

Sept. 19, 2019

Regular Town Board Meeting

Present: Supervisor Edward Bender, Councilman Paul Aubertine, Councilman Marty Mason, Councilman Dan Wiley, Highway Superintendent Bill Pond, Keith Brass, Matt Cooper, Scott Burto, and approximately 7 visitors.

Absent: Councilman Alan Wood, excused

Supervisor Bender opened the meeting at 6:30pm with the pledge of allegiance.

Privilege of the floor:

Mike Broader – Mike said that he is a resident of Wilson Point Circle and was in attendance to ask the board for support to their efforts to ask representatives to allow those residents who are not permanent to apply for grant assistance. He said that he thought it was unfair to be excluded. Mike said that in 2017 he lost 2 ½' of shoreline, that they fixed, and they will have to do it again as a result of this year's high water. He asked that the board send a letter to the Senator and Governor on their behalf. Mike thanked the board for what they have done so far with the REDI program.

Liz Brennan – Liz thanked Supervisor Bender for welcoming everyone to this year's Piano Competition and she thanked the board for their support.

Liz said that she is also a resident of Wilson Point Circle. She said that she wrote a letter to the Watertown Daily Times and was contacted by a reporter to find out if it was true that residents who are not permanent were excluded from applying for assistance. Liz read the letter that she sent to the Times. Liz, too, asked that the board send a letter that all waterfront residents have the opportunity to apply for assistance.

Supervisor Bender asked Matt Cooper from Barton and Logudice to address the board to give an update on the Sewer project and water district 7.

Matt reported that 50% of the grant is available upon the execution of the grant agreement, and 50 % of the grant is released after the engineering report is approved by DEC.

Matt reported that water district 7 is progressing well. He said that the income survey done by G&G is done and the information gathered shows that the town will qualify for assistance through grants. They will be applying with Rural Development once the board has passed the resolution that will be passed at the meeting. Matt said that the EFC listing is complete. Matt said that they are moving along with the district formation process and he talked with the board about options to proceed such as a Permissive Referendum or vote. Matt said that he would prefer that given the options, the town support a Permissive Referendum.

Councilman Aubertine asked Matt if they had any idea of a user rate yet. Matt said that at this time he would like to review the grant funding, but when they first discussed the district the figure was \$898.00. Matt said that the Health Department has said that they do not want any large vacant parcels in the project.

Scott Burto – Scott reported that the DASNY paperwork is submitted for the Tibbetts Point project. He said that he has also sent in information for a grant for the Village Police garage. Scott said that a grant

check for the pavilion at East End Park was received. Supervisor Bender told him that all projects have been submitted to REDI.

Scott told the board that the LDC is discussing the walking trail to Tibbetts Point again. He said that some of the property has changed hands and he would like the town to send a letter to the residents to find out if there is still interest in the project. Councilman Wiley said that he would prefer to have a meeting with the residents and Scott said that the town should schedule one. Scott said that the DANC water line would be another possibility.

Councilman Aubertine said that he would like to know how the property owners feel about the walking trail, and that he would like to have a letter written to them first before a meeting is scheduled. Scott agreed.

The minutes of the August 15, 2019 meeting were accepted by Councilman Wiley, seconded by Councilman Aubertine. All members present voted AYE.

Reports:

Recreation Park – Keith Brass reported that they have had the usual meetings, parties and wedding receptions. He said that they have worked on the berms for the ballfields and that a lot of fill needed to be brought in. He said the Pickle Ball courts are in and the fence will be done next year.

Water – Keith Brass said that they had two water repairs in the last couple of weeks. He reported that the bypass water line is in and working at the site of the Millen’s Bay culvert replacement project. Keith said that they have painted all hydrants in water district 5. Keith said that the seasonal water shut offs have begun. Keith also told the board that he has worked with a smaller excavator. He said it was much easier to handle and worked well for the job he had. Keith said that he would like to purchase the next size larger machine.

Highway – Bill Pond said that they have helped with building the Pickle Ball court and it is ready for blacktop, he said they will also blacktop the parking lot next week at Recreation Park. Bill told the board that the trusses are in at East End Park. He said that the crew has installed four culvert driveways. He said they have done paving shared service work with the town of Lyme. Bill said that he would like to have an answer from the board regarding paving the parking lot in front of the office building. He explained that the County will do it for free as a shared service project; the town will only pay for the blacktop.

Councilman Wiley made a motion to approve the paving of the parking lot and the \$7,500.00 for cost to do so, seconded by Councilman Mason. All members present voted AYE.

Supervisor’s Financial Report – Supervisor Bender reviewed the financial report.

Councilman Aubertine made a motion to approve of the Supervisor’s Financial Report, seconded by Councilman Mason. All members present voted AYE.

LWRP – Councilman Wiley said that things are moving along with the third and fourth reports.

Youth Commission – Councilman Wiley said that they will be promoting a TI youth hockey program, a cooking class and youth yoga.

Supervisor Bender Reported that he would like to set up budget work sessions. He said that he would like to start on Sept. 24.

