

**REGULAR BOARD MEETING**  
**@ The Russell Town Hall @ 6:00pm**  
**05/21/2019**

**PRESENT:**

Supervisor White  
Councilor Burnham  
Councilman Averill  
Town Clerk -Tess Eells  
Councilor Kerr  
Councilman Whiteford  
Highway Superintendent White

**GUESTS:**

Bobby Knox  
Denny Griffin  
Bradley Griffin  
Larry Denesha  
Robyn McCormick

**Pledge:**

Meeting was called to order by Supervisor White at 6:00 PM

**PUBLIC DISCUSSION:**

- Tomorrah Averill said she was notified on May 2<sup>nd</sup> that Edwards was not doing summer REC and that Brenda was willing to do something for Russell children at the library. I notified the Edwards-Knox school superintendent about this; so we set up a meeting to discuss the situation. Edwards felt like they were not getting enough for their money with the Summer REC is why they were not doing it. After discussions it was decided that there will be Summer REC for 6 weeks from 8:00 am to 2:30 pm. I feel discussions about Summer REC should start in February so we don't run into the situation again.
- David Whiteford stated the Town Hall lawn looks better than last year but he would like to see the weed eating done at same time before moving on to another area.

**ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES:**

A motion was made by Councilor Averill and seconded by Councilor Kerr to accept the minutes from 04/16/2019 as presented by the Town Clerk.

Ayes – 5     Averill, Burnham, White, Whiteford, Kerr

Nays – 0     Motion carried

**TOWN CLERK REPORT: 05/21/2019**

April Report:

21 dog licenses	90.00
Hunting licenses commission	10.79
0 Marriage License Comm.	.00

2 Certified copies	20.00
5 Building permits	125 .00
0 Impoundment fee	.00
0 donation for community use	.00
Fax and copy money	<u>.00</u>
<u>Revenue to supervisor:</u>	\$107.04
<u>Disbursed amounts:</u>	
Ag & Market (spay, neuter program)	23.00
NYS Department of Health	.00
<u>Decals</u>	<u>184.21</u>
Total Disbursed	\$453.00

As of 05/09/19 I have collected 85.50% of taxes \$1,554,331.46

A motion was made by Councilor Whiteford  
 Seconded by Councilor Burnham  
 To accept the clerk Report as presented  
 Ayes - 5 Averill, Burnham, White, Whiteford, Kerr  
 Nays – 0 Motion Carried

**BALLFIELD COMMITTEE REPORT: Supervisor White**

- The new net was put up by the highway department and looks great
- We have been working on both fields
- Larry stated that drainage tiles need to be extended up to the monument at field by old school and he would also like to take top soil out and put gravel in along fence up to the monument to help with the parking issue up there.

**SUPERVISORS REPORT: 05/21/2019**

**1- Financial Reports:**

- Details of all income and expense transactions have been filed with the town clerk.
  - Account balances as of May 21, 2019 for the general fund, highway fund, capital improvement fund, and street light fund have been filed with the town clerk.
  - I am in the process of getting prices to fix the wall in the Theatre; the plaster is separating from the lath and we are concerned it may fall in injure somebody.
- Timothy White

A motion was made by Councilor Kerr and seconded by Councilor Whiteford to accept the Supervisor Report as presented.  
 Ayes-5 Averill, Burnham, White, Whiteford, Kerr  
 Nays-0 Motion Carried

Councilor Averill left the meeting at 6:15 PM

**LEGISLATURE REPORT: Larry Denesha**

- I talked to Don Chambers on when the bridge will be sealed.
- We have a decrease in Extreme Weather funds of \$544 thousand and the will mean 4 miles less of County paving.
- Russell will get or has gotten \$6,213.49 in mortgage tax money.
- There are bills in the assembly that we are Opposing.
- We were approached by Empire State Mines for mineral rights in Edwards's mines (about 38 acres) they feel ore is there. We will give them the first option to the rights; also some ore in Pierrepont they are checking on.
- The J&L Project will be done this summer.
- Bobby Knox asked if a barn was being put at the Russell- County area. Larry said it is being looked into for a few town's he thinks if it goes Lisbon will be first to get one.
- Discussion about Amish buggies and reflectors was carried on.

A motion by Councilor Whiteford and seconded by Councilor Burnham to accept legislature report as presented.

Ayes – 4 Burnham, White, Whiteford, Kerr

Nays – 0 Motion carried

Councilor Kerr left the meeting at 6:25 PM

**FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORT:** Sandy Burnham & Bobby Knox

- We will have 2 bands at summer festival will the town pay ½ again. The board said yes. The day will be July 20<sup>th</sup>.
- The church will do an ice cream social on July 19th
- We are doing a raffle for a kayak.
- And we will have an Alumni breakfast on August 11th.
- We are also having silent auctions
- A Chicken BBQ will be held after the summer festival.
- Fireman's flags are all put out on the graves and we need to get wreath's for the monument yet.

A motion was made by Councilor Whiteford and seconded by Supervisor White to accept the Fire Department Report as presented.

Ayes-3 Burnham, White, Whiteford

Nays-0 Motion Carried

**Robyn McCormick** asked if the board could do anything about the trash at the property across from the South Russell cemetery next to them. The Code Officer will be contacted about it again.

**Highway Superintendent Report: 05/21/2019 \* Larry White**

Our spring cleanup is completed.

We have cut trees on the Forbes, Blackmer and Boyd Pond roads and cut brush back on the McCarthy road.

On the Ritz road we cut out the road and added to the base and re-graveled it. The road broke through this spring due to heavy equipment use.

We have graded and added gravel to all gravel roads as needed.

We have repaired the driveway and trimmed trees at the South Russell cemetery. I was wondering if the town could help out with the driveway there, maybe have it done with binder.

