

February 19, 2020

REGULAR MEETING

The regular meeting of the Martinsburg Town Board was held Wednesday, February 19, 2020 at 7:00 PM at the Municipal Offices on Cemetery Road. Present were: Supervisor Terrence Thisse; Councilmen Brad Allen, Janusz Karelus and Darren Jantzi; Highway Superintendent Tyler Jones; Attorney Joseph Russell; Town Clerk Mary Kelley; CTHC circuit rider Beth Steria; County Legislator Greg Kulzer; Loren and Rhonda Allen; Deanna Doviak, Tax Collector; Anthony Young, Barton and Loguidice. Absent: Councilman Michael McGrath.

MINUTES

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

BILLS Abstract #02-2020

General	Voucher #30-57	\$14,132.29
Highway	Voucher #18-41	\$28,296.21
Glenfield Water	Voucher #12-24	\$16,923.52
Glenfield Sewer	Voucher #4-7	\$ 1,113.76
Martinsburg Water #1	Voucher #5-11	\$ 969.13
Street Lighting	Voucher #1-2	\$ 984.90
Whitaker Park	Voucher #3	1,575.00

Discussion was held on the bills. Councilman Allen made a motion, seconded by Councilman Karelus to hold out Voucher #54 General – Hyde Stone for further discussion and to pay others as presented. All were in favor. Motion carried.

TOWN CLERK REPORT

Councilman Karelus made a motion, seconded by Councilman Allen to accept the Town Clerk report for January as presented. Total State and Local revenues were \$8,035.61. All were in favor. Motion carried.

COOPERATIVE TUG HILL COUNCIL

Ms. Steria reported on the following:

- NYS Archives Webinars
- Local Government Conference March 26
- Cornell Roads Program spring workshop
- Hiring a new circuit rider to cover Northern Oneida County
- Records Management grants deadline March 13
- Tug Hill Rec guide is available

Supervisor Thisse asked if there are grants for digitizing records. Ms. Steria will check.

LEGISLATOR REPORT

Mr. Kulzer gave a report on the County DA's "Advent Program", a reduction program she is proposing in response to the State's Bail Reform Act. She will reduce all traffic tickets (up to 8 points) if the violator takes a course. The cost of the course is \$75 total, \$50 for the course and \$25 goes to the County. Legislator Kulzer handed out ethics opinions he has researched. Under the Bail Reform Act the DA has said the workload is more than she can handle. It is also a great obligation on police force. Attorney Russell doesn't think the DA can force the Towns to participate in the program. Justice Kevin McArde, as a lawyer, has a concern about the whole program. The DA has stated that she will refuse to prosecute if Towns refuse to participate in the program.

LOCAL LAW #1-2020

A Local Law to amend Chapter 240 of the Code of the Town of Martinsburg was introduced. This amendment would add definitions of minimum maintenance road and seasonal use roads to the code.

The board reviewed Part I of the Long environmental assessment form. Councilman Karelus made a motion, seconded by Councilman Jantzi authorizing Supervisor Thisse sign Part I of the Full Environmental Assessment form, verifying that all the information contained is accurate and complete. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Councilman Jantzi made a motion, seconded by Councilman Allen setting a Public Hearing to hear comments on proposed Local Law #1-2020 for March 18, 2020 at 7:15 PM. All were in favor. Motion carried.

HIGHWAY

Supervisor Thisse gave an update on a meeting he attended with representatives from three town's and Lewis County regarding a SNIRT Run agreement with Barnes Corners Sno Pals. Ongoing discussions have been held regarding damage done to roads during last years run. Supervisor Thisse stated that until an agreement is made, Martinsburg is not willing to open certain roads for the event.

Highway Superintendent Jones discussed lowering weight limits on minimum maintenance roads. The Town Board can decide to take action to close roads based on the Highway Superintendents recommendations.

Lewis County is working on a law for regulating and permitting special events such as the SNIRT Run.

Discussion was held on the air exchange system in the municipal building that has not worked correctly since it was installed by Air Serve. Hyde Stone has been working on the problem and has been doing maintenance. A repairman from Hyde Stone reportedly turned a valve off while doing repairs and failed to turn it back on, causing problems. Supervisor Thisse is waiting for them to return a phone call. Highway Superintendent received a proposal from Hyde Stone of between \$3,000 - \$4,000 to have Hyde Stone define how the system should be functioning and find out why coils are failing. Supervisor Thisse asked for a written proposal.

AGREEMENT FOR EXPENDITURE OF HIGHWAY MONIES

Councilman Karelus made a motion, seconded by Councilman Jantzi authorizing the signing of an Agreement for Expenditure of Highway Monies with Lewis County. All were in favor. Motion carried.

HIGHWAY

Superintendent Jones would like to declare the 2015 D5 dozer as surplus and list on the auction site. Discussion was also held on the sale of the F350 pickup, the 2012 Western Star and the 2006 International. He is to get new prices on the vehicles he would like replaced.

MARTINSBURG WATER #2

A homeowner would like a reduction in his water bill in Martinsburg Water #2. A leak was discovered on his property and this will result in a high water bill. Supervisor Thisse explained he will have to work with Lowville, the supplier of water, on this.

GLENFIELD WATER

Mr. Young reported that meter replacement will be starting soon for the Glenfield Water Improvement Project. The men in the highway department can work on the project as inspectors, etc. and the town would get reimbursed, through the project, for any wages paid for project work. The work should be well documented.

GLENFIELD SEWER INFILTRATION PROJECT

Arnold Construction Company, Inc. submitted a proposal to provide continuous flow monitoring services in one location for a period of one month. The cost would be \$6,000. Councilman Karelus made a motion, seconded by Councilman Allen to approve the contract with Arnold for \$6,000 to provide flow monitoring service for Glenfield Sewer District to pinpoint infiltration. All were in favor. Motion carried.

It has been discovered that a perimeter drain at Glenfield Elementary School is tied into the sewer line. More investigation needs to be done and the school notified.

SUMMER YOUTH PROGRAM

The Clerk received a Request for Positions for the Lewis County Summer Youth Employment Program. A position at Whitaker Park will be requested.

LED LIGHTING

Supervisor Thisse gave an update on LED lighting. He is still waiting for a "buyback" price from National Grid. The LED lighting would offer energy cost savings.

INVESTMENTS

Mr. Thisse reported that he is investing in Treasury bills at Key Capital for a rate between 1.3 and 1.4%.

TAX COLLECTOR

Ms. Doviak gave an update on her tax collection software from Systems East. She has found this program to be more work than the previous BAS software. She also reported that they deducted \$120 monthly fee from her bank account. The town was told by the County that there would be no expense connected to this change in software. In addition, there is a \$5 echeck fee each month.

Discussion was held on a vet bill received by the town for a dog picked up by Dog Control at Whetstone Reservoir. Countryside reduced the bill to \$100. Ag and Markets says that the Town must provide vet service, if needed, for stray dogs picked up.

Councilman Allen made a motion, seconded by Councilman Karelus to go into executive session at 8:55 PM to discuss negotiations. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Councilman Karelus made a motion, seconded by Councilman Allen to leave executive session at 9:30 PM and adjourn regular meeting. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Kelley, Town Clerk

