

The November 18, 2020 meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by Town Supervisor Tollisen in the A. James Bold Meeting Room at the Town Hall with the following members present:

Kevin J. Tollisen, Supervisor
Paul L. Hotaling, Councilman
John P. Wasielewski, Councilman
Jeremy W. Connors, Councilman
Eric A. Catricala, Councilman
Lyn A. Murphy, Town Attorney
Cathy L. Drobny, Deputy Town Attorney
Lynda A. Bryan, Town Clerk

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE and MOMENT OF SILENCE

PRESENTATION – HONORING MARA SWEETER FOR HER 10 YEARS OF VOLUNTEERING ON THE CELEBRATIONS COMMITTEE

Supervisor Tollisen introduced David Maxfield to speak on behalf of the Celebrations Committee

David Maxfield read the following:

Good Evening. My name is David Maxfield and I am also a volunteer on Halfmoon Celebrations Association. For those of you that do not know what Halfmoon Celebrations is, we are a not-for-profit organization run by volunteers who have the commitment to deliver free family fun events to the residents of Halfmoon and the surrounding communities.

I personally have been a volunteer on this committee since 2007 and since that time, I have seen volunteers come and go, events change, some new events have been imagined & produced and some events have been tabled to try to do again someday. Nonetheless one thing that has never changed is Mara Sweeter's dedication to this Association. I have been very blessed that Mara and I have become close friends over the past 10 years through our volunteer work on Halfmoon Celebrations. Her unique personality and love for our youth is irreplaceable.

I am the type of person that likes to listen and watch people to find out what each person's strengths are and utilize those strengths to make our events the best that they can be. Each person on this organization brings a unique strength that make Halfmoon Celebrations a first-class association.

Talking with Mara, I found out that she has been an 8th grade math teacher at the Mechanicville School District for the past 25 years. At that moment, I knew precisely that Mara would be the perfect to be the treasurer for HCA - I mean come on a math teacher, how perfect is that!

Over Mara's 25 years as an 8th grade math teacher, she has done so much more than just sticking to a math teacher. Mara has taken her entire class every year to Washington on a field trip. Mara has worked on the 8th grade year book for many years. She is always in it for the kids. She loves being with children and watching them grow and achieve their goals and see them have that ah-ha moment when they finally get it.

Mara is also not only a former Halfmoon Camper when she was 7 years old, but she morphed herself into a junior counselor and then to the Director of the entire Recreation Department while still working her fulltime job as a math teacher. This is just another indication of how much Mara loves to be around children.

Since Mara had so much experience with events for children I would bounce ideas off of her all the time to see what type of activities would work with well with children in large group settings and things that don't work too well. For example, never let kids paint pumpkins in large group settings as they paint everything from the pumpkin itself to the stem of the pumpkin and then we would get stuck with all these painted pumpkins to dry before we could do anything with them further. A better idea would be to get foam stickers for them to decorate the pumpkins so its peel, stick and go! Genius! When we started to do parades and toss candy to the spectators Mara told me to make sure when we toss out candy that the candy contain no nuts because some kids have a nut allergy and to make sure we toss the candy really far therefore kids don't run towards the moving float.

Mara does so much more than being our former treasurer for many years. She attends our meetings and always has ideas to share. Mara is always right there to assist with passing out informative information about our events and even helps with decorating the Town Hall for our annual Easter "Egg"Stravaganza, Harvest Festival and Jingle Bell Bash. Mara has also been generous enough to maintain our website and keep it current with all of our flyers, applications and sponsors. Simply put, Mara is always there to help!

When I originally became president of Halfmoon Celebrations, I always wanted to thank those volunteers currently on the committee. All these volunteers give up their nights and weekends to produce amazing events to simply make others happy. I knew we needed to say thank you; however, I was not sure what to do. Then I thought about, what if after 10 years a volunteer would get an award and we could recognize them for being with us for so long?

Let us be honest, a volunteer giving time back to their community for a day is great, but 10 years the volunteer ought to be recognized. Therefore, with conversations with our Town Supervisor Kevin Tollisen, we agreed to have the volunteers of Halfmoon Celebrations be recognized by the Town Board and their Celebrations peers. We thought that would be a wonderful way to say thank you.

With all that being said Mara, on behalf of Halfmoon Celebrations, I would like to give you a truly since THANK YOU for being you and always being there to lend a hand. You truly are someone I look up to and I am honored to call you my friend.

Lastly, before you come up to accept this award, I want to also say thank you for your service to Halfmoon Celebrations the Town of Halfmoon these past 10 years and our youth for over the past 25 years. I am excited to volunteer with you for many more years!

