

The regular meeting of the Martinsburg Town Board was held on Wednesday, August 20, 2019 at the Municipal Offices on Cemetery Road and called to order at 7:00 PM. Present were: Supervisor Terrence Thisse; Councilmen Brad Allen, Douglas Dietrich, Janusz Karelus and Michael McGrath; Attorney Joseph Russell; Town Clerk Mary Kelley; County Legislator Greg Kulzer; CTHC circuit rider Beth Steria; Real Property Director Candy Akin; Gordon Yancey; Anthony Young from Barton and Loguidice. Absent: Highway Superintendent Tyler Jones.

MINUTES

The July minutes were emailed to the board members previously. Councilman Dietrich made a motion, seconded by Councilman Allen to approve the minutes as presented. All were in favor. Motion carried.

BILLS – Abstract 08-2019

General:	Voucher #183-212	\$ 15,452.71
Highway:	Voucher #123-141	\$169,433.33
Glenfield Water:	Voucher #55-62	\$ 65,213.64
Glenfield Sewer:	Voucher #34-37	\$ 6,205.18
Martinsburg Water #1:	Voucher #42-45	\$ 458.73
Street Lighting:	Voucher #15-16	\$ 687.45
Whitaker Park:	Voucher #40-49	\$ 2,608.99

Discussion was held on the bills. Councilman Dietrich made a motion, seconded by Councilman Allen to withhold Voucher #49 for \$774.54 from Whitaker Park until it can be researched further and to pay the remaining bills. All were in favor. Motion carried.

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR

Candy Akin, Real Property Tax Director, was present to discuss Private Road Name requests from Roaring Brook Wind Farm. Several private dirt access roads to wind towers will be located off Flat Rock Road, Carey Road and French Road. The names of the private roads will be:

- Alaska Highway Denali Highway
- Bear Road Moose Road
- Bella Road N Roaring Brook Road
- Birch Road S Roaring Brook Road

These names will be used for 911 purposes. Councilman Karelus made a motion, seconded by Councilman Dietrich, authorizing the use of these names. All were in favor. Motion carried.

TAX INSTALLMENT PAYMENTS

Ms. Akin gave a presentation on installment payments for property taxes. An introductory Local Law by the County is proposing:

- Setting two installments – first installment due January 31 and the second installment due May 31. Tax payer reserves the right to pay the entire bill without penalty by January 31;
- Installment payment option would be subject to a 2% service charge. This revenue would belong to the town;
- Taxes paid by an escrow account are not eligible for the installment option;
- A resolution passed by towns that wish to permit the installment payment option;
- The use of the same tax collection software used by the County to collect and receipt taxes which software will be provided to the town by the county at no cost to the town for the first two years.

Credit card payment is optional at a cost of \$120 a year to the town. If the town opts to go to tax installment payments, Total Collection Solution software would have to be used by the town tax collector.

7:30 Councilman McGrath arrived.

Tax installment payment discussion was tabled until September meeting in order to get more information.

TOWN CLERK REPORT

The June town clerk report for June showed total State and Local revenues of \$2,119.19. The report for July showed total State and Local revenues of \$18,027.38. Councilman Allen made a motion, seconded by Councilman McGrath to accept the town clerk reports for June and July. All were in favor. Motion carried.

COOPERATIVE TUG HILL COUNCIL

Ms. Steria gave the following announcements:

- Procurement policies
- 10th annual Black River Trash Bash
- NYS Urban and Community Forestry grants
- Cornell Local Roads workshops
- Town Budget Process workshop
- Tug Hill Tomorrow Land Trust annual dinner October 24
- Fall meeting of CTHC September 19

LEGISLATOR REPORT

Mr. Kulzer reported that Lewis County passed a resolution giving \$2000 funding to local volunteer fire departments.

HIGHWAY

The Roaring Brook Road agreement has been finalized.

Highway Superintendent Jones has reported that he no longer needs the 2017 F250. Councilman Karelus made a motion, seconded by Councilman Dietrich declaring the 2017 F250 as surplus property. All were in favor. Motion carried.

He also reported that the tennis court at the playground should be sealed. Councilman McGrath made a motion, seconded by Councilman Karelus authorizing Highway Superintendent Jones get pricing. All were in favor. Motion carried.

GLENFIELD SEWER

Mr. Young reported that the Glenfield Sewer Infiltration Project is on hold until Spring.

GLENFIELD WATER

Mr. Young reported that:

- Advertisement for bids for the Glenfield Water Improvement Project were posted – Bid opening 8/27/19
- Drawings and specs have been submitted to DOH for final review and approval
- Still working on getting easements
- Preliminary well investigation ongoing
- CDBG release of funds awaiting approval of environmental review

Town of Turin is in the referendum period of forming a water/sewer district for the trailer park that receives services from the Town of Martinsburg.

MARTINSBURG WATER #1

Discussion was held on cropland rented out to Francis Smithling. Agreement hasn't been signed yet.

West Martinsburg Town Hall has been painted and the church is partially painted at this time.

SURVEILLANCE SYSTEM

Christian's Connections LLC submitted a bid of \$3,370.50 to install a new surveillance system. The old system is outdated. Councilman Dietrich made a motion, seconded by Councilman Allen to accept this quote. All were in favor. Motion carried.

No report from Barnes Corners Sno-Pals and damage to town roads during Snirt Run.

ASSESSOR

The assessor's term expires on September 30. Resumes were received from Rebecca Trudell, Denise Trudell, Mark Scheideman and the current assessor Robert Ball. Councilman Dietrich recommended staying with the current assessor. Councilman Karelus made a motion, seconded by Councilman McGrath to reappoint Robert Ball as assessor – term to expire September 30, 2024. All were in favor. Motion carried.

BAR

The term of office for Board of Assessment Review Darren Jantzi expires September 30, 2019. Councilman McGrath made a motion, seconded by Councilman Karelus to reappoint Darren Jantzi as a member of the BAR – term to expire September 30, 2025. All were in favor. Motion carried.

The Supervisor reported he is working on the budget. Clerk is to get budget requests to the appropriate town employees.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Councilman McGrath made a motion, seconded by Councilman Allen to go into executive session at 8:15 PM to discuss contract negotiations. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Councilman Karelus made a motion, seconded by Councilman Dietrich to leave executive session at 8:35 PM and return to regular meeting. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Councilman Allen made a motion, seconded by Councilman McGrath to adjourn at 8:40 PM. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Kelley, Town Clerk