

A Town Board work session meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Lewisboro, Westchester County, New York, was held on March 27, 2023, at 7:30 p.m. at the Lewisboro Town House, 11 Main Street, South Salem, New York.

**PRESENT:**

Supervisor	Tony Gonçalves
Council Members	Andrea Rendo, Mary Shah, Richard Sklarin, Daniel Welsh
Town Clerk	Janet L. Donohue
Absent	None

Also attending was the Attorney for the Town Gregory Folchetti, Maintenance Employees Joel Smith and Shawn Johannessen.

Approximately 5 residents/observers attended the live meeting and approximately 12 participated via Zoom.

Supervisor Gonçalves called the meeting to order at 7:36 p.m.

**EMERGENCY PROCEDURE**

Supervisor Gonçalves noted the exits to be used in the event of an emergency.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The Supervisor led the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag.

**PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD**

A resident spoke about the upcoming Sustainable Westchester presentation.

**COMMUNICATIONS**

**HIGHWAY** – Culvert Replacement

Supervisor Gonçalves read portions of a letter that he received from NYS DOT regarding a culvert replacement on Route 35 and Bisbee Lane that will begin in April of 2024. There will be no cost to the town.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

**MINUTES** - Approved

On motion by Supervisor Gonçalves, seconded by Councilwoman Shah, the minutes of the March 13, 2023, Town Board meeting were approved.

THE VOTE:	Yes	- Gonçalves, Rendo, Shah, Sklarin, Welsh	(5)
	No	- None	(0)
	Absent	- None	(0)

SUSTAINABLE WESTCHESTER – Presentation (7:41 – 8:38 p.m.)

Nick Tedrow, a Senior Program Manager from Westchester Power, Sustainable Westchester, made a presentation (see attached). Lewisboro joined in 2016 and currently there are 29 municipalities that are participating in the Westchester Power community aggregation program. NYSEG continues to provide the municipalities with the energy distribution which includes the infrastructure and billing.

Mr. Tedrow explained that anyone that had NYSEG as their supplier was automatically put into this program but can opt out at any time. If anyone had already opted out, they would continue to be out. He stated that currently there are a total of 1,650 customers in Lewisboro.

Mr. Tedrow also explained that they are looking to enter into a new contract earlier this year as the price of energy is lower now compared to last year.

The Board thanked Mr. Tedrow for the informative presentation.

REFUSE – Approval of License

On motion by Councilwoman Rendo, seconded by Councilwoman Shah, the Board voted as follows:

THE VOTE:	Yes	- Gonçalves, Rendo, Shah, Sklarin, Welsh	(5)
	No	- None	(0)
	Absent	- None	(0)

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, that the Town Clerk is authorized to issue a renewal license for the collection of residential and commercial refuse and recycling to AMG Waste Services for a period of one year.

PARKS & RECREATION – Approval of Fundraiser

On motion by Councilman Sklarin, seconded by Councilwoman Rendo, the Board voted as follows:

THE VOTE:	Yes	- Gonçalves, Rendo, Shah, Sklarin, Welsh	(5)
	No	- None	(0)
	Absent	- None	(0)

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, that the Town Board does authorize the Park & Recreation Department to waive the fees associated with the rental of the Town Park pavilion and park for a fundraiser to raise money to support the Salla Treatment and Research Foundation (S.T.A.R.) on June 11, 2023.

NATIONAL AWARENESS OF MENTAL ILLNESS (NAMI) - Recognition

On motion by Councilwoman Rendo, seconded by Councilwoman Shah, the Board voted as follows:

THE VOTE:	Yes	- Gonçalves, Rendo, Shah, Sklarin, Welsh	(5)
	No	- None	(0)
	Absent	- None	(0)

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, that the Town Board does support the National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) Ribbon Campaign in Lewisboro designating "May is Mental Health Awareness Month".

OUTDOOR SPECIAL EVENTS & SALES PERMIT & VISTA FIELD USE FORM – Farmer's Grind

The owner's of the Farmers Grind attended the meeting and requested to use the Vista Field Park for 8 Saturday's this summer. In the past, they have obtained the outdoor special events & sales permit for their location, however, since there is more room at the Vista Field, they would prefer to use this location and expand. This was discussed at the Parks and Recreation Advisory Council meeting. They approved the use of the park with a reduced fee since they wanted to use it 8 times. There was a concern over the lack of a porta john since there would be food and drink served. They stated that this would be a 2 ½ hour un-ticketed event. It was suggested that the porta john be monitored.

