

REGULAR BOARD MEETING
@ The Russell Town Hall @ 6:00pm
05/19/2020

PRESENT:

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

GUESTS:

Larry Denesha
Henry Leader

Pledge:

Meeting was called to order by Supervisor White at 6:02 PM

PUBLIC DISCUSSION: none

ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES:

A motion was made by Councilor Burnham and seconded by Councilor Kerr to accept the minutes from 04/21/2020 as presented by the Town Clerk.

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

Nays – 0 Motion carried

TOWN CLERK REPORT: 05/19/2020

April 2020 Report:

10 dog licenses	40.00
Hunting licenses commission	3.87
1 Marriage License Comm.	7.50
13 Certified copies	130.00
1 Building permits	25 .00
0 Impoundment fee	.00
0 donation for community use	.00
Fax and copy money	<u>.00</u>
<u>Revenue to supervisor:</u>	\$206.37
<u>Disbursed amounts:</u>	
Ag & Market (spay, neuter program)	10.00
NYS Department of Health	22.50
<u>Decals</u>	<u>66.13</u>
<u>Total Disbursed</u>	<u>\$305.00</u>

As of 05/11/2020 I have collected 84.67% of taxes \$1,563,437.43

A motion was made by Councilor Averill

Seconded by Councilor Kerr

To accept the clerk Report as presented

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

Nays – 0 Motion Carried

BALLFIELD COMMITTEE REPORT: Supervisor White

- Matt Scott was wondering when the ball field could be used. With the pandemic uncertainty the board tabled this until June meeting.

SUPERVISORS REPORT: 05/19/2020

1. Financial Report

- Details of all income and expense transactions have been filed with the Town Clerk.
- Account balances as of May 19, 2020, for the general fund, highway fund, capital improvement fund, and streetlight fund have been filed with the Town Clerk.
- With the ongoing pandemic I am very concerned with our revenue situation. Between highway and general accounts, we are -\$200,383.94 at this time, and \$156,279.26 of this is sales tax. The county sales tax is down \$900,00 in just the month of April. I have been looking at any way we can to cut back on spending. I have cut the hanging baskets in half from what we usually buy, and I asked Farr's to hold me 4 which I will be donating 2 back to the town. They put a lot of effort into them and I don't want to see a local business get stuck with inventory. These are going to be hard times to get through but if we all work together I believe we will get through it.

I would like a Motion to go into Executive Session to discuss a Personnel issue:

A motion was made by Councilor Averill and seconded by Councilor Whiteford to enter Executive Session at 6:07 PM to discuss town personnel.

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

Nays – 0 Motion carried

A motion was made to exit Executive Session and b

Return to the regular meeting by Councilor Kerr and seconded by Councilor Averill with no action taken at 6:38 Pm

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

Nays – 0 Motion carried

A motion was made by Councilor Burnham and seconded by Councilor Averill to accept the Supervisor Report as presented.

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

Nays-0 Motion Carried

LEGISLATURE REPORT: Larry Denesha

- He talked about the county sales tax looks like we will be 6.5 to 8 million under last year.
- The state created a Hospital Express Fund and the monies will come from County sales tax approximately \$356,949.00
- We have a new County Legislature for District 10
- The Office of the Aged is doing 650 plus meals delivered every day
- On May 26th the culvert work will start on CR 17 and then move to Hermon
- The bridge in Hermon is closed
- No COVID-19 cases at the County Correction Facility
- As far as opening your ballfield there are 2 weeks between phases so plan about July 1st for this to open.

A motion by Councilor Averill and seconded by Councilor Kerr to accept legislature report as presented.

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

Nays – 0 Motion carried

FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORT: Sandy Burnham

- The renovations are done at the Fire Station.

Highway Superintendent Report: 05/19/2020 * Larry White

After a call from Tim.

We returned to work on 5/11/20.

We have washed the sand & Salt from our plow trucks and got them ready for summer use.

We have patched all roads.

We have cleared all beaver areas replaced a driveway pipe on Pyrites Russell road.

We blasted the section on Boyd Pond road and started clean up.

