

July 21, 2021

REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING
Cannabis Public Hearing
Glenfield Sewer Project – CDGB Funding Public Hearing

The regular meeting of the Martinsburg Town Board was held Wednesday, July 21, 2021, at the Municipal Offices on Cemetery Road and called to order at 7:00 PM. Present were: Supervisor Terrence Thisse; Councilmen Brad Allen, Janusz Karelus, Darren Jantzi and Michael McGrath; Highway Superintendent Tyler Jones; Town Clerk Mary Kelley; Tax Collector Deanna Doviak; County Legislator Greg Kulzer; Matt Cooper, Engineer, Barton and Loguidice; William Tarasek; Steve Demko; Gordon Yancey and Phil Damuth.

Supervisor Thisse opened a Public Hearing at 7:00 PM to hear comments on licensing and establishing retail cannabis dispensaries in the Town of Martinsburg. There being no comments at this time, Supervisor Thisse held the hearing open and sent on to regular business.

MINUTES

The minutes of the last meeting were emailed to the board members prior to the meeting. Councilman McGrath made a motion, seconded by Councilman Jantzi to approve the minutes as presented. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Discussion was held on the high water pressure in Glenfield Water District that Douglas Dietrich mentioned at the last meeting. Mr. Jones said the pressure is set at 80 psi by State guidance. Mr. Cooper stated that homeowners could put in a pressure reducer if they desire.

The clerk was given a check from Matthew Manasse for \$2700 for the surplus Ferris lawn mower.

BILLS – Abstract 7-2021

General:	Voucher #138-160	\$ 73,630.26
Highway:	Voucher #111-133	\$164,979.80
Glenfield Water:	Voucher #42-49	\$ 27,195.67
Glenfield Sewer:	Voucher #27-31	\$ 507.65
Martinsburg Water #1	Voucher #40-45	\$ 25,516.85
Street Lighting:	Voucher #12-13	\$ 807.36
Whitaker Park:	Voucher #27-43	\$ 2,263.49

Discussion was held on Whitaker Park and Highway bills. Councilman Jantzi made a motion, seconded by Councilman Allen to pay the bills as presented. All were in favor. Motion carried.

There being no comments, Councilman Allen made a motion, seconded by Councilman Jantzi to close the public hearing on the cannabis law at 7:15 PM. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Councilman Allen made a motion, seconded by Councilman Jantzi to open a Public Hearing at 7:15 PM to hear comments on Glenfield Sewer Project CDBG funding. All were in favor. Motion carried. Supervisor Thisse stated that the project involves the addition of effluent disinfection to the Glenfield sewer plant as mandated by NYSDEC and the increase in plant capacity to handle higher sewer flows in the system. The maximum available grant through the CDBG program is \$1,250,000.

There being no public comment on the hearing at this time, Supervisor Thisse held the hearing open and moved on to regular business.

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR

Mr. Tarasek, representing Valley Snow Travelers Snowmobile Club, was present to request a letter of support for funding to purchase a trail groomer. Councilman McGrath made a motion, seconded by Councilmen for a resolution supporting the Valley Snow Travelers grant application:

RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF VALLEY SNOW TRAVELERS OF LEWIS COUNTY APPLICATION TO NEW YORK STATE RECREATIONAL TRAILS PROGRAM

WHEREAS, Valley Snow Travelers of Lewis County, Inc. is applying to the New York State Recreation Trails Program for a grant to purchase a new groomer; and

WHEREAS, as per a requirement under the rules of this program, said applicant must obtain the "endorsement of the governing body of the municipality in their area"; and

WHEREAS, the proposal in question will update their current 2006 BR350 Bombardier, enhance both the safety of the snowmobile trail system and the economic impact of the industry on the local businesses;

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved that the Town Board of Martinsburg hereby does approve and endorse the application of Valley Snow Travelers of Lewis County, Inc. for a grant under the Recreational Trails Program for a trail project to purchase a new Groomer.

All were in favor. Motion carried.

Mr. Tarasek was also present, as a groomer operator, to express his concerns regarding the possibility that a new portion of the Flat Rock Road, would be paved and plowed in the future. Highway Superintendent Jones stated that he was not at liberty to discuss the matter at this time. Mr. Tarasek gave a count on how many snowmobiles traveled these hill roads in December, 2020, January, February and March 2021 – a total of 64,365 vehicles.

A portion of the Graves Road is also plowed that is part of the trail corridor. Mr. Tarasek ask if no one lives beyond the French Road intersection, is there a need to plow it. Mr. Jones stated that if no one lives on that portion of the road, it would not need to be plowed. Discussion was held also on plowing the upper end of Rector Road. Mr. Jones stated that if someone lives on a seasonal road and a request is made to plow it, the Town is required to. Supervisor Thisse explained that more people are buying property and building on seasonal roads and in the coming years more roads will be plowed as people request accessibility.

TOWN CLERK REPORT

The board reviewed the submitted Town Clerk report for June. Councilman McGrath made a motion, seconded by Councilman Karelus to accept the June Town Clerk report. State and local revenues total \$12,984.72. All were in favor. Motion carried.

