



Town of Tusten Town Board Meeting

Regular Meeting Agenda

August 11, 2020

6:30 PM

ZOOM Meeting ID # 885 7528 0026

OPENING ITEMS

- Call Meeting to Order
- Pledge of allegiance
- Announcements
- Presentation
- Correspondence
- Payment of Bills

DIVISION REPORTS

- Highway
- Water & Sewer
- Building Department/ Code Enforcement
- Assessor
- Upper Delaware Council
- Energy Committee
- Zoning Re-Write Committee
- Grants

PUBLIC COMMENT

10 minutes will be given for public comment. Please keep your comments directed to the board.

OLD BUSINESS

1. Set Public Hearing re: Water Improvement
2. Participation in the NYPA's Energy efficiency program for an led streetlight
3. Water Improvement Project with Birchwood Archaeological Services

NEW BUSINESS

1. Closure of Main Street
2. UDC Solar
3. Escrow accounts
4. Budget Modifications
5. Narrowsburg Water and Sewer Leak Detector Purchase
6. Resignation of Tusten Justice Court Bailiff
7. Appointment of Tusten Justice Court Bailiff.

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8. Liquor License

9. Thank you, letters

10. Resignation of Councilwoman Brandi Merolla.

Letter of Resignation

It is with great regret that I submit my letter of resignation as town councilwoman for the Town of Tusten effective August 12, 2020.

My driving efforts have always been to protect the health, safety and welfare of *all* residents of our town. However, I too need that protection.

During the pandemic this year, my health and safety have not been recognized at my place of work leaving me fearful of entering our town hall. I cannot and will not sacrifice my health for this job. I never thought science would be politicized and negated especially at a time when we need to unite to follow the CDC guidelines the most. Wearing a mask while working in air-conditioned offices has been proven to help stop the spread of this highly contagious disease by reducing one's exposure to droplets in the air produced by talking, laughing, coughing and sneezing.

In addition, a few very vocal and hostile residents have harassed and targeted me for the last four and a half years *way* beyond what I am paid for. Recently when I was physically confronted and my life actually threatened by an angry resident, I decided I'd had enough.

I have worked very hard to serve all the residents of this town honorably and respectfully. The vast majority of this town are amazing, generous, talented and inspiring people. I thank them all for their wholehearted support as well as *their* efforts in making Tusten a special place we call home.

I will proudly continue to chair the Tusten Energy Committee. The members of this volunteer committee are the most dedicated citizens I've ever known. Our joint efforts over the last nine years have designated our town a certified Climate Smart Community and I couldn't be more proud of our goals and accomplishments.

Lastly, I wish the town board the very best. It is not an easy job. For years it has been an honor to work alongside Jane Luchsinger and Jill Padua.

Their impressive efforts continue to unite and grow this town. I will truly miss working beside them. And thank you Ben for your understanding, support and professionalism.

Best regards,

Brandi Merolla 8/11/2020

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Board Comment

Meeting reminder

Adjournment