

REGULAR BOARD MEETING
@ The Russell Town Hall @ 6:00 pm
12/15/2020

PRESENT:

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

GUESTS:

Jack White
Bobby Knox
Larry Denesha

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

The Pledge of Allegiance

PUBLIC DISCUSSION:

- Jack White stated that awhile back he was called by State Troopers to come pick up a dog at a animal abuse case and I told them that was not my job as DEO. I told them someone there would have to sign for me to get the dog because there could be Vet bills or other expenses if I took the dog. I feel it could be a cost to the town and I wanted the town board to know about the call. The Supervisor said he would check into it more. He also asked why the Troopers could not take it to the pound.
- Jack also asked if the Lawyer got the new Dog Local Law done.
- Supervisor White stated the board is going to use the Local law that was done in 2010. They feel they already held the public hearing and paid the lawyer to do this one so they will use it.
- Jack asked about the abandonment of dogs. That was an amended Law done in 2013 so they go together. Tess gave jack a copy of both laws.
- Councilor Whiteford stated that the DEO should use the Local law we already adopted.

A motion was made by Councilor Kerr and seconded by Councilor Averill to accept the minutes from 11/17/20 as presented by the Town Clerk.

Ayes-4 Averill, White, Whiteford, Kerr

Nays-0 motion carried.

TOWN CLERK REPORT: 12/15/2020

November Report:

9 dog licenses	\$ 36.00
Hunting licenses commission	39.68
1 marriage licenses	7.50

8 Certified copies	80.00
9 Building permits	250.00
0 Town Hall donation	.00
0 Impoundment fees	.00
Fax & copy money	<u>.00</u>
<u>Revenue to supervisor:</u>	\$413.18
<u>Disbursed amounts:</u>	
Ag & Market (spay, neuter program)	9.00
NYS Department of Health	22.50
<u>Decals</u>	<u>\$680.32</u>
Total Disbursed	\$1125.00

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

BALLFIELD COMMITTEE REPORT: Nothing

SUPERVISOR REORT: 12/15/2020

1. Financial Report

- Details of all income and expense transactions have been filed with the Town Clerk.
- Account balances as of December 15, 2020 for the General Fund, Highway Fund, Capital Improvement Fund, and Street Light Fund have been filed with the Town Clerk.
- **RESOLUTION # 59 Budget Modifications**
- A motion was made by Councilor Averill and seconded by Councilor Kerr to authorize the following budget modifications
 Budget modifications decrease A1220.4 Equipment & Capital outlay by \$14.87 and increase A1670.4 Central Printing & mailing by \$14.87. Decrease DA9010.8 State Retirement by \$3,202.65 and increase DA9060.8 Health and Hospital by \$3202.65. Decrease DA5110.4 general repairs by \$3231.20 and increase DA5120.4 Bridges by \$3,231.20. Decrease A1990.4 Contingent by \$542.66 and Increase SL5182.4 Russell Lights by \$377.22 and Increase DeGrasse lights by \$165.44. This is to balance out the accounts.
 Ayes - 4 Averill, White, Whiteford, Kerr
 Nays – 0 Motion carried
- I went through all last year's abstracts for general and highway. The error in machinery account was mine. Went back to bookkeepers' books to find the error and realized her end balance was total spent and my ending balance is money left. I have fixed the mistake and balances are back correct. I am still trying to find

where I made the mistake so it does not happen in the future and would like to thank Larry for catching it.

- Superintendent White interrupted the supervisor report by handing the board his paperwork on how he was off with the supervisor books. He also stated he did not appreciate the board doing the resolution keeping his highway work at \$25,000 at the start of COVID. He feels he knows how to handle his budget. He also stated that he always worked well with other supervisors and boards and he feels we should sit down and work together.

Timothy White
Town Supervisor

Motion by Councilor Averill and seconded by Councilor Kerr to accept Supervisor report as presented.

