

# TOWN OF WILTON

22 TRAVER ROAD

WILTON, NEW YORK

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## PUBLIC HEARING-7:00 P.M

## 2025 PRELIMINARY BUDGET

**PLEASE TAKE NOTICE** that the Town Board of the Town of Wilton, New York, County of Saratoga, will hold a public hearing on the Preliminary Budget for the Town of Wilton for the fiscal year beginning January 1, 2025.

**SAID PUBLIC HEARING** will be held on Thursday, November 7, 2024, at 7:00 p.m. at the Wilton Town Hall located at 22 Traver Road in said town at which time all persons will be given an opportunity to be heard.

**SAID PRELIMINARY BUDGET** will be completed and filed in the office of the Town Clerk of the Town of Wilton at 22 Traver Road where it may be examined by any interested person during regular business hours. The Preliminary Budget is also available online at [townofwilton.com](http://townofwilton.com).

## **IN ACCORDANCE WITH TOWN LAW, SECTION 108, PROPOSED SALARIES OF TOWN OFFICERS ARE LISTED BELOW:**

Supervisor	\$40,541
Councilman (4) (each)	\$15,973
Highway Superintendent	\$91,800
Town Clerk	\$81,600
Town Justice (2) (each)	\$45,361

## **BY RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN BOARD OF THE TOWN OF WILTON**

**Supervisor Lant** opened the public hearing at 7:00 p.m. and asked if there were any questions or comments. There was none.

On a motion introduced by Deputy Supervisor McEachron, seconded by Councilwoman Kolligian with all board members in favor, the public hearing was closed at 7:01 p.m.

## **REGULAR TOWN BOARD MEETING-November 7, 2024**

Supervisor Lant called the Regular Town Board meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

## **Pledge of Allegiance**

Supervisor Lant led the board and the audience in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

### **Roll Call**

Roll Call by the Town Clerk showed the following board members present.

John Lant-Supervisor  
John McEachron-Deputy Supervisor  
Duane Bogardus-Councilman  
Erinn Kolligian-Councilwoman  
Ray O’Conor-Councilman

Also present was Ryan K. Riper, P. E., Director of Planning and Engineering, Maria Moran, CPA, Comptroller and Mark Schachner, Town Counsel.

### **Public Comment Session**

Devin Klender of 134 Ingersoll Rd spoke regarding the Cannabis Warehousing and Processing moratorium. Mr. Klender says that he grew up on Ingersoll Rd and now resides in Saratoga Springs. Good evening. I don't know if this is a little early. I know that number 14 on the agenda regarding the cannabis moratorium and some quick comments. I am here respectfully to oppose the proposed moratorium on cannabis activities. As you know, New York State cannabis industry is in its infancy, but it holds tremendous potential to bring economic benefit to our community. Implementing moratorium at this stage could prevent the Town of Wilton from tapping into a growing industry that's already proven to bring job opportunities increase tax revenue and support for local businesses in other parts of the state moratorium now could delay and even halt crucial infrastructure that could benefit our community, not just today, but for generations to come. The Office of Cannabis Management aims to only issue three thousand licenses across all various aspects of this industry, this includes retail, cultivators, processors, distributors and micro businesses. To put this into perspective, California has currently licensed over 12,000 operators. If one of these incredibly difficult licenses happens to be obtained by local residents it should be cherished in a supported endeavor. Many of these small operators face the inevitable competition from publicly traded companies, multi state operators, who are destined to gain entry over time. These are critical times for small, self-funded operators to build a foothold. Only two times in the past one hundred years has an opportunity like this been approachable to the common man, the end of prohibition of alcohol in 1933 and the end of cannabis prohibition in 2022. All upstate townships should embrace this new agricultural commodity. In 2022 corn was a major agricultural product of New York. Its entire industry generated approximately \$549 million. This includes both sweet and field grown corn. This was over one million acres producing 7.2 million tons of corn. New York State is also well known for apples. Apples generated approximately \$345 million. As of today, the New York State cannabis industry has created \$520 million. It is on track to be a \$7 billion a year industry and will generate close to \$1 billion in tax revenue. By working together to develop a reasonable, regulated approach to cannabis. Wilton can position itself as a forward-thinking town that creates new economic opportunities.

Orson Klender of 10 Licardo Lane in Saratoga Springs wanted to speak in support of Devin and his experience of several years with the cannabis business. I think it's a great opportunity for the town to look at what they're doing and be forward thinking and look into the details that he presented tonight.

