

April 19, 2018

Town Board Public Hearing and Regular Board Meeting

Present: Supervisor Edward Bender, Councilman Alan Wood, Councilman Dan Wiley, Councilman Marty Mason, Councilman Paul Aubertine, Highway Superintendent Bill Pond, Keith Brass and approximately 20 visitors.

Supervisor Bender opened the public hearing at 6:15pm with the pledge of allegiance. He stated that the public hearing is regarding local law #1 of 2018, the Authority to change the Assessor's pay from Salary to Hourly and he asked for comments.

Debra Suller – Ms. Suller asked what effect on the budget this would have and would it hinge on the assessors profession status. Supervisor Bender told her that he was in contact with the Association of Towns Attorneys for advice, and the changes are being made with their guidance.

After no further comments, Councilman Wood made a motion to close the public hearing at 6:16pm, seconded by Councilman Mason. All members voted AYE.

Supervisor Bender opened the regular meeting at 6:16pm.

Privilege of the floor.

Sam Delong – Ms. Delong told the board that it has been a long time since she has addressed the board, and that she just wanted to remind them that as the town board one of their purposes is to deal with public health, safety and welfare. She said that she lives on Lisa Drive and her neighbor needed an ambulance. It took 45 minutes for any help to come. She explained that this was not the first time the residents on Lisa Drive have had to wait for emergency service. She said that she does not know what is going on but has heard a rumor that the town has not paid TIERS in months. Supervisor Bender said he would like to squash that rumor and stated that the town has paid, but the checks were lost. He said that new checks were issued and he hand delivered them to TIERS.

Ms. Delong asked what can be done in the future to prevent this from happening. Supervisor Bender explained lag time and who will be called into service.

Roger Dowling, Chief of the ambulance squad, explained what is supposed to happen. He said he feels that dispatch did not act properly for the call. He said they are human and make mistakes.

Councilman Wiley asked Mr. Dowling if the ambulance squad gives a calendar of who is available and he said they did.

Supervisor Bender explained that the town has been working on this issue for years, and Ms. Delong asked if there was a plan in place because Cape Vincent is an aging community and she feels this should be a priority.

Ron Jacobs said that the town board is aware of the circumstances. They are volunteers and operate with what they have.

Supervisor Bender said that he would like to have a meeting with TIERS, Guilfoyle, the ambulance, town and village.

Nick Vero – Mr. Vero thanked the board for allowing him to speak. He explained that his wife broke her leg and he took her to the hospital, and he hates to think of what would have happened if he wasn't

there to help her. He said he understands it is a volunteer ambulance and he will be taking some classes so that he can help others on Lisa Drive.

Debra Suller – Ms. Suller said that she saw that the town will be replacing the roofs on the buildings at Tibbetts Point and she wanted to know why that was a priority over the windows. The board explained that the roofs are in terrible shape and need attention now.

Ms. Suller thanked the board for appointing her to the Board of Assessment Review.

Colleen Knuth – Ms. Knuth said that the lighting of the lighthouse will be in July. The Chamber of Commerce will be providing refreshments and a parade of boats will participate.

The minutes of the March 15, 2018 and April 5, 2018 meeting were accepted by Councilman Wiley, seconded by Councilman Wood. All members voted AYE.

Recreation Park – Keith Brass reported that Rec Park has had the usual activities. He said that they have been working on the restrooms.

Water – Keith Brass reported that they are installing the new meters in water district one. They have rebuilt the reservoir valve and have ordered new meters. They have been doing water turn ons. Keith said that a water line broke in water district four and they have repaired it. He talked about the water tower being down for repairs in May.

Highway – Bill Pond reported that they have done brush grinding and have removed the fence around the ice rink and tore down the playground. He said that new lights have been installed. Bill talked to the board about his request of approval from them to have RMS Gravel do the crushing. He said that they will charge \$3.00 per ton. He said they are in Clayton now and can do the job for the town as soon as they are done in Clayton. Bill said that he needs an answer from the board right away. He said the culvert pipes are in and they are waiting for better weather to start that project. He will be pumping out the septic at Tibbetts Point.

Bill talked to the board about a piece of equipment that he would like to purchase to help fill in the shoulders of the road. The board asked him if he would share it and Bill said that they could. He has talked with Clayton and they are interested, but do not want to share the cost.

Councilman Aubertine made a motion for the Highway Superintendent to purchase the HDC hydraulic conveyer with costs not to exceed \$7,700.00, seconded by Councilman Mason. All members voted AYE. Bill talked to the board about the fuel system upgrade. He provided the board with the specs he is requesting and the bids received to date. The board discussed the bids and Supervisor Bender asked the machinery committee what they thought. Councilman Aubertine said that the bids are clear and all the specs that Bill has asked for are spelled out in the bids.

Councilman Aubertine made a motion to authorize the Highway Superintendent to sign contracts to purchase a new fuel system with Docteur Environmental with costs not to exceed \$12,000.00, seconded by Councilman Wood. All members voted AYE.

Councilman Wood made a motion to hire RMS Gravel, seconded by Councilman Mason. All members voted AYE.

Bill Pond told the board that the surplus equipment advertisement is out for the welder and cement mixer.

Supervisor's Financial Report – Supervisor Bender reviewed the month's financials.

Councilman Mason made a motion to approve of the Supervisor's financial report, seconded by Councilman Wood. All members voted AYE.

