

MINUTES OF THE SMITHVILLE TOWN BOARD
December 18, 2023

OPENING of Town Board meeting by Supervisor Cammarata 6:32PM
ROLL CALL/PLEDGE/LATE ADDITIONS:

Supervisor John Cammarata
Board members: Bob Whitmore
Russell Wark
Shane Butler
Pam Holcomb

ALSO:
Vince Witkowski, Highway Sup't
Faline Ward, Assessor
Fred Heisler, PB, BAR
Alison Owens, Town Clerk
Roger Barrows, DCO
Several Townspersons

CORRESPONDENCE 6:35PM

C1) NEW BUSINESS 6:35PM

NB1) Consider Above All Telecom's maintenance proposal. The proposal is an annual contract covering parts and labor on the Grandstream phone system and phones. There have been some instances this year with temporary loss of internet service to the Town Barn which has resulted in problems with the phones and security cameras. This maintenance contract would allow for troubleshooting the issues in a more timely fashion and without charging individual fees each time it happens. Board members were in favor of the maintenance proposal annually for \$395.00 as opposed to paying the current bill of \$124.20.

RESOLUTION # 48 (2023): CONTRACT WITH ABOVE ALL TELECOM FOR ANNUAL MAINTENANCE CONTRACT

On a motion by Board member Butler, 2nd by Board member Whitmore the following Resolution was ADOPTED

AYES: Holcomb, Butler, Wark, Whitmore, Cammarata
NAYES: 0

RESOLVED to contract with Above All Telecom for an annual maintenance contract covering parts and labor on the Grandstream phone system and phones which includes diagnostics, support, upgrades and repair.

NB2) Consider required mailing of 2nd notice to Sr. Cit for exemptions
A 2019 State law says a mailing has to be done every year. Chenango County says some are doing it every year, some not. Board members discussed this and again asked if schools could do it with their newsletter. It was decided this might be a possibility but many school districts are no longer mailing out newsletters on a regular basis. Supervisor Cammarata suggested tabling this for a few months until this summer when funds for a 2nd mailing could be built into the budget. Postcards were used last time at a cost of \$266.80 (M&M products)

RESOLUTION # 49 (2023): HOLD ACTION ON MAILING OUT POSTCARDS UNTIL BUDGET PREPARATION TIME NEXT YEAR

On a motion by Board member Whitmore, 2nd by Board member Holcomb the following Resolution was ADOPTED

AYES: Holcomb, Butler, Wark, Whitmore, Cammarata
NAYES: 0

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RESOLVED to hold further action on mailing out 2nd notice postcards to Seniors until Budget preparation time next year when it can be built into the 2025 budget..

NB3) Discussion regarding employment agency for Court Clerk replacement

Since many attempts have been made to find a Clerk for the Court/Justice Lilley, and those attempts have been unsuccessful, Town Clerk Owens called an employment agency to see if there was a possibility they could help find someone. Before going any further, the Town Board would need to approve working with an agency. Town Board members suggested an employment company in Norwich and recommended contacting them in addition to working with the Johnson City group.

OLD BUSINESS (UPDATES IF ANY)

6:50PM

OB1) Protection plan for the JD tractor:

The John Deere tractor for the Town park which was purchased a couple of years ago has another oil leak. The tractor has 164 hours on it and is still eligible for a protection plan. The following options are available: up to 1500 hours/48 months at \$1059; 60 months at \$1586; 72 months at \$2125.

There is a \$100 deductible, implements are not included, just the tractor. After discussion it was decided to move forward with the 1500 hours/48 month contract for \$1059.

RESOLUTION # 50 (2023): CONTRACT WITH JOHN DEERE FOR ADDITIONAL PROTECTION PLAN OF 48 MONTHS/\$1059

On a motion by Board member Whitmore, 2nd by Board member Butler the following Resolution was ADOPTED

AYES: Holcomb, Butler, Wark, Whitmore, Cammarata
NAYES: 0

RESOLVED to contract with John Deere for an additional protection plan for the Town Park JD 1025 Tractor for 48 months, maximum of 1500 hours at a cost of \$1059.

OB2) SPCA contract:

Supervisor Cammarata said there is no new information from the SPCA and that no Towns are signing up with the current contract prices mentioned last month. NYS says even if a contract is signed with Chenango County, the Town does not have to use it. NYS will be offering grants for Towns to put in their own kennels starting in a year, but at the moment options are limited. A lot of work has to go into a kennel to provide shelter, heat, food.