Kelly Dennis, who lives on the corner of Louden and Ruggles Road spoke about agenda item 10. This is my daughter, Sadie. I also live there with my husband and my other daughter, Taylor, who's just turned seventeen. It's important for us to be here tonight to share some information, kind of a firsthand account. We live right on that corner where we're asking for support for a four-way stop sign. We really feel that there's a need, because of the excessive speeding, multiple accidents, lack of visibility, and a lot of pedestrian and cyclist traffic coming through here. Without the four ways stop sign, we again have been witnessing excessive speeds coming down through the intersection, cars passing other cars on the double yellow line. Out of control drivers are going off the road, even almost potentially hitting deer that are in the road and other wildlife. I had to call 911 for accidents because of excessive speed. I have helped people who are injured and waiting for an ambulance. I've been out there in that intersection and the biggest one to me is my daughter is that I'm standing there getting her off the school bus, and cars have potentially passed the school bus coming down through that intersection. So as a concerned parent, I'm here tonight. At one point I've had to walk out into the road to stop cars coming down the road at excessive speeds. The addition of these stop signs, we feel it will require drivers to come to a complete stop at that intersection. Visibility is a little limited. And again, we have school buses on this road. We have people pulling out of driveways, pedestrians, cyclists. We have neighbors walking their dogs and crossing the street there. We want to keep other drivers coming through Wilton safe as well in our community, and again, hopefully prevent any future accidents as well as a possible tragic event. We're bringing these concerns to you today just to show the need again. When it's time for you to vote, please think about your child or grandchild getting off that school bus and trying to cross this busy road. Maybe your cyclist friend at the back of a group ride trying to get across this intersection. Maybe your parents, spouse or teenager are standing out at their mailbox, bringing their trash cans out. The presence of stop signs reflects the community's commitment to safety. They're relatively inexpensive to install and maintain and we feel like it could be a cost-effective solution. The installation of a 4-way stop sign at London and Ruggles will not only support the safety of our community, but also those coming through what through will and traveling in our town again. Thank you.

Colby Eaton of 22 Brookside Drive said I grew up at 15 Cobble Hill Drive and I am a lifelong resident of Wilton. I want to thank everybody for the opportunity of speaking this evening and I'm here to support Devin and agenda item 14. I'm a first-generation farmer and coming in as a first-generation farmer and looking at AG and Market protected crops such as cannabis, and seeing Wilton make a moratorium on something like this, making hardships for people like me, trying to get into the said industries outside of cannabis makes it something that we are highly discouraging the town from looking at. Thank you very much.

Tom Case of 240 Louden Rd states he is here to support stop signs on Louden Road and Ruggles Road. Louden Road runs from the mall all the way out to Route 29 and there are only three crossroads on that whole road. One is down on Ingersoll Road, which is a four way stop. One is Edie Road, which is a four way stop, and the next one is Ruggles Road, which is only a two way stop. I've lived there 40 years so when I come down the hill, I purposely slow down, because those crossroads are blind. You cannot see them. We have had numerous accidents, three have come close, with my own family being run off the road. The traffic is like ten times what it used to be. We have half a dozen subdivisions on Louden Road. We never had them before. People use Louden Road as a bypass Road, rather than taking Route 29 because it's quicker. It's just a safety issue. I've heard stuff like \$17,000 for traffic studies. The Department of State doesn't even require you to do these studies. You have the right to put the stop signs in. We've already

done that. We've got legal paperwork showing all that. It just blows my mind that this kind of attention is coming to two stop signs. You know, we're not asking to put in traffic study. We are not putting in a restaurant on Loudon Road or anything. We just want you to use your common sense, that's all. It's just stop signs, what else is there to talk about? I want to thank John, Ray, John Sue, Duane and Erinn for their time. Thank you.

Cathleen Timmick of Fortsville Road spoke to respectfully oppose the moratorium on cannabis activities. I believe the cannabis industry is on a major rise that can be benefited from it in many ways. Cannabis is more than just a recreational drug. It is used as medicine. The cannabis industry offers tremendous growth opportunities for local and state businesses by establishing regulated adult use cannabis markets, state and local governments can tax cannabis sales and benefit economically by creating 1000s of new jobs in states with tax and regulated cannabis markets. Overall, sales and tax revenue have quickly exceeded initial estimates. There will be a lot of hurdles to jump with this industry being so new, and hopefully this will be one that we can jump together.

