

**Town Of Ancram
Town Board
Organizational Meeting
January 2, 2020**

Present:	Supervisor Arthur Bassin	Councilman Hugh Clark
	Councilman David Boice	Councilwoman Madeline Israel
	Councilwoman Bonnie Hundt	Town Clerk Monica Cleveland
	Highway Superintendent James Miller	

The meeting was called to order at 4:45pm following the swearing in of the new officials by Supervisor Arthur Bassin with a salute to the flag.

Mr. Bassin asked if there were any items on the agenda any member of the board needed to recuse themselves from. There were none.

Mr. Bassin asked if there were any Board Member comments at this time. Councilwoman Hundt questioned the training requirements for the planning and zoning boards and expressed her concern that most members are not meeting their four hours of required training. Mr. Bassin replied that the town has begun offering in house training conducted by Nan Stolzenburg. There had been one two hour training last month and one will occur this month. Councilwoman Hundt felt that the town should not be obligated to pay for training that the members should be able to attend trainings on their own as there are ample opportunities throughout the year. Councilman Clark noted that when the training is done in Ancram, by the town, the training session can be geared towards Ancram issues, but it was also beneficial to attend training with other town planning and zoning officials. The board will continue to urge the members to seek other training as well.

The following resolutions were offered by Councilwoman Hundt and seconded by Councilman Clark and moved for adoption. Resolutions carried unanimously.

Adopted 2020 Organizational Resolutions

1. Legal Representation: Resolved that the Town of Ancram will continue current arrangements with attorneys John Lyons, Mitchell Khosrova and Elena Defio-Kean to provide legal services for the Town of Ancram during 2019. Services will be provided as requested by the Town Board, and by Town Departments, Boards and Committees with prior approval of the Town Supervisor, at agreed on hourly rates; further resolved that the Ethics Board, Planning Board, the Zoning Board of Appeals, the Zoning Revisions Committee and the Subdivision Regulations Revision Committee may use these designated attorneys, or retain legal counsel of their choice, subject to the prior approval of the Town Board.

2. Property and Liability Insurance: Resolved that the Ancram Town Board accepts the proposal of the Kneller/Bradn Peck Agency to renew the property, inland marine, automobile,

public officials, general liability and liability umbrella insurance coverage through the Trident Company and affiliates beginning January 4, 2020 for a total premium not to exceed \$28,500.

3. Appointments and Designations: Resolved that the Town Board of the Town of Ancram does hereby make or reaffirm the following official appointments and designations for the year 2019, with all appointments to continue at the pleasure of the Board, except as otherwise noted.

Appointments

Budget Officer: Art Bassin
Deputy Town Supervisor: Hugh Clark
Town Attorneys: John Lyons, Elena Defio-Kean, Mitchell Khosrova
Town Engineers: Morris Associates, CT Male, Ryan Briggs Clark Davis, Pat Prendergast
Town Historian: Robin Massa
Deputy Town Historian: Clara Van Tassel
Town Hall Building Manager: George Wittlinger
Deputy Town Hall Building Manager: Ruth Wittlinger
Town Assessor: Rene Deleeuw (appointed through September 2026)
Assessor's clerk: Monica Cleveland
Building Inspector, Zoning Enforcement and Code Enforcement officer: Ed Ferratto
Clerk for Building Inspector/ ZEO/CEO: Marie McDermott
Animal Control Officer: Wes Powell
Emergency Preparedness Coordinators: Art Bassin, Jim Miller, Dave Boice, Devon Rueger
Registrar of Vital Statistics: Monica Cleveland
Records Management Officer: Monica Cleveland
Clerks of the Town Court: Ruth Wittlinger; Susan Tirante
Planning Board Clerk: John Hoffman
Zoning Board of Appeals Clerk: John Hoffman
Deputy Town Clerks: Ruth Wittlinger, Sarah Mason
Deputy Tax Collectors: Ruth Wittlinger, Sarah Mason
Kid's Summer Camp Director: Sarah Mason
Ancram Pool Director: Jen Boice
Head lifeguard: Johanna Skoda
Town Accountant: Brian Fitzgerald
Insurance agent & agencies: Kirk Kneller - Brad Peck, Lofgren & Apollo agencies

Town Designations

Official Town Bank/Depositories: Bank of Greene County, TD Bank
Town Justices Depositories: Key Bank, Bank of Greene County
Town Clerk Depository: Bank of Greene County
Town Tax Collector Depository: Bank of Greene County
Official Newspapers: The Register Star and the Columbia Paper
Official Dog Kennels: Columbia Greene Humane Society, Fraser Kennels

