

MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING OF THE TOWN BOARD OF THE TOWN OF HUNTER TO DISCUSS KAATERSKILL AND PLATTE CLOVE LOGISTICS AND PLANNING WITH INVOLVED AGENCIES ON MARCH 21, 2023 AT 6:30 PM AT THE TOWN HALL LOCATED ON RTE. 23A IN TANNERSVILLE, NEW YORK.

Present:	Sean Mahoney	Supervisor
	David Kukle	Councilman
	Raymond Legg	Councilman
	Ernest Reale	Councilman
	Dolph Semenza	Councilman
	Officer Russ McCabe	Hunter Police Department
	Sgt Robert Haines(Zoom)	Hunter Police Department

DEC: Anthony Luisi Region 4 Director, McCrea Burnham, Catskill Park Coordinator

NYS Forest Ranger: Robert Dawson

DOT: Steve Demassio

Sheriff Peter Kusminsky and Deputy Adam Ostrander

Greene County Soil and Water: Michelle Yost

NYSP: Mario Restivo - Zone Commander, James Fitzmaurice

Greene County Legislator Daryl Legg

Ryan Chadwick and Kody Leach from Kaaterskill Trolley Co.

Town Board of Town of Hunter, Sean Mahoney (Supervisor), David Kukle, Raymond Legg, Dolph Semenza, Ernie Reale

Tow Operators: Rory France, Anthony and James Figiel.

Absent:	Corina Pascucci	Town Clerk
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Representatives from NYS Department of Transportation, NYS Department Environmental Conservation, NY State Police, Greene County Sheriffs, Kaaterskill Trolley, Mountain Top Historical Society and Greene County Legislature. Not all names could be heard on the recording of this meeting.

Supervisor Mahoney would like to discuss proactive approaches to this upcoming summer season as the overuse of these areas has caused a number of problems and the Town Board is asking for assistance with addressing these issues.

The Town Hall will run the impound lot again this year, the local tow companies will continue to work in both cloves, extra clove patrol for the weekends and extra ambulance personnel ready. The trolley launched mid-season last year and is offering to assist.

Discussion on having the impound lot open through Columbus Day weekend.

He adds that the expenditures of Town of Hunter tax dollars is approximately \$100,000 which the Town can't continue to do and are asking for help and support up front. He states that the NYS and Greene County Sheriff's Department did assist last year with illegally parked cars, and he hopes this continues as it was a huge help.

Discussion on lack of respect for the residents of the Town of Hunter and law enforcement as well as the beauty of the area by leaving behind graffiti, trash. Also, problems with illegal parking, and overcrowding.

Councilman Reals states it is rumored that more than 200,000 people visit Kaaterskill Falls adding that the roads, neighborhood and parking are not designed for that.

Greene County Legislator Legg states the Forever Wild areas owned by New York State need to change the forestry around here to Intensive Use areas which would allow for parking areas and would help the community.

Discussion on constitutional limitations related to Forever Wild.

Councilman Kukle reminds everyone that this is a scenic byway so we need to pay attention to how changes will look (native stone versus jersey barriers).

Discussion on future meetings held by NYS to review over the next one to two years to start identifying what we want Kaaterskill Clove to look like ten, twenty or thirty years from now.

Discussion on completely eliminating parking on the mountain road for a one season trial run, seven days a week to begin Memorial Day weekend

Town Board to come up with a plan to submit to NYS of what they want the corridor to look like.

Supervisor Mahoney states this meeting is their official request from law enforcement for additional manpower.

Supervisor Mahoney would like to have this submitted within two weeks.

Unknown speaker from NYSDOT presumably states yes, he believes changes could be made for this year, however he would need to follow up on that with Traffic and Safety.

Discussion on placement of jersey barriers – keeping Molly Smith parking lot barriered and adding barriers to Rat Hole and the Ice Climber's parking lot. Discussion on slip lane issues.

Representative from NYSP states he is hoping to soon be back to pre-pandemic employee numbers to commit people to the mountain top and he will commit that on the State Police side of the house.

Discussion on state agencies working with the town to develop a social media plan.

Sgt. Robert Haines via Zoom states that the Kaaterskill Clove area was not as big of a concern last year as the Platte Clove area was and all of the problems incurred on Platte Clove Road are on a town road. He hopes the other police agencies can assist the Town of Hunter Police Department with this area. He also asks that NYSDEC employ individuals, aside from an Assistant Forest Ranger to assist with traffic. He also suggests signage at the top of Laurel House Rd. to inform visitors when the lot is full and where there are other places to park.

Suggestions for and offerings of assistance:

Assistant Forest Rangers

Expanded Trolley service and stops

Port o potties

BID OPENING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN; the Town Board of the Town of Hunter will accept sealed bids for the rental of a 25- ton excavator with hydraulic thumb with Operator. Bids in sealed envelopes labeled "Rental of Excavator with Operator" must be submitted to the Town Clerk at the Hunter Town Hall, 5748 Rte. 23A, Tannersville, NY by 3:00 PM on Tuesday, March 14, 2023. The bids will be publicly opened and read at a meeting on that same date at 6:00 PM. Bids must include hourly and/or daily rates (based on 8-10 hour workday) and will be effective from 3/14/23-12/31/23. Bids must be accompanied by a non-collusion certificate in accordance with Section 103-d of the GML and must include proof of insurance. The Town Board reserves the right to reject any or all bids.

1. Kevin Thompson Excavating \$225.00/hour

Councilman Semenza makes a MOTION to accept the bid from Kevin Thompson Excavating at \$250.00 per hour. Seconded by Councilman Kukle.

Ayes -5-

Noes -0-

AMBULANCE

Discussion on which ambulance service is to respond to calls on Deming Road. Supervisor Mahoney will contact the involved agencies as the area where the patient is picked up in an ambulance from Hunter Mountain is in the Town of Hunter.

TOWN VEHICLE

Councilman Semenza states that the town car has been fixed and is back in service.

CEMETERY – in the Village of Hunter behind Mama’s Pizza.

Supervisor Mahoney makes a MOTION to let BOB Blain do what he thinks he needs to do with the pieces of equipment and get them over to the cemetery. Seconded by Councilman Semenza.

Ayes -5- Noes -0-

HIGHWAY

Town Board states that Bob Blain and the Highway Department did an excellent job with this last snowstorm.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Supervisor Mahoney makes a MOTION at 9:18 PM to go into Executive Session to discuss the employment history of a particular person. Seconded by Councilman Semenza.

Ayes -5- Noes -0-

Supervisor Mahoney makes a MOTION to come out of Executive Session at 9:15 PM with no action taken. Seconded by Councilman Semenza.

Ayes -5- Noes -0-

Supervisor Mahoney makes a MOTION to adjourn at 9:15 PM. Seconded by Councilman Legg.

Ayes -5- Noes -0-

Corina Pascucci, Town Clerk, RMC

Town of Hunter