Schroon Lake Town Board Meeting **March, 9, 2026**
Held at the Town Hall **6:00 P.M**

Present:

Town Supervisor:	Meg Wood
Councilpersons:	David Williams, Leanna Welch, Steve Miller, Rick Gero
Town Clerk:	Erica Hedden
Chief Wastewater:	Brian Ritchings
Also Present:	Kevin O'Brien, Fran Mahler, Skip Mahler, Chris Savarie, Vickie Vallie, Cathy Fariss, Sue Palisano, Jean Schuhle, Amanda Ragland, Albert May, Tracy Hanchett, Donna Hall, Lynette Colden

Supervisor Wood called the meeting to order at 6:00P.M. with a salute to the Flag.

Public Participation:

Fran Mahler stated: There was a meeting at 5:45, where can I find that information? I did not see it on the website, where can I find notification of that? Can we do a better job getting that information out there? The presentation before the last meeting, I didn't see that information either.

Town Clerk Hedden stated: the presentation before February's meeting was organized by the SLA, they were simply using our meeting hall as a platform, it was not our presentation to advertise for. We did announce it at the last 3 meetings, that they were going to be having a presentation. Public hearings are posted in the paper and the website, for the paper we use the Sun Community.

Sue Palisano stated: Thank you to the town for their help with the Snow Day event. We cannot do all these events without the help of the Town. I also want to thank the Schroon-North Hudson Snowmobile club; they helped us so much and made those fantastic tracks. We are so grateful. Thank you

Lynette Colden stated: I just wanted to Thank the Town of Schroon for hosting the Vivid Life run for years. Our goal and our intent was to move it around the County. This year we are moving it to Jay. We will be back in Schroon for the run soon, but again I just wanted to say Thank you. Hosting it here in Schroon just kept working really well and everything fell into place, but now we want to bring it to other towns as well.

REQUEST TO ACCEPT MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 2nd,9TH and 20th 2026
RESOLUTION #54-2026
INTRODUCED BY: COUNCILPERSON WILLIAMS
WHO MOVED ITS ADOPTION
SECONDED BY: COUNCILPERSON WELCH

WHEREAS, the Town of Schroon seeks to accept the Town Clerks minutes of the February 2nd,9th and 20th Town Board meeting.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED, that the Town Board of Schroon hereby accepts the Town Clerks minutes of the February 2nd,9th and 20th Town Board meeting.

DULY ADOPTED MARCH 9, 2026 BY THE FOLLOWING VOTES:

AYES: __5__ NAYS: __0__ ABSENT:_____

AYES: Councilpersons Gero, Williams, Welch, Miller and Supervisor Wood

REQUEST TO APPROVE VOUCHERS
RESOLUTION #55-2026
INTRODUCED BY: COUNCILPERSON WELCH
WHO MOVED ITS ADOPTION
SECONDED BY: COUNCILPERSON GERO

WHEREAS, the Town of Schroon seeks to approve vouchers

2025 General: $6,237.43 2025 Highway: $3,501.63 2025 Water: $178.81
2026 General: $118,869.04 2026 Highway: $67,584.96 2026 Sewer: $8,796.55 2026 Water: $8,357.25

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED, that the Town Board of Schroon hereby approves the vouchers.

DULY ADOPTED MARCH 9, 2026 BY THE FOLLOWING VOTES:

AYES: __5__ NAYS: __0__ ABSENT:_____

AYES: Councilpersons Gero, Williams, Welch, Miller and Supervisor Wood

REQUEST TO APPROVE DEPARTMENTAL MONTHLY REPORTS
RESOLUTION #56-2026
INTRODUCED BY: COUNCILPERSON WILLIAMS
WHO MOVED ITS ADOPTION
SECONDED BY: **COUNCILPERSON WELCH**

WHEREAS, the Town of Schroon seeks to approve Town Clerk and Codes monthly reports for February.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED, that the Town Board of Schroon hereby approves Town Clerk and Codes monthly reports for February.

