

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE RAMAPO TOWN BOARD HELD ON
JULY 10, 2024

The Town Board of the Town of Ramapo convened in on Wednesday, July 10, 2024 in the Edwin Wallace Auditorium of Ramapo Town Hall, 237 Route 59, Suffern, New York 10901.

Supervisor Michael B. Specht called the meeting to order and **Town Clerk, Sharon Osherovitz** called the roll. The following Board members were present and answered to their names:

Call to Order

Attendee Name	Title	Status	Arrived
Michael B. Specht	Supervisor	Present	
Brendel Charles	Councilwoman	Present	
Michael Rossman	Councilman	Present	
David Wanounou	Councilman	Present	
Yehuda Weissmandl	Councilman	Present	
Dennis Lynch	Assistant Town Attorney	Present	
Sharon M. Osherovitz	Town Clerk	Present	

Supervisor's Welcome

Supervisor Specht acknowledged the attendees Rockland County Legislator Joel Friedman and Village of Chestnut Ridge Mayor Chaim Rose.

Public Participation:

The following persons wished to address the Town Board this evening:

Joel Friedman - expressed gratitude for walkway and bridge spanning Pine Brook

Chaim Rose- Deputy Mayor Village of Chestnut Ridge - re: agenda item V. A. Pine Brook Bridge- expressed the Village’s appreciation for the cooperation of the Town Board

Robert Romanowski - 183 Maple Avenue, Monsey, NY - parking problems in Monsey continues to exist with the parking of cars in “no parking” zones and parking within 6” of fire hydrant and continued lack of enforcement with no tickets being issued.

Arveh Gelb - thanked Board for the Pine Brook Bridge

Moshe Bidder - 9 Hearthstone Lane, Monsey, NY - thanked Board for the Pine Brook Bridge

Close Open Period for Public Participation

RESOLUTION NO. 2024-287

RESOLVED by the Town Board of the Town of Ramapo that the Open Period for Public Participation held this evening, July 10, 2024, be hereby **closed at 7:10 P.M.**

RESULT:	ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Brendel Charles, Councilwoman
SECONDER:	Michael Rossman, Councilman
AYES:	Specht, Charles, Rossman, Wanounou, Weissmandl

Public Hearing:

A Public Hearing is being held this evening on the **PROPOSED REPEAL OF CHAPTER 37, ARTICLE VI, AS AMENDED, OF THE TOWN CODE REGARDING RESIDENCY REQUIREMENTS FOR POLICE OFFICERS EMPLOYED BY THE TOWN OF RAMAPO.**

Town Attorney Dennis Lynch submitted the following into the record:

- 1. Public Hearing Notice
- 2. Affidavit of Publication: Journal News
- 3. Affidavit of Posting: Town Clerk

Police Chief Daniel Hyman addressed the Police Department’s request for the repeal of the police residency requirement within the existing Town law. The Chief explained the current Town law requires new hires to live within the confines of the Town of Ramapo for a minimum of 2 years from the time they are sworn in. The PD is finding this requirement is limiting the Town’s potential candidate pool, in that experienced and established Rockland County residents are unlikely to uproot their families to move to the Town. The Police Department is concerned for officer wellness, and family wellness, and believes it is important to support family choices. Eliminating the current residency requirement would broaden the potential applicant pool and allow for more experienced officers, who may have purchased homes and are raising their families outside of the Town, to potentially be added to the Town’s candidate list. The Chief advised that as the law stands, the Town is unable to fill two open Spanish speaking positions as the 6 candidates on the candidate list all live outside the Town.

Chief Hyman explained all candidates would still need to abide by the NYS Public officers Law residency requirements and the repeal of the Town residency requirements, would not eliminate the requirement for an officer to reside in the Town to appear on the Rockland County Civil Service Residency List.

Supervisor Specht reiterated abiding by NYS Public Officers Law and Rockland County Civil Service Residency List use and requirement.

The following persons wished to address the Town Board this evening:

Robert Romanowski - 183 Maple Avenue, Monsey, NY - inquired about possible incentive/s for police officers to live in Ramapo

Public Hearing: Proposed Repeal of Article VI of Chapter 37 of the Town Code

RESOLUTION NO. 2024-288

WHEREAS, a Public Hearing was held this evening, July 10, 2024, at 7:00 P.M., at Ramapo Town Hall, for the purpose of soliciting public comment on the **PROPOSED REPEAL OF CHAPTER 37, ARTICLE VI, AS AMENDED, OF THE TOWN CODE REGARDING RESIDENCY REQUIREMENTS FOR POLICE OFFICERS EMPLOYED BY THE TOWN OF RAMAPO**

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Town Board of the Town of Ramapo that said Public Hearing be hereby **Closed at 7:17 PM**

