

**MINUTES
REGULAR TOWN BOARD MEETING
NOVEMBER 19, 2018**

PRESENT:

Supervisor Don Trout, Councilman Bob Rodger, Councilman Mike Pfeiffer, Councilman Howard Strader and Councilman Tyrone Thomas.

ALSO PRESENT:

Highway Superintendent, Joe Mull, Assessor, Jim Cleere, John Morabito, Leland Henry, Mike and Joan Smith.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

Supervisor Trout led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance.

FIRE EXITS:

Supervisor Trout indicated where the fire exits were located.

Supervisor Trout asked for a Moment of Silence for Mr. William Atkachonis who passed away. Mr. Atkachonis served as Chairman of the Planning Board for many years.

2018-117

Councilman Rodger made the motion to approve the Consent Agenda as follows: Councilman Pfeiffer seconded the motion.

Approval of Minutes – October 22, 2018

Approval of Bills:

GENERAL FUND – TOWNWIDE	7,610.22
GENERAL – PART TOWN	887.09
HIGHWAY TOWNWIDE	10,191.32
HIGHWAY – PART TOWN	2,862.73
WATER IMPROVEMENT PROJECT #1	11,056.79
BORDER CITY LIGHT DISTRICT	2,308.87
WATERLOO SEWER DISTRICT #1	1,730.17
5 AND 20 SEWER DISTRICTS	419.98
BURGESS ROAD WATER DISTRICT	252.60
BORDER CITY WATER DISTRICT	636.80
POWDERLY ROAD WATER DISTRICT	317.90
BREWER ROAD SOUTH	17.60
RTE. 96, REED, HECKER, MILLS, KINGS WD 5	120.00
TOTAL	38,412.07
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT FUND	68,706.25
TOTAL	107,118.32

AYE
Supervisor Trout
Councilman Pfeiffer
Councilman Rodger
Councilman Thomas
Councilman Strader

NAE

The motion was carried.

NEW BUSINESS:

2018-118

Councilman Strader made the motion to approve the Final Budget for 2019. Councilman Rodger seconded the motion.

AYE
Supervisor Trout
Councilman Pfeiffer
Councilman Rodger
Councilman Thomas
Councilman Strader

NAE

The motion was carried.

2018-119

Councilman Thomas made the motion to approve two applicants for the Community Development Homeowners Development Grant Program. Councilman Rodger seconded the motion.

AYE
Supervisor Trout
Councilman Pfeiffer
Councilman Rodger
Councilman Thomas
Councilman Strader

NAE

The motion was carried.

2018-120

Councilman Strader made the motion to change the Town Board Meeting from December 24th at 7:00 PM to December 17th at 5:00 PM. Councilman Pfeiffer seconded the motion.

AYE
Supervisor Trout
Councilman Pfeiffer
Councilman Rodger

NAE

Councilman Thomas
Councilman Strader

The motion was carried.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Councilman Strader said he spent a few hours with Mr. John Morabito, Border City Fire Chief, checking on the condition of fire hydrants in Border City. Councilman Strader said some of the hydrants are in need of repair or need to be replaced. He will contact Mr. Pat Nicoletta from the MRB Group to see if there are grant funds available so these non-working hydrants can be replaced.

Councilman Strader also said he spoke with Water/Sewer Maintainer, Tom Finnerty and Tom told him that the final water samples were done today and submitted to the County.

Highway Superintendent, Joe Mull said that his department hopes to do the long side bores for homeowners but said he doesn't expect homeowners will be able to tie in until the end of January after the pushes are done.

Councilman Pfeiffer asked how many hydrants there are, and Joe said about 45 to 50.

There was discussion between Councilman Strader and Highway Superintendent Joe Mull about the new pump station and Joe said he anticipates the electric will soon be hooked up to the pump station.

Councilman Strader also gave the board pictures of the property owned by Mr. Ken Smith of Whiskey Hill Road and asked if the board could do anything about the property damage, he claims was done during the Route 96 Restoration Project.