DULY ADOPTED MARCH 9, 2026 BY THE FOLLOWING VOTES:

AYES: 5 NAYS: 0 ABSENT:_____

AYES: Councilpersons Gero, Williams, Welch, Miller and Supervisor Wood

REQUEST TO APPROVE GOLF COURSE RATES
RESOLUTION #57-2026
INTRODUCED BY: COUNCILPERSON WELCH
WHO MOVED ITS ADOPTION
SECONDED BY: **COUNCILPERSON WILLIAMS**

WHEREAS, the Town of Schroon seeks to approve the 2026 golf course rates

$25.00 – 9 HOLES
$45.00 – 18 HOLES
$20.00 – 9 HOLE CART
$25.00 – 18 HOLE CART
MEMBERSHIP – NO CHANGE

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED, that the Town Board of Schroon hereby approves the 2026 Golf Course rates.

DULY ADOPTED MARCH 9, 2026 BY THE FOLLOWING VOTES:

AYES: 5 NAYS: 0 ABSENT:_____

AYES: Councilpersons Gero, Williams, Welch, Miller and Supervisor Wood

REQUEST TO APPROVE FIREWORKS CONTRACT FOR 7/2/26 AND 9/5/26
RESOLUTION #58-2026
INTRODUCED BY: COUNCILPERSON GERO
WHO MOVED ITS ADOPTION
SECONDED BY: **COUNCILPERSON MILLER**

WHEREAS, the Town of Schroon seeks to approve a contract with SANTORE Fireworks for the Labor Day totaling $7,000.00, as well as a Fireworks display for July 4th, totaling $15,000.00

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED, that the Town Board of Schroon hereby approves Santore Fireworks Display for 9/5/26, totaling $7,000, and a Fireworks Display for 7/4/2026 for $15,000.

DULY ADOPTED MARCH 9, 2026 BY THE FOLLOWING VOTES:

AYES: 5 NAYS: 0 ABSENT:_____

AYES: Councilpersons Gero, Williams, Welch, Miller and Supervisor Wood

REQUEST TO APPROVE CRAFCO PROPOSAL FOR BASKETBALL COURT
RESOLUTION #59-2026
INTRODUCED BY: COUNCILPERSON WELCH
WHO MOVED ITS ADOPTION
SECONDED BY: **COUNCILPERSON WILLIAMS**

WHEREAS, the Town of Schroon seeks to approve a contract with CRAFCO for $18,500.00 to pressure wash, repair cracks, re-coat and line strip the Basketball court.

ADDITIONALLY, authorizing the spending of an additional $1,500 for items related to the basketball court, such as but not limited to, new nets, hoops, poles or other such items.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED, that the Town Board of Schroon hereby approves a contract with CRAFCO for $18,500.00 and an additional expense of up to $1,500 for basketball court items.

DULY ADOPTED MARCH 9, 2026 BY THE FOLLOWING VOTES:

AYES: 5 NAYS: 0 ABSENT:_____

AYES: Councilpersons Gero, Williams, Welch, Miller and Supervisor Wood

REQUEST TO INTRODUCE LOCAL LAW NO 2 OF 2026, A LOCAL LAW TO PROHIBIT CAMPING OR SLEEPING IN TOWN PARKS, PUBLIC SIDEWALKS, STREETS, ALLEYWAYS OR PUBLIC RIGHTS OF WAY
RESOLUTION # 60 -2026
INTRODUCED BY: COUNCILPERSON GERO
WHO MOVED ITS ADOPTION
SECONDED BY: COUNCILPERSON WELCH

WHEREAS, the Town Board wishes to consider adoption of Local Law 2 of 2026 entitled, " A Local Law to Prohibit Camping or Sleeping in Town Parks, Public Sidewalks, Streets, Alleyways or other Public Rights of Way", a Local Law that would authorize the Town law to prohibit camping or sleeping in/on town parks, public sidewalks, public streets, alleyways, or any other public right of way. People camping or sleeping in town parks, on public property, or in public right of ways, creates a public health and safety hazard and interferes with the rights of others to use the areas for which they were intended.

