

Minutes of the Smithville Town Board  
April 19, 2021

OPENING of Town Board meeting by Supervisor John Cammarata 6:30PM

ROLL CALL/PLEDGE/LATE ADDITIONS:

- Truck specs
- BAR appointee Fred Heisler

ATTENDANCE in addition to Supervisor Cammarata:

Councilman Bob Whitmore

Councilman Karl Ludwig

Councilman Mike Evans

Councilwoman Pam Holcomb

ALSO:

Alison Owens, Town Clerk

Vince Witkowski, Hwy Sup't

Assessor Jeff Lowe

Townspersons: Kelly Wark, Steve and Pam Lucas, Troy and Breanna Boardman, Charlotte Newfield

**Townspersons commenting:**

Charlotte Newfield, Round Pond Rd: the ditches on Round Pond Rd need to be cleaned. When would that be happening? Water comes across the road and keeps the lawn area very wet.

Hwy Supt Witkowski: That will be taken care of as soon as possible. FEMA \$ has been applied for and will be used as funding to handle areas like this. He did not have a time frame.

Steve and Pam Lucas, Stone Quarry Rd: concern about the condition of their road. Can large blacktop pieces be picked up and taken away?

Hwy Supt. Witkowski: the road is in bad shape--the work done from the last CHIPS program was used 5 years ago and work cannot be done again for 5 more years. The only thing he can do now is patch. The repair required continues to be more than the budget allows. He offered to have a blacktop company come in and clear and grind the road down to make it completely dirt.

Lucas: several properties around in the Town have become dumps; provided pictures with 911 addresses

Supervisor Cammarata: a copy will be given to the Town Code Enforcement Officer. He acknowledged there are properties in Smithville that have code issues. The Town is working with Chenango County to try and alleviate the situation.

Lucas: Are there any dogs licensed from 1025 Stone Quarry Rd? He noticed at least 4 at that location.

Town Clerk Owens (checking database): There was 1 licensed dog 3 years ago.

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**CORRESPONDENCE**

6:35PM

C1) a letter from John Auwarter was received indicating a family desire for and financial support for an historical sign for Hansmann's Mill which recently burned. Town Clerk/Historian Owens said permission to put up a sign would probably have to come from the current owner. She also mentioned that earlier this year Hansmann's Mill, along with 3 other sites of Historical importance in the Town were reviewed by herself and Chris Buck of the Historical Society and identified as candidates for an Historical marker by the Pomeroy Foundation. The deadline of March 1<sup>st</sup> was missed but can be applied for next year. It was also mentioned part of the property is in the Town right of way so a marker could potentially be placed on the property successfully.

C2) A letter of resignation from Angelo Cioffi of the Board of Assessment Review was received. Mr Cioffi has moved from the area.

**RESOLUTION # 25 (2021): ACCEPT LETTER OF RESIGNATION OF ANGELO CIOFFI FROM BOARD OF ASSESSMENT REVIEW.**

On a motion by Councilman Ludwig, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilwoman Holcomb, this Resolution was ADOPTED.

AYES	Ludwig, Holcomb, Evans, Whitmore, Cammarata
NAYES	0
ABSTAIN	0

RESOLVED to accept the letter of resignation from Angelo Cioffi from the Board of Assessment Review. Mr. Cioffi has moved from the area.

A letter of intent from Fred Heisler was received to be appointed to the Board of Assessment Review which meets in June. Mr. Heisler was appointed to fill the vacancy in the following Resolution.

**RESOLUTION # 2c (2021): APPOINT FRED HEISLER TO FILL VACANCY ON BAR**

On a motion by Councilman Ludwig, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilman Whitmore, this Resolution was ADOPTED.

AYES	Ludwig, Holcomb, Evans, Whitmore, Cammarata
NAYES	0
ABSTAIN	0

RESOLVED to appoint Fred Heisler to the Board of Assessment review to fill the vacancy created by the resignation of Angelo Cioffi. The term of expiration is Sept. 30, 2023.

**NEW BUSINESS**

6:45PM

NB1) Records center possibility: Supervisor Cammarata and Town Clerk/RMO Owens have spoken about the need for increased records storage space. Town Clerk/RMO Owens said that 2/3 of the records in the records room are Historical in nature and could be moved out if space for a Records facility could be found. Supervisor

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Cammarata and Town Clerk/RMO Owens had toured the SHS building on State Hwy 41 and had indicated a records room could be added onto the building which would be more than sufficient space for all Historical records and/or long term records. Grant \$ might be obtained to fix up the building and perhaps add the required storage space. Board members were hesitant as there is no running water in that location and there is also an unused underground gas tank in the front of the building. They felt the building would need a lot of work to make it useable. Town Clerk/RMO Owens also indicated another suitable spot would be an addition to the 2<sup>nd</sup> Pavilion on the Town property. There is water/rest rooms already available. Further discussion is anticipated.

