

Minutes of the Smithville Town Board  
August 17, 2020

OPENING of Town Board meeting by Supervisor Cammarata 6:30 PM  
ROLL CALL/PLEDGE/LATE ADDITIONS:

ATTENDANCE in addition to Supervisor Cammarata  
Councilman Mike Evans ALSO:  
Councilwoman Pam Holcomb Alison Owens, Town Clerk  
Councilman Bob Whitmore Vince Witkowski, Hwy Sup't.  
Councilman Karl Ludwig Jeff Lowe, Assessor  
Bruce Kinney, Code Enforcement, arrived @ 7pm

CORRESPONDENCE 6:35PM  
C1) none

NEW BUSINESS 6:35PM  
NB1) annual JRC commitment: With the Covid pandemic this year the JRC summer program and attendance was substantially reduced yet the JRC billed the Town of Smithville the same amount. Questions from Board members asked how many people from the Town of Smithville attend.

- 68 kids in 2020, 17 CTI program, 16 counselors
- Councilman Whitmore said the cost has not changed in many years since Smithville ran it under Supervisor Johnson
- Board members asked for an accounting of the JRC budgets for 2019 and 2020 and the number of children from Smithville participating. Town Clerk Owens will write a letter to the clerk handling the JRC requesting such.

SERVICE REQUESTS SINCE LAST MEETING  
SR2) Hammerle Rd

- Harringtons requested maintenance on Hammerle Rd. on July 14, 2020, then wrote 2 additional comments after that. Supervisor Cammarata said potholes were filled in, the road was trimmed and calcium applied to the road. This was done immediately after the complaint.

SR3) 993 CO RD 3

- This is the Miller residence which burned (by arson in 2018) According to the complaint current garbage has been piled up and has created a terrible smell. It was questioned whether this was a Town of Smithville or a Chenango County Code Enforcement problem. It was then mentioned it is a Chenango County problem and the Building and Code Enforcement Office should be asked to address it. Code Enforcement Officer Bruce Kinney will be notified. Supervisor Cammarata will be going to Norwich on Friday and will speak with Chenango County Code Enforcement.
- Later in the meeting, after his arrival, were comments from Code Enforcement Officer Bruce Kinney: He had spoken with Chenango County's Steve Fox (Code Enforcement) who will go and speak with the Miller's. The demo permit should be ok for the Miller's to continue working on the clean-up. The Town of Smithville could take on the clean-up project but there is asbestos in the rubble. If the Town does undertake a clean up, the cost of it could be levied on the Miller's property taxes.
- A letter from the Town of Smithville can be written to the Miller's asking them to clean it up or if the Town of Smithville cleans it then the cost will be levied onto their Town and County tax bill. Town Clerk Owens will write the letter
- There are additional properties that may have complaints coming in and will need to be addressed

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OLD BUSINESS (UPDATES IF ANY)

6:55PM

OB1) replacement of windows in Town Clerk, Assessor and Justice office

- Supervisor Cammarata has spoken with Bill @ Madison Vinyl who will be coming Sept. 15<sup>th</sup> @ 1:30pm to measure for the 3 windows (Judge's, Town Clerk's ad Assessor's windows); another vendor contacted would not come out to do an estimate citing distance as a problem. It was suggested to also contact Lowe's.

OB2) Cincinnatus Lake Watershed District/Dam classification. Supervisor Cammarata reported the inspection of the dam was completed and there was no change in the "B" classification change as the Long Pond Dam would not hold if the Cincinnatus Lake dam collapses. There is another vendor who will insure dams of class B nature. Supervisor Cammarata will check on that.

- The Town of Guilford also has a class B dam so Supervisor Cammarata will find out who they use for insurance
- Town Clerk Owens did research on the CLSWPD to find out how it was organized and their responsibilities for ensuring there are funds available for dam inspections, maintenance, repairs, etc.
- Town Clerk Owens can send out a letter inviting property owners to a meeting; Supervisor Cammarata will find out if Cortland County can also be billed for the dam maintenance. He will also speak with the County Att'y concerning the issues of the Cincinnatus Lake situation.
- It was mentioned that perhaps lowering the water level in the lake may help solve the classification problem and also the problem if residents around the lake (or the CLSWPD) do not want to help with maintenance costs. Councilman Whitmore says the lake is spring fed and draining it will not solve the problem.

