

Minutes of the Smithville Town Board
January 20, 2020

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

ATTENDANCE in addition to Supervisor Cammarata:

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

ALSO:
Alison Owens, Town Clerk
Vince Witkowski, Hwy. Sup't.
Jeff Lowe, Assessor
Angelo Cioffi, PB
Marie Kehl, resident

CORRESPONDENCE 6:35PM
C1) Notice of Change in Policy Terms (Selective Insurance)

NEW BUSINESS 6:35PM
(NONE)

OLD BUSINESS (UPDATES IF ANY) 6:35PM

OB1) update on Oxford Fire Contract: The Town of Preston still has issues with the Oxford Fire Contract (District # 23) and at the recent County meeting the Preston Town Supervisor Pete Flanagan has said he will not sign the current proposed contract. Three signatures, out of the 4 governing municipalities are needed to make the contract valid for Fire District 23. Preston Supervisor Flanagan said he will write a contract for the Oxford Fire Dept. for 2% per year, in 1 year increments and can have something ready by Friday. The other municipalities that can opt to sign are the Town of Smithville, the Town of Oxford and the Village of Oxford.

Supervisor Cammarata said the alternative if the Oxford Fire Dept wouldn't sign that contract would be for the Town of Smithville to contract with the Genegantslet Fire Co. for the year 2020 and then try to find something concrete for 2021. Councilman Whitmore commented that it is not economical or feasible for the Village of Greene Fire Co. to take on District #23 portion in Smithville because of the distance. There is still a concern about Emergency Services and if that automatically comes with the fire contract or it must be contracted separately.

Supervisor Cammarata asked the Board if they would like to go with Preston's offer or go with the Genegantslet Fire Company? Councilman Whitmore said it would be best to see if Preston can work out a deal with Oxford, if not then offer that portion of District # 23 physically in the Town of Smithville to the Genegantslet Fire Co. Supervisor Cammarata will continue to monitor the situation and update Board members. A contract needs to be in place no later than March 1st. Board members were in agreement that a 1 yr. contract with a 2% increase should be tried first with Oxford.

OB2) update on Teamsters Union: Executive Session

OB3) update on Echo Lake Incinerator system: Mrs. Kehl said she had received another affidavit from Mr. Getz's Att'y's office with some untruths in it. The incinerator toilet has been unhooked but not removed; a flush toilet has been put in place. She is concerned Mr. Getz will not stop with his insinuations. Supervisor Cammarata responded that the Town Att'y has sent a letter to Mr. Getz's Attorney notifying them of Mrs. Kehl's decision and that he will confirm the letter was sent and that all is clear with the situation. Town Clerk Owens responded she had received an email on Dec. 24th, after the Getz Att'y affidavit, which seemed to indicate the response hoped for by Mr. Getz and his Attorney had been satisfied.

Minutes of the Smithville Town Board
January 20, 2020

OB4) update on fire alarm system at the Community Center: Both projects of the fire alarm system in the Community Center and the video surveillance cameras in the Town Barn have been installed and finished by Maximum Security. Payment to them has been placed in the January warrant for approval tonight. Prevailing wage information is also available.

It was noted that during installation that there is not a fire alarm in either attic at the Community Center. They can be installed for \$400. By Maximum Security. It was also noted that during the installation of the security system at the Town Barn some voltage loss was occurring. It was recommended to install a battery back-up at a cost of \$325. for the Town Barn security system which will protect the newly installed cameras/computers from voltage loss. This was so moved by the Town Board in the following Resolution.

RESOLUTION # 3 (2020): APPROVE PURCHASE OF ADDITIONAL FIRE ALARMS FOR THE COMMUNITY CENTER ATTICS AND A BATTERY BACK-UP FOR THE SECURITY SYSTEM AT THE TOWN BARN

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

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

RESOLVED to approve the additional purchase of fire alarms for the 2 attics in the Community Center at a cost of \$400. And a battery back-up of the security system at the Town Barn at a cost of \$325. Maximum Security will provide both the product, the installation and the invoice with prevailing wages.

OB5) update on code violations: both Enforcement Officer and Supervisor Cammarata have spoken with County Code Enforcement Officer Steve Fox. It was mentioned that Mr. Fox had just visited the Fred Wilcox Rd. property and had indicated to the people living there they needed to clean up the property or that they will face charges by Chenango County.

OB5) **Discussion and new Resolution on NYSDEC fishing access:** This was started in 2017 but the paperwork became lost at the DEC. The proposal was for a NYSDEC purchase of a 33' x 708' strip of Town owned land on the south bank of Strong Brook across from the Town Barn to be used as a fishing access point. An area for parking would be maintained by NYS in the open area across from the Town Barn where the old Town dump used to be. Currently that area is being used to store sand and gravel. Adjacent to the Town property, a further access path 10' wide will lead along the south side of Strong Brook crossing lands owned by Puvalowski to the Genegantslet where there is an existing fishing easement. A new Resolution is needed ratifying the Fishing Rights Purchase Agreement dated February 21, 2017 and allowing Supervisor John Cammarata to execute all documents relating to the transaction.

