

August 17, 2023

Public Hearing & Town Board Meeting

Present: Supervisor Marty Mason, Councilman Dan Wiley, Councilman Paul Aubertine, Councilman Alan Wood, Highway Superintendent Bill Pond and approximately 8 visitors.

Absent: Councilman Tim Maloney, excused

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

Councilman Aubertine made a motion to open the Public Hearing regarding the Spectrum Franchise Agreement at 6:30pm, seconded by Councilman Wood. All members present voted AYE.

Supervisor Mason said that the public hearing was regarding the town's franchise agreement and he called for comment. No one wished to speak

Councilman Wood made a motion to close the public hearing at 6:32pm, seconded by Councilman Wiley. All members present voted AYE.

Supervisor Mason opened the regular meeting.

Privilege of the floor:

Joanne Yeardon – Joanne said that she lives on the Burnt Rock Road and she would like to have municipal water. She told the board that there is a fire hydrant 400' from their house. She said that they have talked with the board in the past regarding water and they came to discuss it again as they are getting older and finding it more difficult to haul it.

Councilman Aubertine said the hydrant is on the DANC line. He said to her that there has been some confusion on who controls the DANC line, and discussions are ongoing. He said he would contact her.

Supervisor Mason said that she would be forming a district and that she would bear all the costs.

Joanne said that she understood this, and they really need the water. She said that they are only advocating for themselves.

Mike Couglar – Mike said that he was there as the President of the Tibbetts Point Historical Society. He said that the money raised by the gift shop helps to pay for repairs on the Lighthouse. He said that the lawn guy is doing a good job, but he had to mow against the fence. Mike said that he heard a rumor that the parks don't want a modern-day fence, and he asked if it had to be historical.

Supervisor Mason said the fence options have been sent to the Parks for approval.

Mike asked if it could be black and Supervisor Mason said it would be their call.

Mike also asked if the rock road would be taken out and he was told it would when the shoreline project was done. He also told the board that the ceiling in the fog horn building still needs repair and they could help to pay for this. Mike said that the TPHS still needs to pay Mr. Churchill, but they can't get in touch with him. Supervisor Mason said that he would get in touch with Mr. Churchill.

Mike asked how hard it would be to give the loop driveway to the County as part of County Rte. 6.

Bill Pond said that it is a right of way and the County does not want the responsibility of maintenance on that right of way.

Mike talked with the board about the lens in the lighthouse and asked who owns it. He said that the TPHS would like to have the lens stay there. Mike then asked Councilman Wiley about the roof over the ice rink. Councilman Wiley said that they are still waiting for grant funding approval.

Jarrold Radley – Jarrold said that he noticed the sewer project was up for discussion again. He asked who the sewer project would benefit, other than the engineer. Jarrold said there is not a need for it. He said that the town is in the water business, and they should steer the ship toward the water business not the sewer business. He asked the board to focus their attention on those in the town who need water.

Councilman Aubertine made a motion to accept the minutes of the July 20, 2023 meeting, seconded by Councilman Wood. All members present voted AYE.

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

Bills: General Fund, \$23,206.36; Capital project, \$20,893.32; Highway, \$51,898.06; WD #1, \$134,143.95; WD #2, \$1,728.21; WD #3, \$1,497.09; WD #4, \$1,982.30; WD #5, \$3,640.38; WD #6, \$31,183.95.

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

#### Reports:

Highway – Bill Pond reported that the stack wall at Tibbetts Point is as high as they need it. He said that they had to borrow the County screener, and have been clearing dirt. Bill said that he hopes to have the shoreline on County Rte. 6 done soon.

Bill reported that the salt barn is full of road sand, and that a free rabies clinic was held in the garage. He said that he contacted Ferrell Gas, who will be installing two new propane tanks for the museum heater, and he spoke with Steve Hall regarding the small building that the highway will need to build around the new furnace for the museum.

Bill said that the steering in the mower malfunctioned and they have borrowed a mower from Clayton to mow the sides of the roads. He said that the Western Star truck is in Syracuse and the insurance company will pay \$43,000.00 toward the repair of the excavator. He said that they will pay for equipment rental too. The board discussed the repairs with Bill and decided to have Hewitt welding, Mike Hewitt, do the job.

Bill told the board that the insurance adjuster said the break in the boom of the excavator was a structural failure and not caused by abuse or service neglect.

Bill reported that the County Rte. 4 bridge and partial paving will be done and the road open within the month.

Councilman Aubertine asked Bill if the insurance company would pay for a new excavator, and Bill said they wouldn't as they felt it is worth the repair.

