

TOWN BOARD  
JANUARY 28, 2004

A regular meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Bethlehem was held on the above date at the Town Hall, 445 Delaware Avenue, Delmar, NY. The meeting was called to order by the Supervisor at 6:30 p.m.

PRESENT: Theresa Egan, Supervisor  
Daniel Plummer, Councilman  
George Lenhardt, Councilman  
Kathleen A. Newkirk, Town Clerk  
James T. Potter, Esq., Town Attorney

ABSENT: Thomas Marcelle, Councilman  
Tim Gordon, Councilman

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Supervisor Egan apologized for starting the meeting a few minutes late, noting she was waiting for Town Board Member Gordon. She said she would guess he may be in line at the wake. She said for anyone who might not know, Building Inspector, Kevin Shea, passed away suddenly on Saturday. She said he joined the Building Department in March 1986 and was granted the Chief Building Inspector position on March 15, 2001. She said in addition, Kevin served as a volunteer member and officer of the Elsmere Fire Department for over 30 years. She said as of January 1, 2004, after serving as Assistant Fire Chief for 10 years, was elected Fire Chief. She asked for a moment of silence for Kevin, a friend of hers for over 20 years, dedicated husband and father, trusted public servant and the consummate volunteer for our a community.

The Supervisor said in addition to that, she would like to publicly thank Gregg Sagendorph and the Highway Department for everything they have done to help with the services. She said there is expected to be over 3,000 people tonight and tomorrow. She noted they have gone above and beyond duty again.

Supervisor Egan asked everyone to join in the pledge of allegiance. She said they believe Councilman Marcelle is also at the wake.

The first item on the agenda was to approve the Town Board minutes of December 10, 2003 and January 8, 2004.

The motion was made by Mr. Plummer and seconded by Mr. Lenhardt to approve the Town Board minutes of December 10, 2003 and January 8, 2004 be approved. The motion was passed by the following vote:

Ayes: Ms. Egan, Mr. Plummer, Mr. Lenhardt.

Noes: None.

Absent: Mr. Gordon, Mr. Marcelle.

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The next item was to approve the contract with the City of Albany for the supply of water. Public Works Commissioner Leveille said in 2003 the Town completed a long range water study looking to provide an adequate supply of water for the next 30 years. He said one of the recommendations of the study was to consider buying finished water from the City of Albany in the amount of 2.5 million gallons a day. He said this contract is for the furnishing of 2.5 million gallons of water per day and consequently provides the Town with a long term assurance of safe, reliable, quality water resource to meet the long term needs of the Town both today and based upon future growth projections to 2030. He said there are various rates of minimum consumption that is required under the contract. He said all these items are consistent with the planning that was done by O'Brien and Gere. He certainly recommended approval.

The motion was made by Mr. Plummer and seconded by Mr. Lenhardt to approve the Supervisor entering into the contract for water with the City of Albany.

Councilman Lenhardt commented that the actual contract goes to 2023 not 2030. Supervisor Egan said that was correct, it was a 20 year. Mr. Lenhardt also commented that he was happy that the City was able to compromise with us and add 5 years to the original proposal of 15 years and compromise on some of the minimum purchase quantities.

The motion was passed by the following vote:

Ayes: Ms. Egan, Mr. Plummer, Mr. Lenhardt.

Noes: None.

Absent: Mr. Marcelle, Mr. Gordon.

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Resident Marie Capone questioned the quantity and availability over the next 20 years with possible growth in our area. Councilman Plummer noted the City of Albany supply is more than adequate at this time and the city has plans to expand the reservoir. Supervisor Egan also noted the O'Brien and Gere study projected out expansion of population. She said that was taken into account when they made the determination in regard to the Town's needs. Public Works Commissioner Leveille said he thought it was prudent to take a look about every 10 years to look at growth projections and continue to evaluate the long term volume that is required. He said this is an ongoing process. Councilman Lenhardt noted again this is in line with the O'Brien and Gere study. He said it is slightly higher but no one knows what will happen if there is another drought.

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The next item was to approve the issuance of a Trailer Camp Permit for Shady Grove West and Breckenridge Trailer Parks, Selkirk.

