

June 15, 2016

REGULAR MEETING

The regular meeting of the Martinsburg Town Board was held Wednesday, June 15, 2016 and called to order at 7:00 pm. Present were: Supervisor Terrence Thisse; Councilmen E. Frank Kogut, Janusz Karelus, Douglas Dietrich and Michael McGrath; Highway Superintendent Tyler Jones; Town Clerk Mary Kelley; Attorney Mark Gebo; CTHC Circuit rider Beth Steria; Gordon Yancey; County Legislator Greg Kulzer; Deb Kogut; Tim Gorczyca; Darren Jantzi.

MINUTES

The minutes of the last meeting were emailed to Councilmen prior to the meeting. Mr. Dietrich made a motion, seconded by Mr. Kogut to approve the minutes of the last meeting as presented. All were in favor. Motion carried.

BILLS – Abstract 06-2016

General:	Voucher #139-173	\$ 11,457.67
Highway:	Voucher #101-118	\$211,983.26
Glenfield Sewer:	Voucher #18-21	\$ 897.97
Glenfield Water:	Voucher #29-34	\$ 1,047.56
Whitaker Park:	Voucher #20-30	\$ 12,434.69
Street Lighting:	Voucher #9-10	\$ 824.55
Martinsburg Water #1:	Voucher #35-45	\$ 1,724.22

After some discussion and questions, Mr. Kogut made a motion, seconded by Mr. Dietrich to approve the bills as presented. All were in favor. Motion carried.

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR

Darren Jantzi was present to request a lower speed limit on Whitaker Road. After some discussion, it was agreed that the Highway Superintendent would put up yellow “Recommended 45 mph” signs.

Mr. Jantzi also is concerned about people climbing down and around the falls at Whitaker Park, adjacent to his property. There are posted signs there. He is looking at his liability issues. It was suggested that “Dangerous Hiking” and “Caution” signs be put up.

7:15 pm – Public Hearing on changing the date for Grievance Day. There being no comments at this time, the Supervisor held the hearing open and went on with regular meeting.

TOWN CLERK REPORT

Mr. Karelus made a motion, seconded by Mr. Dietrich to accept the Town Clerk Report for May as presented. All were in favor. Motion carried.

COOPERATIVE TUG HILL COUNCIL

Ms. Steria reported on training and grants available. There will be an informational hearing on a missile interceptor site at Carthage on June 28, 2016 at 6:00 pm. She also reported that the Tug Hill Council website has been updated.

COUNTY LEGISLATOR REPORT

Mr. Kulzer gave an update on County projects and recycling. He announced that Dean Cummings is the new Lewis County Supervisor for bridge projects.

7:25 pm – Councilman Michael McGrath arrived.

Mr. Dietrich asked Mr. Kulzer if more ATV trails have been approved and also asked if there could be a “free” day for ATV travel – riding without a County permit.

The town highway department will be getting information on a new gas card and how to apply for a WEX card.

There being no comments, Mr. Kogut made a motion, seconded by Mr. Karelus to close the public hearing at 7:30 pm.

HIGHWAY

Mr. Jones reported that the Rogers and Toole Road will be completed this week. They are putting slate down.

Discussion was held on the Minimum Road Maintenance Law. Action on the law has been stalled in Assembly and will be working on it again this fall.

It was suggested that the tool boxes on the one highway department truck that is used for dog control, be declared surplus. It was also reported that the dog control officer hit a deer going to a class in Syracuse. The insurance adjuster has not been up to look at it yet.

Mr. Jones reported that there is a leak in a homeowner’s private water line in the Martinsburg Water District #1. He figures we are losing 8000 gallons a day and she has been warned many times to have it fixed or replaced. He will have to shut the water off if she refuses to get the line fixed.

A leak in the Martinsburg Water tank has been fixed and both water tanks, Martinsburg and Glenfield, have been inspected. Standpipe broke again on Martinsburg tank. Ice is breaking it.

Mr. Jones reported that they will be paving Swierniki Road and Whitaker Road.

Dog Control Officer has asked if she can get a laminated badge made at the County and the board approved the request.

WHITAKER PARK

The Park Superintendent was injured in an automobile accident and will be off the rest of the summer. The board approved overtime for the park assistant Tim Gorczyca. Mr. Gorczyca will be interviewing a couple people. He would like to hire one to help him until Mr. Hirschey can come back. The board agreed on a hourly wage of \$9.00 per hour for the new hire.

