

2023 Public Hearing and Regular Meeting MINUTES
November 9, 2023

Present:

Paul H. Smith	Supervisor
Susan Storms	Councilman/Deputy Supervisor
Frank Skvorak	Councilman
Patrick Britton	Councilman
Lori Borland	Town Clerk
Mickey Dietrich	RACOG Circuit Rider
Rebecca Shultz	Deputy Town Clerk
Terry McKeever	Code & Zoning Officer
James Burrows, Esq.	Town Attorney
Emily & Franz Phillipe	CPA's

Excused: Robert Ball, Assessor, Shari Gerber, Councilman, Michael O'Shaughnessy, Highway Superintendent

Supervisor Smith called the Public Hearing to order at 6:45 p.m. and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited. The Public Hearing was to adopt the 2024 Budget at the tax rate of \$3.16 due to some necessary changes. No one spoke, and the Public Hearing was closed at 6:47 p.m. by motion of Councilman Storms and seconded by Councilman Britton.

Supervisor Smith called the Regular Meeting to order at 6:48 p.m.

Minutes: Motion was made by Councilman Britton, seconded by Councilman Skvorak to approve the minutes from the meeting on October 10, 2023. Motion passed unanimously, carried.

Privilege of the Floor: Mickey Dietrich, RACOG Circuit Rider, noted that the next RACOG Meeting will be on January 24, 2024 at a place to be determined. He noted that the Roundtable meeting at Glenfield had about 45 people attending.

Communications: A request was received from the Carthage Elks and Carthage Lions Club for a contribution towards the free Thanksgiving Dinner. Motion was made by Councilman Britton, seconded by Councilman Storms to contribute \$200.00 towards the event. Motion passed unanimously, carried.

Community Development Director – Sarah Bullock, CDD, gave a report that the community survey for the Deferiet BOA is complete and the steering committee will resume next month. Reporting to DOS is up to date, with a payment request submitted for \$57,000 for reimbursement of what has been paid to the consultants to date. She has been reviewing the Downtown Economic Resiliency Strategy to identify key projects for the area.

Highway Report: Michael O'Shaughnessy, Highway Superintendent, gave a written report in his absence, noting that the CHIPS reimbursement should be about December 14. Fall cleanup in Deferiet was done on 10/18/23. Flags were put up in Carthage. Sand hauling has been finished and winter road markers are all up, and the trucks and equipment have been readied for winter. Sanding of the roads has been done 4 times. Trees on N. Croghan Road have been cut and an old storage trailer has been removed.

Dog Control Officer: Nothing new to report – still many calls and working on dogs running at large, etc.

Town Clerk Report: Ms. Borland noted that the Water District collections for October were \$13,608.14. The relevy sent to the County on October 30 was \$29,686.21. The Town Clerk fees for October were \$1503.59. The Transfer Site Funds collected for October were \$4169.00. DECALS commissions for October were \$162.78, and that the total DECALS sales for October were \$2972.00.

Code Enforcement: Mr. McKeever noted that a house in Natural Bridge owned by Pistolese has been condemned, and the house next door is also in bad shape. There is a change order on the Foy property debris removal because of the amount of contamination, and the waste has to go to Ontario County. The change order is for \$12,000. Motion was made by Councilman Britton, seconded by Councilman Storms to accept the change order and go ahead. Regarding the James Potter property in Natural Bridge. The family does not want the property, and there are two minor children who are the heirs to the property. The property is in iminent danger and is a nuisance to children and animals. A motion was made by Councilman Skvorak, seconded by Councilman Storms to declare the James Potter and Emergency Cleanup. Roll call was taken and all voted aye. Since this is an emergency declaration, no public hearing is needed, and no bids need to be obtained from contractors. The Town attorney will revise the proposed resolution and get it to the Clerk. Mr. McKeever will get a quote from Bronze and Paradigm.

Assessor Report: No report

Attorney Report: Nothing further to report

Town Board Committees: No report

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

Vouchers: Motion was made by Councilman Britton, seconded by Councilman Skvorak, to approve the vouchers in Abstract #11 in the amount of \$120,983.70. Motion passed unanimously, carried.

Old Business:

The 2024 Budget public hearing had no one attending, and a motion was made by Councilman Britton, seconded by Councilman Skvorak to approve the 2024 final budget with the tax rate at \$3.16. Roll call vote was taken, and all voted Aye. Motion carried.

New Business: A quote was received from Adirondack Lightning Protection for new fire extinguishers for the Town offices, because the current ones are outdated. The quote is for \$762.00. Motion was made by Councilman Storms, seconded by Councilman Skvorak to approve the quote and go ahead with the replacement. Motion passed unanimously.

Town Clerk made a request to the Board to be able to purchase new Christmas decorations for the Town Office. Motion was made by Councilman Britton, seconded by Councilman Skvorak to allow the purchase of decorations with a limit of \$200.00. Motion passed unanimously, carried.

Association of Towns needs to have the Board appoint delegates in order to have a vote in the meetings. Motion was made by Councilman Storms, seconded by Councilman Skvorak, to appoint Paul Smith as the main delegate, and a motion was made by Councilman Britton, seconded by Councilman Skvorak to appoint Councilman Susan Storms as the alternate delegate. Both motions passed unanimously, carried.

The bid for the Herrings Wastewater Disinfection Project was discussed. There are funding issues for the total project cost of \$328,683. The final decision was tabled until the next meeting on December 11, 2023, to have Supervisor Smith explore some further funding options.

Supervisor Smith noted that the final meeting of the year will be on Friday, December 29, 2023 at 10:00 a.m.

There being no further business to come before the Board, a motion was made by Councilman Storms, seconded by Supervisor Smith, to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 7:47 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Lori Borland, Town Clerk