The motion was made by Mr. Plummer and seconded by Mr. Lenhardt to approve the issuance of Trailer Camp Permit for Shady Grove West and Breckenridge Trailer Parks, Selkirk. The motion was passed by the following vote:

Ayes: Ms. Egan, Mr. Plummer, Mr. Lenhardt.

Noes: None.

Absent: Mr. Marcelle, Mr. Gordon.

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The following item was to approve the appointment of A. Joseph Scott, III, Esq. as Bond Counsel.

The motion was made by Mr. Plummer and seconded by Mr. Lenhardt to approve the appointment of A. Joseph Scott, III, Hodgson Russ Attorneys LLP, Albany, New York to the position of bond counsel. The motion was passed by the following vote:

Ayes: Ms. Egan, Mr. Plummer, Mr. Lenhardt,

Noes: None.

Absent: Mr. Marcelle, Mr. Gordon.

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The next item was requests from Chief of Police, Louis Corsi, for approval of budget transfers to permit repair to police vehicle no. 714 and 733.

The motion was made by Mr. Plummer and seconded by Mr. Lenhardt to approve the transfer of funds to permit repair to police vehicles 714 and 733 in the amount of \$5,658.91 and \$529.22 respectively as requested by Louis Corsi, Chief of Police. The motion was passed by the following vote:

Ayes: Ms. Egan, Mr. Plummer, Mr. Lenhardt,

Noes: None.  
Absent: Mr. Marcelle, Mr. Gordon.

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The next item was a request from Louis Corsi, Chief of Police, for acceptance of donations from Wal-Mart Foundation in the amount of \$2,000.

The motion was made by Mr. Plummer and seconded by Mr. Lenhardt to approve the acceptance of donations in the amount of \$2,000 from Wal-Mart Foundation as requested by Police Chief, Louis Corsi. The motion was passed by the following vote:

Ayes: Ms. Egan, Mr. Plummer, Mr. Lenhardt.  
Noes: None.  
Absent: Mr. Marcelle, Mr. Gordon.

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Supervisor Egan noted it was a very nice evening at Wal-Mart and they did a nice job. She said for anyone who has not heard, in addition to the gifts that were made to the Police Department, there was \$9500 to the School District and various other community groups that received grants. She thanked everyone.

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The next item was to acknowledge receipt of the 2003 Annual Report from the Town of Bethlehem Parks and Recreation Department.

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The following item was a request from Nan Lanahan, Administrator, Parks and Recreation Department, for approval of Seasonal Personnel.

The motion was made by Mr. Lenhardt and seconded by Mr. Plummer to approve the appointment of seasonal personnel as listed on the Memorandum dated January 28, 2004 at the titles and salaries indicated and requested by Nan Lanahan, Administrator, Parks and Recreation Department. The motion was passed by the following vote:

Ayes: Ms. Egan, Mr. Plummer, Mr. Lenhardt.  
Noes: None.  
Absent: Mr. Marcelle, Mr. Gordon.

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The next item was a request from Highway Superintendent, Gregg Sagendorph, for approval of disposal of vehicles at auction held by Northway Auto Exchange, Inc., Clifton Park, NY.

The motion was made by Mr. Plummer and seconded by Mr. Lenhardt to approve the disposal of vehicles as listed in the Memorandum dated January 13, 2004 from Highway Superintendent, Gregg Sagendorph at auction by Northway Auto Exchange, Inc., Clifton Park, NY. The motion was passed by the following vote:

Ayes: Ms. Egan, Mr. Plummer, Mr. Lenhardt.  
Noes: None.  
Absent: Mr. Marcelle, Mr. Gordon.

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The following item was a request from Gregg Sage ndorph, Highway Superintendent, to authorize the Town Supervisor to sign the 2004 contract with the City of Albany for the Rapp Road Landfill facility. Supervisor Egan noted the tipping fee remains at \$52 per ton for municipal solid waste. She said this is the same rate that has been in effect for the last 2 years.

