

March 18, 2021

Regular Town Board Meeting March 18, 2021

Present: Supervisor Edward Bender, Councilman Dan Wiley, Councilman Alan Wood, Councilman Paul Aubertine, Councilman Marty Mason, Highway Superintendent Bill Pond, Keith Brass and approximately 6 visitors.

Supervisor Bender called the meeting to order at 6:30pm with the pledge of allegiance.

Privilege of the floor

Liz Brennan – Liz told the board that she was there as a representative of the Friends of the Library. She said that she wanted to read a letter of the board that was written to help raise the awareness of the library presence in the community. Liz read her letter which gave an overview of the library's operation. She spoke of the events they have held and the number of patrons served.

Councilman Wood asked her how much school tax aide they will receive and she said that she would have to find out.

Councilman Aubertine asked her when they will open up for walk ins and she said that as soon as they get the go ahead, they will open.

The minutes of the February 18, 2021 meeting were accepted by Councilman Aubertine, seconded by Councilman Wood. All members voted AYE.

Reports

Recreation Park – Keith Brass said that they have had the usual meetings and clubs and the sewing group is still meeting. Keith told the board that they have completed painting the bathroom floors and that John Lawrence has made a bar that will be available for wedding receptions to use.

Water – Keith told the board that they have had service work done on their trucks. He said that the water tower will be inspected the end of April or mid-May. He said that they have done one new water install. Keith also reported that the meter at Burnham Point State Park was not working again, and that they will be replacing it. He said that the generator is set at the booster pump station, and that DANC will be helping with this as part of a shared service. Keith and John have taken a couple of on line training classes.

Councilman Wiley discussed a State Shared Service initiative, and funds are available if the municipality can show through records of the service what amount of money they have saved by participating in a shared service.

Highway Superintendent Bill Pond said that the highway department has participated in this program and he gave a few examples. Councilman Wiley said that he would look into specifics on how it is done. Supervisor Bender said that he would contact the County Legislator.

Highway – Bill Pond said that they have been plowing and sanding. He reported to the board that someone in a 2014 Dodge Ram with a lift kit, ran into the fence at the transfer site. The fence and posts were severely damaged. He filed a police report and reported the incident to the insurance company. He did receive a quote for the repair from Alpine fence in the amount of \$12,000.00. He said that he

would like to have the board ok the repair and that it be paid for out of the Contingency fund. The board asked him to get a couple more quotes.

Bill told the board that they have been cutting brush, picking up trash and that he has ordered a new mower, which will be paid for out of the General Fund as agreed upon during the budget meetings. Bill talked about the excavator repairs stating that the bucket and main pin is bad and now being repaired. He said that this will be an additional \$4,000.00, but will still be under the \$30,000.00 they had originally thought.

Bill told the board that the sanders are being damaged because of the clay and rocks in the sand. He said that he has a years' worth left, and he does not want to use this sand again. He suggested that it just be used up and get rid of it.

Bill said that he is still working on the FEMA reports. He also told the board that he would like to keep Scott Wedel on. He said that he had planned to lay him off the first of April, but will have 3 men out for a few weeks. He said that he will have substantial money for repairs for the beach road and will need extra help.

Councilman Aubertine asked if he could lay Scott off on the first and bring him back when needed. They also talked about having Scott do the mowing.

Supervisor's Financial Report – Supervisor Bender gave the financial report.

Councilman Mason made a motion to accept the Supervisor's Financial Report, seconded by Councilman Wood. All members voted AYE.

LWRP – Councilman Wiley said that they have had a meeting with EDR and they have submitted section 4 to the Department of State. He said that section 3 will be resubmitted after corrections are made. He said that they hope to have it all in by mid-summer.

Youth Commission – Councilman Wiley said that they have had baseball and softball sign ups.

LDC – Councilman Wiley said that they will be meeting with a representative from DANC to discuss using the water line as a walking trail. He also said that the 501 C3 statuses has been applied for. He also reported that Scott Burto has a meeting set up to discuss the State Parks taking over Tibbetts Point. Councilman Wiley said that Scott is working on the playground grant, and has a draft of the application for Tibbetts Point improvements.

Supervisor's Report

Supervisor Bender told the board that he and Tim White had a pre-bid meeting with engineers regarding the demolition of the Club Street marina. He said that at the meeting he learned that the engineers knew a lot more than they did.

Supervisor Bender and Tim White spoke to Bill Pond about the demolition of the Swenson House. They want to have the highway help with in-kind services.

Councilman Mason said that he would like to be in the loop on the project and Tim White said that he will include the board in any emails.

The town board was asked to adopt a Proclamation designating April as the Month of the Military Child. The Proclamation was read.

Councilman Wiley made a motion to adopt the Proclamation, seconded by Councilman Aubertine. All members voted AYE.

#### Councilman's Discussion

Councilman Aubertine said that he would like to discuss the legislation passed regarding the town providing employees paid time to get their COVID-19 vaccine. Councilman Wood read Gov. Cuomo's legislation which states that employers need to be provide 4 hours of time to receive their vaccines. Councilman Wiley said that he is comfortable with this.

