

**Town of Ancram  
Town Board  
Regular Meeting  
March 19, 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

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The regular meeting of the Ancram Town Board was called to order by Supervisor Arthur Bassin at 7:00pm with a salute to the flag.

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

Mr. Bassin asked if there were any changes that needed to be made to the minutes. Mr. Bassin noted that the end of the Special Meeting would contain the following note at the end due to the fact that the Town Clerk had been excused from the executive session : “ “ Councilwoman Hundt did not agree with the word “unanimous” being used in the wording of the memo. Councilman Clark felt that the board had all been in agreement at the conclusion of the meeting.

A motion was made by Councilman Clark and seconded by Councilwoman Israel and moved for adoption to approve the minutes of the regular meeting, the public hearing and the special meeting. Motion carried.

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

**Resolution #21 of 2020: LED Street Lights:** Resolved, that the Town Supervisor is authorized to enter into an agreement with Central Hudson to have Central Hudson replace all street lights in the Town of Ancram that have not already been converted to LEDs with dark sky compliant LED streetlights at a cost not to exceed \$3500.

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

**Resolution #22 of 2020: Dog Control Officer** Resolved, that Richard Prentiss is appointed as the Town of Ancram Dog Control Officer effective April 1, 2020 at an annual salary of \$4500.

The following resolution was offered by Councilman Clark and seconded by Councilman Hundt and moved for adoption. Resolution passed by unanimous rollcall vote.

**Resolution #23 : of 2020: Resolution of the Town of Ancram Town Board Adopting Local Law No. 1 of 2020,**

A Local Law amending Article V of the Town of Ancram Zoning Law to incorporate the supplementary regulations for the Town's Scenic Corridor Overlay Zoning District from Local Law No. 1 of 2003, and then repeal Local Law No. 1 of 2003.

Whereas:

1. A proposed amendment to Article V of the Town of Ancram Zoning Law (the "Zoning Law") was introduced to the Town Board on January 17, 2020. This amendment (a) essentially transfers from Local Law No. 1 of 2003 to Article V of the Zoning Law the supplementary regulations for the Town's Scenic Corridor Overlay District; and (b) upon such transfer and amendment of Zoning Law Article V, Local Law No. 1 of 2003 will then be repealed.
2. The purpose of the amendment is to incorporate into the Town's Zoning Law adopted on November 20, 2014 the provisions of Local Law No. 1 of 2003 which local law established supplementary regulations for a zoning district called the Scenic Corridor Overlay Zone ("SCOZ"). Those supplementary regulations were not incorporated into the Town's Zoning Law when it was adopted in 2014. The Town Board now wishes to incorporate those regulations into the Zoning Law. The addition of those supplementary regulations to the Town's Zoning Law will make the scope of the 2014 Zoning Law more complete and will serve the ease and convenience of our citizens and others reading our Zoning Law by making the SCOZ supplementary regulations easier to find and will improve their context by melding them with the body of the Zoning Law.
3. Once the provisions of Local Law No. 1 of 2003 are transferred to Article V of the 2014 Zoning Law, there will no longer be a need for Local Law No. 1 of 2003 and so it will be repealed.
4. This amendment makes no substantive changes to the content of the supplementary regulations which apply to the Town's SCOZ.
5. The only changes that have been made to the SCOZ supplementary regulations as they are presently set forth in Local Law No. 1 of 2003 are the format and section numbering changes that are necessary to meld those regulations with format and numbering system in Article V of the 2014 Zoning Law.

6. Pursuant to SEQRA Part 617, the Town Board declared themselves lead agency to conduct a SEQR for this Type I action, prepared Part I of the FEAF, completed its review of Part 2, analyzed potential adverse impacts in Part 3, determined that adoption of this

amendment would not have any significant adverse impacts, and filed such negative declaration with DEC, ENB Notice, and as required by SEQRA.

7. The Town Board referred the proposed zoning amendment as required by Section 239-m of the New York State General Municipal Law to the Columbia County Planning Board, and subsequently received approval from such board for the amendment.

8. The Town Board held a legally noticed public hearing related to the adoption of this amendment.

9. The Town Board referred, as per the Town of Ancram Zoning Law Article XII (B), the proposed amendment to the Town of Ancram Planning Board and has received their response recommending approval of this amendment.

10. All requirements and procedures pursuant to New York State Municipal Home Rule Law § 20, "Local Law No. 1 of 2020, A Local Law proposing an Amendment to Article V of the Town of Ancram Zoning Law to incorporate the supplementary regulations for the Town's Scenic Corridor Overlay Zoning District from Local Law No. 1 of 2003, and then repeal Local Law No. 1 of 2003" have been met.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,

Section A. The Town Board hereby adopts Town of Ancram "Local Law No. 1 of 2020, A Local Law proposing an Amendment to Article V of the Town of Ancram Zoning Law to incorporate the supplementary regulations for the Town's Scenic Corridor Overlay Zoning District from Local Law No. 1 of 2003, and then repeal Local Law No. 1 of 2003." A copy of this Local Law No. 1 of 2020 is attached as Exhibit A to this Resolution.

