

July 18, 2024

Cape Vincent Town Board Meeting

Present: Supervisor Paul Aubertine, Councilman Tim Maloney, Councilwoman Heather Miller, Councilman Dan Wiley, Highway Superintendent Bill Pond and approximately 6 visitors

Absent: Councilman Alan Wood- excused, Keith Brass – excused.

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

Privilege of the floor:

Todd Beaton – Todd told the board that he has been reviewing reports on the proposed sewer district. He said that he came across a letter from ZEO Cody Higgins to Supervisor Bender that there was 36% of the property in the town were less than a quarter of an acre, and there could be sewer seepage into the river. He said that he kept reviewing the engineers' reports, and it did not mention any sampling or dye testing. He said to him it looked like a boiler plate engineering report. Todd also spoke about the town board meeting when the town's engineer spoke about a change in the district where they were not going to do east side, just the west side. Todd wonders where the 36% lays. He wonders where the deficiency is.

Councilman Maloney made a motion to accept the minutes of the June 20 meeting, seconded by Councilman Wiley. All members present voted AYE.

Reports

Highway – Superintendent Bill Pond reported that they have finished the base on County Rte. 4 and are currently working on the shoulders. He said the County is planning on having the road paved in September. Bill said that they have painted the small lighthouse in front of the garage, and they have swept all the intersections. He said that he hopes to take delivery of the new truck next week. Bill said that Save the River has contacted him and they will be doing their yearly shoreline clean up on July 27. He said that he will loan a truck for the debris. Bill also reviewed his 284 agreement and will need to have the board sign it in duplicate.

Highway Superintendent Bill Pond read Keith Brass' report for Recreation Park and Water in Keith's absence.

Recreation Park – They have had the usual meetings; birthday parties and the French Festival used the park as the starting point for the French Festival parade. The soccer fields are lined and the games have started.

Water – There will be a start up for the new pump in which they would like to have it running for a couple of weeks before they replace the other water pump. They did one install at Millen's Bay for a new house.

Supervisor's Report

Supervisor Aubertine said that he has given a copy of the letter he wrote to National Parks. He is asking the board to review the letter and give permission for him to sign and mail it.

Supervisor Aubertine said that Municipal Solutions are working on the BAN for water district #7. He said that they had hoped to have a start on the easement signing by now but it will be delayed for another month.

Councilman's Discussion

Councilwoman Miller, who works at the Correctional Facility, said that they received word that the Cape Vincent facility will not close. She said that they were also told that they could still close the prison as there are three more set to close.

Supervisor Aubertine said that this is great news. He said that Assemblyman Scott Gray would like to organize with the town a fact sheet of the employment opportunities and what the facility does locally for the neighboring towns and schools. He wants to be pro-active.

Councilman Maloney said that he did not attend the ambulance squad meeting because no notifications of a meeting were sent out.

Councilman Wiley said that baseball is over and soccer has started. He said that the school will be interviewing for a new School Superintendent.

Supervisor Aubertine reported that the town had closed on the Trottier boat house property, and the Clerk of the Works, Tim White will be working on asbestos abatement.

Resolutions

Resolution #48

Resolution #48 was moved by Councilman Wiley, seconded by Councilman Maloney. Resolution #48 is to authorize the Supervisor to sign and mail a letter to George Robinson, National Park Service, requesting the National Park Service evaluate the transfer of the Tibbetts Point property from the town to the New York State Parks.

There was no discussion, all members present voted AYE.

Resolution #49

Resolution #49 was moved by Councilman Maloney, seconded by Councilwoman Miller. Resolution #49 is to authorize the Supervisor to apply to the Local Waterfront Revitalization Program for the "Club Street Revitalization Phase 2 project" and to execute all documents necessary for the implementation of the work relating to the financial and/or administrative processes of the grant.

There was no discussion. All members present voted AYE.

Resolution #50

Resolution #50 was moved by Councilman Maloney, seconded by Councilman Wiley. Resolution #50 is to authorize the Supervisor to apply to the Office of Planning Development and Community Infrastructure Smart Growth Program for the "Comprehensive Plan Update with Smart Growth Principles" and to execute all documents necessary for the implementation of this work relating to the financial and/or administrative processes of the grant program.

There was the following discussion. Councilman Wiley asked if the board should wait to work with the Village on this and Supervisor Aubertine said they don't need to because it is a joint plan and the Village would have to take the same actions.

All members present voted AYE.

Resolution #51

Resolution #51 was moved by Councilman Wiley, seconded by Councilwoman Miller. Resolution #51 is the appointment of Sarah Dayton as a regular member of the Zoning Board of Appeals, and that her term will begin Aug. 1, 2024 and expire on Dec. 31, 2028.

There was no discussion. All members present voted AYE.

Councilman Maloney made a motion to accept and sign the Highway Superintendent's 284 Expenditures of Highway Monies Agreement, seconded by Councilman Wiley. All members present voted AYE.

Town Clerk, Michelle Bouchard reported that Sara Freda, with the County Planning Department, contacted her regarding a septic system replacement grant program that the County will be offering. She said that Sara will be attending the August meeting to inform the board and the public about this. Michelle also told the board that several people while in her office, commented on the good job that Kevin Jackson is doing at the transfer site.

Bills: Highway, \$8,412.00; Capital Project, \$343,645.57; General Fund, \$30,420.01; WD #1, \$2,359.23; WD #2, \$1,775.77; WD #3, \$738.59; WD #4, \$180.81; WD #5, \$290.03; WD #6, \$630.39.

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

Privilege of the floor:

Todd Beaton said that he would like to agree with the report regarding Kevin Jackson and the good job he is doing. Todd said that Kevin is doing a wonderful job at the transfer site, he is pleasant and keeping the place in order.

Jarrold Radley asked if the board have received the results from the sewer survey yet? The board told him they had and the results are with the LDC.

Jarrold also spoke about the change in the district layout for the sewer project, and wanted to know if it was only going to be the east side of 12E still.

Supervisor Aubertine said that the board wants to have an open forum and send specific invites to the trailer parks. He said that they need to nail down a date with the engineer.

Noel Bonvouloir asked about easement signing and timelines for water district #7. Noel also spoke to the board about a meeting he and Frank Giaquinto had with then Supervisor Ed Bender about the growing number of Air BnB's in Cape Vincent. He said that the town wants to attract families to move here, but its hard when they can't find housing.

Supervisor Aubertine told him that the board is aware of the situation and the need for family housing.

Councilman Wiley made a motion to adjourn at 7:05pm

Michelle Bouchard, RMC – Town Clerk