NB2) Permission has been requested from JRC athletic director Chris Kirchbaum, to use the Town of Smithville ball field for ballgame practices and games. The term would start approx. May 1<sup>st</sup> and end June 14<sup>th</sup>. Board members discussed having Covid restrictions in place and insurance form with granting permission.

**RESOLUTION # 27 (2021): GRANT JRC PERMISSION TO USE TOWN OF SMITHVILLE BALL FIELD**

On a motion by Councilman Evans, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilman Ludwig, this Resolution was ADOPTED.

AYES	Ludwig, Holcomb, Evans, Whitmore, Cammarata
NAYES	0
ABSTAIN	0

RESOLVED to grant permission to the JRC to use the Town of Smithville ballfield for softball practices and games between May 1<sup>st</sup> and June 14<sup>th</sup>, allowing for COVID restrictions and for the JRC to submit an insurance form.

**OLD BUSINESS (UPDATES IF ANY)**

7:00PM

**OB1) update on Cincinnatus Lake Watershed Protection District:**

After speaking with the Association of Towns, it was suggested the Town hire a real estate Att’y to see if there is anything in previous deeds about Town ownership of the dam. Members of the Cincinnatus Lake Watershed Protection District Committee need to be property owners in Chenango County in order to be on the Committee.

The man who did the latest inspection on the dam is in Florida and will be returning shortly. He suggested a meeting with the DEC sometime soon to discuss all of the current issues. Ownership attributed to the Town was in the earliest version of the Comprehensive Plan for the Town of Smithville which was dated 2012.

OB2) update of hamlet water system: waiting for things to open up for the grant

OB3) update on Spectrum contract: nothing has been heard from the Town Att’y \*

OB4) **rescind Resolution** to change Hwy Supt term from 2 to 4 yrs.

It was suggested the Board rescind Resolution # 11 to change the term of the Highway Sup’t from 2 years to 4 years to avoid too many Town Officials leaving office at the same time.

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**RESOLUTION # 28 (2021): RESCIND RESOLUTION # 11 (2021)**

On a motion by Councilman Ludwig, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilman Evans, this Resolution was ADOPTED.

AYES	Ludwig, Holcomb, Evans, Whitmore, Cammarata
NAYES	0
ABSTAIN	0

RESOLVED to rescind Resolution # 11 (2021) authorizing the term of office for the Highway Sup't to be changed from 2 to 4 years.

OB5) update on waste oil burner: is ordered and will be available middle of May; Rich Barnes will do the electric

OB6) update on target fix-it's for the Community Center: The County will come back and do another inspection

<b>NEW SERVICE REQUESTS SINCE LAST MEETING</b>	None	7:30PM
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<b>REPORTS</b>	7:30PM
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R1.) Highway: report submitted:

- Still working with 2 trucks, will pick up Ken's truck in Syracuse on Wednesday
- Resident Kelly Wark spoke up and said: Insurance should pay for all the hardware (on the 1 truck being repaired after an accident) regarding the tie-rod/tube
- Does not want to use trucks to haul gravel because they break down
- The Gradall is in Syracuse being repaired
- 2 trees located across the street from the Hansmann's Mill were fire damaged and/or rotted and need to be removed by the Town so the Hwy Sup't is getting quotes. It will probably be about \$1000ea. The trees are in the Town right-of-way
- FEMA reimbursements will be over \$800K for the flood damage
- The Hwy Dept is doing work on Hammerle, Hattie Clark, Round Pond, and Fred Wilcox; also working on Stone Quarry.
- The Employee out on disability is back and has no restrictions.

R2) Assessor: report submitted:

- Tentative roll has been filed
- Computers at the County have been upgraded for better security
- Grievance Day in Smithville will be Wed June 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2-4 & 6-8pm
- Checking on building permits between what the County has issued and what residents are working on.

R3.) Enforcement Officer: no report submitted

R4.) Planning Board: minutes available

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R5.) DCO: no report submitted

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.