Mike Brice of Loudon Road said he is here tonight hoping you are going to decide whether the intersection of Loudon and Ruggles should be a four way stop. Well, the intersection of Loudon Road and Ingersoll Road and Loudon Road and Edie Road are both four way stops as they should be, but the inconsistency in the traffic control measures within close proximity raises questions about why Loudon Road and Ruggles Road doesn't follow the same standard as nearby intersections. By making Loudon Road and Ruggles Road a four-way stop, you are making it a lot safer of an intersection, especially with all the new development in the area. I really think this is a simple ask by the people, and it deserves a simple yes. As for any other traffic studies, I can tell you this, the best studies that have ever been done are by the residents in the area in question. That's a fact. Thank you.

Trish Benincasa of Edie Road said she lives close to Loudon Road. I know the importance of four-way stop signs as they go from my road on and then the cars will come in right by my house. But I just wanted to say that this seems like an easy decision by the board. I mean, we, the people, voted for you, and now we're just expressing our will for something as simple as stop signs. This is a simple decision to make, just to put them in and possibly prevent a tragic accident while keeping all the residents safe in this area.

A letter from Mark Calicchia of Wilton was read and stated: "members of the town board and fellow residents my name is Mark Calicchia. My wife, Gina, and I are proud residents of Wilton living on Loudon Road. While I'm unable to be present at tonight's meeting, I felt it was crucial to lend my voice to this important discussion regarding the intersection of Loudon and Ruggles Roads. Tonight, the town board will have an opportunity to make a decision that is not just about traffic patterns, but about safety and well-being of our community. The purpose of transforming this two-way stop into a four-way stop is a necessary and timely change, one that will reflect our town's commitment to protect its residents. It is essential that we as a community listen to the voices of Wilton residents advocating this change. The reasons for this change are clear. It is evident that a four-way stop will significantly reduce the risk of accidents now and in the future, and our efforts to create a safer environment for our families, our children and our neighbors, we must prioritize solutions that mitigate potential hazards. Moreover, we

must recognize that both Loudon Road and Ruggles Road are town owned roads, giving our town the full authority to enact this change without delay. The opposition to this proposal lacks a solid foundation, and it stands in stark contrast to the expressed will of its constituents. Tonight, I urge the town board to embrace its responsibility as guardians of our community's safety. This decision should not be difficult. It should be straightforward reflection of the will of the people you represent by voting in favor of this change. You will not only enhance the safety of our streets, but also demonstrate your commitment to responding to the concerns of its people. Thank you for your consideration. We call on you to support this important change.

### **Minutes**

On a motion introduced by Councilman Bogardus, the board adopted the following resolution:

#### **RESOLUTION #232**

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,** to approve the minutes from the October 3, 2024, meeting, as typed.

The adoption of the resolution was seconded by Councilman O'Connor, duly put to a vote, all in favor the motion passed 5-0.

### **2025 Preliminary Budget**

Ms. Moran said the 2025 budget was presented to the town board at the October 3, 2024, meeting. There was a budget workshop and there was a 4.2% decrease. We are still providing the same if not more, services. and believe it is a successful and sound budget. Supervisor Lant thanked everyone for their input and work that Ms. Moran put into it.

On a motion introduced by Councilman O'Connor, the board adopted the following resolution:

#### **RESOLUTION #233**

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,** to accept the 2025 final budget.

The adoption of the resolution was seconded by Councilwoman Kolligian, duly put to a vote, all in favor. The motion passed 5-0.

### **Request to Rezone Properties**

Frank Palumbo from CT. Male Associates appeared representing Mr. Jim Zappone on this application.

Mr. Palumbo stated Mr. Zappone's property is off Route 9 and Ernst Rd. It's divided into four properties. There are utility easements running through that divide the front two. Mr. Zappone just recently made some improvements to the property to remove some of the old buildings out front. In the back are two parcels. These parcels have been used in the past as a landscaping business and have already been in the town as a full-time business. Mr. Zappone is asking that this zone change to an RB zone. He would like to convert that back zone to being the RB zone and use the property in a manner that it has already been being used as a business. You have received the plans that show that this is Mr. Zappone's intention and that he must go through the planning board if he uses it for outdoor storage units. That is down if the planning board said no but he still would like to have this rezoned so that the whole of his property, the land that is already cleared and pushed back, and that he could already use but he would be in violation if it related to his business. We're asking the Board to set the public hearing for this.

