

August 20, 2020

Regular Town Board Meeting

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

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

Privilege of the floor

Mike Couglar – Mike introduced himself to the board as the President of the Tibbetts Point Lighthouse Historical Society. He asked the board if they typically preferred to sign one year contracts. He discussed the Concession Agreement with the board as it was originally a three year contract.

Councilman Wiley said that the board decided on the one year contract as a precautionary measure because the board is in the process of changing the classification status of the property. He said that it does not mean that the board does not want to work with the Historical Society.

Supervisor Bender told Mike that George Robinson is aware of the contract change. Mike asked Supervisor Bender if Mr. Robinson approved the amendment. Supervisor Bender said that he has and he had given the paperwork to John Mosher. Supervisor Bender said that he has the corrected Concession agreement and would like Mike to come to the office to sign it on Friday.

Mike said that he feels it is important for the board and the Historical Society to work together. He told the board that the society has funds to fix what needs to be fixed. Mike reminded the board that it is the town's responsibility to maintain the grounds. Mike said that going forward; he wondered if there should be a liaison between the two boards. Mike said that he would like to have the Historical Society help with the process of the town changing the status and he said that he would like to have the board meet with them and walk the grounds to discuss what needs to be done, and he talked about erosion on the outside of the fence.

The Town Clerk reminded the board that they approved the Supervisor and the Town Clerk to be the liaisons at their June meeting.

Councilman Wiley said that he would like to know what needs to be done, and he asked Bill Pond to look over the grounds where it is eroding.

Councilman Aubertine said that this is a good opportunity for them to give the town ideas to put on the bid sheet for maintenance.

Councilman Mason made a motion to accept the minutes of the July 16, 2020 meeting, seconded by Councilman Aubertine.

All members voted AYE.

Reports

Recreation Park – in Keith Brass' absence, Town Clerk, Michelle Bouchard read his report for Recreation Park and the Water Department.

Regular meetings have been held in the building, the sewing group has met and there was a family benefit. They have filled in a hole with the left over dirt that was around the parking lot. They have also seeded around the blacktop where the pickle ball court will be.

Keith also reported that the sewing group has requested another day to make masks for Lyme Central School and TI School. They are looking for help if anyone is interested.

Water – Keith’s report states that they had two water installs in water district 1. They have painted fire hydrants in water districts 1 and 3. Flow meters have been calibrated at the water plant, water tower, and master meter on the end of James Street. All dead ends in water districts 3, 4 and 6 have been flushed. Keith’s report also says that he has sent the paperwork off to the Development Authority requesting Greg Knapp’s water install in water district #2. He is asking that the board discuss allowing Greg to have use of the right of way along the Favret Road. He said that this would be an easier route to take.

Keith’s report says the town needs to add the Town Standards for water Installation to the water law. Keith said that he would like to purchase a line locator and he had provided three quotes.

Councilman Aubertine made a motion to allow Greg Knapp to use the town’s right of way along the Favret Road for his water installation, seconded by Councilman Wiley. All members voted AYE. Bill Pond told the board that he too gave a document allowing the use of the right of way.

Matt Cooper – Matt Cooper from Barton and Lodguidce reported on water district 7. He said that the vote failed and he would like to look over the voter eligibility list. He said that the numbers show that the town heard from less than 50% of the eligible voters and he would like to have a better understanding of what failed. Matt said that the survey showed 75% were in favor of the district. Matt said that he would like the board to solicit the property owners for feedback. He said that if the board wants to continue working on the project, they could reshape the district.

Councilman Wiley said that he would like to know how many properties were represented. Matt said that if the board wants to put it back to a vote, it could be done three different ways; Permissive Referendum, Referendum, or by Petition.

Councilman Aubertine said that it would be nice to have a list of who voted. He also said that he is concerned because of all the misinformation that was passed on. He said that he would like to see the correct information presented.

Councilman Wood said that he feels the breakdown of costs needs to be told.

The board discussed the vote, what steps they can take to help those who need the water district, and if they want to continue on with the district.

Supervisor Bender told Matt that he feels the board wants to move forward with the district.

Councilman Wiley asked Matt if the funding will be available for two more years and he said yes. Matt said that he is not sure of new funding because of the shortfall in revenue because of Covid-19.

Councilman Wiley said that he would like to regroup and look at other districts. He said that he would like to be able to tie up loose ends that exist.