The board discussed compensating those employees who have already been vaccinated.

Councilman Wood made a motion to provide the employees 2 hours paid time per shot, and those employees, who were vaccinated prior to the March 15 legislation date and used their sick time to receive the vaccine, will have 2 hours restored by giving them the 2 hours paid time off, seconded by Councilman Mason. All members voted AYE

Councilman Wiley said that he has received the proposed scope of work documents from Edgewater Resources regarding the Club Street project. He asked the board if they had a chance to read it.

Councilman Mason said that he thinks the extra meeting costs as described in the proposal was a bit high and Councilman Wood agreed.

Councilman Aubertine said that he felt everything was laid out well, that you know everything up front and there would be no surprises.

Councilman Aubertine asked if the figure to reimburse the Village on Resolution 18 was correct.

Councilman Wiley said that it was. There was discussion that a portion of this was previously paid to the Village, and that the project is a town project and not a joint project with the village.

Councilman Aubertine said that he read the Employee Health Emergency Plan and can't argue with any of it. He said that he knows it will have to be amended at some point, but feels it is a good idea to have it in place.

Councilman Mason said that he wanted to talk about the Rosier Light District. He said that he would like to discuss moving the district boundary lines with the town attorney.

Councilman Wiley said that he has heard that the ambulance squad is close to having the district formation paperwork submitted.

The board discussed the unsafe buildings law. The board would like to investigate having a shared service plan with Jefferson County to tear down the burned Putorek home.

Councilman Wiley said that he has had a discussion with Mike Couglar, President of the Tibbetts Point Historical Society, regarding a bid for repairs at Tibbetts Point. He said that the society is willing to help

pay for repairs excluding the lighthouse. Councilman Wiley said that Mr. Couglar told him they would not pay for the repairs to the damages at the lighthouse that was caused by the Christmas lights. Councilman Wiley said that he does not know if the information from Churchill will need to be submitted to the State Parks Historical Preservation unit, and he said no one knows the answers. The board discussed the repairs to the lighthouse and who would do the work.

Councilman Wiley said that the town should be receiving funds from the COVID-19 Relief Fund. He suggested that the board look at using the funds for the repairs at Tibbetts Point.

Councilman Wood said that he would like to see the funds go to the French Festival.

Councilman Aubertine suggested the board take their time to decide where the funds should go.

Councilman Mason said that he would like to send a letter to National Grid regarding replacing the lights in Rosiere.

#### Resolutions

##### Resolution#18

Resolution #18 was moved by Councilman Wiley, seconded by Councilman Mason. Resolution #18 is to reimburse the Village of Cape Vincent the amount of \$12,525.00 from the BOND with Citizens Bank, for the Local Development Ccommittee planner's incentive payment.

There was no discussion. All members voted AYE

##### Resolution #19

Resolution #19 was moved by Councilman Wiley, seconded by Councilman Wood. Resolution #19 is the adoption of the Town of Cape Vincent Public Employee Health emergency Plan.

There was no discussion. All members voted AYE.

##### Resolution #20

Resolution #20 was moved by Councilman Mason, seconded by Councilman Wood. Resolution #19 is to authorize the Supervisor to sign the Inter-Municipal Agreement with the Village of Cape Vincent regarding the Cape Vincent Local Development Committee.

There was no discussion. All members voted AYE.

##### Resolution #21

Resolution #21 was moved by Councilman Wiley, seconded by Councilman Wood. Resolution #21 is to authorize the Supervisor to sign the initial proposal received from Edgewater Resources for the Club Street Waterfront project, and agrees to the fees not to exceed \$38,800.00.

There was no discussion. All members voted AYE.

##### Resolution #22

Resolution #22 was moved by Councilman Wiley, seconded by Councilman Wood. Resolution #22 is to authorize the Supervisor to sign the agreement with the Town of Cape Vincent, Village of Cape Vincent,

and WCP Consultants to provide planning services, and that the term of the agreement is from March 15, 2021 to December 31, 2021.

There was no discussion. All members voted AYE.

Bills: General Fund, Vouchers 87-121 \$20,714.22; Highway, Vouchers 48-70 \$53,420.28; WD #1 Vouchers 32-42 \$27,495.95; WD #2 Voucher 36 \$871.26; WD #3 Vouchers 31-42 \$6,858.73; WD #4 Vouchers 33-42 \$4,306.09; WD #5 Vouchers 32-42 \$1,211.97; WD #6 Vouchers 34-41 \$1,793.26. Councilman Mason made a motion to approve of the payment of the vouchers, seconded by Councilman Wood. All members voted AYE.

Councilman Wood made a motion to adjourn to Executive Session to discuss potential litigation at 7:50pm, seconded by Councilman Wiley. All members voted AYE.

Councilman Wood made a motion to come out of Executive Session at 8:05pm, seconded by Councilman Aubertine.

Councilman Aubertine made a motion to adjourn at 8:10pm.

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Michelle Bouchard, RMC – Town Clerk