

# **TOWN BOARD MEETING, TOWN OF LIVONIA**

## **December 19, 2024**

A meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Livonia, County of Livingston and the State of New York was held at the Livonia Town Hall, 35 Commercial Street Livonia NY 14487

**PRESENT:** Eric Gott, Supervisor  
Joseph Breu, Councilmember  
Peter Dougherty, Councilmember  
Andy English, Councilmember  
Matt Gascon, Councilmember  
Hayley Woodruff, Clerk  
Jim Campbell, Attorney, Town of Livonia-Present by Phone

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Several Residents.

The Town Board meeting was called to order by Supervisor Gott at 7:00 PM. Mike Dougherty led the pledge of allegiance.

### **OPEN SESSION**

A resident asked why the income study letters have gone out already. She also asked how we inform people how important them filling that survey out is. She asked if it's possible to put on the website to explain the importance. Clerk Woodruff will make sure the letter is posted.

Councilman Breu reported that Hemlock Fire Commissioners-have elected Howard Teed to a one-year term and Tawnya Domuracki to a 5 year term. He also reported that Matt Cicero will serve another term as Ambulance Commissioner.

Interviews for Livonia Joint Fire District commissioners will be held December 30<sup>th</sup>. So far, only 3 applications have been turned in. Supervisor Gott suggested that the Board give the Committee choosing the next fire commissioner the authorization to just offer the position to the candidate they choose. The Board agreed and authorized as it is important for the candidate to be prepared to participate in the organizational meeting.

The Highway Department would like to consider changing unions. Attorney Campbell advised that the Board is not permitted to assist them in terminating their union contract. Further discussion can take place.

A resident asked if the fire commissioner terms could be reduced from 5 years to 3 years. Attorney Campbell advised that that is not an easy process, and will research a way to do

**TOWN BOARD MEETING, TOWN OF LIVONIA**  
December 19, 2024

that if it is possible.

Supervisor Gott advised that he received a draft copy of the new handbook. Given that a better buyout for employees not taking advantage of the health insurance was budgeted for last year, he would like to have that backdated and the updated amounts paid out. The new handbook states a \$3500 payout for a family, \$2500 for a 2 person plan and \$1500 to a single person. The Board agreed and stated even still, that is a huge savings to the Town.

RESOLUTION 145-2024

**APPROVE MEETING MINUTES FROM NOVEMBER 21 AND NOVEMBER 25, 2024**

On motion of Councilmember Dougherty seconded by Councilmember Breu the following resolution was

ADOPTED Ayes - 5 (Gott, Breu, Dougherty, English, Gascon)  
Nays – 0

Resolved to approve the Meeting Minutes from November 21, 2024 and November 25, 2024

RESOLUTION 146-2024

**TOWN CLERK REPORT**

Paid to Supervisor for the General Fund	\$2,857.11
Paid to County Treasurer for Dog Licenses	\$115.50
NYS Comptroller’s Office (Bingo and Games of Chance Licenses)	\$0.00
Paid to NYS Ag & Markets for the Spay/Neuter Program	\$45.00
Paid to NYS Environmental Conservation for Hunting/Fishing Licenses	\$2,629.46
State Health Department (marriage licenses)	\$90.00
<b>TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS</b>	<b>\$5,737.07</b>

Taxes are in and uploaded to the system and online.

On motion of Councilmember English seconded by Councilmember Dougherty the following resolution was

ADOPTED Ayes - 5 (Gott, Dougherty, English, Breu, Gascon)  
Nays – 0

Resolved to approve Clerk Woodruff’s monthly report for November.

**TOWN BOARD MEETING, TOWN OF LIVONIA**  
December 19, 2024

RESOLUTION 147-2024

**SET DATE FOR 2025 ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING**

On motion of Councilmember Breu seconded by Councilmember Dougherty the following resolution was

ADOPTED Ayes - 5 (Gott, Breu, Dougherty, English, Gascon)  
Nays – 0

Resolved to set the 2025 organizational meeting for January 16, 2025 at 7PM a the Livonia Town Hall, 35 Commercial Street Livonia, NY 14487

RESOLUTION xx-2024

**AUTHORIZE SUPERVISOR GOTT TO SIGN FARMLAND PROTECTION LETTERS**

On motion of Councilmember Gascon seconded by Councilmember Breu the following resolution was

ADOPTED Ayes - 5 (Gott, Breu, Dougherty, English, Gascon)  
Nays – 0

Resolved to authorize Supervisor Gott to sign Farmland protection program letters for Blodgett Brother Farm; MT Pockets Farm; Old Fort Farm and Graywood Farm

RESOLUTION xx-2024

**MOVE EMILY DAVIS FROM PART TIME TO FULL TIME AS THE YOUTH SERVICES COORDINATOR**

On motion of Councilmember Dougherty seconded by Councilmember English the following resolution was

ADOPTED Ayes - 5 (Gott, Breu, Dougherty, English, Gascon)  
Nays – 0

Resolved to hire Emily Davis as a full time youth services coordinator effective 1/1/2025 at a rate of pay of \$36,000 annually.

RESOLUTION xx-2024

**UPDATE TITLE FOR SARAH HOFF FROM SUBSTITUTE TO LIBRARY PAGE**

On motion of Councilmember Breu seconded by Councilmember Gascon the following resolution was

ADOPTED Ayes - 5 (Gott, Breu, Dougherty, English, Gascon)  
Nays – 0

Resolved to update Sarah Hoff's title from Substitute to Library Page.

