

**REGULAR BOARD MEETING**  
**@ the Russell Town Hall 04/19/2022 @ 6:00 pm**

**PRESENT:**

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

**GUESTS:**

Bobby Knox  
Chris Stransky  
Larry Denesha

**Pledge**

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

**PUBLIC DISCUSSION: Nothing**

**ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES:**

A motion was made by Councilor Kerr and seconded by Councilor Whiteford to accept the minutes from 03/15/2022 as presented by the Town Clerk.

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

Nays-0 motion carried.

**TOWN CLERK REPORT: 04/19/2022**

March 2022 Report:

35 dog licenses	176.00
Hunting licenses commission	03.04
0 Marriage License Comm	.00
1 Certified copies	10.00
1 Building permits	25.00
0 Town Hall Donation	.00
0 impoundment fee	.00
Copy & fax money	.00
<u>Revenue to supervisor:</u>	<u>\$214.04</u>
<u>Disbursed amounts:</u>	
Ag & Market (spay, neuter program)	47.00
NYS Department of Health	.00
Decals	51.96
<u>Total Disbursed</u>	<u>\$313.00</u>

As of 04/05/22 I have collected 85.88% of the taxes.

A motion was made by Councilor Burnham

Seconded by Councilor Kerr  
To accept the Clerk Report as presented  
Ayes-5 Beachard, Burnham, White, Whiteford, Kerr  
Nays-0 carried

**BALL FIELD REPORT:** In supervisor report

**SUPERVISOR REPORT:** Supervisor White

1. Financial Report
  - Details of all income and expense transactions have been filed with the Town Clerk.
  - Account balances as of April 19, 2022 for the general fund, highway fund, capital improvement fund, and streetlight fund have been filed with the Town Clerk.
  - The benches arrived last Monday and are in the town barn. I plan on putting them together on Friday. I have the girls' field all laid out for the new fence to work on that when the weather cooperates. I have built the forms for the concrete to anchor the benches and will work on them if the weather ever cooperates. The pipe for the spring is at the field, and a load of stone is there to line it with. Hopefully the weather will change for the good and we can get some work done.
  - The power authority destroyed the north woods road, and Rich and myself met with them and stayed on them till they took care of the problem. It is looking a lot better.

A motion was made by Council Burnham and seconded by Councilor Kerr to accept the Supervisor report as presented by Supervisor White. Read by Supervisor White.

Ayes- 5 Beachard, Burnham, White, Whiteford, Kerr  
Nays-0 Motion carried

**LEGISLATURE REPORT:** Larry Denesha

- COVID: as of Friday-today 231 new cases, a week ago it was 270 cases. 15 in the hospital. 6 were COVID cases St Lawrence County is 60.9 % fully vaccinated.
- We appointed a new Social Service Commissioner, Joel Seaver.
- There are 2 bills one in the senate and one in the Assembly to do excise tax on ammunition a 2-cent tax on .22 rounds and a 5-cent tax on all other ammunition. We did a resolution opposing this tax.
- We appointed Jolene Munger as Department of Health Director. She is doing a great job.
- The Sheriff's Department donated bullet proof vests to Ukraine.

- There are many delinquent taxes going on sale this year. 79 properties were cleaned up and put back on tax roll.
- I assume you heard about Franklin County giving all their workers a \$3500.00 bonus. Now St. Lawrence County Union Workers are seeking the same.
- I talked to my other towns and read a letter I wrote regarding this; I would like to read it to you and get your opinion.
- The Board felt like if their employees were paid fully throughout the shutdowns then why do they need more money from the ARPA funds. Richard stated maybe if wages were up some maybe it would make it more desirable for new workers. The board thought his letter was fine.

A motion by Councilor Whiteford and seconded by Councilor Kerr to accept the Legislature report as presented..

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

Nays – 0 Motion carried

#### **FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORT:**

**Russell:** Nothing

**DeGrasse:** Nothing

#### **HIGHWAY SUPERINTENDENT REPORT: 04/19/2022 \* Richard Meilleur**

I have had several meetings with the Power Authority; they have put over \$200,000.00 in stone on the North Woods Road. They have also agreed to pay time and materials for damage to the Lazy River Road approximately \$100,000.00. We will do the Excavation work necessary. They will reimburse us \$31.25 per man hour plus all material and equipment will be paid for.

SLC paving will shim from Hermon Town to North Woods Road with 1.5” of Type 6 Top.

We will saw, cut and remove all the areas where I deem necessary and install Geotextile fabric and 8” of stone and 3” Type 3 Binder.

I have also contacted Tom Phaler concerning the Town hall steps. We will discuss our options on precast steps or to build in place. He has engineered several similar projects for municipalities.

We have swept all roads and cleaned up most of the village.

We have also cut brush in several areas including the Smith, Belleville and around the Town Barn.

I handed in a check for \$116.00 for a 12’ sluice pipe.

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

**HIGHWAY COMMITTEE REPORT:**

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

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

Nays – 0 Motion carried

**HORSE TRAILS & GRASSE RIVER BLUEWAY TRAIL REPORT:** David

Whiteford - None

**RESOLUTION #38** \* Audit

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

Audit Committee Report  
April 19, 2022  
Sandy Burnham  
Timothy White

Fund	Vouchers	Total
General	81 - 104	\$21,468.72
Highway	62 – 82	\$45,960.15
Capital Improvements		\$ .00
Street Lights	4	\$ 889.90

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

Nays-0 Motion Carried

**OLD BUSINESS:**

**NEW BUSINESS:**

- Hermon Fire Department Contract for 2022

**RESOLUTION # 39** Hermon Vol. Fire department Contract for 2022

A motion was made by Councilor Kerr and seconded by Councilor Whiteford to: **Therefore**, The Town Board authorizes the Supervisor to sign a 2022 contract with the Town of Russell and the Hermon Volunteer Fire Department Inc beginning 01/01/2022 and ending 12/31/2022 for 24-hour emergency ambulance service. The Town of Russell will pay \$25,500.00 for the year 2022.

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

- Chris Stransky stated things are running smooth. It costs \$56,000.00 a year for a full time EMT on duty. A driver is needed, and Russell could also provide a driver if needed.
- Councilor Whiteford heard a rumor of a General Dollar coming to Russell has anyone else heard about it?
- An upgrade for a playground at Ball field was discussed, the one at the Hermon Town Field was mentioned We can check into it more.

Motion by Councilor Kerr and seconded by Councilor Beachard to adjourn the meeting at 7:00 pm all were in favor.

Respectfully submitted by  
Town Clerk – Tess Eells