#### October 2024

## **About Town in Ripley**

Ripley, New York

Published by Ripley Public Library (716) 736-3913 Editor: Nancy McIntosh <a href="https://www.ripleylibrary.org/">https://www.ripleylibrary.org/</a> <a href="https://www.facebook.com/ripleyny/">https://www.ripley-ny.com/</a>

#### Fire Department Emergency Call 911

Ripley Hose Company #1
P.O. Box 342
12 South State Street
Ripley, NY 14775
716-736-2001
Mark Smith, Fire Chief
716-736-2490
Ripley Hose Company #2
South Ripley Fire Hall
10268 NE-Sherman Road
Ripley, NY 14775
James Spacht, Deputy Fire Chief
716-269-4754

#### Police Department Actual Emergency Call 911

Chautauqua County Sheriff's Dept. Mayville, NY 14757 716-753-4231

#### RIPLEY TOWN HALL

14 North State Street P.O. Box 352, Ripley, NY 14775 Ripley, NY 14775 Town Supervisor: Lauree Pless

ripleyts@fairpoint.net
Office: 716-413-8010 ext 6

## RIPLEY TOWN CLERK OFFICE

Ryleigh Enterline, Town Clerk (716) 413-8010, ext 1 ripleytownclerk@outlook.com P.O. Box 2, Ripley, NY 14775 Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday 9:30 a.m. – Noon 1:15 p.m. –4:00 p.m. Saturday Mornings 9 a.m. – Noon Closed Wednesdays The Town Clerk's Office is also closed during various Holidays

#### TOWN ASSESSOR

Jason Jones Ripley, NY 14775 **716-413-8010 ext 9** ripleyta@fairpoint.net Tuesday 9:00am-1:00pm



October 2024 Ripley, New York

#### JUSTICE DEPARTMENT

Justice Vera L. Hustead
P. O. Box 573
Ripley, NY 14775
Office: 716-413-8010 ext 2
Clerk: 716-413-8010 ext 2
courtclerk@ripley-ny.com
Monday Evenings 4-6pm
Tuesday & Thursday 9a-3pm
Traffic Court held Monday 6:00pm
Calendar Call held:
2nd Thursday of each month 2pm

#### BUILDING/ZONING CODE OFFICER – Melanie Eddy P.O. Box 2, Ripley, NY 14775 716-413-8010 ext 5

rosco3737@gmail.com Tues& Thurs 9:00 am-3:00 pm

RIPLEY TOWN BOARD Meets the 2nd Thursday of the month at 6:30 pm at the Town Building located in the Ripley Central School 14 North State Street.

#### RIPLEY PLANNING BOARD

Meets the 2nd Monday of the month at 6:30pm at the Town Offices located in the Ripley Central School on N State St The Public is welcome to attend these meetings.

#### WATER/SEWER DEPT Andrew Strine

10168 W. Lake Road, Ripley NY ripleywater@outlook.com
Office: 716-413-8010 ext 7
Cell: 716-223-0740

#### HIGHWAY DEPT

Jason Jones, Highway Supt. 50 Ross Street P.O. Box 506 Ripley, NY 14775 ripleyhs@fairpoint.net Office: 716-413-8010 ext 8 Cell: 716-223-0130

## ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICER Gloria McCormick

716-269-9882

#### TOWN HISTORIAN John "Doc" Hamels C. 716-223-0112

## October in the Town Clerk's Office

\*October Dog License Renewals will be out in the mail by October 1st

#### **Announcements:**

JUST A REMINDER THAT WE HAVE A NEW TOWN PHONE #: 716-413-8010, EXT 1.

A representative from NYS Archives came out on September 26th to help our office with Records Management/Retention/Disposition

#### LARGE TRASH DAY - OCTOBER 5th, 8-12

#### **October Closures:**

Thursday, October 3rd: We are attending "Cemetery 101" training offered by Lake View Cemetery Assoc.

Monday, October 14th: Columbus Day

\* If you have questions or concerns with any business regarding the Town Clerk's Office, the best way to resolve them is to speak with myself or my Deputy directly.

We are here to help!

