



A motion was made by Supervisor Bassin and seconded by Councilman Clark to allow the town Court Department to continue working with one judge until the November elections. Motion carried.

Mr. Bassin commented that if there comes a time before a new judge is elected that the Court feels they need help, that they approach the board and ask to bring a judge in.

Suzan Flamm of the Climate Smart Community Task Force gave a presentation of their plans for using the \$80,000 grant funds received by the town. They reported that they would like this grant to be used for two things. One, they will study town facilities for energy efficiency, and two, they will begin a LED lighting initiative, where residents will be able to switch out incandescent bulbs for LED ones.

It was asked what other ideas the Task Force had thought about. They said that proposals were winterizing programs, solar panels on the town garage, a compost project and a mature tree project.

A motion was made by Councilman Clark and seconded by Councilman Boice to accept the proposal of using the \$80,000 in grant funding for an energy study at the town facilities and a LED lightbulb exchange for residents. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Israel and seconded by Councilman Clark to appoint Jane Plasman to Bonnie Hundt's unexpired term on the Ethics Board and to appoint Sheila Gowan and David Dembo as alternate members. Motion carried.

## **Supervisors Report**

1. Financial Report – January was a normal month. In Highway, spending this January was about \$15,000 higher than last January. Snow removal at \$20,000 was about the same as we spent in January 2017. A set of new truck tires at \$6,000, a \$4,000 increase in fuel costs, \$4,000 in additional truck repairs and an additional \$1000 in health insurance costs caused the year-to-year increase in Highway. General Fund spending was flat to 2017. We received the final \$16,000 reimbursement for the Pats Rd and Hall Hill culvert projects in January, bringing the total reimbursement to \$220,000. Town cost for the two culverts was about \$48,000. We will incur some

additional costs in 2018 to install guard rails at the Hall Hill culvert site. Cash as of the end of January was \$1,374,000, and we got the 4Q sales tax payment of \$76,000 last week, so cash is currently at about \$1,450,000.

2. TD Bank – FAC met with a representative of TD Bank to review TD Bank’s CD rates and liquid investment rates. TD currently offers 1.40% on a liquid investment account, compared to .5% on our money market account with Bank of Greene County. TD says they increase their liquid investment rate at 60% of the increase in FED funds, which means when the FED increases rates by 25 bp, TD goes up 15 bp. A 1% improvement in our yield on our average monthly cash balance of \$1 million in will result in an additional \$10,000 in interest income. FAC has recommended we open up a liquid investment account with TD Bank, and if that causes BOGC to start charging fees, to move our checking accounts over to TD as well. TD Bank has a branch in Hudson.

3. Town Court Resignation – Town Justice Bob Wilcox has resigned. We discuss our options to deal with this on Thursday. As I understand our immediate options, the Town Board can appoint a replacement, or we can ask that the court system appoint a temporary replacement. Bob, Judge George Wittlinger and Court Clerk Ruth Wittlinger should be at the 2/15 TB meeting and will assist us to understand the options and next steps.

4. Climate Smart Community Grant – CSCTF has developed a proposal to apply for the \$80,000 grant we qualify for. The proposal is to conduct an energy efficiency study of town buildings and to make the recommended changes to realize the energy savings if they are cost effective, and to use the balance of the \$80,000 to offer the community a free exchange of LED light bulbs for regular light bulbs.

5. Comp Plan Review Process – First meeting of the Comp Plan Review Committee (CPRC) will be 2/19 at 7 pm, to be followed in March, April and May by monthly CPRC meetings, two town-wide workshops, multiple hamlet planning group meetings, contributions by the Planning Board, ZBA, FAC, CAC, CSCTF and the Ag Advisory Council, and a town-wide survey. To make sure everyone in the Community becomes aware of the process and to encourage participation, we will be mailing out a postcard in the next week or so, and a Comp Plan Review “brochure” outlining the progress made over the last 8 years. The brochure will be mailed out to the community toward the end of February.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Hundt and seconded by Councilman Boice to approve the minutes of the previous meeting with the following changes:

Mr. Boice would like in the comments about insurance claims that he pointed out the accident that happened in Albany.

