

REGULAR BOARD MEETING
@ The Russell Town Hall @ 6:00pm
06/16/2021

PRESENT:

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

GUESTS:

Larry Denesha
Bobby Knox
Jack White
Toni Trombly
Larry Trombly

Pledge of allegiance

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

PUBLIC DISCUSSION:

LEGISLATURE REPORT: Larry Denesha

- COVID: 1 new case as of today. State mandated restrictions have been lifted due to NYS hitting 70% vaccinated all but schools, nursing homes, hospitals, prisons etc. St. Lawrence County vaccinations are only at 61% a week ago but the Potsdam Maxy Hall site is shut down now.
- We passed a resolution making June the Dairy month.
- We released funds for the 2021 Bass Masters tournament in Waddington.
- We passed a resolution to do Environmental studies for the (Loop) Bice store in DeGrasse, the gas station near AMVETS on Route 11 and one in Fowler. State DEC will do clean up and we foreclose on them and put them on the auction to be sold and split the money with DEC.
- The Broadband survey is closed we got 2100 responses now we will do a analysis on the results.
- The 2020 Tax Collection rate for St. Lawrence County was at 90.65% and in 2019 it was at 90.83%.
- We passed a resolution for Septic Replacement Assistance with the North Country Housing Council with funds of \$384,000.00. If someone wants to get on the list for assistance call 315-379-2292 or 315-386-8576.
- We passed a resolution to sign a contract with Northern Tier Contractors from Lisbon for the 3 salt/storage buildings that will be done by late fall. ENI got the plumbing bid, and TEL Inc. got the electric bid. The cost will be \$4million 577 thousand 950 hundred dollars.
- We took a voice vote in favor of doing a ATV bridge for the Lafaver road bridge but it is on hold because the NYPA want to put a construction bridge in to move the powerline material.

- Sandy asked when the CR 27 bridge will start now it was supposed to start June 1st. Larry is not sure.

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

Ayes – 4 Beachard, Burnham, White, Kerr
 Nays – 0 motion carried

- Larry White asked Larry Denesha about the Summer Youth Program? Larry White stated he took the contract to the town insurance agent to look over.
- Larry Denesha stated he voted against it due to concerns of insurance. He said it has not been changed yet but it may. Some feel there is a lack of supervision with the youth and that is a concern.
- Larry White stated his youth are always supervised; he feels it is a good program. Larry Denesha stated some towns have opted out of the program, but they are insured with NYMER. He suggested calling Barb Lashway from the Youth Bureau director.
- The Town Board feels if the Youth program will waive the one paragraph and our insurance covers them if there is an issue then go ahead and do the program. Supervisor White stated if the board needed to discuss it further a special meeting can be called.

JACK WHITE:

- Jack stated on January 19th I asked when you were picking up the town property after I was let go as DEO. Tim said the 20th of January. Tim stated you wanted proof of insurance and a letter from town stating your removal from DEO before we could go on your property. Jack stated he received both. I recently got a letter from the Town lawyer asking me to return the Chip Reader to the town. I want all my storage rent paid up before you can get the property. Councilor Burnham asked Jack why you cannot just return town property as you are no longer DEO. Jack stated I want my rent first. Jack stated you can have the chip reader if I can keep the kennel. Tim stated you are not under contract with the town. Tim stated you can keep the kennel just return the chip reader.
- Jack brought the chip reader in and showed the board that it is in good working condition. It has an automatic shut off mode.

ACCEPTANCE OF THE MINUTES:

A motion was made by Councilor Kerr
 Seconded by Councilor Beachard
 to accept the minutes from 05/18/2021 as presented by the Town Clerk.

Ayes-4 Beachard, Burnham, White, Kerr
 Nays-0 motion carried.