#### **RESOLUTION #234**

On a motion introduced by Deputy Supervisor McEachron, the board adopted the following resolution:

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, to set a public hearing for the Rezoning of 851 Route 9, Tax Map Numbers 114.-2-74 and 114.-2-51.122 for December 5, 2024 at 7:00 p.m.

The adoption of the resolution was seconded by Councilwoman Kolligian, duly put to a vote, all in favor. The motion passed 5-0.

#### **Road Acceptance for a Portion of Eastpointe Dr., Phase 2, Biss Subdivision**

On a motion introduced by Deputy Supervisor Mceachron, the board adopted the following resolution:

#### **RESOLUTION #235**

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, to approve the Road Acceptance for a portion of Eastpointe/Brookhaven Drive, Biss Subdivision.

Stations: 0+00 to 15+35

The adoption of the resolution was seconded by Councilman O'Connor, duly put to a vote, all in favor. The motion passed 5-0.

#### **Speed Limit Reduction Requests – Dimmick Road and Northern Pines Road**

On a motion introduced by Deputy Supervisor McEachron, the board adopted the following resolution:

**RESOLUTION #236**

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,** to approve a speed limit reduction request for Dimmick Road.

The adoption of the resolution was seconded by Councilman O’Conor, duly put to a vote, all in favor. The motion passed 5-0.

On a motion introduced by Deputy Supervisor McEachron, the board adopted the following resolution:

**RESOLUTION #237**

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,** to approve a speed limit reduction request for Northern Pines Road from Carr Road to Nicklaus Drive.

The adoption of the resolution was seconded by Councilman O’Conor, duly put to a vote, all in favor. The motion passed 5-0.

**4-Way Stop Sign - Dimmick Road at Gurn Springs Road**

Councilman Bogardus said at the last meeting we had asked Town Counsel for an opinion on the installation of stop signs. Supervisor Lant said the board can have them installed by resolution, we don’t need a traffic study. Councilman Bogardus said the board, very clearly, asked for an opinion. Supervisor Lant said Town Counsel call him and told him the board can do what they want. Councilman Bogardus asked if it was put in writing. He said he didn’t get back to the entire board and would like to table the item until the board gets an opinion. Deputy Supervisor McEachron said it makes sense to him. He said he read it, he looked at it and has lived in this town his entire life. The stop sign should’ve been put in twenty years ago when the others were put in. Councilman Bogardus said there are residents requesting another list of stop signs. He said he is not opposed to stop signs but clearly asked for an opinion. Deputy Supervisor McEachron said he heard it. Councilman Bogardus said he is not doubting anyone but Counsel should’ve communicated with the entire board.

Supervisor Lant asked to poll the board:

Deputy Supervisor McEachron: Yes

Councilman Bogardus: Abstained

Councilman O’Conor: Yes

Councilwoman Kolligian: Yes

Supervisor Lant: Yes

On a motion introduced by Deputy Supervisor McEachron, the board adopted the following resolution:

**RESOLUTION #238**

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,** to approve installation of a 4-way stop sign at the intersection of Dimmick Road and Gurn Springs Road.

The adoption of the resolution was seconded by Councilman O’Conor, under the conditions that the Highway Department places all warning signs, flags, all safety measures and prior to installation receive concurrence from Town Counsel for the issues raised by Councilman Bogardus, duly put to a vote, all in favor, except Councilman Bogardus who abstained. The motion passed 4-0.

**4-Way Stop Sign – Louden Road at Ruggles Road**

Councilman O’Conor said he would make that motion under the condition that before the stop signs are placed that the Highway Department thoroughly completes all safety measures needed prior to the placement and that the written opinion of Town Council is in hand as Councilman Bogardus raised.

Supervisor Lant asked to poll the board:

Deputy Supervisor McEachron: Yes

Councilman Bogardus: Abstained

Councilman O’Conor: Yes

Councilwoman Kolligian: Yes

Supervisor Lant: Yes

On a motion introduced by Councilman O’Conor, the board adopted the following resolution:

**RESOLUTION #239**



**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,** to approve installation of a 4-way stop sign at the intersection of Loudon Road and Ruggles Road, under the conditions that the Highway Department places all warning signs, flags, all safety measures and prior to installation receive concurrence from Town Council for the issues raised by Councilman Bogardus.

