TOWN OF STANFORD TOWN BOARD   
MINUTES of APRIL 13th, 2023

The Town of Stanford Town Board met for their monthly meeting on Thursday, April 13th, 2023, at the Town Hall. Supervisor Burton called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM with the Pledge of Allegiance led by Jack Evans.   
 This meeting was dedicated to honor the CAC in their “Earth Day” plans for the 22nd for the annual Roadside Clean-Up Day. The Recreation Commission will also be having gardening activities at the Rec. for Earth Day.

Roll call: Wendy Burton – present

Anne Arent - present

Margaret Fallon – present

Nathan Lavertue – present

Corey Clanahan - present

Also in attendance was Town Attorney Robert Butts.

LIAISON REPORTS:

Corey Clanahan reported from the Planning Board that they granted an extension for a resident to work on a project above their barn.

Anne Arent stated that the Fire Dept. had most of their new radios installed in their vehicles. They also had an UTV training class and would have a class in the near future for trailering the UTVs. Also discussed was the “ambulance district” when more meetings would be held for this. Supervisor Burton added that she would go to the next meeting with her on this issue. They also conducted a hose test and had to “de-commission” many of them.

Nathan Lavertue mentioned that many of the Rec. Commission matters were on the Board’s agenda this evening, but they also spoke of the baseball fencing needing either repair or replacement. The Rec. would also be having a nature hunt and gardening projects on Sat., 4/22 for Earth Day. For Mother’s Day in May they were talking about having a “tea Party’ for Moms, as well as working on the kids’ and adults’ summer programs. He added that the Community Gardens were opening shortly.

Margaret Fallon spoke of the CAC’s plans for the roadside clean-up on Sat. April 22nd, “Earth Day” and that the CAC’s Instagram page has a lot of new information. On the 22nd, people can go to Rooster’s and pick up garbage bags to clean up their own road, and they will have refreshments there as well. All roadside trash can be brought to the Transfer Station at no charge. Also at the Rec that same day, there will be a walk around the Rec. with professionals speaking about the local flora and fauna.

Wendy Burton would give her reports later on in the meeting.

*The following was taken out of sequence so guest speakers did not have to wait as long.*

NEW BUSINESS:

1. PRESENTATION BY MENTAL HEALTH AMERICA OF DUTCHESS COUNTY-VETERANS PROGRAMS: Three members of this Veterans Program, including Director Anthony Kavouras, spoke to the Board regarding their various programs: Vet2Vet, the Hero Program, Vet-Tap and SSG Gordon Fox Suicide Prevention Program, serving all of Dutchess in their new building in Pleasant Valley. Further information will be left in the Town Clerk’s office. Stanford resident Jack Evans had spearheaded support for them from the Northern Dutchess Sportsmen’s Association.

*Out of agenda sequence.*

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR: Jack Evans, 2248 Bulls Head Road – spoke of his close association with MHA of Dutchess and their veterans’ programs, and that there would be a fundraiser here at the Rec. Park on June 3rd from 11 AM – 3 PM. This would honor the vets and help fund their food pantry, Vet2Vet programs and there would be a raffle and a 50/50 drawing to which all are invited. Spread the word from the Stanford GOP that they need cash donations as well as clothing and food. They will be going to the local businesses for help on the raffle prizes.

Kathy Zeyher, 158 Shelley Hill Road – spoke of the 14 signs on Grist Mill and that only 4 of them were enforceable, others were just suggested, and knows why they were put up. The “Local Traffic Only” sign is not correct in this situation; is only used for construction or an emergency, but is really just an appeasement, and you can’t legally restrict traffic. It also sets a bad precedent where anyone can complain about their roads and we have become a “town of signs” and felt that it should be removed.

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MOTION TO APPROVE AGENDA: A motion was made by Wendy Burton to approve an addition to the agenda with the results of the interior and exterior LED lights bids’ under #14A, seconded by Margaret Fallon. Motion carried with all voting in favor.

2. SPARC PARK UPDATE-JULIA DESCOTEAUX: Mrs. Descoteaux gave an update on the efforts to upgrade the Rec. Park, including SPARC Park’s upgrade with safer materials and to become ADA compliant. She spoke of the surveys that had been distributed and received back and that most favored the design of the current playground. A “Design Day” is planned for May 5th at the school. Several audience members asked questions and made statements of support.

3. FUNDING OF HIGHWAY’S POLE BARN THROUGH THE BUILDING RESERVE FUND, NOT ARPF: A motion was made by Wendy Burton, seconded by Margaret Fallon, to pay for the Pole Barn at the Highway Dept. through the Building Reserve Fund. Motion carried with all voting in favor.

