

The Regular Town Board Meeting was held July 10th, 2024 in the Benton Town Hall Conference Room, 1000 Route 14A, Penn Yan, NY 14527..

Board Present: Supervisor	John E. Prendergast
Councilmen	Richard Harper, Deputy
	Alan Tomion
	Thomas Davie
	Glenn Quackenbush

Also Present: Jayson Hoover – Highway Supt., Tom Fulkrod – Zoning Officer, Susan Mastronardi – Deputy Town Clerk

Public Present: (See Attached Sign In Sheet)

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

Approval of Minutes:

Motion was made by Glenn Quackenbush, seconded by Richard Harper to approve the June 12, 2024 town board minutes as presented. Motion was carried.

Public Hearing:

Supervisor John Prendergast opened the Public Hearing @ 7:00 PM for WD#7. Announced Jeremy Delyser, Senior Engineering Project Manager, CPL, was present for the meeting and to answer questions.

Old Business:

Generator – Glenn Quackenbush reported Himrod Supply would be providing the previously approved generator. Estimate provided by Dick Harper approx. \$7,100 installed. Pad options discussed later in meeting.

New building – Glenn Quackenbush reported set backs were approved by board previously so new building is started.

Additional Old Business - will be discussed later in meeting to allow YCRR presentation.

New Business:

YCRR: Supervisor Prendergast introduced guests Jill Bird & Brian Cunningham – YCRR, and Mary Zelazny, Finger Lakes. Brian will be point of contact for all YCRR project information.

Brian presented literature and handouts (including updated map and site plan) to board and presented details of plans to add to existing facilities. He is asking board to approve being involved in planning.

Brian will provide all handouts via PDF to Town Clerk for reference and distribution as requested. Town of Benton will be asked to provide water supply due to water pressure issue. Brian stated proposed plan,

including hydrant, **will be at no cost to Town of Benton.** Lengthy discussion with Board and Jeremy

Delyser input, regarding land ownership, easements, frontage, driveway use, road access, and Village of Penn Yan water availability. Jeremy stated village and Town have to negotiate. Dick Harper questioned

additions, and Brian clarified adding a pool in the future is an option as well as others. Tom Fulkrod stated

Step 1 – go to planning board with plan to sub-divide, etc. Roads/driveways have to be approved before Town of Benton can consider motion and approve to support.

Dick Harper - board needs something from Village of Penn Yan in writing that village can't/won't provide water. Elevation favors Town of Benton for required water pressure for fire suppression.

Mary Zelazny asked how long to present to Planning Board and get approval to move forward? Timeline? Board agreed all information will go to Tom Fulkrod for now to be reviewed by Planning and if approved, Water management would then be involved.

Dick Harper – Each organization to provide a letter with requirements and letter from Village. No motion to be made at this time.

Zoning: (moved up on schedule due to Tom Fulkrod recent surgery and ongoing recovery)

Tom Fulkrod's report was submitted to the town board. He is working on violation paperwork.

Solar Company cost issue was due to misinterpreted letter. Solar representative and Head Developer will meet at Town of Benton office next week to discuss with Tom.

Water District #7 (Public Hearing remained open from 7 p.m.)

Jeremy Delyser provided brief update on status and some of the many actions since public meeting last August. New assessor has provided necessary details and signed off. Next step is to submit document to Comptroller. Requiring letter from DOH to go forward. Comptroller has to see USDA approval. USDA will provide approval. Town Board will then get bids from contractors and negotiate with railroad, etc. Residents of District 7 asked how long before water is on? Jeremy provided high-level timeline estimate but reminder that many others are involved – DOH, USDA, Controller, etc. When all completed, the Town can hire Jeremy to get the plans underway. (negotiate with Railroad, receive bids, etc.) **May not be turned on until mid 2025 (or 2026 – confirm with Jeremy)**

Resident asked who monitors all of the activity to move things along? How can they help? Jeremy and Bobbi Wolfe manage all communications and actions in the process. Bobbi has deeds, etc. from residents and will continue communicating with District 7 residents. Contact her for questions.