The adoption of the resolution was seconded by Deputy Supervisor McEachron, duly put to a vote, all in favor, except Councilman Bogardus who abstained. The motion passed 4-0.

Councilwoman Kolligian wanted to put on record that last month she never opposed the stop signs. She said her friends on social media were misinformed.

Councilman Bogardus said he is not opposed to the stop signs; he would like an opinion from counsel.

**Bid Approval – Fire Alarm Control Panel-Highway Building**

On a motion introduced by Councilman O’Conor, the Board adopted the following resolution:

**RESOLUTION #240**

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,** to approve the award of the bid to Mahoney Alarms Notify Plus, Inc. in the amount of \$25,969.00 for the upgrade to the fire alarm control panel in the Highway Department Building.

The adoption of the resolution was seconded by Councilwoman Kolligian, duly put to a vote, all in favor. The motion passed 5-0.

**Health Insurance Benefits**

**Supervisor Lant** stated the next two items used to be part of the organizational resolution but because the health benefit year begins on December 1, the items need to be approved prior to January 1.

On a motion introduced by Councilwoman Kolligian, the board adopted the following resolution:

**RESOLUTION #241**

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the form of the Plan (CDPHP) effective 12/1/2024, presented at this meeting, is hereby approved, and adopted and that the duly authorized agent of the Employer is hereby authorized and directed to execute and deliver to the Administrative Agent of the Plan and one or more counterparts of the Plan.

**RESOLVED**, that the employer shall be the Sponsor of the Plan and shall be the Administrator of the Plan for purposes of ERISA.

**RESOLVED**, that the employer hereby appoints the Administrative Agent to assist it with the administration of the Plan and to perform all such non-discriminatory duties related hereto.

**RESOLVED**, that the Administrative Agent shall be instructed to take such actions that are deemed necessary and proper in order to implement the Plan and to set up adequate accounts and administrative procedures to provide benefits under the Plan.

**RESOLVED**, that the duly authorized agents of the Employer shall act as soon as possible to notify the Employee of the Employer of the adoption of the Plan by delivering to each Employee a copy of the summary description of the Plan in the form of the Summary Plan Description presented to this meeting, which form is hereby approved.

The adoption of the resolution was seconded by Councilman O'Connor duly put to vote, all in favor. The motion passed 5-0.

**Health Reimbursement Arrangement**

On a motion introduced by Deputy Supervisor McEachron, the board adopted the following resolution:

**RESOLUTION #242**

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the form of the HRA (CDPHP) effective 12/1/2024, presented at this meeting, is hereby approved, and adopted and that the duly authorized agent of the Employer is hereby authorized and directed to execute and deliver to the Administrative Agent of the HRA and one or more counterparts of the HRA.

**RESOLVED**, that the employer shall be the Sponsor of the HRA and shall be the Administrator of the Plan for purposes of ERISA.

**RESOLVED**, that the employer hereby appoints the Administrative Agent to assist it with the administration of the HRA and to perform all such non-discriminatory duties related hereto.

**RESOLVED**, that the Administrative Agent shall be instructed to take such actions that are deemed necessary and proper in order to implement the HRA and to set up adequate accounts and administrative procedures to provide benefits under the HRA.

**RESOLVED**, that the duly authorized agents of the Employer shall act as soon as possible to notify the Employee of the Employer of the adoption of the HRA by delivering to each Employee a copy of the summary description of the HRA in the form of the Summary HRA Description presented to this meeting, which form is hereby approved.

The adoption of the resolution was seconded by Councilman O’Conor duly put to vote, all in favor. The motion passed 5-0.

**Moratorium on Cannabis Warehousing, Cultivation and Processing**

Councilman O’Conor spoke on this subject and discussion was held because occasionally, there’s a new industry that comes about for which, you know that not just our town, but a lot of municipalities, get caught kind of flat footed on “what do we do?” Where do they go? How do they operate? What conditions might there be? Back in the day we had to decide what to do about cell towers. This became a thing.