Thank you,

Ryleigh Enterline

Town Clerk

Email: ripleytownclerk@outlook.com Phone: 716-413-8010

Address: 14 N. State St., Ripley, NY 14775 Fax: 716-413-8008

A huge thank you to those of you who sent in information or contributed to this months' newsletters! Community participation is what was hoped for all along. If you have an article or information you would like to see shared with the community, please send it in!

thebookworm14775@gmail.com

### TOWN OF RIPLEY PLEASE TAKE NOTICE

The Town of Ripley Offices has transitioned to 1 main number:

(716) 413-8010

The options to reach each department are as follows:

Town Clerk: Press 1

Justice Office: Press 2

Highway Dept: Press 3

Water/Sewer Dept: Press 4

Code Officer: Press 5

Town Supervisor: Press 6

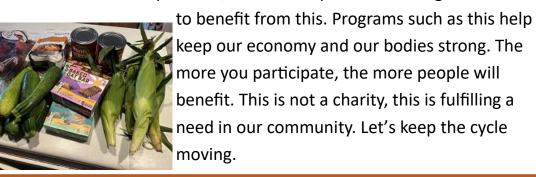
Water/Sewer Emergency: Press 7

Highway Emergency: Press 8

Assessor: Press 9

# Free Food Give-Away from Cornell Cooperative Extension

Please remember, every Saturday through October, a free box of food is available at the Ripley Public Library. This is not the same as the Food Express which is available on a monthly basis. This is a separate program and is available due to our community being in a "Food Desert". These programs are a wonderful thing and is a boon not only to our community, but also the local farmers who participate with these programs. The farmers receive revenue from the State for their products, Cornell Cooperative Ext. organizes the delivery and we get





## CCIDA Receives \$1 Million For Ripley Shovel-Ready Site

SEPTEMBER 27, 2024 BY WRFA RADIOLEAVE A COMMENT

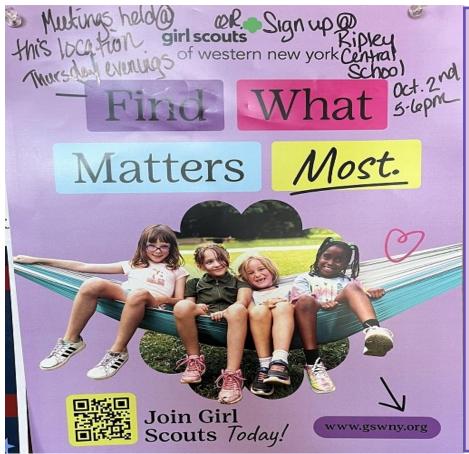
The Chautauqua County Industrial Development Agency's interstate shovel ready site project in Ripley is receiving \$1 million.

U.S. Senate Majority Leader **Chuck Schumer** announced the funding that will go toward extending electrical service to prepare a 147-acre site for future employers. The funding is through the **Appalachian Regional Commission**.

The project is expected to spur economic growth in Western New York by supporting IDA efforts to improve infrastructure, especially extending a 34.5 kv electric service to the site, providing necessary power to attract more employers looking to expand or move to the area. This improved site readiness will especially help meet an increased demand from manufacturing, transportation, and warehousing industries to grow in the region.



Future shovel ready site area in town of Ripley (Google Maps)



Girl Scout Troop 20006— Meetings are held Thursdays at 6:15pm in the Ripley Library, 2nd floor.

Contact:

Ann See

716-499-1513

annsee716@yahoo.com

## FROM the DESK of the RIPLEY TOWN HISTORIAN

## by Doc Hamels

This fall season is a great time to get out and to take a nice autumn walk through town! Recently I walked along Route 20 both east and west. I discovered some hidden gems. Rather than invading folks' privacy by taking photos and posting them, I recommend looking at things for yourself.



What am I talking about??! Well, walk and look up. Look at the roof lines, the tops of doorways and windows and look at columns on houses. I was very surprised to see some beautiful carved decorative pieces on Ripley homes as well as metal decorative panels. Many of the homes in our community are well over 150 years old and still maintain the style, grace and beauty from yesteryears!!!

The craftsmanship and skill to make these homes stylish is outstanding. Also look at the peaks of the rooves for other little surprises. We have so much rich history in not only our ancestors but the buildings that they left for us to enjoy! Don't just look along Route 20 but there are other surprises on the side streets! Happy hunting!!!

