



# Town of Tusten Town Board Meeting

Regular Meeting Agenda

Zoom ID: 890 1678 4280

December 14, 2021

## 1 OPENING ITEMS

- 1.1 Call Meeting to Order
- 1.2 Pledge of allegiance
- 1.3 Payment of Bills

<u>Fund Account</u>	<u>Ck Acct Disb.</u>	
<b>General</b>	\$ 83,803.21	
<b>Highway</b>	\$ 138,931.27	
<b>Water</b>	\$ 30,152.65	
<b>Sewer</b>	\$ 30,810.67	
<b>Lighting Dist.</b>	\$ 506.21	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 254,051.36</b>	

## 2 DIVISION REPORTS

### 2.1 Highway

- Used 515.8 gal of diesel fuel 515.8 gal was for highway and 0 was non highway use.
- Used 309.8 gal of gas 0 was highway and 309.8 was non highway use.
- Patch holes on dirt and paved roads.
- Replace driveway pipes Evergreen Lane.
- Make sand salt mix for winter.
- Repair wash out Swamp Pond, Grassy Swamp, Perry Pond and Hoffman.
- Put all summer equipment away for winter.
- Get remaining trucks ready for winter.
- Out two times for lite snow.

### 2.2 Water & Sewer

- Received \$22,578.75 in reimbursement for the apprentice through New York Rural Water Association.
- Completed monthly drinking water and waste water sampling and reporting.
- Made adjustments to the chlorinator at the sewer plant, as needed, to maintain Federal and State standards on the effluent wastewater.
- Did water meter readings every Wednesday in the month of November.

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- Attended a class provided by NYRWA and several webinars for sewer and water education.
- Koberlein pumped out sludge from dosing tanks.
- Removed sludge and replaced fabric around sand beds.
- Replaced two broken water curb valves at 96 Kirk Rd with help from Tom Coacci.
- Marked out water and sewer lines for 1 dig request.
- Had a class on chemical handling by New York Rural Water Association.
- Dug up 70' section of water main to add insulation at the end of 2<sup>nd</sup> Ave.
- Removed water meter and turned water off to 1 location.
- Made a new caustic soda discharge line at the sewer plant due to old one clogging up.
- Made repairs to some leaking fittings at Well #3.
- Responded to a call about no water on Kirk Rd. After investigating we found water pressure to be good at the meter, determined there to be issues with plumbing in the house.
- Replaced 1 old water meter with a new meter.
- Inspected 1 water meter at a house.
- Repaired leaking hydraulic fitting on snow plow.

### **FINANCIAL REPORT FOR NOVEMBER 2021**

Water Metered Rent	\$5,812.32
Service Charge	\$550.11
Water Penalty	\$169.05

#### **TOTAL RECEIVED WATER DEPARTMENT**

**\$6,531.48**

Sewer Rent	\$16,525.16
Service Charge	\$75.00
Sewer Penalty	\$211.18

#### **TOTAL RECEIVED SEWER DEPARTMENT**

**\$16,811.34**

#### **GRAND TOTAL**

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\$23,342.82

Kelly Agar/Jocelyn  
Strumpfler  
Water & Sewer Clerk

### 2.3 Building Department/ Code Enforcement

- Construction Inspections – 16
  
- Fire & Safety Inspections – 0
- Complaint/Violation Inspections - 0
- Certificate of Occupancy – 1
- Certificate of Compliance – 9
  
- Building Permits – 8
- New Homes – 3
- Accessory Building/Garage – 1
- Renovation/Alteration/Addition – 2
- Camping - 0
- Chimney/Fuel – 0
- Accessory Building Commercial - 0
- New Commercial Construction – 0
- Renovation/Alteration – Commercial Construction - 1
- Deck – 0
- Commercial Deck - 0
- Demolition Permit -
- Driveway Permit – 0
- Electrical – 0
- Logging Permits – 0
- Mechanical - 0
- Permit Renewals – 0
- Plumbing - 0
- Pool – 0
- Roof Replacement -1
- Roof Structure - 0
- Septic Permits – 0
- Sidewalk - 0
- Sign Permit – 0
- Solar Permit – 0
- Well - 0
- Flood Plain Permit - 0

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- C/O and violation search – 17
  
- Dangerous and Unsafe Building – 0
- Complaints Received – 0
- Complaints Closed – 0
- Violations Issued – 0
- Violations Corrected –
- Previous Violations Closed/Corrected -
- Stop Work – 0

Building Inspector and Clerk attended webinar training on November 12, 2021 on Outcomes of ICC Tall Wood Ad Hoc Committee: Proposals and Discussions

Monies collected by this office from November 1, 2021 to November 30, 2021 are \$7,054.10

Respectfully,  
Jim P Crowley, Building Inspector  
JPC/js

### 2.4 Assessor

### 2.5 Upper Delaware Council Presentations:

Northern Snakehead. Invasive Fish Species Fisheries Biologist at PA Fish/Boat Commission

Takeaway; If you catch this fish, **do not put it back in the water**

UDC Fiscal Sustainability Study Presentation by consultant Michael Crane. Excellent data that supports fact that as structured and funded, the UDC will shed another employee in 8 years. It's my belief that Towns have mixed and various opinions of the UDC, but prefer that it continue to exist, So in future, UDC may be asking for support from Towns, but we have not yet analyzed the study.

#### **Delaware River Basin Commission;**

Public Comment period on "Amendments to Special Regulations on High Volume Hydraulic Fracturing /proposed regulations pertain to importation of waste water into the Basin, and exportation of water from the river to fracking operations elsewhere.

