

2022 Public Hearing & Regular Meeting MINUTES
November 7, 2022 6:45 p.m.

Present:

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| Paul H. Smith | Supervisor |
| Susan Storms | Councilman |
| Patrick Britton | Councilman |
| Shari Gerber | Councilman |
| Frank Skvorak | Councilman |
| Mike O'Shaughnessy | Highway Superintendent |
| Robert Ball | Assessor |
| Lori Borland | Town Clerk |
| Jim Burrows, Esq. | Town Attorney |
| Mary Ann Yuhas | Outgoing Clerk to Supervisor |

Supervisor Smith called the Public Hearing to order at 6:45 p.m. to hear the public's comments, if any, on the 2023 budget. No one was present to speak. Motion was made by Councilman Storms, seconded by Councilman Britton to close the public hearing, and the public hearing was closed at 6:47 p.m.

Supervisor Smith called the Regular Meeting to order at 6:47 p.m. and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

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

Privilege of the Floor: Mickey Dietrich, RACOG Circuit Rider, submitted his written report. He noted that the promotional video is almost done. Two Fort Drum interns will start on February 1, 2023. Mr. Dietrich also noted that digital radar signs are being looked into for those communities interested.

Communications: Letter was received asking for a contribution towards the Elks and Carthage Lions Club annual Thanksgiving Dinner. Motion was made by Councilman Britton, seconded by Councilman Gerber to contribute \$100.00 towards the cost of the free Thanksgiving Dinner to the public. Motion passed unanimously, carried.

Community Development Director Report: Deferiet BOA – RFP has been prepared and submitted for review/approval by the State. NY Forward – Application was submitted to Empire State Development for improvements to Carthage Park, boardwalk, among other things. Restore NY – The owner of the RR Depot has also obtained the former NAPA store across the street, and an application for Restore NY will be submitted in January 2023 for both buildings.

Highway Report: Michael O'Shaughnessy, Highway Superintendent, submitted a written report. Request for CHIPS reimbursement has been filed for \$145,895.75 due in mid-December. Jefferson County shared service was billed for \$348.67 and County payroll for \$16,842.50. Help with paving was done in Town of Champion. Veterans Banners were installed in the Village of Carthage. Cold patching, winter road markers are done. Plows are ready for winter. Equipment fully serviced. 11/2/22 was Kyle Bellinger's last day of his probationary period. Mike feels he will be a valuable employee at the Highway Dept.

Dog Control Officer: The Town has received a couple of complaints about a large number of feral cats on the Boyd Road. Supervisor Smith has reached out to the SPCA and DEC to see if there is anything that can be done for cats, and was answered "No." Mr. Burrows noted that the SPCA has purchased an abandoned farm in Henderson specifically for cats, and the cats are fixed and the SPCA brings food and water for them. Paul was going to look further into this.

Town Clerk Report: Ms. Borland noted that the Water District collections for October, 2022 were \$7843.57, and that any unpaid water/sewer charges were relieved in the amount of \$30,301.36. The Town Clerk fees for October, 2022 were \$1789.71. The Transfer Site Funds collected for October, 2022 were \$4196.00. DECALS commissions for October were \$137.11. The Bart Gill demolition bill has been sent to the County for relevy in the amount of \$48,280.45.

Code Enforcement: The total amount of the demolition and removal of the house and trailer and debris on the Smith property totaled \$64,657.13. This amount will be relieved on the 2024 Town taxes for that property. In the event someone wants to purchase it before that time, there has been a Notice of Pendency filed by the Town Attorney to alert that there is a lien against the property.

Assessor Report: Marlene Norfolk's last day is 11/7/2022 and she will be compensated for gross pay of \$596.15. Bob Ball has returned to his Assessor position as of 11/1/2022. 107 of 181 property sales/transfers were arm's length sales and will be reviewed over the next month. 164 open site visit/permits for the 2023 Assessment Roll. 12 of the 30 Senior Citizens Renewals for the STAR program have been sent back, processed and approved the next year's assessment roll.

Attorney Report: Mr. Burrows noted that the Sugar Maple Solar project has a draft permit issued. Otherwise, it has been quiet for the month.

Town Board Committees: Ms. Borland noted that because of a lack of communication and cooperation by Kempney Trucking, she has looked into hiring someone else to do foundations and cremation burial prep for the two cemeteries. Mike Liberatos, overseer of Fairview Cemetery suggested Carl Rogers and Ms. Borland reached out to him. He was able to do two foundations within a few days of contacting him. As an afternote, he did a cremation burial open/close for Sand Hill Cemetery, and the undertaker noted that he did an excellent job. The compensation for Mr. Rogers will be the same as it was for Kempney Trucking.

Town Supervisor's Financial Statements: Motion was made by Councilman Storms, 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 Skvorak, seconded by Councilman Britton, to approve the vouchers in Abstract #11 in the amount of \$112,763.93. Motion passed unanimously, carried.

Old Business: None

New Business: The Preliminary Budget for 2023 was presented at public hearing and no one spoke.

RESOLUTION #36-2022: Motion was made by Councilman Britton, seconded by Councilman Storms to adopt the Preliminary Budget for 2023 as presented. Motion passed unanimously, carried.

NYS Training and Delegates for NYC: Motion was made by Councilman Skvorak, seconded by Councilman Britton to appoint the Supervisor as the delegate to NYC for the Association of Towns annual meeting with the alternate being the Deputy Supervisor. Motion passed unanimously, carried.

A quote was submitted by USA Bluebook for chlorine sets for the year for Water District #2 of \$921.64 for the full year. Motion was made by Councilman Storms, seconded by Councilman Gerber to accept the proposal and move ahead. Motion passed unanimously, carried.

There being no further business to come before the Board, a motion was made by Councilman Skvorak, seconded by Councilman Gerber, to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 7:23 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Lori Borland, Town Clerk