RESULT:	ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Brendel Charles, Councilwoman
SECONDER:	Yehuda Weissmandl, Councilman
AYES:	Specht, Charles, Rossman, Wanounou, Weissmandl

Adopt Local Law: Repeal of Article VI of Chapter 37 of the Town Code

RESOLUTION NO. 2024-289

RESOLVED by the Town Board of the Town of Ramapo on a *ROLL CALL VOTE* that the **PROPOSED LOCAL LAW REPEALING LOCAL LAW 4-2018, AMENDED IN ITS ENTIRETY BY LOCAL LAW 1-2023 (POLICE OFFICERS)**, and which was the subject of a Public Hearing held this evening, July 10, 2024, 7:00 P.M., be hereby **adopted as advertised and shall be known as Local Law No. 3 of 2024.**

LOCAL LAW NO. 3-2024
A LOCAL LAW REPEALING LOCAL LAW NO. 4-2018, AMENDED
IN ITS ENTIRETY BY LOCAL LAW 1-2023 (POLICE OFFICERS)

Be It Enacted by the Town Board of the Town of Ramapo:

Chapter 37
Article VI
Police Officers

§ 37-15 Statutory authority; legislative intent. - Repealed
§ 37-16 Residency requirement. - Repealed

This local law takes effect immediately upon filing with the Secretary of State.

Dated: July 10, 2024

SHARON M. OSHEROVITZ
Town Clerk
Town of Ramapo
237 Route 59
Suffern, New York 10901

RESULT:	ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Brendel Charles, Councilwoman
SECONDER:	David Wanounou, Councilman
AYES:	Specht, Charles, Rossman, Wanounou, Weissmandl

Acceptance of Minutes:

Special Meeting of May 30, 2024

RESOLUTION NO. 2024-290

RESOLVED by the Town Board of the Town of Ramapo that the following Minutes of the Ramapo Town Board be hereby accepted, adopted, and recorded in the Minute Book:
MAY 30, 2024 - SPECIAL

RESULT:	ADOPTED [3 TO 0]
MOVER:	Brendel Charles, Councilwoman
SECONDER:	Michael Rossman, Councilman
AYES:	Specht, Charles, Rossman
ABSTAIN:	Wanounou, Weissmandl

Regular Meeting of June 26, 2024

RESOLUTION NO. 2024-291

RESOLVED by the Town Board of the Town of Ramapo that the following Minutes of the Ramapo Town Board be hereby accepted, adopted, and recorded in the Minute Book:

JUNE 26, 2024 - REGULAR

RESULT:	ADOPTED [3 TO 0]
MOVER:	David Wanounou, Councilman
SECONDER:	Michael Rossman, Councilman
AYES:	Specht, Rossman, Wanounou
ABSTAIN:	Charles, Weissmandl

Town Attorney:

Acceptance of Easement- 15 Orchard Street

RESOLUTION NO. 2024-292

WHEREAS, the Town of Ramapo Planning Board has granted Subdivision approval for 15 Orchard Street, and

WHEREAS, said approvals required the developer to provide a Shade Tree Easement benefiting the Town, and

WHEREAS, MJ Engineering and the Town Attorney’s Office have reviewed the above easement and recommend its acceptance,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Town Board of the Town of Ramapo that it hereby accepts the above easement, subject to recording.

RESULT:	ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Brendel Charles, Councilwoman
SECONDER:	Michael Rossman, Councilman
AYES:	Specht, Charles, Rossman, Wanounou, Weissmandl

Settlement of Tax Certiorari: Midland Office LLC

RESOLUTION NO. 2024-293

WHEREAS, the Town Attorney’s Office has recommended that the following certiorari matter be settled:

MIDLAND OFFICE LLC

<u>Tax Year</u>	<u>Section/Lot</u>	<u>Original Assessment</u>	<u>Corrected Assessment</u>
2023/24	57.55-1-24	\$136,000	\$100,000
2023/24	57.55-1-26	\$ 29,000	\$ 27,650, and

WHEREAS, Scott Shedler, the Town Assessor, concurs with the above recommendation,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Town Board of the Town of Ramapo that the Town Attorney is hereby authorized to settle the above matter, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that settlement is subject to approval by the Suffern Central School District, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that refunds can only be made when the Petitioner is current on all tax liability.

RESULT:	ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Brendel Charles, Councilwoman
SECONDER:	Michael Rossman, Councilman
AYES:	Specht, Charles, Rossman, Wanounou, Weissmandl

Settlement of Tax Certiorari: SCI Funeral Services

RESOLUTION NO. 2024-294

WHEREAS, the Town Attorney’s Office has recommended that the following certiorari matter be settled:

SCI FUNERAL SERVICES

<u>Tax Year</u>	<u>Section/Lot</u>	<u>Original Assessment</u>	<u>Corrected Assessment</u>
2023/24	55.11-2-7	\$115,000	\$108,000, and

WHEREAS, Scott Shedler, the Town Assessor, concurs with the above recommendation,
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Town Board of the Town of Ramapo that the Town Attorney is hereby authorized to settle the above matter, and
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that settlement is subject to approval by the Suffern Central School District, and
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that refunds can only be made when the Petitioner is current on all tax liability.