It was reported that 10 fire pits (tire rims) have been taken from the park and signs pulled up and discarded. Mr. Kogut suggested chaining the fire pits. Supervisor Thisse will see about more security cameras for the park.

MARTINSBURG WATER DISTRICT #1

Discussion was held on expanding the water district to include John Nortz and Luke Thisse on the West Road.

Discussion was held on who covers the cost of the expansion. Steps to take would include:

- Formal request in writing to expand the district
- Map plan and report by an engineer
- Public Hearing
- Pass an order and file it

An easement is needed for properties not in the water district to read meters and turn on/shut off service.

Mr. Karelus made a motion, seconded by Mr. McGrath, authorizing the Supervisor sign connections permits to Martinsburg Water #1 for John Nortz and Luke Thisse. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Mr. Dietrich made a motion, seconded by Mr. Kogut, authorizing the Supervisor sign outside user agreements with John Nortz and Luke Thisse. All were in favor. Motion carried.

MARTINSBURG WATER #2

Discussion was held on a report from the Town of Lowville about a water leak they suspect we might have between Ross Road and East Road. They want the Town of Martinsburg to put in a master meter which would cost \$5438 for a 2" line. Mr. Gebo suggested we put in a temporary meter to determine where the leak is. Or is there any other way to determine where the leak is. It could be on Lowville's side or Martinsburg's.

BOAT LAUNCH

The picnic tables at the Glenfield Boat Launch have deteriorated and have been removed. It was asked if Martinsburg is responsible for furnishing tables. Mr. Kogut will check with the DEC in Dadville. There are four pads for tables at the boat launch.

SNOWBELT HOUSING

Mr. Dietrich made a motion, seconded by Mr. McGrath authorizing the Clerk send a letter to Ms. Cheryl Shenle-O'Neill supporting funding application to NYS Homes and Community Renewal for a countywide owner-occupied home improvement program. All were in favor. Motion carried.

MUNICIPAL ENERGY PROGRAM

Mr. Kogut made a motion, seconded by Mr. Karelus, authorizing the Clerk send a letter to Pro-Star Energy Services to let them know that the Town of Martinsburg is interested in participating in their new aggregated pricing opportunity. All were in favor. Motion carried.

LEWIS COUNTY HUMANE SOCIETY

Mr. Dietrich made a motion, seconded by Mr. Kogut, authorizing the Supervisor sign a Lease Agreement with the Lewis County Humane Society. All were in favor. Motion carried.

GRIEVANCE DAY

Mr. McGrath made a motion, seconded by Mr. Karelus to approve Local Law #1-2016 to change the date of Grievance Day:

Article 1. - Statement of Authority. The Town Board of the Town of Martinsburg, pursuant to the authority granted it under Section 512 of the Real Property Tax Law and Sections 10 and 20 of the Municipal Home Rule Law, hereby enacts as follows:

Article 2. - Statement of Purpose and Findings. The Town Board of the Town of Martinsburg has appointed a Single, Sole Assessor for the Town of Martinsburg. Previously to accommodate the schedule of the previous Single Sole Assessor, Grievance Day was changed from the first Friday after the fourth Tuesday in May. However, this conflicts with Memorial day Weekend. It is the purpose of this local law to change Grievance Day to the First Tuesday after the Fourth Tuesday in May.

Article 3. - Enactment. The Town Board of the Town of Martinsburg hereby enacts as follows:

Section 1 -Commencing with May 2017 the day for presentment of complaints to the Board of Assessment Review in the Town of Martinsburg and for Hearings on such complaints, shall begin on the first Tuesday after the fourth Tuesday of May for that year and each year thereafter in accordance with Section 512 of the Real Property Tax Law.

Article 4. - Severability. If any part of this Chapter shall be found to be void, voidable, or unenforceable for any reason whatsoever, it shall not affect the validity or enforceability of any remaining section or provision of this Chapter.

Article 5. - Effective Date. This local law shall take effect immediately upon filing with the Secretary of State.

All were in favor. Motion carried.

Mr. Dietrich made a motion, seconded by Mr. McGrath, to go into executive session at 8:36 pm to discuss negotiations for property acquisition. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Mr. Kogut made a motion, seconded by Mr. McGrath to leave executive session at 9:10 pm and to adjourn the regular meeting. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Kelley, Town Clerk

