

August 17, 2016

REGULAR MEETING

The regular meeting of the Martinsburg Town Board was held Wednesday, August 17, 2016 and called to order at 7:00 pm. Present were: Supervisor Terrence Thisse; Councilmen Douglas Dietrich, Janusz Karelus, E. Frank Kogut and Michael McGrath; Highway Superintendent Tyler Jones; Town Clerk Mary Kelley; Attorney Mark Gebo; Deb Kogut; CTHC circuit rider Beth Steria; County Legislator Greg Kulzer; Jim and Bette Lathan.

MINUTES

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 08-2016

General:	Voucher #201-222	\$ 7,774.54
Highway:	Voucher #140-153	\$78,980.66
Glenfield Water:	Voucher #42-51	\$10,239.04
Glenfield Sewer:	Voucher #24-27	\$ 348.00
Martinsburg Water #1:	Voucher #56-64	\$ 2,435.64
Street Lighting:	Voucher #12-13	\$ 609.97
Whitaker Park:	Voucher #44-52	\$ 1,236.08

After some discussion about the bills, Mr. Karelus made a motion, seconded by Mr. Kogut, to hold out Voucher #58 from Martinsburg Water #1 for brushing out survey lines in the water district until the agreement *to do this is reviewed and to pay the rest of the bills as presented. All were in favor. Motion carried.

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR

Bette Lathan reported on the work she has done researching Veterans buried in Town cemeteries. She has requested that money be budgeted for next year to do stone restoration work at Maple Ridge Cemetery. Ms. Lathan also reported that there will be a dedication at the Ramos Road schoolhouse September 10 to unveil the new historical sign received from the Pomeroy Foundation. There will also be a dedication at the Strader Cemetery on the Borkowski Road in the near future. She also reported that a lot of restoration work has been done at West Martinsburg Cemetery. She thanked the board for their assistance helping the Martinsburg Historical Society continue work on the cemetery projects.

7:10 PM Attorney Mark Gebo arrived.

TOWN CLERK REPORT

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

COOPERATIVE TUG HILL COUNCIL

Ms. Steria reported on training schools, webinars and grants available.

7:25 PM Councilman Michael McGrath arrived.

COUNTY LEGISLATOR

Mr. Kulzer reported that:

- Zero sort at the recycling center has started – all recyclables can be put together

- A Local Law was passed by the Legislators giving ATV riders a free three day pass the first weekend in August next year
- An educational facility is being built at the Maple Ridge Center which will offer technical training skills

HIGHWAY

The Town received a release letter from the DEC regarding a previous Consent Order.

Tool box bids: only received one – Michael Pleskach \$75.00 for (2) tool boxes from the 2007 F150. Mr. Karelus made a motion, seconded by Mr. Kogut, to accept the bid. All were in favor. Motion carried.

ASSET MANAGEMENT PLAN

A proposal was received from Bernier, Carr & Associates for Asset Management Planning for Sewer and Water Facilities. Board members were given the proposal at the last meeting to review. Mr. Kogut made a motion, seconded by Mr. Karelus to accept the proposal of \$13,000 from B C A Engineers & Architects to do the Asset Management Plan. All were in favor. Motion carried.

The board reviewed the Employment Handbook in regards to unused vacation/sick time for retiring employees. Mr. Gebo stated the board needed to follow the handbook and be consistent with State Laws.

Mr. Jones reported that a portion of Whitaker Road will be milled out and a binder be put on to address a problem area. Swienicki Road was been paved and Rector Road was re-profiled.

Discussion was held on the sale of the 1996 Volvo. Mr. Thisse asked if Mr. Jones planned on replacing it and he said not at this time. The Village of Lowville has expressed interest in buying the Volvo. Mr. Gebo stated that the town does not need to bid it out if it is sold to another municipality at a reasonable price.

Councilman Douglas Dietrich made a motion, seconded by Councilman McGrath to declare the 1996 Volvo surplus equipment and authorizing Highway Superintendent Tyler Jones sell the surplus equipment to the Village of Lowville for \$35,000.

