

Minutes of the Smithville Town Board  
November 15, 2021

OPENING of Town Board meeting 6:30PM  
ROLL CALL/PLEDGE/LATE ADDITIONS:  
Correspondence, 1 item

ATTENDANCE in addition to Supervisor Cammarata:

Councilman Bob Whitmore  
Councilman Karl Ludwig  
Councilwoman Pam Holcomb  
Councilman Mike Evans

ALSO:  
Alison Owens, Town Clerk  
Shane Butler, Planning Board  
Keith Sabin. Groundskeeper

**CORRESPONDENCE** 6:35PM

C1) a letter of resignation from Planning Board Chair Shane Butler effective December 31, 2021 was received and recognized by the Board. Shane has been elected to the Town Board effective January 1, 2022.

**NEW BUSINESS** 6:35PM

NB1) Considerations for Service Request # 16 (Nelson Rd): people buying the property would like to close Nelson Rd. at the beginning of their property. Hwy Sup't Witkowski said he has spoken with Ashif Iqbal, author of the request.

Sup't Witkowski expressed his concerns to Board members about closing the road. While the road is missing a bridge that was closed by Chenango County many years ago, the Town has never abandoned or qualified abandoned the road. The current road despite the missing bridge does provide access to other adjoining property owners including NYS and it does have a snowmobile bridge over the stream. Nelson Road is a posted snowmobile road and there is also a bus turnaround on it. He said he is not in favor of proceeding with closing the Road.

Councilman Whitmore also said the county did close the (bridge) road but the Town never officially abandoned the road. Board members were in favor of keeping the road open.

**RESOLUTION # 70 (2021): LEAVE NELSON ROAD AS IS AND NOT BE SUBJECT TO CLOSURE**

On a motion by Councilman Evans, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilman Ludwig, the following Resolution was passed.

AYES Ludwig, Holcomb, Evans, Whitmore, Cammarata

NAYES 0

RESOLVED to leave Nelson Rd open so all property owners can access their properties and to leave it as a snowmobile road.

NB2) Positions available January 1, 2022: These are the positions currently open or will be open as of January 1, 2022:

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Dog Warden, Clerk part-time, Planning Board and Planning Board chair

NB3) SPCA Shelter Agreement for 2022:

After review of the agreement for 2022 and seeing no changes from the 2021 agreement, the Board moved approval of the contract in the following Resolution:

**RESOLUTION # 71 (2021): APPROVE SPCA CONTRACT FOR 2022**

On a motion by Councilman Ludwig, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilman Whitmore, the following Resolution was passed.

AYES Ludwig, Holcomb, Evans, Whitmore, Cammarata

NAYES 0

RESOLVED to approve the SPCA contract for 2022.

NB4) lawn tractor proposal from Lindsey Equipment: with the current lawn tractor is constantly needing repairs Groundskeeper Keith Sabin suggested replacing it with a different one he had 2 quotes for. The tractors are the same model # but are priced differently from the below vendors.

Lindsey Equipment, Port Crane NY: 2021 model # JD 1025R with mower \$20,218.74

Cazenovia Equipment, Cortland NY: 2021 model # JD1025R with mower \$15,622.64

The current tractor is a 2007 model JD 1025R. It has 1,000 hours on it and the Town paid \$9K for it in 2015. The mower on it will not fit either of the proposed models. The cab and snowblower will fit with adjustments in attachments. A new snowblower could cost in the range of \$3800.

Discussion ensued with how this could be paid for. It was suggested ARP funds but there have been changing guidelines for how these funds can be used. It is unknown whether there will be funds leftover from the 2021 budget to help finance a purchase. Financing from JD was also mentioned as was whether the current tractor would hold more value if traded in against the new tractor or sold outright.

Hwy Sup't Witkowski suggested the next model up with hydraulics which would make switching out attachments easier. Councilman Whitmore concurred. Groundskeeper Sabin will check on the availability of those. Separately a zero-turn mower was also quoted but the cost was about the same as the tractor and there would be no snow blowing capabilities.

**OLD BUSINESS (UPDATES IF ANY)**

6:55PM

OB1) updates on Local Law # 4 2021: Opt Out of Cannabis. Another form is being required which Town Clerk Owens finished today.

OB2) updates on electronic sign board: electronic signboard duplication of info will be required for Towns with website. After discussion it was approved to put the agendas back up on the website.

