

2022 Regular Meeting MINUTES
August 8, 2022

Present:

Paul H. Smith	Supervisor
Susan Storms	Councilman
Patrick Britton	Councilman
Frank Skvorak	Councilman
Shari Gerber	Councilman
Lori Borland	Town Clerk
Michael O'Shaughnessy	Highway Superintendent
James Burrows	Counsel
Mickey Dietrich	RACOG Circuit Rider
Rebecca Shultz	Deputy Clerk

Supervisor Smith called the Regular Meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Minutes: Motion was made by Councilman Storms, seconded by Councilman Gerber to approve the minutes from the last meeting held on July 11, 2022. Motion passed unanimously, carried.

Privilege of the Floor: Mickey Dietrich, RACOG Circuit Rider, noted that there is a new grant program available called NY Forward which is for smaller and rural communities. Tug Hill Commission is hiring. The Promotional Video is scheduled for taping in September. Other ongoing workshops and webinars are in the written report.

Communications: A thank you letter was received from Fairview Cemetery (Mike Liberatos) for our contribution to the cemetery.

Community Development Director Report: Sarah Bullock, Community Development Director, submitted her written report which was read by Supervisor Smith. It included: Restore NY Grant – she will contact the owner of the RR Depot to see if he is interested in applying, since he would have to contribute certain funds. An application was submitted for NY Main Street Grant for several downtown properties in the Village of Carthage and the owners have committed to the 25% required match. The RFP for the Deferiet BOA project is underway. Ms. Bullock has attended several meetings and webinars for various topics.

Highway Report: Michael O'Shaughnessy, Highway Superintendent, noted that Justin LaGrow has been hired at the Highway Dept. starting on 8/1/2022 with a six month probationary period at the rate of \$20.30 per hour.

RESOLUTION #25-2022 – Motion was made by Councilman Britton, seconded by Councilman Skvorak, to hire Justin LaGrow as of 8/1/2022 for a six month probationary period at the beginning rate of \$20.30 per hour. Motion passed unanimously, carried.

The generator that was damaged by lightning has been repaired and an insurance claim has been submitted. Culverts on Alexandria Street are done and cutting trees in the area has been done. He has requested a budget amendment for \$44,095.75 from the additional CHIPS revenue, to be transferred to the paving line item which will bring that line item to \$269,095.75.

RESOLUTION #26-2022 – Motion was made by Councilman Storms, seconded by Councilman Gerber to approve the budget amendment to transfer \$44095.75 from the CHIPS revenue to the paving line item. Motion passed unanimously, carried.

RESOLUTION #26.1-2022 – Motion was made by Councilman Britton, seconded by Councilman Gerber to use the budget amendment funds in the paving line item, to pave Alexandria Street and 4/10 of a mile on the Boyd Road. Motion passed unanimously, carried.

Dog Control Officer: April Hall, DCO, has been very busy with dogs are large and other dog complaints. There was a call about people that were in Washington with 24 dogs headed back to Carthage NY. There are 4 different people in that address that own dogs. Of these dogs, 11 were expired. She will continue to monitor this situation. Several calls were received for places that are not her jurisdiction.

Town Clerk Report: Ms. Borland noted that the Water District collections for July, 2022 were \$14,854.16. The Town Clerk fees for July, 2022 were \$1347.50. The Transfer Site Funds collected for July, 2022 were \$3527.00. Councilman Skvorak raised the question of the revenue vs cost of the transfer site. This will be looked into for him.

Code Enforcement: No report

Assessor Report: Marlene Norfolk, Assessor, reported that she has been starting to review the permits that have been issued for the town, and has done some field review with the assistance of Jefferson County Real Property. She has a list of permits issued by the Village but has not reviewed these as of yet. She has received the sales report from NYS Office of Real Property Tax Services from 2/1/22 to 5/1/22. She has reviewed all of the sales and will be doing field reviews.

Attorney Report: Mr. Burrows noted that the Carthage Energy check has been received, and has turned the same over to the Town Clerk for deposit.