When cell phones became popular and everybody had to have one, municipalities didn't have any regulations for them, where they were going to go. How tall can they be? Can they be next to residential neighborhoods, wherever else we have been through this the last couple of years, with the solar industry, with the introduction of large solar arrays? Our zoning was inadequate to address this new industry. Now we have another new industry, cannabis. So, before, and I think one of the gentlemen, you know, mentioned, this is a multi-billion-dollar industry. It's big business. Given that it's a new type of business and industry, we have virtually nothing in our code to address issues that we may not even be aware of, as far as this new industry is concerned. What we did in those other cases is, we had a limited time moratorium so that town staff could work on zoning and other issues related to these new industries. We can't put a moratorium on today. Town Counsel says that we have a public hearing before establishing moratorium. The only action that I think the board should take is just to schedule a public hearing for next month. That's the first step. I'll make a motion to set the public hearing moratorium today. This is not because we're against it. We just want to make sure we get it right. We want to be able to protect you. Protect us. Protect it's not a no. It's just that we want to make sure we get it right for everybody. And unfortunately, public decision. It's a lengthy decision.

On a motion introduced by Councilwoman Kolligian, the board adopted the following resolution:

**RESOLUTION #243**

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, to set a public hearing for the Moratorium in Cannabis Warehousing, Cultivation and Processing for December 5, 2024 at 7:01 p.m.

The adoption of the resolution was seconded by Deputy Supervisor Mceachron, duly put to a vote, all in favor. The motion passed 5-0.

**Amendment to Local Law #5 of 2023 Fireman's Exemption**

On a motion introduced by Councilwoman Kolligian, the board adopted the following resolution:

**RESOLUTION #244**

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, to set a public hearing for the Amendment to Local Law #5 of 2023 Fireman's Exemption for December 5, 2024 at 7:01 p.m.

The adoption of the resolution was seconded by Deputy Supervisor Mceachron, duly put to a vote, all in favor except Councilman Bogardus who abstained. The motion passed 4-0.

**Smith Bridge Road Widening**

Town Engineer Ryan Riper spoke. He said Councilman McEachron brought it up with looking into widening Smith Bridge Road from Route 9 to Jones Road. Obviously, there's some turns on Smith Bridge Road; curves, there's a dam structure on Smith Bridge Road. We recently conducted a dam safety inspection for New York State DEC requirements. With the widening and looking at the work the road needs we're thinking should it be widened? Obviously, it would involve the dam being widened. We consulted CT Male, Associates. They did the design work on the dam when it was rebuilt in late 1980s. They gave us a proposal. It's a proposal to just start the work, you have some land surveys, geotechnical work, conceptual level plans, and a letter report and opinion of probable construction costs on this project. That total sum will be \$89,000 for this work to get started with this project. It is up to the Board whether you'd like to proceed and engage with consultants and move forward. Councilman Bogardus made mention that the water source at the dam belongs to the City of Saratoga Springs. He questioned if the city was planning to assist with the costs to do this project. Ryan Riper stated that the south side of the bridge and the dam and two properties to the west on Smith Bridge Road are owned by the City of Saratoga Springs. Wilton would need permission from them to use their property to do some of the work. Supervisor Lant stated that a meeting was held in the past with the city to try and get a grant to assist in this project. With all the new business that is in the works in that area, this project needs to be revisited soon and more discussion is needed with the City of Saratoga Springs. There was discussion on the narrowness of the road and the dangerous conditions this presents.

On a motion introduced by Councilwoman Kolligian, the board adopted the following resolution:

**RESOLUTION #245**

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** to approve the contract for the Smith Bridge Road Widening Evaluation Proposal from CT Male for \$89,000

The adoption of the resolution was seconded by Councilman Bogardus, duly put to a vote, all in favor. The motion passed 5-0.

**Voting Delegate and Alternate for NYS AOT Conference**

On a motion introduced by Councilman O'Connor, the board adopted the following resolution:

**RESOLUTION #246**

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, to approve the appointment of the following Councilman Bogardus and Ryan Riper as the voting delegates for the NYS Association of Towns Annual Conference:

**Councilman Duane Bogardus-Delegate  
Ryan Riper-Alternate**

The adoption of the resolution was seconded by Councilwoman Kolligian duly put to a vote, all in favor except Councilman Bogardus who recused himself. The motion passed 4-0.

**Housing Choice Voucher 5 Year/Annual PHA Plans, 2025-2029**

Marian Moran, Comptroller, said HUD has a requirement that our administrator, Joseph E. Mastrianni aka JEM, Inc., follow through and comply with regulations from HUD to say, every five years to complete and update the plan. HUD requires a 45-day notice meeting for the public before any changes are made. We're going to set the public hearing for January, so that will give more than 45 days for people to consider the plan.

