

Nov. 17, 2022

Regular Town Board Meeting

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

Supervisor Mason opened the meeting at 6:30pm with the pledge of allegiance.
Privilege of the floor – no one wished to speak.

The minutes of the Oct. 20, 2022 and Nov. 10, 2022 were accepted by Councilman Wiley, seconded by Councilman Wood. Supervisor Mason, Councilmen Aubertine, Wiley and Wood voting AYE. Councilman Maloney abstain as he was not in attendance of the meetings.

The Supervisor's Financial Report was reviewed. Councilman Aubertine made a motion to accept the Supervisor's Financial Report, seconded by Councilman Maloney. All members voted AYE.

Bills: General Fund, \$92,506.33; Highway, \$44,241.12; WD #1, \$43,662.66; WD #2, \$1,863.30; WD #3, \$1,832.79; WD #4, \$27,640.36; WD #5, \$2,991.29; WD #6, \$1931.03.

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

Reports

Highway – Bill Pond told the board that he and Michelle had a meeting with Matt Kellar from FEMA regarding the Dablon Point restoration project. He said that because the road will not be done, an extension will be filed.

Bill reported that County Rt 4 road work is done for the winter, and that they are still going to be working on County Rt 6 shoreline repair. He said that they have completed shoulder work and ditching and have put in a couple of driveways. Bill said that he had submitted his CHIPS paperwork for reimbursement.

Bill said that there is a pipe under the road at Lisa Drive which is plugged and needs repair. He said that the neighbors told him that it has been there for 50 years. Bill said that he would like to clean it out and repair it later asked the board if they had any objections to him trying to free it up. He also asked Supervisor Mason if they could borrow the sewer machine to clean it out. The board told them it would be ok to do this, and Councilman Maloney said that he should get easements for the pipe repair. Councilman Wood said that he wouldn't mind Bill fixing the pipe.

Bill talked to the board about the transfer site Christmas and New Year's holiday hours. He said that Nina Buskell will work a half a day on Christmas Eve and New Year's as it falls on a day the transfer site is open this year. He said that this has been done in the past and was set up by past Supervisor Tom Rhienbeck. Bill said that she gets the holiday off.

Supervisor Mason said that there is nothing in writing that says Nina works part of the day, and that this can't be done anymore. He said that the transfer site should be open all day; a lot of people go there and if Nina wants the day off, Scott or Dave will have to work it. Bill said that he did not want to make a big to do over this, he just would like an answer. The board discussed and agreed that the transfer site is to open on the Christmas Eve and New Year's Eve holiday.

Bill asked the board if they had decided on the Juneteenth holiday, and will they be adopting this for the coming year? Supervisor Mason said that it needs to be added to the Personnel Policy, and a public hearing will need to be held. Councilmen Maloney, Wiley and Wood said yes, they want to adopt this. Councilman Aubertine said that it is the board's intention to have this done. The board discussed this and said they were going to adopt the Juneteenth holiday and it was decided that the personnel policy update will be done after the new year.

Recreation Park – Keith Brass said that there have been the regular meetings, parties and a Lion's Club breakfast and a memorial service. He said that the courts are locked up at this time.

Water – Keith Brass reported that they are still doing shut offs and the meter replacement project in water district 4 is going well. Keith also reported the Dept. of Health has requested that he locate all the service lines and connections and where lead and copper is used though out the town. He said this will be a two-year process.

Keith also talked with the board about meters used in water district #1. He said that he was told BC&A had an agreement with the town that if there was ever trouble with the meters they installed, they would replace them. Keith will look into this.

Tim White – Tim gave the board copies of email messages that he has had with DASNY regarding the playground and Tibbetts Point grants. He also said that he has had a teleconference with them. Tim reviewed the projects and said that DASNY gave him an overview of what needs to be done and he doesn't think it will take long to get it done.

Councilman Aubertine said that the State's finance committee won't be meeting, but Tim said that they do move items through when not in session.

Tim told the board that the Tibbetts Point project information needs to be resubmitted and he will be sending it in for signatures and approval.

Councilman Aubertine said that he is glad to know the grants are still in play and it is moving forward and he thanked Tim.

Supervisor's Report – Supervisor Mason said that he thinks the board should cancel the Dec. 1 work session because a year end meeting will need to be held at the end of the month.

Councilman Aubertine made a motion to hold a year end meeting on Dec. 29, at 9am in the town office building, seconded by Councilman Wiley. All members voted AYE.

Supervisor Mason reported that Scott Burto is seeking permission to write two letters to Restore New York, one for Brian Stumpf and the other for Ron Clap.

Councilman Aubertine said that the town would be paying Scott on behalf of private projects, he said it does not make sense to him. He said that the town is saying that these are the businesses that they chose, and this does not sit well with him.

Councilman Wood asked if the town would pay Scott for these projects and Supervisor Mason said yes. Councilman Aubertine asked what is to stop other business from asking the town for help.

Supervisor Mason said that if Scott is successful, the town would only pay him a percentage of the grant.

