

**REGULAR TOWN BOARD MEETING
TOWN OF TULLY TOWN HALL
5833 MEETINGHOUSE RD
TULLY NEW YORK**

Members Present: Supervisor John Masters
Councilor John Snavlin
Councilor Frank Speziale
Councilor David Meixell
Councilor Christopher Chapman

Town Clerk Susan Vaccaro, RMC

Others present: Town Attorney Robert S. DeMore, Financial Officer Thomas Chartrand, Highway Superintendent John Herold, Parks & Recreation Director Sarah Panzarella, Fire Captain Chad Wakula, *The Tully News* Editor Ben Bibik, and several residents

7:30PM

Supervisor Masters declared the town board meeting open and led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the August 14th meeting were made available via email to all board members.

Motion was made by Councilor Speziale and seconded by Councilor Snavlin to approve the minutes. Motion carried.

(Masters, Snavlin, Speziale, Meixell, Chapman) Ayes 5 Nays 0

Vouchers

Motion was made by Councilor Snavlin and seconded by Councilor Chapman to pay the audited bills out of the proper funds. Motion carried.

(Masters, Snavlin, Speziale, Meixell, Chapman) Ayes 5 Nays 0

WIND ENERGY PROJECT

Supervisor Masters read the following resolution:

**RESOLUTION 75-24
OPPOSING MAPLE HARVEST WIND PROJECT**

WHEREAS, a large wind energy project named Maple Harvest, consisting of 24 to 27 industrial wind turbines and associated infrastructure, is being considered in the Towns of LaFayette, Otisco and Tully; and

WHEREAS, each individual turbine may be up to 680 feet tall, those proposed for the Town of Tully would be located on Curtain Road, which is approximately 700 feet higher in elevation than surrounding valley; and

WHEREAS, in August 2021, two areas directly below the proposed turbine locations (on Song Mountain and Hollenbeck Roads) exhibited severe subsidence and erosion during a rainstorm demonstrating the unstable geologic conditions of the slopes downgradient of the proposed locations; and

WHEREAS, erection of wind turbines such as proposed would violate the Town of Tully zoning regulations; and

WHEREAS, while the Town of Tully recognizes the potential benefits of renewable energy, the current permitting procedures under the Office of Renewable Energy Siting (ORES) supersedes the ability of municipalities to regulate land use decisions through mechanisms such as zoning regulations. Thereby,

local governments have lost the right to directly address potential harmful environmental, social and economic impacts of such a project.

NOW, BE IT RESOLVED, on this 11th day of September, 2024 by the Town Board of the Town of Tully in the County of Onondaga and State of New York that:

1. The Tully Town Board opposes the erection and operation of large commercial wind turbines in our community, along with the associated large transmission lines necessary to connect the turbines to the electrical grid; and
2. The Tully Town Board urges relevant county, state and federal authorities to engage in transparent and collaborative discussions to once again allow municipalities, instead of the state Office of Renewable Energy Siting, to make land use decisions within their jurisdictions.
3. This resolution shall take effect immediately.

Dated: September 11, 2024

Town Clerk
Town of Tully

Supervisor Masters made the motion to propose the resolution. It was seconded by Councilor Speziale. Motion carried.

(Masters, Snavlin, Speziale, Meixell, Chapman) Ayes 5 Nays 0

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Parks and Recreation

Sarah Panzarella reported on the following activities:

1. Green Lake is closed – we had a great summer; she advised the board she plans on calculating the number of families in our summer swim program from Pompey, Fabius and Lafayette
2. The pavilion bathroom renovations are planned to start in October
3. Soccer is up and running
4. Sarah reported she plans to have some teams in the parade for Tully Community Day

Legal

A representative from Tetra Tech spoke briefly about the changes they are requesting for their solar installation including an extension of the permit. Brief discussion followed after which Mr. Masters read aloud through parts of the **Resolution Approving Amendments to Project Plans for Special Use Permits Previously Issued for the Tully North and Shirley Tier 3 Solar Energy Systems.**

Resolution 76-24

Motion approving the amendments to the project plans was made by Supervisor Masters and seconded by Councilor Snavlin. Motion carried.

