

REGULAR BOARD MEETING
@ The Russell Town Hall @ 6:00 pm
03/21/2023

PRESENT:

Supervisor White
Councilor Burnham
Councilor Beachard
Tess Eells – Town Clerk
Councilor Kerr
Councilor - vacant
Highway Superintendent Meilleur

GUESTS:

Bobby Knox
Alicia Legland
Larry Denesha
Ryan Lennon

The Pledge of Allegiance

The Public Hearing was called to order at 6:00 PM by Supervisor White.

PUBLIC DISCUSSION: Alicia Legland (lawyer for Solitude Solar)

- I am reaching out to see what needs to be done and finalized so we can get started on the solar farm on County Route 21. We have not been able to touch base with Henry Leader yet. Supervisor White stated if you send us the paperwork, we will get it to Henry. We did a resolution for St. Lawrence County IDA to work on this for us.

ACCEPTANCE OF THE MINUTES:

A motion was made by Councilor Beachard and seconded by Councilor Burnham to accept the minutes from 02/21/2023 as presented by the Town Clerk.

Ayes-4 Beachard, White, Burnham, Kerr

Nays-0 motion carried.

TOWN CLERK REPORT:

February 2023 Report:

9 dog licenses	\$54.00
Hunting licenses	1.38
0 Marriage licenses	.00
1 Certified copies	10.00
1 Building permits	25.00
0 impoundment fee	.00
0 donations for community room use	.00
Fax and copy Monies	<u>.00</u>
<u>Revenue to supervisor:</u>	<u>\$90.38</u>
<u>Disbursed amounts:</u>	
Ag & Market (spay, neuter program)	15.00

NYS Department of Health	.00
<u>Decals</u>	<u>23.62</u>

Total Disbursed \$ 129.00

As of 03/16/2023 I have collected 79.26% of the taxes.

I have been getting the ARPA reporting items to Peggy Mousaw to be filed with the state.

A motion was made by Councilor Beachard

Seconded by Councilor Burnham

To accept the Clerk Report as presented

Ayes-4 Beachard, White, Burnham, Kerr

Nays-0 Motion carried

BALLFIELD COMMITTEE: Included in Supervisor report

SUPERVISOR REPORT: Timothy White 03/21/2023

- Financial Report

-Details of all income and expense transactions have been filed with the town clerk.

-Account balances as of March 21, 2023, for the general fund, highway fund, capital improvement fund, and street light fund have been filed with the town clerk.

-I have not received any calls on the fence work as of now; the ad will run another week and if I get any bites, I will call a special meeting to go over the bids. Tess got one call on the work on the town hall but no bids yet. A couple of Peewee coaches have told me they are willing to do fence work if we do not get any bids in the next couple of weeks.

A motion was made by Councilor Kerr and seconded by Councilor Beachard to accept the supervisor report as presented.

Ayes-4 Beachard, White, Burnham, Kerr

Nays-0 Motion carried

LEGISLATURE REPORT: Larry Denesha

- I talked with Dick Knox, he would like to get a catch basin in front of his house to do away with the ditch. The town should do a service request for the county. Supervisor White stated we will have to see where the water line is from the pump house to the hydrant. Contact Larry Denesha when the service order goes in.

- We passed a resolution against Medicaid mandates, and it is supported well in the Senate. If it goes through it would mean a 6% increase in property taxes.
- Supervisor White asked if he heard anything on Solar going in the Adirondack Parks. Larry stated no but he knows J&L is zoned in the Adirondack Park. He also stated there is a 1700 acre in Canton being discussed for solar.
- Richard Meilleur stated he talked to Matt Denner at Emergency Services about towns being able to use the cell service for their radios at no cost to towns. Richard stated other towns are being approached to buy in for the service. Richard feels they should be informed more about how it will service them and not be so costly.
- Larry stated we are close to an agreement for towers in the Town of Fine and Cranberry Lake.

A motion was made by Councilor Burnham and seconded by Councilor Kerr to accept the legislature report as presented.

Ayes – 4 Beachard, White, Burnham, Kerr

Nays – 0 Motion carried

FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORT:

Russell: Bobby Knox stated we will be raffling off 2 Kayaks at \$10.00 a ticket and we will be having a chicken BBQ on May 6. 2023.

DeGrasse: no report

HIGHWAY SUPERINTENDENT REPORT: 03/21/2023 * Richard Meilleur

We have spent the majority of our time maintaining winter roads.

Also, we have patched all our major potholes with cold patch.

We have changed the Broomcore on one of our power brooms and started sweeping some of the heavy sand areas with the tractor broom.

We have opened up the Thurston Road and will be opening the rest of our seasonal roads this week and next as they need to be opened by April 1st.

We broke a plow harness on one of our plow trucks and have re-fitted it with a spare one we had. I would like to thank Jesse Fenlong and Ryan Miller for the excellent job they did to get it back together and fabricated in just a couple of days.

I am looking at going off 2 shifts on the first Monday in April. We will stay on 5–8-hour days Monday through Friday 7:00 am to 3:30 pm for 2 weeks and then go to 4 -10 hour days for the rest of the summer.

I would also like to thank the men for another safe and productive year.

I will be opening up the Webb Road tomorrow.

HIGHWAY COMMITTEE REPORT: included above

A motion was made by Councilor Kerr and seconded by Councilor Beachard to accept the Highway and Highway Committee reports as presented.

Ayes – 4 Beachard, White, Burnham, Kerr

Nays – 0 Motion carried

RESOLUTION # 29 * Audit Report-Timothy White & Sandra Burnham

A motion was made by Councilor Beachard and seconded by Councilor Kerr to pay the following bills.

Audit Committee Report

March 21, 2023

Fund	Vouchers	Total
General	59 - 83	\$11,678.56
Highway	38 - 52	\$29,684.74
Capital Highway Improvements	0	0.00
Fire Protection	-	.00
Street Lights	3	\$925.29

Ayes-4 Beachard, White, Burnham, Kerr

Nays-0 motion carried

OLD BUSINESS:

- Supervisor White stated we need to get the Tractor Boom mower on a voucher next month was not done this month.
- Councilor Beachard asked Richard if he heard anything on the Town Hall steps, Richard stated he will get to it in end of April and May it will be done before July 4th shutdown.

NEW BUSINESS:

Bids for new lawnmower.

1. Simplicity Briggs, 42" cut \$3,999.00
2. Stihl R2 142, \$3,899.00
3. Ferris 300S 42" cut \$3,999.00
4. Huscavarna z242F Kawasaki \$3,499.00

Resolution: # 30 New Lawnmower

A motion was made by Councilor Kerr seconded by councilman Beachard to **THEREFORE**, authorize purchase of the Ferris 300s 42” cut with 4-wheel suspension lawn mower at the cost of \$3,999.00. The funds will be transferred from the General Fund Balance to the Highway Equipment Fund at the next meeting.

Ayes-4 Beachard, White, Burnham, Kerr
Nays-0 Motion carried

A Motion made by Councilor Kerr and seconded by Councilor Burnham to enter Executive Session at 6:35 Pm to discuss a Tax Issue.

A motion was made by Councilor Beachard and seconded by Councilor Kerr to exit Executive Session at 7:00 Pm.

Ayes – 4 Beachard, White, Burnham, Kerr
Nays – 0 Motion carried
Motion carried

Motion by Councilor Beachard and seconded by Councilor Kerr to adjourn the meeting at 7:01 pm all were in favor

Respectfully submitted by
Town Clerk – Tess Eells