

## REGULAR MEETING

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Parish Town Board held November 16, 2017 at the Village Gym, Parish, NY. Supervisor Stelmashuck called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

**Present:** Stephen Stelmashuck, Supervisor  
John Dunham, Councilor  
G.R. Horning, Councilor  
John Horning, Councilor  
Kelly Reader, Town Clerk

**Excused:** Carra Watson-Porter, Councilor

**Also Present:** L.J. Harvey, Fire Chief; Doug Jordan, Councilor-Elect/Planning Brd Member; Craig Petit, Hwy Sup't; George Bennett, CEO; Dan Burns Bookkeeper; Mike Butcavage, Mary Ann Phillips, Supervisor-Elect; Len West, Paul Baxter, Tug Hill Rep.; Dale Chapman, Robin Novak, Jeff Dickinson, Jamie Reynolds, Diane Spaziani, Daniel Mathews, and Mary Mathews.

### APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

**October Minutes:** A motion was made by Councilor Dunham, seconded by J. Horning to approve the October Minutes as received.

Roll taken...

Councilor J. Horning stated that he would like to make the correction that there was no Mowing Contract with the county. Councilor Dunham stated that there was a contract with the county as he had seen it. Councilor J. Horning stated that he would like to have a copy of the contract. There were no corrections to the contract. Motion carried.

### SUPERVISOR'S REPORTS:

**Supervisor's Financial Report:** The Supervisor's Financial Report was reviewed and filed with the Clerk.

**Revenue Report:** The Regular and Justice Revenue Reports were reviewed by the Board and filed with the Clerk.

**December Calendar:** Waived.

### COMMISSION REPORTS:

**Community Affairs, Recreation, Parks, and Preservation:** Supervisor Stelmashuck stated that the Halloween Parade was successful and thanked Amy O'Hara for organizing it. Over 300 children participated in the event. Tree Lighting Ceremony is scheduled for December 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2017.

**Emergency Services, Engineering, Public Safety and Water:** Councilor Dunham stated that the low income survey has been sent out and around 100 surveys were returned because of wrong addresses.

Also, the Grant Writer will be going door to door in December.

Councilor Dunham stated that he had attended a Local Government Conference at the Empire Plaza in Albany regarding new Shared Consolidation Services. Councilor Dunham stated that multiple classes were

held at the same time but he could only attend one at a time. Councilor Dunham stated that he thought it was a good conference and he brought back a lot of useful information.

**Budgeting, Financial Affairs & Personnel:** Councilor J. Horning stated that he had nothing to report but the 2018 Budget has been adopted.

**General Gov't & Policy:** Supervisor Stelmashuck congratulated all that were successful in the last election:

Mary Ann Phillips-Supervisor-Elect

Councilor Dunham

Doug Jordan- Councilor-Elect

Hwy Sup't Petit

Clerk Reader

Kevin Dwyer-Tax Collector-Elect

Justice Dayger

**Infrastructure & Public Facilities:** No Report at this time.

## **REPORTS:**

**Legislator's Report:** No report at this time.

### **Hwy Report:**

Hwy Sup't Petit gave the following report:

Two out of the three sanders were in the need of a lot of maintenance.

The County will be paying a flat rate for the Belly Scraper as we just signed a new agreement with the County. Utilizing the Belly Scraper should reduce the wear and tear on the trucks because it will help remove the hard packed snow and ice.

Discussion was held regarding Voorhees Road as it is in bad shape.

Hwy Petit stated that it is his intention to redo the end of Voorhees Road beginning from State Rte 69 and also Easy Street. However, the end of Voorhees Road toward County Rte 11 that was under discussion was put into the Chips Program under the prior Hwy Sup't and the Town cannot be reimbursed from Chips for 5 years. Hwy Sup't Petit stated that he can look into the situation to see if he can come up with a solution. \$181,000.00 was turned into Chips.

**Clerk's Report:** Clerk Reader gave the Clerk's Report and Dog License Report for October, 2017.

**Assessor's Report:** No report at this time.

**CEO Report:** CEO Bennett submitted a written CEO Report.

**DCO Report:** No report at this time.

**Planning Board Report:** Planning Board Minutes were submitted by Clerk Wood. Planning Brd Chair Scriber submitted a Planning Board Report.

**Fire Chief's Report:** Fire Chief Harvey gave the Fire Report for October, 2017.

**Tug Hill Circuit Rider's Report:** The Tug Hill Commission is working on their annual report, Headwaters.

Paul stated that if there was any news from the town that anyone would like mentioned in Headwaters to let him know.

The Tug Hill Commission held its Annual Meeting and Dinner on Thursday, November 2<sup>nd</sup> at the Booneville VFW.

