

**REGULAR BOARD MEETING @ the Russell Town Hall 04/18/2017
@ 6:00 pm**

PRESENT:

Supervisor Best
Councilor Burnham - absent
Councilor White - absent
Tess Eells – Town Clerk
Councilor Kerr
Councilor Whiteford
Highway Superintendent White

GUESTS:

Bobby Knox
Harvey Thomas
Morris Jeffries
Larry Denesha
Dennis Griffin
Tamorrah Averill

Pledge

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

PUBLIC DISCUSSION:

- Morris Jeffries commented the new lights were up at the ball field

ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES:

A motion was made by Councilor Whiteford and seconded by Councilor Kerr to accept the minutes from 03/21/2017 as presented by the Town Clerk.

Ayes-3 Best, Whiteford, Kerr

Nays-0 motion carried.

TOWN CLERK REPORT: 04/18/2017

March Report:

31 dog licenses	\$166.00
Hunting licenses commission	3.03
0 Marriage License Comm.	.00
3 Certified copies	30.00
1 Building permits	25.00
0 Town Hall Donation	.00
0 impoundment fee	.00
Copy & fax money	.00
<u>Revenue to supervisor:</u>	<u>\$224.03</u>
<u>Disbursed amounts:</u>	
Ag & Market (spay, neuter program)	45.00
NYS Department of Health	.00
Decals	51.97
<u>Total Disbursed</u>	<u>\$321.00</u>

As of 04/10/16 I have collected 83.94% of the taxes \$1,394,077.97

A motion was made by Councilor Whiteford
Seconded by Councilor Kerr
To accept the clerk Report as presented
Ayes-3 Best, Whiteford, Kerr
Nays-0 carried

BALL FIELD REPORT: Robert Best

- Morris stated the netting is coming down at Fireman's field. Matt will see what can be done.
- Bob asked Larry if he could help set poles to extend the net.
- The town can rent a lift from LeBerge & Curtis for \$90 a day or check with the county to use theirs.

A motion was made by Councilor Kerr and seconded by Councilor Whiteford to accept Ball field's committee report
Ayes-3 Best, Whiteford, Kerr
Nays-0 Motion carried

SUPERVISOR REPORT:

Financial Reports

- The details of all income and expense transactions for March have been filed with the Town Clerk.
- The account balances as of 03/31/2017 for the General Fund, Highway Fund, Capital Improvement Fund, and St. Lighting Funds have been filed with the Town Clerk.

2. **RESOLUTION # 41** Budget Modifications

A motion was made by Councilor Whiteford and seconded by Councilor Kerr to authorize the supervisor to do the following budget modifications:

- Decrease the contingency account (A1990.4) by \$1,000. Increase Traffic Control (A3310.4) by \$1,000.
- As per budget transfer \$75,000 from Transfer to Capital Projects (DA9950.9) to H9901.9 (Interfund Transfers).

Councilor Whiteford stated he thought there was money already budgeted for signs. Mr. White stated that some signs are mandated and it takes more money than other years. He stated he has asked for more money being budgeted.

Ayes – 3 Best, Whiteford, Kerr
Nays – 0 Motion carried

3. Theatre Doors

- The glass in the Theatre front doors will be replaced in May.

A motion was made by Council Kerr and seconded by Councilor Whiteford to accept the Supervisor report as presented.

Ayes- 3 Best, Whiteford, Kerr

Nays-0 Motion carried

FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORT: Harvey Thomas

- Our Chicken BBQ sold out
- On May 27th we will do flags
- On May 20th will be Carl Hulls recognition dinner
- Are we doing the Memorial the same as last year? Supervisor Best stated yes
- Supervisor Best stated he will see if PeeWees will do the flags again
- Russell Festival will be July 15th and 16th. There will be dinner, fireworks, kayak raffle where you can take the kayak or \$500 cash, big wheel race we bought 5 new big wheels, frog jumping contest, and firematics with the kids.
- The firemen will do a 5K wearing their fire gear and the pledges will go to GleeNNY which is social members that contribute gas cards, meal cards etc. to help another fireman with health issues; it is serving 5 personnel at this time, it is a not for profit organization.

A motion was made by Councilor Whiteford and seconded by Councilor Kerr to accept the Fire Department report as presented.

Ayes-3 Best, Whiteford, Kerr

Nays-0 Motion Carried

Supervisor Best stated that there was a letter from the Association of Towns pertaining to Governor Coumo's shared services plan. There was some discussion about the shared service plan and how Town's, Villages and the county already share services.

HIGHWAY SUPERINTENDENT REPORT: 04/18/2017 * Larry White

In the last month we have had trucks out only 4 times on plowing or sanding.

We have worked with National Grid on tree removal for 4 days. We took down problem trees on the Dutton, Hewlett, Pestle Street, West and Russell Pyrites roads.

The County also worked with us on 3 trees on the Dutton Road.

We helped the County with rock removal in Gouverneur with the army trucks.

We have completed sand clean up in town and DeGrasse as well as several roads on the south side.

We worked on filling our wood sheds for next fall as time allows.

We have patched all roads for the first time.

We are now grading gravel roads as the weather allows.

We have replaced 1 pipe crossing on the Tooley Pond road.

This has been a very productive month and I thank the men for their efforts.

Larry handed in \$50 cash to Tess to hold till board meeting from the sale of the Dodge Truck that was put out to bids and no bids came in.