The motion was made by Mr. Lenhardt and seconded by Mr. Plummer to authorize the Supervisor to sign the 2004 contract with the City of Albany for the Rapp Road Landfill facility. The motion was passed by the following vote:

Ayes: Ms. Egan, Mr. Plummer, Mr. Lenhardt.  
Noes: None.  
Absent: Mr. Marcelle, Mr. Gordon.

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The next item was to approve the appointment of Gil Boucher as Assistant Building Inspector. Supervisor Egan noted the Building Department has been short of people since Mr. Shea was elevated to Chief Building Inspector. Following a search for someone, Mr. Shea contacted about appointing Mr. Boucher.

The motion was made by Mr. Lenhardt and seconded by Mr. Plummer to approve the appointment of Gil Boucher, Watervliet, New York to the position of Assistant Building Inspector as recommended by Building Inspector Kevin Shea. The motion was passed by the following vote:

Ayes: Ms. Egan, Mr. Plummer, Mr. Lenhardt.  
Noes: None.  
Absent: Mr. Marcelle, Mr. Gordon.

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The following item was to acknowledge receipt of the 2003 Annual Report from Town Clerk, Kathleen A. Newkirk. Supervisor Egan thanked the Town Clerk.

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The next item was a request from Commissioner of Public Works, George Leveille, for approval to prepare a bid advertisement for chemicals. Could advertise February 4, 2004 and open bid on February 17, 2004 at 2:30 p.m.

The following resolution was offered by Mr. Plummer and seconded by Mr. Lenhardt

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WHEREAS, the Town desires to advertise for bids for Chemicals, pursuant to law,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Clerk advertise for such bids in THE SPOTLIGHT issue on the 4th day of February, 2004 and that bids be received up to 2:30 p.m. on the 17th day of February, 2004 at which time the bids will be publicly opened and read.

The resolution was adopted by the following vote:

Ayes: Ms. Egan, Mr. Plummer, Mr. Lenhardt.  
Noes: None.  
Absent: Mr. Marcelle, Mr. Gordon.

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The following item was a request from George Leveille, Commissioner of Public Works, for approval to prepare a bid advertisement for materials. Could advertise February 4, 2004 and open bid on February 17, 2004 at 2:45 p.m.

The following resolution was offered by Mr. Plummer and seconded by Mr. Lenhardt

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WHEREAS, the Town desires to advertise for bids for Materials, pursuant to law,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Clerk advertise for such bids in THE SPOTLIGHT issue on the 4th day of February, 2004 and that bids be received up to 2:45 p.m. on the 17th day of February, 2004 at which time

the bids will be publicly opened and read.

The resolution was adopted by the following vote:

Ayes: Ms. Egan, Mr. Plummer, Mr. Lenhardt.  
Noes: None.  
Absent: Mr. Marcelle, Mr. Gordon.

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The next item was a request from Commissioner of Public Works, George Leveille, for approval to prepare a bid advertisement for Water Meters. Could advertise February 4, 2004 and open bid on February 17, 2004 at 3:00 p.m.

The following resolution was offered by Mr. Lenhardt and seconded by Mr. Plummer

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WHEREAS, the Town desires to advertise for bids for Water Meters, pursuant to law,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Clerk advertise for such bids in THE SPOTLIGHT issue on the 4th day of February, 2004 and that bids be received up to 3:00 p.m. on the 17th day of February, 2004 at which time the bids will be publicly opened and read.

The resolution was adopted by the following vote:

Ayes: Ms. Egan, Mr. Plummer, Mr. Lenhardt.  
Noes: None.  
Absent: Mr. Marcelle, Mr. Gordon.

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Supervisor Egan asked for a motion to enter into Executive Session to discuss personnel issues.

The motion was made by Mr. Plummer and seconded by Mr. Lenhardt to meet in Executive Session to discuss personnel issues. The motion was passed by the following vote:

Ayes: Ms. Egan, Mr. Plummer, Mr. Lenhardt.  
Noes: None.  
Absent: Mr. Marcelle, Mr. Gordon.

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Hearing began: 7:30 p.m.

Councilman Marcelle and Councilman Gordon arrived for the public hearing.

The motion was made by Mr. Plummer and seconded by Mr. Lenhardt to return to the Town Board meeting following the Executive Session. The motion was passed by the following vote:

Ayes: Ms. Egan, Mr. Plummer, Mr. Lenhardt.  
Noes: None.  
Absent: Mr. Marcelle, Mr. Gordon.

