

TOWN OF RIDGEWAY  
TOWN BOARD MEETING  
MONDAY, APRIL 20, 2015

The regular board meeting was called to order by Deputy Supervisor Toussaint at 7:00 P.M. at the Ridgeway Town Hall, Medina, NY.

Those Officers Present:	Brian Napoli	Supervisor(Abs. Exc)
	Jeffrey Toussaint	Deputy Supervisor
	Paul Blajszczak	Councilman
	Mary Woodruff	Councilwoman(Abs.Exc)
	David Stalker	Councilman
Others:	Mark Goheen	Hwy Superintendent
	Daniel Wolfe	Code Enf.Officer(Abs.Exc)
	Katherine Bogan	Attorney
	Patricia Laszewski	Assessor
	Barbara J. Klatt	Town Clerk
	Karen Kaiser	Deputy Clerk
	Lynne Johnson	O.C. Legislator
	Robert J. Wegrzynowski	

## PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

## RESOLUTION NO. 42 – 04/20/15

## RESOLUTION TO ACCEPT AGENDA

Offered by Councilman Stalker, who moved its adoption.  
Seconded by Councilman Blajszczak.

Resolved to accept agenda as presented.

Adopted: 3 ayes 0 nays

## RESOLUTION NO. 43 – 04/20/15

RESOLUTION TO APPROVE MINUTES  
FROM MARCH 16, 2015 PUBLIC  
HEARING AND TOWN BOARD  
MEETING

Offered by Councilman Blajszczak, who moved its adoption.  
Seconded by Councilman Stalker.

Resolved to approve minutes from March 16, 2015 Public Hearing and regular Town Board meeting.

Adopted: 3 ayes 0 nays

COMMUNICATIONS:

- A. ISO review of building codes, violations, safety standards in general.  
Classification may go up.
- B. ORPTS-Assessor, Trisha L. scored 94% on continuing education exam.
- C. Steve Hawley's acknowledged his receipt of AIM and SAFE Act resolutions of support from the town.

DATE OF NEXT MEETINGS

- A. Public Hearing-WD#12 Order Calling Supplemental Public Hearing regarding the increase in cost of the District . Ridgeway Town Hall, May 12, 2015, 7:00 P.M.
- B. Workshop – Tuesday, May 12, 2015-following Public Hearing
- C. Town Board Meeting – Monday, May 18, 2015 – 7:00 P.M. Ridgeway Town Hall

OLD BUSINESS

RESOLUTION 44 – 04/20/15

RESOLUTION TO ADOPT AN ORDER  
CALLING SUPPLEMENTAL PUBLIC  
HEARING FOR WD#12 REGARDING  
INCREASE IN COST OF DISTRICT

Offered by Councilman Blajszczak, who moved its adoption.  
Seconded by Councilman Stalker.

WHEREAS, the Town Board of the Town of Ridgeway (herein called "Town Board" and "Town", respectively), in the County of Orleans, New York, has, pursuant to Town Law, created the Town of Ridgeway Water District No. 12 (the "District"); and

WHEREAS, in connection with the establishment of the District, the Town Board Directed Chatfield Engineers, P.C., competent engineers licensed in New York, to prepare a map, plan and report for certain capital construction improvements within the District (collectively, the "Project"); and

WHEREAS, the Town Board took the following specific actions with respect to the Project: (a) adopted on June 17, 2013 a certain order calling for a public hearing, (b) on July 15, 2013 held such public hearing, (c) on July 15, 2013 adopted a certain resolution establishing the District, and (d) on August 19, 2013 adopted a bond resolution; and

WHEREAS, the plan of financing for the Project identified and estimated maximum cost of \$850,000, with the issuance of bonds in an aggregate amount not to exceed \$850,000; and

WHEREAS, due to construction bids coming in higher than anticipated, the estimated maximum cost of the Project has increased from \$850,000 to \$905,000; and