Ayes-4 Averill, White, Whiteford, Kerr

Nays-0 Motion carried

LEGISLATURE REPORT: Larry Denesha

- I was quarantined 2 weeks ago for being in contact with COVID my test was negative.
- As of today; 41 new cases, 1503 total cases, 16 in the hospital and 27 deaths. On November 23rd we had 794 cases and now we are at 1503 cases in 3 weeks.
- We did a resolution to purchase 2 Reonix rapid testers, it can do 88 tests in a 24 hour period.
- Russell should have gotten Mortgage tax in amount of \$6,301.35
- Our Organizational meeting will be January 4, 2021.
- Councilor Averill asked if there were any reports on how the hospitals are doing. Larry stated they are in good shape.
- Supervisor white stated that some COVID cases were sent to Star lake Hospital.
- Councilor Whiteford stated he is glad the County is getting rapid testers; he got his results after his quarantine was over. He also asked if there were any discussions about salt restrictions at the county. Larry stated not that he is aware of. The Town Pit was discussed and how it is dealt with pertaining to salt.
- Larry White gave Larry D. a map of ash trees in Russell for the ash borer study.

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

Ayes – 4 Averill, White, Whiteford, Kerr

Nays – 0 Motion carried

FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

Russell: Bobby Knox

- We did 200 Chicken Halves, and some were left.
- We are having nothing next month

DeGrasse: nothing

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

Ayes – 4 Averill, Burnham, White, Kerr

Nays – 0 Motion carried

Highway Superintendent Report: 12/15/2020 * Larry White

Larry handed in a check from Auction Internationals for a truck and mower the town sold in the amount of \$8,265.00.

Did the board get a copy of the letter sent from the Boyd Pond residents on the good job we did on the Boyd Pond Rd. He thought it was very nice of them. Tess gave the board all a copy of the letter.

We have completed the set up of the used oil burner and all works well.

We have our early shift in place and night shift will start soon.

Jess has completed work on the screener motor. We have installed it and all works well.

We have done some spot grading on gravel roads.

We have completed the wood contract in Donnerville and McCarthy roads; this should give us most of the wood for next winter.

We have repaired a driveway in Donnerville used for our town turn-a-round and 1 on Lafaver road.

We have increased one of the turn-a-round areas at the bridge on the Dutton road.

We have made arrangements with Pierrepont on plowing the east end of the Dutton road.

We are working on a plan of action with Edwards, and Hermon in the event COVID hits one of our departments; it will mean lower service on all roads, but they will get done.

The men have done a great job and I thank them.

When putting the chimney in for the oil burner we found no insulation on the top half of the wall.

I will get the information to Tess on the patch truck so she can advertise it for sale.

HIGHWAY COMMITTEE REPORT: nothing this month

A motion was made by Councilor Averill seconded by Councilor Kerr to accept the Highway Superintendents report and Highway Committee report.

Ayes-4 Averill, White, Whiteford, Kerr

Nays-0 motion carried

HORSE TRAILS & GRASSE RIVER BLUEWAY TRAIL REPORT: nothing

RESOLUTION # 60 Audit of bills

A motion was made by Councilor Averill and seconded by Councilor Kerr authorizing the payments of the following bills

Audit Committee Report
December 15, 2020
Tomorrah Averill
Timothy White

Fund	Vouchers	Total
General	249 – 274	\$25,237.97
Highway	195 - 218	\$87,684.61
Capital Highway Improvements	-	\$.00
Fire Protection -		0.00
Street Lights	12	\$ 731.97

Ayes – 4 Averill, White, Whiteford, Kerr

Nays – 0 Motion carried

OLD BUSINESS:

December 10, 2020

To the Town of Russell,

It is with much regret that I am writing this letter to inform you of my resignation from the Russell Town Board, effective January 2021. My decision to move closer to my own family has changed

the status of my residence which is the only reason for the early end to my term. It has been an honor and a great pleasure to serve the Russell community as a member of the town board for the past 3 years. I appreciate the support offered to me by community members and the board alike. This is a wonderful community that I will always feel blessed to have been a part of. A part of me will always remain "Cougar Strong." Thank you for the opportunity to live well and serve here.

