

**MINUTES
REGULAR TOWN BOARD MEETING
JULY 26, 2021**

PRESENT:

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

ALSO PRESENT:

Attorney Dennis Benjamin, Assessor, Jim Cleere, MRB Representative, Patrick Nicoletta, Account Clerk, Kim Hendrickson, Ken and Rita Cook, Joe Wukitsch, Gary Robson, John Morabito, and Ed Lerkins.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

Supervisor Trout led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance.

FIRE EXITS:

Supervisor Trout indicated where the fire exits were located.

PETITIONERS OF THE FLOOR:

Mr. Joe Wukitsch addressed the board with concerns about the Host Agreement the Town signed with NextEra Energy Resources. He said last August he met with Supervisor Trout regarding using intervenor funds to do a real estate study on the impact the solar farm would have on our community and property values.

Mr. Wukitsch said there was a study done by the states of Massachusetts and Rhode Island and they have strongly indicated that real estate values within a mile and a half of a solar farm have decreased by 5 to 7.5 percent.

Mr. Wukitsch said he had hoped that the Community Host Agreement would have incorporated home values into the Host Agreement. He also asked why there wasn't more involvement from the community before the agreement was signed.

Supervisor Trout said there is an implication by the title "Community" "that the Community should be involved in the host agreement, but it's just that, an" implication". Supervisor Trout said the Community Host Agreement is for the protection of the people and that is their most utmost concern. The town board does not necessarily need to get input from the community for them to negotiate the Host Community Agreement.

Mr. Wukitsch said near Buffalo there is a solar farm named Cypress Creek and he understood that there was open communication and transparency between the Town and the Solar Company. Mr. Wukitsch said he doesn't feel that is the case with Trelina.

Mr. Wukitsch also said its incumbent that this governing body sends out a message to the governing powers that homeowners demand more input from our community, so they are not being take advantage of. He said they are also very concerned about the values of their properties being decreased due to the Solar Farm. He said there should be a baseline on the value of their properties now before the project is started. He also said NextEra received 350 million dollars in subsidies from New York State

and more likely than not, attached to that 350-million-dollar subsidy are timelines and payouts will occur.

Councilman Pfeiffer asked Mr. Wutitsch if they are proposing that homeowners get a payout now of 5 to 7 percent. Mr. Wutitsch said no that is not the case.

Supervisor Trout explained about the property value protection plan for residents around the solar project. He said that there seems to be a fear by residents that their home values will be negatively affected. He said that the property protection plan would require at the time of sale three independent appraisals that would be required and the town would use Community Benefit Funds to make up the difference if there was a shortfall in the sale of the home. Supervisor Trout also said the Community Benefits money should be around sixty thousand dollars a year and the town plans to create a reserve account and hold around two hundred thousand dollars in reserves in case the town needs to enact the plan.

NEW BUSINESS:

2021-060

Councilman Thomas made the motion to approve the Consent Agenda as follows: Councilman Pfeiffer seconded the motion. The Consent Agenda is as follows:

Approval of Minutes – June 28, 2021

Approval of Bills:

GENERAL FUND – TOWNWIDE	\$1026.10
GENERAL – PART TOWN	352.37
HIGHWAY TOWNWIDE	4199.14
BORDER CITY LIGHT DISTRICT	3012.53
WATERLOO SEWER DISTRICT #1	146.68
5 AND 20 SEWER DISTRICT	89.45
BURGESS ROAD WATER DISTRICT	14,391.61
BORDER CITY WATER DISTRICT	12,764.55
POWDERLY ROAD WATER DISTRICT	89.69
BREWER ROAD SOUTH	2,699.55
RTE 96, REED, HECKER, MILLS, KINGS WD5	102.35
PRE- EMPTION WATER DISTRICT 6	10.20
TOTAL	\$38,884.22

Approval of the Town Clerk’s Monthly Report

Approval of the Canine Report

AYE

Supervisor Trout

NAE

Councilman Pfeiffer
Councilman Lotz
Councilman Strader
Councilman Thomas

The motion was carried.

2021-061

Councilman Pfeiffer made the motion to approve two applicants for the Community Development Homeowners Grant. Councilman Lotz seconded the motion.

<u>AYE</u>	<u>NAE</u>
Supervisor Trout	
Councilman Pfeiffer	
Councilman Lotz	
Councilman Strader	
Councilman Thomas	

The motion was carried.

2021-062

Councilman Lotz made the motion to authorize the amount of \$17,173.38 from the Town of Waterloo's Community Bank, Thomas Account X1137 to the Town of Waterloo's Savannahs Bank Public Fund Account X1260. Councilman Thomas seconded the motion.

<u>AYE</u>	<u>NAE</u>
Supervisor Trout	
Councilman Pfeiffer	
Councilman Lotz	
Councilman Strader	
Councilman Thomas	

The motion was carried.