On a motion introduced by Councilman O'Connor, the board adopted the following resolution:

**RESOLUTION #247**

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, to set a public hearing for the Housing Choice Annual PHA plans for 2025-2029 for January 2, 2025 at 7:00 p.m.

The adoption of the resolution was seconded by Councilwoman Kolligian, duly put to a vote, all in favor. The motion passed 5-0.

**Withdrawal from Traffic Mitigation Reserve Account**

On a motion introduced by Councilwoman Kolligian, the board adopted the following resolution:

**RESOLUTION #248**

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, to approve withdrawal from the Traffic Mitigation Reserve Account for the Carr/Jones Rd. Traffic Design Phase.

The adoption of the resolution was seconded by Councilman O'Connor, duly put to a vote, all in favor. The motion passed 5-0.

**Appointment – Park and Recreation Commission**

On a motion introduced by Councilman O'Connor, the board adopted the following resolution:

**RESOLUTION #249**

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, to approve the appointment of Shawn Lescault to the Park and Recreation Commission, 11/7/2024-6/30/2027.

The adoption of the resolution was seconded by Deputy Supervisor McEachron, duly put to a vote, all in favor. The motion passed 5-0.

### **Committee Reports**

Councilman Bogardus updated on the progress with the Court improvements. The Town Judges are redesigning the bench area. Once that has been completed the countertop for the bench will be ordered. The other counters have been ordered. The glass for the windows, which is bullet and intrusion resistant, has been ordered. It's an upgrade to protect our employees. Also, the minutes for the Emergency Services Committee are available online.

Mr. Riper stated he would like everyone to be aware of the public open house for the Carr Road, Jones Road and Northern Pines Road roundabout project. It will be November 18, 2024 from 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. at Gavin Park. This meeting is to discuss the project, get input from the residents and have conversations about plans. We're at the very beginning stage of the plan design, so it's important to get people involved with the pathways, the roundabouts and the connectivity. Gavin Park has been doing a survey from the community asking what amenities they would like to see in town, whether it's disc golf or other activities at Gavin Park. There were over 110 comments about pathways and connections to Gavin Park. The community has a huge demand for this and access to the park and traffic safety in that area. A discussion was held regarding the future placement of a stop light at the intersection of Edie Rd. and Route 50. All agreed that this needs to be explored. Supervisor Lant would like to determine if there might be a grant available to help fund this. Ms. Moran will investigate this.

### **Comptroller's Report**

#### 1.) 2024 Budget Transfers

On a motion introduced by Deputy Supervisor McEachron, the board adopted the following resolution:

#### **RESOLUTION #250**

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, to approve the 2024 budget transfers requested and listed in the Comptroller's 11/07/2024 Report to the Town Board.

The adoption of the resolution was seconded by Councilman Bogardus, duly put to a vote, all in favor. The motion passed 5-0.

**1.) 2024 Budget Amendments**

On a motion introduced by Councilwoman Kolligian, the board adopted the following resolution:

**RESOLUTION #251**

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,** to approve the 2024 budget amendments requested and listed in the Comptroller's 11/07/2024 Report to the Town Board.

The adoption of the resolution was seconded by Deputy Supervisor McEachron, duly put to a vote, all in favor. The motion passed 5-0.

On a motion introduced by Councilman O'Connor, the board adopted the following resolution:

**RESOLUTION #252**

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,** to approve the request for overnight travel for Susan Baldwin for the NYSTCA Region Training in Ithaca, NY, December 7-9, 2024.

The adoption of the resolution was seconded by Councilwoman Kolligian, duly put to a vote, all in favor. The motion passed 5-0.

On a motion introduced by Councilman O'Connor, the board adopted the following resolution:

**RESOLUTION #253**

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,** to approve the request for overnight travel for Susan Baldwin for the NYSTCA Region Training in Ithaca, NY, December 7-9, 2024.

The adoption of the resolution was seconded by Councilwoman Kolligian, duly put to a vote, all in favor. The motion passed 5-0.

**RESOLUTION #254**



**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,** to approve the request for overnight travel for the following personnel to attend the Annual Codes Conference for 2025 in Lake Placid, NY, March 23-27, 2025:

**Mark Mykins  
Marcus Hart  
John Herlihy**

The adoption of the resolution was seconded by Councilwoman Kolligian, duly put to a vote, all in favor. The motion passed 5-0.

