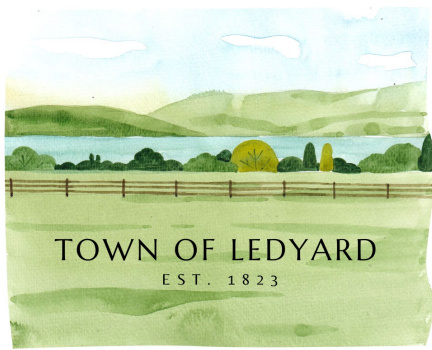




Town of Ledyard

Established January 30, 1823

1099 Poplar Ridge Rd., Aurora, NY 13026

Phone 315.364.5707 | Fax 315.364.5711

TownofLedyard.com

A Regular Monthly meeting of the Ledyard Town Board, County of Cayuga, State of New York was held on the 11th day of November 2024 at the Ledyard Town Hall, 1099 Poplar Ridge Road, Aurora, NY 13026 at 7:30 pm.

Present: Mark Jordan, Supervisor

Mike Britt, Council

Therese Shook, Council

Anne Reynolds, Council

Jason Burroughs, Council

Others:

Jamie Bailey, Town Clerk

Stephan Arnold, Highway Superintendent

Shirley Eagan, Historian

Absent:

Guests: 14

PLEDGE-REMEMBER TROOPS

Supervisor Jordan called the meeting to order with the Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silence for our troops at 7:30 pm.

PRIVILEGE FROM THE FLOOR

Joanne Driscoll spoke to the board about spectrum internet coming down her driveway and charging her \$11,605.00 to connect to the internet. Driscoll is seeking the towns help to get spectrum down her driveway. Supervisor Jordan mentioned that the town paid \$17k for clarity to connect internet in the town. Driscoll stated that the Cornell Solar Farm to the North of her home looks like a fenced in junk yard. Driscoll would like some type of report on how the solar panels are functioning and give a view point. The humming noise is no longer there which she is happy about. Supervisor Jordan said that information is hard to come by, but he will try.

Margaret Flowers addressed the board requesting compensation for damage that was done by the highway dept. The request is for replacement of trees, fence post that was destroyed, a new T-post to be installed and a landline that was severed. The damage was done by the boom-mower that the Highway Dept. was running. Flowers stated this was done beyond the property line and encouraged members to come down and look at her property. The quote was for \$266.29 for materials, not including time or help getting the post installed etc. Supervisor Jordan suggested the board drive down and look at the property. Jordan stated the Highway Dept. has the right of way to mow and the Highway Dept. did go a little too far. Per Highway Superintendent Arnold, the highway guy did get a little aggressive. Flowers stated a shed was also damaged by the highway dept. in the past but she never requested the town to cover the damage of that. Shook stated they are culpable of the damage. Supervisor Jordan asked if she wanted to go a look at the property? Board members agreed that the photos would suffice. Jordan asked Flowers if she will be planting in the clear sight triangle of Fry Rd. and Dublin Hill Rd.? Flowers stated she was not planting anything beyond there. There will be a T-pole there per Flowers. Flowers also stated that the tops of the ditches were sliced off at an angle, so it appears that the ditches go further back than they used to. Supervisor Jordan asked again if the board members wanted to look at the property or make a motion.

MOTION

A Motion was made to reimburse Margaret Flowers \$266.29 for damage done by the Highway Dept. for the replacement of the trees and Tpost on the corner of Fry Rd. and Dublin Hill Rd.

Motion made by: Mike Britt

Seconded by: Therese Shook

Aye: 4 Shook, Britt, Reynolds, Burroughs

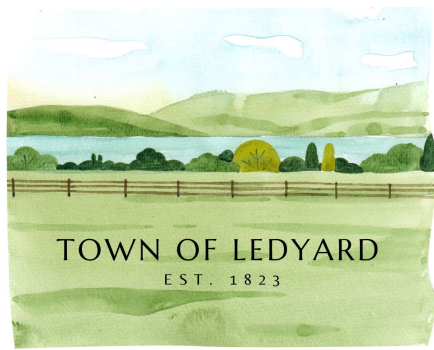
Nay: 0

Abstain: 0

Absent: 0

Motion: **Passed**

Supervisor Jordan stated that Flowers would receive a \$266.29 check in the next couple of weeks. Flowers provided a mailing address of PO Box 372, Aurora, NY 13026.