RESOLUTION #26A-2022 – BE IT RESOLVED that regarding the Carthage Energy Assessment Challenge, that the check received for the settlement with the Town of Wilna and the Carthage Fire District in the amount of \$219,290 is to be deposited in a Town of Wilna, Carthage Energy Escrow Account at Community Bank, NA. Motion was made by Councilman Britton, seconded by Councilman Storms, motion passed unanimously, carried.

Mr. Burrows further noted that the demolition contract for the demolition of the Smith property has been drawn by the Town Clerk and Ms. Borland, Town Clerk, noted that it has been submitted to the demolition company for their signature. Regarding the Watson vs McKeever/Town matter, there has been a motion to dismiss, and this was granted by the Village Judge.

Regarding the Herrings Wastewater Disinfection Project, it is determined that this is a Type II SEQR, and a resolution was made as follows:

RESOLUTION #27-2022 – Motion was made by Councilman Skvorak, seconded by Councilman Storms to submit the SEQR paperwork to determine that this is a Type II SEQR project. Roll call vote was had, and all voted Aye. Motion carried.

Mr. Burrows has noted that the Herrings Wastewater Disinfection Project will need a Bond Resolution. He has drafted paperwork regarding the same.

RESOLUTION #28-2022 – Motion was made by Councilman Britton, seconded by Councilman Storms to authorize a Bond Resolution not to exceed \$325,000. Roll call vote was had, and all voted Aye. Motion carried. It was explained that the Bond Resolution in it's entirety needs to be published within 10 days of the motion, then after a 30-day period if no motions are made by the public, the Estoppel Notice will be published.

Regarding the Reginald Smith Property, it was requested that Mr. Burrows write a certified letter to Bruce Fuller, the squatter on the property, that the trailer will be demolished along with the house and that he needs to vacate the premises. National Grid also needs to be notified.

Town Board Committees: Ms. Borland noted that there are a couple of cremation burials coming up in both Pierce and Sand Hill cemeteries.

Town Supervisor's Financial Statements: Motion was made by Councilman Skvorak, seconded by Councilman Britton to approve the Financial Statements as provided by the CPA's. Motion passed unanimously, carried.

Vouchers: Motion was made by Councilman Storms, seconded by Councilman Gerber, to approve the vouchers in Abstract #8 in the amount of \$102,235.47. Motion passed unanimously, carried.

Old Business: Smart Cities Grant – Mr. Smith and Ms. Borland attended a webinar regarding the Smart Cities options available. These are quite expensive. An updated pricelist with installation fees is expected in the next few weeks. A brochure was distributed to the council.

New Business:

There has been a request from JCIDA and others to write a letter of support for additional jobs at Ft. Drum for the Ft. Drum Task Force. The letter was written and sent in.

There was some repair work to be done at Natural Bridge for WD#2 by Keller Well Drilling.

RESOLUTION #29-2022 – Motion was made by Councilman Gerber, seconded by Councilman Britton for the Keller Well Drilling bill of \$17,950 be paid from the ARPA Funds from the State. Motion passed unanimously, carried.

The IRS has issued a new mileage rate of \$062.5 cents per mile.

RESOLUTION #30-2022 – Motion was made by Councilman Storms, seconded by Councilman Skvorak to adopt the new IRS mileage rate of 62.5 cents per mile. Motion passed unanimously, carried.

The printer/copier in the Assessor's office has broken down and after several attempts, it is unrepairable and needs to be declared as surplus.

RESOLUTION #31-2022 – Motion was made by Councilman Storms, seconded by Councilman Gerber to declare the printer in the Assessor's office to wit: Dell H815dw, as surplus. Motion passed unanimously, carried.

A memo was received from Jefferson County Planning Dept. with recommendations to municipalities regarding solar project decommissioning plans. This was distributed to the entire council.

There being no further business to come before the Board, a motion was made by Councilman Britton, seconded by Councilman Gerber, to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 7:52 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Lori Borland, Town Clerk