Supervisor Trout said that Mr. Smith needs to turn in a bid as to the damages incurred and what the cost would be to repair the damages.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

Highway Superintendent, Joe Mull said his department will keep working on the Four Town Water Project for one more week before it shuts down for the season. Joe said they are trying to go as far as the railroad tracks on Route 318, near the 711 Store before they suspend the project for the winter.

The board members asked Joe if he had a substitute snow plow driver that he could call in case of an emergency. Joe said he does not have anyone.

Councilman Rodger asked if there were applicants on file that Joe could call in if he needed a backup snow plow driver in case of an emergency.

Supervisor Trout said most of the applicants that are on file are currently employed so they would not be readily available. He also said that in case of a snow storm the county and/or the village would supply the town help if needed. The town has also shared manpower also with other municipalities if they need coverage.

Joe said if the town employed a part time highway worker, it would have to be as a “as needed basis” and he couldn’t guarantee any set hours for this individual.

After discussion, It was decided to use shared services if needed for extra help, but if the situation changes, other options will be explored.

Assessor/Code Enforcement Officer, Jim Cleere said currently he has two projects going to the Planning Board, one is for a Site Plan Review the other one is a Sub-Division.

Jim said currently they are at a standstill on the Code Updates. Jim said he has called MRB Project Engineer, Shaun Logue, but he has yet to hear back from him. He said he will try to contact him again next week after the Thanksgiving Holiday to set up another meeting.

Jim said his office is busy preparing approximately 700 mailings going out to homeowners for the enhanced star program, for submission of their renewal exemptions for next year. These letters are only be for homeowners who are currently receiving the enhanced star exemption.

Jim said the state has changed the procedure for the enhanced star renewals beginning next year.

Currently, homeowners who met the income requirement, a New York Resident, and their home was their primary residence, brought their paperwork to the assessor’s office for approval or disapproval. Starting next year, the State will be taking over the approval for the enhanced Star Program. This shift to the state was implemented due to homeowners who split their time between Florida and New York have been trying to claim residence in both states.

They are claiming the Homestead Exemption in Florida as well as the New York State Star Exception. The State is trying to stop homeowners from this fraudulent practice.

SUPERVISOR COMMENTS:

Supervisor Trout said there will be a Webinar on November 28th, 2018 at 2:00 PM, on Sexual Harassment Legislation. This webinar is mandatory for all town employees.

Supervisor Trout discussed the Badger that needs to be replaced. He said there is only \$175,000 in the budget for a replacement. He also presented the board members with three quotes he obtained from vendors for a new Badger, and they are all over \$175,000. He also explained about an advantage a municipality has over a non-municipality who wants to buy a piece of equipment. Supervisor Trout said a municipality can buy a piece of equipment for 20% below retail value. He said New York State instituted a policy several years ago which states you must retain new equipment for 24 months and after that 24 months the town is eligible to sell the equipment therefore realizing a profit.

Supervisor Trout feels that the town should take advantage of this ruling by the state. Supervisor Trout wants to institute a policy for the town to sell a piece of new equipment after the mandatory 24 months and replace it with new equipment. This would allow the town to take advantage of the 20

increase in the sellable price and if done properly, new equipment should not cost anything to the tax payer.

Due to this new policy, Supervisor Trout feel it would be advantageous for the town to buy a new Badger.

Supervisor Trout asked the board members to look at the quotes from vendors and be able to discuss it at the next Town Board Meeting.

2018-121

Councilman Pfeiffer made the motion to adjourn the meeting. Councilman Strader seconded the motion.

AYE

Supervisor Trout
Councilman Pfeiffer
Councilman Rodger
Councilman Thomas
Councilman Strader

NAE

The motion was carried.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sandra L. Ridley
Town Clerk

NEXT TOWN BOARD MEETING
DECEMBER 17TH AT 5:00 PM.

