

**GUILFORD TOWN BOARD REORGANIZATIONAL MEETING
TUESDAY, JANUARY 02, 2024, AT 7:00 PM
TOWN HALL, GUILFORD CENTER
STATE OF NEW YORK**

Town Board present: Councilmember Terence Ives
Councilmember Thomas Ives
Councilmember Matthew Retz
Supervisor Susan McIntyre

Town Board excused: Councilmember Jordan Fleming

Officials present: Town Clerk Jodie Ives

Official excused: Highway Superintendent Robert Fleming

I CALL TO ORDER

Supervisor McIntyre called the reorganizational meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

II PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Councilmember Matt Retz led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

III FROM THE FLOOR – No Comments.

IV OATH OF OFFICE – NEWLY ELECTED OFFICIALS

At a date in December 2023, newly elected officials; Supervisor, Susan McIntyre, Town Councilmember, Terence Ives, and Town Clerk, Jodie Ives declared their oaths of office.

V REAPPOINTMENTS – APPOINTMENTS FOR 01/01/2024

1. Guilford Water Superintendent - Jeffrey Fuller
2. Mt. Upton Water Superintendent - Paul Heath
3. Town Attorney, contractual as needed, Attorney to fit the need.
4. Registrar of Vital Statistics – Jodie M. Ives
5. Deputy Registrar of Vital Statistics – Gail M. Hoffman
6. Dog Control Officer – Amy Cross
7. Deputy Supervisor-Thomas Ives
8. Town Health Officer – Chenango Co Public Health
9. Deputy Dog Control Officer – Jodie M. Ives
10. Collector of Mt. Upton Water rents – Jodie M. Ives
11. Collector of Guilford Water rents – Jodie M. Ives
12. Town Historian – Mike Wade
13. Budget Officer – Susan McIntyre
14. Code Enforcement Officer (Septic Inspector) – Tom Parkhurst
15. Accountant – Karen Kropp, By the Books
16. Official Newspaper – The Evening Sun
17. Official Banks – NBT Bank, N.A. including Branches
18. Regular Meetings – Second Wednesday monthly, 7:00 PM
19. Mileage reimbursement – IRS rate applicable in 2024

20. Investment Officer – Susan McIntyre
21. Investment Depositories – NBT Bank, N.A.
22. Civil Rights Officer – Susan McIntyre
23. Records Management Officer – Jodie M. Ives
24. Records Access Officer – Jodie M. Ives
25. 1st Deputy Town Clerk – Gail M. Hoffman
26. Office Custodian – Julie Tietjen
27. Town Board Committees, Supervisor McIntyre appointed the following:
 - Highway: Councilmember Tom Ives
Councilmember Matt Retz
 - Buildings & Grounds: Councilmember Terry Ives
Councilmember Jordan Fleming
28. Pay Schedules will be as follows: Highway personnel, Highway Superintendent, and Town Clerk will be biweekly on Friday. All other personnel will be paid on the last day of every month.
29. Authorization to pay utility bills at the beginning of each month, prior to board approval.
30. Credit Card – Visa Community Card – NBT Bank, \$2,500 limit.
 - Cardholders: Supervisor – McIntyre, Clerk – J. Ives, Highway – R. Fleming, Highway Working Foreman - Fuller

RESOLUTION – Motion to approve the 2024 Appointments moved by Councilmember Terry Ives. Seconded by Councilmember Matt Retz. DISCUSSION: The topic of a Town Veterinarian was decided to be an obsolete service. The Dog Control officer pay schedule is a salary and paid on a monthly basis. The credit card statement dates were previously adjusted in order to meet our meeting schedules and avoid late fee penalties. Ayes: Councilmembers Terry Ives, Tom Ives, and Matt Retz. Noes: None. Motion carries.

VI SEASONAL HIGHWAY APPOINTMENT - RESOLUTION – Motion to accept Kerry Wilson’s application and appoint him as a Winter Seasonal Highway Worker, effective January 2, 2024, at a rate of \$28 per hour with overtime allowed moved by Councilmember Terry Ives. Seconded by Councilmember Matt Retz. Ayes: Councilmember Terry Ives, Tom Ives, and Matt Retz. Noes: None. Motion carries.

VII SUPERVISOR STATEMENT –

We have posted openings for Board of Assessment Review and Planning Board. Please share the word that these positions are open.

Thank you to everyone who gives their time and their talent in support of this community, the town of Guilford. I am humbled to be here tonight and, with your permission, I will take this moment to briefly share my thoughts on the coming year and our work here with the town.

Guilford has some challenges, some opportunities in front of us.

On the front burner is the cold storage pole barn, which will be “on the street” shortly as we finalize important details to ensure completed construction this summer.

The Guilford Water District supply system upgrades are deep in design and moving toward implementation. Difficult details still need to be ironed out and this is a high priority for 2024.

The Guilford Lake dam improvements needed to satisfy NYS Department of Environmental Conservation safety requirements are a work in progress. Successfully negotiating the maze of risks and obligations with DEC runs concurrent with securing adequate funding. This will be our focus.

The Highbridge Wind Project continues to inch along. It is our understanding that the sale to Invenergy has fallen thru. Northland Power retains project ownership and hopes to renegotiate the Power Purchase Agreement with NYS for improved economics. There remains uncertainty whether this project will go forward. This demands close monitoring and diligence to ensure the developers and their contractors uphold the terms of permits and contractual demands.

These infrastructure projects turn the wheels of discussion, discussion that we shall lean into as the Town's Comprehensive Plan is updated. This comp. plan update is our road map of community priorities that drives our actions for the next 10 years. Input from all community residents, businesses, and visitors is critical.

Ensuring our staff and community leadership have resources and clarity of mission is my task so we may continue our on-going services to maintain safe roads, enjoyable community parks and recreation opportunities, dependable water and lighting, and a welcoming environment for our businesses and agriculture.

My priorities include keeping our community actively involved. Our town website and FaceBook page will continue. Look there often. Follow and share. We, I, will work to keep our community in the know. I look forward to conversations with you, and you, and you, as I reach out to engage you, your concerns, and your insights.

In a final commentary, I remind the Board and the community that my personal focus is on sound management of town resources. With a focus on good housekeeping and proactive planning we will work to handle these opportunities with grace and style. I am excited to work with you all. Thank you.

VIII FROM THE FLOOR - No Comments.

IX ADJOURNMENT

Being no further business, Councilmember Terry Ives moved to adjourn at 7:28 p.m. Seconded by Councilmember Tom Ives. Ayes: Councilmember Terry Ives, Tom Ives, and Matt Retz. Noes: None. Motion carries.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jodie M. Ives, Town Clerk