

TOWN OF GALLATIN
 JANUARY 9, 2014
 ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING
 GENERAL MEETING

1. CALL TO ORDER/PLEDGE TO FLAG
2. ROLL CALL

	PRESENT	ABSENT	LATE
Supervisor John C. Reilly	X		
Councilmember Donald Coons	X		
Councilmember Jeffery Galm	X		
Councilmember Eric Mortenson	X		
Councilmember John Fraser Paterson	X		

3. **SPECIAL TOPIC: 2014 APPOINTMENTS**

1. Resolution 2014-1 Tax Certiorari Resolution Approving Tax Certiorari Settlement M.B.H. Farm v Town of Gallatin On a motion by Councilman Mortenson seconded by Councilman Galm and carried unanimously by roll call vote the Town Attorney is authorized to sign the Stipulation of Settlement and Order, resolution attached.
2. Resolution 2014-2 Appointment of Deputy Supervisor. On a motion by Councilman Coons seconded by Supervisor Reilly and carried unanimously Councilman Mortenson was named Deputy Supervisor.
3. Resolution 2014-3 Reappointment of Town Attorney. On a motion by Councilman Galm seconded by Councilman Paterson, Town Attorney Warren Replansky was reappointed as Town Attorney to serve at the pleasure of the Board.
 - Supervisor Reilly-yes
 - Councilman Galm-yes
 - Councilman Mortenson-no
 - Councilman Paterson-yes
 - Councilman Coons-yes
 - Carried 4 to 1

4. Resolution 2014-4 Reappointment of Town Accountant/Auditor. On a motion by Councilman Paterson seconded by Councilman Coons, Town Accountant Mark Fitzgerald was reappointed as Town Accountant to serve at the pleasure of the Board.
 - Supervisor Reilly-yes
 - Councilman Galm-yes
 - Councilman Mortenson-no
 - Councilman Paterson-yes
 - Councilman Coons-yes
 - Carried 4 to 1

5. Resolution 2014-5 Reappointment of Town Engineer. On a motion by Councilman Mortenson seconded by Councilman Coons and carried unanimously Morris and Associates was reappointed as Town Engineering Firm.

6. Resolution 2014-6 Reappointment of Highway Superintendent. Councilman Coons stated he was voting against the reappointment because he felt the highway department dropped of dirt to a private residence and gave shale away as well as repair a culvert on private property.
On a motion by Councilman Paterson seconded by Councilman Galm, Highway Superintendent Jack Gomm was reappointed to a 2 year term.
 - Supervisor Reilly-yes
 - Councilman Galm-yes
 - Councilman Mortenson-yes
 - Councilman Paterson-yes
 - Councilman Coons-no
 - Carried 4 to 1

7. Resolution 2014-7 Reappointment of Justice Clerk.
 - On a motion by Councilman Galm seconded by Councilman Paterson and carried unanimously Isadora Schultz was reappointed Court Clerk

8. Resolution 2014-8 Reappointment of Code Enforcement Officer(CEO).
 - On a motion by Councilman Coons seconded by Councilman Galm and carried unanimously, Drew Weaver was reappointed CEO.

9. Resolution 2014-9 Reappointment of Building Custodian.
 - On a motion by Councilman Mortenson seconded by Councilman Coons and carried unanimously Dolores Weaver was reappointed Building Custodian.

10. Resolution 2014-10 Reappointment of Dog Control Officer.
On a motion by Councilman Mortenson seconded by Councilman Paterson and carried unanimously Jim Rielly was reappointed dog control officer. The board requested Mr. Rielly attend the February meeting.
11. Resolution 2014-11 Reappointment of Town Historian.
On a motion by Councilman Coons seconded by Councilman Galm and carried unanimously Dolores Weaver was reappointed Town Historian.
12. Resolution 2014-12 Reappointment of Records Control Officer.
On a motion by Councilman Mortenson seconded by Councilman Coons and carried unanimously Town Clerk Lisa DeLeeuw was reappointed Records Control Officer.
13. Resolution 2014-13 Appointment of Energy Officer.
On a motion by Councilman Paterson seconded by Councilman Coons and carried unanimously Councilman Mortenson was appointed Energy Officer.
14. Resolution 2014-14 Designation of Official Town Newspaper(s).
On a motion by Councilman Paterson seconded by Councilman Coons and carried unanimously the Columbia Paper is the official Town Newspaper, the Register Star will also be used for important announcements and legal notices.
15. Resolution 2014-15 2015 Budget Calendar.
On a motion by Councilman Paterson seconded by Councilman Mortenson the budget will be reviewed at the July 2014 meeting and the 2015 budget will be completed by October 15, 2014
Supervisor Reilly-yes
Councilman Galm-no
Councilman Mortenson-yes
Councilman Paterson-yes
Councilman Coons-yes
Carried 4 to 1
16. Resolution 2014-16 Liaisons to Boards.
On a motion by Councilman Mortenson seconded by Councilman Galm and carried unanimously the following liaisons were appointed.
Planning-Councilman Paterson
Zoning Board of Appeals-Councilman Coons
Code Enforcement Officer- Councilman Mortenson
Highway-Councilman Galm