LWRP – Supervisor Bender said that they have had a meeting and Jane Rice has recommended that a citizens committee be appointed by May 3. He said this will be made up of 5 people. Supervisor Bender said that they will have a public meeting on June 13 at 6pm.

Councilman Wiley said that it is a joint LWRP and he said it has to be joint efforts. He feels that there needs to be better communication between the town, village and the LWRP. He feels that everyone is going in different directions and they need to stay on the same path. Councilman Wiley also said that he has been in contact with Ogdensburg and Prescott Ontario as they have created an international pedestrian/bike trail. He would like that to happen here. They are willing to work on this with him and he said that the Thousand Islands International Council told him there is millions of dollars out there to spend along the seaway.

Youth Commission – Councilman Wiley said that there will be peewee and grasshopper leagues this year.

TI School – Councilman Wiley said that he attended the meeting and bids for the schools Capital project were awarded.

Playground – Councilman Wiley said that the playground will be shipped May 29 and the build dates are June 6, 7, 8. He would like infrastructure put in for drinking fountains for future installation.

Supervisors Report

Supervisor Bender said that he and Councilman Wood audited the Town Clerk's records. He reported that they found no errors and everything was found to be in order.

Supervisor Bender reported that he would like to have the men and ladies bathrooms remodeled and that Bill Pond has given a quote of \$6,500.00.

Councilman Wood made a motion to spend \$6,500.00 for renovates the bathrooms, seconded by Councilman Mason. All members voted AYE.

Councilmen's Report

Councilman Mason said that the piece of property that the town will be giving to the village behind the Chamber of Commerce building needs to be declared surplus. Supervisor Bender will contact Attorney Gebo to ask if there are specific steps the town will need to take to do this.

Councilman Wiley said that the youth commission shed is full of equipment and he would like to clean it out and donate some of the equipment. Councilman Aubertine agreed and said that the equipment will need to be declared surplus before donating.

Councilman Aubertine said that there does not seem to be communication between the town, village and LWRP, LDC and he wonders if any thought has been given to assigning a contact person to keep everyone informed. Councilman Wiley said that he felt Scott Burto, the planner, should be the contact person, the coordinator. Councilman Aubertine said that he feels maybe the planner is not working out and he feels it is tough being available just one day a week. Councilman Wiley said that he feels the town should talk with Scott as he may be getting frustrated. Councilman Wood said that he will stop to see Scott to find out what projects he has going. Councilman Mason said that there should be a meeting with the village, LDC and town. Councilman Wiley agreed, stating that he would like to know what the village has planned.

Resolutions

Resolution #26

Resolution #26 was moved by Councilman Wiley, seconded by Councilman Wood. Resolution #26 is Local Law #1 of 2018, the authority to change the Assessor's pay from salary to hourly. A legally advertised public hearing was held. There was no discussion. All members voted AYE.

Resolution #27

Resolution #27 was moved by Councilman Mason, seconded by Councilman Aubertine. Resolution #27 is to authorize the Supervisor to sign a two year Inter Municipal Agreement between the towns of Brownville, Lyme and Clayton for dog control services. There was no discussion. All members voted AYE.

Resolution #28

Resolution #28 was moved by Councilman Aubertine, seconded by Councilman Wiley. Resolution #28 is to authorize the Supervisor to transfer \$1,990.00 from B7310.1 to B7310.4 and transfer \$1,090.00 from A1990.4 to A3510.4 for budget amendments. There was no discussion. All members voted AYE.

Resolution #29

Resolution #29 was moved by Councilman Wiley, seconded by Councilman Mason. Resolution #29 is to appoint Joseph W. Russell, Esq. with Menter, Rudin & Trivelpiece as the town's attorney effective June and to authorize the Supervisor to sign agreements. There was the following discussion. Councilman Aubertine asked if Attorney Russell will also be used by the village and Councilman Mason said that the village has not appointed yet.

Vote was taken, all members voted AYE.

Resolution #30

Resolution #30 was moved by Councilman Aubertine, seconded by Councilman Wood. Resolution #30 is to authorize the Supervisor to sign the agreement with Dany Moyer for shelter services for dog control. There was no discussion. All members voted AYE.

Resolution #31

Resolution #31 was moved by Councilman Mason, seconded by Councilman Aubertine. Resolution #31 is to set the standard work day for the NYS Retirement system. There was no discussion. All members voted AYE.

Bills: General Fund, \$67,436.74; WD 1, \$19,083.99; WD3, \$1,050.04; WD 4, \$128,422.55; WD 5, \$822.77; WD6 \$1,861.13; Highway, \$216,361.18.

Councilman Mason made the motion to approve of the payment of the vouchers, seconded by Councilman Aubertine. Supervisor Bender and Councilmen Aubertine, Mason and Wood voted AYE. Councilman Wiley abstained as he did not review the vouchers.

Privilege of the floor.

Roger Dowling – Roger said that he wanted to update the board on the calls and the new member application coming in. He said that the ambulance squad was having a membership drive.

Bill Pond discussed with the board the need to have the electric placed underground for the Christmas Committees lighting of the Lighthouse at Tibbetts Point. He said he did not want this to come out of his budget and the board told him it would come from General Fund.

Councilman Wood made a motion to adjourn at 7:49pm, seconded by Councilman Mason.

Michelle Bouchard, RMC – Town Clerk