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A public hearing of the Town Board of the Town of Bethlehem was held on the above date at the Town Hall, 445 Delaware Avenue, Delmar, NY. The meeting was called to order by the Supervisor at 7:30 p.m.

PRESENT: Theresa Egan, Supervisor  
Daniel Plummer, Councilman  
George Lenhardt, Councilman

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For an official copy of the minutes, please visit the Town Hall, 445 Delaware Avenue, Delmar, NY or call 439-4955, extension 158.

: Thomas Marcelle, Councilman  
Tim Gordon, Councilman  
Kathleen A. Newkirk, Town Clerk  
James T. Potter, Esq., Town Attorney

SUPERVISOR EGAN: At this time, I am going to ask Ms. Newkirk for the call of the hearing that's on the agenda.

TOWN CLERK NEWKIRK:

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING  
TOWN OF BETHLEHEM

SECTION 8 HOUSING CHOICE VOUCHER PROGRAM

The Town Board of the Town of Bethlehem will hold a public hearing on Wednesday, January 28, 2004 at 7:30 p.m. at the Town Hall, 445 Delaware Avenue, Delmar, New York 12054 for the purpose of receiving comments from the public on the Town's proposed Agency Plan for 2004 for the Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher Program.

Copies of the Agency Plan and all supporting documentation are available for review by the public at either of the following locations:

Town of Bethlehem	Joseph E. Mastrianni, Inc.
445 Delaware Avenue	242 Union Street
Delmar, NY 12054	Schenectady, NY 12305
(518) 439-4955	(518) 372-4739 Ext. 26.

All parties in interest and citizens will have an opportunity to be heard at the said hearing.

The Town of Bethlehem provides reasonable accommodations for the disabled. Disabled individuals who need assistance in order to participate should contact Nan Lanahan at 439-4131. Advanced notice is requested.

BY ORDER OF THE TOWN BOARD  
TOWN OF BETHLEHEM  
Kathleen A. Newkirk, CMC, RMC  
TOWN CLERK

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State of New York)  
County of Albany )

BRENDA WIERZBICKI of the Town of Bethlehem, being duly sworn, says that she is the RECEPTIONIST for THE SPOTLIGHT, a weekly newspaper published in the Town of Bethlehem, County of Albany, and that the notice of which the annexed is a true copy, has been regularly published in said THE SPOTLIGHT ONCE A WEEK FOR 1 WEEK consecutively, commencing on the 10<sup>th</sup> day of December 2003.

/s/ Brenda Wiersbicki

Sworn to before me this 11th day of December 2003.

/s/ Sharon A. Doldo

Notary Public, Albany County

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STATE OF NEW YORK)  
COUNTY OF ALBANY) ss.:

KATHLEEN A. NEWKIRK, being duly sworn, deposes and says that she is the Town Clerk of the Town of Bethlehem, Albany County, New York and that I posted on December 10, 2003, a Notice of Public Hearing, a copy of which is hereto attached, on the sign board of the Town maintained pursuant to subdivision six of Section thirty of the Town Law.

/s/ Kathleen A. Newkirk  
Town Clerk

Sworn to before me this  
28<sup>th</sup> day of January 2004.

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/s/ Julie S. McNeil  
Notary Public

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The motion was made by Mr. Lenhardt and seconded by Mr. Plummer to indent the Notice of Public Hearing, Affidavit of Publication and Affidavit of Posting on the minutes of the meeting. The motion was passed by the following vote:

Ayes: Ms. Egan, Mr. Plummer, Mr. Lenhardt, Mr. Marcelle, Mr. Gordon.  
Noes: None.

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SUPERVISOR EGAN: I believe we have Mr. Mastrianni, is he here this evening? Mr. Mastrianni if you could just give us a brief overview of what it is that this resolution is for.

MR. MASTRIANNI: Okay. First of all, I have some summaries that I will give to you. I think there are 6 there. That will help you with the program and this is why we are here. This is the 5<sup>th</sup> annual plan that we have done for the Section 8 program.

