

REGULAR BOARD MEETING
@ The Russell Town Hall @6:00pm
08/16/2022

PRESENT:

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

GUESTS:

Bobby Knox
Trudy Hendrickson
Larry Denesha
Terry & Colleen Friot
June Jenne

The pledge of allegiance:

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

PUBLIC DISCUSSION:

Colleen Friot & June Jenne: Co-Historians:

- We received a prize possession From England from Mr. Atwater. It is a 1815 deed document for ½ acre land which we think is the Russell cemetery. It is signed by Russell & Rueben Atwater. We took it to the Canton Historical Society they said they would put it in a preservation box but when we went back there was a new person and she said we had to deed it to them, and we will not do that. Commercial Press is doing a copy for us to display on wall of museum.
- We received 3 more documents from June Jenne from 1886,1871 and 1872. One is a Chattel mortgage document with Garrett Smith on it. He secured mortgages from people that went bankrupt.
- I was taught on how to preserve documents and we were asking the board if a fireproof safe can be bought to store them in. The board has no issue with that.
- Colleen set the document out so the board and public could look at it.
- Councilman Burnham stated that the Co-Historians are doing a great job.
- We also received all the books from the Ladies Society from the Methodist Church.
- We had 2 classes from school come and do research on Tiffany Window and then Seymour Knox.
- We are looking into a Historical Blue & Yellow historical marker. We thought the Turnpike or Arsenal would be good but we didn't have enough

on the Turnpike and the marker has to be seen from the road so the Arsenal will not work. So, we were thinking the Town hall. The board would need to find a location to put it and written permission from the board. The board will work with them on this.

- The board thanked them for their report.

Trudy Hendrickson:

- She asked if signs were checked into for across the bridge?
- Supervisor White stated the county will put up handicapped person signs on each end.
- Councilman Whiteford stated can crosswalks be painted so people are safer crossing the intersections. It will be looked into.

ACCEPTANCE OF THE MINUTES:

A motion was made by Councilor Kerr

Seconded by Councilor Burnham

To accept the minutes from 07/27/2022 as presented by the Town Clerk

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

Nays-0 motion carried

TOWN CLERK REPORT: 08/16/2022

July 2022 Report:

21 dog licenses	\$96.00
Hunting licenses commission	6.90
2 Marriage License Comm.	15.00
5 Certified copies	50.00
6 Building permits	150.00
0 impoundment fee	.00
Fax & Copy Money	.00
Donations	.00
Revenue to supervisor:	\$317.90

Disbursed amounts:

Ag & Market (spay, neuter program)	25.00
NYS Department of Health	45.00
Decals	118.10
Total Disbursed	\$506.00

I paid the Supervisor \$2,810.66 for penalties and misc. from my tax collection.

Motion by Councilor Beachard

Seconded by Councilor Whiteford

To accept the clerk Report as presented

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

Nays-0 Motion carried

BALL FIELD COMMITTEE: In supervisor report

SUPERVISORS REPORT: 08/16/2022 - Tim White

1- Financial Report

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

-Account balances as of August 16, 2022 for the general fund, highway fund, capital improvement fund, and street light fund have been filed with the town clerk.

-I received the third qtr sales tax check for \$111,506.39. If the next qtr stays close it will put the sales tax revenue to the good by around \$50,000. Which will help because some revenues are down.

-I want to thank Rich and the highway men for removing the backstops and benches so the new ones can be installed. I have taken the measurements for the lumber and the rest of the concrete work on the pavilion and will be ordered.

Timothy White
Town Supervisor

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

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

Nays - 0 Motions carried

LEGISLATURE REPORT: Larry Denesha

- COVID: Month of July there were 719 new cases, 200 deaths to date. Things are getting better.
- We passed a resolution to have new Fobs put in at the highway outposts
- We passed a resolution to put a camera security system in at the highway outposts, they are motion activated.
- There are 113 parcels for tax sale auction. Auctions International will be doing online tax sale again starting September 10th to the 24th.
- Workers Comp for Russell went down this year because of no work injuries.
- The 2021 audit is out it is the 3rd year with no issues.
- Sales tax revenue was down 30% for June & July from last year.
- It is budget time we hope to keep the same or even lower it if we can. Our good fund balance helps.
- We passed a resolution to create a Residential Property Account. We will put \$200,000 to start and add \$100,000 a year after that from sales of property to help fix up deteriorating properties and get them on the auction site.