4. FLOORING BIDS: An RFP had been sent to get bids for new tile flooring in the Town Hall entryways and the Court’s lobby area. Two had been received and a motion was made by Wendy Burton, seconded by Anne Arent, to award the proposal to Foster Flooring in the amount of $22,250.00. Motion carried with all voting in favor.

5. FRONT DOOR BIDS: An RFP was also sent out to get prices for replacement of the Town Hall’s two sets of front doors and transoms. Again, only two were received. Both proposals were quite different in price, but after asking Building Inspector Don Smith, to clarify, he explained that since it was for a municipal/public building, different hardware was required. A motion to accept the proposal from Page Lumber in Poughkeepsie in the amount of $32,739. A motion was made by Wendy Burton, seconded by Margaret Fallon, to have Page Lumber do the work as their bid met all the requirements. Motion carried with all voting in favor.

6. REC PARK PICNIC TABLES: Lauren Osterman had secured a proposal for new picnic tables at the Rec. so a motion was made by Wendy Burton, seconded by Anne Arent, to order 13 8-ft. picnic tables and 2 tables with wheelchair access from KirbyBuilt for the cost of $17,967.49. Motion carried with all voting in favor.

7. RESOLUTION #4A OF 2023-MOVE ARPF FOR STREET LIGHTS: The following resolution was offered by Supervisor Wendy Burton, seconded by Nathan Lavertue:

**RESOLUTION of #4A OF 2023**

**TO TRANSFER FUNDS FROM AMERICAN RESCUE FUNDS ACCOUNT NY CLASS NY 01-0010-0009 AND MOVE THE FUNDS TO THE GENERAL FUND #3900018**

**Whereas the Town of Stanford** contracted with Central Hudson to replace all existing non-LED streetlights with efficient LED fixtures, and

**Whereas** the NY Class Account 01-0010-0009 American Rescue Fund Account contains funds for this purpose, and

**Whereas** the Town of Stanford will transfer funds from NY Class Account 00-0010-009 American Account to the Millbrook General Fund Account 3900018.

**Now therefore be it resolved**, the Supervisor is authorized to complete the following budget modifications and transfer the funds from the American Rescue Funds Account to the General Fund.

00-510 Estimated Revenue +6,877.91

00-4089 Federal Aid ARPA

00-960 Appropriations +6,877.91

00-01-1620-40 Town Hall Contractual

00-200 Cash +6,877.91

00-209 Cash- ARPA   
 Roll call vote as follows: Wendy Burton - yes, Margaret Fallon - yes, Anne Arent - yes, Nathan Lavertue – yes, Corey Clanahan – yes.

Resolution #4A of 2023 adopted by the affirmative votes of the Town of Stanford Town Board members and certified this 13th day of April 2023. *Ritamary Bell, Town Clerk*

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8. RESOLUTION #4B OF 2023 – TO ESTABLISH A NY CLASS ACCOUNT FOR THE HIGHWAY VEHICLE RESERVE FUND AND TRANSFER FUNDS: The following resolution was offered by Wendy Burton, seconded by Margaret Fallon:

**RESOLUTION #4B 2023**

**TO establish a ny class account for the highway vehicle RESERVE fund #3011002**

**WHEREAS** interest rates are rising substantially, and it is sound fiscal management to take advantage of these increases, and

**WHEREAS**, the current HIGHWAY VEHICLE RESERVE FUND is held at the Bank of Millbrook where the interest rate is only .2% and,

**WHEREAS,** the current rate in the NY CLASS accounts is 4.5%,

**NOW THEREFOR BE IT RESOLVED** that the Town Board of the Town of Stanford authorizes the Town Supervisor to establish a NY CLASS account for the HIGHWAY VEHICLE RESERVE FUND

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Town Board of the Town of Stanford authorizes the Town Supervisor to transfer $100,000 from account #3011002 into the newly established NY CLASS account.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Town Board of the Town of Stanford further authorizes the Town Supervisor to move and additionally $150,000 from the NY CLASS GENERAL FUND # 01-001 into the newly established NY CLASS account in anticipation of additional vehicles that are being purchased by the Highway Department.

Roll call vote as follows: Wendy Burton - yes, Margaret Fallon - yes, Anne Arent - yes, Nathan Lavertue – yes, Corey Clanahan – yes.

Resolution #4B of 2023 adopted by the affirmative votes of the Town of Stanford Town Board members and certified this 13th day of April 2023. *Ritamary Bell, Town Clerk*

9. PERMISSION FOR THE STANFORD LIONS CLUB TO USE THE TOWN HALL HILL FOR THEIR FLEA MARKET ON JUNE 10TH: A motion was made by Wendy Burton, seconded by Margaret Fallon, to grant permission to the Stanford Lions Club to hold their annual Flea Market at the Town Hall Memorial Park on Saturday, June 19th, 2023. Mention was made that due to a lack of manpower, the Stanford Grange will not be able to help with food so the Lions will have a food truck at the event. Motion carried with all voting in favor.

10. PERMISSION FOR THE STANFORD GARDEN CLUB TO USE THE LOWER TOWN HALL PARKING LOT FOR THEIR PLANT SALE ON MAY 13TH: A motion was made by Wendy Burton, seconded by Corey Clanahan, to allow the Garden Club to have their annual plant sale on Saturday, May 13th at the lower parking lot. Motion carried with all voting in favor.

11. APPOINT COUNCILMAN CLANAHAN AS PLANNING BOARD LIAISON: Supervisor Burton had asked newly appointed Councilman Clanahan to be the Board’s liaison to the Planning Board, and he had accepted.

12. HIGHWAY SUPERINTENDENT’S REQUEST FOR TWO (2) NEW TRUCKS: Supt. Jim Myers’ request for two new trucks was approved as follows: 2024 Dodge Ram 5500 Dump Truck - $76,053.20 and 2023 Dodge Ram 2500 Pickup Truck - $54,149.95. The dump truck would be replacing the one that caught on fire on 2/24/21 and the Town had received an insurance reimbursement of $23,573.41. The second truck would replace the 2012 Dodge 2500 pickup that can still be used after the engine is rebuilt. A motion to approve these truck purchases was made by Wendy Burton, seconded by Nathan Lavertue, and the funds for them will be taken out of the Vehicle Reserve Fund. Motion carried with all voting in favor.

13. ACCEPT PROPOSALS FOR TWO SHEDS FOR THE REC. PARK: The Rec. Director solicited proposals for two sheds at the Rec., for a replacement for the ticket booth and the other for a shed at the baseball field. The lowest bidder was the Barn Raiser in Highland, NY for the two, $3,654 (ticket booth) and $3,550 (baseball storage shed). This purchase was approved on a motion made by Wendy Burton, seconded by Corey Clanahan. Motion carried with all voting in favor.

14. RESOLUTION #4C – PURCHASE OF RECREATION SHEDS: The following resolution was read by Supervisor Burton, seconded by Nathan Lavertue:

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**RESOLUTION #4C OF 2023**

**TO TRANSFER FUNDS FROM AMERICAN RESCUE FUNDS ACCOUNT NY CLASS NY 01-0010-0009 AND MOVE THE FUNDS TO THE GENERAL FUND #3900018**

**Whereas the Town Board of the Town of Stanford** has approved the purchase of an 8 x 8’ shed to replace the storage shed at the Rec Park baseball field as well as a 5 x 8’ Custom Ticket Booth to replace the old one at the Rec parking lot, and

**Whereas** the NY Class Account 01-0010-0009 American Rescue Fund Account contains funds for this purpose, and

**Whereas** the Town of Stanford will transfer funds from NY Class Account 00-0010-009 American Account to the Millbrook General Fund Account 3900018.

**Now therefore be it resolved**, the Supervisor is authorized to complete the following budget modifications and transfer the funds from the American Rescue Funds Account to the General Fund.

00-510 Estimated Revenue +7204.00

00-4089 Federal Aid ARPA

00-960 Appropriations +7204.00

00-06-7310-20 Youth Program Equipment

00-200 Cash +7204.00

00-209 Cash- ARPA   
Roll call vote as follows: Wendy Burton - yes, Margaret Fallon - yes, Anne Arent - yes, Nathan Lavertue – yes, Corey Clanahan – yes.