I have heard complaints on the way we handled the shutdown. We know the risk of the virus, but certain road conditions can be more deadly, we have to protect the traveling public and protect the town from possible lawsuits which means when hazards are reported to me or I see them we must address the problem.

That is what I have done (my job) and protected the men to the best of my ability not being disrespectful of the Town Board or to anyone.

We had a safety meeting on how to handle the COVID.

There was a 6 ft pipe plugged on Dana Hill

Tim stated there is a plugged pipe on Silver Hill road also.
On the Boyd Pond project, we are using the blast material to build up shoulders we will continue work on this project.
Tomorra asked if the highway was doing the summer youth program.

HIGHWAY COMMITTEE REPORT: none

A motion was made by Councilor Kerr and seconded by Councilor Averill to accept the Highway reports as presented.
Ayes – 5 Averill, Burnham, White, Whiteford, Kerr
Nays – 0 Motion carried

HORSE TRAILS & GRASSE RIVER BLUEWAY TRAIL REPORT:

David Whiteford

- We can get the dock in by June 15th.

A motion was made by Councilor Burnham and seconded by Councilor Averill to accept the horse Trail report as presented.
Ayes – 5 Averill, Burnham, White, Whiteford, Kerr
Nays – 0 Motion carried

RESOLUTION # 37* AUDIT REORT: 05/19/2020

Tomorra Averill
Timothy White

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

Fund	Vouchers	Total
General	102 - 119	\$ 16,649.05
Highway	77 – 90	\$ 17,238.26
Capital Improvements	-	\$.00
Street Lights	5	672.71

Ayes- 5 Averill, Burnham, White, Whiteford, Kerr
Nays-0 Motion Carried

OLD BUSINESS:

NEW BUSINESS:

- Highway Superintendent White went over the road projects he wants to do this year with the board.
 1. With PAVENY monies work on the Blanchard Hill road
 2. Extreme Winter monies work on the Pyrites Russell road
 3. CHIPS monies finish the Burnell road. The Supervisor and board feel the money would be better spent on other areas and just sealing the Burnell road. They suggested doing the dirt road intersections and using the rest of the money going on the Pyrites Russell road. Larry

will do another price write up for that project. Larry feels the Burnell road should be completed with paving the Burnell road but he will do as the board asked.

4. CHIPS monies will be used on the Boyd Pond road
5. CHIPS monies for Dana Hill road
6. CHIPS monies for Pyrites Russell Road

RESOLUTION # 38 Town Highway Fund Monies/Projects

A motion was made by Councilor Whiteford and seconded by Councilor Kerr:

WHEREAS, on March 7, 2020 as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, the Governor of New York State has declared a State of Emergency pursuant to Executive Order Number 202, and

WHEREAS, the Town of Russell having previously entered into a written agreement in accordance with #284 of the New York Highway Law for highway fund appropriations for repairs and improvements; and

WHEREAS, based upon the aforesaid pandemic and State and Federal legislation issued during the State of Emergency and the resulting uncertainty of Town finances and continued need for social distancing.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED that the Agreement dated February 18, 2020 between the Town of Russell and the Town of Russell Highway Department, A True copy of which is attached hereto as Exhibit A, is hereby suspended; and it is further

RESOLVED that the suspension shall continue for a period of 60 days, at which time it will be revisited by the Town Board; and it is further

RESOLVED that in the meantime, any necessary expenditures shall be brought by the Town Highway Superintendent before the board for review and immediate payment if so deemed by the Board.

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

Nays – 0 Motion carried

RESOLUTION # 39 * Insurance Renewal

A motion was made by Councilor Burnham

Seconded by Councilor Kerr

Therefore, the Russell Town Board authorizes the supervisor to sign the Insurance Renewal for the term 05/27/2020 to 05/27/2021 with the insurer Selective Insurance Co of America with Rose & Keirnan as our representatives at the cost of \$35,507.97.

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

Nays – 0 Motion carried

A motion was made by Councilor Burnham and seconded by Councilor Averill to adjourn the meeting at 7:15 PM
All were in favor
Motion carried

Respectfully submitted by
Tess Eells-Russell Town Clerk