

The Regular Town Board Meeting was held March 11, 2020 in the Benton Town Hall Conference Room, 1000 Route 14A, Penn Yan, NY 14527.

Board Present: Supervisor John Prendergast
 Councilmen Richard Harper, Deputy
 Brian Murphy
 Glenn Quackenbush
 Alan Tomion

Also Present: Bobbi Wolfe – Town Clerk, Jayson Hoover – Highway Supt, Tom Fulkrod – Zoning Officer, Eleanor Parker – Historian/Health Officer.

Public Present: Robert Brechko, Rick Willson, Terry Button, John Christensen.

Supervisor Prendergast opened the meeting at 7:00 P.M. with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of Minutes: Motion was made by Brian Murphy, seconded by Richard Harper to approve the February 12th, 2020 minutes as presented. Motion was carried.

Guest: Board of Elections, Robert Brechko presented the 2020 Town Visit Agenda:
Items presented: 2020 Election Presidential Primary – Primary Election – General Election.
Cyber Security: Continued training, hardware and software protection. Budget Impact Issues: Early Voting, Full day primaries, extra Presidential Primary, new voting machines possibly in 2021.

New Business:
Cornell Co-op, Celebration of Arbor Day is offering free tree saplings to municipalities. Councilman Harper had already approved this offer prior to the board meeting.

Bill Brown stopped in the office and stated he would be doing a walk thru at the pit for logging. He felt he could start soon and we are looking at premium wood.

Ferguson Corners: State and local authorities visited a residence at Ferguson Corners that has been struck twice by vehicles. The state will present a report with possible solutions,

Highway:
Deputy Highway Superintendent – Clerk Wolfe had discussed this position with Kerry Brennan. She stated that there isn't a job description for this position. (Conversation with Supervisor Prendergast), he stated to go ahead with the appointment of Jason Conover.

NYSDOT: The town received confirmation to allow the speed limit reduction on Clark Road from 55 MPH to 45 MPH. The highway department has already installed the new signs.

Resolutions:
#3-2020: Motion was made by Brian Murphy, seconded by Glenn Quackenbush to approve the Budget Amendment to reinstate Code A5010.11 in the General Fund for Deputy Highway Superintendent in the amount of \$2500.00 per year to be paid quarterly. Motion was carried.
#4-2020: Motion was made by Brian Murphy, seconded by Glenn Quackenbush to approve the “Lease”

Between the Town of Benton and Brian Race. \$500.00 due on the first day of the Lease Term and each subsequent Lease Term. (Land basically for highway use to drive around the north end of the town barn to the salt shed).

#5-2020: Christiansen Farm thru the Farmland Protection Implementation Program. Motion was made by Richard Harper, seconded by Brian Murphy to table this resolution (**DUE TO DISCREPENCY IN THE MAP, A PORTION OF THAT PROPERTY HAD BEEN SOLD**). **Owner must re-submit a new map for approval.** Motion was carried.

#6-2020: Motion was made by Richard Harper, seconded by Glenn Quackenbush approving the “Requesting the withdrawal of the State Budgets Energy Siting Amendment. Motion was carried.

#7-2020: Schedule a Public Hearing for April 8th, 2020 @ 7:00 P.M. “Local Law Amending the Zoning Law” Motion was made by Glenn Quackenbush, seconded by Brian Murphy to table this resolution pending additional changes to the zoning. Motion was carried.

Monthly Reports & Abstract of Vouchers: Motion was made by Alan Tomion, seconded by Brian Murphy to approve the following: General (A) Claims 27-49 Totaling \$6237.40, General (B) Claims 313-317 Totaling \$666.61, Highway (DA) 14-34 Totaling \$13,158.21, Highway (DB) Claims 201-202 Totaling \$622.93, SW1 Claims 6-13 Totaling \$614.85, SW2 Claims 9-18 Totaling \$909.21, SW3 Claims 6-13 Totaling \$675.30, SW4 Claims 3-10 Totaling \$1231.58. Town Clerk, Zoning, Highway reports. Motion was carried.

Historian/Health Officers: Eleanor Parker report that there were no animal bites. The Benton History book has been completed. She had a request for information on Morris Morse’s house, but little had been written about it only that it is in bad shape.

Highway: Jayson Hoover stated that the new pick up truck has been ordered and should receive it in about 8 weeks. Dale Christensen, newest highway employee is working out great. Down the road he would like to put an addition on the back of the town barn and other changes in phases.

Zoning: Tom Fulkrod explained that there were 27 overdue payments for building permits and watershed. There are eight remaining and asked the board for permission to add on the second notice “Invoices will be turned over to a collection agency if not paid by MM/YY”. The board stated just to send second notices.

Septic Inspections: Tom stated that the town of Benton is the only town that doesn’t require a septic inspection at the time of a sale, only when a bank requires one. **Motion was made by Richard Harper, seconded by Brian Murphy formally requesting the Planning Board to review watershed regulations and add it to the Zoning Code. Motion was carried.**

Fire & Safety Inspections: Tom stated that he had driven $\frac{3}{4}$ of the town roads and found (64) businesses that fall under the required inspections. **This is one more issue that needs to be added to the zoning code. Motion was made by Brian Murphy, seconded by Glenn Quackenbush adding every (3) year inspections for businesses In Benton. Motion was carried.** Tom also informed the board that the files are being updated. He also suggested that the town start their own Facebook page to get information out to the public. Mr. Harper stated he would check with GoDaddy to see if it may be compatible with our website.

Dated: March 12, 2020

Bobbi Wolfe

Benton Town Clerk, RMC