17. Resolution 2014-17 Appointment(s) to Board of Ethics or Designation of Same.
On a motion by Councilman Paterson seconded by Councilman Mortenson and carried unanimously the Columbia County Board of Ethics will be called on if needed.
18. Resolution 2014-18 Appointment of FOIL Officer.
On a motion by Councilman Mortenson seconded by Councilman Coons and carried unanimously Town Clerk Lisa DeLeeuw was appointed FOIL officer.
19. Resolution 2014-19 Appointment of Information Technology Officer.
Open
20. Resolution 2014-20 Appointment to Planning Board and Reappointment of Chair.
On a motion by Supervisor Reilly seconded by Councilman Mortenson and carried unanimously Brian Arico was reappointed to the Planning Board with a term ending December 31, 2018. Terry Porter was reappointed as Chairman to the Planning Board term ending December 31, 2014.
21. Resolution 2014-21 Appointment to Zoning Board of Appeals and Reappointment of Chair.
On a motion by Supervisor Reilly seconded by Councilman Mortenson and carried unanimously Fred Simoncini was reappointed to the Zoning Board of Appeals with a term ending December 31, 2018, as well as Chairman of the Zoning Board of Appeals with a term ending Dec 31, 2014.
22. Resolution 2014-22 Designation of Insurance Officer.
On a motion by Councilman Mortenson seconded by Councilman Galm and carried unanimously Supervisor Reilly was named Insurance Officer.
23. Resolution 2014-23 2014 Town Board Meeting Day and Time.
On a motion by Councilman Mortenson seconded by Councilman Galm and carried unanimously the Town Board meeting date will be the 2nd Thursday at 6:30 pm. This will be revisited at the February meeting.
24. Resolution 2014-24 Appointment of Press Release Officer and Liaison to Public Information Sources.
On a motion by Councilman Mortenson seconded by Councilman Galm and carried unanimously Supervisor Reilly was named Public

Information Officer.

25. Resolution 2014-25 Appointment of Grant Writing Officer and compensation thereof.

On a motion by Supervisor Reilly seconded by Councilman Galm and carried unanimously Town Clerk Lisa DeLeeuw was named Grant writing officer, compensation TBD.

26. Resolution 2014-26 Appointment of Liaison to Buildings.

On a motion by Councilman Mortenson seconded by Supervisor Reilly and carried unanimously Councilman Paterson was named liaison to the Buildings.

MONTHLY BUSINESS SECTION

4. Review of December Minutes- On a motion by Supervisor Reilly seconded by Councilman Mortenson and carried unanimously the December 2104 minutes were accepted as written.

5. December Bill Review. On a motion by Councilman Galm seconded by Councilman Mortenson and carried unanimously the December 2103 and Jan 2014 bills were approved for payment.

General Fund	304-323	\$10,719.77
	1-11	\$32,182.99
Highway Fund	152-164	\$37,111.79
	1	\$ 3,193.93

6. Supervisors Review of County Items

- County audit for 2012 has been completed.
- A special committee for the airport expansion has been formed.
- County Board Chairman Grattan has formed a special committee for Pine Haven.
- Supervisor Reilly sits on the Public safety and County Gov't committees.

7. Review of Planning Board Actions, on file.

8. Review of ZBA, no meeting.

9. Comments of Code Enforcement Officer, on file

10. Highway Superintendent Comments/Report-Report on file. Highway Superintendent Gomm named Robert Coons as Working Foreman for a term ending January 15, 2016.