WHEREAS, the Town has secured additional grant funding (in the amount of \$55,000) from the United States Department of Agriculture – Rural Development Agency (“Rural Development”) to cover such increased costs for the Project; and

WHEREAS, the scope of the Project is substantially the same as originally presented and identified in such original map, plan and report; and

WHEREAS, the Town wishes to proceed with the Project at a revised estimated maximum cost of \$905,000; and

WHEREAS, the Town has kept the amount of bonds authorized the same as identified in the earlier proceedings, since Rural Development is providing grant funds to cover such additional costs; and

WHEREAS, the Town Board has determined that they want to hold a supplemental public hearing to advise members of the District of the proposed increase in total cost of the Project; and

WHEREAS, all other terms, conditions and estimated costs, as set forth in the earlier proceedings, will remain substantially the same.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

ORDERED that a meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Ridgeway will be held at the Town Hall, 410 West Avenue, Ridgeway, New York on May 12, 2015 at 7:00 o'clock P.M. (prevailing Time) or shortly thereafter for the purpose of conducting a supplemental public hearing regarding the increase in the cost of the District and to hear all persons interested in the Subject thereof concerning the same and for such other action on the part of the Town Board with relation thereto as may be required by law; and be it

FURTHER ORDERED, that the Town Clerk publish at least once in each newspaper designated as the official newspaper of the Town for such publication, and post on the sign board of the Town maintained pursuant to subdivision 6 of Section 30 of the Town Law, a copy of this Order, certified by said Town Clerk, the first publication thereof and said posting to be not less than ten nor more than 20 days before the date of such public hearing.

Dated: April 20, 2015

TOWN BOARD OF THE  
TOWN OF RIDGEWAY

Adopted: 3 ayes

0 nays

RESOLUTION NO. 45 – 04/20/15

RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF  
(ORLEANS COUNTY LEGISLATURE  
RESOLUTION NO. 108-315) OPPOSING  
PART W OF GOVERNOR'S PROPOSED  
2015 BUDGET CONCERNING LOCAL  
INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT  
AGENCIES

Offered by Councilman Blajszczak, who moved its adoption.  
Seconded by Councilman Stalker.

WHEREAS, Industrial Development Agencies (IDA are in important economic development tool to promote job creation and retention in our communities and are the main source of economic development subsidies at the local and county level; and

WHEREAS, our Local IDA has been a driver of development in Orleans County, and we need to continue relying on them; and

WHEREAS, part of their success lies in the fact that they have the best knowledge of and interest in the areas that they serve; and

WHEREAS, Governor Cuomo's proposed Revenue Bill – Part W, as indicated in the State of the State, is set to add an additional layer of redundant paperwork and delays to projects utilizing IDA assistance; and

WHEREAS, Part W of this budget severely restricts the ability of Industrial Development Agencies to respond to the needs of businesses by removing home rule decisions and placing certain incentive decisions with the Regional Economic Development Council and Empire State Development; and

WHEREAS, allowing the State to have a larger role in approving IDA incentives will decrease the ability of local municipalities to decide how they plan to economically develop and replace that with the decisions coming from downstate; and

WHEREAS, Part W of this budget also grants the Authorities Budget greater power over local Industrial Development Agencies, inhibits County's ability to build industry clusters, and significantly slows Industrial Development Agencies ability to respond to "at the speed of business"; now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Ridgeway continues to support our local IDA and endorses their activities unburdened by additional State regulations and mandates; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Ridgeway joins with all local IDAs within the State of New York in their opposition to Governor Cuomo's proposal to add further paperwork to the IDA incentive process; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, copies of this resolution shall be sent to Governor Andrew M. Cuomo, Senator Robert Ort, Assemblymen Steve Hawley, Assemblywoman Jane Corwin; Orleans County Legislator; Orleans County Towns and Village, and all those deemed necessary and proper.