2021-063

Councilman Lotz made the motion to authorize purchasing from TI Sales a Neptune MRX920 Mobile Data Collector V\$ with RF Date Logging Feature, a Neptune Mapping and Mobility Module – 1 year Subscription and 125 Units of the Neptune R900 RF Meter Interface Unit Wall Mount V4 adapters. The total cost of these items is \$29,322.10. Councilman Pfeiffer seconded the motion.

<u>AYE</u>	<u>NAE</u>
Supervisor Trout	

Councilman Pfeiffer
Councilman Lotz
Councilman Strader
Councilman Thomas

The motion was carried.

2021-064

Councilman Pfeiffer made the motion to authorize transferring \$369,659.08 from the Community Benefit Funds in the Savannah Community Bank Account, X1275 to the Town of Waterloo Savannah's Bank Public Funds X1260. This transfer is necessary for the Capital Improvement Project of Paving Border City Roads. Councilman Lotz seconded the motion.

<u>AYE</u>	<u>NAE</u>
Supervisor Trout	
Councilman Pfeiffer	
Councilman Lotz	
Councilman Strader	
Councilman Thomas	

The motion was carried.

2021-065

Councilman Thomas made the motion to approve the following Automobile Salvage Yards. Councilman Lotz seconded the motion. They are as follows:

Cavalli's	2282 Brewer Road
Don Trout	1130 Route 96 North
Trout Enterprises	2410 Edwards Road
Stephen Paine	2206 Brewer Road

<u>AYE</u>	<u>NAE</u>
Supervisor Trout	
Councilman Pfeiffer	
Councilman Lotz	
Councilman Strader	
Councilman Thomas	

The motion was carried

2021-066

Councilman Thomas made the resolution that the Town of Waterloo authorizes the Waterloo Town Court to apply for a JCAP grant in the 2021-22 grant cycle for up to \$5000.00. Councilman Strader seconded the motion.

AYE

Supervisor Trout
Councilman Pfeiffer
Councilman Lotz
Councilman Strader
Councilman Thomas

NAE

The motion was carried

2021-067

Councilman Lotz made the motion to approve donating \$100.00 to the Waterloo High School Varsity Club to help fund special programming for student athletes in grades 7-12. Councilman Thomas seconded the motion.

AYE

Supervisor Trout
Councilman Pfeiffer
Councilman Lotz
Councilman Strader
Councilman Thomas

NAE

The motion was carried

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Councilman Pfeiffer said that this Thursday is the Employee Appreciation Day with a chicken barbeque given by the Town Board Members.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

Assessor Jim Cleere said his department will merge with the county by August 9th, so the school tax bills can be generated.

Jim also said we are having problems with the Town's Security System. Jim said the town previously contracted the security system with Mr. Steve Bailey, his company was ELTEC Systems out of Geneva. Mr. Bailey installed and maintained the equipment. Mr. Bailey had some health issues and sold the business. Doyle Security has taken over and much of the equipment that ELTEC used Doyle Security does not use and they are having problems with it.

Jim feels that the town should reach out to Doyle Security and have them look at all the equipment and possibly get new equipment.

Supervisor Trout said to get in touch with Doyle Security and get a price on updating the security system.

SUPERVISOR COMMENTS:

Supervisor Trout said that Highway Superintendent, Joe Mull said he wanted to thank the Municipalities of the City of Geneva, The Towns of Junius, Fayette and Seneca Falls for helping us Paving all the Border City Roads.

MRB Engineer, Mr. Patrick Nicoletta addressed the Board and said the sewer/manhole rehab project will start in August although he doesn't have an exact date yet.

Mr. Nicoletta also said the Evoqua Contract for hydrogen sulfide has been signed and they will start about six weeks after they receive the contract.

Mr. Nicoletta said they are moving forward with the Sewer Use Law. He also addressed the board about the South Pre-Emption Street Water and said USDA is still working on it and it should go to the underwriters soon. There was discussion about the high price of materials and Supervisor Trout said he doesn't know if the project can go forward.

2021-068

Supervisor Trout made the motion to enter Executive Session concerning the proposed employment of a particular person immediately following the Regular Town Board Meeting. Councilman Thomas seconded the motion.

AYE

Supervisor Trout
Councilman Pfeiffer
Councilman Lotz
Councilman Strader
Councilman Thomas

NAE

The motion was carried.

The Town Board came out of Executive Session at 8:00 PM., and no action was taken.

2021-069

Councilman Pfeiffer made the motion to adjourn the meeting immediately after Executive Session. Councilman Lotz seconded the motion.

AYE

Supervisor Trout
Councilman Pfeiffer
Councilman Lotz

NAE

Councilman Strader
Councilman Thomas

The motion was carried

Respectfully Submitted,

Sandra L. Ridley
Town Clerk

**NEXT TOWN BOARD MEETING
AUGUST 23, 2021**