

The Regular Town Board meeting was held May 10<sup>th</sup>, 2017 at 7:00 P.M. in the Benton Town Hall Conference Room, 1000 Route 14A, Penn Yan, NY 14527.

Board Present: Supervisor: John Prendergast  
Councilmen: Richard Harper, Deputy Supervisor  
Becky Jensen  
Alan Tomion  
Glenn Quackenbush

Also Present: Highway Superintendent – Jeff Mann, Town Clerk – Bobbi Wolfe, Zoning – Jayson Hoover, Historian/Health Officer – Eleanor Parker, Assessor – Mary Lilyea. Public present: Mr. & Mrs. Brian Rogers.

Supervisor Prendergast opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Approval of Minutes:** Motion was made by Richard Harper, seconded by Glenn Quackenbush to accept the minutes as presented with one correction. Motion was carried.

**Guest:** Mr. & Mrs. Brian Rogers were in attendance with several issues which pertained to zoning issues. Once the town board listened to the issues they were requested to attend a Planning Board/Zoning Board meetings to air their issues and hopefully get some of them resolved. (Letter attached to the minutes).

**Old Business:**

Assessor Position: Supervisor Prendergast informed the board that three interviews were held for the assessor position and will be discussed later in the meeting.

**SKYPE:** After a short discussion, it was decided to not proceed with the use of SKYPE.

**Security System:** Councilman Richard Harper contacted Covert Securities for a proposal to take control over of our current security system. After board discussion motion was made by Alan Tomion, seconded by Becky Jensen to approve Cover Securities to take over the system from G. Wright. Which includes a monthly monitoring of \$55.00/Mo, Service Contract \$22.00/Mo which covers labor and materials, including battery changes. Initial work \$180.00. Other work included in the approval: Move highway bay (1) detector, fire key pad in highway, move beam detector main bay and fire keypad at the main entry at a total cost of \$1260.00. Motion was carried.

Hometowne Energy repaired the conference room propane furnace after a leak was detected.

The Association of Towns sent out information regarding NYS's proposal for state wide shared services plan. Towns/County/Schools/Fire departments are requested to have a plan in place by August 15<sup>th</sup>, 2017 and ready for public view by September 15<sup>th</sup>, 2017. Committees will consist of town supervisors which theirs is the only vote allowed eliminating any councilman votes. Supervisor Prendergast feels this is a violation of home rule. Cuomo's main objective is to eventually eliminate positions like Tax

Collectors/Assessors/Zoning etc. jobs being done locally turned over to the county level. Supervisor Prendergast also informed the board that his consolidation plan can be deferred for a year. There is a meeting May 15<sup>th</sup>, in Corning regarding the consolidation that supervisor Prendergast will be attending.

**New Business:**

Ag & Markets: David Philips, Supervisor Animal Health Inspector presented the “Dog Control Officer Inspection Report & Municipal Shelter Inspection Report” with one violation..

**Water District:**

WD # 5: (Earls Hill Road) Supervisor Prendergast will contact engineer, Jeremy DeLyser to set up a time for an informational meeting for residents in this proposed water district.

WD # 1 Ext: Eighteen more easements have been presented by engineer Jeremy DeLyser, we are waiting for attorney Graff for the legal descriptions prior to sending them out to residents.

WD # 2: Village of Penn Yan has presented their 2017-2018 water budget the Town of Benton was reduced by \$727.00.

WD # 1: The annual railroad underground lease agreements have been received and the cost for each U/G lease went up 127% from last year. Supervisor Prendergast has sent a letter to Railroad Management Co requesting a reduction in the cost.

Councilman, Becky Jensen stated that she will not be seeking another four year term for her position. She stated “Being the first and only female to be elected onto this board, I am in hopes that another woman will seek this position for representation”. She continued, “ I am very appreciative for the support I have received throughout my time of service”.

**Highway:** Superintendent, Jeff Mann presented pricing for a used (2014) excavator, Volvo EW180D at a cost of \$200,953.00. No decision was made and Jeff will be checking into other options.

**Historian/Health Officer:** Eleanor Parker reported her attendance to the (Board of Election) training. She also reported there hadn’t been any animal bites in the past month.

**Monthly Reports & abstract of Vouchers:**

Motion was made by Alan Tomion, seconded by Richard Harper to approve the following: General (A) Claims 68-84 Totaling \$7548.17, General (B) Claims 310-312 Totaling \$177.90, Highway (DA) Claims 61-67 Totaling \$2123.94, Highway (DB) Claims 206-208 Totaling \$4224.71, SW1 Claims 17-18 Totaling \$177.12, SW2 Claims 24-28 Totaling \$145.30, SW3 Claims 16-18 Totaling \$431.30. Town Clerk, Highway, Supervisor, Zoning and Water Reports. Motion was carried.

Motion was made by Alan Tomion, seconded by Becky Jensen to enter into Executive Session at 8:25 P.M. for the purpose of discussing matters leading to the appointment of a particular person for the position of Assessor. Under Public Officers Law, Section 105, Article 7 including, Town Clerk Bobbi Wolfe and Assessor Mary Lilyea. Motion was carried.

Motion was made by Becky Jensen, seconded by Glenn Quackenbush to enter back into the Regular Meeting at 8:45 P.M. Motion was carried.

**Resolutions:**

**#11-17:** Motion was made by Richard Harper, seconded by Becky Jensen to appoint Patricia Brede to the position of Assessor being vacated by Mary Lilyea to finish out the term ending 09/30/19. Motion was carried.

**Adjournment:** Motion was made by Becky Jensen, seconded by Alan Tomion to adjourn the meeting as of 9:00 P.M. Motion was carried.

Dated: May 15, 2017  
Bobbi Wolfe  
Benton Town Clerk/RMC

***ADOPTED: June 14<sup>th</sup>, 2017***