Paul attended the Monday, October 30<sup>th</sup> Meeting in Amboy on the County Hazard Mitigation Process which included the southeast part of the county. Another meeting is planned for late November and the County Emergency Management Office is willing to meet with individual communities to assist them with their local updates. Plans are currently underway for a fall meeting of the Salmon Rivers Council of Governments.

Parish has a Joint Town/Village Zoning Board of Appeals, new chairman, Mike Mueller. Mike recently received assistance from Phil Street of the Tug Hill Commission on procedural things to keep in mind in holding ZBA Meetings and Hearings.

### **CORRESPONDENCE, COMMUNICATIONS, & PETITIONS:**

A note from the Village Mayor regarding candles in the windows in some Town Offices-requesting assistance with turning them on in the windows in the evening.

A motion was made by Supervisor Stelmashuck, seconded by Councilor Dunham to take a 5 minute recess at 6:50 p.m. to retrieve an E-mail that he needs to read to the public.

Roll taken...motion carried.

An E-mail was read from Shelby Cusson-LaRue encouraging Town and Village Officials, and the community to attend events. Shelby is hoping that people will attend events to promote our community.

### **OLD BUSINESS:**

**Workshop to begin updating the County Emergency Plan:** November 30<sup>th</sup>, beginning at 6:30 pm in Amboy Town Hall.

**Sign 2018 McFee Ambulance Contract:** The Board signed the McFee Ambulance Contract for 2018.

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

**Increase the Term of Code Enforcement Officer from one to four years:** CEO Bennett explained that it was the same contract that was previously drawn up but provides a 4 year Contract. Much like the Appointed Assessor that has a six year contract.

Councilor Dunham responded that the NYS Office of Real Property sets terms for Appointed Assessors and the Town Board has no control over the length of the term.

CEO Bennett stated the he feels that the CEO would have more leeway to do their job regarding controversial issues and possible nepotism.

Discussion was held that most towns have a 1 year appointed term.

The current term for CEO Bennett will expire on 12/31/2017.

More discussion will be held on December 7<sup>th</sup>, 2017 Joint Meeting at 7:00 p.m. regarding the extension of the CEO's term.

It was the consensus of the Board to have input from the Village as the CEO covers the Village as well.

Also, the attorney will be asked to review the proposal regarding registrations for abandoned, vacant, and distressed properties. CEO Bennett has compiled a sample registration form regarding the issue.

**MEETING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC:**

Diane Spaziani from the Water Committee was present supporting the Water Survey and she stated that she is passionate on bringing water to Parish. Diane asked if the Town has an experienced attorney to handle the Water Project. Supervisor Stelmashuck stated that the Town's Attorney has been absent due to an illness. Supervisor Stelmashuck stated he can touch base with him to see what his position is in regards to handling the project. Diane stated that the Town should hire an experienced attorney and engineer to secure a successful Water Project.

Discussion was held regarding going after a different approach to pursue the Water Project.

Mike Butcavage stated that the committee has no rock solid information and it is very frustrating because he feels that no new information has been provided to move forward. Also, he feels that there are many misconceptions regarding the project. Mike stated that he feels an additional engineer should be hired for special projects.

Bob Guminiak specializes in Water Projects and he did get involved in the project in the beginning, but no one wanted to pay his fee.

Mike stated that if we get water, the people will come.

Councilor Dunham stated that the Grant Writer was held up because the contract was supposed to be reviewed by the attorney and no one got back to him regarding the status of the contract.

Supervisor Stelmashuck stated that the issue can be discussed at the Joint Board Meeting on Dec 7<sup>th</sup>, 2017 at 7:00 pm. Mike stated that we should get complete and proper responses for Water Reports.

Len West was present and he stated that he didn't understand why he has to go through another 6 month review by the Planning Board because it has been 18 months.

CEO Bennett stated that he didn't know how to proceed as he didn't know the purpose of the review.

CEO Bennett stated that he would like the entire Board to be present at the Planning Board Meeting on Nov 27, 2017.

Supervisor Stelmashuck stated that he feels that this should be addressed at the Planning Board Meeting. Len West's Site Plan changes were discussed.

**MEETING CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC.**

**APPROVAL OF BILLS:**

**General Fund:** A motion was made by Supervisor Stelmashuck, seconded by Councilor J. Horning to approve the claims to the General Fund, those being claims #257-#276 for a total warrant of \$11,406.44. Roll taken... motion carried.

**Highway Fund:** A motion was made by Supervisor Stelmashuck, seconded by Councilor G.R. Horning to approve claims #252-#277 for a total warrant of \$15,923.98. Roll taken... motion carried.

Supervisor Stelmashuck reminded the Board that the next Joint Board Meeting was scheduled for December 7<sup>th</sup>, 2017 at 7:00 p.m.

A motion was made by Councilor J. Horning, seconded by Councilor G.R. Horning to adjourn at 8:11 pm. Roll taken...motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Kelly Reader  
Parish Town Clerk