WHEREAS, adoption of this legislation is authorized by from Article IX, Section 2(c) of the New York Constitution; Article 2 Section 10 of the Statute of Local Governments, and Article 2, Section 10 of the Municipal Home Rule Law, which authorizes the Town to adopt local laws and regulations that advance and protect the health, safety and welfare of the community.

WHEREAS, Municipal Home Rule Law §20 requires the Town Board to hold a Public Hearing prior to the adoption of any Local Law,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED, that the Schroon Town Board shall meet and hold a Public Hearing at the Schroon Town Hall, 15 Leland Ave., Schroon Lake, New York, at 5:45p.m. on May 11th, 2026 to hear all interested persons and take any necessary action provided by law concerning proposed Local Law 2 of 2026; and

BE IT FURTHUR,

RESOLVED, that the Town Board further authorizes and directs the Schroon Town Clerk to publish and post a Notice of Public Hearing concerning proposed Local Law 2 of 2026 in the manner provided by law and to make a copy of the proposed Local Law available for public inspection in the Town Clerk's office following the adoption of this Resolution and until the Public Hearing is closed.

DULY ADOPTED MARCH 9, 2026 BY THE FOLLOWING VOTES:
AYES: ___5____ NAYS: ___0____
AYES: Councilpersons Miller, Williams, Gero, Welch, Supervisor Wood

STATE OF NEW YORK)
COUNTY OF ESSEX)
TOWN OF SCHROON)

LOCAL LAW NO. 2 OF THE YEAR 2026
Town of Schroon, County of Essex
A Local Law to Prohibit Camping or Sleeping in Town Parks, Public Sidewalks, Streets, Alleyways or other Public Rights of Way

BE IT ENACTED, by the Town Board of Schroon, County of Essex, State of New York, as follows:

Section 1. Legislative Intent
It is the intent of this local law to prohibit camping or sleeping in/on town parks, public sidewalks, public streets, alleyways, or any other public right of way. People camping or sleeping in town parks, on public property, or in public right of ways, creates a public health and safety hazard and interferes with the rights of others to use the areas for which they were intended.

Section 2. Authority
The authority to adopt this local law is derived from Article IX, Section 2(c) of the New York Constitution; Article 2 Section 10 of the Statute of Local Governments, and Article 2, Section 10 of the Municipal Home Rule Law, which authorizes the Town to adopt local laws and regulations that advance and protect the health, safety and welfare of the community.

Section 3. Definitions
Unless the context requires otherwise the following definitions apply.

A. "To Camp" means to set up or to remain in or at a campsite.
B. "Campsite" means any place where bedding, sleeping bag, or other material used for bedding purposes, or any stove or fire is placed, established, or maintained for the purpose of maintaining a temporary place to live, whether or not such place incorporates the use of any tent, lean-to, shack, or any other structure, or any vehicle or part thereof.
C. "Prohibited Public Places" means any place not designated as a public campground pursuant to Federal, State or

local statute or ordinance and shall include the following:

a) Public streets, sidewalks, alleyways, passages and rights of way;
b) Publicly owned property;
c) Public parks;
d) Public parking lots, whether publicly owned or privately;
e) Public landscaped areas, whether publicly or privately owned and maintained pursuant to a public easement or agreement for public maintenance;
f) Private property that is readily accessible to the general public or is otherwise open to common general use;
g) Vacant lots that are readily accessible to the general public or otherwise open to common general use or that attract activity that may pose a threat to public health and safety; and
h) Drainage culverts and basins.

Section 4. Sleeping or Camping is Prohibited on Sidewalks, Streets, Alleys, or Within Doorways or in Prohibited Public Places

a) No person may sleep or camp on public sidewalks, streets, alleyways, or other prohibited public places at any time as a matter of individual and public safety.
b) No person may sleep or camp in any pedestrian or vehicular entrance to public or private property abutting a public sidewalk.
c) In addition to any other remedy provided by law, any person found in violation of this section may be immediately removed from the premises.