We started the Section 8 program in the Town of Bethlehem in 1985 and it includes both the Town of Bethlehem and the Town of New Scotland. The Town of Bethlehem is the lead agency and we started with 1 program. We now run 4 programs. We run the housing voucher program. We run the main stream program. We run the family self-sufficiency program and now the home ownership program has started within the last couple years. The program... the entire program was a Federally funded program. All the funds come from the Federal government to pay all the costs of the program and that's about \$285,000 per year.

The program is a rental assistance program. The Federal government helps low income, disabled and elderly families pay their rent in privately owned apartments. This is basically how it works. If someone wants to be assisted under the program, they call our office, unfortunately right now they have to go on a waiting list and they're waiting probably 2 to 3 years before there is assistance. There is no Federal money available right now. The last time it was available was 2 years ago and I don't know if anyone remembers but the application was rejected erroneously by HUD and we wrote them and said you made a mistake. And, they said guys you are right, we did make a mistake but we spent all the money, sorry. So, we didn't get 25 units that we were entitled to.

But, anyway, the person will call and get on the waiting list and when their turn comes up we will send them a packet of information that they have to fill out. They send it back to us and we evaluate them. We certify their income. If they have a savings account, we write to their bank. If they have a pension, we write to the people that pay the pension. If they have medical expenses, if they are elderly or disabled, we also write to the people... the caregivers that supply those. So, we have to document everything. Then we determine what their income is and based on that we determine what their share of the rent is. It's between 30 and 40 percent of their income is normally what they pay. So, if they are living in an apartment... let's say a 2 bedroom apartment which we can pay a maximum of \$633... let's say it goes for \$700, they have to pay the overage. We'll pay... they'll pay an additional 30 percent of their income and the Federal government will pick up the rest.

We also have to inspect the units because they have to meet our standards which are a little below code and we cannot pay any rent until the unit passes our inspection. And, then we do this every year. And, that's how it works.

Now, within that there's something called main streamed. We have 10 units of main streamed housing that is reserved for the disabled. So, if... and we can only use those units for the disabled. So, if a disabled person leaves the program, we go

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down the waiting list to the next disabled person and that is the person we offer the assistance to. Those units are always filled, obviously. So are all the units in Bethlehem.

In addition, we have a program that we're very high on called the family self-sufficiency program. That's where we work with single moms to get them off of Section 8 and these are single moms who perhaps graduated from high school, maybe didn't, they have maybe 2 children and the husband or father is no longer there and they're saddled with the kids and no skills and no way to earn a living to support everything so they go on welfare and Section 8. We meet with them. We try to help them figure out what they want to do in their life and we go to their homes and we sit 2 or 3 hours with them going over all the opportunities that are available to them and at the end of that time we say what do you think. And, if they say we don't know yet, we say fine. We'll call you in a couple weeks and we will come back. And, once they decide and most decide to join the program. We sign them up to a 5 year contract of what they intend to accomplish over the next 5 years, what their goals are and we have a couple of goals that we put in there also. We say you have to be free of welfare for at least 12 months at the end of this contract and you have to have a job at the end of the contract, one that fits in with your career goals. Then we go back and we punch all the stuff into our computer and we say okay, well this person doesn't have a GED and we give them a list of where they can get GEDs. You need counseling, maybe you were involved in drugs, we'll give them that. You need budget help, we'll give them the places where they can get that. We'll give them the contact, the name of the person and everything. We say okay, here, it's up to you contact these people and get going on your contract. And, we will call them back in a few months and we'll say how you doing. We keep in touch with them. As they progress and let's say they become employed, they get a job, their income goes up so their rent goes up. But, in this program if their rent goes up... let's say \$100 a month... we match that and put \$100 a month in a savings account for them. We send them a monthly statement that looks like a bank statement. We drew it up to look like a bank statement and it states how much they have in their account, what the most recent deposit was and how much interest they've earned. We find those posted on refrigerators when we go to their homes because most of our clients have never had this type of statement come to their house.