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OB3) updates on buildings and grounds cameras: Technical Advisor Tim Hanna has said he can purchase a higher powered computer and use the free software to get the cameras up and running. Town Clerk Owens recommended a cap of \$1500. to purchase a higher powered small form computer. This was so moved in the following:

**RESOLUTION # 72 (2021): APPROVE UP TO \$1500. FOR PURCHASE OF COMPUTER FOR CAMERA SURVEILLANCE**

On a motion by Councilman Whitmore, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilwoman Holcomb, the following Resolution was passed.

AYES Ludwig, Holcomb, Evans, Whitmore, Cammarata

NAYES 0

RESOLVED to approve the purchase of computer and equipment to set up camera surveillance of Town Park property in the amount up to \$1500.

OB4) considerations of Town land use in hamlet: Supervisor Cammarata has not heard anything concrete except that the person is still considering it.

OB5) updates on repeater on County Rd. 3: The reinstall is not working any better. Can talk truck to truck but not in all areas. What would be the next step? It was suggested to talk with George Tri County communications. Councilman Whitmore will talk with the Greene bus garage to see if anything shareable could be worked out.

OB6) other

**REPORTS**

7:25PM

R1.) Highway: report submitted. Things are going smoothly

- 3 trucks ready for snow
- FEMA money coming in, projects are being started
- '02 truck is being worked on
- Labels for Town equipment have not yet been purchased
- Gradall has been working ok except for the heater

R2) Assessor: report submitted:

- Working on the material required for the State to do the equalization rate

R3.) Enforcement Officer: no report submitted: septic tank and well has been installed on the property next to Pond Creek

R4.) Planning Board: no minutes submitted

R5.) DCO: no report submitted

R6.) vacant

R7.) vacant

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R8.) Custodian: no report submitted

R9.) Playground Committee: no report

R10) Town Clerk: report submitted \*

R11) vacant

R12) Supervisor's Report: not submitted

- No new info on the Truck from Sherburne coming
- Sales tax check of \$55,+ went into General Savings
- \$58,137.00 ACH deposit for FEMA came in
- NYS Retirement \$ 29,879.00 due Dec. 15<sup>th</sup>, or wait until February and pay a higher price

**RESOLUTION # 73 (2021): APPROVE PAYMENT OF \$29,879.00 TO NYSLRS BY DEC 15th**

On a motion by Councilman Ludwig, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilwoman Holcomb, the following Resolution was passed.

AYES Ludwig, Holcomb, Evans, Whitmore, Cammarata

NAYES 0

RESOLVED to pay the annual Retirement Fund fee to the NYSLRS by December 15<sup>th</sup> as opposed to paying in February. This saves about \$1100.

There was no financial report from the Bookkeeper this month to approve.

**MINUTES APPROVAL** for October 18 and November 4, 2021

7:35PM

The minutes of the October 18<sup>th</sup> and November 4<sup>th</sup> meetings were reviewed. A motion to accept these minutes 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.

**WARRANTS**

8:00PM

General Warrant # 11, Vouchers # 165-181, in the amount of \$4,081.84 were reviewed for payment. A motion to pay these claims were made by Councilman Whitmore, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilwoman Holcomb. All 5 Board members: Ludwig, Holcomb, Evans, Whitmore and Cammarata were in favor, motion carried.

3 additional vouchers to be paid at the end of the week 182-184 were also approved in a motion by Councilman Ludwig, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilman Whitmore. All 5 Board members: Ludwig, Holcomb, Evans, Whitmore and Cammarata were in favor, motion carried. The claims included:

NYS Retirement \$30,418.70; Maximum Security \$352.00; Keith Sabin \$188.70. These claims will appear on the December warrant.

Highway Warrant # 11, Vouchers # 127-141 in the amount of \$10,012.75 were considered for payment. A motion to pay these claims 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.

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EXECUTIVE SESSION:

A motion to go into Executive Session to discuss Personnel was made by Councilman Ludwig, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilwoman Holcomb. All 5 Board members in favor, motion carried. Into Executive Session at 7:53pm.

A motion to come out of Executive Session was made by Councilman Evans, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilman Ludwig. All 5 Board members were in favor, motion carried. Out of Executive Session at 8:24pm.

Next Board meeting is December 20, 2021

OTHER/CLOSE:

8:25PM

Alison B. Owens

Smithville Town Clerk