Recreation Park – The report was read by Town Clerk Michelle Bouchard, in Keith Brass' absence. Keith reports that they had meetings, clubs and a family used the building for an event. He reports that there was a kayak fishing tournament held and they used the building for their headquarters. He says the tennis courts have been washed. Keith reported that he is working on the 2024 budget and asked the board if there was anything they would like to have done in the building.

Water – The report was read by Town Clerk, Michelle Bouchard, in Keith’s absence. Keith reports that the radios in water district #6 have been replaced. They fixed a leak on the chlorine pump at the water tower. Master meters and radios have been tested. Keith helped a homeowner on Huff Road locate the meter pit and curb stop. He said that it was a new house and they had a pipe pull out of the meter horn in the middle of the night. He checked the repair. He is working on his water budget for 2024.

#### Supervisor’s Report

Supervisor Mason said that the Legion will honor 5 residents who were awarded the Purple Heart. He said that he has been asked to present a plaque from the town. The 5 men are John Blodgett, Ron Murray, Brian Hartmuller, Randy Gardner and Troy Bryant.

Supervisor Mason spoke to the board about a fund-raising activity that Lilly Chavousite is doing to raise money for a drinking fountain at the playground. He shared with the board the fountain that they would like to purchase, and where they would like it installed. The board discussed other fund-raising activities that could be held by organizations. Councilman Wiley suggested the town help to fund part of this project, and he suggested the amount of \$2,500.00. The board agreed this would be a good idea. Supervisor Mason said that he has discussed this with Keith Brass, and they will install the fountain.

LDC – Councilman Wiley said that grants have been submitted and on Sept. 14, there will be a joint Town, Village and LDC meeting to discuss their budget.

#### Resolutions

##### Resolution #47

Resolution #47 was moved by Councilman Wiley, seconded by Councilman Aubertine. Resolution #47 is to agree to renew the Spectrum Northeast, LLC franchise agreement.

There was no discussion. Roll call vote was taken: Supervisor Mason AYE; Councilman Wiley AYE; Councilman Aubertine AYE; Councilman Wood AYE; Councilman Maloney, ABSENT.

##### Resolution #48

Resolution #48 was moved by Councilman Aubertine, seconded by Councilman Wiley. Resolution #48 is to accept the Flag Protocol for flying the flag of the United States on town designated locations.

There was no discussion. All members present voted AYE.

##### Resolution #49

Resolution #49 was moved by Councilman Wiley, seconded by Councilman Aubertine. Resolution #49 is to authorize the Supervisor to transfer \$10,000.00 from the General Fund to the proposed Water District #7 account for budget amendment.

There was no discussion. All members present voted AYE.

##### Resolution #50

Resolution #50 was moved by Councilman Aubertine, seconded by Councilman Wood. Resolution #50 is to authorize the Supervisor to transfer \$170,000.00 from Water District #1 Reserve account and \$5,000.00 from Water district #5 Reserve account to SW1-8340.22 for budget amendment.

There was no discussion. All members present voted AYE.

##### Resolution #51

Resolution #51 was moved by Councilman Wiley, seconded by Councilman Aubertine. Resolution #51 is to authorize the Supervisor to sign the NYS Municipal Snow and Ice Agreement for the period of Jan. 1, 2023 through Dec. 31, 2027.

There was no discussion. All members present voted AYE.

Resolution #52

Resolution #52 was moved by Councilman Wiley, seconded by Supervisor Mason. Resolution #52 is to authorize the Supervisor to sign amendments #3 to the sewer Contract with Barton and Loguidice in the amount of \$6,000.00, and it is further resolved that the amendment fee be paid from A1620.4 General Fund. There was the following discussion:

Councilman Aubertine said that he is not in favor of moving forward with the sewer project. He said that he understands that the board already authorized B&L to move forward and there is a bill to pay.

Councilman Aubertine said that after talking with the larger users in the proposed district, they will be opting out, and this will increase the fees on to others. He said that if you can't sell it to the trailer parks, he feels the town should not move forward, and it is not financially viable. He restated that he is not in favor of moving forward, but they have a bill to pay.

All members present voted AYE.

Tim White spoke to the board about the Playground/pickleball and Tibbetts Point grants. He said that the town is in the que, and he hopes to have favorable answers soon.

Councilman Aubertine made a motion to adjourn into Executive Session at 7:18pm to discuss an Attorney/Client contract issue, seconded by Councilman Wiley. All members present voted AYE.

Councilman Wood made a motion to come out of Executive Session and adjourn the meeting at 7:43pm, seconded by Councilman Aubertine. All members present voted AYE.

---

Michelle Bouchard, RMC – Town Clerk