COOPERATIVE TUG HILL COMMISSION

Ms. Steria was unable to attend the meeting but emailed the announcements for July:

- Report on Tug Hill Community Connectedness Survey
- Report DEC Funding for Municipal Zero-emission Vehicle Rebate and Infrastructure Grant
- Reported on 2021 Consolidated Funding Application
- Regenerate NY cost-share grants are available for forest landowners who are interested in improving their woods
- Land use training workshop sponsored by Lewis County Planning will be September 28 from 4:00 PM to 8:00 PM
- Cornell Local Roads Program webinars
- NYS DEC Releaf Conference July 23
- Community workshop to share ideas for the reuse of Glenfield Elementary School August 2
- DOTGOV Act - .gov domains are available for qualifying organizations at no cost
- American Rescue Plan funding for schools and libraries
- Tug Hill Annual meeting October 14, 2021

COUNTY LEGISLATOR REPORT

Mr. Kulzer reported that he is working with Bette Lathan who is looking for County funding for repairs to the historic West Martinsburg Church. Discussion was held on whether the solar developers in Town would have mitigation funds to help. Discussion was also held on electric charging stations in the County.

Their being no public comments, Councilman Jantzi made a motion, seconded by Councilman Allen to close the Public Hearing regarding CDBG funding for the Glenfield Sewer Project at 7:50 PM. All were in favor. Motion carried.

HIGHWAY

Mr. Jones reported that his next request for CHIPS funding is \$260,039. The total for the year will be \$533,000. Discussed payment for the new Western Star snowplow chassis.

Discussion was held on the American Rescue Plan and what the money can be used for. Mr. Jones suggested upgrading the water meters in Martinsburg Water District #1.

GLENFIELD WATER PROJECT UPDATE

The distribution systems improvements have been completed. Discussion was held on well investigations. FD-2 Well drilled to 475 feet with minimal water. FD-3 well drilled to 251 feet. 72 gpm pump rate sustained. Still waiting for some NYS DOH test results. Iron and manganese results below levels for required treatment. Next steps in the project are water withdrawal permit, property acquisition and to design treatment plant or pipe new well to existing plant.

GLENFIELD SEWER IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

The following resolution was offered by Councilman McGrath, who moved its adoption; seconded by Councilman Karelus , to wit:

WHEREAS, the Board Members of the Town of Martingburg have considered the comments presented at the public hearing held on July 21, 2021 pertaining to the availability of the 2021 New York State Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Public Infrastructure Program funds;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board Members of the Town of Martinsburg hereby authorizes the preparation and filing of a 2021 Consolidated Funding Application to the New York State Homes and Community Renewal for funding under the Community Development Block Grant Program to secure funding for the Glenfield Sewer Improvements project, and for other such related activities as may be determined; and

BE IT FUTHER RESOLVED, that the Town Supervisor, Terrence Thisse, is hereby authorized and directed to execute the application and to sign all necessary documents relating to the submission on behalf of the Town Board.

The adoption of the Resolution was thereafter duly put to a vote on roll call which resulted as follows:

5 AYES: 0 NOES:

the Resolution was declared duly adopted.

Discussion was held on adding two sand beds.

LED STREET LIGHTING – Streetlight Asset Sale Approval

We received notice that the 90-day review from the Public Service Commission has expired with no comments. We can move towards closing. There is a checklist of things that need to be provided to National Grid.

Discussion was held on the Glenfield Trailer Park. The Trailer Park is in the Town of Turin but receives services from the Glenfield water and sewer districts. A letter was sent to the Town of Turin explaining that the water/sewer bill hasn't been paid. We are requesting that Turin pay the bill and then they in turn can bill the trailer park. If payment isn't made then Turin can relevel it onto the owner of the trailer park's taxes.

Discussion was held on a cable agreement with Charter Communications. The agreement has been revised according to the Supervisors recommendations. Councilman McGrath made a motion for a resolution, seconded by Councilman Jantzi accepting the agreement and authorizing the Supervisor sign the amended agreement. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Discussion was held on a local law allowing licensing and establishing retail cannabis dispensaries in the Town of Martinsburg. The board members felt there should be more discussion on this. Councilman Karelus made a motion, seconded by Councilman McGrath to table this matter until more research can be done. All were in favor. Motion carried.

JUSTICE AUDIT

The Supervisor audited the Justice records for 2020. He reviewed it with the board members. Councilman McGrath made a motion, seconded by Councilman Karelus, accepting the Supervisors findings of the Justice Audit and that all the fines that were collected by the Court for 2020 have been turned over to the proper officials. All were in favor. Motion carried.

JUNKYARD LAW

Discussion was held on Local Law #2-2011 – Prohibition of Clutter, Litter, Debris and Hazards in the Town of Martinsburg. It is hard for the town to enforce this law. Councilman Jantzi made a motion, seconded by Councilman Karelus to rescind Local Law#2-2011 and have Lewis County take over monitoring junkyard situations. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Discussion was held on updating our telephone system. Clerk is to ask for another presentation from ABS on what is available and what the cost would be.

Donna Cobb on Cemetery Road has requested to purchase a piece of property from the town. Supervisor Thisse will review our property survey map.

Discussion was held on recommendations made by NYMIR when they did insurance inspections. Mr. Jones stated that he has finished completing what was recommended for the highway department.

Discussion was held with Mr. Yancey regarding his property at Flat Rock Inn. He is making an effort to clean up the property and do proper fencing.

Councilman McGrath and Councilman Karelus audited the accountants bank statements for May and June.

Councilman Karelus made a motion, seconded by Councilman McGrath to adjourn at 9:05 PM. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Kelley, Town Clerk