## "All the news that's fit to print"

That's been the motto on the masthead of the New York Times since 1897. And while we, at The Bookworm and About Town, certainly can't compete with any city newspapers, we try to bring you interesting and current events happening in our neck of the woods.

That said, being a monthly publication, we can't hope to bring you up-to-date information, but we can steer you in the right direction to read pertinent items either on-line or in our local newspapers.

The September 26, 2024 issue of The Westfield Republican had a front page article on cemetery work, specifically the East Ripley Cemetery. Cindy Bird of Fredonia took on the project to organize the information regarding the cemetery, including spreadsheets, hard copies and monument maps.

In years past Virginia Barden and Marie McCutcheon tackled all the local Ripley cemeteries and their work is kept at the Ripley Library in the historical section. They mapped out burial sites in East Ripley and South Ripley cemeteries, as well as others. The work Bird did would be a wonderful addition to that initial task.

If you'd like to read the article, titled "Ripley Hears Update on Cemetery Work" the newspaper will be available at the library for a limited time.

\* \* \*

This month several people reached out to The Bookworm with information they thought the community would like to know. Thank you SO much! Occasionally we get letters or comments about the newsletters, saying how much people enjoy them. That means a lot to the staff. We try to bring you information and fun each month, and your participation makes it all the better!

If you have suggestions about content or format, please let us know.



Article courtesy of Sylvia Lanphere A retrospective on our town...

From NE (North East) Directory, 1998 Town of Ripley, Chautauqua County, New York

Our history begins around 1804 when, it is generally regarded, Alexander Cochrane from Ireland was the first settler in the area. Ripley was established as a town on March 1, 1816, with elections being held shortly thereafter.

Prior to the opening of the Erie Canal in 1825, access to the area was quite limited, with exchange of surplus western goods for eastern merchandise being difficult at best. After the canal's opening, traffic through the township increased substantially.

On Nov. 4, 1841, Benjamin Franklin Goodrich was born in a house on the western edge of town. He is said to have left the area after having been orphaned at the age of eight or nine and eventually went on to establish the first rubber factory in the U.S., which bears his name to this day.

While grapes had been introduced to the area earlier (1818 in the Town of Portland), it was not until 1869 that H.A. Burton, a Portlander recently located in Ripley, made the first commercial scale planting here. Jedediah Johnson planted the first Concords and by 1907 total acreage in the township had reached almost 5700 acres. Sharp price decreases during the 1930s led to the abandonment of much of this acreage

and total acreage fell to the current level (1998) of approximately 1700 acres.

# (Editor's Note: Does anyone know the number of acres currently planted with grapes?)

By 1873, the main village relinquished its designation of "Quincy" and came to be known simply as Ripley. In 1880 a destructive fire resulted in the loss of six business buildings which were replaced by the brick Randall Block. History was to repeat itself nearly 84 years later in 1965 when fire again razed this same block.

Subsequent to the death of Mrs. Hamilton (owner of the Hamilton Estate) in 1944, the estate, valued at approximately \$750,000, was left for the aid and comfort of dumb animals, one of the most unusual wills ever filed in Chautauqua County.

November 1956 was memorable for the Thanksgiving Day Snow Storm which deposited more than 30 inches of snow on the area and marked the first use of the local school facilities to serve the needs of travelers who found themselves victims of the weather – a scene which would be repeated numerous times in future years.



Main Street, Ripley, NY circa 1930s

## There is no reason to go hungry in Ripley, NY

Because Ripley, NY is designated a "food desert," multiple programs are available to the residents to help offset the high cost of groceries. Please read the newsletters (About Town and The Bookworm) for more information about each program, or call the library for more information.

Mobile Food Pantry monthly at the Fire Hall

The Food Pantry located in the school building on Tuesdays and Saturdays

Grow Chautauqua Market distributed weekly at the library

Free Lunch Program at Ripley Central School

## **Notary Services**

Ryleigh Enterline is a Notary Public and is available during Town Clerk hours to notarize documents, free of charge.

Ripley United Methodist Church has a Prayer Box set up in front of the church at

84 W. Main Street, Ripley, NY. Inside there are slips to fill out with your prayer request. We will bring up all your requests in deep prayer. There is a place to mark if you want to hear from a Pastor.

