

Town of Copake
Special Town Board Meeting
Tuesday, August 2, 2022
4:00PM

This meeting is being held "in-person" in Town Hall. The access information for the meeting has been posted.

Members Present (in person): Supervisor Mettler, Councilperson Wolf, Councilperson Gansowski, and Councilperson Sullivan.

Attending via Town Owl: Councilperson Judd

Attending (in person): Town Clerk, Lynn Connolly

Supervisor Mettler opens the Special Town Board meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Supervisor Mettler states that the purpose of this Special Meeting is to address any matters which have come before the Town Board and then to conduct a workshop to discuss Community Choice Aggregation.

Supervisor Mettler reintroduces Gwen Menshenfriend. She is the new Administrative Assistant to the Supervisor and today is her first day. Supervisor Mettler has asked Gwen to reach out to Dan Haas who has been trying to tabulate the energy costs of the Town. She will meet with Dan to understand what he needs and will get together those numbers from Maincare, NYSEG, and others. Also going forward we are going to develop a spread sheet to keep track of utility, electric, and telephone expenses.

Supervisor Mettler states that the Summer Park Camp Program has received a donation of \$350 from the West Copake Reformed Church.

A motion was made by Councilperson Sullivan and seconded by Councilperson Gansowski to accept the contribution of \$350 from the West Copake Reformed Church to use for the Copake Park Summer Program.

All in favor. Motion approved.

Supervisor Mettler states to the Town Board that when they go in to sign off on the bills, there is a bill from WexBank for \$22 that was not included in the transcript and they are adding it in late.

Supervisor Mettler states that the Town Board has been made aware of a new grant opportunity which is called NY Forward and asks Roberta Roll to speak about this opportunity.

Roberta Roll states that NY Forward is similar to the DRI (Downtown Revitalization Initiative) that we applied for last year which has been a project of the state for about six years. The DRI grant is \$10,000,000 and the town of Copake was not awarded this grant. This is the first time NY Forward has been instituted. It is also \$10,000,000 but is split either two or three ways. It would either be \$5,000,000 for two towns or \$4,500,000 for one town and \$2,250,000 for two towns. Ms. Roll spoke about this a little bit at the last Town Board meeting and said that the town needed to submit a letter of

intent to apply. This needs to be done by August 10, 2022. The letter of intent will state the boundaries of the project plus a list of names of people that the town thinks might be willing to serve on the committee once we receive the grant. In the end, the state actually appoints the people. Ms. Roll has been reaching out to people and has a preliminary list of names. It is not the final list. If we get the grant, the state will actually reach out to Supervisor Mettler and ask her for the list and they pick whoever they want to. Margaret Irwin has said that she will write the grant as she did last year, pro bono. There will need to be one public engagement session that would be in person and online and after speaking with Supervisor Mettler and Ms. Irwin, they have chosen Saturday, September 10, 2022 at 9:00am as that date. The grant application is due on September 23, 2022.

A motion was made by Councilperson Gansowski and seconded by Councilperson Wolf to authorize the Supervisor to send a letter of intent to New York state showing our intent to file an application for NY Forward Grant Program and further to schedule a public engagement session for September 10, 2022 at 9:00am and further to hire Margaret Irwin of River Street Planning who will serve pro bono.

All in favor. Motion approved.

A motion was made by Councilperson Wolf and seconded by Councilperson Sullivan to go into a workshop format in order to discuss the possibility of adopting a law to approve a Community Choice Aggregation.

All in favor. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Councilperson Wolf and seconded by Councilperson Gansowski to leave the workshop and come back into the Special Town Board meeting.

All in favor. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Councilperson Gansowski and seconded by Councilperson Wolf to adjourn the meeting.

All in favor. Motion approved.

Respectfully submitted,

Lynn Connolly