Section B. The Town Board hereby repeals Local Law No. 1 of 2003

Section C. The Town Board shall instruct the Town Clerk to enter this amendment into the minutes of the Town Board and shall publish an abstract of this amendment, once in the official newspaper of the Town.

Section C. The Town Board instructs the Town Clerk to maintain a file in her office in the Town Hall to contain all parts of these amendments.

Section D. The Town Board shall cause affidavits of the publication and posting of this amendment be filed with the Town Clerk.

Section E. The Town Board shall ensure that all parts of this amendment be posted on the Town's website, and copies filed with the Building Inspector, Planning Board and Zoning Board of Appeals.

Section F. The Town Board directs the Town's planning consultant to insert the new language hereby adopted into the November 2014 Town of Ancram Zoning Law document to create a new, updated version to be dated March 19, 2020.

Section G. The Town Board instructs the Town Clerk to file a copy of LL No. 1 of 2020 with the New York State Department of State immediately.

Annexed Documents:

Exhibit A: Local Law No. 1 of 2020, A Local Law Amending Article V of the Town of Ancram Zoning Law to incorporate the supplementary regulations for the Town's Scenic Corridor Overlay Zoning District from Local Law No. 1 of 2003, and then repeal Local Law No. 1 of 2003.

### **Supervisors Report:**

1. February Financial Report – February numbers were as expected. The COVID-19 situation will probably have a significant negative impact on 2020 sales tax receipts, so we should start thinking about slowing down spending where we can, in anticipation. Highway Superintendent has indicated that a lighter than normal snow season has left us with full salt & sand sheds and about \$25,000 under budget in the sand/salt account.

2. COVID - 19 – No telling at this point how bad this situation can get, how long it will last or how it will impact Town or County services. If schools are closed and do not reopen before summer, the County may close all summer camps and pools for the summer. We should anticipate this and figure out a way to employ our camp counselors and lifeguards for community projects, and how to provide activities for campers short of running a camp. Our Town Hall is currently open Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Saturday. As the health crisis develops we may want to consider opening town hall only on Wednesday and Saturday, and providing cell numbers to the community for all Town officials so we can be reached by phone on an as needed basis any time during the week. . .

### 3. CSCTF Initiatives

1) Geothermal HVAC system at Town Hall – CPL Engineering analysis of the costs and benefits of geothermal compared to a new conventional system should be available by our April TB meeting.

2) Converting to LED streetlights – The streetlight public hearing on 3/14 was attended by three people. Suggestion was made to consider reducing the number of streetlights. The public safety value of the streetlights was discussed. Derek Porter, a CSCTF member and lighting expert will

survey all streetlights around town to see if it makes sense to eliminate some without deteriorating public safety, or if we should add some to enhance public safety.

3) Converting Garage & Town Hall lights to LEDs- We have arranged with Ginocchio Electric to replace the Garage and Town hall lights with LEDs for a cost that is about 50% of the original Lime Energy proposals. Garage is done, and Town Hall is in process.

4. LL #1 of 2020 (Incorporating the Scenic Corridor Overlay Zone Law of 2003 into the 2014 Zoning Law) – We will consider this local law for adoption at our 3/19 meeting.

5. 2019 Audits – FAC audited the Town Court last week, and will conduct 2019 audits on the Planning & ZBA departments, the Town Clerk/Tax Collector and the Town Supervisor over the next 60 days.

Mr. Bassin reported that due to the current health crisis the Columbia County Offices are working on a one out of four employee on site. At this time the town employees are working mostly from home, calling in to their voicemails remotely and checking their mail. Mr. Bassin said he had ordered 70 bottles and 20 gallons of the NY Stats hand sanitizer disinfectant. Mr. Miller said that in addition to this he has ordered extra gloves for the employees. The town hall will be disinfected frequently. Mr. Miller said that he will follow what the county proceeds with in regards to the highway employee work schedule. They are not working the rest of the week. Mr. Miller has set in place a schedule for next week that includes the employees having distance from each other.

A motion was made by Councilman Boice and seconded by Councilwoman Israel to make budget adjustments. Motion carried. Budget adjustments are on file with the town clerk.

Councilwoman Hundt asked if there was any movement on the demolition of Porter's store. Mr. Bassin said that the owners were only at 30 days from the notice and that the town may have to be a little less firm considering that most demolition crews will most certainly not be working in the next few months.

Supervisor Bassin asked for any more comments. Councilwoman Hundt felt that after spending a fair amount of money, the harassment complaint had not been completed yet. Mr. Bassin reported that the board is still completing this task. Mr. Bassin had met with one party during the day today and that Mr. Clark will be meeting with the other.

Councilman Boice reported that he had spoken with ZEO Ed Feratto regarding private roads. Mr. Boice's concern is several of these roads cannot sustain a fire truck and if there is an active fire on one of these roads there may be no way to get to the scene.

A motion was made by Councilman Boice and seconded by Councilwoman Israel to approve the warrant and pay the bills. Motion carried.

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

Respectfully submitted by,

Monica R. Cleveland  
Town Clerk Town of Ancram