As they go on, they get additional income, the balance in that account builds. And, let's say they have an automobile, they need it to get to work – the transmission goes. They need \$500 to fix the transmission. They can access that account because they have no family backup usually. They can access that account, get the \$500 -- we document everything, the paper work is all in order – they get the transmission fixed and they continue to work because they still have a vehicle.

At the end of 5 years, if they have met all of their goals and if they are off of welfare for 12 months and they are employed, they can get the balance in that account and many of them use it as a down payment on a house because many of the... some of the deposits... or balances that we have handed out are \$7,000, \$8,000, \$10,000 and that goes a long way and we can bring in some other grants in the home ownership program for them.

Last year we had 42 graduates and when we hand them the check, we also hand them a dozen roses because most of these women have never gotten a dozen roses and I'm glad I bought 42 dozen roses last year and it's a pleasure to buy them. So, we are very high in that program. Right now we can help 25 families in Bethlehem. We have 24 families and I think we have 8 escrow accounts which means that those 8 families started out at a very low paying job or unemployed and now are employed and heading toward that goal of being no longer dependent on any kind of public subsidy. It's a good program.

SUPERVISOR EGAN: It's great. Mr. Mastrianni, are all of the Section 8 housing units that are available in the Town of Bethlehem now full?

MR. MASTRIANNI: Okay. I'm going to get to that in a minute.

SUPERVISOR EGAN: Okay. Sorry.

MR. MASTRIANNI: I'll... the quick answer is yes and then some. The final program I want to talk about is our home ownership program and this is relatively new. Two years ago the Federal government said you don't have to use your subsidy to pay rent, if you can get a mortgage, you can pay a mortgage. So, we have a huge counseling program that we take people through. In order to get into the program they have to be employed, have a certain level of income and they have to have a credit score of at least 600 which is a little low but we build it up as they go along. We work with people who can qualify at that level for 6 to 12 months to get them to a point where they can apply for a mortgage. If they apply for a mortgage and get one and they can buy a home, we send the check instead of to the landlord to our old tenant. Many people say send it to the bank, the tenant's not going to pay the mortgage. Well, we think they are responsible. We like to think they are responsible and we think that they should be responsible to make the payment on the home or the house that they purchase. We have nothing to lose. We would have been paying rent anyway. They have a down payment to lose, closing costs and a home that they bought. They're going to make those payments and we like to trust that they will.

On the back of the summary that I passed out there's some statistics and I don't mean to be too long, this will only be another 10 seconds or so. We currently... when this was prepared last October we had 66 people on the waiting list. Fifty-five (55) of those were residents of the project area which is Bethlehem or New Scotland and we have to... when our waiting list is open, we have to take anybody. We can't turn anybody away. However, only people in Bethlehem or New Scotland get a preference so the others never really get assistance.

Thirty (30) of the 55 people on the waiting list are either elderly or disabled. We can help 59 people. When this was done we were helping 59 people. I checked today, we're helping 65 people. We've got to get that down because if we go over for the year I end up paying the rent. And, you know, I'm not going to do that. But, we take people in and then if somebody moves out then we don't fill it until we get back down to 59. Thirty (30) or almost... where am I. Elderly, okay. The elderly and... okay, there it is, 35 of those people are elderly or disabled. We had about 15 or 16 families leave the program during the year. We did 61 inspections that passed, 26 that didn't and we had 1 lead based paint inspection and lead base paint is a big issue now. We have 3 EPA certified lead based paint inspectors on our staff. They've gone away for a week, taken a course and they have passed the EPA test and they do wipes and all kinds of things and we send them away to laboratories and unless that house passes a lead base paint and if there's a child 6 or under, we cannot put anybody in there and we will not.

I think I've covered everything I have to cover. I was a little longer than I thought I would be but thank you very much.

SUPERVISOR EGAN: It's all good stuff. Any questions for Mr. Mastrianni?

COUNCILMAN LENHARDT: I just have a comment. In the past when we've had these, some of the comments from your clients have been in there and they've been quite moving. The one that I still remember is the young lady that became an attorney while she was in this project.

MR. MASTRIANNI: That's right. Yes, this year, excuse me... this year they are not in there because HUD changed the regulations and said if you don't change your plan, you don't have to have any citizens review committee. So, we didn't send anything out. But, I enjoyed reading those also.