God Speed, Stay Well & Thank you for everything!

Supervisor Tollisen read the following:

**RESOLUTION
HONORING MARA SWEETER
FOR HER VOLUNTEER SERVICE TO OUR COMMUNITY**

WHEREAS, the Town Board of the Town of Halfmoon recognizes the service and dedication of Mara Streeter as a volunteer for the Halfmoon Celebrations Association for the past ten (10) years and applauds her willingness to volunteer and utilize her abilities and unique talents to serve our community; and

WHEREAS, the Board wishes to recognize and express its sincere gratitude to Mara Sweeter who demonstrates an extraordinary dedication to the future of our community together with a willingness to put the needs of the community first by volunteering for Halfmoon Celebrations Association; and

WHEREAS, Mara started her involvement with the Town of Halfmoon when she was a young girl, attending the Halfmoon recreation program, advancing to

Junior Counselor for the program, then Counselor, Assistant Director, and finally Director of the Recreation program until she left that position on December 31, 2009; and

WHEREAS, Mara has worked as an 8th grade math teacher for the last twenty-five (25) years; using her unique skills and abilities to teach children, travel with the 8th grade to Washington for the past eighteen (18) years, and work collaboratively to produce the 8th grade yearbook; and whereby, she is so beloved by her students that she was asked to speak at their graduation not once but, on two separate occasions; and

WHEREAS, the Halfmoon community, and the communities around us benefit greatly from Mara's choice to provide such exemplary volunteer service and her willingness to volunteer in any capacity to ensure our residents enjoy the creative family fun events sponsored by Halfmoon Celebrations Association; and

WHEREAS, the Town Board recognizes the importance of honoring those who devote time and effort to benefit our community;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED AS FOLLOWS:

1. That the Town Board of the Town of Halfmoon hereby recognizes and commends Mara Sweeter for her willingness to volunteer for the Halfmoon Celebrations Association and other community programs, demonstrating her service and dedication to our community.
2. Mara Sweeter is hereby designated as an "Outstanding Citizen" of the Town of Halfmoon.
3. That a certified copy of this resolution be presented to Mara Sweeter in grateful appreciation.

DATED: November 18, 2020

KEVIN J. TOLLISEN, TOWN SUPERVISOR
TOWN OF HALFMOON

RESOLUTION NO. 290-2020

Offered by Councilman Hotaling, seconded by Councilman Wasielewski: Approved by the vote of the Board: Ayes: Tollisen, Hotaling, Wasielewski, Connors, & Catricala

Resolution Introduced by Supervisor Tollisen

RESOLVED, that the Town Board honors Mara Sweeter for her 10 years of hard work, time and dedication to the Halfmoon Celebration Committee.

Supervisor Tollisen, Mara, on behalf of the Town of Halfmoon, we sincerely appreciate all of your service and all of your dedication. Just know that this 10 years has to turn into 50, so keep doing what you're doing!

Councilman Hotaling: Thank you for being a teacher!

Supervisor Tollisen invited the Sweeter family, Celebrations Committee members and the Town Board to come forward for a picture.

COMMUNITY EVENTS:

The "BUY A BRICK" program for the Halfmoon Veterans Walk of Honor at the Halfmoon Veterans Memorial in the Town Park is now accepting orders. Create a

lasting tribute for your veteran. For more information please call 371-7410 ext. 2200 or visit our website www.townofhalfmoon-ny.gov.

HALFMOON INDOOR FARMERS MARKET in TOWN HALL FOYER from 3:00 - 6:00 pm. Stop by and find Fresh produce, Crafts & more every Wednesday.

CANDY CANE LANE & MARKETPLACE: Saturday December 5th from 11:00 am to 6:30 pm at the Town Complex. Fun activities for the kids and a Marketplace with Local Crafters & Vendors to find that special gift. Vendor space still available, contact HalfmoonCelebrations@gmail.com.

ANNUAL HOLIDAY MEMORIES & TREE LIGHTING: Sunday, December 6th starting at 4:00 pm. This is a lighted Christmas Tree Memorial in remembrance of loved ones who have passed away, but who are forever in our hearts.

OUTDOOR HOLIDAY DECORATING CONTEST: Open to all Halfmoon residents. If you wish to participate, please return the application found on Halfmoon Celebrations website by December 11th. The 3 Winners will be for: Most Festive, Most Unique, and Most Traditional. Each winner receives a \$50 Visa Gift Card.