Section 5. Camping Prohibited

No person may occupy a campsite in or upon any sidewalk, street, alley, lane, public right of way, park, bench, or any other prohibited public place, or under any bridge or viaduct, unless (i) otherwise specifically authorized by this Local Law, (ii) by a formal declaration of the Town of Schroon Town Board in emergency circumstances, or (iii) upon Board resolution, the town may exempt a special event from the prohibitions of this section, if the Town Board finds such exemption to be in the public interest and consistent with Town goals and notices. Any conditions imposed will include a condition requiring that the applicant provide evidence of adequate insurance coverage and agree to indemnify the Town for any liability, damage or expense incurred by the Town *as* a result of activities of the applicant.

Any findings by the Town Board shall specify the exact dates and location covered by the exemption.

Section 6. Removal of Campsite on Public Property

Upon discovery of a campsite on public property, removal of the campsite by Law Enforcement may occur under the following circumstances:

A. Prior to removing the campsite, the Town shall attempt to give prior notice in advance at the campsite.
B. The Town shall inform a local agency (delivering social services to homeless individuals) of the location of the campsite.
C. Law Enforcement is authorized to remove the campsite and all personal property related thereto.

Section 7. Disposition and Release of Personal Property

For purposes of this Local Law, "personal property" means any item reasonably recognizable as belonging to a person and having apparent utility or monetary value. Items having no apparent utility or monetary value and items in an unsanitary condition may be immediately discarded. Weapons, drug paraphernalia, items appearing to be stolen, and evidence of a crime may be retained as evidence by the Law Enforcement until an alternate disposition is determined. All personal property removed from the campsite which is not retained, disposed of, or held as evidence (as provided above) shall be stored by the Law Enforcement as per their policy, during which time it shall be reasonably available for and released to an individual confirming ownership.

Section 8. Enforcement

This local law shall be enforced by any officer of the Essex County Sheriff's Office, NYS Police, the Town Code Enforcement Officer, or any other police officer authorized as such by the State of New York.

Section 9. Penalties

A violation of this Local Law shall be deemed an offense punishable by a fine up to $500 or imprisonment up to 15 days, or both.

Section 10. Severability

If any clause, sentence, paragraph, subdivision, or part of this Local Law or the application thereof to any person, firm or corporation, or circumstance, shall be adjusted by any court of competent jurisdiction to be invalid or unconstitutional, such order or judgment shall not affect, impair, or invalidate the remainder thereof, but shall be confined in its operation to the clause, sentence, paragraph, subdivision, or part of this Local Law or in its application to the person, individual, firm or corporation or circumstance, directly involved in the controversy in which such judgment or order shall be rendered.

Section 11. Effective date

This Local Law shall take effect immediately upon filing with the Secretary of State.

Section 12. Amendments

This Local Law may be amended from time to time by Town Board resolution

REQUEST TO APPROVE RESOLUTION ADOPTING LOCAL LAW NO. 1 OF 2026 ENTITLED "A LOCAL LAW AUTHORIZING THE AWARD OF PURCHASE CONTRACTS ON THE BASIS OF BEST VALUE"

RESOLUTION #61-2026
INTRODUCED BY: COUNCILPERSON WILLIAMS
WHO MOVED ITS ADOPTION
SECONDED BY: **COUNCILPERSON GERO**

WHEREAS, the Town Board wishes to consider adoption of Local Law 1 of 2026 entitled, "A Local Law Authorizing the Award of Purchase Contracts on the Basis of Best Value", a Local Law that would authorize the Town to award purchase contracts, which would otherwise be subject to the "lowest bidder" on the basis of "best value", as defined in §163 of the New York State Finance Law, as determined by the Town Board upon the recommendation of the appropriate officer, board, agency, commission or department, which would include the specific factors to be applied in determining best value reflecting, wherever possible, objective and quantifiable analysis; and

WHEREAS, adoption of this legislation is authorized by New York General Municipal Law §103 and New York Municipal Home Rule Law §10; and

