

**TOWN OF READING BOARD MEETING  
December 11, 2024**

**PRESENT:** Supervisor S. Miller, Councilperson P. Gill, Councilperson C. Stamp, Councilperson C. Richtmyer, Councilperson J. Rumsey, Hwy. Supt. J. Switzer, and Clerk T. Alger.

**ABSENT:** None

**VISITORS:**

Mark Rondinaro – Schuyler County Legislature

The meeting was called to order at 7:35 pm with the reciting of the Pledge of Allegiance.

**VISITOR’S COMMENTS:**

Mark Rondinaro, Schuyler County Legislature, provided YTD. Sales Tax Information. YTD Sales Tax Revenue was 14,710,902 for an increase of \$478,867 or 3.36%. The November sales were down by \$37,760 or -1.70% decrease from 2023.

A resident attended, but did not sign the sign in sheet, but was recognized as living on Irelandville Rd. He is concerned about the damage being done to local roads from farm equipment. Supervisor Miller said we are all concerned, but because we are an Ag District there isn’t a whole lot we can do, but we have in the past had farm equipment operators pay the Town of Reading for road damages incurred.

**RESOLUTION #68** Councilperson C. Stamp made a motion to accept the November 13, 2024 minutes as Amended. Seconded by Councilperson P. Gill

AYES:	Councilperson P. Gill Councilperson C. Stamp Councilperson C. Richtmyer Councilperson J. Rumsey Supervisor – S. Miller	NAYS: none
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**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**PLANNING:** Possible Site Plan Application to review for a Glamping Resort, Minor Subdivision Application

**HIGHWAY:** Superintendent J. Switzer read his report.

**LANDFILL:** No report

**CLERK:** Clerk Alger read her report

OLD BUSINESS

The committee composed of Chairperson, P. Gill, Planning Board Chairperson, D. Chutas, C. Rees, RCAP Solutions, and Supervisor Miller have selected an engineering firm to complete an engineering study for the newly proposed water district in the Town of Reading. Supervisor Miller and Clerk Alger have submitted a Fund Application to Schuyler County Economic Development in hopes of receiving some funding of at least 48% or \$10,500 to help cover the cost of the Engineering study. We hope to receive a response after the Schuyler County Legislature meets on December 17, 2024.

**RESOLUTION #69** Councilperson C. Stamp made the following motion. Seconded by Councilperson C. Richtmyer

**RESOLUTION ADOPTING LOCAL LAW #1 OF 2024 TO ESTABLISH RULES AND REGULATIONS FOR THE ADMINISTRATION AND ENFORCEMENT OF A PERMIT REQUIREMENT FOR ALL SHORT- TERM RENTAL UNITS WITH THE TOWN OF READING.**

The following Resolution was duly presented for consideration by the Town Board of the Town of Reading:

**WHEREAS**, the Town proposes to adopt a local law that will hereby establish rules and regulations for the administration and enforcement of a permit requirement for all short-term rental units within the Town of Reading, and the periodic registration of all landlords and short-term rental property owners, including agents thereof; all to promote public health and safety respecting short-term rentals, to adequately regulate potential impacts to neighborhoods and impacts upon local property conditions, and to maintain an accurate inventory of short-term rental housing.

**WHEREAS**, a public hearing was duly noticed and duly held at the Reading Town Hall on the 11 day of December, 2024, whereat all persons interested in the subject matter of this local law were duly heard and, upon deliberation thereupon, the Town Board of the Town of reading has hereby resolved as follows:

1. Local Law Number 1 of 2024 be and hereby is approved and adopted in the form as presented to this meeting, and in such form “be it so enacted.”
2. In accord with the Municipal Home Rule Law, the final adopted version of this local law shall be filed with the Town Clerk and the New York Secretary of State.

AYES:	Councilperson P. Gill	NAYS: none
	Councilperson C. Stamp	
	Councilperson C. Richtmyer	
	Councilperson J. Rumsey	
	Supervisor S. Miller	

Judicial review disputing assessments for US Salt and one other resident are still being addressed. Still some disagreement among the County Lawyer and our lawyers regarding if the County will help pay for defense expenses. WGHS said they will contribute to legal expenses. Local Law updates for Code Enforcement are postponed until January 2025 meeting.

Year end meeting to wrap up bills scheduled for December 30<sup>th</sup> at 7 pm. Clerk Alger will post public notice of meeting in the Watkins Glen Review and Express and the Town website.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

Supervisor Miller has been looking at other electric suppliers to see if we can get a cheaper rate as Direct Energy our current supplier has notified us that they will be raising rates as much as 30%.

Supervisor Miller received signed contract for animal control from Southern Tier Animal Control. The Town Supervisors have drafted a public announcement to be publicized in local media regarding why all the Townships terminated their agreement with HSSC based on the significant price increase and HSSC not willing to negotiate. There has been some public backlash.

Received notice from Dept. of Ag and Markets that both the HSSC and the Schuyler County Animal Control Officer failed their inspections.

Highway Supt Switzer has ordered an energy efficient garage door to use the NYSERTA grant we received.

**RESOLUTION #70** Councilperson C. Stamp made a motion to allow Highway Supt Switzer to utilize NYSERTA grant money to purchase energy efficient overhead doors with door entrance. Seconded by Councilperson P. Gill

AYES:	Councilperson P. Gill	NAYS: none
	Councilperson C. Stamp	
	Councilperson C. Richtmyer	
	Councilperson J. Rumsey	
	Supervisor – S. Miller	

There was another person caught on camera putting garbage in recycling scrap bin when garbage and recycling is closed. Person was identified and will be spoken to.