- Budget still looks good for 2021; 2022 Budget will need to be started in July
- Chenango County electric: Solar panels will be coming online June/July. Residents can sign up for clean energy and receive 10% savings monthly plus enrollment bonus. County receives bonus from NYS
- Next year for 2022 Budget, CHIPS will go from \$159,700. to \$184,022: With the Recovery for the Town: \$30,486 to \$46,900.; Pave NY will go from \$36,452 to \$54,678.
- Petitions are out there for Representative Claudia Tenney to reverse 5% pull-back in the NYS CHIPS Budget. Federal reinstatement will be \$1500.
- Brandon Becker of Lamont Engineering will need a Resolution for bids for 3 trucks for Town for the USDA grant application; 3 bids (3 trucks), from 3 companies; specs submitted by Hwy Sup't Witkowski

**RESOLUTION # 29 (2021): ADVERTISE FOR BIDS FOR THE 3 TRUCKS APPLIED FOR IN THE USDA GRANT APP'L**

On a motion by Councilman Ludwig, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilwoman Holcomb, this Resolution was ADOPTED.

AYES	Ludwig, Holcomb, Evans, Whitmore, Cammarata
NAYES	0
ABSTAIN	0

RESOLVED to advertise for bids for the 3 trucks applied for, for the Town in the USDA grant application. The 3 bids (for the 3 trucks) will be from 3 different companies; Specs were submitted by Hwy Sup't Witkowski. Legal ad for them to be placed by Brendon Becker of Lamont Engineering.

**FUEL BIDS FOR MAY MEETING:** It was recommended to advertise by legal ad for fuel bids to review at the May 17, 2021 meetings. The period of contract would be June 1 2021 through May 31, 2022. This was so done by Resolution.

**RESOLUTION # 30 (2021): ADVERTISE FOR FUEL BIDS FOR MAY 17<sup>TH</sup> MEETING**

On a motion by Councilman Ludwig, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilman Whitmore, this Resolution was ADOPTED.

AYES	Ludwig, Holcomb, Evans, Whitmore, Cammarata
NAYES	0
ABSTAIN	0

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**RESOLVED** to advertise for the following products to be delivered to the Town Barn and/or Community Center:

**Low Sulfur Diesel Fuel;** approximately 18,000 gal. usage per year; storage tank size 1000 gal.

**Kerosene:** for winter blend with diesel, approximately 5000 gal. usage per year

**Propane:** for heating, approx 3500-4000 gal usage per year, storage tank size; tank size is 1000 gal Above for the Town Barn

**Propane:** approx 1300 units usage per year for heating; tank size is 1000 gal. for the Community Center

The Supervisor's report was approved in a motion by Councilman Whitmore, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilman Ludwig pending check of the paid amount to the DCO for \$700. All 5 Board members: Ludwig, Holcomb, Evans, Whitmore and Cammarata were in favor, motion carried.

**MINUTES APPROVAL** for March 15, 2021

8:10PM

The minutes of the March 15, 2021 Town Board meeting were reviewed. A motion to accept these minutes was made by Councilman Whitmore, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilman Evans. All 5 Board members: Ludwig, Holcomb, Evans, Whitmore and Cammarata were in favor, motion carried.

**WARRANTS**

8:15PM

General Warrant # 4, Vouchers # 49-62, in the amount of \$4,351.40 were reviewed by the Board. A motion to accept and pay these claims was made by Councilman Evans, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilman Whitmore. All 5 Board members: Ludwig, Holcomb, Evans, Whitmore and Cammarata were in favor, motion carried.

Highway Warrant # 4, Vouchers # 35-46, in the amount of \$5,149.74 were reviewed by the Board. A motion to accept and pay these claims was made by Councilwoman Holcomb, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilman Whitmore. All 5 Board members: Ludwig, Holcomb, Evans, Whitmore and Cammarata were in favor, motion carried.

**Executive Session:**

Into @ 8:25pm on a motion by Councilman Ludwig, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilman Evans to discuss an employee situation.

Out @ 8:59pm on a motion by Councilman Ludwig, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilman Evans.

All 5 Board members: Ludwig, Holcomb, Evans, Whitmore and Cammarata were in favor, both motions carried.

Action: Supervisor Cammarata assigned Town Clerk Owens to request Custodian Jessica Bixby cash the 3 outstanding checks in her name, 1 from 2020 and 2 from 2021.

Next Board meeting is May 17, 2021

OTHER/CLOSE:

by Supervisor Cammarata

9:00PM

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Alison B. Owens

Smithville Town Clerk

\*Supervisor Cammarata did have a conversation with Attorney Dave Berger who recommended the Town Board move forward with a Public Hearing for a contract with Spectrum. There was not a formal Resolution but Board members were made aware that a Public Hearing would be held on Monday May 17, 2021 at the Community Center during the regular meeting of the Smithville Town Board. Town Clerk Owens submitted a legal ad which appeared in the Evening Sun on May 4, 2021.