Resolution #4C of 2023 adopted by the affirmative votes of the Town of Stanford Town Board members and certified this 13th day of April 2023. *Ritamary Bell, Town Clerk*

14A. ACCEPT ELECTRICAL UPGRADE BIDS: Supervisor Burton offered the following resolution, seconded by Anne Arent, to upgrade all the interior and exterior lights at the Town Hall, the Highway Dept. and the Rec. Park, as follows:

**RESOLUTION #4D OF 2023**

**TO ACCEPT THE BID FROM LANE ELECTION, POUGHKEEPSIE TO REPLACE INTERIOR LIGHTS WITH LEDS IN TOWN HALL, THE HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT AND THE REC**

**Whereas the Town Board of the Town of Stanford** made a commitment to save energy costs by converting all lighting to LED lighting, and

**Whereas** the bid proposal was advertised, and two bids were submitted and opened, and

**Whereas** the lowest bid came from Lane Electric in Poughkeepsie, for an estimated $77,403.00.

**Now therefore be it resolved** that the Town Board of the Town of Stanford will accept the lower bid and **be it further resolved** that the project will be paid for out of the American Rescue Plan Fund NY CLASS ACCOUNT 01-0010-0009

Roll call vote as follows: Wendy Burton - yes, Margaret Fallon - yes, Anne Arent - yes, Nathan Lavertue – yes, Corey Clanahan – yes.

Resolution #4D of 2023 adopted by the affirmative votes of the Town of Stanford Town Board members and certified this 13th day of April 2023. *Ritamary Bell, Town Clerk*

15. MOTION TO HAVE A PRIDE PROCLAMATION IN JUNE: A motion was made by Nathan Lavertue, seconded by Margaret Fallon, to proclaim June as PRIDE month in the Town of Stanford, as follows: **RESOLUTION 4E**

**2023 STANFORD PRIDE MONTH PROCLAMATION**

***WHEREAS*,** in the State of New York the town of Stanford recognizes and proclaims the month of June 2023 as Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Queer (LGBTQ+) "Pride Month" throughout the town and  
 ***WHEREAS,*** Stanford, New York joins the County of Dutchess, the State of New York, and the Country of the United States to observe Pride Month to honor the history of the LGBTQ+ liberation movement and to support the rights of all citizens to experience equality and freedom from discrimination; and  
 ***WHEREAS,*** the LGBTQ+ Pride advocates for inclusion, and support for social movements that advocate for LGBTQ+ people in society; and  
 ***WHEREAS,*** all human beings are born free and equal in dignity and rights. LGBTQ+ individuals have had immeasurable impact on the cultural, civic, and economic successes of our country and community; and

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 ***WHEREAS*,** Stanford New York is committed to supporting visibility, dignity and equality for LGBTQ people in our diverse community; and  
 ***WHEREAS,*** while society at large increasingly supports LGBTQ+ equality, it is essential to acknowledge that the need for education and awareness remains vital to end discrimination and prejudice; and  
 ***WHEREAS,*** this nation was founded on the principle that every individual has infinite dignity and worth, and the Stanford Town Board calls upon the people of this municipality to embrace this principle and work to eliminate prejudice everywhere it exists; and

***WHEREAS,*** celebrating Pride Month influences awareness and provides support and advocacy for Stanford New York's LGBTQ+ community, and is an opportunity to act and engage in dialogue to strengthen alliances, build acceptance, and advance equal rights; and  
 ***WHEREAS,*** recognizing all LGBTQ+ residents whose influential and lasting contributions to our neighborhoods make Stanford a vibrant community in which to live, work and visit.  
 ***NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED***thatthe Stanford Town Board herby proclaims the month of June 2023 as Pride Month in support of the LGBTQ+ community.  
**2023 STANFORD LGBTQ+ PRIDE FLAG RAISING**

***WHEREAS*,** the town of Stanford has recognized and proclaimed the month of June 2023 as Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Queer (LGBTQ+) "Pride Month" throughout the town; and  
 ***WHEREAS,*** the State of New York in 2022 elected to recognize local "Pride Month" celebrations by having the LGBTQ+ pride flag flown at the State Capital, Plaza and Governor's Mansion for the duration of the Capital Pride Weekend; and  
 ***WHEREAS,*** the local Stanford NY Pride committee is planning their celebrations for Saturday, June 3rd, 2023; and  
 **WHEREAS,** Stanford New York is committed to supporting visibility, dignity and equality for LGBTQ people in our diverse community; and  
 ***WHEREAS,*** celebrating "Pride Month" influences awareness and provides support and advocacy for Stanford New York's LGBTQ+ community, and is an opportunity to act and engage in dialogue to strengthen alliances, build acceptance, and advance equal rights.  
 ***NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED*** that the Stanford Town Board hereby approve to raise the LGBTQ+ flag at the base of Town Hall Memorial Park for a period of two days beginning Friday, June 2nd, 2023.

Roll call vote for both as follows: Wendy Burton - yes, Margaret Fallon - yes, Anne Arent - yes, Nathan Lavertue – yes, Corey Clanahan – yes.

