

Erin Town Board
Public Hearing for Local Law
January 8, 2025

Supervisor Schmidt called the special meeting of the Erin Town Board to order on this date at 5:32 pm. She then asked the Clerk to call the roll.

MEMBERS PRESENT: William VanRiper, Jr., Randy Evans, Alan Hughson, Michael Shutts, Dawn Schmidt.

PUBLIC PRESENT: Mark Margeson, Harold Spencer.

The Town Clerk read the Public Hearing notice posted in the Elmira Star Gazette.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT the Town of Erin will hold a public hearing at the Town Hall at 1138 Breesport Road, Erin, NY at 5:30 P.M on the 8th day of January 2025 on proposed Local Law No. 1 of 2025 for solar energy systems in the Town of Erin.

Any interested persons may exam Local Law No. 1 of 2025 during the Clerk's regular office hours: Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday 1:00 P.M to 6:00 P.M and Thursday 1:00 PM to 5:00 PM except holidays at the Erin Town Hall.

ALSO, PLEASE TAKE NOTICE the Organizational Meeting for the Erin Town Board will be held on Wednesday, January 8, 2025 at 6:00 pm with the regular Board Meeting to immediately follow.

By the order of the Town Board of the Town of Erin, New York

Diane Wise-Hollenbeck
Erin Town Clerk

With no comments from the public, a motion was made by D. Schmidt to adjourn the meeting at 5:35 pm.

Motion Carried: Ayes: W. VanRiper, Jr., R. Evans, A. Hughson, M. Shutts, D. Schmidt. Nays: None.

January 8, 2025
Town of Erin Year End Meeting & Regular Board Meeting

Supervisor Schmidt called the Year End & regular Board meeting of the Erin Town Board to order on this date at 5:35 pm. She then asked the Clerk to call the roll.

MEMBERS PRESENT: William VanRiper, Jr., Randy Evans, A. Hughson, Michael Shutts, Dawn Schmidt.

PUBLIC PRESENT: Mark Margeson, Harold Spencer.

Supervisor Schmidt welcomed everyone and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

A motion was made by W. VanRiper, Jr. and seconded by A. Hughson to pay the audited bills as they appear on the General Fund Abstract 13 #184-199 totaling \$6,954.30; and the Highway Fund Abstract 13, #199-207 totaling \$16,853.71; and the Street Lighting Fund Abstract 13, #190, totaling \$117.74 and the audited bills as they appear on the General Fund Abstract 1, #1-3, totaling \$3,168.43; and the Street Lighting Fund Abstract 1, #1, totaling \$280.67; and the Highway Fund Abstract 1, #1-5, totaling \$1,482.71.

Motion Carried: Ayes: W. VanRiper, Jr., R. Evans, A. Hughson, M. Shutts, D. Schmidt. Nays: None.

A motion was made by M. Shutts and seconded by A. Hughson to dispense with the reading of the minutes from the regular Board Meeting on December 11, 2024 and approve the minutes.

Motion Carried: Ayes: W. VanRiper, Jr., R. Evans, A. Hughson, M. Shutts, D. Schmidt. Nays: None.

COMMUNICATIONS

- Judge Wieder has the paperwork ready for his annual audit. Council Member VanRiper, Jr. and Council Member Shutts will do the audit and have it ready for the February meeting.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Town Attorney- No report.

Planning Board-Deda Cedar- They did not have a meeting in December.

Parks, Recreation and Senior Committee-Deda Cedar- There was a Park meeting on 1/7. The Christmas Party had a good turnout, but no one got a headcount. Sewing class will start on 1/23 at 6:00 pm at the Town Hall. The Easter egg hunt will be 4/12. There is talk of a crochet class after the senior meetings that will be announced next month. The mobile food pantry served 178 clients. It is the 3rd Friday of the month, pre-registration can be done online or by calling 211. Volunteers are always welcome. The Senior group had their luncheon on New Year's Day with 24 people attending. There will be a Valentine's Dance on 2/15 at the Town Hall. Kathy Broom has a huge puzzle that they would like to set up and let people come in and work on while the Town Hall is open. The Board agreed to try it and see how it goes

Code Enforcement-John McCracken -He is working on the state report. The house that had the fire on Fairview was cited. What is left of the house needs to be removed. Working with the State to see what the options are. He will keep the Board posted. The Attorney is looking into whether or not it was insured. Attorney is also working on something to do with the campers. Several towns are having these issues with people living in campers year-round. Just about every lot on the season road has sold or is under contract. Everyone he has spoken with are interesting in hunting cabins, not year-round homes. Permits are still required.