Highway – Bill Pond said that they have worked with the County, Lyme and Clayton helping them to blacktop. He said that they have worked on ditching the McKeever Road, and they have put the bridge/culvert in on the Branch Road. Bill said that they have worked on a few new driveways, and they have helped work on the pavilion at East End Park. Bill reported that RMS Gravel is in the pit working on

road sand. He said that the trucks are hauling the sand which is saving money because they did not have to have a second loader.

Bill told the board that he will be receiving \$131,000.00 in CHIPS funds and he can use that money to help pay for the new truck. He said that he will be \$8,000.00 short but he can use the money from other lines. He said that he will also be receiving \$29,000.00 in extreme winter weather recovery funds. Bill talked about a having a four year contract for services with the State. He asked the board if they would like to have the power turned on to the houses at Tibbetts Point. Councilman Wiley said that he sees no reason at this time to have it turned on. The board agreed.

Councilman Aubertine asked Bill if Ten Co has been paid, and Bill said they will not be paid until he has delivery. He said they told him it would be delivered in October. Councilman Aubertine asked that because it will be delivered so late, will Bill loose the money, and Bill said that he won't. Supervisor Bender told the board that he and Bill have been competing paperwork for the money that is to come to the town from the storm in 2017. Bill told the board that he and Michelle Bouchard have had weekly and monthly phone conference calls with FEMA regarding the Halloween storm.

Supervisor's Financial Report – Supervisor Bender told the board that they have all received a copy of the report, and he asked them if they had any questions.

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

DANC – Councilman Aubertine said that there is a new DANC Director and he is looking forward to working with him.

LDC – Councilman Wiley said that they are moving forward with the walking trails and they have new projects they want to go after. He talked about the bass ponds and some of the ideas they have for the use of the property, like a swimming hole and a fenced-in dog park.

Councilman Mason said that he heard from the school district regarding a shared gas facility. He said that the schools gas tanks are shot and it is too costly to replace. The board agreed this would be a good idea and they will talk with Bill Pond about this.

Supervisor's Report – Supervisor Bender told the board that he spoke to Attorney Mark Gebo regarding the Anguish light situation. He said that this has been going on for five years and he would like it to end. Supervisor Bender told the board that computers need to be replaced in the office.

Supervisor Bender said that it is budget time and he said the sales tax revenue came in better than expected this last quarter.

Resolutions

Resolution #35

Resolution #35 was moved by Councilman Wiley, seconded by Councilman Mason. Resolution #35 is the adoption of the new Retention and Disposition Schedule for NYS Local Government Records.

There was no discussion. All members voted AYE.

Resolution #36

Resolution #36 was moved by Councilman Wood, seconded by Councilman Mason. Resolution #36 is to authorize the Supervisor to sign the IT Service Agreement with BAS/Edmunds Gov Tech for the purchase of 4 computers in the amount of \$5,400.00, which does not cover travel expenses which will be billed to the town.

There was no discussion. All members voted AYE.

Resolution #37

Resolution #37 was moved by Councilman Aubertine, seconded by Councilman Mason. Resolution #37 is to authorize the Water Superintendent to purchase the Rex Multi-Frequency Pipe & Cable locator from Blair Supply in the amount of \$2,595.00.

There was no discussion. All members voted AYE.

Resolution for Public Hearing

Moved by Councilman Wiley, seconded by Councilman Wood. Resolution to hold a Public Hearing on Sept. 3, 2020 at 6:15pm in the Recreation Park Building regarding Local Law #2 of 2020 the amendment to the Common Water Law. The amendment is the addition of the Water Standards.

There was the following discussion. Councilman Mason said that he would like to have the work session changed to a special meeting and public hearing. Supervisor Bender said that would allow the board to meet and talk with the candidate for the Planning or Zoning board.

Vote was taken, all members voted AYE.

Councilman Wiley talked about the town's Covid-19 protocol form. He said that he would like to delete the first paragraph on the second page. After a brief discussion, it was agreed to delete the paragraph.

Bills: Capital Water Project #7, #18-21, \$1,859.33; Club Street Project, #22-23, \$945.00; Highway, #143-158, \$10,216.76; WD#1, #107-125, \$36,278.32; WD #2, #118, \$1,671.78; WD #3, #109-125, \$1231.34; WD #4, #109-125, \$2419.89; WD #5, #108-125, \$1,713.70; WD #6, #110-124, \$30,699.96; General Fund, #277-310, \$30,511.17.

Councilman Wiley made a motion to approve the payment of the vouchers, seconded by Councilman Wood. All members voted AYE.

Councilman Wood made a motion to adjourn at 7:54pm

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Michelle Bouchard, RMC – Town Clerk