1pm Thursday beginning May 30 And every Thursday @ Ripley United Methodist Church



## **Business Cards**

Please consider placing your business card or a personal message in The Bookworm. It's a economical way to show your support for the Ripley Public Library! Businesses or individual supporters of the Ripley Library who donate \$5 per month will receive business card space in The Bookworm.

If you or someone you know is in need of help, contact the following numbers:

Chautauqua County Crisis Helpline 1-800-724-0461 (24-hours)

Victims of Domestic Violence & Rape Crisis Hotline

1-800-252-748 (24-hours)

Mobile Crisis Team (supports & services) 716-363-3684

## Ripley Mobile Food Pantry Coordinator, Debbie Dean

Call (814)440-8490 or text Debbie Dean to pre-register each month.

You must pre-register EVERY month, so that we know how many boxes of food to prepare. Food available from the Mobile Food Pantry varies from month to month.

Pre-register by texting Debbie Dean @ 814-440-8490 or if necessary by phone. Also check Ripley Community Mobile Food Pantry on Facebook for information.



**2024 Dates** 

Oct 30 Nov 27

Dec to be decided

## Food prices are high!

Are you taking advantage of the FREE food you can get from the Chautauqua County Mobile Food Pantry and the NYS Office of Food Distribution? The Mobile Pantry has no income qualifications, and the NYS Food Distribution allows income up to \$32,805 for a single person, and \$44,370 for a family of 2! **PLUS** the free food boxes distributed at the library EVERY Saturday through October!

## **Food Assistance Program**

Open Tuesdays from 2 until 4p.m., and Saturdays, 10 until noon.

The Food Pantry is available if a person verbally attests that they fall into one of the following guidelines: Income falls within the guidelines and/or someone in the household participates in: SNAP, WIC, TANF, Unemployment, Disability, SSI, or Free/Reduced lunch program. Contact Phil Chimera via email at shaver58@roadrunner.com for more infor-



The Emergency Food Assistance Program (TEFAP)
Attestation of Eligibility

Office of General Services

**Food Distribution** 

Household Size 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8

Annual Income \$32,805 \$44,370 \$55,935 \$67,500 \$79,065 \$90,630 \$102,195 \$113,760

For each additional family member add \$11,565.

NEW YORK

Please be advised there are two different programs. Mobile Food Pantry (at the fire hall) has no income requirement. Feed More WNY (in the school building) income guidelines are listed.

## **Local Worship**

- First Baptist Church 716-736-3800
- First Presbyterian Church 716-736-3042
- St. Dominic Roman Catholic Church 716-326-2816
- Stateline United Methodist Church No information
- Still Waters Mennonite Church 716-252-6515
- United Methodist Church 716-736-3090
- Victory Family Church 716-338-3199

#### **CODE OFFICER**

716-413-8010 ext 5 TUESDAY & THURSDAY 9:00 A.M.—3:00 P.M.

#### **ASSESSOR**

716-413-8010 ext 9 TUESDAY & THURSDAY 9:00 A.M.—3 P.M.

#### COURT CLERK

716-413-8010 ext 2 MONDAY 9 A.M.-3:30 P.M. TUESDAY 9 A.M.-NOON THURSDAY 9 A.M.-3:30 P.M.

#### PLEASE TAKE NOTICE

## TOWN OF RIPLEY MONTHLY BOARD MEETINGS

Regular Monthly Town Board Meetings are held at 6:30 p.m. the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of each month.

The Town Board meetings are also held through a Zoom link.

Zoom link can be found on the Town of Ripley Website
ripleyny.org



## **Bottle and Can Collection**

The Library has a collection bin in the lobby for returnable cans and bottles. Don't throw out those water bottles and pop cans! Donate them to the library.

Please be sure all bottles and cans are empty before you place them in the bin.

