

REGULAR BOARD MEETING
@ The Russell Town Hall @ 6:00 pm
03/15/2022

PRESENT:

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

GUESTS:

Bobby Knox
Morris Jeffries
Larry Denesha

The Pledge of Allegiance
The Public Hearing 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 Beachard to accept the minutes from 02/15/2022 as presented by the Town Clerk.

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

TOWN CLERK REPORT:

February 2022 Report:

8 dog licenses	\$38.00
Hunting licenses	1.38
2 Marriage licenses	15.00
3 Certified copies	30.00
2 Building permits	50.00
0 impoundment fee	.00
0 donations for community room use	.00
Fax and copy Monies	<u>.00</u>
<u>Revenue to supervisor:</u>	\$134.38
<u>Disbursed amounts:</u>	
Ag & Market (spay, neuter program)	10.00
NYS Department of Health	45.00
Decals	<u>23.62</u>

Total Disbursed \$ 213.00

I have collected 79.82% of the taxes as of 3/8/22.

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

BALLFIELD COMMITTEE: Included in Supervisor report

SUPERVISOR REPORT: Timothy White 03/15/2022

- Financial Report

-Details of all income and expense transactions have been filed with the town clerk.

-Account balances as of March 15, 2022, for the general fund, highway fund, capital improvement fund, and street light fund have been filed with the town clerk.

-the backstops have been reordered they should arrive in around six weeks. Hopefully the weather starts to break and we can resume work on the other projects that have been started on the fields.

-I am waiting to get prices on benches from different places and they should be here for baseball season

-the fence is already at the ball field

-the town would like to have the highway department dig the ditches needed for water

Timothy White
Town Supervisor

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

Ayes-4 Beachard, Burnham, White, Kerr
Nays-0 Motion carried

LEGISLATURE REPORT: Larry Denesha

- COVID: as of today, there are 49 new cases 7 in hospital and 3 of them are incidentals. A total 181 deaths total fully vaccinated is 60.6%. The St. Lawrence County COVID level is low now

- The county will oppose a resolution to ban any new building built after 2024 to be totally electric
- We passed to sign a contract with auctions International ,4-year extension no cost to county they charge buyers 6%
- Received masks, hand sanitizer, COVID test kits etc. Some are in the Town Clerk's office if any Russell resident wants some
- I was Chairman to the Social Services Commissioner Committee we had to readvertise for candidates, and we got 6 candidates we interviewed them narrowed down to 4 then 2 and; then we offered the job to someone that was originally from St. Lawrence County

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

FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORT:

Russell: no report

DeGrasse: no report

HIGHWAY SUPERINTENDENT REPORT: 03/15/2022 * Richard Meilleur

We have had another busy month maintaining winter roads.

We have also used the Counties bucket truck to remove 4 large, dead maple trees that were in danger of falling into the road. All wood was cut up and put into the woodshed for next year's use.

The two street sweepers have been serviced and are ready for spring cleanup.

The Fuel oil Boiler has been serviced and repaired at a cost of less than \$700.00.

We now have a backup heat source if the wood boiler goes down.

We have one truck down with major repairs needed. Approximately \$10,000.00 in parts. Twin turbos are both bad and charge air cooler needs to be replaced.

Also, side tilt box needs repair on two trucks one at the cost of \$2,200.00 for hinge pin assembly, the other box is beyond repair; it will work as dump box only.

We will need to figure out options before next plow season.

I have got quotes on 3 plow trucks. I have also got finance option information.

The only hard quote I could get was from International. As of this week the International truck if ordered now would be delivered in approximately 14-18 months.

Peterbilt and Western Star quotes were a lot higher with no guarantee on delivery time or price.

I have contacted USDA Rural Development about grants and financing; based on our median income and population in Russell we should get a \$30,000.00 to \$50,000.00 grant on the plow truck. There are a few things we need to do to make sure we are in compliance with NYS Municipal Finance Law.

All new capital equipment purchases we make are eligible for grant money; multiple purchases can be on one grant. We can get bonded locally by a bond council for \$3,000.00 to \$5,000.00. There is \$12 million available to municipalities this fiscal year. All we have to do is apply to get our share.

I have contacted Bill Dashnaw about the grant process as he has helped several towns in the county with the grant application process. I would like to hire him at a cost of Approximately \$300.00 to help ensure we get the most grant funds available.

I would like to thank the men for another safe and productive month.

RESOLUTION: #33 New International Plow truck

A motion was made by Supervisor White and seconded by Councilor Kerr to **THEREFORE**, authorize the Town Highway Superintendent Meilleur to order the 2023 International Truck at the cost of \$230,304.00 with a 2022 Tenco Plow with possible Electrical Component system warranty at the cost of \$1320.00. Delivery time 14-18 months. Ref: Onondaga County Contract # 8996.

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

RESOLUTION: # 34 Hire Bill Dashnaw for grant writing

A motion was, made by Supervisor White and seconded by Councilman Kerr to **THEREFORE**, the Town Board authorizes hiring Bill Dashnaw to help with writing a grant for purchasing new equipment at a cost of around \$300.00.

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

- Richard wants to clean up around the barn and the back of the town barn.
- Bids on materials 1st of April
- \$30-40 thousand to do all around the town barn 6 inches of crushed stone see what we have for a base for next meeting and have clean up by May 2022

HIGHWAY COMMITTEE REPORT: included above

A motion was made by Councilor Beachard 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:

- Nothing to report on this currently until spring.

BLUEWAY TRAIL REPORT

RESOLUTION # 35 * Audit Report-Timothy White & Sandra Burnham
 A motion was made by Councilor Beachard and seconded by Councilor Kerr to pay the following bills.

Audit Committee Report
 March 15, 2022

Fund	Vouchers	Total
General	57 - 80	\$10,813.25
Highway	43 - 61	\$32,361.83
Capital Highway Improvements	0	0.00
Fire Protection	1-4	\$113,960.00
Street Lights	3	\$1001.91

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

OLD BUSINESS:

- Highway Superintendent Meilleur will get a hold of Jefferson concrete for cost on pre cast steps and use an engineer take a look at curb, steps and sidewalk, drainage and put in 1 bid of public safety
- Playground work will start as weather permits

NEW BUSINESS:

- get a hold of Patrick Kelly regarding Industrial Development RVRVA Grant
- dock by bridge -use cable to secure it
- legislator Denesha suggested talking to John Finnegan from NY power authority about reimbursements
- CHIPS amount will be here first of April
- Morris Jeffries asked about when the new truck will be ready, board stated not yet
- Gazebo needs painting and repairs in the spring
- Bobby Knox's stated cold air coming in around windows in community room

Resolution: # 36 Hold harmless Agreement

A motion was made by councilor Beachard seconded by councilman Kerr to **THEREFORE**, authorize the supervisor to sign the hold harmless agreement between Town of Russell and Edwards Knox's Central School for used fuel oil to be used at the town barn.

Ayes-4 Beachard, Burnham, Kerr, White
 Nays-0 Motion carried

Resolution:# 37 Christmas Decorations

Motion made by supervisor White and seconded by Councilor Kerr to not order any new pole mounted Christmas Decorations for this year.

Ayes – 3 Beachard, White, Kerr

Abstained – 1 Burnham

Motion carried

Motion by Councilor Burnham and seconded by Councilor Kerr to adjourn the meeting at 7:08 pm all were in favor

Respectfully submitted by
Town Clerk – Tess Eells