

Minutes of the Smithville Town Board
August 17, 2015

OPENING by Supervisor Fred Heisler Jr. 6:30PM

ROLL CALL/PLEDGE:

LATE ADDITIONS/DELETIONS/REMARKS: Adding C2, Vouchers 107,108 General Warrant, NB5

ATTENDANCE in addition to Supervisor Heisler:

Councilman Tom Pollard
Councilman John Cammarata
Councilman Karl Ludwig
Councilman Bob Whitmore

ALSO:

Alison Owens, Town Clerk
Gloria Micha, Assessor
Harry Schultes, Highway Sup't
Jackie Centerwall, PB Chair
Ken Whitmore, Hwy worker
Wayne Eldred
Tracy Oliver

CORRESPONDENCE 6:35PM

C1) Cowles Cemetery Update

C2) letter from Angelo Cioffi regarding Highway Dept: Mr. Cioffi expressed concern that only half of Collyer Rd was resurfaced and that the other half where he lives was not going to receive the same treatment. Hwy Supt Schultes had explained that since there was not any full time residents living that far up on the road there was no reason to do it this year, maybe some other time.

NEW BUSINESS 6:40PM

NB1) Consider accepting resignation of Neil Pease from Planning Board due to health reasons.

RESOLUTION # 33: ACCEPT RESIGNATION OF PLANNING BOARD MEMBER NEIL PEASE

On a motion by Councilman Ludwig, 2nd by Councilman Pollard, the following Resolution was ADOPTED.

AYES: Ludwig, Cammarata, Pollard, Whitmore, Heisler

NAYES: 0

RESOLVED to accept the resignation of Planning Board member Neil Pease, effective immediately.

NB2) Consider Resolution to repeal the override of the tax cap Local Law # 1, 2014. NYS law requires this repeal in order to qualify for the Property Tax Freeze Program for 2016. Councilman Pollard asked if the Board should take a look at the 2016 Budget 1st to make sure the Town will be in compliance for 2016. Supervisor Heisler said the NYS Comptroller's Office in Binghamton, rep Kevin McCabe seemed to indicate that this paperwork should proceed sooner than later. The following Resolution to start the procedure was proposed:

RESOLUTION # 34: START PROCEDURE TO REPEAL OVERRIDE OF THE TAX CAP OF LOCAL LAW # 1, 2014.

On a motion by Councilman Ludwig, 2nd by Councilman Whitmore, the following Resolution was ADOPTED.

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AYES: Ludwig, Cammarata, Pollard, Whitmore, Heisler
NAYES: 0

RESOLVED to start the procedure to repeal Local Law # 1, 2014, overriding the tax cap for the 2015 Town Budget.

The State Comptroller's Office has since advised the Town that a Local Law and Public Hearing to rescind the previous Local Law will need to take place.

NB3) Chenango United Way "Day of Caring" Sept. 26th. Are there any Smithville projects that could be done? It was suggested to work on the broken Gazebo railings, sand and paint over the graffiti on Pavilion benches, and repair the inside of playground slide.

NB4) Teamsters Union Negotiations: The Union representative, Roberta has contacted Supervisor Heisler and will be willing to meet with Board members. It was suggested to meet on Wednesday Aug. 26th

NB5) Wayne Eldred: was recognized and mentioned the basketball hoops/nets/security. \$ from Raymond is available to replace the basketball hoops and nets on the courts in the park. Wayne has seen the new security system and would like to request 2 more cameras in the park, on the poles near the Pavilion and the storage building which will show who is in the Pavilion and who is on the ball court and in the Gazebo. The damage to the Gazebo has been growing each year. He asked what the cost would be? Could it be put in the budget for next year or could funds be raised to purchase them? Councilman Cammarata will check into what the cost would be, would coverage increase, and what kind of cameras can be used?

The Board would have to be willing to press charges on vandalism or having the extra cameras is not going to do any good.

OLD BUSINESS

7:00PM

OB1) Town Barn Engineering Bids: There were 3 Town Barn Engineering Bids, which were previously opened and announced as follows:

- PJF Construction: \$409,000.00
- Finger Lakes Construction: \$362,828.00
- Randy Hay Construction: \$311,975.00

Because the project had to be bid twice, and because of the lateness of the 2nd bid, it was questioned whether there would be enough time to complete the project before winter, or even to start the project if inclement weather was early. Also discussed was the cost of the project and whether the grant money applied for to fund the project was going to be available. There was no guarantee when the grant money would come in, but is projected to be within 6-9 months. Supervisor Heisler said the Town has about \$285,000. in other funds to work with for the project, but it will leave a temporary shortfall of about \$35,000. There is a possibility an additional \$20,000. in unused CHIPS funds could be used. Does the Board want to fund the project, scrap the project or wait until the grant \$ comes in? Supervisor Heisler suggested sitting down with all parties involved, going over the project timelines, finances, etc. He indicated the Contractor whose bid was lowest is in a good position to start on the addition now. After further discussion, Board members Cammarata, Ludwig and Pollard agreed to proceed with and self-fund the project. Highway Sup't Schultes also felt the project should move forward.

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OB2) Town signs at entrance to Town: no new info yet; Hwy Supt. Schultes will check for proper authorization on property owner rights; no new information on the lights on poles or the outside bathrooms.

OB3) JCAP Grant Update: new information is available for the 2016 JCAP grant, but paperwork needs to be completed for the 2015 JCAP grant.

OB4) Discussion of electric suppliers: A chart of proposed electric rates, both fixed and variable, was previously given to Board members for consideration. After a short discussion, Board members felt that going with a fixed 12 month contract would be in the Town's best interest, and further decided to contract with Empire Electric and Natural Gas, Greene NY. The following Resolution was brought forth:

RESOLUTION # 35: CONTRACT WITH EMPIRE ELECTRIC FOR 12 MONTH FIXED RATE SERVICE

On a motion by Councilman Pollard, 2nd by Councilman Cammarata, the following Resolution was ADOPTED.

AYES: Ludwig, Cammarata, Pollard, Whitmore, Heisler
NAYES: 0

RESOLVED to contract with Empire Gas and Electric with a fixed rate 12 month contract for electric service for the Town's five electric accounts.

REPORTS

7:45PM

R1.) Highway: report submitted. Town Board members asked Hwy Sup't Schultes to expand his report

R2.) Assessor: report submitted. The Assessor is recommending a re-val in 2017. There are many unequal properties on the roll and the equalization rate will keep dropping until one is done. NYS will pay \$5.00 per parcel for a re-val. The official Equalization Rate for 2015 is 58.75.

R3.) Enforcement Officer: no written report submitted. A text message report was sent to Town Clerk Owens. County: report submitted

R4.) unassigned

R5.) DCO: no report submitted

R6.) Attorney: no report submitted

R7.) Smithville Day: no report submitted

R8.) Custodian: no report submitted

R9.) Playground Committee: no report submitted

R10) Town Clerk: report submitted.

R11) Planning Board: report submitted. A Public Hearing for Monolith Solar will be held Aug. 19th @ 7pm.

R12) Supervisor's Report: report submitted. Items mentioned were:

- Sales tax check \$39,843. Transfer into the Highway has been made
- Set up a Budget Work Session: amount the Budget can be raised is approx. \$4300. Aug. 27th 6:30pm
- Chenango Cares program was successful with services provided costing 1.5 mil, with Chenango County's share of the costs being \$83,000.
- JCAP Grant paperwork has to be completed by Judge Lilley. Supervisor Heisler asked Councilman Cammarata to have the Judge re-do the paperwork.

A motion to accept the Supervisor's report was made by Councilman Cammarata, 2nd by Councilman Ludwig. All 5 Board members: Ludwig, Cammarata, Pollard, Whitmore and Heisler were in favor, motion carried.

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MINUTES APPROVAL for July 20th

8:30PM

The minutes of the July 20, 2015 meeting were reviewed. A motion to approve the minutes was made by Councilman Pollard, 2nd by Councilman Cammarata. *3 Board members: Cammarata, Pollard, and Heisler were in favor, 2 Board members, Whitmore and Ludwig abstained because they were not present at the July meeting. Motion was carried.

WARRANTS

8:35PM

General Warrant # 8, with Vouchers # 92-108 in the amount of \$7,172.88 was reviewed.

107 to IOK Carpentry was approved in April 2015

108 to Mindy Eldred for \$126.88 Custodial Hours worked

A motion to approve these claims was made by Councilman Pollard, 2nd by Councilman Ludwig. All 5 Board members: Ludwig, Cammarata, Pollard, Whitmore and Heisler were in favor, motion carried.

Highway Warrant # 8, with Vouchers #87-99, in the amount \$ 141,814.49 was reviewed.

A motion to accept the Supervisor's report was made by Councilman Cammarata, 2nd by Councilman Pollard. All 5 Board members: Ludwig, Cammarata, Pollard, Whitmore and Heisler were in favor, motion carried.

There was no other business to come before the Board. The meeting was adjourned @ 8:18PM. The next meeting is August 27th, a budget work session.

Respectfully Submitted,

Alison B. Owens
Smithville Town Clerk

*modified following the Sept. 21, 2015 Town Board meeting.