

**Minutes**  
**MARCH 21, 2023 IN PERSON/HYBRID MEETING**  
**6:30PM-TOWN BOARD MEETING**

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

	PRESENT	ABSENT	ZOOM
Supervisor John C. Reilly	x		
Council-member Jeff Jorve	Late 6:45		
Council-member Pat Odell	x		
Council-member Michael Moran	x		
Council-member Dan Quinn	x		

**MONTHLY THOUGHTS:**

Snow and adolescence are the only problems that disappear if you ignore them long enough.

Earl Wilson- Journalist

**NEW BUSINESS SECTION 2023:**

1. Town Hall Project Monthly Update  
A hybrid approach to the renovation/build was discussed. Preserve current structures and renovate, build an addition.  
Next steps to move to schematic design to combine function and aesthetics.  
Keep footprint to 3,000 sq. ft.  
A workshop meeting will be scheduled with CPL (Town Engineering firm) to walk through and plan next steps.
2. Acceptance of Town Comprehensive Plan from the Committee and next steps.  
**Resolution 2023- 13** Town Board accepts the draft from the Comprehensive Plan Committee with gratitude for all the hard work.  
**Motion Supervisor Reilly second Councilmember Moran**  
**Vote 5 Yes 0 No**  
There will be a Town Board Workshop to review the Comprehensive Plan prior to the April Town Board Meeting.  
Town Board will inform committee of any edits before finalization.  
**Suggestion of Key points from the Committee**  
Multi Generational housing  
Short-term rentals impacts and regulation  
Lot sizes  
**Next steps**  
Refer Plan to Columbia County Planning Board  
Public hearing Set for June 20, 2023  
Edits to draft Plan  
SEQR by Town Board  
Adoption of Plan by Resolution of the Town Board  
**Implementation**  
Either the Town Board or committee will work with an attorney to update Zoning.

3. **Resolution 2023-14** Town Board accepts the 2022 Annual Update Document (AUD) (Annual Financial Report) as final and complete for filing.  
**Motion Councilmember Jorve second Councilmember Moran**  
**Vote 5 Yes 0 No**

## **REVIEW OF PUBLIC COMMENT ON NEW BUSINESS**

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### **MONTHLY BUSINESS SECTION**

1. Review of February 2023 Minutes for Errors/Clarifications **Resolution 2023-15 Approve February 2023 Meeting Minutes and posting of any completed Committee minutes.**  
**Motion Councilmember Jorve second Councilmember Quinn**  
**Vote 5 Yes 0 No**
2. Bill Review of Non-Recurring items - **Resolution 2023-16 approves February 2023 bills for payment**  
Highway Fund 13-23 \$8,073.33  
General Fund 27-54 \$21,976.33  
**Motion Councilmember Odell second Councilmember Moran**  
**Vote 5 Yes 0 No**
3. Acceptance of Monthly Financial Report **Resolution 2023-17 approves February 2023 Financial reports**  
**Motion Councilmember Jorve second Councilmember Quinn**  
**Vote 5 Yes 0 No**
4. Highway Superintendent Comments/Report Read and Filed
5. Comments of Code Enforcement Officer -Read and Filed
6. Clerk Reports- Read and Filed
7. Assessor Comments- Exemptions filed, Tentative Assessment Roll filing Date May 1.
8. Climate Smart Task Force Update - Report follows. \*\*\*  
**Resolution 2023-18** approves up to \$1,500 for an informational mailing.  
**Motion Supervisor Reilly second Councilmember Quinn**  
**Vote 5 Yes 0 No**  
CAC Update – Deer Exclosure Project at the Conservation Area April 22.
9. Supervisors report - update on County matters as applicable.

## **REVIEW OF PUBLIC COMMENT ON OLD BUSINESS**

### **MEETING ADJOURNED BY RESOLUTION OF THE GALLATIN TOWN BOARD**

**Motion Councilmember Moran second Councilmember Odell**  
**Vote 5 Yes 0 NO**

### **\*\*\*Climate Adaptation and Resilience Plan (CARP)**

Working with the Cornell Cooperative Extension of Columbia and Greene Counties, each town is being asked to complete a Local Leadership, Outreach and Process Questionnaire (attached), which identifies

- Leadership Team Contacts
  - The leadership team should be between 2 and 6 people, and will need to be identified. Recommendations for the leadership team would include the Town Supervisor and Town Clerk, and in addition to myself (Councilmember Odell), at least one other Town Board member.
- Municipal and Community Stakeholder Contacts
  - Municipal stakeholders Include the Highway Department, Code Enforcement Officer, and Municipal Board/Committees
  - Community stakeholders should include a diverse set of people form a board section of Gallatin, such as business leaders and farmer representatives.
- Local Plan Knowledge (checklist)
  - There is a list of twenty-one plans that may be local or county plans that we would have to identify if we have or do not have, or are not aware of.
- Public Survey Distribution ideas for Gallatin

I will need some assistance in compiling the information for this questionnaire, but will begin filling out sections that I am able to.

### **Climate Smart Communities Taskforce**

The scoping document for the Clean Heating and Cooling and Energy Efficiency Campaign was submitted to NYSERDA and approved.

As part of the plan, we promoted the recent Columbia County Heat Pump Webinar, and approximate 13 Gallatin Residents participated in the call.

We must identify at least five residents who install heat pumps in order to qualify for one of the \$5,000 grants, and would like to request that the Building Inspector/COE inform us of any permits issued for heat pump installations in Gallatin.

Plans to provide educational materials to Gallatin residents are being formed to set up a table at the Gallatin Transfer Station on one or more Saturdays. A town representative must email a letter to Jolene at Columbian County DPW, and a draft will be provided for the Town's review.

The taskforce agreed that it would optimal to partner with other towns in the southern part of the County to host informational meetings with vendors and other experts on available rebates and tax incentives to install energy efficient HVAC systems.

At the next meeting of the Taskforce in April, plans are to complete another scoping document to provide educational materials on economic and environmental benefits of purchasing electric vehicles. If approved, the town would be eligible for an additional \$5,000 grant if five EV's are leased or purchased by Gallatin residents.

Finally, the Taskforce has been advised that there are some organizations, such as the Empire Center for Public Policy and Smarter NY Energy that efforts, like those of the Climate Smart Communities program, that will force New York State residents to convert to electric homes, water heaters, and stoves. At a recent Philmont Town Board meeting, thirty residents submitted a draft resolution to disband the Philmont Climate Smart Communities Taskforce base upon fears that it would force them to take actions such as these.

The mission of the Climate Smart Communities program is to provide education and financial incentives to help New York State residents who are interested in reducing their energy costs and their carbon footprints. None of the activities that the Gallatin Climate Smart Communities Taskforce engages in will be to force people to take any action nor to penalize anyone who do not choose to take any action that the Taskforce promotes. We would like to draft a communication to be sent to all homes in Gallatin, highlighting the various campaigns that we will be undertaking, and to combat misinformation that is spreading, and hope that the Town Board would approve the necessary funding for the printing and mailing of this communication.