Town Representatives to Columbia County

Representatives to the Advisory Council to the Office of the Aging: Madeleine Israel, Erma Bressler
Representative to the Columbia County Traffic Safety Board: Bill Gillers
Representative to the County Environmental Management Council: Colleen Lutz

Official Polling Places

District #1: Ancram Town Hall

District #2: Friendship Hall, Ancramdale Presbyterian Church

4. Frequency of Compensation: The Town Board of the Town of Ancram does hereby authorize the Town Supervisor to compensate Officials of the Town for duties performed on the following basis:

Annually: Town Historian, Assistant Town Historian

Quarterly: Town Board, Town Supervisor, Town Justices, and Town Hall Building Manager

Monthly: Planning and Zoning Board Clerks, Building Department Clerk, Court Clerks, Town Hall Cleaning Custodian, Assessor's clerk, Pool Director

Every other week: Highway Department Personnel, Animal Control Officer, Assessor, Town Clerk, Registrar, Tax Collector, ZEO/CEO; summer life guards and kids' camp staff, Camp Director, Head Lifeguard

5. Authorizations, Policies & Procedures: Resolved that the Town Board of the Town of Ancram approves the following authorizations, policies & procedures:

5.1 The Highway Superintendent and Town Supervisor are authorized to spend up to \$5,000 for unbudgeted items without prior Town Board approval, and are authorized to purchase budgeted materials and services up to the amount in the approved highway and general fund budgets without prior Town Board approval.

5.2 Mileage reimbursement for Town Officials performing their duties on Official Town Business will be set at the IRS rate per mile.

5.3 The Town Board may accept bids from any NYS County and State bids that apply to the Town of Ancram, including but not limited to gasoline, propane, heating oil, diesel fuel, salt, stone, road oil, tires and culvert pipe, so long as State and County bids are equal to or less than locally available alternatives, but the Town Board may also select suppliers that are not the best price but provide, in the judgement of the Town Board, the best value based on reliability and service.

5.4 Salaries and per hour pay rates for elected and appointed officials and employees for the year 2020 will be in accordance with the approved 2020 budget.

5.5 The official meeting of the Ancram Town Board will be the third Thursday of each month, beginning at 7:00 p.m. at the Ancram Town Hall, 1416 County Route 7.

5.6 Salaries for appointed clerks will be recommended by the Budget Officer and approved by the Town Board as part of the budget process.

5.7 The Town Clerk is authorized to advertise for, accept and open all bids presented before this Board, with such bids in sealed envelopes, marked "sealed bids".

5.8 Departmental clerks are authorized to purchase all necessary supplies, stationery office equipment and dockets on behalf their departments not to exceed total budgeted amounts included in the 2020 budgets for such purchases as part of each department's budgeted .4 account, in accordance with the approved Town Purchasing Policy.

5.9 The Town Supervisor and Deputy Town Supervisor are each authorized to sign Town checks less than \$10,000 without having them countersigned. Checks for \$10,000 and more must be signed by both the Town Supervisor and the Deputy Supervisor. If either the Supervisor or Deputy Supervisor is unavailable to countersign a check of \$10,000 or more, any Town Board member is authorized to provide the second signature.