Highway Superintendent-Steve Tyler- Since the last meeting they have been cindering and plowing roads as needed. They have been repairing equipment and trimming trees. He followed up on the stop sign in town that was talked about at the last meeting. It is up to the Board what they want to do, but a resolution is needed to add stop signs. It is recommended that an engineer look at it prior to anything being done. Someone from the County can look at it. The Board agreed to have the County look at it first.

County Representatives-Mark Margeson- The budget was passed with a few challenges. The Legislature wanted to support a federally qualified health center (FQHC) for anyone. The contract was signed by the client, but not by the county executive. Currently working through that. The other item was funding for workforce development. The contract was put together the day before it was due by the County and there was not enough time for the client to review it so they did not accept it. There was about a 2.5% increase in county tax. The levy changed. The next committee meeting they have, he has

asked the person in charge of the sewer project to come in and speak. The project is behind schedule. It started out at \$86 million and it is now about \$340 million. It is a user fee project. The County is going to have to sign bonds and the users will have to pay for it. There will be a facility assessment for potential projects at 17 Aviation Drive. An agreement was made with an aviation company to lease hanger space. IDA brought them in. They have been there for two (2) months. They have remodeled all the offices in the hangar space. They will be putting in five (5) aircrafts. A two (2) year lease was signed for \$25,000/month which is additional revenue for the IDA. The arena is a daily challenge. Waiting for funds to be transferred from the County Executive. There is a commission for the homeless. They have broken up encampments and trying to relocate them. In accordance with state law, St. Peter and Paul has been opened up on a 24-hour basis when the temperature drops below 32 degrees. There is going to be a significant change in the legislature in 2026.

Supervisor -Dawn Schmidt- The Town Clerk's 2024 Year End Report was received.

A motion was made A. Hughson and seconded by M. Shutts to accept the Town Clerk's 2024 Annual Report.

Motion Carried: Ayes: W. VanRiper, Jr., R. Evans, A. Hughson, M. Shutts, D. Schmidt. Nays: None.

The animal control documents were received and they do not match. John McCracken will take them back for clarification. She has also received a few called from residents saying when they contacted animal control they were told they do not service the Town of Erin or they need to wait for regular business hours. John will also look into that. The Sheriff Department sent report for December. There were 26 reports, 6 uniform traffic tickets, 11 traffic stops and 3 traffic accidents. Several seats are up this year and petitions need to be submitted in early February. Terie Huseby, the Town Assessor would like to retire. She has a person that has taken over a couple of her towns. Supervisor Schmidt will reach out to this person and ask her to attend the February meeting. It is an appointed position.

OLD BUSINESS

Mark Margeson-Any projects for 2026 need paperwork done now. There is \$6,000-7,000 available. Council Member VanRiper, Jr. will get with Steve Tyler and get the paperwork submitted.

Joe Frega- They have a donor willing to grade and put woodchips down on the walking trail at the Park. The Board requires them to be insured and to name the Town of Erin as an additional insurer in order to do work on the property. They do not have a roller, but it is recommended that it is rolled after the woodchips are put down. The grass needs to be reseeded in the ditch to keep it from eroding. There will be a Wood Fest meeting on 1/21. The location will be determined. Volunteers are always welcome. There was a discussion about why food trucks were not allowed at Wood Fest and it was determined by the Board that they will be allowed this year. If anyone has any comments/concerns they are welcome to voice them at the next meeting.

Mark Margeson- Spoke about the Community Arts funding from hotels. There is money available. Must focus on advertising outside of the area with emphasis on tourism and culture. Suggested asking for a minimum of \$5000.

With no comments from the public Supervisor Schmidt closed this portion of the meeting.

A motion was made by W. VanRiper, Jr. and seconded by M. Shutts to adjourn the meeting at 6:32 PM. Motion Carried: Ayes: W. VanRiper, Jr., R. Evans, A. Hughson, M. Shutts, D. Schmidt. Nays: None.