UDC Director drafted comments from UDC. Since there was not a consensus to approve, our comments letter was deferred to January Meeting.

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Those who want to comment are referred to the DRBC website. Written comments due by January 28, 2022

### **Old Business follow up;**

Skidders Falls Milanville Bridge PennDOT has released their Planning and Environmental Linkages Study for a 30-day comment period from **Dec 8, through January 8**. UDC staff is preparing a comment, which will be reviewed 12/14 at WURM committee. Those who want to comment, PennDOT's contact person is Heather Gerling. For more info on how to comment, ask Ashley at UDC. The comments that come out of tonight's WURM committee would be an excellent template.

Federal Railroad Administration responded to inquiry about damaged culvert. A positive outcome, with continued dialogue happening.

Ten Mile River Access Per NPS Superintendent Joe Salvatore, their Land Acquisition Request is still active, but there are no Federal dollars until the Federal Budget's approved.

## **2.6 Energy Committee**

### **HORSE Update**

We took delivery of our food scrap digester "the HORSE" from Seattle on January 21<sup>st</sup>.

We had a virtual ribbon cutting on **Earth Day** April 22, 2021.

We spent the summer commissioning the unit.

We started to process food waste from local restaurants in late August/early September. To date, we have processed organic material from **The Heron, The Botanist, The Blue Fox** and **Pete's. 2 Queens** and **The Laundrette** are also interested in participating as the operations continue.

We are now ending our first 3 months of **Tusten HORSE** operations with many lessons learned, nearly **a ton** of food waste processed from local restaurants, the first full tote of probiotic plant food (275 gallons), and production of our own renewable energy. We have also been working with the **Narrowsburg Ecumenical Food Pantry** to ensure that all edible food is being donated to feed people first. We thank the **Center for EcoTechnology** for being a vital partner on this project.

Our local **SUNY green technology department** is interested in scheduling a visit soon. **Sullivan County Recycles** staff visited on Friday November 19<sup>th</sup> and then featured the **Tusten HORSE** on its **Facebook page**.

With the first full tote of the probiotic plant food, we are finalizing local interest and markets for this valuable output in 2022. This year the TEC has given away the liquid plant food to contributors for free.

**Good Find Farm** has been interested from the start and wrote a grant support letter to NYS DEC when the project started; we believe they also will pick up product this week, truly closing the loop!

On deck for the Winter:

RIT case study: As reported previously, an RIT student/professor team is pursuing 2021-2022 graduate case study research about the Tusten HORSE with the goal to understand the social, environmental and financial drivers of a distributed model for food waste processing and energy production.

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The TEC will develop the ongoing operations plan which is our last deliverable for the NYS DEC grant which fueled this project.

We have been contacted by many communities interested to learn from our efforts. Tusten continues to be a role model community for others and making a positive climate impact. We are offsetting climate change here and now!

### **Soft Plastic Recycling**

In **2021**, residents and businesses in the Town of Tusten collected and dropped off **5,321 pounds** of soft plastic waste to be recycled into outdoor decking and furniture. Now instead of going to a landfill, it is recycled. A huge thank you to everyone who recycles their soft plastics.

Brandi Merolla  
Chair TEC, 12/9/21

## **2.7 Grants**

## **2.8 Zoning Update Committee**

Meetings are held twice a month, on the 1st & 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of the month.

## **3 OLD BUSINESS**

### **3.1 Local Law # 1 & Local Law #2**

Town Clerk received the following petitions on December 6, 2021, reviewed and compared the names to the voter registration list provided to the Town Clerk by the SCBOE.

- Petition for a Referendum on Licensing and Establishing Retail Cannabis On – Site Cannabis Consumption Establishments (113/124)
- Petition for a Referendum on Licensing and Establishing Retail Cannabis Dispensaries (136/149))

Motion to accept the certificates from the Town Clerk in accordance with the requirements of Section 24(1)(a) of the Municipal Home Rule Law.

### **3.2 NWS Septic Bids**

No bids received –

**Bids are to be sent to the Tusten Town Clerk, 210 Bridge Street, Narrowsburg NY 12764 before noon on January 7th, 2022.** Bids shall be clearly marked “2022 Pumping & Removal/Disposal of

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Filter Sand Bid". Bids will be **opened at the regular monthly meeting on January 11th, 2021 starting at 6:30 pm**. Bids will only be accepted on an official bid form. The board reserves the right to reject any and all bids.

### 3.3 Smart Cities Grant

## 4 PUBLIC COMMENT

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

## 5 NEW BUSINESS

### 5.1 Training for Elected Officials

Motion to allow elected officials to attend on-line or in meeting training.

### 5.2 Set Meetings

Motion to set the Town Board Year End Meeting for Wednesday December 29, 2021 & the Town Board 2022 Organizational Meeting for Tuesday January 4, 2022 at 6:30 PM; meetings will be held in person at the Tusten Community Hall and on Zoom (ID # 890 1678 4280)

### 5.3 Presentations to the Town Board

- Robert Olman
- Nico Juarez

### 5.4 Executive Session

## 6 PUBLIC COMMENT

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

## 7 CLOSING ITEMS

### 7.1 Board Comment

### 7.2 Meeting reminder

End of the Year Meeting December 29, 2021 at 4 pm

Organizational Meeting January 4, 2021 at 6:30 pm

### 7.3 Adjournment