

**TOWN OF PITTSFORD
ENVIRONMENTAL BOARD
MINUTES
AUGUST 7, 2023**

TOWN CLERK
TOWN OF
PITTSFORD, NY

2023 OCT -3 P 3:37

MEMBERS PRESENT: Steve Heinzelman, Jerremy Lorch, Julie Marcellus, Jim Pippin, Caroline Kilmer, Jackie Ebner

ABSENT: Lindsay Clark

OTHERS PRESENT: April Zurowski, Planning Assistant; Stephanie Townsend, Town Board Liaison; Surya Man, Student Member; Bill Smith, Town Supervisor

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC: 2

Chairman Steve Heinzelman opened the meeting at 7:00PM.

REVIEW OF MINUTES:

Environmental Board Member Jim Pippin made a motion to approve the minutes of May 1, 2023, seconded by Environmental Board Member Julie Marcellus. The minutes were approved following a unanimous voice vote.

TOWN BOARD UPDATE: Bill Smith, Town Supervisor; Stephanie Townsend, Town Board Member

Town Supervisor Bill Smith announced the recent launch of the Monroe County Food Scraps Recycling Pilot Program which will partner with the Town of Pittsford to reduce the amount of food in local landfills. Supervisor Smith stated that the pilot program will include up to 500 Pittsford residents, of which will be given a labeled bucket, and the Town will provide a food scraps drop-off station at the Town of Pittsford Dog Park, located at 34 East Street. Unlike the existing composting program at the Spiegel Community Center that produces compost for the Community Garden at Thornell Farm Park, this program will turn food scraps into electricity through anaerobic digestion to be sold back to the grid. Program registration will be available for sign-up on Wednesday, August 9th, with the first available food scraps drop-off beginning Monday, September 18th.

Town Supervisor Smith described an upcoming program to promote pollinator pathways within the Town of Pittsford. The "Pollinator Garden Pathway Challenge" will encourage residents to plan a minimum of 10 pollinator-friendly plants in their garden to create a pathway extending through the Town. Those who have completed the planting challenge will receive a metal sign for their garden. This program is still in the planning phase, but Supervisor Smith expects the program to launch in mid-September. Environmental Board Member Caroline Kilmer asked if residents will receive a metal sign if 10 plants are already in place. Supervisor Smith confirmed.

Town Supervisor Smith discussed the Town's fleet replacement schedule and how electric vehicles may be incorporated moving forward. He acknowledged previous concerns raised by staff and stated that after a recent discussion with a resident who has expertise in the field, the possibility of electric vehicles may be near impossible due to supply chain issues and that the technology has not advanced enough for the trucks that the Town needs.

Town Supervisor Smith discussed the Town Board's interest in development of a Climate Action Plan, something the Environmental Board has been focusing on at their most recent meetings. Supervisor Smith has reached out to the Genesee/Finger Lakes Regional Planning Council (GFLRPC) and has

begun discussions with Rachel Scudder, a Sustainability Planner with the Council. Ms. Scudder will assist the Town in drafting a Climate Action Plan and will work with staff and the Board to fine tune the Town of Pittsford's sustainability goals. Monroe County plans to release its Climate Action Plan in early September, which Ms. Scudder and the Environmental Board will use as a reference. Environmental Board Member Julie Marcellus asked if Monroe County's plan will include items specific to towns and villages within it. Supervisor Smith stated that the plan will focus on Monroe County as a whole. Environmental Board Member Jim Pippin asked for an approximate schedule for the draft plan. Supervisor Smith stated that the standard draft plan will be quickly created and will be adjusted based on Environmental Board input at their upcoming meetings. The Board discussed rescheduling its September meeting, as it is scheduled to be canceled due to the holiday. Town Board Member Stephanie Townsend suggested rescheduling the meeting for a date and time that Ms. Scudder could attend.

Town Supervisor Smith stated that the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) has recently added 3750 Monroe Avenue to the State Superfund Site Registry, this property being classified as Class 2. Supervisor Smith stated that there is no new migration of contaminants measured in 2016 and the current owner is encouraged by the NYSDEC to continue with the voluntary clean-up plan initiated in 2014.

Town Board Member Townsend discussed concerns with contaminants transferred by CSX Railroad through the Town of Pittsford. She informed the Board that the Town Board contacted CSX and New York State in efforts to receive reports of contaminants that were scheduled to pass through Pittsford. The State denied the Town's request stating that contaminant types and its scheduled transportation may be a target for terrorism.

CHAIRMAN COMMENTS: Chairman Steve Heinzelman

Environmental Board Chairman Steve Heinzelman discussed drafting social media posts for the Town Communication Director, Shelley O'Brien.

Planning Assistant April Zurowski stated that the Town received communication from the Monroe County Environmental Management Council (MCEMC) requesting a nominee for the Council. Board Member Pippin motioned to nominate Board Member Caroline Kilmer as the Town's representative with Board Member Jackie Ebner as the alternate, seconded by Chairman Heinzelman. The motion was unanimously approved. The next MCEMC meeting is scheduled for September 20th.

PLANNING BOARD/STAFF UPDATES: April Zurowski, Staff Liaison

Planning Assistant April Zurowski discussed current and upcoming Planning Board projects.

She stated that the previously discussed monopine telecommunications facility at 79 W Bloomfield Road has begun construction. A monopole telecommunications facility at 60 Golf Avenue, the Town's Highway Department, is awaiting Final Site Plan and Special Use Permit approval from the Planning Board.

Section 4 of the Coventry Ridge Subdivision has received Preliminary Subdivision approval from the Planning Board. A Final Subdivision application to the Board has been received.

Bridleridge Farms Subdivision, Alpine Ridge Subdivision, Coventry Ridge Subdivision, and Wilshire Hill Subdivision are all in progress and are being closely monitored by the Department of Public Works.

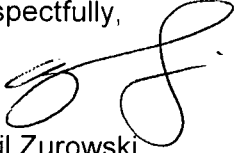
OTHER DISCUSSIONS:

APPROVED 080723

Environmental Board Member Jackie Ebner asked Student Member Surya Man what she intends to learn as a student member of the Board. Chairman Steve Heinzelman stated that Student Member Man will get a feel of how government and volunteer boards operate.

Chairman Heinzelman adjourned the meeting at 8:03PM.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'April Zurowski', with a stylized flourish at the end.

April Zurowski
Planning Assistant

OFFICIAL MINUTES ARE ON FILE IN THE OFFICE OF THE PLANNING
DEPARTMENT