

**REGULAR BOARD MEETING**  
**@ The Russell Town Hall @ 6:00 pm**  
**02/18/2020**

**PRESENT:**

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

**GUESTS:**

Bobby Knox  
Denny Griffin  
Larry Denesha  
Bradley griffin  
Morris Jeffries

The Pledge of Allegiance

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

**PUBLIC DISCUSSION:** none

**ACCEPTANCE OF THE MINUTES:**

A motion was made by Councilor Kerr and seconded by Councilor Whiteford to accept the minutes from 01/21/2020 as presented by the Town Clerk.

Ayes-4 Burnham, White, Whiteford, Kerr

Nays-0 motion carried.

**TOWN CLERK REPORT:**

**January 2020 Report:**

24 dog licenses	\$120.00
Hunting licenses commission	3.32
2 Marriage licenses	15.00
13 Certified copies	130.00
0 Building permits	.00
0 impoundment fee	.00
0 donations for community room use	<u>.00</u>
<u>Revenue to supervisor:</u>	\$268.32
<u>Disbursed amounts:</u>	
Ag & Market (spay, neuter program)	32.00
NYS Department of Health	45.00
<u>Decals</u>	<u>56.68</u>

Total Disbursed \$ 402.00

I have collected 70.62% of the taxes \$1,303,967.33 as of 02/11/2020

A motion was made by Councilor Burnham  
Seconded by Councilor Whiteford  
To accept the Clerk Report as presented  
Ayes-4 Burnham, White, Whiteford, Kerr  
Nays-0 Motion carried

**BALLFIELD COMMITTEE:** nothing

**SUPERVISOR REPORT:** Timothy White 02/18/2020

1. Financial Report
  - Details of all income and expense transactions have been filed with the Town Clerk.
  - Account balances as of February 18, 2020 or the general fund, highway fund, capital improvement fund, and streetlight fund have been filed with the Town Clerk.
  - I have received all the property tax money from the Town Clerk. The first quarter sales tax check was received for \$94,855,67 it is about ten thousand higher than estimated.
  - I am trying to get funding for the Spicer road bridge project. If I cannot get funding, I would like to start a savings for the bridge project in our Capital account. I would like to make a resolution to open

**RESOLUTION # 29 Spicer Bridge Capital Fund**

A motion was made by Councilor Whiteford and seconded by Councilor Kerr to authorize the Supervisor to open this new Account:

**THEREFORE**, account H3601.4 in Capital Improvements and decrease general fund balance by \$25,000.00 and decrease highway fund balance by \$25,000.00 and place \$50,000.00 into H3601.4 Spicer Road Bridge Contractual account. This is to get us moving in the right direction so if we can't find grant money in a few years we will have the funding in this account to pay for the project.

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

A motion was made by Councilor Burnham and seconded by Councilor Kerr to accept the supervisor report as presented.  
Ayes-4 Burnham, White, Whiteford, Kerr  
Nays-0 Motion carried

**LEGISLATURE REPORT:** Larry Denesha

- Bail Reform is an issue we released 48 inmates 2 weeks ago, but we have to keep same amount of staff for up to a year. We passed a resolution in opposition to Bail Reform and top repeal it.
- We had a meeting in February that was moved to the courthouse because of the turnout to speak about a second amendment sanctuary in St. Lawrence County, the legislature is in full support of this. Not sure what we will do yet.
- We passed a resolution to allow the Sheriff Office to hold pistol permit safety classes. There will be 2 in March it will cost \$30.00 a class.
- The Extreme Weather Recovery funds were not completed in state budget. We will meet with Senator Ritchie to see if she can help get it put back in budget.
- NYS mandates are about \$49 million 77 thousand for 2020
- Bobby Knox stated he saw the culvert bids will be out on Thursday.

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

Ayes – 4 Burnham, White, Whiteford, Kerr

Nays – 0 Motion carried

**FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORT:**

**Russell – Sandy Burnham**

- Having a chicken BBQ on the 20<sup>th</sup>
- We will have Summerfest again July 18<sup>th</sup> from 7pm – 11pm there will be a band and food.

We have the new LED sign up and people seem to like it. We don't want any political stuff displayed on it but we think we will charge for people to advertise other things on it and put the money towards fireworks. Will the town pay for ½ of the band again? Councilor Whiteford stated if the board agrees that if DeGrasse FD asked for something the board needs to be fair.

**RESOLUTION # 30 \* ½ cost for Summerfest band**

A motion was made by Councilor Kerr and seconded by Councilor Whiteford **THEREFORE**, the board authorizes paying \$325.00 for ½ the cost for the band playing at the Summerfest on July 18, 2020.