Sincerely,

Tomorrah Nezezon Averill

NEW BUSINESS:

RESOLUTION # 61

BOND RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN OF RUSSELL ADOPTED DECEMBER 15, 2020, AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASE OF A 2020 PETERBILT PLOW TRUCK, MODEL #567, WITH TENCO PLOW, MODEL #H345-FW, AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF BOND ANTICIPATION NOTES OF THE TOWN IN THE PRINCIPAL SUM OF \$226,210.00 AND/OR SECURING A COMMUNITY FACILITY PROGRAM LOAN/GRANT THROUGH USDA RURAL DEVELOPMENT FOR THE ENTIRE SUM OR A PORTION THEREOF.

RESOLVED, this 15th day of December, 2020, by the Town of Russell, County of St.

Lawrence and State of New York, at a regular meeting at which Supervisor Timothy White and

Councilors Tommorah Averill, Charles Kerr and Edward D. Whiteford were

present, as follows:

Section I. The expenditure of \$226,210.00 which the Town of Russell requires for the purchase of a 2020 Peterbilt Plow Truck, Model #567, with Tenco Plow, Model #H345-FW, is hereby authorized. The total estimated cost of the purchase is approximately \$226,210.00.

Section 2. The plan for financing the said capital improvements consists of the issuance of bond anticipation notes of the Town in the principal sum of \$226,210.00 and/or issuance of a Community Facility Program loan/grant from USDA Rural Development for the entire sum or a portion thereof

Section 3. Bond anticipation notes in the principal amount of \$226,210.00 are hereby authorized to be issued pursuant to the provisions of the Local Finance Law.

Section 4. The period of probable usefulness of the aforesaid purpose for which said bonds are to be issued pursuant to Section 11.28 of the Local Finance Law is hereby determined to be fifteen (15) years.

Section 5. The full faith and credit of said Town of Russell are pledged to the payment of the principal of said bond and interest thereon when due.

Section 6. It is hereby determined that the proposed maturity of the obligation authorized

hereby will not be in excess of five years.

Section 7. The Secretary is hereby authorized and directed to sell such bond at private sale in accordance with the provisions of Section 63.00 of the Local Finance Law.

Section 8. The bond shall be in substantially the form set forth in the attached Schedule "A" which is annexed hereto and made a part hereof as if incorporated herein.

The adoption of the foregoing resolution was moved by Councilor Edward D. Whiteford and seconded by Councilor Charlie Kerr, and duly put to a vote on roll call, which resulted as follows:

4 Ayes: Averill, Kerr, Whiteford, White

0 Nays:

The resolution was declared adopted.

SCHEDULE "A"

Amount and Title: \$226,210.00 Bond Anticipation Note for the purchase of a 2020 Peterbilt Plow Truck, Model #567, with Tenco Plow, Model #H345-FW.

Dated: December 15, 2020

Matures: December 14, 2021

<u>Number</u>	<u>Denomination</u>	<u>Interest Rate Per Annum</u>
1	\$226,210.00	0%

CERTIFICATION

I, **Teresa L. Eells**, Town Clerk of the Town of Russell, County of St. Lawrence and State of New York, do HEREBY CERTIFY that the above is a true copy of the Bond Resolution passed by the Town Board of the Town of Russell at a regular meeting, at which Supervisor Timothy White and Councilors Tommorah Averill, Charles Kerr and Edward D. Whiteford, were present at the Town Office on December 15, 2020, and the same was passed by a unanimous vote and is in full force and effect and has not been changed or amended.

DATED: December 15, 2020 Teresa L. Eells, Town Clerk, Town of Russell

- The Organizational Meeting will be January 5, 2021 at 6:00 Pm at the Russell Town Hall.
- Bobby Knox asked if there was anyone interested in position of Councilor to replace Tomorra. It will be done at Organizational meeting.

Motion was made by Councilor Averill and seconded by Councilor Kerr to adjourn the meeting at 7:15 PM.
Ayes-4 Averill, White, Whiteford, Kerr
Nays-0 Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted by
Town Clerk – Tess Eells