RESULT:	ADOPTED AS AMENDED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Brendel Charles, Councilwoman
SECONDER:	Michael Rossman, Councilman
AYES:	Specht, Charles, Rossman, Wanounou, Weissmandl

Purchasing:

Acceptance of Proposal: Pine Brook Bridge

RESOLUTION NO. 2024-295

WHEREAS, Fred Brinn, Superintendent of Highways, is in receipt of a proposal from WeinbergLim Engineering, dated June 5, 2024, to provide engineering services for the proposed Capital Park Trail, which will include a pedestrian bridge spanning Pine Brook, and
WHEREAS, Fred Brinn has reviewed the above proposal and recommends its acceptance, and
WHEREAS, Mona Montal, Director of Purchasing, concurs with said recommendation,
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Town Board of the Town of Ramapo that it hereby accepts the above proposal of *WEINBERGLIM ENGINEERING*, at a total fee of \$91,650.00, including outside consultants, and
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Finance Department is hereby authorized to allocate Neighborhood Park & Recreation money in the amount of \$91,650.00 to fund said project, and
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Supervisor is hereby authorized to execute an agreement with WeinbergLim Engineering in a form approved by the Town Attorney’s Office.

SOURCE OF FUNDS: 7197H18.34460 NP&R

RESULT:	ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Brendel Charles, Councilwoman
SECONDER:	Michael Rossman, Councilman
AYES:	Specht, Charles, Rossman, Wanounou, Weissmandl

General Matters:

Intermunicipal Agreement: Village of Airmont - Building & Fire Services

RESOLUTION NO. 2024-296

WHEREAS, the Town of Ramapo and the Village of Airmont wish to enter into an Intermunicipal Agreement for reciprocal building and fire services for the remainder of year 2024,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Town Board of the Town of Ramapo that it hereby agrees to enter into an Intermunicipal Agreement with the *VILLAGE OF AIRMONT* for the provisions of reciprocal building and fire services, pursuant to the terms set forth above, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Supervisor is hereby authorized to execute an agreement with the Village of Airmont in a form approved by the Town Attorney’s Office.

RESULT:	ADOPTED [4 TO 0]
MOVER:	Brendel Charles, Councilwoman
SECONDER:	Michael Rossman, Councilman
AYES:	Specht, Charles, Rossman, Wanounou
ABSTAIN:	Weissmandl

New Business:

Waiver of Rules of Order: 24hr Rule

RESOLUTION NO. 2024-297

WHEREAS the Town Board, by Resolution No. 2018-83, adopted Rules of Order for the Town Board of the Town of Ramapo, and

WHEREAS, pursuant to said Rules, to the extent practicable, no resolution may be brought for a vote unless printed or digital copies are presented to each Board member 24 hours prior to the opening of the meeting, and

WHEREAS, said rule can be waived by a majority consent of the Board members present,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Town Board of the Town of Ramapo that it hereby waives the *RULES OF ORDER* with regard to the 24 hour rule.

RESULT:	ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Brendel Charles, Councilwoman
SECONDER:	Michael Rossman, Councilman
AYES:	Specht, Charles, Rossman, Wanounou, Weissmandl

Changes to Town Board Meeting Schedule

RESOLUTION NO. 2024-298

WHEREAS, the Town Board wishes to make the following changes to the Town Board Meeting Schedule:

CANCEL

Regular Meeting	Wednesday	July 24, 2024	7:00 P.M.
Regular Meeting	Wednesday	August 14, 2024	7:00 P.M.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Town Board of the Town of Ramapo that Town Board Meeting Schedule be changed as stated above.

RESULT:	ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Michael Rossman, Councilman
SECONDER:	Brendel Charles, Councilwoman
AYES:	Specht, Charles, Rossman, Wanounou, Weissmandl

Supervisor's Announcement:

Supervisor Specht announced August 14th is *National Night Out* which will be held at Clover Stadium. The event will honor various 1st responders.

Adjournment:

Adjournment

RESOLUTION NO. 2024-299

RESOLVED by the Town Board of the Town of Ramapo that the Regular Meeting of the Ramapo Town Board held this evening, July 10, 2024, be hereby **adjourned 7:25 P.M.**

RESULT:	ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Michael Rossman, Councilman
SECONDER:	Brendel Charles, Councilwoman
AYES:	Specht, Charles, Rossman, Wanounou, Weissmandl