

March 16, 2022

REGULAR MEETING – PUBLIC HEARING

The regular meeting of the Martinsburg Town Board was held on Wednesday, March 16, 2022 at the Municipal Offices on Cemetery Road and called to order at 7:00 PM. Present were: Supervisor Terrence Thisse; Councilmen Darren Jantzi, Brad Allen, Janusz Karelus and Michael McGrath; Attorney Joseph Russell; Highway Superintendent Tyler Jones; Town Clerk Mary Kelley; Tax Collector Deanna Doviak; Assessor Karen Shaw; County Legislator Josh Leviker; CTHC Angie Kimball; and Gordon Yancey.

MINUTES

The minutes of the February meeting were emailed to Councilmen previously. Councilman Karelus made a motion, seconded by Councilman Jantzi to approve the minutes as presented. All were in favor. Motion carried.

BILLS – Abstract 03-2022

General:	Voucher #53-74	\$11,721.32
Highway:	Voucher #40-56	\$32,098.14
Glenfield Water:	Voucher #13-19	\$23,749.28
Glenfield Sewer:	Voucher #11-17	\$ 6,304.85
Martinsburg Water #1:	Voucher #12-15	\$ 627.86

After some discussion and questions, Councilman Karelus, made a motion, seconded by Councilman McGrath to approve payment of the bills as presented. All were in favor. Motion carried.

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR – no comments

TOWN CLERK REPORT

The board reviewed the Town Clerk report for February. Councilman McGrath made a motion, seconded by Councilman Karelus to accept the Town Clerk report for February as presented. Total State and Local revenues totaled \$50,085.71. All were in favor. Motion carried.

COOPERATIVE TUG HILL COUNCIL

Ms. Kimball reported on webinars, training and other announcements:

- Records webinars are still available
- Broadband survey update
- DEC online training for SPEDES
- Trees are available – “Buffer in a Bag”
- Conservation grants

7:15 PM – Councilman Jantzi made a motion, seconded by Councilman Allen to open a Public Hearing to hear comments on Local Law #1-2022 regarding a Junkyard Law. There being no comments at the moment, Supervisor Thisse held the hearing open and continued on with regular business.

COUNTY LEGISLATOR REPORT

Mr. Leviker gave an update on County issues:

- Broadband update
- Reported on a Zoom meeting held with highway superintendents
- CHIPS funds will remain the same this year
- Lewis County has hired a new purchasing director
- New construction for DSS building and highway garage should be complete by next fall
- EMS is in need of volunteers

- SNIRT Run is in a couple weeks and a meeting with all entities involved should be held

In regard to the proposed Junk Yard local law – Mr. Yancey asked if the County would be enforcing this and Supervisor Thisse answered yes.

New assessor Karen Shaw was present to introduce herself to the board and report that she has posted hours that she will be available at the office – 2nd and 4th Wednesday of each month from 9:00 AM to 12:00 PM; 1st and 3rd Wednesday of each month by appointment.

GLENFIELD SEWER

The board reviewed a Tech Check Service Agreement for Koester Associates. Councilman McGrath made a motion, seconded by Councilman Jantzi authorizing Supervisor Thisse sign the Tech Check Service Agreement with Koester Associates for \$1,162.50 for Glenfield Sewer. All were in favor. Motion carried.

7:35 PM – Councilman Jantzi made a motion, seconded by Councilman Karelus to close the Public Hearing. All were in favor. Motion carried.

GLENFIELD WATER

Supervisor Thisse gave an update on his progress getting signed easements to run a new water line from the present chlorination building to the proposed new building located at the sewer plant. Mr. Jones reported he has been having problems getting access to one property to install new endpoints for a water meter.

LED Street Lighting – Supervisor Thisse reported that there is a punch list of items not completed yet. Until that is all done, we still must pay National Grid. The Clerk reported that any street light invoices received from National Grid all indicate a zero balance.

ARPA – Ms. Kimball reported that as of April 1 there is supposed to be a portal open so reporting can be done. A report is due April 30th.

DOG CONTROL – we still don't have an Intermunicipal Agreement in place with the Towns of Greig and Turin.

NEW PHONE SYSTEM – Councilman McGrath gave an update. Much discussion was held on whether to stay with Frontier phone line and just buy equipment. Matter tabled pending getting more information from Jesse Fredericks, Chimera Integrations.

STREETSCAPE/FAÇADE GRANT

Supervisor Thisse reported that Wendtway Construction will put in 4 concrete pads for the benches when weather permits.

Supervisor Thisse gave an update on a Town Supervisors meeting and a presentation given by “Joules” regarding community solar. We are still looking for an electricity provider to replace Constellation.

SNIRT RUN

Mr. Jones reported that highway employees will be out the day of the Snirt Run in case there are any issues. Councilman McGrath made a motion, seconded by Councilman Allen authorizing the Supervisor sign the Snirt Run Agreement with Barnes Corners Sno Pals – coordinators of the Snirt Run. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Supervisor Thisse gave a report on meeting with Lewis County Code Enforcement to evaluate the Municipal Building and Old Town Hall. Mr. Jones reported that all necessary recommended repairs/replacements have been made in the Municipal Building.

Supervisor Thisse gave a report on the budget and the fact that Roaring Brook Wind and the Solar Projects have not paid their PILOTS (payment in lieu of taxes) and will not be in 2022. This revenue had been included in the budget. The reason for not paying, according to the IDA, is that they were not completely up and running. No paperwork has been signed regarding the PILOTS. Supervisor Thisse went over the budget with the board and how and where adjustments might be made.

Supervisor Thisse reported that he has been informed that the New York State Dept. of Taxation and Finance can give values to wind projects and solar projects (NYS 575b). If values are reduced, then this could reduce the amount of PILOT payments.

Councilman Karelus made a motion, seconded by Councilman Allen adopting Local Law #1-2022 – Junkyard Law. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Councilman McGrath made a motion, seconded by Councilman Karelus to adjourn at 9:10 PM. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Kelley, Town Clerk