Councilman Wiley said that there is a \$5,000.00 process fee, and Councilman Aubertine asked if it was refundable.

At this time Councilman Wiley called Scott Burto for information regarding the letters and the Restore New York process.

Scott said that the letter of intent from the town for both projects needs to be submitted with the application, and the grant application is due Jan. 20. The letter must say that the projects belong to the town, which will be given back to the owner when completed. He said that there is a \$500.00 application fee for the town. Councilman Wiley thanked Scott and the phone conversation ended. The board discussed the Stumpf and Clap projects. They discussed that they were in favor of the developer paying the grant writers fee as they are the one who sits down with Scott. The board also felt that Scott should be reimbursed by the LDC.

Councilman Aubertine said that he feels strongly that the developer should pay the fees, and he wants to move forward with the letter from the town. All agreed.

Councilman Wiley made a motion to approve of the grant application for both the Stumpf and Clap projects and to send letters of interest for both projects, seconded by Councilman Wood. All members voted AYE.

Supervisor Mason said that Matt Cooper contacted him to let him know that the town did not receive the grant funding for water district 7. He said that Matt was going to look into this to find out what went wrong. The board will apply again next year.

Supervisor Mason reported that Peyton Taylor, from the NY State Parks system, said that they are still moving forward to have the Parks take over Tibbetts Point.

Councilman Wiley made a motion to have Tim White move forward with the Tibbetts Point grant reimbursement and secure the window replacement funds in the amount of \$75,000.00, seconded by Councilman Maloney. All members voted AYE.

Supervisor Mason said that the BAN notes are due Nov. 24, and the interest rate is 4%. He said that he would like to pay on the principal, and would like to use the grant funds to pay off one of the notes. All agreed, knowing that the 4% interest rate is high, that they would like to pay them off as soon as possible.

Councilman Wood suggested paying one off with the sales tax revenue received.

Councilman Wiley reported that the LDC now has an EIN number and their insurance is in place. He said they were trying to get WIFI set up in the office and their bank accounts in place. He also reported that their secretary had resigned and they are looking for a replacement.

Councilman Maloney said that he attended the ambulance meeting and they are still considering purchasing the insurance building next to the bank for their operations.

The board discussed the resignations from Dick Macsherry and Bob Martin from the Planning Board. They discussed moving Ed Ponto from an alternate member to a regular member. The board told Michelle Bouchard to advertise the vacancies on both the Planning and Zoning boards.

Resolutions

Resolution #67

Resolution #67 was moved by Councilman Maloney, seconded by Councilman Aubertine. Resolution #67 authorizes the Supervisor to pay the village of Cape Vincent the 2022 budgeted amount of \$60,000.00 for the Cape Vincent Local Development Committee, and it is further resolved that it is understood that the funds will be given to the CVLDC by the Village of Cape Vincent.

There was no discussion. All members voted AYE.

Resolution #68

Resolution #68 was moved by Councilman Wiley, seconded by Councilman Maloney. Resolution #68 is to authorize the Supervisor to sign the contract on behalf of the town between the Town of Cape Vincent, the Village of Cape Vincent and the Cape Vincent Local Development Committee, with WCP Consultants for services beginning Jan. 1, 2023.

There was no discussion. All members voted AYE.

Resolution #69

A motion to table Resolution #69 was made by Councilman Wood, seconded by Councilman Maloney. The board felt it was a repetition of Resolution #68, and wanted to check with Scott Burto on this.

All members voted AYE

Resolution #70

A motion to table Resolution #70 was made by Councilman Wood, seconded by Councilman Maloney. The board discussed the contract suggestions from the town Attorney, Jim Burrows. The board felt the suggestions should be addressed in the contract.

Councilman Aubertine said that one reason for tabling is to make sure the contracts between the town of Cape Vincent and Lyme mirror each other.

Councilman Maloney said he is concerned that they town does not have the information they need in case of an audit.

The board agreed to have the contract changed before signing.

Resolution #71

Resolution #71 was moved by Councilman Aubertine, seconded by Councilman Wood. Resolution #71 is to authorize the Supervisor to renew the 2 Bond Anticipation Notes with Gouverneur Savings and Loan and make the required interest payments.

There was no discussion. All members voted AYE.

Resolution #72

Resolution #72 was moved by Councilman Aubertine, seconded by Councilman Wiley. Resolution #72 is to authorize the Supervisor to sign a contract with Tim White for services in the months of October, November and December, 2022 in expediting the grants written for the Playground and Tibbetts Point.

There was no discussion. All members voted AYE.

Resolution #73

Resolution #73 was moved by Councilman Aubertine, seconded by Councilman Wood. Resolution #73 is to authorize the Supervisor to sign the 2023 contract for services with Tim White in expediting the grants written for the Playground and Tibbetts Point and any other grants that the board may request his assistance with.

There was no discussion. All members voted AYE.

Councilman Wood made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:55pm.

Michelle Bouchard, RMC – Town Clerk