



Amherst Town Board
Special Meeting of the Town Board
Minutes

5583 Main Street
Williamsville, NY 14221
www.amherst.ny.us

Francina J. Spoth
Town Clerk

Wednesday, December 15, 2021

5:00 PM

Amherst Municipal Building

I. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

II. ROLL CALL:

5:00 PM Meeting called to order on December 15, 2021 at Amherst Municipal Building, 5583 Main Street, Williamsville, NY.

Attendee Name	Organization	Title	Status	Arrived
Brian J. Kulpa	Town of Amherst	Supervisor	Present	
Jacqueline Berger	Town of Amherst	Deputy Supervisor	Present	
Deborah Bruch Bucki	Town of Amherst	Councilmember	Present	
Shawn Lavin	Town of Amherst	Councilmember	Present	
Michael Szukala	Town of Amherst	Councilmember	Present	
Timothy Koller	Town of Amherst	Deputy Town Clerk	Present	
Stanley J. Sliwa	Town of Amherst	Town Attorney	Present	

III. COUNCILMEMBER RESOLUTIONS

A. COUNCILMEMBER BUCKI:

1. Resolution 2021-1071

Employee Suggestion Merit Award Board Meeting

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Employee Suggestion Merit Award Board meeting will be held Monday, December 20, 2021 at 4:00PM virtually.

RESULT:	ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Deborah Bruch Bucki, Councilmember
SECONDER:	Shawn Lavin, Councilmember
AYES:	Kulpa, Berger, Bucki, Lavin, Szukala

IV. DEPARTMENT HEAD RESOLUTIONS AND REPORTS

A. TOWN ATTORNEY:

1. Resolution 2021-1072

Virtual Public Meetings of Town Board

WHEREAS, more than 2 million New York State residents have been affected by COVID-19 and the disease has killed more than 57,000 New Yorkers since May 2020; and

WHEREAS, it is necessary to contain the pandemic that has brought widespread economic and social destruction; and

WHEREAS, many Amherst residents have experienced financial hardship due to measures that have been taken to contain the pandemic and such measures have closed businesses and schools, resulting in income loss across the State; and

WHEREAS, even as New York State enters a phase of economic recovery, the need for continued statutory protection and other public health measures as demonstrated by rates of transmission in COVID-19 in the State and Erie County is ongoing; and

WHEREAS, since early November 2021, cases have risen ten-fold and a very significant number of the recent positive tests in New York State were attributed to the Delta variant of the virus with and in Erie County there has been a 9.2% increase in positive cases over the last week; and

WHEREAS, for the foregoing reasons, it is necessary to temporarily alter certain provisions of the Open Meetings Law (Article 7 of the Public Officers Law) to ensure that the Town Board can hold its meetings in a manner that balances the public's health and safety with the public's right to observe the proceedings.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board hereby provides authorization to the Town Board to take such actions as authorized by law without permitting the public in-person access to the meetings; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, authorization is also given to hold such meetings remotely by conference or by similar service such as Zoom, provided that the public has the ability to view or listen to such proceedings and that such meetings are recorded and later transcribed if requested; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this resolution shall take effect immediately for Town Board meetings that are required to comply with Article 7 of the General Public Officers Law; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that said authority shall expire and be deemed repealed on January 15, 2022.

RESULT:	ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Brian J. Kulpa, Supervisor
SECONDER:	Deborah Bruch Bucki, Councilmember
AYES:	Kulpa, Berger, Bucki, Lavin, Szukala

V. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Town Board, Supervisor Kulpa moved to adjourn, seconded by Councilmember Lavin and unanimously approved 5-0. The Town Board special meeting of December 15, 2021 was adjourned at 5:04 PM.

**Amherst Town Board**

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Francina J. Spoth
Town Clerk

Meeting: 12/15/21 05:00 PM
Department: Councilmembers
Initiated by: **Deborah Bruch Bucki**
Co-Sponsored by:

DOC ID: 25129

RESOLUTION 2021-1071**ADOPTED**

Employee Suggestion Merit Award Board Meeting

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FINANCIAL IMPACT:

NONE.

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