WHEREAS, Municipal Home Rule Law §20 requires the Town Board to hold a Public Hearing prior to the adoption of any Local Law, and the Town Board duly held a Public Hearing on 3/9/2026 at 5:45PM, 2026, concerning proposed Local Law No.: 1 of 2026 and heard all interested persons,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED, that the Schroon Town Board hereby adopts proposed Local Law No.: 1 of 2026 which authorizes the Town to award purchase contracts on the basis of "best value" as that term is used in General Municipal Law §103 and State Finance Law §163; and

BE IT FURTHER,

RESOLVED, that such Local Law shall take effect upon filing the Local Law with the Secretary of State; and

BE IT FURTHER,

RESOLVED, that the Town Board hereby authorizes and directs the Town Clerk to file the Local Law with the Secretary of State in accordance with the provisions of the Municipal Home Rule Law; and

BE IT FURTHER,

RESOLVED, that the Town Board authorizes and directs the Town Supervisor, Town Clerk and/or Town Counsel to execute any required documents and take any and all actions necessary to effectuate the intent of this Resolution.

DULY ADOPTED MARCH 9, 2026 BY THE FOLLOWING VOTES:
AYES: _____ NAYS: ___0____ ABSENT:_____
AYES: Councilpersons Gero, Williams, Welch, Miller and Supervisor Wood

REQUEST TO APPROVE THE RFP FOR WASTEWATER TERTIARY SAND FILTER UPGRADE

RESOLUTION #62-2026
INTRODUCED BY: COUNCILPERSON WELCH
WHO MOVED ITS ADOPTION
SECONDED BY: **COUNCILPERSON WILLIAMS**

WHEREAS, the Town of Schroon seeks to approve advertisement for an RFP soliciting proposals for qualified professional engineering firms to perform a study on upgrading, replacing, or adding to its one sand filter. The Activated sludge plant is DEC permitted for 0.350 monthly average. NY Permit# 0020231. The filter and building are originally dating from 1973 and upgraded in the early 2000s.

The Town seeks an engineering-based evaluation of existing filter, and building to see the most cost-effective way to upgrade the system to support capital planning, and future grant-funded project.

Time of Response Respondents will have approximately six (6) weeks to provide a response to this RFP with a submission deadline of 4/21/26 at 2PM. The Town will review the proposals and respond within approximately two (2) weeks of RFP closure, after Town Board Meetings are held.

RFP Posted	March 10, 2026
RFP Submission	April 21, 2026 by 2PM
Proposal Review	April 21- May 11, 2026
Contract award estimate	May 11, 2026

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED, that the Town Board of Schroon hereby approves the advertisement of an RFP seeking an engineering-based evaluation of existing filter, and building to see the most cost-effective way to upgrade the system to support capital planning, and future grant-funded project.

DULY ADOPTED MARCH 9, 2026 BY THE FOLLOWING VOTES:

AYES: 5 NAYS: 0 ABSENT:_____

AYES: Councilpersons Gero, Williams, Welch, Miller and Supervisor Wood

REQUEST TO APPROVE EDR CONTRACT AMENDMENT #1 ROGERS BROOK PROJECT

RESOLUTION #63-2026

INTRODUCED BY: COUNCILPERSON GERO

WHO MOVED ITS ADOPTION

SECONDED BY: **COUNCILPERSON WELCH**

WHEREAS, the Town of Schroon seeks to approve a contract amendment with EDR due to additional services being performed by the engineer in the amount of $12,500.00

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED, that the Town Board of Schroon hereby approves a contract amendment with EDR due to additional services being performed by the engineer in the amount of $12,500.00

DULY ADOPTED MARCH 9, 2026 BY THE FOLLOWING VOTES:

AYES: 5 NAYS: 0 ABSENT:_____

AYES: Councilpersons Gero, Williams, Welch, Miller and Supervisor Wood

REQUEST TO APPROVE EMERGENCY CONTACT SYSTEM

RESOLUTION #64-2026

INTRODUCED BY: COUNCILPERSON WELCH

WHO MOVED ITS ADOPTION

SECONDED BY: **COUNCILPERSON WILLIAMS**

WHEREAS, the Town of Schroon seeks to approve the purchase of 3,334 points for $500.00 from On Call Now, an emergency alert system for emergency communications regarding Water issues and other town wide emergencies. The purchase of the 3,334 points initiates a one-year contract.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED, that the Town Board of Schroon hereby approves the purchase of 3,334 points at a price of $500.00 through On Call Now, an emergency alert system for emergency communications regarding Water issues and other town wide emergencies. The purchase of the 3,334 points initiates a one-year contract.