Since the event will now be held at the park, and not at the Farmers Grind, no outdoor special events & sales permit will need to be issued.

On motion by Councilwoman Rendo, seconded by Councilman Sklarin, the Board voted as follows:

THE VOTE:	Yes	- Gonçalves, Rendo, Shah, Sklarin, Welsh	(5)
	No	- None	(0)
	Absent	- None	(0)

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, that the Town Board does authorize the Farmers Grind the use of the Vista Field Park on June 10, July 8, July 22, August 5, August 19, September 9, September 23 and September 30, 2023, with a partial waiver of fees, to host ice cream socials with food trucks and live music.

CELEBRITY AUTO OF WESTCHESTER/MERCEDES BENZ AGREEMENTS – Approve & Authorize Supervisor to Sign (8:49 – 8:54 p.m.)

Michael Sirignano, attorney for Celebrity Auto of Westchester/Mercedes Benz stated that these agreements are what the Planning Board required, and they are all standard. The landscaping agreement is for screening the neighbors on Green Street and the water storage tank is for the fire fighting purposes and these are the last conditions of the site plan approval.

On motion by Councilwoman Shah, seconded by Councilman Sklarin, the Board voted as follows:

THE VOTE:	Yes	- Gonçalves, Rendo, Shah, Sklarin, Welsh	(5)
	No	- None	(0)
	Absent	- None	(0)

#### RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, that the Town Board does approve the following agreements with Celebrity Westchester Realty, LLC d/b/a Celebrity Auto of Westchester (Mercedes Benz in Goldens Bridge, NY):

1. Underground water storage tank maintenance and inspection declaration and easement agreement
  2. License agreement
  3. Stormwater control facilities maintenance inspection declaration and easement agreement
- and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Supervisor is authorized to sign said agreements.

SOUTH SALEM FIRE DEPARTMENT INSPECTION DINNER – Proclamation for Member J. Waldie Gullen

On motion by Supervisor Gonçalves, seconded by Councilman Welsh, the Board voted as follows:

THE VOTE:	Yes	- Gonçalves, Rendo, Shah, Sklarin, Welsh	(5)
	No	- None	(0)
	Absent	- None	(0)

#### RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, J. WALDIE GULLEN OF WACCABUC, New York, was born on November 12, 1924 at Northern Westchester Hospital, and

WHEREAS, J. WALDIE GULLEN attended a one room schoolhouse and graduated from Katonah High School where he was an exceptional athlete, and

WHEREAS, J. WALDIE GULLEN joined the SOUTH SALEM FIRE DEPARTMENT in November 1942 and is the longest servicing member with 81 years of membership, and

WHEREAS, J. WALDIE GULLEN served with the U.S. ARMY as part of combat infantry in World War II and saw action in Europe from 1944 to 1945, receiving a Purple Heart and Bronze Star, and

WHEREAS, J. WALDIE GULLEN, after returning from Europe became a partner of 5th Division Market with Ralph Felice whose father started the business in the 1920's, and

WHEREAS, J. WALDIE GULLEN built his house on Lake Waccabuc, and started a successful career in real estate, is an excellent carpenter, talented butcher, phenomenal poker player and has

enjoyed hunting into his eighties, and

WHEREAS, J. WALDIE GULLEN's Father was the first golf course superintendent at Waccabuc Country Club where Waldie is an honorary member and played golf up until his early 90's, was an excellent golfer, and shot his age twice, once at 81 and once at 85, and

WHEREAS, J. WALDIE GULLEN is a founding member of THE LEWISBORO LIONS CLUB, founded in April 1958, and

WHEREAS, J. WALDIE GULLEN was member of the Lewisboro Republican Town Committee for over 30 years

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Lewisboro, in recognition of his contributions and service to The United States of America and The Town of Lewisboro, does hereby offer the congratulations and thanks of its populace to J. WALDIE GULLEN, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this resolution be spread upon the minutes of this March 27, 2023 Town Board Meeting for future generations to see and that this resolution be presented to J. WALDIE GULLEN

PUBLIC COMMENT – New Business Only (2 residents spoke)

CELEBRITY AUTO OF WESTCHESTER/MERCEDES BENZ

A resident stated that she wanted to remind the Board that one of the stipulations on the agreement that was agreed to this evening, requires a meeting for project staging with the neighbors, which should be held prior to any site work. During the polling of the board, the Supervisor stated that he will make sure that this meeting will take place and get a site visit date in the books. An off-site visit is scheduled for April 17<sup>th</sup>.