Resolution #4D of 2023 and Proclamation adopted by the affirmative votes of the Town of Stanford Town Board members and certified this 13th day of April 2023. *Ritamary Bell, Town Clerk*

16. AIROSMITH CELL TOWER APPLICATION: Town Attorney Robert Butts explained that this application for a co-location on the Quarter Horse Way cell tower was submitted to the Building Inspector, then forwarded to the Planning Board, and a building permit had been issued. According to the Town’s telecommunications law, the Town Board should’ve been the one to review the application. Federal law gives a timeline for these types of reviews, and since that timeline had long since passed, the Town Board could no longer review this minor application. Attorney Butts added that the Board should find no objection to this minor application and to not set a bad precedent, the applicant has agreed to submit to the Town an additional $1,950 as a Special Use Permit fee. After further discussion, a motion was made by Wendy Burton, seconded by Corey Clanahan, to accept the additional fee and not pursue any other legal action. Motion carried with all voting in favor.

SUPERVISOR’S REPORTS AND FINANCIAL FORECAST: The Central Hudson street light conversion has been completed. The cash audits of the Court and the Town Clerk have also been

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done and they passed with flying colors. The engineering firm of G.P.I. will look over the energy report from RFI for the Town hall and see how the HVAC conversion can be done; any associated costs will be from ARPF funds to make the building more energy efficient. The Town’s revenue is on track with the receipt of sales tax money; with the new formula, Stanford will still be good. Interest earned was big: $7,650; Building Permits have been strong; the Court is a little low but when new Town Justice Buchal starts, their revenue should pick up. No budget transfers needed to be made this month.

17. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: The Minutes of the February 9th, 2023 meeting were approved as written on a motion made by Wendy Burton, seconded by Margaret Fallon. The Minutes of the March 9th, 2023 meeting were approved as written on the motion of Wendy Burton, seconded by Nathan Lavertue. Motions carried.

18. APPROVAL OF APRIL ABSTRACT #4 OF 2023: A motion was made by Wendy Burton, seconded by Anne Arent to approve the April Abstract of Claims as follows:

General Fund: check #s 6999 – 7055 in the amount of $72,767.94

Check # 7003 in the amount of $382,886.00 (Stanford Fire District)

Check # 7002 in the amount of $170,400.00 (Stanford Free Library)  
 Highway Fund: check #s 4290 – 4313 in the amount of $52,839.36  
 Bangall Lights: check #3059 in the amount of $1,006.58

Total of April Abstract #4: $679,899.88

Motion carried with all voting in favor.

19. PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR:

Jack Evans, 2248 Bulls Head Road – Spoke of the town roads’ speeding problems at the last meeting; even with the electronic speed signs, nothing will be done without enforcement. The blind curve on Bulls Head where he puts his 6-yr. old granddaughter on the bus is an issue, there was a fender-bender there last week. The Town Board carries clout, you should call the Sheriff’s, the Troopers and point out these issues. Councilman Lavertue mentioned of the plan he had worked on for the Church Lane/Bulls Head Rd./Rt. 82 intersection, but funding was an issue; he will try again with Pat Ryan’s office next year. Supervisor Burton said that she will call both agencies but is frustrated as they may only come for a few days. Mr, Lavertue added that the electronic speed signs store data and that may be helpful for the police.

Gianna Wrobel, 7 Ridge Road – had a few suggestions: to have the sheds built by Habitat for Humanity as they had worked on projects with them before through BOCES and suggested giving them a call in the future. Gianna also suggested speed bumps for speeding issues on roads

Ben Rathjen, Charwill Drive – spoke of rumble strips on Pennsylvania roads that slow people down.

Stacey Adams, Millis Road – there could be seasonal speed bumps that could be removeable to slow up speeding on Bulls Head and Rt. 82.

Kathy Zeyher, Shelley Hill Road – spoke of the State’s housing mandate that would mean a 1% - 3% housing increase each year that is alarming and could be disastrous for the Town. Supervisor Burton responded that she has been on Zoom calls with both the Association of Towns and the D.C. Supervisors & Mayors Assoc. that are all very aware of this proposed mandate and are lobbying hard against it as it takes away “home rule.” There’s a good chance that it won’t happen, but we are in a better position than some other towns.

Jack Evans – can that be over-ruled, our lawyer against the State? Ms. Burton replied that the AoT has 4 lawyers and they are lobbying against it. Attorney Butts added that the mandate could include other types of housing, like accessory apartments for the elderly.

With no further business to attend to, Margaret Fallon made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:45 PM, seconded by Anne Arent. Motion carried with all present voting in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

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Ritamary Bell, Town Clerk