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Marshall Trabout was reviewing the budget and noticed that there was a 3.5% increase across the board and Federal COLA was 2.5%. Trabout would like to know what the process is to come up with that number. Supervisor Jordan stated he called the County and was told they were doing 4% so he went with 3.5%. Jordan stated it could be lowered if Trabout wanted it to be. Trabout also asked what the differential was between some people getting 3.5% and some getting 8%? Supervisor Jordan stated the highway went from \$24 something to \$26.50 because he needs to keep them and they could go get jobs elsewhere. Truck drivers are short to come by and that was done to keep them here per Supervisor Jordan. Hopefully it won't need to be done again next year per Jordan. They are trying to stay within bounds of other towns in the County.

Carol Chase, Town Clerk from Summerhill also former President of New York State Town Clerk Association wanted to show her support for Clerk Bailey and remind the Town Board that Clerk Bailey is an equally elected official. If there are any questions regarding Clerk Baileys duties, the Association of Towns can be contacted. A discussion followed regarding HR policies and trainings provided to Town employees.

Ellen Wikstrom addressed the board in regard to not receiving any type of notification from Supervisor Jordan. Wikstrom addressed the board one year ago and was told she would receive communication from the town regarding the erosion of her ditch. After not receiving any communication, they have had their lawyer write another letter which prompted Supervisor Jordan and Highway Superintendent Arnold to go down to the property and access the situation. Mrs. Wikstrom would like to know if they are going to fix the ditch so it is no longer encroaching 12' onto the Wikstrom's property or ignore the situation and forced to go to litigation? Per Supervisor Jordan they are not moving the ditch. Wikstrom stated that they have no other options than legal ones. Wikstrom stated that the ditch is deeper and wider and with climate change and rainstorms, there will be more erosion. From the survey marker to the back slope is 12 foot per Wikstrom. Wikstrom has spirea and a few trees further up. It's not the whole ditch, just one section. The board will look at it and a discussion will be held at next month's meeting. Supervisor Jordan stated if they end up in litigation, they end up in litigation. That was a designated shoreline from Cayuga to Owasco Lake. All board members agreed they needed to see the property. Eilen Wikstrom will have the latest surveys copied and left with Clerk Bailey for all board members to pick up. Councilwoman Shook recommended a guided tour of the property. It was agreed that all board members, Highway Superintendent, Town Supervisor, and Wikstroms will meet at ■■■ Ellis Point Rd., Levanna this coming Saturday Nov. 16th at 11am. Supervisor Jordan was told that with 3 board members, it is a Special Meeting which needs to be advertised, and the public needs notification.

BUDGET

Estimated tax per \$1,000.00

\$0.33 to \$0.42 causing equalization to go down to 80%

Sales tax takes care of the Highway and Part Town

The reserves could be tapped into, to help reduce the rate.

Supervisor Jordan opened 8:15 PUBLIC HEARING OPEN

\$0.25/1k pays \$25 in town tax

Only Change from last month was receiving a quote from Excellus health insurance.

Single	751.91	821.15
Single w/spouse	1503.82	1642.29
Subscriber w/child	1278.24	1395.95
Family	2142.95	2340.26

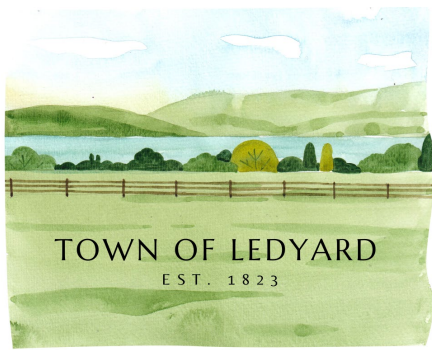
Town pays 100% premium. Supervisor Jordan asked about the ambulance funds for A1990.4

Dudley stated 20% employees/80% town pays.

Supervisor Jordan stated, after different scenarios of employees discussed, that the town pays the single amount of \$821.15 and all employees pay the remaining amount. Britt asked if this was a particular insurance for municipalities. Bookkeeper Hand stated it was Excellus BC/BS. It was explained that Bill Chamberlain is our representative.

For a single w/spouse \$1642.29 - \$821.15 = \$821.14 Arnold will now pay \$164 a month vs current amount of \$280

Britt also asked why there was only one quote. Bookkeeper Hand stated he agreed with getting more.