Adopted: 3 ayes 0 nays

RESOLUTION NO. 46 – 04/20/15

RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF  
(ORLEANS COUNTY LEGISLATURE  
RESOLUTION NO. 98-315)  
PETITIONING GOVERNOR CUOMO  
AND THE STATE LEGISLATURE TO  
DELAY PROPOSED LEGISLATION  
WHICH WOULD MOVE THE STAR  
EXEMPTION FROM A REAL  
PROPERTY TAX EXEMPTION TO A  
PERSONAL INCOME TAX CREDIT

Offered by Councilman Stalker, who moved its adoption.  
Seconded by Councilman Blajszczak.

WHEREAS, included in the 2015/2016 New York State Budget is a proposal to covert the STAR real property tax exemption to a Personal Income Tax (PIT) credit; and

WHEREAS, this transition is supported by both the New York State Assessors Association and the New York State Association of County Directors of Real Property Tax Services as New York State is better equipped to ensure the accuracy of this exemption; and

WHEREAS, this transition to a PIT credit would start with any STAR exemption that was granted for property owners that were not eligible as of March 3, 2014; and

WHEREAS, this transition would result in much confusion to the local property owner who has been under the assumption that they would be eligible for the exemption since they applied with their local Assessor; and

WHEREAS, when additional confusion is added to an already complicated property tax system taxpayers become more frustrated with the whole tax system; and

WHEREAS, this transition will require the Assessors' offices in Orleans County to send out approximately 276 denial letters for this exemption which will increase the amount of phone calls, letters, and foot traffic to explain why the denial has to occur when an approval was already sent out; and

WHEREAS, this transition will result in either a shortage in their escrow account which would then have to be made up in double for the next escrow payment year or their anticipated tax bill will be approximately \$600 more with Basic STAR and \$1,400 more with Enhanced STAR than they budgeted on their own; and

WHEREAS, this additional tax amount might disqualify potential buyers of real property as it will put them over the 43% Debt to Income ratio established in the provisions of DODD FRANK that became effective January 2014; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Orleans County Legislature on recommendation of the Finance Committee petitions New York State delay this transition to any STAR exemption that was granted after the 2015 Assessment Roll to more adequately inform the public of this important change in their taxes; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Clerk of the Town of Ridgeway shall forward copies of this resolution to Governor Andrew M. Cuomo, Senator Robert Ort, Assemblyman Stephen Hawley, Assemblywoman Jane Corwin, Orleans County Legislature, Orleans County Towns and Villages; and all those deemed necessary and proper.

Adopted:

3 ayes

0 nays

RESOLUTION NO. 47 – 04/20/15

RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF  
(ORLEANS COUNTY LEGISLATURE  
RESOLUTION NO. 107-315) OPPOSING  
NEW STATE'S PLAN TO CLOSE SKILL  
DEVELOPMENT CENTERS AND WORK  
CENTERS

Offered by Councilman Stalker, who moved its adoption.  
Seconded by Councilman Blajszczak.

WHEREAS, this Legislature believes that people have the right to participate in their community to their full ability; that people have the right to a supportive network of friends and advocates and that people have the responsibility to care for themselves and their neighbors in a safe, holistic, healthy community; and

WHEREAS, people with intellectual and other developmental disabilities currently receive funding for employment in sheltered workshops also known as skill development centers. This means that a student transitioning out of high school with a disability are able to pursue employment and a paycheck in this vocational setting upon graduation; and

WHEREAS, the Orleans Enterprises (OE) workshop at 215 Washington Street opened in 1981 providing employment to hundreds of individuals leading with a mission to promote community inclusion through community based supported employment; and

WHEREAS, new vocational service recipients start in sheltered, many were found through vocational evaluation funded by VESID (Vocational and Education Services for Individuals with Disabilities a branch of State Ed now known as ACCESS-VR) to be appropriate for community based employment. Some individuals have chosen to stay in sheltered work, which is the right of every American to choose where they want to work and they are provided support and information to choose other options on a regular basis through case reviews; and