On the Burnell road we removed several trees, blasted 3 areas, widened shoulders, added gravel and replaced 3 pipe crossings and 1 driveway and installed 200 ft drainage tile.

We have installed drainage tile on Mill Street and Maiden Lane and added gravel through wet sections and built up the intersections with Pestle Street. We replaced 1 road crossing pipe and 3 driveways.

We will have our CHIP's projects ready well ahead on our scheduled paving. Maybe paving will occur the 2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> week in June.

This has been a busy and very productive month and I thank the men for a job well done.

#### **HIGHWAY COMMITTEE REPORT:**

- Discussed finances from the state.

A motion was made by Councilor Whiteford and seconded by Councilor Burnham to accept the Highway reports as presented.

Ayes – 3 Burnham, White, Whiteford

Nays – 0 Motion carried

#### **HORSE TRAILS & GRASSE RIVER BLUEWAY TRAIL REPORT:**

David Whiteford

Horse Trail Report:

- Still to wet and gate is still locked

Blue Way Trail:

When will the dock go in I think June 15<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 am will work.

When this is done I will turn the final paperwork in.

Canton with Pyrites is checking into getting a fish elevator in so salmon can get up to the dam.

A motion was made by Councilor Burnham and seconded by Supervisor White to accept the horse Trail report as presented.

Ayes – 3 Burnham, White, Whiteford

Nays – 0 Motion carried

**RESOLUTION # 36\* AUDIT REORT: 05/21/2019**

Tomorrah Averill

Timothy White

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

Fund	Vouchers	Total
General	100 - 126	\$ 11,237.43
Highway	68 – 83	\$ 19,605.36
Capital Improvements	-	\$ .00
Street Lights	5	675.73

Ayes-3 Burnham, White, Whiteford

Nays-0 Motion Carried

**OLD BUSINESS:**

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**RESOLUTION # 37 \* Insurance Renewal**

A motion was made by Councilor Burnham

Seconded by Councilor Whiteford

**Therefore**, the Russell Town Board authorizes the supervisor to sign the Insurance Renewal for the term 05/27/2019 to 05/27/2020 with the insurer Selective Insurance Co of America with Rose & Keirnan as our representatives at the cost of \$35,746.76.

Ayes – 3 Burnham, White, Whiteford

Nays – 0 Motion carried

**RESOLUTION # 38 \* IT Contract with Michael White**

A motion was made by Councilor Burnham and seconded by Councilor Whiteford

**Therefore**, the board authorizes signing a contract with Michael White for IT work for the Town of Russell at \$45.00 an hour for up to 20 hours and when 20 hours are met it will be \$65.00 per hourly charge. This will cover work to be done on computers etc.

Ayes – 3 Burnham, White, Whiteford

Nays – 0 Motion carried

**RESOLUTION # 39 \* Laptop for Historian**

A motion was made by Councilor Whiteford and seconded by Councilor Burnham to **Therefore**, purchase the new Dell Latitude 5591 Laptop for \$735.98 for the Town historian.

Ayes – 3 Burnham, White, Whiteford  
Nays – 0 Motion carried

Dennis Griffin asked if something could be done about the limbs that fall from the big Willow trees out behind his house. They are on private property so that is the land owners responsibility not the town. Tim will look into who owns them and talk to them.

**Zachary Risk Management**

44 Trout Lake Street; PO Box 60  
Edwards, NY 13635

Phone: (315) 413-6574 Cell: (315) 263-8720

May 10<sup>th</sup> 2019

Dear Town Representative or Board Member,

We need to start scheduling the Sexual Harassment classes to maintain the town’s compliance with the new state mandated changes to the New York State Sexual Harassment Law.

I recently completed the Train-the-Trainer seminar presented by NYMIR and would like to make everyone aware of some things I learned, before we start scheduling these classes.

First of all, anyone who works for the town in **any** capacity—this includes seasonal workers, part-time employees and unpaid volunteers—is **required** by New York State Law to complete this training.

Please be aware that Zachary Risk Management is only holding two Sexual Harassment seminars per town – one for the Highway Department and one for all other town workers. If you cannot make it to your assigned meeting, there will be no makeup class.

If an employee misses the class, a designated person from your town may proctor them taking the class online and sign off that they have completed the required course. Your town would then be required to maintain the records of

these trainings with proper dates and signatures. This training must be completed by October 9<sup>th</sup> 2019.

Finally, please be aware that this new regulation is very stringent and very thorough. The presentation itself is long—excluding any question and answers—and we are required to cover every part of the new regulation.

If you have any questions, feel free to contact me at any time.

Sincerely,

"Safety" Joe Zacharek

The Board will set up a meeting for this class.

**RESOLUTION # 40 \* Budget modification**

A motion was made by Councilor Burnham

And seconded by Councilor Whiteford

**Therefore**, to authorize the supervisor to do the following budget modification to decrease the General Fund Balance by \$15,000.00 and increase Capital Improvement Contractual H5122.4 by \$15,000.00 and decrease Highway Fund Balance by \$15,000.00 and increase Capital Improvement Contractual H5122.4 to lay asphalt shim on the Pyrites-Russell road.

Ayes – 3 Burnham, White, Whiteford

Nays – 0 Motion carried

- Councilor Whiteford stated he saw an article in North Country Now about paving material. Barrett's was low bid, Larry stated towns can bid out themselves but going with the low bid is the best way to go. Barrett's trucks are faster than Sheehan.
- Superintendent White stated pertaining to budget modification that the fund balances are substantial and it will all come back in with left over funds.

A motion was made by Councilor Burnham and seconded by Councilor Whiteford to adjourn the meeting @ 7:20 pm

All were in favor

Motion carried

Respectfully submitted by  
Tess Eells-Russell Town Clerk