## **Resources for Ripley News**

Please check these Facebook/Websites for up-to-date information concerning Ripley and its residents:

Ripley Hose Company—www.ripleyfire.org

Ripley NY-Alive and Well-Administrator Ruth Blackman

Ripley Central Alumni (Ripley NY)-Administrators Mark Dickey & Connie Wright Middleton

It's Ripley's (Believe it or not) Community Page-Administrator Cindy Eddy

You may be from Ripley, NY if...no administrator listed

Ripley Community Mobile Food Pantry-Administrator Debbie Dean

Ripley NY Buds- Administers Coralee Shearer and Stephanie Eimers

The Bookworm/About Time- https://ripleylibrary.org/

#### From Desk of Post Command 2769

## **Dave Bower, Commander**

OCT 7th START OF OPERATION ENDURING FREEDOM 2001

OCT. 13th U.S. NAVY BIRTHDAY

OCT 14th COLUMBUS DAY, CUBAN MISSILE CRISIS BEGINS (1962)

OCT. 23rd BEIRUT BARRACKS BOMBINGS (1983)

OCT. 24th POST 2769 MEETING @10:30 @TOWN HALL.

OCT.25th U.S. INVADES GRENADA (1983)

OCT. 28th NATIONAL FIRST RESPONDERS DAY

OCT. 31st HALLOWEEN—BE SAFE.

JUST A REMINDER THAT WE ARE TAKING APPLICATIONS FOR THE HOME TOWN HERO BANNERS. THE COST AS OF NOW IS \$165. MAKE CHECKS OUT TO RIPLEY VFW POST 2769. WE WILL NEED A 8X10 PHOTO (JUST A COPY). YOU CAN PICK UP THE APPLICATIONS AT THE TOWN CLERKS OFFICE OR SEE ME. DEAD LINE IS FEB. 2025. AS ALWAYS WE NEED NEW MEMBERS.



## **Ripley Trash & Recycle Days**

Located near the Highway Barn on Ross Street, open the 2nd and 4th Saturdays of the month from 8a.m. until noon. Recyclables may be dropped off on those days. Please enter via North State Street and Park Avenue. Ripley bags may be purchased at the Town Building and at Coffee on Main.

October 2024 Ripley, New York

# MINUTES OF THE RIPLEY TOWN BOARD MEETING

**SEPTEMBER 12, 2024** 

Councilman Lyon made a motion to enter into executive session to discuss negotiations and legal matters at 5:47 p.m. This was seconded by Councilman Swoap and carried unanimously. Councilman Swoap moved to adjourn executive session at 6:23 p.m. This was seconded by Councilman Lyon and carried unanimously.

The regular meeting of the Town Board, Town of Ripley was called to order by Supervisor Pless at 6:30 p.m., in the Ripley Town Hall with the Pledge of Allegiance. The following were present:

Supervisor: Laura Pless

Council: Lee Swoap

Calvin Janes

Town Clerk: Ryleigh Enterline

Dept. Heads: Jason Jones (Highway Supt./Assessor)

Guests: Janet Skinner, Gary Skinner, Richard Vaughn, Lou Ann Lyon, Nicole Gollhardt

#### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the Regular Town Board Meeting dated August 8, 2024 were approved. Councilman Swoap moved and Councilman Lyon seconded. This was carried unanimously.

#### **APPROVAL OF ABSTRACTS**

Warrant No. 9 in the amount of \$31, 280.57 drawn on the General Acct. Was presented and audited by the Board Members.

Warrant No. 9 in the amount of \$5, 719.73 drawn on the Highway Acct. Was presented and audited by the Board Members.

Warrant No. 9 in the amount of \$ 2,612.00 drawn on the St. Light Acct. Was presented and audited by the Board Members.

Warrant No. 9 in the amount of \$ 3,110.22 drawn on the Sewer Acct. Was presented and audited by the Board Members.

Warrant No. 9 in the amount of \$5,080.69 drawn on the Water Acct. Was presented and audited by the Board Members.

Warrant No. 9 in the amount of \$4,559.28 drawn on the Capital Acct. Was presented and audited by the Board Members.

Supervisor Pless made the following motion: that the Supervisor be directed to draw the checks to cover the warrant as allowed for vouchers numbered 705 through 785. This was seconded by Councilman Janes and carried unanimously.

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Ripley, New York

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#### **APPROVAL OF THE AUGUST 2024 FINANCIAL STATEMENT**

Supervisor Pless made the motion to approve the Supervisor's August 2024 Financial Statement. This was seconded by Councilman Swoap and carried unanimously.

#### **CORRESPONDENCE**

- \*Cemetery 101 Training
- \*Letter from the Thompson Family Thanking Highway Dept.

