

REGULAR BOARD MEETING
@ The Russell Town Hall @6:00pm
08/18/2020

PRESENT:

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

GUESTS:

Bobby Knox
Morris Jeffries
Larry Denesha
John Stransky

The pledge of allegiance:

The meeting was called to order at 6:01 by Supervisor White

PUBLIC DISCUSSION:

- Morris Jeffries was curious about the Boyd Pond project, he wanted to know if there were deaths on that road for cause to do that much work on it.
- Highway Superintendent White stated he did the work for safety reasons because of the steep hill; it is safer for the public and his men in their plow trucks.
- Morris asked the cost of it to taxpayers. Larry stated he budgeted \$23,000 for the work and the blasting came in \$7,000 less than he budgeted. Morris stated it is private up in there with no public access so why do that much work.
- Larry stated it is my goal to make roads safer and that is what I do, and it also has better visibility now.

ACCEPTANCE OF THE MINUTES:

A motion was made by Councilor Kerr

Seconded by Councilor Whiteford

To accept the minutes from 07/21/2020 as presented by the Town Clerk

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

Nays-0 motion carried

TOWN CLERK REPORT: 08/18/2020

July 2020 Report:	
11192 dog licenses	\$100.00
Hunting licenses commission	17.95
3 Marriage License Comm.	22.50
4 Certified copies	40.00
7 Building permits	175.00
0 impoundment fee	.00
Fax & Copy Money	.00
Donations	<u>.00</u>
<u>Revenue to supervisor:</u>	\$355.45
<u>Disbursed amounts:</u>	
Ag & Market (spay, neuter program)	27.00
NYS Department of Health	67.50
<u>Decals</u>	<u>.307.05</u>
Total Disbursed	\$757.00

Motion by Councilor Burnham
 Seconded by Councilor Kerr
 To accept the clerk Report as presented
 Ayes-5 Averill, Burnham, White, Whiteford, Kerr
 Nays-0 motion carried

BALL FIELD COMMITTEE:

- Oldtimers tournament is August 28th and 29th. We will use two fields for this.
- We got cement and fixed the fence poles that were bad.

SUPERVISORS REPORT: 08/18/2020 - Tim White

1. Financial Report
 - Details of all income and expense transactions have been filed with the Town Clerk.
 - Account balances as of August 18, 2020, for the general fund, highway fund, capital improvement fund, and streetlight fund have been filed with the Town Clerk.
 - We have received the 3rd quarter sales tax check. It was not as low as the numbers were projecting; and with the first quarter being way over what was budgeted we should be right on target for the year. With that said Financial I would like to reinstate the Spend Agreement for general repairs with the highway.

RESOLUTION: # 44 Reinstating the Spend Agreement

A motion was made by Councilor Averill and seconded by Councilor Burnham to reinstate the Spend Town Highway Funds Agreement for the General Repairs with the Highway.

Ayes – 5 Averill, Burnham, White, Whiteford, Kerr
Nays – 0 Motion carried

- Superintendent White stated he had some info for some new plow trucks to look at for the USDA Grant. He also stated that one of the plow trucks would not be able to be used this winter and he had info on a used one the town could purchase now. The board agrees we need one before winter.

RESOLUTION # 45 Purchasing a used International PAYSTAR 5600

A motion was made by Councilor Averill and seconded by Councilor Kerr:
THEREFORE, to authorize purchasing a used 2009 International PAYSTAR 5600 VIV # 1HTXHAHT59J116106 for \$49,900.00 out of the Capital Equipment Fund.

Ayes – 5 Averill, Burnham, White, Whiteford, Kerr
Nays – 0 Motion carried.

- I am also going to restart the process for the grant for a new plow truck and hopefully we will receive it before next fall. The Covid 19 pandemic has caused chaos for everyone and I just hope our numbers stay the way they have, and I am happy the town did not take as big a hit as some others have. I want to thank everyone in the town for doing their part to keep things running the way we have.

Town Supervisor
Timothy White

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

Ayes – 5 Averill, Burnham, White, Whiteford, Kerr
Nays - 0 Motions carried

LEGISLATURE REPORT: Larry Denesha

- Workers Comp will be \$3,722 less this year.
- COVID- 33,565 tested, 259 cases and 257 are released from isolation. The test turn around is slow and there have been 608 complaints to the county attorney mostly people not wearing masks.
- We started our budget meeting on the 4th. As of now we do not see a tax increase for taxes for 2021.
- We have a new Social Service Commissioner Cynthia Akerman.
- There are 2 bills in Senate and assembly for the county to pay services for mental health 100% on county. Another mandate we are doing a

resolution opposing it. We would be \$500,000 we would have to come up with because it was not budgeted.