- 5.10 All conferences and training attended by any Town official or employee and paid for by the Town in excess of \$100 must be approved, in advance, by the Town Board. Training and conferences that will be attended by the Town Supervisor or any Town Board member and paid for by the Town of Ancram in excess of \$200 must be approved, in advance, by the Town Board.
- 5.11 Town purchasing policies will follow standard NYS purchasing guidelines unless otherwise specified in the approved Town Purchasing Policy Document.
- 5.12 Town investment policy is to maintain funds in interest bearing money market or liquid investment accounts with the Town's depository banks, with deposits over FDIC insured limits collateralized by securities pledged by the Town's depository bank or their agents or by letters of credit. In rate environments when short term US treasury securities offer significantly higher yields than bank money market rates, the Town Supervisor is authorized to invest town funds in short term US treasury securities purchased through the town's depository banks and their brokerage affiliates. The Town Supervisor shall report all trades in short term US treasury securities and the Town's net position in US treasury securities to the Town Board and the Financial Advisory Council monthly, as part of the Town's normal monthly financial reporting process.
- 5.13 Town will follow NYS and Town of Ancram FOIL laws, and will respond to FOIL requests within 20 business days, except in situations where the amount of information requested is significant enough to make the 20 business day turnaround impractical. There will be a 25 cent per page fee for all documents requested.
- 5.14 The Ancram Town Board will hold a public hearing on the Tentative Budget prior to the September Town Board meeting, a second public hearing on the Preliminary Budget prior to the October Town Board meeting, and will adopt the annual Budget at the November Town Board meeting following a third public hearing.
- 5.15 To insure that the Town has adequate financial reserves to operate during the first two months of the year before current year taxes are received, to finance grant awards and CHIPS costs, to make periodic major equipment purchases without borrowing and to deal with unexpected or uncontrollable expense overruns or revenue shortfalls, the Town will maintain year-end fund balances totaling approximately 1.5X the amount of county, state and federal aid and grants received in the previous year, and based on receiving sales tax, mortgage tax, and CHIPS aid totaling approximately \$500,000 in 2019, that the Budget Officer will manage the Town's financial affairs to target a 2020 year-end fund balance totaling approximately \$750,000.
- 5.16 The Ancram Town Board will annually review and revise, if necessary, the Town Employee Manual, the Town Purchasing Policy, the Town Financial Control Process Manual, the Town Fee Schedule and the Town Hall Directory.
- 5.17. Whereas Town Law requires the Town Board to audit the Supervisor's financial records before January 20 of each year, and whereas prior year financial reports and records are not usually available by January 20, therefore it is the policy of the Ancram Town Board that the Ancram Town Board will review and audit, or have reviewed and audited by an outside auditor or the Financial Advisory Council, following NYS Comptroller Division guidelines, the books and records of the Town Supervisor, Town Clerk and Town Tax Collector and the books and records of the Building Department and Town Court annually, prior to the end of May each year.
- 5.18 The Ancram Town Board authorizes and requires all department heads to back up and store, outside of Town Hall and the Town Garage, all computer data needed to operate their departments at an alternate location in the event the current Town Hall or Highway Garage locations become unavailable for any reason; the Town Board

further designates the Ancram Highway Garage and the Lutheran Church in Ancram as the Town Hall disaster recovery backup locations, designates the Town Hall as the Highway Department disaster recovery location, and authorizes the Town Supervisor to develop a disaster recovery plan which will allow the Town to reestablish Town Hall or Highway Department operations within 48 hours of a disaster forcing the closing of either the Town Hall or the Highway Garage.

- 5.19 The Ancram Town Board delegates to the Town Supervisor, and in his absence the Deputy Town Supervisor, the powers and duties necessary for the day-to-day administration of the Town.
- 5.20 Community organizations are authorized to use town facilities subject to the prior approval of the Town Supervisor, and subject to the community organization securing appropriate insurance to protect the Town from any liability arising out of the community organization's use of Town facilities.
- 5.21 The Highway Superintendent is authorized to enter into mutual aid agreements with NYS, counties, towns, villages, school districts and fire districts to provide support for and to receive support from these governmental entities; the Highway Superintendent shall notify the Town Board of all mutual aid agreements, and file a copy of each agreement with the Town Clerk.
- 5.22 The Highway Superintendent will submit the proposed annual 284 Contract to the Town Board for review and approval at or before the January Town Board meeting.
- 5.23 To insure bills are paid in a timely manner, the Town Supervisor or Deputy Town Supervisor in his absence, are authorized to pay bills without the prior approval of three Town Board members provided that the Town Board, Town Clerk and Town Accountant are notified of this action on the day of the payment, and Town Board approval is secured on the voucher as soon as possible, but no later than the next Town Board meeting.

6. Appointments, Reappointments and Reaffirmations of Members and Chairs of

Committees, Councils and Boards: That the Town Board of the Town of Ancram does hereby approve or reaffirm the following committees, commissions, councils, boards, appointments, reappointments and reaffirmations of earlier appointments of Chairpersons and members as indicated. All appointments are at the pleasure of the Board unless otherwise noted or governed by applicable law:

Camp/Pool Board

Jane Plasman, Co-chair	Ellen Langdon, Co-chair	
Colleen Lutz	Jeff Mousseau	Sarah Mason
Monica Cleveland	Ruth Wittlinger	Marie McDermott
Madeleine Israel	Carrie Koch	Alissa Cleveland
Jen Boice	Lynne Perrella	Samantha Mason
Johanna Skoda	Paul Ricciardi	
Betsy Manzi		

