

The Regular Town Board Meeting was held February 10th, 2021 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
	Alan Tomion
	Glenn Quackenbush

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

Public present: Rick Willson – Yates County Legislature, Edward Tomion & Holly Brown.

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. Motion was carried.

Old Business:

Justice Audit: 2019 and 202 Justice audit has been completed by Glenn Quackenbush and Richard Harper. Then will be reported to the Internal Audit Services Unit in Albany.

Town Audit: Has been completed for 2019, prepared by Mengel, Metzger, Barr & Co CPA's. The audit was given to each board member for their review in March.

SCT Computer: All computers have been switched over to Office 365.

Sexual Harassment Training: John, Bobbi and Tom have turned in their course completion certificate. Kerry Brennan, Yates County Personal sent the link to all employees' home computers to complete the training.

Phone and Internet Services: Richard Harper presented a quote from Empire Access, stating there would possibly be a saving of approximately \$756.24/annually. The suggestion was made to contact Spectrum to see about lowering their pricing. Tom, zoning spoke up and stated that Spectrum is excellent to work with and have had no issues including internet speed.

Zoning: Tom Fulkrod informed the board that there is an issue with a couple of PB members. Herbert Cooley is unable to attend due to some health issues and Tom Goodall hasn't attended a meeting since September, Marlene Exner is the alternate and doesn't show up if Tom Goodall isn't attending. Tom's suggestion is to replace Herbert Cooley with Rich Meyer on the PB, and Jeffrey Eckart as the alternate on the PB. Motion was made by Richard Harper, seconded by Glenn Quackenbush to replace Herbert Cooley with Rich Meyer on the Planning Board term tending 12/31/2025. Motion was carried. Motion was made by Richard Harper, seconded by Brian Murphy to appoint Jeff Eckart as an alternate to the Planning Board, replacing Marlene Exner. Motion was carried.

New Business:

Logging: The town received another check in the amount of \$5875.23, grant total so far, \$29,796.11. Mr. Brown stated that they still have more logging to complete.

Empire Pipeline check was received, \$57,380.62.

Bookkeeper Position: Supervisor Prendergast set up a GoToMtg 2/17/2021 @ 10:00 A.M. to discuss outsourcing the accounting services. (EFPR Solutions). Discussion was also held on advertising the position. John, Brian and Glenn. will prepare the ad for the newspaper.

Water District # 5:

We have not heard back from the State Comptroller on accepting or denying this project. They are still waiting on the (LOC "Letter of Conditions") which should be received next week.

Water District # 6: We receive a proposal from Jeremy Delyser, CPL for engineering services for WD # 6. Jayson Hoover stated we still don't have approval from the Town of Seneca stating they will provide this district with water. There is also another issue to be discussed with the EFI building to produce enough pressure. Motion was made by Brian Murphy, seconded by Glenn Quackenbush approving the CPL Preliminary Engineering agreement (Map, Plan & Report) \$2500.00, and the Environmental Report (Agencies Attached), SEQR, and other required services \$5500.00. (Approval is all contingent on approval from the Town of Seneca to purchase water.). Motion was carried.

Water District # 1: (11 Residents-North End) We received a proposal for engineering services from CPL. (Previous minutes, there are five residents in the town of Geneva that T/Geneva Supervisor Mark Venuti contacted to see if they would like to be included in this district. (Two of the five are interested.) The proposal that CPL presented included those five Geneva residents. We will need a new proposal for just the Benton residents.

Highway: Jayson Hoover presented the "284 Agreement" stating which roads will be under construction for 2021. He also stated that we may receive 15% return on our "CHIPS" this year after losing 20% last year, no conformation yet. Motion was made by Brian Murphy, seconded by Glenn Quackenbush to approve the "284 Agreement" Motion was carried. Jayson and the highway employees took old metal to B & B Recycling and received a check for \$8197.35. Motion was made by Brian Murphy, seconded by Alan Tomion to deposit this money in the General Fund. Motion was carried.

Jayson informed the board that the new heating system has been installed by JR's, the new addition is moving right along. New over head doors will be installed at the town barn next week. He also reported that there was one complaint about snow plowing and turned out to be a county road !!!

YCPB: Steve Hullings has been re-appointed to the YCPB as a representative of Benton for a (1) year term expiring 3/28/2022.

Resolutions:

#3-2021: Budget Modifications & Budgetary Amendments: Motion was made by Brian Murphy, seconded by Alan Tomion to approve. Motion was carried. (Attached to the Minutes).

#4-2021: Motion was made by Alan Tomion, seconded by Brian Murphy approving the 2019 and 2020 Justice Audits. Motion was carried.

Historian/Health Officer: Eleanor Parker presented her history book for 2020. As always, a great job Ellie. She reported that the Benton Fire Dept will be having their fish dinner 2/19/2021. Also Bellona Fire Department is having a drive thru chicken BBQ 3/27/2021.

Zoning: Tom Fulkrod reported that permits have slowed down, but preparing for more spring building. Tom also brought up from previous minutes the permit for solar/wind, nothing had been decided. After discussion the motion was made by Glenn Quackenbush, seconded by Brian Murphy to set the building permit for Solar/Wind at \$1000/ Per Mega Watt. Motion was carried. Nothing new on Spencer Tulis shed issue.

Yates County- Rick Willson:

- (a) Attended the proposed water meeting
- (b) Discussed SWIO – asking the town to think about signing on.
- (c) COVID- Yates County only received around 100 doses a week, falling short for this area.

Board of Assessment review is still in need of two new members.

Monthly Abstract of Vouchers and Monthly Reports:

Motion was made by Alan Tomion second by Brian Murphy to approve the following: General (A) Claims 20-39 Totaling \$19,801.45 General (B) Claims 1-3 Totaling \$2424.18, Highway (DA) Claims 1-11 Totaling \$12,569.30, SW1 Claims 3-5 Totaling \$118.40, SW2 Claims 4-10 Totaling \$850.40, SW3 Claims 3-6 Totaling \$209.43, SW4 Claim 1 Totaling \$43.79. Town Clerk, Water, Zoning Reports. Motion was carried.

Adjournment:

Motion was made by Brian Murphy, seconded by Glenn Quackenbush to adjourn the meeting at 8:58 P.M. Motion was carried.

Dated: February 11th, 2021

Bobbi Wolfe

Benton Town Clerk, RMC