TOWN MEETINGS:

Town Board Meetings: 1st & 3rd Wednesday of month at 7:00pm. Pre-meeting at 6:30pm

Zoning Board of Appeals: 1st Monday of month at 7:00 pm. Pre-meeting at 6:45pm

Planning Board Meeting: 2nd & 4th Monday of the month at 7:00 pm. Pre-meeting at 6:15pm (If the Holiday falls on a Monday, the meeting will be held on the next day, Tuesday).

PUBLIC COMMENT (for discussion of agenda topics)

REPORTS OF BOARD MEMBERS AND TOWN ATTORNEY

Kevin J. Tollisen (Town Supervisor)

I just wanted to note for the public record that the Comptroller's Office and myself had a conversation with Moody's Investor Service. They do an annual audit of the town's financial condition as the Board is aware of, and I am pleased to report to the Board and to the town that Moody's has upgraded the Town of Halfmoon Bond Rating from an AA3 to AA2. The rationale for the upgrade says:

"The upgrade reflects the town's strengthening reserves, which have more than tripled since the end of fiscal 2014. The rating also considers the town's moderately sized tax base, above average resident wealth and income and manageable long term liabilities. It reflects the town's heavily reliance on economically sensitive sales and mortgage tax revenues. The town has robust reserves and liquidity levels and demonstrated ability to maintain surplus operations during the pandemic in fiscal 2020 are key strengths as the town navigates the impacts of the coronavirus."

Our Deputy Comptroller is her, Laurie Sullivan, she has a big part in the financial part of this, so Laurie, thank you for your hard work and we thank our Comptroller Bonnie Hatter who spends hours and hours making sure that the Town's fiscal condition remains in good hands. This is good news for the Town of Halfmoon. It shows that even during this crisis, this pandemic, the town has taken steps to maintain its financial condition and make sure that we stay financially strong. So, very good news for the Town of Halfmoon and I appreciate everyone's help on this.

Paul Hotaling (Deputy Town Supervisor): (1) Chair of Town Infrastructure & Safety (Water, Highway, Building & Maintenance), (2) Chair of Recreation and Character Counts, (3) Chair of Personnel Committee

I want to report on the Food Drive. I want to thank everybody for all of the wonderful donations. We will be making baskets this Saturday at 11:00 am at the Town Pavilion and delivering at 1:00 pm.

John Wasielewski (Town Board Member): (1) Chair of Ethics Committee, (2) Chair of Committee on Emergency Services and Public Safety (Emergency Corps, Fire Department, Police, (3) Co-Liaison to Planning Board

Thank you Mr. Supervisor. I just want to say kudo's again to Ms. Hatter, Ms. Sullivan and to you Mr. Supervisor for this solid budget. Fiscal responsibility, in my mind is the key to good government and I am really proud to be part of team that takes such responsibility and good care of the residents and businesses tax monies here in the Town of Halfmoon. I think that it speaks a lot of the quality of the government here.

I would also like to make a motion under the Public Safety liaison position to appoint ex-Chief, Art Hunsinger again to the Saratoga County Fire Advisory Board for the year 2021.

RESOLUTION NO. 291-2020

Offered by Councilman Wasielewski, seconded by Councilman Connors: Approved by the vote of the Board: Ayes: Tollisen, Hotaling, Wasielewski, Connors, & Catricala

Resolution Introduced by Councilman Wasielewski

RESOLVED, that the Town Board appoints Art Hunsinger to the Saratoga County Fire Advisory Board for the year 2021.

That is all that I have for this evening, sir.

Jeremy Connors (Town Board Member): (1) Co- Liaison to Planning Board; (2) Chair of Business and Economic Development Committee (4) Chair of Parks and Athletic Organizations

I have no report this evening, Mr. Supervisor

Eric Catricala (Town Board Member): (1) Animal Control, (2) Liaison to Trails and Open Space Committee, (3) Zoning Board Liaison, (4) Chair for Not For Profit Organizations

I think that everything has already been well said tonight, thank ou.

