

2024 Regular Meeting MINUTES  
March 11, 2024

Present:

Paul H. Smith	Supervisor
Susan Storms	Councilman/Deputy Supervisor
Shari Gerber	Councilman
Patrick Britton	Councilman
Lori Borland	Town Clerk
Mickey Dietrich	RACOG Circuit Rider
Mike O'Shaughnessy	Highway Superintendent
James Burrows, Esq.	Town Attorney
Robert Ball	Assessor
April Hall	DCO

Absent: Frank Skvorak

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 February 12, 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 is scheduled for March 29 at the Carthage Elks Lodge at 9 a.m. with lunch to follow. U of Albany is doing a COG survey. Paul Smith is the new Chair of RACOG and Yvonne Boliver is Vice-Chair. There is continuing work with the Youth Bureaus. RACOG is looking for Fort Drum interns. Joint Comprehensive Plans are continuing.

Communications: Invitation to attend a Vietnam Veteran Ceremony and parade. Request was received by CCS SADD program for a contribution towards their Prom Lock-In on May 4. Motion was made by Councilman Storms, seconded by Councilman Britton to contribute \$100.00 towards this event. Motion passed unanimously, carried.

Community Development Director – Sarah Bullock, CDD, gave a report that the progress reports on the BOA have been submitted to DOS. Steering Committee met and reviewed the timeline for the project and the most strategic sites for improvement/development. She attended SWOT meeting for the Comprehensive Plan. She met with Troy Babcock regarding possible funding for the Deferiet Fire Dept. She has been working on the Herrings Recreational Park grant that has been awarded. An updated resolution is needed to be passed by the Board. Motion was made by Councilman Britton, seconded by Councilman Storms to pass the updated resolution needed by the NYS Parks and Recreation. Roll call vote was had, and all voted AYE, carried.

Highway Report: Michael O'Shaughnessy, Highway Superintendent reported that plowing and sanding are ongoing, as with cutting and chipping trees on Rogers Crossing Road. Continued maintenance on all vehicles is ongoing. Jefferson County has increased all equipment rates by 20%. Chad Mono has quit and his last day was March 8, 2024. Applications are coming in and he is hoping to hire someone soon.

Dog Control Officer: April noted that there is an ongoing problem in Black River that she continues to get calls on, even though that is not her jurisdiction. Continued complaints on dogs running at large, etc.

Town Clerk Report: Ms. Borland noted that the Water District collections for February were \$1149.50. The Town Clerk fees for February were \$1381.12. The Transfer Site Funds collected for February were \$2821.00. DECALS commissions for February were \$11.97, and that the total DECALS sales for February were \$645.00.

Code Enforcement: no report

Assessor Report: Mr. Ball noted that 9/12 of the new property sales/transfers were arms length sales. Total for 2024 to date are 20. He has continued to work on the town wide reassessment project, and has received final approval from NYS, he has mailed out the impact notices, and has scheduled several informal hearings with more to follow.

Attorney Report: Mr. Burrows noted that he has nothing new to report.

Town Board Committees: The Comprehensive Plan Committee continues to work on the new Comprehensive Plan and is moving forward towards post cards and survey.

Town Supervisor's Financial Statements: Motion was made by Councilman Storms, seconded by Councilman Gerber to approve the February 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 #3 in the amount of \$787,762.13 which includes the Fire Districts. Motion passed unanimously, carried.

Old Business: It was noted that the Herrings Wastewater Disinfection Project is to be completed by August. There is a new grinder pump that needs to be purchased along with repairs to the current one. A new one would cost about \$3898.00 and the repairs to the old one would run about \$1702.00. Motion was made by Councilman Storms, seconded by Councilman Britton to approve the expenditures for the new pump and the repairs to the old pump. Motion passed unanimously, carried. It was noted that the Highway Department will be drawing sand from Brier Hill for the Herrings project, which will result in a savings to the project overall.

New Business: The Town Office needs a new copier, and new one would cost about \$5600.00. Motion was made by Councilman Gerber, seconded by Councilman Storms to approve the quote and order a new copier. Motion passed unanimously. Carried.

It was noted that the septic tanks at Herrings need to be pumped prior to the disinfection project being started. Williamson Services quoted \$3150 for both tanks. Motion was made by Councilman Britton, seconded by Councilman Storms to accept the quote and move forward. Motion passed unanimously, carried.

There needs to be a budget transfer done from Contractual Sewer Disposal of \$4250 and to the Payroll Sewer Disposal of \$4250. Motion was made by Councilman Gerber, seconded by Councilman Storms to approve the budget transfer. Motion passed unanimously, carried.

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 7:36 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

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Lori Borland, Town Clerk