REPORTS

7:30PM

R1.) Highway: report submitted

- Brush axe is broken but other things are getting done.
- Work is being done on the gradall
- Hattie Clark will be done next week, then shouldering. The cost to pave Hattie Clark was around \$187,000; 3 bids received, Tri-Cities was the lowest.
- Work on Williams Rd will be next.
- Sand for the winter @ \$5.80 p/t delivered to the Town Barn is being offered by Tri-Cities. The price is a great price and Hwy Sup't Witkowski would like to get up to 3500 ton. Councilman Whitmore said the Hwy Supt should get the sand as next year or the year after could be difficult financially.
- Supervisor Cammarata said an ACH deposit came into NBT but it is unknown where it came from or what it was for. Bookkeeper Virginia Smith will call and see if she can obtain that information. Supervisor Cammarata suggested opening a special account and tagging it as a FEMA account. CE officer Bruce Kinney suggested it should go back into Hwy Savings. Supervisor Cammarata will call NBT for their recommendation.

R2) Assessor: report submitted

- Working on data for tax bills
- Overall valued assessments may have gone down this year
- Solar property on Pearl St is now tax exempt

R3.) Enforcement Officer:

- Bridge project applied for septic for tank replacement but cannot connect to leach field as there is not enough room so it will be hooked up as it was before. Property owner is Barbara Tallet

R4.) Planning Board: minutes of August meeting had not yet been received.

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R5.) DCO: no report

R6.) Attorney: no report submitted

R7.) vacant

R8.) Custodian: no report submitted

R9.) Playground Committee: no report

R10) Town Clerk: report submitted.

R11) vacant

R12) Supervisor's Report: submitted

- Sales tax is \$7000 less than what it was last year 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter
- In the General savings there is \$114,000 left to pay bills for the rest of the year
- Paving will deplete the Hwy account when the bill comes in.
- Income tax may be collected on the tax refund check sent in lieu of the economics of the pandemic
- A motion to accept the Supervisor's report was made by Councilman Whitmore, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilman Ludwig. All five Board members: Ludwig, Holcomb, Evans, Whitmore and Cammarata were in favor, motion carried

**MINUTES APPROVAL** for July 20<sup>th</sup>

7:50PM

A motion to approve the minutes of July 20<sup>th</sup> was made by Councilman Whitmore, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilman Ludwig. All five Board members: Ludwig, Holcomb, Evans, Whitmore and Cammarata were in favor, motion carried.

**WARRANTS**

7:55PM

General Warrant # 8, Vouchers # 105-120, in the amount of \$ 3,074.63 were reviewed and considered for payment. Supervisor Cammarata called NYSEG who said we do not have LED lights. An error has been made and will need to be corrected by NYSEG.

[Follow-up: On August 18<sup>th</sup> Supervisor Cammarata spoke with NYSEG who was able to confirm we had LED lights in the hamlet and will be issuing a credit of over \$900. for that street lighting account.] Additionally, the Town will be put on a monthly read program to be more in line with actual use. The other 2 accounts; Tyner and the Town Park have already been accounted for with LED lighting on a monthly basis.

A motion to accept and pay these bills was made by Councilman Ludwig, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilman Evans. All five Board members: Ludwig, Holcomb, Evans, Whitmore and Cammarata were in favor, motion carried

Highway Warrant # 8, Vouchers # 79-95, in the amount of \$ 25,471.40 were reviewed and considered for payment. (these were renumbered from 78-94) A motion to accept and pay these bills was made by Councilman Evans, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilman Whitmore. All five Board members: Ludwig, Holcomb, Evans, Whitmore and Cammarata were in favor, motion carried

Next Board meeting is Monday September 21st @ 6:30pm

OTHER:

2021 BUDGET work: moved to August 20, 2020 6:30pm.

The meeting was declared closed by Supervisor Cammarata at 8:15pm.

Alison B. Owens

Smithville Town Clerk