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

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

Nays – 0 Motion carried

FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORT:

Hermon Rescue: John Stransky

- The call volume for Russell was 57 calls Hermon Rescue did 36 of them there were 21 missed calls due to lack of drivers available.
- COVID put a damper on EMS calls so our call numbers were down.
- Would Russell want to move ahead with another 1 year contract at the same cost?

RESOLUTION # 46 1 Year Contract with Hermon Rescue for 2021

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

THEREFORE, the Russell Town Board authorizes the Supervisor to sign another one (1) year contract at the cost of \$25,000.00 for the year 2021 with the Hermon Rescue.

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

Nays – 0 Motion carried

Russell FD - Bobby Knox:

- October 3rd we have a spaghetti dinner
- November 3rd we are doing a Chicken dinner for election Day
- December 5th we will sell Christmas trees and have a BBQ
- December 12th is the Fireman's Banquet

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

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

Nays – 0 Motion carried

Highway Superintendent Report: 08/18/2020 * Larry White

We have helped Hermon and Dekalb with their paving projects.

We have put shoulders on all the paving projects.

We have drilled and blasted the last shot on Boyd Pond. Gravel has been added and graded and the area is cleaned with the shoulders completed.

On Boyd Pond road we also replaced 6 pipe crossings. We will be paving the reconstruction area and pipe s when the county is available.

We are cutting brush around road signs.

We completed cutting shoulders with the county.

We started screening sand on Monday and will screen as time allows.

We will be doing some drilling in Pierrepont.

This has been a productive month and I thank the men.

Councilor Whiteford asked Larry who cleans the Port a pot at the pit, Larry said thanks for reminding him the men were complaining about it. Tess will call Rivers and see if they are still doing it if not the town will get them from AJ's.

Larry showed the board a Brush Cutter for \$15,000.000 he is interested in getting.

Greg Given will be hired to start September 8th 2020.

RESOLUTION # 47 Purchasing a used Brush Cutter

A motion was made by Councilor Averill and seconded by Councilor Kerr to **THEREFORE**, authorize the purchase of a used Brush Cutter at the cost of \$15,000.00 for the Excavator.

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

Nays – 0 Motion carried

HIGHWAY COMMITTEE REPORT: Larry White

- No meeting this month

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

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

Nays – 0 Motion carried

HORSE TRAILS & GRASSE RIVER BLUEWAY TRAIL REPORT: David

Whiteford

- Blue Way trail I did work at the dock to get it finished up so I can send in the paperwork that it is finished to the DEC. The bills for materials are all handed in to the clerk.

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

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

Nays – 0 Motion carried

RESOLUTION # 48 Audit Report-Tim White & Tomorrah Averill

A motion was made by Councilor Burnham and seconded by Councilor Averill to authorize paying the following bills.

Fund	Vouchers	Total
General	164 - 175	\$ 5,442.86
Highway	123 - 140	\$ 21,779.99
Capital Improvements	2 - 4	\$199,156.11
Fire Protection	none	\$0.00
Street Lights	8	\$641.33

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

Nays-0 motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS: none

NEW BUSINESS:

RESOLUTION # 49 LGS-1 Retention & Disposition Schedule for NY Local Gov't Records

A motion was made by Councilor Burnham

Seconded by Councilor Averill

THEREFORE, RESOLVED, By the Russell Town Board of the Town of Russell that RETENTION and DISPOSITION SCHEDULE for NEW YORK LOCAL GOVERNMENT RECORDS (LGS-1) , issued pursuant to Article 57-A of the Arts and Cultural Affairs Law, containing legal minimum retention periods for local government records, is hereby adopted for use by all officers in legally disposing of valueless records listed therein.

FURTHER RESOLVED, that in accordance with Article 57-A:

- (a) Only those records will be disposed of that are described in Retention and Disposition Schedule for New York Local Government Records (LGS-1), after they have met the minimum retention periods described therein;
- (b) Only those records will be disposed of that do not have sufficient administrative, fiscal, legal, or historical value to merit retention beyond established legal minimum periods.

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

Nays- 0 Motion carried

Larry discussed the new used International truck; do you want him to set up the meeting to discuss purchasing it.

A motion was made by Councilor Burnham and seconded by Councilor Averill to adjourn the meeting @ 7:02 pm

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

Nays - 0 Motion carried

Respectfully submitted by
Tess Eells-Russell Town Clerk