11. Assessor Comment's, I have worked with the ORPS valuation specialist and have done analysis on the sales that have occurred in Gallatin in the last year leading to the valuation date of July 1. Market values are coming

back and the state valuation will be coming out within the month. This in coordination with the local analysis will be the basis of what must be done to maintain 100% full value for the 2014 roll.

12. Court Actions- Councilmen Mortenson and Coons will audit the Court records.
13. Clerk Report, on file. Councilmen Mortenson and Coons will audit the Clerk/Tax Collector Records.
14. Correspondence
 - a. Complaint from Sigler Road resident, noise, trespassing gun fire. Code Enforcement office Drew Weaver will look into it.
 - b. Community Rescue Squad, EMS contract renewal \$11,877, Supervisor Reilly will review for February meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON MONTHLY BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS SECTION 2014

15. Review of 2013 Financial Condition/estimated 2013 reserve balance in General /Highway. Analysis of availability of board financial information and requests of Councilman Eric Mortenson.
 - a. **Resolution 2014-26** The Town Board resolves to re-open the 2014 Budget for purposes for restating certain items, to designate surplus earmarks and appoint John Reilly and the Town attorney to draft an investment plan for Board review in February 2014. **VOTE** 5 **(Yes)**/ 0 **(No)**. Motion Reilly second Mortenson.

Notes: An earmark is a legislative provision that directs already approved funds to be spent on specific projects. Earmarks come in two varieties: Hard earmarks, or "hardmarks", found in legislation, and soft earmarks, or "softmarks", found in committee reports. Hard earmarks are legally binding, whereas soft earmarks are not but are customarily acted upon as if they were such.

16. Town Hall Building Restoration/Systems: Presentation and Discussion
 - a. **Resolution 2014-27** The Town Board resolves to appoint Drew Weaver, (with a stipend to be determined if appropriate), to review the Town Hall for restoration of the School House features and for efficiency guidelines on the office set-up and for general review of building condition and major system assessment and lighting plan for capital reserves purposes. Drew Weaver will also review the Highway Department building for the same recommendation regarding equipment shelters and systems. Any approved projects will come only from contributed funds if legally possible and existing fund balances and will not impact taxing levels. Fraser

Paterson to act as Board Liaison to Project. John Reilly to act as Contributions Liaison in accordance with Town attorney direction regarding contributions to public buildings restoration. Lisa Deleeuw to review grants guidelines and opportunities. **VOTE** 5 (Yes)/ 0 (No) Motion Mortenson second Paterson.

17. Town Historian Project: Presentation and Discussion

- a. **Resolution 2014-28** The Town Board resolves to appoint Dolores Weaver to advise Town Board of the general nature of Town historical documents and the ability to preserve digital copies in the short term and well as permanent housing and display opportunities over the next two years. Dolores to work with videographer to preserve oral histories for town website, including her own and recommended town figures who possess important oral history. Eric Mortenson and Donald Coons to assist as liaisons and to arrange and price videography and/or look for volunteers to the project. **VOTE** 5 (Yes)/ 0 (No) Motion Mortenson second Paterson.

18. Roadmap to Roadways. Presentation and Discussion

- a. **Resolution 2014-29** The Town Board resolves to continue the meeting schedule established by the 2013 Board in regards to those private roads under review to meet Town specifications for future dedication. The Board appoints Councilmen Jeff Galm (alternate), Fraser Paterson and Eric Mortenson to work with the Town attorney to provide a written roadmap for the process to the current resident groups involved, including Hoefer Road and Brookside Lane. Further, the Board will work with the Highway Superintendent to properly map and delineate the proper boundaries for each town road. **VOTE** 4 (Yes)/ 1 (No) Motion Mortenson second Paterson, No Galm.
NOTES: It is the intent of the Town Board to provide clear direction to these residents as required by current Town law. Councilman Paterson will work with the Town Highway Superintendent and Code Enforcement Officer to provide the Board guidance on any recommended modifications to minimum town road specifications for these instances or existing roadways. It is the current intent of the board to require residents to fund private construction to meet Town Specifications for dedication. The Town attorney will advise the Board on the potential use of Special taxing districts to those affected residents and the road voting guidelines for such a district at the March 2014 meeting as necessary. The Town Highway Superintendent will advise the board of the availability of NY State “chips” money for such projects

19. Assessors' Project: Presentation and Discussion

- a. **Resolution 2014-30** The Town Board resolves to appoint Rene DeLeeuw, (with a stipend to be determined if appropriate), to review any Town personal and real property assets for current valuation and to provide guidance on same to include, but no be limited to the old Town Highway Building and the Roe Jan Kill parcel. In addition Rene will work with the Town Highway Superintendent to establish proper assessment of Town Equipment standards and lifespan for the Highway Superintendents Board report on equipment needs. **VOTE ___5_ (Yes)/___0_ (No)** Motion Mortenson second Galm.

