

September 18, 2019

REGULAR MEETING

The regular monthly meeting of the Martinsburg Town Board was held Wednesday, September 18, 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; Tax Collector Deanna Doviak; CTHC circuit rider Beth Steria; Matt Cooper and Anthony Young from Barton and Loguidice; Gordon Yancey; County Legislator Greg Kulzer; Jesse Lennox, Advanced Business Systems. Absent: Highway Superintendent Tyler Jones.

MINUTES

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

BILLS – Abstract 9-2019

General:	#213-233	\$10,508.63
Highway:	#142-160	\$19,525.78
Glenfield Water:	#69-71	\$28,624.54
Glenfield Sewer:	#38-43	\$ 576.92
Martinsburg Water #1:	#46-49	\$ 953.45
Street Lighting:	#17-18	\$ 712.92
Whitaker Park:	#50-60	\$ 1,401.69

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

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR

Jesse Lennox from Advanced Business Systems gave a presentation on an Advanced Talk Cloud Package, a VOIP telephone service. He described the general systems features; call features, unified communications and said it can be set up for conference calls. It can be purchased or leased. Local communities who have it are Town of Denmark, Village of Copenhagen and Steeles Ace Hardware. Supervisor Thisse said his presentation will be considered as the board works on the budget.

TOWN CLERK REPORT

The Town Clerk Report for August was presented. Total State and Local revenues taken in were \$10,890.35. Councilman Karelus made a motion, seconded by Councilman Dietrich accepting the Town Clerk Report for August as submitted. All were in favor. Motion carried.

COOPERATIVE TUG HILL COUNCIL

Ms. Steria reported on various workshops and meetings:

- Tax levy limit is 2%
- Minimum maintenance road training October 24 in Boonville
- CTHC Fall meeting – September 19 at Tug Hill Hideaway at 6:00 PM
- NYS Archives training October 16 and November 22
- NYS DEC open house at Salmon River Fish Hatchery September 28
- Open house at Jefferson County Soil and Water October 3
- LED Street lighting academy – a series of monthly webinars October 8, November 12, December 10
- Tug Hill Commissioners annual meeting at Tug Hill Vineyards November 7
- Fundamentals of Water and Wastewater Facilities workshop for municipalities October 29 at Tailwater Lodge
- Technical Assistance Grant for nonprofits due September 30
- Solar Energy for municipalities workshop October 3 at Double Tree Hilton, East Syracuse

## LEGISLATORS REPORT

Mr. Kulzer reported that the County is working on a new local law on bed tax. He also reported that talks regarding a new county office building have been tabled at this time.

## HIGHWAY

There were no sealed bids received on the 2017 F250 truck for sale. An online auction brought a high bid of \$26,000. The board felt this price was too low and the matter is tabled for now.

## GLENFIELD WATER

There will be a Special Meeting on Tuesday, September 24<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 PM to work on budget and discuss Glenfield Water rates. Rates are tentatively set at \$465 annually. Mr. Young gave an update on the improvement project. CDBG funds will be released following approval of environmental review. Construction could start by end of September pending approvals from various agencies.

## TURIN WATER/SEWER DISTRICT

Barton and Loguidice submitted a proposal for engineering services regarding the formation of Turin Water District #1 and Sewer District #1. Fee for service for Turin Water District #1 to prepare the map, plan and report, assist with the SEQR process and assist with the formation process is \$1,500. Free for service for Turin Sewer District #1 to prepare map, plan and report, assist with the SEQR process and assist with the district formation process is \$1,500.

Councilman McGrath made a motion, seconded by Councilman Dietrich to sign an agreement with Barton & Loguidice for services regarding the formation of Turin Water and Sewer districts. These districts are in the Town of Turin, but receive water and sewer services from the Town of Martinsburg. The total cost of these services will be \$3,000. All were in favor. Motion carried.

## REAL PROPERTY TAX INSTALLMENT PAYMENTS

Discussion was held among the board and with Tax Collector Deanna Doviak regarding tax installment payments.

WHEREAS, the Town of Martinsburg has been approached by the County of Lewis to participate in a tax installment program for real property taxes collected by the Town commencing January 1, 2020; and

WHEREAS, the Town Board of the Town of Martinsburg wishes to participate in such program; and

WHEREAS, to participate in such program Town of Martinsburg must adopt a resolution prior to October 1, 2019 indicating its willingness to participate;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT:

RESOLVED, that the Town of Martinsburg hereby elects to participate in the Lewis County installment tax program for real property taxes collected by the Town of Martinsburg as outlined in Exhibit "A" annexed hereto effective January 1, 2020; and it is further

RESOLVED, that the Supervisor of the Town of Martinsburg is authorized to sign all necessary documents to implement the same.

A motion to adopt the foregoing resolution was made by Councilman Dietrich and seconded by Councilman Allen and upon a roll call vote of the Board was duly adopted.

Supervisor Thisse – aye

Councilman Allen – aye

Councilman Dietrich – aye  
Councilman Karelus – aye  
Councilman McGrath – aye

#### REAL PROPERTY TAX QUESTIONNAIRE/SENIOR EXEMPTIONS

Discussion was held on a real property tax questionnaire received from Lewis County Real Property. They also requested we examine our senior exemptions for any changes. Councilman McGrath made a motion, seconded by Councilman Allen authorizing the Clerk to sign the Tax Exemption Questionnaire stating there would be no changes for the next year and that the Senior exemptions would remain the same. All were in favor. Motion carried.

#### WHITAKER PARK

The board reviewed a quote from Good's Masonry for \$5742.65 to repair and widen the archway going into Whitaker Park. The estimate was approved and the work authorized in June.

Councilman Karelus and Councilman McGrath reviewed the accountant tax statements for January, February and March, 2019 and found them to be in order.

Information was received regarding rates for electricity service from Constellation. This matter was tabled until more information is provided.

Maple Ridge wind towers and their fire tax payment was discussed. The Supervisor needs more information on what their liability will be for budget purposes.

The Supervisor reported on the Central Lewis County Water Study. An outside contractor is doing the study and will need information regarding our water districts.

Councilman Allen made a motion, seconded by Councilman Dietrich to go into executive session at 8:30 PM to discuss contract negotiations. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Councilman Dietrich made a motion, seconded by Councilman Allen to leave executive session at 9:15 PM and return to regular meeting. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Talk was resumed on approving the auction quote on the 2017 F250. It was once again tabled in order to get more information.

Councilman McGrath made a motion, seconded by Councilman Karelus to adjourn at 9:25 PM. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Kelley, Town Clerk