**Executive Session**

On a motion introduced by Councilman O’Conor, seconded by Councilwoman Kolligian, with all board members in favor, the board adjourned to executive session at 8:05 p.m. for discussions regarding proposed, pending, or current litigation.

On a motion introduced by Councilman O’Conor, the board reconvened into the monthly meeting at 8:25 seconded by Deputy Supervisor McEachron, all in favor, motion carried.

On a motion introduced by Councilman O’Conor, the board adopted the following resolution:

**RESOLUTION #255**

**WHEREAS,** 628 Maple Avenue, LLC and the Town of Wilton are desirous of having certain assessment issues resolved as to properties owned by 628 Maple Avenue LLC in the Town of Wilton, and

**WHEREAS,** a settlement proposal resolving pending tax certiorari litigation was recommended by the Vincelette Law Firm, special counsel to the Town of Wilton, and reviewed by the Wilton Town Board at its regular monthly meeting, and

**WHEREAS,** such a proposed settlement would present the parties with an expeditious and economic alternative to further litigation so as to resolve issues

between the parties, and

**WHEREAS**, the Town Board has determined that the proposed settlement is in the best interests of the Town; now

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Town Board does hereby accept a proposed settlement for the 2021, 2022, 2023 and 2024 tax certiorari proceedings filed by 628 Maple Avenue LLC in which the 2021 assessed values of parcel #140.17-1-4 shall remain unchanged and the matter discontinued, while the 2022, 2023, and 2024 assessed values of parcel #140.17-1-4 shall be reduced as follows:

<u>Year</u>	<u>Parcel No.</u>	<u>Prior Assessed Value</u>	<u>Revised Assessed</u>	<u>Value Reduction</u>
2022	140.17-1-4	\$5,220,000	\$4,500,000	\$720,000
2023	140.17-1-4	\$5,220,000	\$4,500,000	\$720,000
2024	140.17-1-4	\$5,220,000	\$4,500,000	\$720,000

and it is further

**RESOLVED** that 628 Maple Avenue shall be entitled to a refund of excess taxes paid based upon the above revisions; and it is further

**RESOLVED** that Section 727 of the Real Property Tax Law shall apply to the adjusted assessments for assessment year 2024 and shall affect the 2025, 2026 and 2027 assessment rolls, as modified by the parties as follows:

**RESOLVED**, that the Town Board does hereby adopt this resolution to end the litigation between 628 Maple Avenue and the Town of Wilton as to the above referenced assessment.

The adoption of the resolution was seconded by Councilwoman Kolligian, duly put to a vote, all in favor. The motion passed 5-0.

**Town Hall Renovation Bids**

Susan Baldwin, Town Clerk, noted the bid opening for the Town Hall Renovation Project were opened today. We only received two bids and did not have any of the subcontractor's bids such as HVAC and electrical or IT. The two bids for the shell of the building were Murnane for \$2,998,000 and Gallo for \$2843,300. Discussion was held. Supervisor Lant said he felt as though the project should be rebid. Mr. Riper said it is odd there were no other bids. Councilwoman Kolligian asked if the reasoning behind the expansion still the same as it was when we assessed it a few years ago? Mr. Riper said the technology for the meeting room is an issue, the planning board meetings are well attended. The board members do not all fit on the dais. If one more person is hired in this building, there isn't an office for them.

On a motion introduced by Deputy Supervisor McEachron, the board adopted the following resolution:

**RESOLUTION #256**

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,** to approve the request to go out to re-bid for the Town Hall Renovation Project.

The adoption of the resolution was seconded by Councilman O'Connor, duly put to a vote, all in favor. The motion passed 5-0.

Mr. Riper said the price for Bullard Lane is approximately \$200,000. We will have to continue conversations with Belmonte Construction.

**Adjournment**

On a motion introduced by Deputy Supervisor McEachron and seconded by Councilman O'Connor, all board members in favor, the meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

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Susan Baldwin, Town Clerk

\_\_\_\_\_ Supervisor, John Lant

\_\_\_\_\_ Deputy Supervisor, John McEachron

\_\_\_\_\_ Councilman, Duane Bogardus

\_\_\_\_\_ Councilwoman, Erinn Kolligian

\_\_\_\_\_ Councilman Ray O’Conor