DULY ADOPTED MARCH 9, 2026 BY THE FOLLOWING VOTES:

AYES: 5 NAYS: 0 ABSENT:_____

AYES: Councilpersons Gero, Williams, Welch, Miller and Supervisor Wood

REQUEST TO APPROVE TOWN CLERK ATTENDANCE TO THE ANNUAL TOWN CLERK CONFERENCE

RESOLUTION #65-2026

INTRODUCED BY: SUPERVISOR WOOD

WHO MOVED ITS ADOPTION

SECONDED BY: **COUNCILPERSON WELCH**

WHEREAS, the Town of Schroon seeks to approve Erica Hedden, Town Clerk's attendance to the annual Town Clerk Association Conference in Albany. Conference cost is $562.00 with a hotel cost of $ 465.00 for 4/19-4/22/2026 at the Desmond in Albany. Mileage is to be paid at standard rate.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED, that the Town Board of Schroon hereby approves Erica Hedden, Town Clerk's attendance to the annual Town Clerk Association Conference in Albany. Conference cost is $562.00 with a hotel cost of $ 465.00 for 4/19-4/22/2026 at the Desmond in Albany. Mileage is to be paid at standard rate.

DULY ADOPTED MARCH 9, 2026 BY THE FOLLOWING VOTES:

AYES: 5 NAYS: 0 ABSENT:_____

AYES: Councilpersons Gero, Williams, Welch, Miller and Supervisor Wood

REQUEST TO APPROVE HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT TRUCK PURCHASE
RESOLUTION #66-2026
INTRODUCED BY: COUNCILPERSON GERO
WHO MOVED ITS ADOPTION
SECONDED BY: COUNCILPERSON WELCH

WHEREAS, the Town of Schroon seeks to approve the purchase of a truck from Della GMC for the amount of $65,875.00. Three quotes were obtained. Della Auto Group 2026 Chevrolet 3500 Silverado for $78,176.50, Della Plattsburgh 2026 Chevrolet 3500 Silverado for $70,772.50 and GMC 2026 Sierra 3500 for $65,875.00.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED, that the Town Board of Schroon hereby approves the purchase of a truck from Della GMC for the amount of $65,875.00.

DULY ADOPTED MARCH 9, 2026 BY THE FOLLOWING VOTES:

AYES: _____ NAYS: 0 ABSENT: _____

AYES: Councilpersons Gero, Williams, Welch, Miller and Supervisor Wood

DISCUSSION: ESSEX COUNTY OCCUPANCY TAX RECORD KEEPING

Supervisor Wood stated: Essex County has a County Occupancy Tax, related to Short Term Rentals. It was created years ago. No one ever thought it would grow to over 7 million dollars a year. The towns share this; there is a long formula based on how many residents you have and more. We are fortunate, our share of that tax is substantial. In 2024 we received $153,877.00 in 2025 $124,154. The reason it is lower is that they are making the payments quarterly now and we didn't get the last quarter of 2025 until 2026. This money is supposed to be used to support the community and the tourism needs. Not just used for chamber of commerce or arts council. It can be used for sidewalks, lighting, beach improvements, things like that. The one thing the county has wanted the towns to do is to take this money as it comes in and keep a record of how the money is spent. It was suggested that this money be put into a separate account so we can accurately track what this money goes to. Some of the items that this money was used for includes, Arts Council, Historical Society, 4th of July event, Porta Potty rental for the 4th, Road signs, Boat Patrol, Airport Maintenance, Sidewalks, Senior Center, Ice Rink maintenance, park restroom updates, the Tennis Court and the ski tow. We can use this money for the basketball court that we just talked about.