TOWN CLERK REPORT: 06/16/2020

May 2021 Report:

14 dog licenses	86.00
Hunting licenses commission	28.81
0 Marriage License Comm.	.00
0 Certified copies	.00
3 Building permits	75.00
0 Impoundment fees	.00
0 donation for Pavilion use	.00
Fax and copy money	<u>.00</u>
<u>Revenue to supervisor:</u>	\$189.81
<u>Disbursed amounts:</u>	
Ag & Market (spay, neuter program)	24.00
NYS Department of Health	.00
<u>Decals</u>	<u>921.19</u>
Total Disbursed	\$1135.00

As of 06/08/21 I have collected 93.69% of taxes for a total of \$1,742,179.27. I have closed out with the County treasurer and sent their check.

A motion was made by Councilor Beachard
Seconded by Councilor Kerr
To accept the clerk Report as presented
Ayes – 4 Beachard, Burnham, White, Kerr
Nays – 0 Motion carried

BALL FIELD COMMITTEE REPORT: In supervisor report

SUPERVISORS REPORT: 06/16/2021 * Timothy White

1. Financial Report
 - Details of all income and expense transactions have been filed with the Town Clerk.
 - Account balances as of June 16, 2021, for the general fund, highway fund, capital improvement fund, and streetlight fund have been filed with the Town Clerk.
 - Peewees are now finished, and I will start picking up materials for the ball fields and lining up volunteers to help with the work.
 - I did not receive any more quotes on the painting at the town hall so if the board would like we will have Kevin Albern do the work.

RESOLUTION # 41 Town Hall Painting Job bid win (Kevin Albern)

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

THEREFORE, the town board will accept the \$6,000.00 quote from Kevin Albern Painting & Construction Company to scrape, prime, paint all previously painted surface on exterior of the building; this includes the soffit, fascia, doors, windows, railings, and overhangs above the entry doors; also includes repairing the front pillars prior to priming and painting.

- DTM- metal surfaces
- Satin Latex on wood surfaces.

Storms will be removed, and windows will be glazed where needed. The dormer will also be primed and painted.

This will be cost of labor and materials. I ask for ½ down \$3,000.00 and rest to be paid at completion.

Ayes – 4 Beachard, Burnham, White, Kerr

Nays – 0 Motion Carried

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

Ayes – 4 Beachard, Burnham, White, Kerr

Nays – 0 Motion carried

FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORT: Bobby Knox

- We need a carpentry work at the station done and we have not had any luck finding someone.

A motion was made by Councilor Beachard and seconded by Councilor Kerr accepting the Fire department report.

Ayes- 4 Beachard, Burnham, White, Kerr

Nays-0 motion carried.

Highway Superintendent Report: 06/16/2021 * Larry White

We have completed shoulders, ditching and 2 small blast areas on the Backus road.

We have added patch on Kimble Hill to the guide rails in prep for paving to reduce wash outs.

We have replaced a section of shoulder on the Hill road with clay and stone to repair wash outs.

We have blasted 2 small sections on the Mackin road seasonal section and repaired wash outs.

We have cut brush on the Blanchard Hill road and are now cutting on seasonal section of Blackmer road in prep for road work.

We have completed mowing roadsides for the first time.

We have cut shoulders on the Curtis, Silver Hill Center and South sections and the Spicer roads.

There is a change in CHIP's Funds that I have adjusted to present.

I thank the men for a productive month.

We have been reinstated \$50,000.00 from the state; \$38,000.00 was in CHIP's. I have amended my projects reflecting the monetary changes if the board will sign and accept them. The board members and supervisor signed the amended Agreement To Spend Town Highway Funds with the changes to expend the sum of \$233,121.00 on 77 miles of Town Highways.

A motion by Councilor Kerr and seconded by Councilor Burnham to accept the Highway Superintendents report.

Ayes-4 Beachard, Burnham, White, Kerr

Nays-0 Motion carried.

HIGHWAY COMMITTEE REPORT:

- I tried to set up a meeting per Councilor Whiteford's request, but he never returned my calls. Tess explained that Councilor Whiteford was in the hospital.
- We are waiting on the county for paving.