Zoning Board of Appeals (ZBA): (5 year terms expiring 12/31 of year listed)

Reappointment: Steve Olyha, 2024, Chair
Sheldon Waldorf 2020
Ron Brant, 2021
William Lutz, 2022
Fred Schneeberger 2023
Alternate: Rob Horwitz, 2022.
Second alternate: Sharon Cleveland, 2022

Board of Assessment Review (BAR): (5 year terms expiring 12/31 of year listed)

Reappointment: Matthew Bernstein 2024
Robert Mathers 2020
Palmer Irving 2021
Steve Olyha 2022
Frederique Abramovici 2023
Alternate: Will Weiss

Planning Board (PB): (7 year terms expiring 12/31 of the year listed)

Reappointment: James Stickle 2026
John Ingram, 2020, Chair Dennis Sigler 2021 Terry Boyles 2022
Erin Robertson 2023 Joe Crocco, 2024 Bob Roche, 2025
Ann Rader, Alternate 2022 Palmer Irving, Second Alternate, 2022

Ethics Board (5 year terms ending 12/31 of the year indicated):

Reappointment: Jane Plasman, 2024
Eric Weiner, 2020 Jack Lindsey, Chair 2021
Ron Brant, 2022 Linda Pulver, 2023

Zoning Revisions Committee (ZRC):

Hugh Clark, Chair	Dennis Sigler	Erin Robertson
Jim Miller	Bob Roche	Carol Falcetti
Steve Olyha	Bonnie Hundt	

Conservation Advisory Council (CAC):

Jamie Purinton, Chair	David Dembo, Vice Chair
Erin Robertson	Choral Eddie
Jane Meigs	Kim Tripp
Claire Arnold	Colleen Lutz
Jono Meigs	Walter Williamson

Financial Advisory Council

Art Bassin, Chair	Mike Citrin	Bob Wilcox
Steve Roberts	Marie McDermott	Peter Scola
Steve Olyha	Will Weiss	Jack Seiber

Communications Committee (Signage, Newsletters)

Madeleine Israel, Chair	Cathy Redlich	Marie Claude Stockl
B. Docktor	Bonnie Slonevsky	Suzan Flamm

Climate Smart Communities Task Force

Suzan Flamm, Chair		
Madeleine Israel	Doug Brenner	Jeff Mousseau
Cathy Redlich	Nancy Kuster	David Dembo
Colleen Lutz	Paul Ricciardi	Derek Porter

Broadband Committee

Phil Dejan	Norm Osofsky	Sid Karmali, Chair
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Economic Development (Town Centers, Affordable Housing, Short Term Rentals, Parking)

Paul Ricciardi, co-chair	Jeff Mousseau, co-chair	
Mike Citrin	Norm Osofsky	Joel Osofsky
Walter Williamson	Matthew Bernstein	Bob Dittus
Phil Dejan	Carol Falcetti	Sid Karmali
Karen Ziewr	Wally Williamson	Lynne Perrella

Monument Committee (Design of new veterans' monument at Town Hall, care of existing monuments)

Jim MacArthur, Chair	David Boice	John Perrella
Hugh Clark	Bob Wilcox	Art Bassin

Comprehensive Plan Implementation Committee

Suzan Flamm	Fred Gold	
Coleen Lutz	Beth Corteville	Jeff Mousseau
Art Bassin, co-chair	Hugh Clark, co-chair	Jim Miller
Carol Falcetti	Norm Osofsky	Jane Plasman
Paul Ricciardi		

Ancram Hamlet Planning Group

Paul Ricciardi, co-chair	Jeff Mousseau, co-chair	Lynne Perrella
Libby McKee	James Kennedy	Mike Roberts
Bob Murphy	Walter Williamson	Jay Corcoran
Karen Zier	Frederique Abramovici	Peter Auld
Moishe Blechman	Bob Blechman	Bob Bachler
Cheryl McGuinness		

Boston Corner Hamlet Planning Group

Carol Falcetti, Chair,	Gavin Berger	Craig Berggren
Dominick Buttner,	Norman Osofsky	Lisa Schwartz,
Mark Schwartz	Stephen Whitehouse	

Ancramdale Hamlet Planning Group

Marie McDermott, interim chair	Cathy Redlich	Monica Cleveland
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Inactive Committees

Subdivision Regulations Revision Committee (SRRC)
Agricultural Advisory Council (AAC)
Heritage Resources Committee

Respectfully submitted by,

Monica R. Cleveland, Ancram Town Clerk

