

2024 Regular Meeting MINUTES  
April 8, 2024

Present:

Paul H. Smith	Supervisor
Susan Storms	Councilman/Deputy Supervisor
Shari Gerber	Councilman
Patrick Britton	Councilman
Frank Skvorak	Councilman
Lori Borland	Town Clerk
Mickey Dietrich	RACOG Circuit Rider
Mike O'Shaughnessy	Highway Superintendent
Robert Ball	Assessor
Terry McKeever	Code/Zoning Officer
Lamanda Cook	Public
James Hanson	Public

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 Storms to approve the minutes from the meeting on March 11, 2024. Motion passed unanimously, carried.

Privilege of the Floor: Mickey Dietrich, RACOG Circuit Rider, noted that the next RACOG Meeting will be on May 30, 2024 at the Town of Wilna Offices. The Economic Visioning Summit had 23 attendees. U of Albany is wrapping up their COG survey. There is continuing work with the Youth Bureaus. RACOG has hired a Fort Drum intern. Joint Comprehensive Plans are continuing. Amber Swan, an intern, has been terminated. Her room for the Local Government Conference has been transferred to Paul Smith.

Two people from the public spoke about a drainage problem on the Boyd Road. A sluice pipe drains on the property, and tree removal and new sluice way is needed. The property has been subdivided and an existing house will be torn down and a new house constructed. The folks were instructed to get permission in writing from the neighbor to do the tree removal, etc.

Communications: None

Community Development Director – No report given

Highway Report: Michael O'Shaughnessy, Highway Superintendent reported that Village of Deferiet has asked for help in spring clean up; new flag pole at Turning Point Park; plowing and sanding continues; filled the sand barn; shoulder work on various roads along with tree work; general maintenance and repairs on the vehicles; new employee starting on April 22, 2024 at the probationary rate of \$21.80 per hour. Name is Charles Olson.

Dog Control Officer: No report

Town Clerk Report: Ms. Borland noted that the Water District collections for March were \$12,957.50. The Town Clerk fees for March were \$510.87. The Transfer Site Funds collected for March were \$3214.00. DECALS commissions for March were \$5.80, and that the total DECALS sales for March were \$105.00.

Code Enforcement: Mr. McKeever noted that he has 8 people due in Court, of which 6 are on the Boyd Road. The Jackson house on the Boyd road will be coming down eventually and a new building will be built.

Assessor Report: Mr. Ball noted that there were no new sales since last month. He has held 32 informal hearings with residents about their new assessments and has made adjustments where needed. He is working on completing the Tentative Roll for 2024 to be filed on May 1.

Attorney Report: No Report

Town Board Committees: The Comprehensive Plan Committee has a quote from Coughlin Printing of \$685.31 for preparation and printing/mailing of post cards for the new Plan. Motion was made by Councilman Britton, seconded by Councilman Storms to approve the quote and move forward. Motion passed unanimously, carried.

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

Vouchers: Motion was made by Councilman Storms, seconded by Councilman Britton, to approve the vouchers in Abstract #4 in the amount of \$62,195.13. Motion passed unanimously, carried.

Old Business: It was noted that the Herrings Wastewater Disinfection Project is to be completed by August. Mr. Smith has looked into various possible sources for a loan. USDA can lend the Sewer District \$150,000 at 2.125% for at an annual payment of \$5300. He is still pursuing other sources.

New Business: There is a vacancy on the Town of Wilna Housing Authority Board with Linda Prashaw having moved out of the area. Sean McHale has been approached to fill the position. Motion was made by Councilman Gerber, seconded by Councilman Britton to appoint Sean McHale to the TWHA Board for a five year term. Motion passed unanimously, carried.

The annual Court Audit was done by Councilman Britton and Councilman Storms, and NYS needs a resolution stating that the records were audited and the results having been sent in. Motion was made by Councilman Storms, seconded by Councilman Britton to make such resolution and for Town Clerk to forward the results to NYS. Motion passed unanimously, carried.

It was noted that the Transfer Site has been in the red for the past several years, and that a price increase is needed. Currently, the price is \$3.00 per 30 gallon bag, with a 4 bag ticket at \$12.00. Motion was made by Councilman Britton, seconded by Councilman Storms to raise the price per bag to \$3.50 with a 4 bag ticket at \$14.00, effective with the new tickets arriving. The stock will be green and will be used as soon as the current blue tickets are exhausted. Motion passed unanimously, carried.

The NYS Retirement System requires that a Standard Work Day be established after each term of office is renewed. Motion was made by Councilman Skvorak, seconded by Councilman Storms, to note that the Standard Work Day for salaried and appointed employees will be 7 hours, and the Standard Work Day for the Highway Department is 8 hours. Motion passed unanimously, carried.

Councilman Britton noted that Peter Kelly, the Justice Court Clerk, has requested that he be appointed as Peace Officer, to be unable to carry a firearm during court. He is a Peace Officer in another jurisdiction, so he already has the training. It was noted that the Court nights are becoming a problem with disgruntled defendants, etc. upsetting the Court, and that the law enforcement has had to be called several times, with a turnaround time for them to arrive sometimes being more than 30 minutes. Mr. Smith said he will look into the cost of increased insurance coverage and the matter was tabled for the time being.

There being no further business to come before the Board, a motion was made by Councilman Gerber, seconded by Councilman Storms, to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

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Lori Borland, Town Clerk