A motion was made by Councilor Kerr and seconded by Councilor Beachard at accept the Highway Committee report as presented.

Ayes: 4 Beachard, Burnham, White, Kerr

Nays: 0 Motion carried

HORSE TRAIL AND GRASSE RIVER BLUEWAY TRAIL REPORTS:

BLUEWAY TRAIL: Nothing currently

HORSE TRAILS: Nothing currently

RESOLUTION # 42* Audit Report-Timothy White & Sandra Burnham

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

Fund	Vouchers	Total
General	117 – 139	\$14,973.67
Highway	110– 127	\$24,563.10
Capital Improvements	0	\$.00.
Fire Protection	none	.00
Street Lights	6	\$626.61

Ayes-4 Beachard, Burnham, White, Kerr

Nays-0 motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS: Bids on used lawn mower

- David Gladle \$200.00
- Bradley Griffin \$102.00
- Robert Eells \$67.00

RESOLUTION # 43 Acceptance of bid from David Gladle

A motion was made by Supervisor White and seconded by Councilor Kerr:

THEREFORE, the town board accepts the bid of \$200.00 from David R. Gladle for the used John Deere mower with snowblower attachment, chains, and weights.

Ayes – 4 Beachard, Burnham, White, Kerr

Nays – 0 motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS:

RESOLUTION # 44 Insurance Renewal

A motion was made by Councilor Beachard

Seconded by Councilor Kerr

Therefore, the Russell Town Board authorizes the supervisor to sign the Insurance Renewal for the term 05/27/2021 to 05/27/2022 with the insurer Selective Insurance Co of America with Rose & Kiernan as our representatives at the cost of \$36,126.79 for Policy # S 1546361.

Ayes – 4 Beachard, Burnham, White, Kerr

Nays – 0 Motion Carried

Supervisor White stated that the Summer Extend a Day program will happen this summer. They are trying to do door- to -door pickup and the town of Edwards is giving \$15,000.00 towards paying bus drivers; does the town want to match it we budget \$9,000.00 for it we could take \$6,000.00 from the contingency fund.

Toni Trombly stated that she will need 6 drivers and so far, she has 2. If the door to door does not go then the pick-up areas will be Edwards Library, Russell Library, and the Wayside.

RESOLUTION # 45 Summer Extend a Day Program

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

THEREFORE, the Russell Town Board authorizes the supervisor to spend \$9,000.00 from the Youth Program fund A7310.4 and if the Door- to- Door pick-up goes through they will allot another \$6,000.00 from the Contingency fund A1990.4 to be expended for the program to match Town of Edwards \$15,000.00 funds.

Ayes – 4 Beachard, Burnham, White, Kerr

Nays – 0 Motion carried

Superintendent White asked what he is supposed to do at the barn with the work the previous maintenance person did. Supervisor White stated talk to Peter Burnham about it.

Superintendent stated that NorthStar out of Antwerp the company that bought the metal from Auction Internationals would like to supply the dumpsters for the Town Barn Metal. I think using someone local is a good thing. I will contact Timco to remove their dumpster.

Superintendent White stated that the New Broom will be delivered to Nortrac right off.

I will also be removing the items we sold on Auction International from the insurance.

MEMORY FLOWER DONATIONS:

- Carl Hull: In memory of Pete & Jennie Hull and Dennis Hull
- Bobby Knox: In memory of Oliver & Ruth Knox
- Kevin & Kathy Albern: In memory of Tommy Albern
- Tess Eells: In memory of Helen Clary, Tim Clary & Ted Clary
- Elevene and Donald Corbine: In memory of Burton Bessette

A motion was made by Councilor Burnham and seconded by Councilor Beachard to adjourn the meeting at 6:58 PM

Ayes-4 Beachard, Burnham, White, Kerr

Nays-0 Motion Carried

Respectfully submitted by
Tess Eells-Russell Town Clerk