Lynda Bryan (Town Clerk): (1) Chair of Senior Programs, (2) Chair of Committee on Historical Archives

I have no report this evening, Mr. Supervisor

Karen Pingelski (Receiver of Taxes): (1) Chair of Committee on Residents Relations

Lyn Murphy, Esq., (Town Attorney)

I have nothing this evening, Mr. Supervisor

Cathy Drobny, Esq. (Town Attorney)

I have nothing this evening, Mr. Supervisor

PUBLIC COMMENT (for discussion of agenda topics) No one came forward

Supervisor Tollisen: Department Reports and the monthly Department Manager Reports are listed and can be viewed in the Town Clerk's Office. We do ask our Department Managers to provide monthly reports in addition to having Department Manager monthly meetings that we all discuss the important things that go on in each of the offices.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS –

1. **Town Justice Suchocki**
Total # Cases - 216 Total Fees Submitted to the Supervisor - \$26,460.25
2. **Town Justice Fodera**
Total # Cases - 200 Total Fees Submitted to the Supervisor - \$22,289.00

DEPARTMENT MANAGER MONTHLY REPORTS – (Can be viewed at the Town Clerk's Office) Water Department, Town Clerk, Assessor's Office, Park's Department, Highway Department/Transfer Station, Animal Control, Building, Planning & Code Enforcement, Attorney's Office, Recreation Department, Comptroller's Office

CORRESPONDENCE

1. Received from the Town Planning Board Resolutions approved at the November 9, 2020 meeting: Change of Use/Tenant Applications for Paige's Skincare, 2 Cemetery Road, for Cams Sanitize, LLC, 419 Route 146, for T&J Electric, 419 Route 146, for a Special Permit & Change of Use/ Tenant for Connect Life Recovery Operations, 11C Solar Drive, and for Approval of a Major Subdivision for the Lands of McCadden Subdivision, 107 Johnson Road.

Received & Filed

2. Received from the Town of Halfmoon Highway Superintendent, notification that they will return to their winter hours of Monday – Friday from 7am – 3 pm as of November 23, 2020. The hours of the Transfer Station will remain the same.

Received & Filed

3. Received from the Halfmoon-Waterford Fire District #1, notice of the annual election of Commissioners that will take place on Tuesday December 8, 2020 between the hours of 6:00 p.m. and 9:00 p.m. at the district fire station located at 315 Middletown Road in the Town of Halfmoon, for the purpose of electing (1) one Fire Commissioner for a five-year term, to commence January 1, 2021.

Received & Filed

4. Received from the West Crescent Fire District, a copy of their 2021 Budget Summary.

Received & Filed

5. Received from the Halfmoon Fire District #1 (Hillcrest), notice of the annual election of Commissioners that will take place on Tuesday December 8, 2020 between the hours of 6:00 p.m. and 9:00 p.m. at the district fire station located at 145 Pruyn Hill Road in the Town of Halfmoon, for the purpose of electing (1) one Fire Commissioner for a five-year term, to commence January 1, 2021.

Received & Filed

6. Received from the Clifton Park - Halfmoon Fire District #1 notice of the annual election of Commissioners that will take place on Tuesday December 8, 2020 between the hours of 6:00 p.m. and 9:00 p.m. at the Firehouse located at 38 Old Route 146, in the Town of Halfmoon, for the purpose of electing (1) one Fire Commissioner for a five-year term, to commence January 1, 2021 and to approve a resolution of the Board of Commissioners to increase the annual LOSAP contribution.

Received & Filed

7. Received from Marilou Pries, a thank you card to the town for giving her a ride on the Senior Van, making it possible for her to vote and her appreciation for everything that the Town of Halfmoon does for its seniors.

Received & Filed

8. Received from the Line Dancing group, a thank you card to the town for allowing them to use the Town Park to dance this summer.

Received & Filed

NEW BUSINESS

RESOLUTION NO. 284-2020

Offered by Councilman Wasielewski, seconded by Councilman Connors: Approved by the vote of the Board: Ayes: Tollisen, Hotaling, Wasielewski, Connors, & Catricala

Resolution Introduced by Town Clerk Bryan

RESOLVED, that the Town Board approves the minutes of Town Board Meeting of November 4, 2020 as presented.

RESOLUTION NO. 285-2020

Offered by Councilman Connors, seconded by Councilman Hotaling: Approved by the vote of the Board: Ayes: Tollisen, Hotaling, Wasielewski, Connors, & Catricala.