Councilman Aubertine made a motion that the town board hold budget work sessions on Tuesdays and Thursdays at 8am beginning Sept. 24 and continuing through October, seconded by Councilman Wiley. All members present voted AYE.

Supervisor Bender said that he has met with Mike Avery, who owns an AIRB&B in the village. He said that Mike Avery would like to run one at Tibbetts Point using the houses. Supervisor Bender said that he showed the houses to Mr. Avery. He will be in attendance at the next work session. Supervisor Bender said that he has also been approached by another individual who would like to run it as a Hostel.

Councilman Aubertine said that he feels the 2020 budget season will be challenging and he would like to see department head worksheets prior to the budget work sessions.

Councilman Wiley said that he would like a solution to the Ambulance situation. He said that they will have a \$20,000 shortfall this year.

Tim White – Tim gave a report on the ambulance. He reviewed the call volume and they feel this will not change. Tim said that they did lose money this year.

Supervisor Bender said that the town cannot give the ambulance squad money without a contract. He said that they may want to create a district and this should be discussed. Tim said that it would be fruitful if Jeff Call and Dave Macintyre could be at the meeting. Tim said that if a district is created, the ambulance would not be able to charge for their service and he said it would be a shame not to keep the revenue from billing. He said that they have worked hard to set up the billing system.

Councilman Mason made a motion to send the changes to the water law regarding outside users and major leaks to Attorney Russell for review, seconded by Councilman Aubertine. All members present voted AYE.

Councilman Wiley made a motion to authorize the Supervisor to send a letter to Senator Ritchie, Governor Cuomo, Assemblyman Walczyk, Congresswoman Stefanik, and Legislator Cantwell to ask that all residents be given the same chance to apply for assistance through the REDI program, seconded by Councilman Mason. All members present voted AYE.

Resolution #55

Resolution #55 was moved by Councilman Wiley, seconded by Councilman Mason. Resolution #55 is to appoint Rebecca Trudell as the Sole Assessor for the Town of Cape Vincent for a six year term beginning Oct. 1, 2019 through Sept. 30, 2015.

There was the following discussion. Councilman Mason said that he would like to have the Assessor sign a contract. He would like to have her go through an evaluation process each year. After further discussion, it was decided that the board will sit with Rebecca and let her know what will be expected of her.

All members present voted AYE.

Resolution #56

Resolution #56 was moved by Councilman Mason, seconded by Councilman Aubertine. Resolution #56 authorizes the Supervisor to execute documents for any funding applications to the USDA Rural Development and if awarded, to execute Rural Development loan and grant documents for the Town of

Cape Vincent Water Dist. #7 and authorize Barton & Loguidice's Matt Cooper to prepare the funding application on the Town's behalf and to act as the administrator for the RD Apply online system.

All members present voted AYE

Resolution #57

Resolution #57 was moved by Councilman Aubertine, seconded by Councilman Mason. Resolution #57 is to agree to adjust the water bill at Docteur's Cottages and seasonal Park to 1,250,000 gallons of water charged at a rate of \$1.95 per 1000 gallons and 1,000,000 gallons of water charged at a rate of \$5.10 per 1000 gallons.

There was the following discussion. Councilman Aubertine said that he wanted to pound home that this will be the language in the law regarding large water leaks. All agreed it would be.

All members present voted AYE.

Supervisor Bender told the board members that they need to review the information received from the Zoning Officer regarding a violation at 32002 NYS Rt 12E.

The board discussed the information and Supervisor Bender told them they need to make a decision on how to proceed. He said that the previous Zoning Officer made a mistake and issued an invalid permit.

Bills: General Fund, \$36,761.33; Highway, \$15,776.21; WD#1, \$12,369.97; WD #3, \$351.20; WD#4, \$2231.26; WD #5, \$625.40; WD#6, \$598.26; WD #7, \$5,423.05; H4, \$5,423.05.

Councilman Mason made a motion to approve the payment of the vouchers, seconded by Councilman Aubertine. All members present voted AYE.

Supervisor Bender told the board that he would like a page in the minute book intentionally left blank in honor of Darrell Burton.

Councilman Wiley made a motion that a page in the minute book be left blank in honor of Darrell Burton, seconded by Councilman Mason. All members present voted AYE.

Town Clerk, Michelle Bouchard talked with the board regarding the Governor's new law that waives the State's marriage license fee for active military. She said that the town can waive the town's portion too, but she suggested that they collect the fee for administration purposes.

Councilman Wiley made a motion that the town waives the fee for a marriage license for active military, seconded by Councilman Mason. All members present voted AYE.

Town Clerk, Michelle Bouchard told the board that the Community Library is looking for a satellite location for three months beginning in January because of construction. She said that Amy Pond is asking to use the small meeting room next to the kitchen in the Recreation Park building, and that she has filled out a request form. After further discussion, the board agreed to let the Library use the room at Recreation Park and that Amy keeps in touch with Keith Brass as to not interfere with other planned events.

Councilman Aubertine made a motion to adjourn at 8:20pm.

Michelle Bouchard, RMC – Town Clerk