

REGULAR BOARD MEETING
@ The Russell Town Hall @6:00pm
08/15/2023

PRESENT:

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

GUESTS:

Bobby Knox

Larry Denesha

The pledge of allegiance:

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 by Supervisor White

PUBLIC DISCUSSION: none

ACCEPTANCE OF THE MINUTES:

A motion was made by Councilor Kerr
Seconded by Councilor Beachard
To accept the minutes from 07/18/2023 as presented by the Town Clerk
Ayes-4 Beachard, Burnham, White, Kerr
Nays-0 motion carried

TOWN CLERK REPORT: 08/15/2023

July 2023 Report:	
10 dog licenses	\$52.00
Hunting licenses commission	8.32
4 Marriage License Comm.	30.00
11 Certified copies	110.00
5 Building permits	125.00
0 impoundment fee	.00
Fax & Copy Money	94.00
Donations	.00
<u>Revenue to supervisor:</u>	<u>\$419.32</u>
<u>Disbursed amounts:</u>	
Ag & Market (spay, neuter program)	14.00
NYS Department of Health	90.00

<u>Decals</u>	<u>446.68</u>
Total Disbursed	\$970.00

Motion by Councilor Burnham
 Seconded by Councilor Kerr
 To accept the clerk Report as presented
 Ayes- 4 Beachard, Burnham, White, Kerr
 Nays-0 Motion carried

BALL FIELD COMMITTEE: In supervisor report

SUPERVISORS REPORT: 08/15/2023 - Tim White

1- Financial Report

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

-Account balances as of August 15, 2023 for the general fund, highway fund, capital improvement fund, and street light fund have been filed with the town clerk.

- The 3rd qtr. sales tax check came in for the amount of \$121,111.76. if it stays on course, it will be around \$50,000 over what was budgeted. If the years expenditures stay on course they will come in around the same. I try to do this every year to cover the cost of new trucks and equipment. The new truck this year will cost about \$50,000 more than budgeted. I allowed four years between trucks this year is three. I have talked to Richard and the first week in September they will pull the old backstop out to get ready to replace. The lumber is there for the forms to pour concrete and if it is ok I will order it for the first Friday in September. Richard said he can get a few of the highway guys to help if the board does not mind the overtime. The budget is in good shape at the time, and I hope it continues to run the way it has.

Timothy White
 Town Supervisor

The board has no issue with highway men helping out with ball field work with overtime pay.

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

Ayes – 4 Beachard, Burnham, White, Kerr
 Nays - 0 Motions carried

LEGISLATURE REPORT: Larry Denesha

- I want to apologize for missing last month's meeting.
- We passed a resolution to oppose the states all electric agenda. There is \$229 billion in state budget for this. They want no more gas used in new homes by 2027. In 2023 fuel oil furnaces will not be replaced only with electric. We feel this is not feasible for upstate New York.
- Sales tax receipt for 1st quarter 2023 was up 9% higher than 2022.
- We passed a resolution to cut taxes again in 2024 like we have for the past 5 years.
- Solid waste fees starting October 1st DANC will charge \$3.00 a ton more for tipping fees and re-cycling fees will be \$104.00 in 2023 up from \$13.27 a ton in 2022.
- Councilor Kerr stated it will be cheaper to just throw it away.
- Larry stated a few years ago we made money on recycling but not now. Richard stated now that China cut us off that is why it is happening.
- We passed a resolution to solicit bids on a new Public Safety Complex.
- We passed a resolution to set a public Hearing allowing 12-13 year old's to hunt big game with an adult. We have done this for a few years.
- Worker's Comp amounts have been sent out to Town's. Russell is up from last year.
- Richard asked if the 911 towers are still on the move. Larry stated yes they are coming along.
- Deb Christie stated the Wilderness Land Trust is closing the snow mobile trails. Supervisor White stated the town is in legal litigation with them for denying total tax exemption.

