

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Kirkland held at the Town of Kirkland Municipal Building, 3699 State Route 12-B, Clinton, Oneida County, New York on September 30, 2020, at 7:00 p.m.

Present:

Supervisor Robert J. Meelan

Councilman Garry F. Colarusso

Councilwoman Donna E. Yando

Councilman Richard J. Maxam

Councilwoman Melanie L. O’Neil

Supervisor Meelan called the regular meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and asked those present to stand for the Pledge of Allegiance.

The Town Clerk presented the 2021 Tentative Budget to the Town Supervisor and Town Board Members.

Supervisor Meelan commented on the budget.

The 1st budget workshop will be set for the October 14th Board Meeting.

The 2nd budget workshop, public hearing and possible adoption will be held at the October 28th Board meeting.

RESOLUTION #83

Upon motion by Councilwoman Yando, seconded by Councilman Maxam, the following resolution was ADOPTED:

RESOLVED, that the Kirkland Town Board approve the minutes of September 14, 2020 as printed.

Roll Call Vote:

<u>NAME</u>	<u>VOTE</u>
Supervisor Robert J. Meelan	Aye
Councilman Garry F. Colarusso	Aye
Councilwoman Donna E. Yando	Aye
Councilman Richard J. Maxam	Aye
Councilwoman Melanie L. O’Neil	Aye

RESOLUTION #84

Upon motion by Councilman Colarusso, seconded by Councilwoman Yando, the following resolution was ADOPTED:

Resolution Authorizing the Town Supervisor to enter into Leases for the Purchase of Two (2) Police Vehicles for the KPD and One (1) Front End Loader for the Highway Department:

Resolved that it has been determined that entering into Installment Purchase Debt is in the best interest of the Town versus Bonds or Bond Anticipation Notes.

Further Resolved that the Town Supervisor or his designee is authorized to execute any and all documents necessary in order to complete such transactions.

Roll Call Vote:

<u>NAME</u>	<u>VOTE</u>
Supervisor Robert J. Meelan	Aye
Councilman Garry F. Colarusso	Aye
Councilwoman Donna E. Yando	Aye
Councilman Richard J. Maxam	Aye
Councilwoman Melanie L. O’Neil	Aye

RESOLUTION #85

Upon motion by Councilman Maxam, seconded by Councilwoman O’Neil, the following resolution was ADOPTED:

Town of Kirkland

Budget Transfers September 30, 2020

Resolved that the Budget Director is hereby Authorized to make the following Budget Transfers:

<u>From Account</u>	<u>From Amount</u>	<u>To Account</u>	<u>To Amount</u>
A19904.1 Contingency	\$ 9,000.00	A19104.1 Unallocated Insurance Funds Transferred to Contingency In Error.	\$ 9,000.00
A85604.1 Shade Trees	\$ 12,000.00	A51324.1 Garage Unused Shade Tree Funds to Garage.	\$ 12,000.00
A16201.1 Arena Labor	\$ 8,300.00	A19904.1 Contingency Unsued Labor to Contingency	\$ 8,300.00

DB90608.4 Hospitalization	\$ 15,000.00	DB51104.4 General Repairs Unused Hosp. to General Repairs	\$ 15,000.00
DB19904.4 Contingency	\$ 15,000.00	DB51104.4 General Repairs Contingency for General Repairs	\$ 15,000.00
B 99019.2 Transfer to DB	\$ 5,000.00	B 19904.2 Contingency Final Annual Transfer for Road work.	\$ 5,000.00

Roll Call Vote:

<u>NAME</u>	<u>VOTE</u>
Supervisor Robert J. Meelan	Aye
Councilman Garry F. Colarusso	Aye
Councilwoman Donna E. Yando	Aye
Councilman Richard J. Maxam	Aye
Councilwoman Melanie L. O’Neil	Aye

RESOLUTION #86

Upon motion by Councilwoman Yando, seconded by Councilman Maxam, the following resolution was ADOPTED:

RESOLVED, that the Kirkland Town Board authorize Supervisor Meelan to sign the 2020-2021 Snow and Ice Agreement between the Town of Kirkland and Oneida County.