RESOLUTION # 4 (2020): RATIFY NYSDEC FISHING RIGHTS PURCHASE, ALLOW SUPERVISOR TO EXECUTE ALL DOCUMENTS

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

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

Minutes of the Smithville Town Board
January 20, 2020

RESOLVED to ratify the NYSDEC purchase of Town of Smithville property along the south side of Strong Brook for fishing rights and a permanent easement of 33'x708', in the amount of \$4300. (TM# 190.-1-17) Such document was originally dated February 21, 2017. Also RESOLVED to direct Supervisor Cammarata to execute all documents related to this transaction on its behalf.

REPORTS

7:10PM

R1.) Highway: report submitted:

- plowing, sanding
- Repair work on equipment
- Getting beavers taken care of
- Cutting brush
- The chipper is down; has person coming to look at it
- Some injury reports were done when cutting brush
- Cleaning up and organizing the shop, will be painting soon. Hoping the people needing to perform Community Service for Court will call
- Positive comments coming in regarding the work being done on the roads.
- Mansion Electric (Rick Croft) has been working on the electric at the Town Barn and has submitted a written bid for additional LED lights to replace all 8 lights in the new section of the Town Barn, only 2 of which are now working. The bid submitted is for \$2,415. Board members moved forward with accepting the bid in the following Resolution:

RESOLUTION # 5 (2020): APPROVE BID BY MANSION ELECTRIC TO REPLACE 8 LIGHTS IN NEW SECTION OF TOWN BARN

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

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

RESOLVED to approve the bid by Mansion Electric to replace 8 lights in the new section of the Town Barn (outside) with LED lights, all work and materials to be included for the \$2,415.00 price.

An additional request was made by Hwy Supt Witkowski to have 2 old, heavy safes from his office at the Town Barn declared surplus so he can move them out. This was so approved in the following Resolution:

RESOLUTION # 6 (2020): APPROVE REQUEST BY HWY SUP'T FOR SAFES TO BE SURPLUS FOR DISPOSITION

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

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

RESOLVED to approve the request by Hwy Sup't Witkowski to have the extra large, heavy and old safes at the Town Barn declared surplus and to dispose of them.

Minutes of the Smithville Town Board
January 20, 2020

- Councilman Whitmore asked about the huge pine tree on Water St near the old mill that is ready to come down. It was recommended NYSEG be called to take a look at it because of its proximity to the power lines. Depending on NYSEG's response there may need to be some quotes to take it down.
- Councilman Whitmore questioned whether the chipped wood from brush and older trees could be sold to residents?
- Water testing by the NYSDEC has been done at the old Town dump

R2) Assessor: report submitted. Working on renewals, has had some complaints

R3.) Enforcement Officer: no report

R4.) Planning Board: no report

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

- A renter for the Pavilion in June would like to put up a tent on the grounds. Board members were OK with the request as long as the chosen site does not interfere with any buried cable or water lines.

R11) vacant

R12) Supervisor's Report: submitted and reviewed. A motion to approve the Supervisor's report was made by Councilman Ludwig, 2nd by Councilwoman Holcomb. All 5 Board members: Ludwig, Holcomb, Evans, Whitmore and Cammarata were in favor, motion carried

MINUTES APPROVAL for December 16th and January 2nd

7:30PM

After reviewing the minutes, Councilman Whitmore remarked he did not arrive late at the December 16 and January 2nd meetings. He moved to correct that statement and then to approve the minutes. This was 2nd by Councilman Evans, all 5 Board members: Ludwig, Holcomb, Evans, Whitmore and Cammarata were in favor, motion carried.

Councilwoman Holcomb mentioned the minutes of the October 21st meeting referred to the Road Use Local Law as having the Town Board set the fee for the required bond, yet in the Fee Schedule for 2020 there was no bond fee set, only the application fee. Town Clerk Owens said there did seem to be a discrepancy and that she would look into it further.

WARRANTS

7:35PM

General Warrant # 1, Vouchers # 1-12, in the amount of \$16,186.36 were submitted for payment. A motion to accept and pay these bills was made by Councilman Ludwig, 2nd by Councilman Evans. All 5 Board members: Ludwig, Holcomb, Evans, Whitmore and Cammarata were in favor, motion carried

Highway Warrant # 1, Vouchers # 1-7, in the amount of \$3946.28 were submitted for payment. A motion to accept and pay these bills was made by Councilman Whitmore, 2nd by Councilman Ludwig. All 5 Board members: Ludwig, Holcomb, Evans, Whitmore and Cammarata were in favor, motion carried.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: to discuss Personnel and Union issues

Into Executive Session at 7:49pm on a motion by Councilman Ludwig, 2nd by Councilman Evans. All 5 Boardmembers: Ludwig, Holcomb, Evans, Whitmore and Cammarata were in favor, motion carried. all 5, 7:49pm

Out of Executive Session at 8:18pm on a motion by Councilman Ludwig, 2nd by Councilman Whitmore. All 5 Boardmembers: Ludwig, Holcomb, Evans, Whitmore and Cammarata were in favor, motion carried

Minutes of the Smithville Town Board
January 20, 2020

The next meeting is Monday February 17th @ 6:30pm

There was no other business to come before the Board. Supervisor Cammarata declared the meeting adjourned at 8:25pm.

Alison B. Owens

Smithville Town Clerk

DRAFT