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

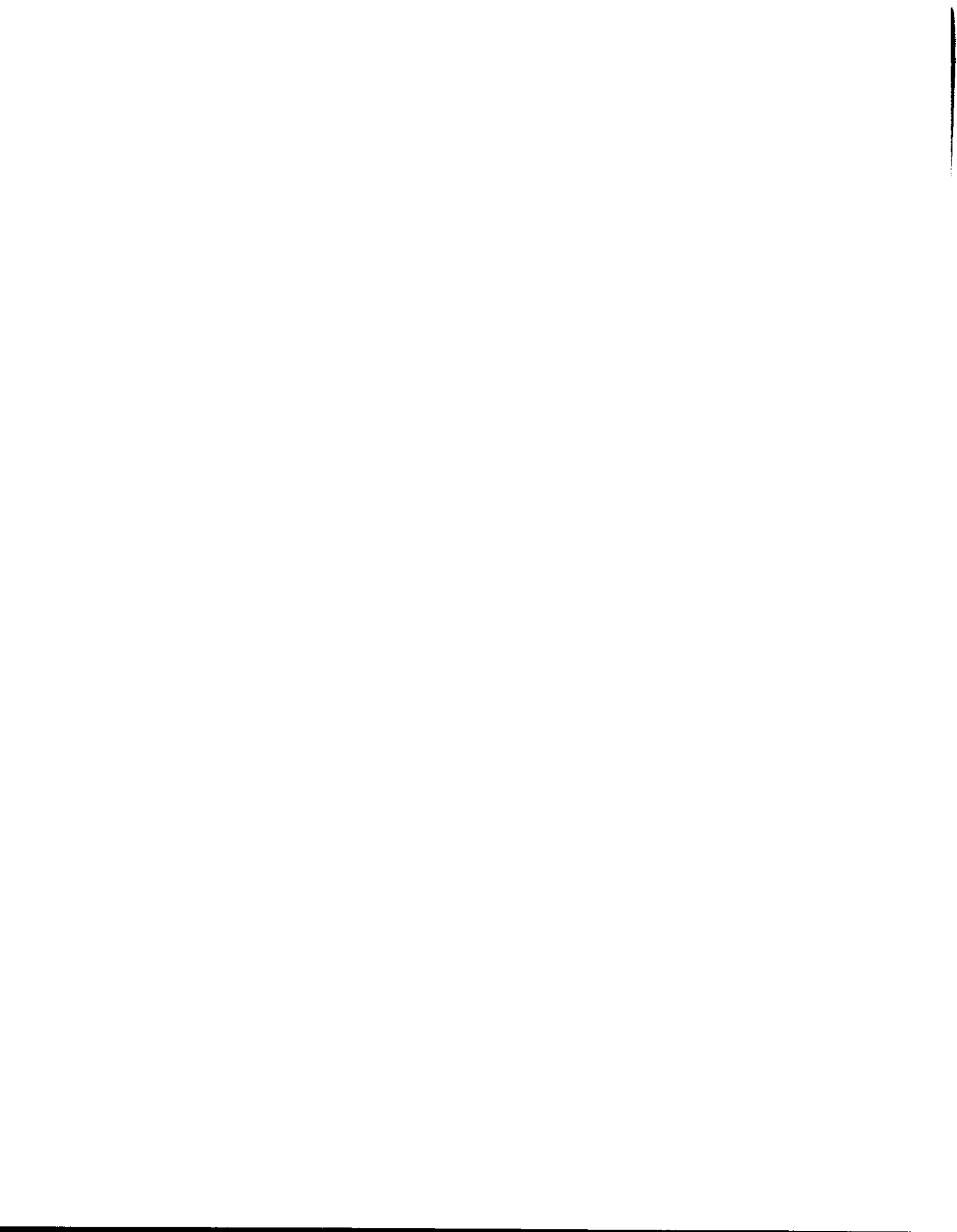
Ayes – 4 Beachard, Burnham, White, Kerr

Nays – 0 Motion carried

FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORT:

Russell FD - Sandy Burnham and Bobby Knox:

- We are having our floors resurfaced because of cracked floors.
- We are having air conditioning put in to help with a cooling station if needed in September.
- We are having a Election Day dinner November 7th.
- There will be an Chicken BBQ in December and tree sale.
- We are in the plans of a summer fest for 2024 in July. We were wondering if the town will help with the cost of food and band.



RESOLUTION # 45 Summer Festival aide

A motion was made by Supervisor White and seconded by Councilor Kerr:

Therefore, the town board authorizes that the town will appropriate \$2,000.00 from account A7550.4 (Celebrations) to help with food and band for a 2024 Summer Festival being planned by the fire Department.