Current DCO Barrows has been inspected by NYS and has been given authorization to hold a dog for 24 hours.

OB3) additional info on the fishing access on Art Lake Rd:

Supervisor Cammarata said the gentleman working with the DEC indicated nothing is going to be happening for at least 2 years.

REPORTS

6:55PM

R1.) Highway: report submitted

- 4 trucks are back up and running; the new truck has been returned—had a solenoid problem; tires are ok
- Plenty of water over roads today due to flooding. Spent today cleaning leaves out of ditches and drains; could become a FEMA project

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- 2 logging permits: one on Robbins Rd and one on McBirney Rd.

R2) Assessor: report submitted

R3.) Enforcement Officer: no report submitted

R4.) Planning Board: no report or minutes submitted

R5.) DCO: no written report; verbal report included:

- A problem with Stone Quarry Rd. dogs
- Tardy list of non-licensed dogs was received from the Clerk’s office and people were contacted

R6.) vacant R7.) vacant

R8.) Custodian: no report submitted; Groundskeeper report submitted regarding the tractor

R9.) Playground Committee: no new report submitted

R10) Town Clerk: report submitted *

Also printed for review is the 2023 Organizational meeting roster/changes needing to be made for 2024 January 2, 2024 6

R11) vacant

R12) Supervisor’s Report: submitted

- Unexpected General Fund had invested \$100K, now has \$1418.77 interest
- Bottle fund \$9K investment now has \$115.94 interest
- NBT Can take a fund, \$50K per unit can pull out at no penalty or 4% for 4 months; have until Jan 2 or 3rd to indicate what the preference is
- FEMA \$ can reinvest for 6 months, money will go back into unexpended balance
- On the water system, Art DeJager said he would indicate where a test well could be dug; the Town will owe Lamont Engineering \$23,168 for continued work on the water system
- \$54K on General side will have a balance after the \$20K start-up
- Highway Savings transferred \$30K out, will have about \$100K leftover to put toward the new truck or pay off the front end loader. Board members suggested putting it into a CD to earn the extra money.
- Everything else looks good.

RESOLUTION # 51 (2023): PUT \$100K LEFTOVER FUNDS INTO 4 MONTH CD

On a motion by Board member Butler, 2nd by Board member Wark the following Resolution was ADOPTED

AYES: Holcomb, Butler, Wark, Whitmore, Cammarata

NAYES: 0

RESOLVED to put the \$100K leftover funds from the Highway fund into a 4 month CD. Options after that would be to put it towards the new truck or pay off the front end loader.

A motion was made by Board member Butler, 2nd by Board member Holcomb to accept the Supervisor report. All Board members: Holcomb, Butler, Wark, Whitmore and Cammarata were in favor, motion carried.

MINUTES APPROVAL for November 20th

7:20PM

After review, a motion to accept the November 20th minutes was made by Board member Wark, 2nd by Board member Holcomb. All Board members: Holcomb, Butler, Wark, Whitmore and Cammarata were in favor, motion carried.

WARRANTS

7:25PM

General Warrant # 12, Vouchers # 204-229 in the amount of \$4530.63 submitted for payment

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Early payments: 172, 173 Added to the warrant were 2 vouchers from the Highway Warrant and #’d 228 and 229. The total of the General Warrants was changed. A motion to accept and pay these claims was made by Board member Butler, 2nd by Board member Whitmore. All Board members: Holcomb, Butler, Wark, Whitmore and Cammarata were in favor, motion carried.

Highway Warrant # 12, Vouchers # 165-180, in the amount of \$26,319.89 submitted for payment Removing #165 & 174 as they were added to the General Warrant. A motion to accept and pay these claims was made by Board member Whitmore, 2nd by Board member Wark. All Board members: Holcomb, Butler, Wark, Whitmore and Cammarata were in favor, motion carried.

ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING DATE FOR 2024 IS JAN. 2ND at 6:30PM

RESOLUTION # 52 (2023): PAY YEAR END BILLS BY DECEMBER 31st

On a motion by Board member Butler 2nd by Board member Whitmore the following Resolution was ADOPTED

AYES: Holcomb, Butler, Wark, Whitmore, Cammarata
NAYES: 0

RESOLVED to pay the year end bills by December 31st.

There was no other business to come before the Board.

CLOSE: by Supervisor Cammarata 7:31PM

Next meetings:

January 2, 2024 Organizational meeting 6:30pm

January 15, 2024 January meeting 6:30pm