SUSTAINABLE WESTCHESTER

A resident stated that she has a problem with opting out of this program and feels that it should be an opt in program. She also feels that it is not as easy opting out as the presenter stated. Her opinion is that an hour-long presentation is too long, and she stated she still believes that it is a conflict of interest.

CLAIMS – Authorized for Payment

On motion by Supervisor Gonçalves, seconded by Councilman Welsh, the Board voted 5-0 to authorize payment of the Town's bills in the amount of \$243,942.37.

POLLING OF BOARD AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

LIBRARY UPDATES

The library conducted an Emergency Preparedness program where approximately 47 people attended. It was so well received that they are looking to have another one in October.

PARKS & RECREATION UPDATES

The Lions Club, in conjunction with the Parks & Recreation department, will be sponsoring the Lewisboro Bunny and the Lewisboro Lion on Saturday, April 8 at the Town House from 12:30 – 1:30 p.m. First 150 children will receive a goodie bag.

VISTA HAMLET STEWARDSHIP COUNCIL

The egg hunt at the Vista Park hosted by the Vista Hamlet Stewardship Council on Saturday, March 25 from 3-5 p.m. was a great success and very well attended.

LEWISBORO COMMONS

Board members visited the Lewisboro Commons in Goldens Bridge, NY. They stated that it is very impressive. There were over 1,600 applicants for 42 spots. A shuttle will also be running daily to the train station. 4 of the buildings are complete and the final 5<sup>th</sup> building is underway, which will include an elevator.

DRUG ABUSE PREVENTION COUNCIL IS NOW THRIVE

In town in person programming will take place locally. They would love members to join THRIVE to help with marketing. They are also looking for a few qualified residents to become board members. There will also be a student liaison. If anyone is interested, please contact one of the board members.

CODE OF ETHICS

Councilwoman Rendo stated that she sent out an updated draft of the proposed changes to the Code of Ethics on March 13, 2023, asking for comments. It was pointed out to her that all Board members did not receive the email, so she sent the email out again on March 22, 2023 and asked for comments. When she did not get any comments back, she asked for it to be on this evening's agenda but received the below email from the Supervisor:

*Andrea,  
Couple of things.*

*First of all, you copied Marcel and Andrea Tschan, I think you meant to copy Mary Shah. Which means she did not see the draft. I have included Mary in the distribution.*

*1: Ethics Code: We need to be focused on Town Business and obtaining results for tasks we have all been assigned (i.e. Oakridge, DAPC, etc.) I am not in favor of altering the Ethics Code, we have bigger fish to fry, therefore I will not be placing this on the agenda. This is not critical to town operation and the work expected from us by our constituents.*

*2: Bill's proclamation: same as above.*

*Thanks,  
**Tony Gonçalves**  
Supervisor, Town of Lewisboro*

She would like to have a resolution passed this evening to assure that this gets on the next town board agenda.

On motion by Councilwoman Rendo, seconded by Councilman Welsh, the Board voted as follows:

THE VOTE:	Yes	- Gonçalves, Rendo, Shah, Sklarin, Welsh	(5)
	No	- None	(0)
	Absent	- None	(0)

### RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, that the Town Board does agree to include, on the next Town Board agenda, discussion regarding updating the Code of Ethics and setting a public hearing for the near future.

### PROCLAMATION

Councilwoman Rendo stated that it has been over a year that she drafted a proclamation for Bill Bongiorno for his volunteer work that he has done at the Town Park for the Lewisboro Baseball Association. She would like this on an upcoming agenda. Supervisor Gonçalves stated that April is volunteer month, and he will get this on one of the agendas along with other volunteer proclamations.

### SUSTAINABILITY

The food composting is now up and running at Fox Valley Park and at Onatru Park, in addition to the food composting that has been in the parking lot at the Town House.

A paint recycling day is being worked on to possibly take place on May 6<sup>th</sup> at the Town Park. More information to follow.

The Board wished everyone Happy Holidays.

### MEETINGS – Dates Set

There will be a meeting on Monday, April 10, 2023, at 7:30 p.m. at the Town House, 11 Main Street, South Salem, New York.

### ADJOURNMENT

On motion by Supervisor Gonçalves, seconded by Councilman Sklarin, the Board voted 5-0 to adjourn at 9:31 p.m.

Janet L. Donohue  
Town Clerk