DISCUSSION: HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT SWEEPER REPLACEMENT

Highway Superintendent Flores stated: The sweeper we have now is a 2005. It spent a lot of time down, and needed to go to Albany to be repaired. I know this is a big expense but this piece of equipment does a lot for the town. A new sweeper is $297,334.23. I know its not in the budget this year, but this is something we need to consider purchasing soon. So, I wanted to bring it up to the board, so it is on everyone's radar.

DISCUSSION: HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT FUEL PUMP SYSTEM REPLACEMENT

Highway Superintendent Flores stated: I got a price back from E&FS, the tank that we have there is 27 years old and tanks are only good for 30 years. The price that is included here is the price that includes everything. New tank, taking out the old tank, new system, new cards, new everything. The price is $453,799. The current fuel system is used by the highway, water, sewer, the fire trucks, ambulances, snowmobile club, school buses, codes, any and all of our town vehicles. It does get a lot of use. In the winter time it does give us a lot of trouble, I did have some folks come and look at it and they said that the system is just so old that there isn't much we can do to improve upon what we currently have.

Supervisor Wood stated: we will have to figure out the percentage of use and figure out how we allocate the cost of this improvement. This should not come out of just highways budget. We will work with the comptroller on this to try and figure out the best way to do that.

Amanda Ragland stated: Can I ask a question for my own knowledge? What is the cost savings to having this with the town verses going to Stewarts or Sunoco? How does this save us money?

Highway Superintendent Flores stated: it is not about the cost savings it is about functionality. You cannot get a firetruck into Stewarts to get gas. The same with the large snow plows, there is just not way to get in and out of there safely, even if the parking lot was completely empty it would still be difficult to get in there and nearly impossible to turn around a fire truck.

Councilperson Gero stated: we also buy diesel on state contract, so we do not pay the pump price.

DISCUSSION: ZONING/STR

Supervisor Wood stated: I just wanted to update you on zoning. One of the first steps in the comprehensive plan is zoning. Hopefully we can get some help with having some professional people come to analyses what we have and to help us get this off the ground. This is a long process, hopefully a year time line. Part of the zoning that interests me is the Short Term Rental issues that we have. We will hopefully be putting out an RFP for these services soon.

DISCUSSION: ROGERS BROOK WASTEWATER PROJECT STATUS

Supervisor Wood stated; we had a meeting on February 6th; there were 6 or 8 different people that came from various agencies. The meeting was very informative. We are working on the DEC, and getting them to work in conjunction with the DOT in regards to the bridge over Rogers Brook, and also working on the wastewater system because our sewer line is right under the bridge. There is a lot of coordinating that needs to happen to get this project going. We did get a large grant for this project, over $800,000 dollar grant. The project is taking so long, the grant expired but we were given an extension because it's the planning phase that is taking so long.

DISCUSSION: HYDROLOGIC ASSESSMENT RFP

Supervisor Wood stated: the next thing is storm water. This is a huge problem in town, all throughout town. We want to have, eventually, upgrades to the sewer system. We will need to do BIDS to get upgrades to a sewer system in the hamlet. We have $50,000 to get an engineer report to help us get that started. This is a step to get started, everything has to be done in order. We can't get grants if we don't have the engineer study

Highway Superintendent Flores stated: one thing I wanted to mention while we are talking about stormwater. Across the street here we have that issue. We need to figure out who owns what so we can figure out how to get this fixed. It is getting worse and someone needs to address it.

Donnal Hall stated: I am the manager of the apartments over there and I have a contractor coming tomorrow to look at it. Hopefully they will come up with some kind or repair. I prefer that we don't take full responsibility of the situation. Something has to be done; we have been going back and forth on who owns it.

DISCUSSION: WATER DEPARTMENT IMPROVEMENTS

Supervisor Wood stated: Greg Swart of Suozzo, Doty and Associates came up and gave us his thoughts on some sort of an RFP for our water tank. We have a water tank engineer person coming soon to do a structural inspection of that tank on Route 9. That tank is approximately 63 years old.