**TOWN BOARD MEETING, TOWN OF LIVONIA**  
December 19, 2024

RESOLUTION           xx-2024

**ADJUST SALARY OF SARAH SCHLINGER, ADULT SERVICES  
COORDINATOR**

On motion of Councilmember Dougherty seconded by Councilmember Gascon the following resolution was

ADOPTED   Ayes -           5 (Gott, Breu, Dougherty, English, Gascon)  
              Nays –           0

Resolved to adjust Sarah Schlingers salary as the adult services coordinator from \$33,544.50 to \$36,000 annually.

RESOLUTION           xx-2024

**APPROVE WAGE INCREASES FOR 2025 TO BE EFFECTIVE 12/23/2024**

On motion of Councilmember Gascon seconded by Councilmember English the following resolution was

ADOPTED   Ayes -           5 (Gott, Dougherty, English, Gascon, Breu)  
              Nays –           0

Resolved to approve staff wage increases for 2025 to be effective 12/23/2024

**WATER DISTRICT DISCUSSION**

Supervisor Gott stated that is has been brought to his attention that there are folks collecting petitions already against the water project, and there is no reason for that at this point as there is no resolution to do that at this point. That job will need to be done again, if they are in fact collecting them now. Once the resolution is in place, then they will have a resolution to petition against. The format of the petition is very particular and set by New York State laws. Every Signature must be authenticated. Any signatures collected now would not be valid. If questions on this come up, they should be referred to attorney Campbell. Signatures will need to be certified by the Town Clerk in a specific format.

A resident asked attorney Campbell if he had the number for what the 5% is-he does not yet. That number will likely come from Board of Elections.

A resident asked about a public meeting happening. Attorney Campbell advised that jim-resolution we are talking about is the resolution to form the district. This will be formed subject to permissive referendum. The resolution being made will be the last act of the Town Board should they choose to move forward. Once that resolution is adopted, there will be 30 days from that date to collect signatures on petitions to be submitted. Once they are collected, Attorney Campbell and Clerk Woodruff will go through them one by one to be sure they're authenticated and properly executed. If an adequate number for signatures asking for referendum are collected, then the Town Board will have to

**TOWN BOARD MEETING, TOWN OF LIVONIA**  
December 19, 2024

organize a vote for the referendum. Councilman Breu asked if the Board could go to mandatory referendum. If that happens, it is likely that the deadlines for grant funding will be missed and then push the project out another year. Attorney Campbell advised that a referendum is also typically expensive, estimating between 8-10k, and if people obtain signatures, the referendum will happen anyway.

**SET DATE FOR NEXT MEETING WITH EMS COMMISSIONERS**

The ambulance district is eager to have another meeting with the town board-will schedule in January via email.

RESOLUTION           xx-2024

**DECLARE MOWER FROM VITALE PARK AS SURPLUS AND AUCTION IT**

On motion of Councilmember Gascon seconded by Councilmember English the following resolution was

ADOPTED   Ayes -           5 (Gott, Breu, Dougherty, English, Gascon)  
                  Nays –            0

Resolved to declare the mower from Vitale Park as surplus and send to RTI net auction.

RESOLUTION           xx-2024

**BACKDATE HANDBOOK AND APPROVE INSURANCE BUYOUT AMOUNT**

On motion of Councilmember Breu seconded by Councilmember English the following resolution was

ADOPTED   Ayes -           5 (Gott, Breu, Dougherty, English, Gascon)  
                  Nays –            0

Resolved to Backdate the handbook and pay out the health insurance buyout as proposed and budgeted for previously - \$3500 for a family, \$2500 for a 2 person policy and \$1500 for a Single plan.

RESOLUTION           xx-2024

**AUDIT OF CLAIMS**

On motion of Councilmember xx seconded by Councilmember xx the following resolution was

ADOPTED   Ayes -           5 (Gott, Breu, Dougherty, English, Gascon)  
                  Nays –            0

Resolved to pay claims 956-991 in the amount of \$26,984.04 from the Abstract dated December 5, 2024.

**TOWN BOARD MEETING, TOWN OF LIVONIA**  
December 19, 2024

RESOLUTION        xx-2024

**AUDIT OF CLAIMS**

On motion of Councilmember Breu seconded Gascon Councilmember English the following resolution was

ADOPTED    Ayes -            5 (Gott, Breu, Dougherty, English, Gascon)  
                 Nays –            0

Resolved to pay claims 992-1038 in the amount of \$40,522.13 from the Abstract dated December 19, 2024.

RESOLUTION        xx-2024

**ENTER EXECUTIVE SESSION TO DISCUSS THE EMPLOYMENT HISTORY OF A SPECIFIC INDIVIDUAL**

On motion of Councilmember English seconded Gascon Councilmember Dougherty the following resolution was

ADOPTED    Ayes -            5 (Gott, Breu, Dougherty, English, Gascon)  
                 Nays –            0

Resolved to enter Executive Session with Julie Holtje at 7:38PM

RESOLUTION        xx-2024

**RETURN TO OPEN SESSION**

On motion of Councilmember Gascon seconded Gascon Councilmember Breu the following resolution was

ADOPTED    Ayes -            5 (Gott, Breu, Dougherty, English, Gascon)  
                 Nays –            0

Resolved to return to Open Session at 8:35pm

With no further business, on a motion of Councilmember Gascon seconded by Councilmember Breu the meeting was adjourned at 8:35PM. Carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

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Hayley Woodruff  
Town Clerk