Supervisor Miller submitted the NYS Tax Cap forms and our budget is \$78,000 below the cap.

**COMMUNICATION:**

Letters from NYS Dept. of Ag and Markets regarding inspections of HSSC and Animal Control Officer.

**RESOLUTION #71** Councilperson C. Richtmyer made a motion to approve the Budget amendments for General Funds dated December 11, 2024. Seconded J. Rumsey

AYES: Councilperson P. Gill  
Councilperson C. Stamp  
Councilperson C. Richtmyer  
Councilperson J. Rumsey  
Supervisor S. Miller

NAYS: none

**RESOLUTION #72** Councilperson P. Gill made a motion to pay Abstract # 012 as follows; seconded by Councilperson C. Stamp

General Town wide	\$	7,332.95
Town Outside Village	\$	914.20
Highway Town wide	\$	35,239.64
Highway Outside Village	\$	6,016.83
Capital	\$	4,636.14
Sewer	\$	374.95
Total:		\$54,514.71

AYES: Councilperson P. Gill  
Councilperson C. Stamp  
Councilperson C. Richtmyer  
Councilperson J. Rumsey  
Supervisor – S. Miller

NAYS: none

Councilperson P. Gill made a motion to adjourn regular meeting at 8:30 PM Seconded by Councilperson C. Stamp.

# **PUBLIC HEARING SHORT TERM RENTAL LOCAL LAW #1 OF 2024**

## **DECEMBER 11, 2024**

**PRESENT:** Supervisor S. Miller, Councilperson P. Gill, Councilperson C. Stamp, Councilperson C. Richtmyer, Councilperson J. Rumsey, Hwy. Supt. J. Switzer, and Clerk T. Alger.

The meeting and Public Hearing was called to order at 7:00 pm with the reciting of the Pledge of Allegiance.

### **VISITORS:**

Mary & Dirk Cosgrove – 3275 Co. Rd. 30, Watkins Glen

RC Holmes – 3355 County Rd 28, Watkins Glen

Michelle Evans-3937 Cross Rd, Watkins Glen

Alex Hoag – 4195 St. Rt. 14, Rock Stream

Lisa Eldridge – 4451 County Rd 27, Rock Stream

Rob DeDominick – 3299 N. Summit Ave, Watkins Glen

Scott & Kelly Jones – 3277 N. Summit Ave, Watkins Glen

Dominick Franzese per phone call to Supervisor Miller would like to see regulation not allowing STR in public homes. Supervisor Miller responded to him that we have no right to dictate whether there can or can not be an Airbnb in the Town of Reading.

Mary Cosgrove – inquired about potable water requirement. Supervisor Miller responded that the water has to be tested by the Schuyler County Watershed Dept, and if not potable like a lot of lakeside cottages then other means such as a water cooler, or filtration system will have to be provided.

RC Holmes wanted to address the Definition of Bed and Breakfast and why they are not listed. Supervisor Miller said the difference per definition is that the owner is still a resident on the property.

Scott Jones inquired about transfer of ownership. Supervisor Miller said there is a 30 day grace period as per Section 1.4 (b) and a new application must be filed by new owner.

Alex Hoag asked about requirement of new residences need to a sprinkler system? Supervisor Miller said CEO, Dennis Tremblay would have more knowledge to answer that question and to contact him.

Lisa Eldridge -Inquired if neighboring Short Term Rentals would put stress on the water supply? She also inquired the amount of the application fee and Supervisor Miller said the proposed application fee would be \$300. L. Eldridge thought this was excessive.

Supervisor Miller made a motion to close the public hearing at 7:35 pm. Seconded by Councilperson C. Richtmyer

**TOWN OF READING YEAR END BOARD MEETING  
December 30, 2024**

**PRESENT:** Supervisor S. Miller, Councilperson P. Gill, Councilperson C. Stamp, Councilperson C. Richtmyer, Councilperson J. Rumsey, Hwy. Supt. J. Switzer, and Clerk T. Alger.

**ABSENT:** None

**VISITORS:** None

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm with the reciting of the Pledge of Allegiance.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**RESOLUTION #73** Councilperson, C. Stamp, made a motion set the Short- Term Rental Permit Application Fee at \$300 per dwelling unit to be renewed every 3 years. Seconded by Councilperson P. Gill.

AYES:	Councilperson P. Gill	NAYS: none
	Councilperson C. Stamp	
	Councilperson C. Richtmyer	
	Councilperson J. Rumsey	
	Supervisor S. Miller	

**RESOLUTION #74** Councilperson P. Gill made a motion to pay Abstract # 013 as follows; seconded by Councilperson J. Rumsey

General Town wide	\$	11,368.82
Town Outside Village	\$	331.18
Highway Town wide	\$	14,904.82
Highway Outside Village	\$	7,710.72
Total:	\$34,315.54	

AYES:	Councilperson P. Gill	NAYS: none
	Councilperson C. Stamp	
	Councilperson C. Richtmyer	
	Councilperson J. Rumsey	
	Supervisor – S. Miller	

Councilperson C. Richtmyer made a motion to adjourn regular meeting at 7:15 pm Seconded by Councilperson J. Rumsey