Roll call vote: Supervisor Terrence Thisse – aye
 Councilman Douglas Dietrich – aye
 Councilman Janusz Karelus – aye
 Councilman Michael McGrath – aye
 Councilman E. Frank Kogut – aye

Motion carried.

MAPLE RIDGE WIND PROJECT

There has been a request to renegotiate the PILOT agreement. It has been suggested that Attorney Kevin McAuliffe be retained as a consultant for the Maple Ridge Wind Project. Taxing jurisdictions should get together to decide whether or not to hire him and to negotiate as a unit. He did help set up the original PILOT. Mr. Thisse is in favor of hiring him. The question was asked as to whether or not the developer would pay for his services. The taxing jurisdictions are under no obligation to let the developers out of the current PILOT. Mr. McGrath and Mr. Thisse were appointed representatives to go to the initial meeting and to report back to the whole board.

CONSTELLATION ENERGY

Mr. Thisse reported that Constellation Energy renegotiated their contract with the town lowering their price to supply energy to the town from .060 to .0539 per kwh. Because of a time constraint, Mr. Thisse signed the new contract. Mr. McGrath made a motion, seconded by Mr. Dietrich, to ratify the agreement. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Mr. Thisse reported that Charter Communications has taken over Time Warner Cable.

BOAT LAUNCH

The DEC will not supply picnic tables for their boat launch. Mr. Thisse has some prices on concrete tables. Mr. Kogut suggested contacting Jefferson Concrete for prices.

Black River Furnishings refinished one antique bench and one chair from the old town hall. Mr. Thisse suggested the rest of the board look at them and comment.

Mr. Thisse ordered a solar powered security camera for Whitaker Park for \$299. Mr. Kogut stated that these will not work after dark if no lighting. Mr. Kogut got pricing on solar lighting - \$3000 per pole and apparatus.

Discussion was held on the maintenance of property lines in Martinsburg Water District #1 and putting the job out for bid. Mr. Karelus made a motion, seconded by Mr. Dietrich to offer Mr. Pleskach \$750* and pay him this month. If he doesn't agree, hold check. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Mr. Jones reported that a Master Meter has been ordered for Martinsburg Water #2.

MARTINSBURG HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Discussion was held on a complaint Mr. Thisse received regarding the "clutter" in the old town hall. He suggested that the Martinsburg Historical Society should appoint a three person committee to be in charge of receiving/rejecting donations. He also suggested that this board needs to see a plan of where historical artifacts are being placed.

DOG CONTROL

Discussion was held on appointing a Deputy Dog Control Officer. Included in the discussion was rate of pay and training. Mr. Thisse suggested that the deputy be paid per occasion and/or \$15 per hour. Need to ask the DCO what she thinks the deputy will need to do, what would be expected of the deputy. Ask to clarify job duties and is a deputy really needed. Ag and Markets should be contacted to see if a deputy is necessary. The matter was tabled for now.

Valley Snow Travelers Snowmobile Club sent a written request to repair Toole/Rogers Road to make it easier and safer to groom. Mr. Jones suggested they contribute materials to do this. Mr. Thisse will speak to Mr. Tarasek, President of the club.

Discussion was held on expanding Martinsburg Water District #1 – the cost and how it would affect water billing rates.

The Town Justice has requested that Town Court night be changed to accommodate the Justice Court Clerk. He is working with the DA to determine what night would work best.

ZONING BOARD OF APPEAL

Zoning Board of Appeal member Brian Siegrist has moved. Mr. Karelus made a motion, seconded by Mr. Dietrich, to declare a vacancy on the Zoning Board of Appeal. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Mr. McGrath made a motion, seconded by Mr. Karelus, to leave the regular meeting and go into executive session at 8:40 PM to discuss personnel matters of a certain individual and to discuss the proposed acquisition of real property where publicity would substantially affect the value thereof. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Mr. Dietrich made a motion, seconded by Mr. McGrath to leave executives session at 9:00 PM and to adjourn regular meeting. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Kelley, Town Clerk

*The agreement was reviewed and the bill was paid in accordance to the agreement.