Ayes – 4 Burnham, White, Whiteford, Kerr

Nays – 0 Motion carried

- We have been working on the building we painted the kitchen and we are going to put new small doors on, new bathrooms, and a storage room.

**DeGrasse:** no report

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

Ayes – 4 Burnham, White, Whiteford, Kerr

Nays – 0 motions carried

**HIGHWAY SUPERINTENDENT REPORT: 02/18/2020 \* Larry White**

Most of our time has been on plowing and sanding.

We have completed re-building 2 of our plows.

We have completed helping Edwards with their drilling, blasting and clean up and all equipment has been returned to Russell.

We took our farm tractor to Cazenovia Equipment for electrical repair.

I met today with an engineer on the Spicer road bridge to get the red flag removed. We have also scheduled with Atlantic Testing for the core drilling for a new structure.

Tim and I met with the county to come up with the funding needed, we also discussed the purchase of a new plow truck and are working on funding and a bid for truck and equipment.

Our shop has been busy with repairs such as sander chain, pump and gear box, exhaust manifolds gaskets, compressor and radiator.

I thank the men for all their efforts.

**HIGHWAY COMMITTEE REPORT:** included above

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

Ayes – 4 Burnham, White, Whiteford, Kerr

Nays – 0 Motion carried

**HORSE TRAILS REPORT:** David Whiteford

- Nothing to report on this at this time until spring

**BLUEWAY TRAIL REPORT**

**RESOLUTION #31** \* Audit Report-Timothy White & Tomorra Averill

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

Audit Committee Report

February 18, 2020

Fund	Vouchers	Total
General	30 - 56	\$49,768.54
Highway	16- 37	\$36,567.83
Capital Highway Improvements	0	.00
Fire Protection	1-4	\$111,459.00
Street Lights	2	\$814.90

Ayes-4 Burnham, White, Whiteford, Kerr  
 Nays-0 motion carried

**OLD BUSINESS:**

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**RESOLUTION # 32 Agreement to Spend Town Highway Funds**

A motion was made by councilor Whiteford and seconded by Councilor Kerr  
**Therefore**, the Town Board authorizes signing the 2020 Agreement to Spend Town Highway Funds out of General Repairs including sluices, culverts and bridges having less than five feet and boardwalks or the renewals of. on 77 miles of town highways for the sum of \$236,071.00

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

**RESOLUTION # 33 \* Holding Harmless the County of St. Lawrence for providing Services for 2020**

**HOLDING HARMLESS THE COUNTY OF ST. LAWRENCE COUNTY FOR PROVIDING SERVICE FOR 2020**

**TOWN OF RUSSELL**

**By Town Board, Town of Russell**

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

**WHEREAS**, the Town of Russell is desirous of St. Lawrence County Department of Highways providing shared services such as paving, signage, road stripping, blasting and other routine maintenance activities to the Town, and

**WHEREAS**, both the Town of Russell and the County of St. Lawrence are desirous of promoting partnering efforts for the safety of the traveling public in St. Lawrence County, and

**WHEREAS**, in this joint cooperative endeavor, the Town of Russell and the County of St. Lawrence desires to be reimbursed for their expenditures, and

**WHEREAS**, the Town is aware that the County may incur liability in the providing of the services and wishes to indemnify the County in this regard,

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that to the fullest extent permitted by law, the Town of Russell indemnify and hold harmless the County, their officers, directors, partners, representatives, agents and employees from

and against any and all claims, suits, liens, judgments, damages, losses and expenses, including legal fees and all court costs and liability (including statutory liability) arising in whole or in part any manner from injury and/or death of person or damage to or loss of any property relating to or arising out of neglect or intentional acts and/or omissions of the Town of Russell or any directors, officers, employees, contractors, representatives, or agents.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the following request for General Liability (GL) coverage is as follows:

General Liability Insurance

On an "Occurrence" basis, with the following limits:

\$1,000,000 Each Occurrence

\$3,000,000 General Aggregate

\$1,000,000 Products Aggregate

\$1,000,000 Personal Injury

\$ 50,000 Fire damage Legal Liability

\$ 5,000 Medical payment Expense

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that St. Lawrence County shall be an additional insured on the GL Policy, via ISO endorsement CG 2026

Ayes: 4 Burnham, White, Whiteford, Kerr

Nays: 0 Motion carried

Councilor Whiteford stated he would like the tree on CR 25 taken care of.  
Supervisor White stated the county is getting bids to have it taken down.

Motion by Councilor Burnham and seconded by Councilor Whiteford to adjourn the meeting at 6:35 pm all were in favor

Respectfully submitted by  
Town Clerk – Tess Eells