DISCUSSION: ESSEX COUNTY HOUSING INITIATIVES

Supervisor Wood stated: the Essex County Housing Initiatives. There was an event recently that was put on by the Adirondack Community Foundation. People came to present were people that I have met in my travels over the last 10 or so years. Board members also went, along with many members of our community. I spoke to Kelly Brooks a member of the foundation, I talked with two other board members of that foundation who happen to be resident of this town. I talked to the head of Roost, Nicole Justice-Green who is one of the people presenting. I was able to talk to Kathy Fariss and her son, I spoke to Kevin Kavanaugh. It was not an event put on by the town. We went to be informed.

DISCUSSION: APA PLANNING FORUM MAY 6& 7 IN SARANAC LAKE

Supervisor Wood stated: The APA Planning Forum is coming up. I believe the agenda is to address Short Term Rentals and zoning all day long.

DISCUSSION: REVOLVING LOAN FUND

Supervisor Wood stated: They met this week upstairs. Cathy Moses Bryerton, Sue Palisano, Fran Mahler, Roger Sachleben, and Donna Sennaville met and went over the new policy,

Councilperson Gero stated: it went well Sue had posed some really good questions. Donna is going to inquire with the bank to get more details. Donna will be the chair person. Cathy and Roger will be the two-year members. The membership has to be staggered so that we can continue a quorum. Sue, Donna and Fran will be the three-year members.

Supervisor Wood stated: one thing we have to remember is that we are not a bank. If the money is to be applied for then a lending institution has to send us a written recommendation that the person is not eligible for their products and they thing it will be a good fit for the Revolving Loan Fund. All the years this has been available, we only had one default. Thankfully we did not take ownership of the building, that saved us in the long run. The Town Board has nothing to do with the decisions on this. Diane Tyrell will be managing the paperwork upstairs but the Town Board has nothing to do with this committee.

DISCUSSION: LETTER OF SUPPORT FOR DARK SKY INITIATIVE

Supervisor Wood stated: I got a letter from Joy Koch, she is looking for a letter of support. There is a grant from the institute of museum and library services. This outfit is promoting the awareness of light pollution, and they are looking to lead action to reducing it across the Adirondacks. They are trying to get Tupper Lake labeled as a dark sky community. Receiving this grant would allow Tupper Lake to increase out educational program and outreach. I do not have a problem writing a letter of support for Tupper Lake.

DISCUSSION: SKATING RINK

Supervisor Wood stated: I asked Patrick to close the rink down because its just all slouchy. I think its best to shut it down for the season.

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS:

Vicki Vallie stated: you referred to something earlier and called it chip money, what is chip money?

Highway Superintendent Flores stated: CHIPS money is what the State gives us, Consolidated Highway Improvement. You can use it to buy equipment, and pave the roads. There is a big long formula that determines how much we get, but it is money from the state.

Councilperson Gero stated: it's with great sadness that I am announcing the passing of Lillian Richardson. A lot of times we bounce the word "special" around, but in this case, it is spot on. She in my opinion is the ultimate goal of what an educator should be. I would like to acknowledge everything she has done for this community.

Highway Superintendent Flores stated: I put it on Facebook but just so everyone knows the roads are posted for weight effective today, and will be lifted around April. The Town of Schroon Temporary Road closure effective March 9th 2026, all town roads are closed to vehicles over 4 tons gross weight until further notice.

Councilperson Williams stated: thank you everyone for coming. I just wanted to say how wonderful it is that we live here and that we have such a wonderful community. I know I am new here but I just really wanted to say, Meg Wood works so very hard for the town. She has a lot of things up in the air along with the rest of the board and Erica. They do so much for this town and I think for a lot of people on the outside of the Town Hall, they do not really know how much these people do for our town. Its incredible. Now that I am on the board, I can see in detail everything that they do. Its great. Thank you to all of you.

Thank you to our Highway Department for all their hard work, as well as all the Town of Schroon Employees who helped during the last weather events.

Any other business before the board

ADJOURN MEETING AT 7:13PM
INTRODUCED BY: COUNCILPERSON GERO
SECONDED BY: COUNCILPERSON WILLIAMS

With no further business, this meeting was adjourned at 7:13PM, carried unanimously

Erica Hedden
Town Clerk