Ms. Hundt would like in the comments about the insurance claims that she felt there needed to be more transparency.  
Motion carried.

A motion was made by Councilman Clark and seconded by Councilwoman Israel to approve the minutes of the public hearings on Local Law #1 and Local Law #2 of 2018. Motion carried

### **Highway Superintendent**

Mr. Miller gave the following report: The department is running low in the salt and sand budget. Another storm is approaching for the coming Saturday night. The steering box on the plow truck has been fixed.

There were questions about the road improvements and what roads will be repaired. Mr. Miller stated that this was laid out in the 284 agreement. Erin Robinson asked about Snyder Road and if that culvert will be fixed as it has already been designed. Mr. Miller stated that there is no money budgeted for that project. Ms. Robinson suggested grant money. Mr. Boice reminded her that the money would not be to the town by summer when the project would need to happen.

### **Town Clerk**

A motion was made by Councilwoman Hundt and seconded by Councilman Boice to allow the town clerk to go to the 2018 Town Clerk Convention. Motion carried.

### **Planning Board**

Councilwoman Hundt asked if O&G mines had been before the board. Erin Robinson stated that it was a renewal of an existing permit.

### **Comp Plan review**

The focus groups will begin to meet in April. Postcards are being sent out as will a newsletter.

### **Communications**

Dennis Sigler has said that the town can place a “Town of Ancram” sign on his property. The town needs to now get permission from the County.

Councilwoman Hundt asked about a town emergency plan committee. Mr. Bassin stated that the town has one.

Mr. Bassin stated that he was told that the Pine Plains Vet now takes animals to kennel until their owners are found at a much lower rate than Columbia Greene Humane Society. He will look into this.

The following resolution was offered by Councilman Boice and seconded by Councilwoman Hundt and moved for adoption. Resolution carried.

**Resolution #9 of 2018: Standard workday resolution** – Resolved, that the standard workday for the Town Clerk and the Town Assessor is 7 hours, and be it further resolved that the standard workday for the Highway Superintendent is 8 hours, and be it further resolved that the Town Supervisor is authorized to report these standard hours to the NYS Retirement System in the required format after this resolution has been posted in the Town Hall and on the Town website for 30 days.

The following resolution was offered by Councilman Boice and seconded by Councilwoman Hundt and moved for adoption. Resolution carried.

**Resolution #10 of 2018: TD Bank Resolution** – Resolved, that the Town Supervisor is authorized to open a banking relationship with TD Bank and, depending on TD Bank rates and fees compared to the Town’s current bank, is authorized to purchase certificates of deposit, deposit funds in a liquid investment account and open checking/savings accounts if the decision to establish these accounts with TD Bank will result in a material financial benefit to the Town.

The following resolution was offered by Councilman Clark and seconded by Councilwoman Israel and moved for adoption. Resolution carried.

**Resolution #11 of 2018: CEO/ZEO Certification Training** – Resolved, that the CEO/ZEO is authorized to attend annual certification training at a cost not to exceed \$600.

A motion was made by Councilman Clark and seconded by Councilwoman Israel to approve the February 2018 General Warrant and the February 2018 Highway Warrant. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Hundt and seconded by Councilman Boice to pay the February 2018 General Bills and the February 2018 Highway Bills. Motion carried.

Mr. Bassin addressed the home invasion situation on Hall Hill Road. Mr. Bassin stated that the Sheriff's office has reported that this was not a random act and that those involved will not cooperate with the investigators.

Councilwoman Hundt announced that due to prior arrangements, she will not be in attendance at the March board meeting.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Hundt and seconded by Councilman Boice to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted by,

Monica R. Cleveland  
Ancram Town Clerk