Harvey asked if the highway department could remove some trees on the cemetery road that hang out over the road and could fall into the cemetery.

RESOLUTION # 42 Tree removal on the Cemetery rd
A motion was made by Councilor Kerr and seconded by Councilor Whiteford
THEREFORE, the Russell Town Board authorizes the highway superintendent to clear trees along the cemetery road near the cemetery.

Ayes 3 Best, Whiteford, Kerr
Nays 0 Motion carried

A motion was made by Council Whiteford and seconded by Councilor Kerr accept the Highway Superintendents report.

Ayes – 3 Best, Whiteford, Kerr
Nays - 0 Motion carried

HIGHWAY COMMITTEE REPORT:

- We went over the CHIPS Projects with the board
- I want to put fill under the row of rocks at the ball field to keep them even with the pavement.
- We will be paving 4.5 miles of road
- Bobby Knox asked if he was still going to remove the rock on the Lazy River Rd. Larry stated that work will come out of general repairs.

RESOLUTION # 43 * Agreement to Spend Town Highway Funds

A motion was made by Councilor Whiteford and seconded by Councilor Kerr
THEREFORE, the Russell Town Board authorizes the highway superintendent to sign the agreement to Spend Town Highway Funds on 80.54 miles of roads in the amount of \$218,488.00 as outlined in his agreement.

Ayes – 3 Best, Whiteford, Kerr
Nays – 0 Motion carried

RESOLUTION # 44 * Selling on Auction International

A motion was made by Councilor Whiteford and seconded by Councilor Kerr THEREFORE, the Russell Town Board authorizes the highway superintendent to advertise a used welder, 2 Rock Hammers, and old compressor, a Drill Press and the 1996 International Tandem truck; on Auction International. The money will go back into Highway and general fund (garage and pit)

Ayes – 3 Best, Whiteford, Kerr
Nays – 0 Motion carried

LEGISLATURE REPORT: Larry Denesha

- We have a couple bills in the senate to repeal the SAFE ACT I offered a resolution last week on this and it passed unanimously.
- The Town of Hermon applied for a Water Treatment Study grant
- We passed a resolution in regards to the Shared Revenue – It would increase the Counties share from the DMV to 25%
- We passed a resolution to hire a assistant DA
- Sales tax may be up in the 1st quarter.
- A discussion about Balmat opening up was held.

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

Ayes – 3 Best, Whiteford, Kerr
Nays – 0 Motion carried

HORSE TRAILS & GRASSE RIVER BLUEWAY TRAIL REPORT: David Whiteford

- Rhonda is getting a sign approved by the DEC
- Tony Sparacino will be getting a hold of Larry to see about widening the north side of Burnell rd so horse trailers have room to park
- Nothing new for the Blueway Trails

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

Ayes – 3 Best, Whiteford, Kerr
Nays – 0 Motion carried

- Larry stated that they will be doing work on the parking area at Harts Falls starting in May

RESOLUTION # 45 * Audit

A motion was made by Councilor Whiteford and seconded by Councilor Kerr to authorize the payment of the following bills

Audit Committee Report
April 18, 2017
Sandy Burnham
Robert Best

Fund	Vouchers	Total
General	89 - 118	\$ 13,703.67
Highway	59 - 76	\$ 22,323.68
Capital Improvements		\$.00
Street Lights	4	\$ <u>663.26</u>
		Total: \$ 36,690.61

Ayes-3 Best, Whiteford, Kerr
Nays-0 Motion Carried

OLD BUSINESS:

NEW BUSINESS:

RESOLUTION # 46 * Recognition of Carl Hull

A motion was made by Councilor Whiteford and seconded by Councilor Kerr to Recognize Carl Hall for 60 years of service in the RVFD

WHEREAS, the Russell Volunteer Fire Department was formed in April 1957, and

WHEREAS, Carl Hull was a founding member; Carl is still an active member after sixty (60) years, having served as Chief, Assistant Chief and Board of Director.

WHEREAS, Carl is still a leader and role model for the younger firemen and woman and is still active in our community; he is still a vital member of the department and has reached a pinnacle that few in the fire service attain, and

THEREFORE, the Russell Town Board acknowledges the contributions that Carl Hull has provided for the past sixty (60) years as a founding Volunteer Fire department member.

Ayes-3 Best, Whiteford, Kerr
Nays-0 Motion Carried

RESOLUTION # 47 * Fireworks and Block dance for 2017

A motion was made by Councilor Whiteford
Seconded by Councilor Kerr

Therefore, the Russell Town Board authorizes the highway department to block off Pestle Street for a block dance and authorize the Russell Fire Department to set off fireworks at dusk on July 15th and 16th for the Russell Fire Department festivities for 2017.

Ayes- 3 Best, Whiteford, Kerr
Nays- 0 Motion carried

- Larry mentioned that Bob and himself would go over the CHIP's money to do a transfer for next meeting
- Councilor Whiteford stated that he would be going to Madrid to check out their floating dock tomorrow or Thursday
- Instead of steps going down to the river he feels a paved incline would be better, Larry Denesha stated we should check with ADA for guidelines.

Motion by Councilor Whiteford and seconded by Councilor Kerr to adjourn the meeting at 7:10 pm all were in favor.

Respectfully submitted by
Town Clerk – Tess Eells