(Masters, Snavlin, Speziale, Meixell, Chapman) Ayes 5 Nays 0

(The complete resolution is at the end of these minutes.)

Next, Supervisor Masters spoke about the Route 11A Water District project which now includes improvements and the addition of potentially 22 more users. He introduced Jacqueline Novak from Barton & Loguidice who discussed some additional points regarding the district. Brief discussion followed with questions and comments by board members and residents. Afterwards, Mr. Masters read the SEQR and then made the motion:

Resolution 77-24

Motion approving the resolution regarding the SEQR process for the Town of Tully and Town of Lafayette Joint Water District. It was seconded by Councilor Snavlin. Motion carried.

(Masters, Snavlin, Speziale, Meixell, Chapman) Ayes 5 Nays 0

(The complete resolution is at the end of these minutes.)

Resolution 78-24

Motion to resolve having the town supervisor sign the **Amendment to Owner-Engineer Agreement**. Motion made by Supervisor Masters and seconded by Councilor Chapman. Motion carried.
(Masters, Snavlin, Speziale, Meixell, Chapman) Ayes 5 Nays 0

(The complete resolution is at the end of these minutes.)

Financial Report

Tom reported on receipts and disbursements for the month of August; he reported on town clerk fees which were up this month; NYCLASS interest and NBT interest; court fines which are positive \$21,000 to budget; parks and rec fees, waiting for checks from the other towns that participated in the swim program; received penalties from the tax collector; ambulance recoveries are up. Spending overall is low.

Motion by Councilor Snavlin and seconded by Councilor Speziale to accept the financial report. Motion carried.

(Masters, Snavlin, Speziale, Meixell, Chapman) Ayes 5 Nays 0

Motion by Supervisor Masters and seconded by Councilor Chapman to accept the bank reconciliation. Motion carried.

(Masters, Snavlin, Speziale, Meixell, Chapman) Ayes 5 Nays 0

And just a reminder from Mr. Chartrand that the budget workshop is scheduled for September 25th at 6pm.

Highway

John Herold reported on the following:

- No major repairs
- Some road improvements
- Hauling sand and salt
- Receiving quotes for our budget workshop for next year
- C&S – FEMA money for Hollenbeck and Bromley Roads; will advise more next month
- Bushhogging, roadside mowing and ditching
- Roofer will be putting on a new roof in a couple of weeks
- Cleanup Day is October 12th from 9 to 3

Ambulance

Fire Captain Chad Wakula reported on ambulance activities:

- Number of EMS calls for August was 50
- Currently in the process of integrating the Lifepaks, Pulsara and Onondaga County 911 Cad into the Lifenet System so the data can be exported to Imagetrend
- A-1 will be going for front brakes soon
- New ambulance now looking at December delivery timeframe

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Fire

No report.

Updates

Supervisor Masters advised he and Tony Iozzo, court clerk, had performed an audit on the tax collector's records and found everything to be in order. Thus came the following motion:

Motion to approve the tax collector's audit. Motion was made by Councilor Meixell and seconded by Councilor Speziale. Motion carried.

(Masters, Snavlin, Speziale, Meixell, Chapman) Ayes 5 Nays 0

Motion to appoint Joseph Panzarella to the Zoning Board of Appeals. Motion by Councilor Chapman and seconded by Councilor Snavlin. Motion carried.

(Masters, Snavlin, Speziale, Meixell, Chapman) Ayes 5 Nays 0

Motion to approve Assessor Cristine DeFuoco attending the 2024 Assessors Conference. Motion by Supervisor Masters and seconded by Councilor Snavlin. Motion carried.

(Masters, Snavlin, Speziale, Meixell, Chapman) Ayes 5 Nays 0

Public Input from Floor

None.

Close of Meeting

Motion was made by Councilor Snavlin, second by Councilor Speziale to adjourn the meeting at 8:30pm. Motion carried.

(Masters, Snavlin, Speziale, Meixell, Chapman) Ayes 5 Nays 0

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Vaccaro, RMC
Town Clerk