#### **JCAP GRANT**

#### **RESOLUTION #75-2024**

#### **TOWN OF RIPLEY**

#### 2024-2025 JUSTICE COURT ASSISTANCE PROGRAM GRANT

WHEREAS, the Town of Ripley provides facility and equipment for the purpose of conducting Court; and

WHEREAS, Justice Court necessities have been identified;

WHEREAS, the New York State Office of Court Administration through the Justice Court Assistance Program is offering grant money for use to improve Justice Courts throughout the State.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED,** that the Board of the Town of Ripley authorizes the Ripley Town Court to apply for a JCAP Grant in the 2024-2025 grant cycle up to \$30,000.

Resolution introduced by: Councilman Janes

**Resolution seconded by:** Councilman Lyon

**ROLL CALL VOTE:** Councilman Janes YES, Councilman Lyon YES, Councilman Swoap YES, Supervisor Pless YES. Carried.

FALL LARGE TRASH DAY: Supervisor Pless has confirmed Fall Large Trash Day for October 5, 2024.

#### START PROCESS FOR SELLING TOWN PROPERTIES

Councilman Lyon made the motion to begin exploring the process of selling Town owned properties. Seconded by Councilman Swoap. Carried unanimously.

October 2024 Ripley, New York

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#### **BUDGET SEASON DATES**

#### **TENTATIVE BUDGET**

Supervisor Pless made the motion to present the Tentative Budget on 10/3/24 at 8:00 am. Seconded by Councilman Swoap. Carried unanimously.

#### **BUDGET WORKSHOPS**

Councilman Swoap made the motion to set 3 days in October for the Budget Workshops: 10/8, 10/16 and 10/18 at 10:00 am. Seconded by Councilman Lyon. Carried Unanimously

#### PRELIMINARY BUDGET HEARING

Councilman Swoap made the motion to set the Preliminary Budget Hearing for 11/7 at 6:00 p.m. This was seconded by Supervisor Pless and carried unanimously.

#### FINAL BUDGET ADOPTION DATE

Councilman Swoap made the motion to set 11/14 at 6:15 p.m. for the date and time to adopt the Final Budget. Seconded by Councilman Lyon. Carried unanimously.

#### **BUDGET TRANSFERS**

Councilman Janes made the motion that the following budget transfers be approved:

Seconded by Councilman Lyon and carried unanimously.

	General	Fund	
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#### **Budget Transfers**

\$116	FROM	A11110.4	Justices Contractual
	TO	A1110.2	Justices Equipment
\$205	FROM	A7310.4	Youth Program Personal Contractual
	TO	A7310.1	Youth Program Personal Services
\$500	FROM	A9010.8	Employee Benefits State Retirement
	TO	A9050.8	Employee Benefits SUTA
\$8,000	FROM	A1990.8	Contingent Account
	то	A1430.4	Engineer Contractual
\$5,000	FROM	A1990.8	Contingent Account
	TO	A9060.8	Emp Benefits Hospital & Medical

transfers for miscellaneous budget line overages

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Seconded by Councilman Lyon and carried unanimously.

#### HARRIS PRINT AND MAIL PROPOSAL/APPROVAL FOR TAX BILLS

Supervisor Pless made the motion to approve the Harris Print & Mail proposal so that the Town Clerk's office can utilize their service for printing, organizing, stuffing and mailing to 2025 Town and County Tax Bills. Seconded by Councilman Lyon. Carried unanimously.

#### **SURPLUS OF V-TECH PHONES**

Councilman Janes made the motion to surplus the old V-Tech phones that were replaced by the new ESI phones during the phone system upgrades. Seconded by Councilman Swoap and carried unanimously.

#### **DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS**

W/S REPORT: Presented by Councilman Swoap

**HIGHWAY REPORT:** Presented by Councilman Lyon

**ASSESSOR REPORT:** Presented by Councilman Lyon

**CODE OFFICER REPORT:** Presented by Councilman Swoap

**PARKS REPORT:** Presented by Councilman Janes

Supervisor Pless made the motion to adjourn.

Seconded by Councilman Swoap.

Meeting adjourned at 7:00 PM.

Respectively submitted,

Ryleigh Enterline

Town Clerk