WHEREAS, the State's plan to close vocational workshops like the one operated by the ARC of Orleans will force those employed now to either stay home or participate in a Day Care program, thus removing the dignity associated with employment and taking away a vital step to community based employment; and

WHEREAS, the U.S. Supreme Court's decision in Olmstead v. L.C. recognize the right of the individual with developmental disabilities who are currently in a sheltered workshop to remain in that setting of they wish to do so; now be it

RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Ridgeway does hereby oppose the New York State's plan to close SKILL DEVELOPMENT CENTERS AND WORK CENTERS, thus removing this important step towards Community Based supported employment; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Ridgeway is requesting this plan to close the Center Based workshops to be rescinded and allow the funding of these Work Centers to continue allowing them to stay open and continue giving those working there the self-advocacy of choosing where they want to work; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that certified copies of this Resolution be forwarded to Governor Cuomo, Senator Robert Ort, Assemblyman Stephen Hawley, Assemblywoman Jane Corwin, Orleans County Legislature, ARC of Orleans County, Orleans County Towns and Village and all others deemed necessary and proper.

Adopted: 3 ayes

0 nays

RESOLUTION NO. 48 – 04/20/15

RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF  
(ORLEANS COUNTY LEGISLATURE  
RESOLUTION NO. 120-315) THE NEW  
YORK STATE COUNTY HIGHWAY  
SUPERINTENDENT'S ASSOCIATION'S  
IDENTIFIED NEED TO IMMEDIATELY



## FUND HIGHWAY AND BRIDGE FUNDING

Offered by Councilman Blajszczak, who moved its adoption.  
Seconded by Councilman Stalker.

WHEREAS, Governor Cuomo calls for a direct linkage between tourism, agriculture, and marketing the Upstate New York region as a whole in order to foster economic development; and

WHEREAS, Upstate New York relies solely upon safe and secure roads and bridges to move products to markets, produce food and fiber, and to receive tourists; and

WHEREAS, the lack of state and federal aid has impacted both the New York State Department of Transportation and local municipalities abilities to maintain and replace infrastructure, and

WHEREAS, aging bridges have been flagged, load posted, or restricted due to lack of funding; and

WHEREAS, such restrictions on the state highway system have had an impact on the delivery of agricultural products and good movements in general; and

WHEREAS, impacts have been realized in the form of ticketed vehicles or added time to deliver goods on long detours on local roads not intended for such heavy vehicles; and

WHEREAS, a significant investment has been made by the Governor's Office to support the expansion of agricultural products such as yogurt, barley, and wine as the hallmark of economic recovery in Upstate New York; and

WHEREAS, stagnant highway and bridge funding at the state level, especially for rural counties, has a significant impact on the Governor's plans for recovery and threatens the investment made in agriculture; and

WHEREAS, federal highway and bridge funding available for use by counties in New York has been reduced significantly by the emphasis placed on interstate highways under the Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century (MAP-21) Act and further impacted by the New York State Department of Transportation decision to allocate available federal construction funding towards the preservation of the state highway and bridge system; now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Ridgeway does hereby request That the Governor and the State Legislature immediately fund highway and bridges as to meet the needs identified by the New York State County Highway Superintendent's Association which calls for \$615 million in annual CHIP's funding and a \$500 million



local road and bridge program funded over 5 years with funds to be distributed through the CHIPS formula; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Ridgeway does hereby request that Senator Schumer, Senator Gillibrand, and Congressman Collins work toward repairing the Dedicated Highway and Bridge Trust Fund and amending MAP-21 or its reauthorization to allow for more concentration of funding on Off-System Bridges rather than interstate maintenance; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that copies of this resolution be sent to Senators Schumer and Gillibrand, Congressman Collins, Governor Cuomo, State Senator Ortt, Assemblyman Stephen Hawley, Assemblywoman Jane Corwin and all Town and Village Highway/Public Works Superintendents.