20. Public Computer Access: Presentation and Discussion

- a. **Resolution 2014-31** The Town Board resolves to purchase 1-2 computers (or use existing Town equipment) out of current reserve funds and set-up a computer station at the Town Hall by the end of 2014 for use by Town residents for links to libraries and other resources when Town Hall is open. The computers will also provide local business links and video files on the history of Gallatin and its farmers, authors, artists, artisans of all types and farms, vistas, houses and other noteworthy items for perusal by prospective residents, students and other interested parties. The computer station will attempt to use current copier resources and ASA wireless system. **VOTE _5____ (Yes)/_0____ (No)** Motion Reilly second Mortenson.

21. Highway Department Technology Issues: Presentation and Discussion

- a. **Resolution 2014-32** The Town Board resolves to provide the highway office with working Internet service and computer resources for proper bidding, planning and emergency systems monitoring. Councilmen Donald Coons and Jeff Galm will meet with the Highway Superintendent to advise the Board on needs. Any funding to come from current Highway reserves and not future tax dollars. **VOTE 5____ (Yes)/__0__ (No)** Motion Mortenson second Paterson.

22. Board Report on Town Retirement and Health Benefits Programs: Presentation and Discussion

- a. **Resolution 2014-33** The Town Board resolves to appoint Lisa Deleeuw and John Reilly to review current Town retirement benefits and employees health insurance and to provide the Board guidance on same to include recommendation on additions, modification of current benefits by March 2014. **VOTE**
___5___ (Yes)/___0___ (No)

23. Board Adoption of Solar Guidelines and Agricultural Lands Guidelines.

- a. **Resolution 2014-34** The Town Board appoints John Reilly and Eric Mortenson to review current solar guidelines adopted by Ghent and other Columbia towns to qualify Town and residents for rebates and efficiently grant processing for solar systems. Further, The Reilly and Mortenson will present the Board with draft agricultural land designation guidelines used by other Towns to qualify for grants and funding for agricultural designations. Finally, Councilman Mortenson will present the Board by April 2014 with any Municipal recommendations regarding the use of solar panels on Town owned building and parcels and the funding available for same. **VOTE** ___5___ (Yes)/___0___ (No) Motion Galm second Paterson.

24. Park and Recreation Budget –Discussion on use of funds and designate committee to explore walking trail through Town land idea.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON NEW BUSINESS

OLD BUSINESS SECTION 2013-2014

25. Old Business Discussion- No discussion.

MOTION FOR ADJOURNMENT Motion Coons second Mortenson carried unanimously.

TOWN BOARD OF THE TOWN OF GALLATIN
RESOLUTION APPROVING TAX CERIORARI SETTLEMENT

WHEREAS, M.B.H. Farms, Inc. has filed a tax certiorari proceeding in the Supreme Court, Columbia County, entitled "*M.B.H. Farms, Inc. v. Assessor of the Town of Gallatin*" Index No. 6302-13 in which it has sought a reduction in its assessment from \$1,409,700 to \$1,075,000; and

WHEREAS, the parties, through their attorneys, have negotiated a settlement of this matter, which the Attorney to the Town feels is fair and equitable, and which would result in a reduction in the assessment on the 2014 tax roll to \$1,223,170 in accordance with the Stipulation of Settlement and Order, a copy of which is annexed hereto; and

WHEREAS, the proposed reduction and settlement has been reviewed and approved by Rene DeLeeuw, the Assessor for the Town of Gallatin,

NOW, THEREFORE, be it

RESOLVED, that the Attorney to the Town is hereby authorized to sign the Stipulation of Settlement and Order.

This motion was offered by Town Board member _____ and was seconded by Town Board member _____.

The Town Board members voted as follows:

Supervisor Reilly	_____
Councilman Coons	_____
Councilman Galm	_____
Councilman Mortenson	_____
Councilman Paterson	_____