SUPERVISOR EGAN: Any other questions? Mr. Mastrianni thank you very much, it is a worthwhile program. It's great, thanks for all your hard work.

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MR. MASTRIANNI: Thank you.

COUNCILMAN MARCELLE: Thank you very much.

MR. MASTRIANNI: I'll wait until the hearing is over.

SUPERVISOR EGAN: Yep. Okay. Motion to close? Any comments?

MRS. CAPONE: Is this Federally funded?

SUPERVISOR EGAN: Yes.

MRS. CAPONE: Then it applies to the whole country.

SUPERVISOR EGAN: This particular program is for... the program area is New Scotland and Bethlehem but yes, there is Section 8 housing I would imagine countrywide.

Any other comments? Motion to close the public hearing.

The motion was made by Mr. Plummer and seconded by Mr. Lenhardt to close the public hearing at 7:48 p.m. The motion was passed by the following vote:

Ayes: Ms. Egan, Mr. Plummer, Mr. Lenhardt, Mr. Marcelle, Mr. Gordon.  
Noes: None.

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Town Clerk

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Supervisor Egan asked if someone wished to make a motion with respect to this matter to adopt the program as outlined by Mr. Mastrianni.

The following resolution was presented for adoption:

**Resolution Adopting an Annual Plan for 2004**

For the Town of Bethlehem Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher Program

WHEREAS, the Town of Bethlehem operates a Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher Program funded by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, and

WHEREAS, the Town of Bethlehem is required by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development to prepare and adopt a written Annual Plan that establishes local policies for administration of the Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher Program in accordance with regulations of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, and

WHEREAS, the Town Board of the Town of Bethlehem has caused a written Annual Plan for 2004 to be prepared establishing local policies for administration of the Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher Program in accordance with regulations of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, and has reviewed such written plan,

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Bethlehem hereby adopts the Annual Plan for 2004 for operation of the Town of Bethlehem Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher Program.

The foregoing resolution was presented for adoption by Mr. Plummer, seconded by Mr. Lenhardt and duly adopted by the following vote:

Ayes: Ms. Egan, Mr. Plummer, Mr. Lenhardt, Mr. Marcelle, Mr. Gordon.  
Noes: None.  
Absent: None.

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Supervisor Egan and Councilman Marcelle thanked Mr. Mastrianni.

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Supervisor Egan asked if anyone wished to address the Board. Mrs. Linda Jasinski from Selkirk expressed her displeasure with the decision to move the meetings to 5:30 p.m. which is right in the dinner hour. She said she cannot see how the Board would expect more people to show up at that time frame. She said it is much more difficult to get here and some people do not even get out of work until after 5. She noted she checked the area towns – Bethlehem, Colonie, Guilderland, Berne – they all begin their meetings at 7 or 7:30 time frame. She said she imagines there is a reason that they do that and it has always worked well before. Supervisor Egan thanked Mrs. Jasinski.

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Supervisor Egan asked if there were any further comments. Mrs. Marie Capone said she called Marty Cornelius and told her in the Spotlight you advertise for a person of the year. She said if you look at the definition of that person, it fits Kevin Shea. Why don't you remove the ad and put Kevin Shea there? Supervisor Egan asked if Mrs. Capone addressed this to Ms. Cornelius. The award was the Chamber of Commerce Community Spirit award and she wanted the Board to be aware of this. Mrs. Capone said she wanted the Board to know and she wanted Mrs. Kehoe to know because she is with the Chamber. Mrs. Kehoe noted she is not on the Board any longer but she is still a member.

Supervisor Egan said she will see Ms. Delaney and noted she will let her know that she had addressed the Board with this information also.

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Supervisor Egan asked if there were any further comments this evening. There were none.

The motion was made by Mr. Marcelle and seconded by Mr. Gordon to adjourn the Town Board meeting at 7:50 p.m. The motion was passed by the following vote:

Ayes: Ms. Egan, Mr. Plummer, Mr. Lenhardt, Mr. Marcelle, Mr. Gordon.

Noes: None.

Absent: None.

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Town Clerk

#### EXECUTIVE SESSION

There was no formal action taken at the Executive Session.