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MOTION

A motion was made the this be made standard policy for employees that the Town pays 80% of the difference in Health Insurance for the Highway Employees and next year the

town receives at least 2 quotes

Motion made by: Mike Britt

Seconded by: Jason Burroughs

Aye: 4 Shook, Britt, Reynolds, Burroughs

Nay: 0

Abstain: 0

Absent: 0

Motion: **Passed**

All employees will pay 20%

Standard policy for the town pays single amount and then highway covers 20% after.

It was mentioned by Marshall Trabout that it may not be in the best interest for the town to have this policy in place as it's putting precedence for future families that grow and this could be very expensive for the town. It can be changed next year per Supervisor Jordan.

Around \$800k in county sales tax was budgeted

Per Supervisor Jordan, \$200 was added to the Planning Board Chairman in addition representing the town as she drives and doesn't charge the town mileage. Per Chairman Ross she met out in Auburn 3 times this year.

Bookkeeper Hand asked what the Tax Rate was. After discussion, it was agreed to be \$0.30

MOTION

A motion was made to keep the tax rate per \$1,000.00 at \$0.30 for the 2025 tax year.

Motion made by: Mark Jordan

Seconded by: Jason Burroughs

Aye: 3 Shook, Reynolds, Burroughs

Nay: 1 Britt

Abstain: 0

Absent: 0

Motion: **Passed**

NYMIR

Workmen's Comp coverage has increased.

\$14,095/1 year or \$28,190/2 year.

Supervisor Jordan suggested to do the 2-year option in hopes it will go down. Superintendent Arnold stated there were a few bumps and bruises. Supervisor Jordan stated that was why the workmen's comp was increased, due to claims.

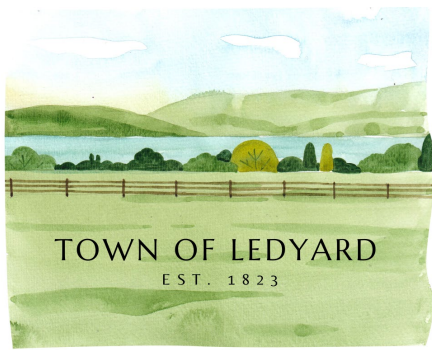
Mark Bailey asked if NYMIR offered any safety training as an option to help lower the rates. Superintendent Arnold stated they do, i.e., bloodborne pathogens training. Carol Chase from Summerhill stated the town could save money if Superintendent Arnold designates what type of work is being done during what time during the day. Jordan and Arnold stated that was being been each day.

HISTORIAN

Wells library has the archives going to an auction and asking the village to step in and keep the Wells archives local. Historian is asking the town to support the Village to keep wells archives material local.

MOTION

Motion was made for the Town of Ledyard to support the Village of Aurora to keep the Wells archives local



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Motion made by: Anne Reynolds

Seconded by: Therese Shook

Aye: 4 Shook, Britt, Reynolds, Burroughs

Nay: 0

Abstain: 0

Absent: 0

Motion: **Passed**

BUDGET

Motion was made to pass the 2025 Budget

Motion made by: Anne Reynolds

Seconded by: Jason Burroughs

Aye: 4 Shook, Britt, Reynolds, Burroughs

Nay: 0

Abstain: 0

Absent: 0

Motion: **Passed**

PUBLIC HEARING CLOSED AT 9:00

BILLS

Councilperson Shook asked about shelter fees from the dog control officer. Councilman Burroughs asked about training with the AOT as he was unaware of training. Supervisor Jordan stated Casey Otis was the last councilman to attend training.

A Motion was made to pay the following:

Abstract	11
Voucher	226 - 248
Fund A	\$3,571.05
Fund DB	\$ 14,750.65
Total Amount	\$18,321.70

Motion made by: Jason Burroughs

Seconded by: Therese Shook

Aye: 4 Burroughs, Shook, Reynolds, Britt

Nay: 0

Abstain: 0

Absent: 0

Motion: **PASSED**

A discussion was held regarding perceived hostile work environments and available trainings for Town employees.

ADJOURN

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 9:33pm

Motion made by: Burroughs

Seconded by: Shook

Aye: 4 Burroughs, Shook, Reynolds, Britt

Nay: 0

Abstain: 0

Absent: 0

Motion: **PASSED**

Respectively submitted,

Jamie Bailey, Ledyard Town Clerk