Roll Call Vote:

<u>NAME</u>	<u>VOTE</u>
Supervisor Robert J. Meelan	Aye
Councilman Garry F. Colarusso	Aye
Councilwoman Donna E. Yando	Aye
Councilman Richard J. Maxam	Aye
Councilwoman Melanie L. O’Neil	Aye

Police Reform Policy – Executive Order 840

Open Board comments:

Councilman Garry Colarusso stated that he was invited by Officer Occhipinti to attend a training session. He was very impressed by the trainer and it was a very interesting day. The Councilman said that this session gave him a new approach to looking at what police officers face each day. He has also been invited to attend the racial bias training.

Open public comments:

Mona Perrotti addressed the Board stating that she was aware of the order when it was issued and that she has read the guidelines. She wanted to thank the Board for holding a public comment session. She thinks the guidelines should be a collaborative process and involve the entire community. Supervisor Meelan said more public comment sessions will be held and that the next session he would like to invite the Village mayor, school and college. Mrs. Perrotti suggested doing Zoom because if only a certain amount of people are allowed in the meeting room and people had to rotate in and out, others would miss what was being said. She would also be interested in hearing about the racial bias training.

Jennifer DeWeerth stated she agreed with Mrs. Perrotti regarding Zoom because college students are not allowed to leave campus. She said Zoom is safe and allows everyone to speak. Ms. DeWeerth stated that she is a parent to 2 young black men and that this has been a good community for them to grow up in and also difficult as well, she has had to have discussions with them regarding how to come home alive and about remaining calm. She thinks police need to train even more to de-escalate situations. She is glad that the Town, Police and Board have embraced this.

Shirley Knap said that she would be interested in hearing what black /brown students have to say.

Darby O'Brien stated that her interactions with the police have always been good.

Supervisor Meelan stated that not every complaint ends up being a complaint sometimes it ends up being a frustration.

Councilman Colarusso said that he would like to see a refresher every year.

Shirley Knap posed the question, what responsibilities do the police have that should not be police responsibilities?

Officer Occhipinti explained that there are many agencies that can become involved in certain cases.

Former KPD Chief Dan English stated that the community needs to understand what the police do. He also said that sometimes students from the college panic because they have had experiences with their cities police and they need to understand that this is your police department now. He said that Officers need to sensitize themselves to others experiences. He feels training is going to be here now and peace and harmony need to be promoted.

Officer Occhipinti agreed with Officer English and also said that calls come in everyday and they are trying to do their due diligence to help all.

The date of the next public session will be announced.

Elizabeth Konowich of State Route 5 addressed the Board regarding the flooding and the devastating effects it has had on her and her home. She stated that she had reached out to Anthony Brindisi and he had urged her to reach out to the Town. Supervisor Meelan will look into this. Ms. Konowich also stated that to the right of her

property there is a vacant house with the doors all open and there are many types of wildlife living in there. Supervisor Meelan suggested she call the Codes Officer and have him investigate the situation. If it is deemed unsafe it will then go to the county.

AUDIT BILLS

RESOLUTION #87

Upon motion by Councilman Colarusso, seconded by Councilwoman Yando, the following resolution was ADOPTED:

RESOLVED, that the Kirkland Town Board review and approve the bills as audited: The totals were:

- A - 16,295.18
- B - 10,050.81
- DA - 3,711.35
- DB - 20,910.74
- SS1 - 9,542.08
- SS2 - 63.98
- SS4 - 31.01

Roll Call Vote:

<u>NAME</u>	<u>VOTE</u>
Supervisor Robert J. Meelan	Aye
Councilman Garry F. Colarusso	Aye
Councilwoman Donna E. Yando	Aye
Councilman Richard J. Maxam	Aye
Councilwoman Melanie L. O’Neil	Aye

Supervisor Meelan said that if anyone has any questions regarding the budget to contact him or Tony Arcuri. Supervisor Meelan said that he has asked Highway Superintendent Scott to watch the overtime this year. Only 850 residents used the transfer station this season, in the future there may have to be a fee for use. Four Towns boarding the Town of Kirkland do not pick up green waste.

Supervisor Meelan said that in his 14 years he has never seen a budget like this, without the pandemic the Town would have been in great shape. The increase in the tax rate is just to break even.

There being no further business to come before the Town Board, upon motion by Councilman Colarusso, seconded by Councilman Maxam, the meeting was adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

Donna B. Maxam, Town Clerk