

Town of Durham

TOWN BOARD MEETING ~ TENTATIVE AGENDA ~ March 17th, 2020 ~ 7:30 pm

In consideration of COVID-19, the open meeting of the Town Board regularly scheduled for March 17th has been postponed. Our goal, as articulated by the CDC and the NYS DOH, is to mitigate against the spread of the virus and reduce its rate of transmission. This action will allow the Town of Durham to exemplify infection control procedures to prevent the continued and pervasive spreading of disease.

Per communication from NYCOOG (New York Committee on Open Government):

The New York State Committee on Open Government issued guidance regarding the "Open Meetings Law 'In-Person' Requirement and the Novel Coronavirus." The guidance acknowledges that there is no process for waiving the Open Meetings Law's "in-person" requirement for conducting meetings. Furthermore, the Committee conceded that there is no jurisprudence regarding the ability of local governments to forego or waive the "in-person" meeting requirement. **Nonetheless, the Committee opined that judicial review of alleged violations of the Open Meetings Law will likely take into consideration the public body's desire to protect the public health while continuing to perform necessary government functions.** However, the Committee urges that if a public body determines that limiting public in-person access to an open meeting is necessary in response to the COVID-19 virus, that the public body limit discussions and actions taken to those matters for which harm would be caused by delay in order to mitigate potential impact of constituents.

That being said, Town Hall will not allow entrance of the public to this facility as of Monday, March 16th until further notice. Meeting of the Town Councilmen and Town Clerk will occur on the evening of April 7th at 7:30pm, however will be held in a very limited extent to enable the monthly bills to be reviewed and paid. A special meeting will be scheduled, pending DOH recommendations for continued 'social distancing at a later date. Minutes will be posted within a few days. The condensed agenda is following this notice.

Per orders by the Office of Court Administration, all court proceedings are suspended until further notice. Should you have any questions, please contact the Court Clerk Chris Kohrs at (518) 239-8260.

Officials will hold regular hours, and all business will continue to occur via telephone and electronic communications. This being a time when tax payments are still being collected, and cash cannot be refused, please contact Clerk-Collector Janet Partridge at (518) 239-6122 ext#1 should you require a cash transaction. She asks to please consider mailing your payment in check form or delivering in a sealed envelope through the front doors; receipts will be sent and a confirmation call will be made if requested.

Thank you for your understanding and assistance; please stay well.

Shawn Marriott, Town Supervisor, Town of Durham

4/7/2020 7:30 pm

AGENDA

Bill paying audit of bills & Supervisors Report

NEW BUSINESS ONLY: