

2023 Regular Meeting MINUTES
July 10, 2023

Present:

Paul H. Smith	Supervisor
Susan Storms	Councilman/Deputy Supervisor
Shari Gerber	Councilman
Frank Skvorak	Councilman
Patrick Britton	Councilman
Mike O'Shaughnessy	Highway Superintendent
Lori Borland	Town Clerk
James Burrows, Esq.	Town Attorney
Chris Barboza	RACOG Circuit Rider
Robert Ball	Assessor
Terry McKeever	Code Enforcement Officer

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 Gerber, seconded by Councilman Britton to approve the minutes from the meeting on June 12, 2023. Motion passed unanimously, carried.

Privilege of the Floor: Chris Barboza, RACOG Circuit Rider, noted that the next RACOG Summit Meeting next year will be either at the Elks Lodge in Carthage or Carthage Central School. There is currently an infrastructure survey being done.

Communications: None

Community Development Director – Mrs. Bullock provided a written report noting that the Brownfield Opportunity Area (BOA) reporting to the State is all up to date. She is preparing a Parks grant for the Crown Cleaners site in Herrings to construct a park. In that regard, she has provided a draft resolution for applying for financial assistance.

RESOLUTION #20-2023 – Motion was made by Councilman Storms, seconded by Councilman Britton to apply for financial assistance from the Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation in an amount not to exceed \$500,000 for funding the Herrings Waterfront Park. Motion passed unanimously, carried.

Highway Report: Michael O'Shaughnessy, Highway Superintendent, noted that the County has been billed for the shared highway work. His crew helped Deferiet with spring cleanup. Paved on CR 47. Mowing of cemeteries and town lots was completed. Replaced culvert on Lewisburg Rd. Finished shoulder and ditch work on Lewisburg, Lime and Natural Bridge streets and worked on tree and brush removal. Cleaned up the transfer site and repaired the stairs. The crew was off during the week of July 4 per contract. He requested that the \$6,000 received from the sale of the surplus truck be put in an Equipment Reserve. Supervisor Smith said he would like to discuss this with Laird Petrie regarding the budgeted figure. An Equipment Reserve account was authorized by the Board on 4/9/2019 for \$106,000.

Dog Control Officer: No report

Town Clerk Report: Ms. Borland noted that the Water District collections for June were \$13,397.00. The Town Clerk fees for June were \$2027.00. The Transfer Site Funds collected for June were \$3277.00. DECALS commissions for June were \$48.60. She further noted that she will be working on a new report for the Transfer Site expenses and income to present at the next meeting

Code Enforcement: Mr. McKeever noted that the Foy property on CR 41 in Natural Bridge needs to be demolished. He will reach out to Bronze Contracting for a quote. He has issued a permit for a new large home at the former Oasis campgrounds. There are three properties in Herrings owned by Brett Surace who are vacant and the lawns are in need of attention. The former Intorcia house in Herrings has been purchased by a lady in Adams and the lawn also needs attention. A demo permit was issued to Gokey for demo and re-build new. Potter property in Natural Bridge is coming down slowly but is fine.

Assessor Report: Mr. Ball noted that 42 of the 76 new property sales or transfers for 2023 were Arm's Length sales. He has reviewed and processed reports #4,5 and 6 for the STAR program, and the County made the changes he requested based on the reports, and then County made changes to the STAR exemptions. The final roll has been completed and filed with the Town Clerk. He has 88open site visit/permits for the 2024 Assessment Roll, but has not reviewed any or added any new ones, because he has been focusing on the Reassessment project/Land Tables. He has spent several hours revamping the land tables in the Village of Carthage.

Attorney Report: No report

Town Supervisor's Financial Statements: Motion was made by Councilman Storms, seconded by Councilman Gerber to approve the May and June financial statements as provided by the CPA's. Motion passed unanimously, carried.

Vouchers: Motion was made by Councilman Skvorak, seconded by Councilman Storms, to approve the vouchers in Abstract #7 in the amount of \$109,755.65. Motion passed unanimously, carried.

Old Business: A quote was received from Roggie's Flooring for new tiles to be placed in the front lobby area in the amount of \$494.50. Motion was made by Councilman Britton, seconded by Councilman Storms to accept the quote and have the work completed. Ms. Borland will contact Roggie's for a time frame.

New Business: The eCode supplements need to be updated, and a quote was given in the amount of between \$545 and \$625. Motion was made by Councilman Gerber, seconded by Councilman Britton to accept the quote and have the local laws supplement done.

Kimble Property Services has given a quote to increase the price of the cleaning service to \$330 per month for once per week, and \$560.00 per month for twice per week in the wintertime. Motion was made by Councilman Storms, seconded by Councilman Skvorak to accept the proposal. Motion passed unanimously, carried.

Because the Town is changing financial institutions, there needs to be an update done on the Investment Policy to relect the new bank. Motion was made by Councilman Britton, seconded by Councilman Gerber to update the Investment Policy as needed.

The County Highway Contract was discussed at a Town Supervisor's meeting and was accepted by the various town supervisors. Motion was made by Councilman Storms, seconded by Councilman Skvorak to accept the County Highway Contract as provided. Motion passed unanimously, carried. The contract was signed by Supervisor Smith and Highway Superintendent O'Shaughnessy and mailed back to the County on July 11, 2023.

Supervisor Smith attended a meeting about a possible Micrgrid project on the Pettawatt portion of the mill for the residents to save money. David Zembiec from the JCIDA is looking for a resolution to investigate the possibilities and funding sources.

RESOLUTION #21-2023 – Motion was made by Councilman Britton, seconded by Councilman Storms to authorize investigation into the possibility of a Mlcrogrid and funding sources for the 4 municipalities to include the Towns of Wilna and Champion and the Villages of Carthage and West Carthage. A sample resolution is expected to be provided. Motion passed unanimously, carried.

Supervisor Smith brought up the matter of Veterans Banners in Natural Bridge and Herrings. He noted that the Villages of Carthage and West Carthage have them, and suggested that perhaps the Tug Hill Commission could help with funding banners for Natural Bridge and Herrings. No action was taken at this time.

A motion was made by Councilman Storms, seconded by Councilman Gerber to enter into Executive Session to discuss the apportionment of a money award. Executive Session began at 7:50 p.m.

Regular Session resumed at 8:16 p.m. It was decided to hold the money award funds in the General Funds account in the event that the County comes back wanting to be reimbursed for making the Town, Village of Carthage and C-W Fire District whole. This account is an interest-bearing account instead of a non-interest-bearing escrow account.

There being no further business to come before the Board, a motion was made by Councilman Storms, seconded by Councilman Gerber, to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 8:16 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Lori Borland, Town Clerk