Adopted: 3 ayes 0 nays

RESOLUTION NO. 49 – 04/20/15

RESOLUTION TO ACCEPT, WITH  
REGRET, LETTER OF RESIGNATION  
OF ROBERT ROTH (ZONING BOARD  
OF APPEALS)

Offered by Councilman Stalker, who moved its adoption.  
Seconded by Councilman Blajszczak.

Resolved to accept, with regret, letter of resignation from Robert Roth dated April 1, 2015 after serving on the Zoning Board of Appeals for 41 years.

Adopted: 3 ayes 0 nays

RESOLUTION NO. 50 – 04/20/15

RESOLUTION TO APPOINT ALICE  
ROTH TO THE ZONING BOARD OF  
APPEALS AS OF MAY 5, 2015

Offered by Councilman Stalker, who moved its adoption.  
Seconded by Councilman Blajszczak.

Resolved to appoint Alice Roth to the Zoning Board of Appeals to complete the term of Robert Roth which ends December 31, 2015.

Adopted: 3 ayes 0 nays

OTHER BUSINESS

# **RIDGEWAY VOLUNTEER FIRE CO. INC**



11392 Ridge Road  
PO Box 816  
Medina, NY 14103-0816  
[ridgeway@rochester.rr.com](mailto:ridgeway@rochester.rr.com)



ASST CHIEF  
Jason Bessel

CHIEF  
Don Marchner

ASST CHIEF  
Francis Woodward

## MONTH OF MARCH REPORT:

1 – Automatic Alarm

2 – Motor Vehicle Accidents

3 – Hazardous Conditions

9 – EMS Calls

Total Calls for Month: 15      Total to Date: 61

80.1 Man Hours for the Month on these Calls

7.4 Average Firefighter per Call

All vehicles have been inspected

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Don Marchner".

Don Marchner  
Fire Chief

Fire Company Report: Read by Councilman Stalker

Department and County Legislator Reports:

Legislator, Lynne Johnson, spoke about Orleans County in conjunction with Niagara County and the E-Waste Project. It should commence within a month.

Highway Superintendent, Mark Goheen, told the board that his crew has been busy with the County tree crew in Ridgeway and Yates. They have been grinding stumps. The crew also continues to work on a diversion ditch and also have been welding and painting the sanders.

Kudos to Assessor, Trisha Laszewski, for a great score on her continuing education exam.

Assessor Laszewski also stated that the Tentative Roll will be ready by May 1, 2015 and Grievance Day is in May.

Attorney, Katherine Bogan, stated that she is still waiting for one more easement for WD#13.

Attorney Bogan also directed Highway Superintendent, Mark Goheen, to notify Art Hill (low bidder) to demolish house at 3652 Knowlesville Rd. After house is demolished, placards placed on property by Orleans County are to remain.

Councilman Report

Councilman Blajszczak informed residents that on May 9, 2015 a Bluegrass band will perform in Johnsons Creek, Route 104 for your listening pleasure.

Councilman Toussaint stated that he had a meeting last week concerning the Summer Recreation Program. A new director will be hired.

Planning/Zoning Board

Discussion of a Bed & Breakfast establishment and the erection of small windmills.

RESOLUTION NO. 51 – 04/20/15

RESOLUTION TO PAY BILLS

Offered by Councilman Blajszczak, who moved its adoption.  
Seconded by Councilman Stalker.

Resolved to pay bills as presented:

PREPAID ABSTRACT                      \$    82032.93

ABSTRACT \$ 85245.72

TOTAL ABSTRACT \$ 167278.65

Adopted: 3 ayes 0 nays

Robert J. Wegrzynowski told the board that he learned a lot from attending this Town Board Meeting and will be back for more.

#### ADJOURNMENT

As there was no further business to discuss, a motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 7:50 P.M. by Councilman Stalker and seconded by Councilman Blajszczak.

Town of Ridgeway,

Barbara J. Klatt  
Town Clerk