



# TOWN OF AMENIA TOWN BOARD

4988 Route 22, AMENIA, NY 12501  
(845) 373-8860 [www.ameniany.gov](http://www.ameniany.gov)

**August 20, 2020**

The Town of Amenia, Town Board began their meeting at 7:04pm on Thursday, August 20, 2020 at 4988 Route 22, Amenia New York. Supervisor Perotti moved to open the meeting. Emergency exits were pointed out and Roll Call was taken by the Clerk with the following members were present:

Supervisor Victoria Perotti  
Deputy Supervisor Vicki Doyle  
Councilman Damian Gutierrez  
Councilman James Morris  
Councilwoman Michelle Somogyi

Also Present: Town Clerk Dawn Marie Klingner

### **Presentation for Dutchess County Commission on Human Rights**

Daniel Goldhagen, Victoria Anderson and Jen Drake presented to the Town Board the work of the Dutchess County Commission on Human Rights.

### **Presentation of Wassaic Park recommendations**

Councilmembers Damian Gutierrez and Vicki Doyle presented to the other board members ideas for the future use of Wassaic Park as a result of their research from community feedback

### **Supervisor's Report, Victoria Perotti, Town Supervisor**

Supervisor Perotti reported the following: **Wassaic Trail to the Train Update** – The Trail to the Train is open. The Town is waiting for one more bid for fencing. Metro North has given approval for a fence on their Right of Way as long as the Town maintains it. The grant writer has sent all of the required information to DOT for grant reimbursement. NYMIR required signage for the trail will be ordered and other signage discussed. **Please complete CENSUS information.** There is information on the website and on Channel 22 on how to be counted. The Town of Amenia has a census response rate of 49%. There will be Census workers coming to your door in order to assist people in completing the Census in addition to having a Census worker at locations where multiple people can be reached. The information collected by the Census helps inform the federal government on many key decisions including the allocation of funding for schools, hospitals, community organizations and much more, as well as legislative redistricting and congressional representation. For each person not counted by the Census, New York State loses more than \$3,000 in federal aid. Rural communities like the Town of Amenia are the most heavily impacted by an undercount. **Town of Amenia Covid-19 (Coronavirus)** – The Amenia Town Hall departments are available by in person appointment only in addition to phone, mail, email and secure lockbox on the building to the left of the front door. Everyone is required to wear a face covering before entering. There are face masks available inside the front door if someone needs one. There is hand sanitizer available in the hall. Each department has been given a visitor sign in sheet which also requires contact information. Social distancing, face coverings, hand washing, and hand sanitizer protocols are followed in the Amenia Town

Hall. Please continue to wear face coverings and be mindful of social distancing. Also remember to not touch your face, wash your hands often, and use hand sanitizer. Be well and stay safe.

**Town Clerk's Report, Dawn Marie Klingner, Town Clerk**

Clerk Klingner presented a request from Chris Klingner for two additional constables and a Board of Assessment Review Member. {Amended- as discussed at the end of the meeting to add BAR member}

Motion to authorize the advertisement of two constables and a Board of Assessment Review member  
Motion made by Doyle; seconded by Perotti

Roll Call 5 Ayes (Doyle, Gutierrez, Morris, Somogyi, Perotti)

Clerk Klingner presented d the July Building Report in the amount of \$3,200; the August 20<sup>th</sup> Highway Report; the July 2020 Monthly Water Report

Motion to accept the reports as presented

Motion made by Gutierrez; seconded by Somogyi

Roll Call 5 Ayes (Doyle, Gutierrez, Morris, Somogyi, Perotti)

Presented the monthly vouchers in the following amounts

General Fund A	\$97,740.12
Highway Fund DA0	\$17,426.17
Amenia Lighting- SL1	\$ 1,233.89
Wassaic Lighting-SL2	\$ 461.61
Amenia Water-SW0	\$ 9,039.68
Total	\$125,901.47

Motion to authorize the supervisor to pay the claims in the amount of \$125,901.47

Motion made by Somogyi; Seconded by Morris

Roll Call 5 Ayes (Doyle, Gutierrez, Morris, Somogyi, Perotti)

Klingner announced the upcoming Chicken BBQ offered by the Amenia Fire Company.

**Discussion Items:**

*Wassaic Fire Company Request to Waive Fee*

Motion to authorize the waiving of fees for the Wassaic Fire Company lot line change

Motion made by Doyle; Seconded by Somogyi

Roll Call 5 Ayes (Doyle, Gutierrez, Morris, Somogyi, Perotti)

*Operating Report and Balance Sheets*

Supervisor Perotti acknowledged the Operating Statement and the Balance Sheets in the councilmembers folders and asked the board members if they had any questions. Discussion was had regarding the line items where items are being allocated from. It was also recommended that the new recreation director come to the meetings and present a report of the activity and expenditures

*Town/Fire Company Emergency Frequency*

Councilman Gutierrez lead the discussion in response to a conversation he had with a commissioner of Wassaic Fire District regarding obtaining a radio frequency for Wassaic Fire and Supervisor Perotti shared the response from the Commissioner of DC Emergency Response. Clerk Klingner shared with the councilmember and the board that currently Wassaic Fire uses Amenia Fire's radio frequency; and recognized that the additional issue experienced during the storm was the zero cell service in the area. No actions were taken as a result of this discussion.

*Wassaic Fire Generator*

Discussion regarding the replacement of the 18 year old generators of the Amenia and Wassaic Fire Departments and the Water District; Supervisor Perotti is working with Schreck on maintenance of them and the repairs of their recent failures; she is also working with the grant writer on grant opportunity.

*Transfer of Funds*

Motion to accept Resolution # 37 of 2020 Transfer of Funds for August 20, 2020

Motion made by Perotti; Seconded by Somogyi

Roll Call 5 Ayes (Doyle, Gutierrez, Morris, Somogyi, Perotti)

**Town Board comments**

Somogyi recognized the volunteers who helped during the storm and the senior picnic.

Gutierrez inquired if there were any open planning board positions.

Klingner recalled the need to advertise for the upcoming Board of Assessment Review member; as a result the board amended the earlier motion to advertise as follows

Motion to amend the motion to advertise for the constables to also advertise for the Board of Assessment Review for there is a term up

Motion made by Perotti; Seconded by Gutierrez

Roll Call 5 Ayes (Doyle, Gutierrez, Morris, Somogyi, Perotti)

Doyle shared upcoming event at Stissing Variety Show being held at the Stissing Center in Pine Plains.

**Adjourn**

Motion to adjourn at 9:01pm

Motion made by Morris; Seconded by Somogyi

Roll Call 5 Ayes (Doyle, Gutierrez, Morris, Somogyi, Perotti)

Respectfully submitted:

*Dawn Marie Klingner*

Dawn Marie Klingner  
Town Clerk

 Accepted by town board on ( 9-17-2020 )

