, Jewell Turner

Offered by Councilmember Walls:

**Whereas**, Jewell Turner has been an employee of the Town of Gardiner since December of 1995, which represents over 27 years of employment.

**Whereas**, the Town Board recognizes and appreciates Mrs. Turner’s services working for the town, and we are responding to her August 8th, 2023 memo to the Town Board.

**Whereas**, Mrs. Turner’s vacation accrual was not in line with her 27+ years of service for 2020, 2021 and 2022.

**Whereas**, based on the prorated amount according to the 2015 employee handbook the calculation of vacation time owed is 108.48 hours.

**Whereas**, the accrued vacation time owed of 108.48 hours can be taken as vacation, or as a buyout, or a combination of both vacation hours and buyout.

**Whereas**, as long as Mrs. Turner works a 28-hour work week, her monthly vacation accrual will be 9.3 hours per month beginning in September 2023. Which represents 80% of the 11.67 hours accrued for a full-time employee listed in the Employee Manual from 2015, vacation time is pro-rated with 35 hours representing 100%

**Now therefore**, be it resolved that Jewell Turner is owed 108.48 hours of vacation time, and starting September 2023 Mrs. Turner should accrue 9.3 hours of vacation time monthly.

Seconded by Councilmember Wiegand and carried.

**STREETLIGHT CONVERSION/NYPA CONTRACT**

Councilmember Carucci informed the Board that he is currently awaiting further information from NYPA and would like to postpone the agenda item until the following week.

**EDMUNDS PROPOSAL FOR CONVERSION OF 3 YEARS PRIOR DATA**

On the motion of Councilmember Walls, seconded by Councilmember Wiegand and carried to accept the $5,500 proposal to convert 3 additional years of data.

**AWOSTING CLUB**

On the motion of Supervisor Majestic, seconded by Councilmember Carucci and carried to deny Awosting Club’s current request for a privileged settlement conversation.

**PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR**

Residents spoke about Lazy River, noise ordinance for review, Awosting Club.

**ADJOURNMENT**

On the motion of Councilmember Wiegand, seconded by Councilmember Walls and carried, the meeting adjourned at 9:16 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Julia Hansen, Acting Town Clerk