

The Regular Town Board Meeting was held September 11<sup>th</sup>, 2024 in the Town Hall Conference Room, 1000 Route 14A, Penn Yan, NY 14527.

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

Also Present: Jayson Hoover – Highway/Water, Susan Mastronardi – Deputy Clerk, Bobbi Wolfe – Town Clerk.

Public Present: Matthew Perry, Eugene Martin, Nevin Leinbach (Benton Fire Dept), Caroline Sullivan.

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

**Guest:** Caroline Sullivan – RH Rhodes & Sons asked to speak to the Town Board regarding an Agriculture Exemption that was denied. Amber Bryan, Benton Assessor had sent the paperwork to Curt Rhodes, but was never returned. The cut off for Ag Exemptions is March 1<sup>st</sup>. Supervisor Prendergast informed Ms. Sullivan that there isn't anything the town board can help with. She stated that she will go to the Yates County Real Property Services.

Benton Fire Dept in attendance supporting their 2025 budget, the town board stated that there are no changes to what the firemen requested.

**Approval of Minutes:**

Motion was made by Glenn Quackenbush, seconded by Alan Tomion to approve the 8/14/24 minutes as presented. Motion was carried.

Motion was made by Alan Tomion, seconded by Thomas Davie to approve the 9/9/24 Special Budget Meeting (with corrections).. Motion was carried.

**Old Business:**

Solar – Decommissioning: Aaron Martin and Nathan Horning proposal was sent to Jeff Graff for his review, changes were made to satisfy attorney Graff. The paperwork was given to Glenn Quackenbush with approval from Attorney Graff and signed. The solar company has the permits, the town has the building permit checks in the amount of \$10K. Construction has started. The projects needed to be started before the end of 2024, or a tariff of \$100K would be imposed if the projects weren't approved by that date. The town has been informed that there are possibly three more solar projects in the future. Undisclosed areas.

Money Market: This is still being looked into, a meeting will be set with Lyons National Bank to discuss. This along with Water District savings. This meeting will be prior to the October board meeting.

Elavon – Credit Card meeting was set up as a zoom meeting which is thru Community Bank.

Motion was made by Glenn Quackenbush, seconded by Richard Harper to approve the installation of credit/debit card use at the town. Motion was carried. (This is free to the town, residents using this service will be charged 3% per transaction).

**Generate Capital (Solar)-** A letter has been sent to Generate and David Ingram with the decommissioning balance of \$169,605.21. This is an annual requirement.

**NYSEG** – Yates County: Benton has not received a date when the gas will be turned on at the new county complex. Once this project is complete, supervisor Prendergast will be investigating the possibility of expanding the gas line on route 14A.

**Generator:**

Jayson Hoover reported that the generator pad has been poured, we are waiting for Ray Martin to do the electrical.

**New Business:**

David Hoover is requesting a 45 MPH sign be placed from the schoolhouse on Havens Corners Road to 14A (East). Clerk Wolfe has prepared the TE9 form to be sent to Yates County Highway. Resolution below.

Assessor – Amber Bryan completed her Ethics course. Councilmen, Harper questioned that the certificate stated an updated course. We need to ask Amber what this class covered.

**Water Districts:**

A meeting will be set up next week with John, Jayson, Holley and Bobbi to discuss water districts financial issues. Report back for the October meeting.

**Highway/Water:**

Jayson reported that he has received credit approval for the new Mack truck. Credit approval lasts for 100 days thru Kansas Bank.

Jayson stated that he won't be at the Octobert meeting but has the highway covered by Jason Conover, deputy and Casey Frankish for the water,

Jayson presented an update from the DEC regarding the new emissions. He stated with these new requirements, truck prices could exceed \$50K. Massachusetts passed a law that municipalities are exemption these new emissions. He wasn't sure if NY would pass the same law. (Email attached to the minutes).

Water: Jayson hasn't received the report from the tank inspection, the invoice is in the abstract for tonight.

Water/Torrey: Nardozzi Construction is finished with Torreys district. At this time Torrey will owe Benton approximately \$12K for services. Benton has installed nearly 40 services.

**Resolution:**

#17-2024: Motion was made by Glenn Quackenbush, seconded by Richard Harper to approve sending the TE9 form to the Yates County Highway for reduction in the speed limit from the Mennonite Schoolhouse east to Route 14A to a 45 MPH speed limit. Motion was carried

**Monthly Reports and Abstract of Vouchers:**

Motion was made by Richard Harper, seconded by Glenn Quackenbush to approve the following: General (A) Claims 159-177 Totaling \$22,646.03, General (B) Claims 25-27 Totaling \$387.48, Highway (DA) Claims 53-58 Totaling \$6364.41, Highway (DB) Claims 224-228 Totaling \$112,790.38, SW1 Claims 39-42 Totaling \$322.27, SW2 Claims 73-83 Totaling \$17,331.93, SW3 Claims 39-43 Totaling \$327.44, SW4 Claim 11 Totaling \$73.00. Town Clerk, Highway/Water, Torrey Water, Bookkeeper and Zoning Reports. Motion was carried.

**Adjournment:**

Motion was made by Alan Tomion, seconded by Thomas Davie to adjourn the meeting at 7:50 P.M. Motion was carried.

Dated: September 12, 2024  
Bobbi Wolfe  
Benton Town Clerk, RMC

ADOPTED: October 9<sup>th</sup>, 2024