Ayes – 4 Beachard, White, Burnham, Kerr

Nays – 0 Motion carried

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

Ayes – 4 Beachard, Burnham, White, Kerr

Nays – 0 Motion carried

Highway Superintendent Report: 08/15/2023: Richard Meilleur

We have replaced the rotted boards on the pump house and painted it. We got the intake valve to close so we can clean out the sump at the pump house.

The summer help boys cleaned and painted the signs at the pump house and town cemeteries.

We have put dirt around the new back stops.

We have been cutting brush on the Townline, McCarthy, Fordham and Pestle streets.

We have helped Dekalb and Edwards with paving projects on shared services.

We just finished mowing roadsides for the second time this year.

We have graded and added gravel where needed to most of our dirt roads.

We have cleaned ditches on Pleasant and Pestle streets.

I would like to move \$6,000.00 from DA5120.4 (bridges contractual) to DA5130.4 (Machinery contractual) to help cover unexpected costs, Roller rebuild, Chipper rebuild and truck repairs etc.



RESOLUTION # 46 Tires for Boom Mower out of ARPA FUNDS

A motion was made by Councilor Beachard and seconded by Councilor Kerr: **Therefore**, the town Board authorizes using \$1,500.00 from ARPA FUNDS for new rear tires for the Boom Mower.

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

RESOLUTION # 47 New Tires for plow trucks from ARPA FUNDS

A motion was made by Councilor Burnham and seconded by Councilor Kerr to: **Therefore**, the Town Board authorizes using \$4,500.00 from ARPA FUNDS to purchase new tires for the town plow trucks.

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

We are doing crack sealing on roads at the cost of \$1,100.00 per mile to preserve the roads.

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

HIGHWAY COMMITTEE REPORT: In Superintendent report

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

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

RESOLUTION # 48 Audit Report-Tim White & Sandra Burnham

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

Fund	Vouchers	Total
General	203 - 228	\$ 9,613.23
Highway	126 - 134	\$ 22,567.80
Capital Improvements	4 - 5	\$ 10,363.64
Fire Protection	none	\$0.00
Street Lights	8	\$739.96

Ayes-4 Beachard, Burnham, White, Kerr
Nays-0 motion carried.



OLD BUSINESS:

- Councilor Beachard asked how long we must spend ARPA Money?
The final report for ARPA FUNDS is due by 04/30/2027

NEW BUSINESS:

A motion was made by Councilor Beachard and seconded by Councilor Kerr to adjourn the meeting @ 6:45 pm

Ayes – 4 Beachard, Burnham, White, Kerr

Nays - 0 Motion carried

Respectfully submitted by
Tess Eells-Russell Town Clerk



North Country This Week
North Country This Week

Invoice #: b732b07c
Date: 08/01/2023

Bill To
Town of Russell Town Clerk

Customer Email
russellnyclerk@gmail.com

Affidavits will be mailed or emailed (as ordered) 7 days AFTER THE
LAST INSERTION DATE.

Description	Publish Date	Amount
PUBLIC	08/04/2023	\$27.61
PUBLIC	08/25/2023	\$21.07
Affidavit(eMail)	1	\$20.00
Affidavit(Mail)	0	\$0.00

Total: \$68.68
Balance:
\$68.68

Please remit checks payable to:

North Country This Week
PO Box 975

Potsdam, NY 13676

The invoice number **MUST** be included on your check to ensure that your payment is applied correctly.



**RUSSELL
ADVERTISEMENT FOR
BID**

The Town of Russell is accepting sealed bids on these projects: Project # 1 Town Hall Step replacement/ Engineered plans are available and Project # 2 Repairing the Chimney and re-pointing stones. We offer prevailing wages. The engineered step plans are available by calling the Town Clerk at 315-347-2358. Sealed bids are to be in by September 15, 2023. Sealed bids will be accepted at the Town offices at 4 Pestle Street, PO Box 628 Russell, NY 13684. Office hours are Monday through Friday 8:00 am to 1:00 Pm. Submittals shall be placed on a sheet of clean paper with the amount of bid legibly and clearly written or typed along with contact information including name, address, email address and phone number for said bidder. Bids shall be placed in a sealed envelope with the words "Project #1", "Project #2" or Both Projects written on front and submitted to the Town Office before the deadline. The Town of Russell has the right to accept or reject all bids.