- Councilor Whiteford asked if Dutton Road bridge was open? Yes it has been for over a month.
- Supervisor stated the bridge in Pierrepont is behind 2 weeks.

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

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

Nays – 0 Motion carried

FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORT:

Russell FD - Sandy Burnham:

- We bought new meters last year and they did not get installed, we asked Richard and he said they were locked up and they would get them installed.
- As far as paving at the pump house I talked to Paul Hull and he said if the town paid ½ the FD will do ½ so we need to get an estimate of cost. They were wondering if TDS owned the driveway. TDS pays taxes to Russell on 2 parcels on CR 24.
- There will be an election day luncheon.

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

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

Nays – 0 Motion carried

Highway Superintendent Report: 08/16/2022: Richard Meilleur

All back stops have been removed from the ball fields.

We have completed our paving projects and backed up all the shoulders. We paved .4 miles on Boyd Pond Road, 1 mile of shim & Top on the Pyrites-Russell Road, 1.3 miles of shim & Top on the West Road, and 1.2 miles of Top on the Cassidy Road. I would like to thank the Towns of Hermon, Fowler, Edwards and Dekalb for the use of their trucks on our paving projects.

We have been screening sand for winter roads and cutting brush on the Hewlett and Donnerville roads.

We have installed 3 12” driveway culverts on the Hill Road and have done ditch cleaning in various locations also the roadside mowing is about 75% complete.

Tyler Bristol has 5 years of service as of 8/1/22 and is due 1 week more vacation time.

Tim and I met with NYPA and Michaels and submitted a bill for \$96,000.00 in damages from the power line project to North Woods Road and Lazy River Road.

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

HIGHWAY COMMITTEE REPORT:

- Councilor Beachard stated Richard hired Shane Mackin 8/1/22
- The new Patch truck is going into production in September. The board still feels this truck is needed.

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

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

Larry Denesha asked how the meeting with Michaels and NYPA went. He said if you meet again, he wants to go and we need to have Henry Leader there. They are playing hardball with the county.

RESOLUTION # 58 Audit Report-Tim White & Sandra Burnham

A motion was made by Councilor Beachard and seconded by Councilor Kerr to authorize paying the following bills.

Fund	Vouchers	Total
General	187 - 206	\$ 9,812.00
Highway	140 - 152	\$ 35,240.56
Capital Improvements	0	.00
Fire Protection	none	\$0.00
Street Lights	8	\$790.68

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

OLD BUSINESS:

- **Town Hall steps:** Tom Payler will get the engineered specs to Jeffords Concrete to have the cost for pre-made steps done.
- The gazebo in corner of town needs scraping and to be painted with a white primer this time. Will check into power washing the gazebo.

NEW BUSINESS:

Well Bids: for ball field

1. Fenlong's well drilling from Richville, NY will be an estimate of 220 feet of \$7,095.00

2. Wood Well Drilling from North Bangor. NY estimate of 250 feet at the cost of \$8,450.00.

We did not receive a third quote.

RESOLUTION: #59 well drilling for ballfield

A motion was made by Councilman Kerr and seconded by Councilor Burnham Therefore, the Russell Town Board will hire Fenlong's Well Drilling from Richville, NY to drill a well at the Russell Ballfield with the estimated cost of \$7,095.00 out of **ARPA** Funds account # A9902.4.

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

NEW BUSINESS:

RESOLUTION: # 60 Local Law to Override 2% cap

A motion was made by Councilor Burnham and seconded by Councilor Whiteford **Therefore**, the Russell Town Board authorizes the Town Lawyer Henry Leader to draw up the Local law allowing the town to override the 2% cap if need be.

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

A motion was made by Councilor Whiteford and seconded by Councilor Kerr to adjourn the meeting @ 7:10 pm

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

Respectfully submitted by
Tess Eells-Russell Town Clerk