WHEREAS, the Town Board of the Town of Halfmoon is cognizant of their obligation to be fiscally responsible when determining the appropriate disposition of equipment that is no longer of use to the Town; and

WHEREAS, the Town has consistently sought an effective way to insure that obsolete equipment is disposed of in a manner that garners the most return on the original investment made to obtain the equipment; and

WHEREAS, the Acting Superintendent of Highways has determined that a 30 yard roll of dumpster, labeled with Asset Tag Heavy Equip 97-0005 currently owned by the Town of Halfmoon is equipment that should be sold or otherwise disposed of as it is no longer of use to the Town; and

WHEREAS, the Acting Superintendent of Highways has determined that the most value for the dumpster will be obtained by scraping it for the value of the metal; and

WHEREAS, the Acting Superintendent of Highways has the training and experience to determine how items should be disposed; and

WHEREAS, the Town Clerk is hereby authorized to remove the equipment from the Town's Asset Inventory list and insurance coverage;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED AS FOLLOWS:

1. That the Acting Superintendent of Highways may dispose of a 30 yard roll of dumpster by scraping it for the value of the metal.
2. That the Town Clerk shall update both the Town's Asset Inventory list and insurance coverage
3. That this Resolution shall take effect immediately.

DATED: November 18, 2020

LYNDA BRYAN TOWN CLERK
TOWN OF HALFMOON

RESOLUTION NO. 286-2020

Offered by Councilman Connors, seconded by Councilman Wasielewski: Approved by the vote of the Board: Ayes: Tollisen, Hotaling, Wasielewski, Connors, & Catricala

Resolution Introduced by Assessor Zarelli

RESOLVED, for the Town Board to approve entering into a formal Assessment Agreement between the Town of Halfmoon and 423 Hudson River LLC for the parcel located at 423 Hudson River Road, SBL#286.-1-64 reducing the 2018 and 2019 assessment from \$344,600 to \$286,250 and reducing the 2020 assessment from \$519,700 to \$452,625, and to authorize the Town Attorney to execute any documents necessary to effectuate the Agreement.

RESOLUTION NO. 287-2020

Offered by Councilman Wasielewski, seconded by Councilman Connors: Approved by the vote of the Board: Ayes: Tollisen, Hotaling, Wasielewski, Connors, & Catricala

WHEREAS, the Town Board of the Town of Halfmoon is cognizant of their obligation to be fiscally responsible when determining the appropriate disposition of equipment that is no longer of use to the Town; and

WHEREAS, the Town has consistently sought an effective way to insure that obsolete equipment is disposed of in a manner that garners the most return on the original investment made to obtain the equipment; and

WHEREAS, the Acting Superintendent of Highways has determined that a 2008 Finn T-60 Hydro Seeder, #SB-2174 currently owned by the Town of Halfmoon is equipment that should be sold or otherwise disposed of as it is no longer of use to the Town; and

WHEREAS, the Town has an Agreement with Auctions International to place equipment that is no longer of use to the Town out for bid; and

WHEREAS, the Acting Superintendent of Highways has the training and experience to determine what items should be placed on the Auction website and what items should be otherwise disposed; and

WHEREAS, the Town Clerk is hereby authorized to remove the equipment from the Town's Asset Inventory list and insurance coverage;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED AS FOLLOWS:

1. That the Acting Superintendent of Highways may dispose of a 2008 Finn T-60 Hydro Seeder by placing it on Auctions International.

2. That the Town Clerk shall update both the Town's Asset Inventory list and insurance coverage

3. That this Resolution shall take effect immediately.

DATED: November 18, 2020

LYNDA BRYAN, TOWN CLERK
TOWN OF HALFMOON

RESOLUTION NO. 288-2020

Offered by Councilman Connors, seconded by Councilman Hotaling: Approved by the vote of the Board: Ayes: Tollisen, Hotaling, Wasielewski, Connors, & Catricala
Resolution Introduced by Director of Water Tironi

RESOLVED, that the Town Board appoints Jon Korniak as a full time Laborer at the Water Department at Grade 2 Base Pay \$18.02/hr. effective December 7, 2020, per successful completion of all pre-employment testing.

POLL OF THE BOARD

Supervisor Tollison	Aye
Councilman Hotaling	Aye
Councilman Wasielewski	Aye
Councilman Connors	Aye
Councilman Catricala	Aye

Supervisor Tollisen: I think that John is with us this evening. Congratulations and welcome aboard!

RESOLUTION NO. 289-2020

Offered by Councilman Connors, seconded by Councilman Wasielewski: Approved by the vote of the Board: Ayes: Tollisen, Hotaling, Wasielewski, Connors, & Catricala
Resolution Introduced by Comptroller Hatter

RESOLVED, that the Town Board approves the Comptroller's Report for the month of October 2020, as presented.

Supervisor Tollisen: Happy Thanksgiving to everyone!

PUBLIC COMMENT (for discussion of non-agenda items) No one came forward.

There being no further business to discuss or resolve, on a motion by Councilman Wasielewski and seconded by Councilman Connors, the meeting was adjourned at 7:21 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Lynda A. Bryan, Town Clerk