Jeremy – Railroad may cause the biggest delay.

Resident asked how can they help? John Prendergast – we will likely form the district. Jeremy Delyser – when the district is formed, all costs go into the district (including funds the town provided prior to district formation) Response from residents of District 7 are very important to Bobbi Wolfe requests.

Resident asked if we publish details on meetings on website? John Prendergast – minutes are published but not extreme detail.

Public Hearing closed at 8:08pm.

Old Business (cont'd)

Assessor passed first course and is attending additional courses next week Mon-Friday at Ithaca.

Letter to Dave Ingram and Ingram Solar company will be out soon, per Supervisor Prendergast. (decommissioning account)

SWIO 2025 Invoice – board discussed approval of funding Seneca Watershed Intermunicipal Organization (invoice.) Glenn Quackenbush questioned increase? Dick Harper - many projects supported by the funding. He suggests staying involved with SWIO to have a say in the many projects. Tom Davies

is in the watershed and has to comply. John Prendergast will clarify how the costs are calculated and how many participants are involved. No motion or vote at this time

New Business:

Mortgage Tax Received - \$12,228.79

Town of Benton Lake property - aerial map was presented to board members. John Prendergast described issue is with lack of access to the property for a property owner. (Bostrom?) Will board consider selling or giving adjacent Town of Benton owned land or part of lakefront property to resolve? Board unanimous that Town may need access to lake, don't give it up. Neighbor of lot was in attendance, Nathan Coolidge, and presented explanation of issues with right of way and history of access to pumphouse to service it on the property. (if operational) All board members voted to keep as is.

Selective Insurance check received - #880.72

Terry Button requests that the town keep track of when natural gas is turned on at the new county building to verify completion date. Residents along Havens Corners Road will have one year from that date to sign us for gas for free – Board reviewing the request.

General Code Proposal for Several Local Laws \$3465.00-\$3615. Motion to approve Dick Harper, 2nd Glenn Quackenbush. Notification of approval to be sent to General Code via email Thursday 7/11/2024.

Water District 2:

Letter received – Village of Penn Yan – Transparency & Responsiveness – Water Partners. Letter being reviewed by Board.

Water District 5:

Letter will be sent to residents explaining the cost of the failed district.

Highway and Water:

Jayson Hoover – reviewed Rappalee letter, evaluating billed amount.

Salt Barn building underway – new funding may be available. Must apply by end of July. Will need engineer support. Zimmerman?

Dick Harper suggested talk to Town of Starkey –George Lawson - they just completed a similar Salt Barn. Jayson talked with Redding about similar building project and expense. Board approves Jayson engaging engineer, est. \$1,200 approx.

Bank Meeting 7/25/2024 at Town of Benton

John Prendergast meeting to discuss moving funds to increase interest. Holly Bedient and bank representative attending.

Resolutions:

#14-2024: Motion was made by Dick Harper, seconded by Alan Tomion to approve “Order Establishing Water District #7”

(SEQR Approved 9/14/23 Resolutions #22-2023). Motion was carried.

#15-2024: Motion was made by Glenn Quackenbush, seconded by Tom Davie to approve the contract with Municipal Solutions – WD #7. Motion was carried.

Monthly Reports and Abstract of Vouchers:

Motion was made by Glenn Quackenbush, seconded by Alan Tomion to approve the following: General (A) Claims 120-134 Totaling \$7,708.08, General (B) Claims 21-24 Totaling \$1,037.93, Highway (DA) Claims 40-44 Totaling \$1,415.10, Highway (DB) Claims Totaling \$18,533.52, SWI-1 - Claims 31-34 Totaling \$3,736.64, SW-2 – Claims 53-63 Totaling \$2,089.87, SW-3 – Claims 28-33 Totaling \$8,914.39, Town Clerk, Highway/Water, Zoning. Motion was carried.

Adjournment:

Motion was made by Richard Harper, seconded by Tom Davie to adjourn the meeting at 9:30 P.M. Motion was carried.