

REGULAR MEETING

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Parish Town Board held March 21st, 2019 at 2938 E. Main Street, Parish, NY in the Village Gym. The Meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Supervisor Phillips.

Present:

Mary Ann Phillips, Supervisor
John Dunham, Councilor
Doug Jordan, Councilor
G.R. Horning, Councilor
John Horning, Councilor
Kelly Reader, Town Clerk

Also Present: Deborah Groom, Independent Mirror Reporter; Craig Petit, Hwy Sup't; Rich Lopitz, Assessor; Jack Spriggs, DCO; Paul Baxter, Tug Hill Rep.; Bob Genant, Town Attorney; Kevin Dwyer, Tax Collector; Jim Bernys, CEO; Gary Wood, Lynn Wood, Paul Gage, Karen Gage, Robin Eaton-Novak, Jack Rucynski, Dale Chapman, Shenvalee Lee, Mike Butcavage, Diane Spaziani, Tom Goad, Derick Waterbury, Krista Alsworth, Bill Alsworth, Doug Miller, Engineer; Rebeka Prosachik, Law Firm; Hannah Francisco, Queen Central Reporter; Liam and Danielle O'Brien.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

A motion was made by Councilor J. Horning, seconded by Councilor G.R. Horning to enter into Executive Session at 6:31 p.m. to discuss matters pertaining to the employment, dismissal or removal of a particular person or corporation. Roll taken... motion carried.

A motion was made by Councilor Jordan, seconded by Councilor J. Horning, seconded by Councilor G.R. Horning to adjourn from Executive Session at 7:13 p.m. Roll taken... motion carried.

MEETING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC:

Jack Rucynski read a statement regarding questions on the Water Project that he feels remains on the funds needed to move forward on the Water Grant. Mr. Rucynski also mentioned that he has been told that he may have offended some people in his use of the First Amendment in some of his statements. He pointed out that an accurate record of what has transpired should be available to the citizens of Parish.

His written statement contained many questions regarding the Water Project and the Grant Application. He has consulted with an engineering firm who has done several Water Projects and has discussed the water issue with other towns.

Mr. Rucynski asked why the Board is not providing updates to the citizens through the media or the Town Website. He feels the taxpayers have the right to know what has transpired and what steps must be taken in the future to proceed with the water project.

Mike Butcavage expressed that the Board should run smoothly and more cohesively. Voting on the Water District is a basic right. Also, Mr. Butcavage stated that "he was proud to be from Parish", but the Yes Vote on the Water Project should actually mean something." Mr. Butcavage stated that the resolutions to move forward should be brought back to the table so the Water Project can move forward.

MEETING CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Organization Meeting Minutes: A motion was made by Councilor J. Horning, seconded by Councilor G.R. Horning to approve the Organizational Meeting Minutes with corrections. Roll taken...

Councilor Dunham: Nay Councilor G.R. Horning: Aye Supervisor Phillips: Aye
Councilor Jordan: Nay Councilor J. Horning: Aye
motion carried.

Special Town Board Meeting Minutes: A motion was made by Councilor Jordan, seconded by Councilor G.R. Horning to approve the Minutes to the Special Meeting held January 31st, 2019 as received. Roll taken...

Supervisor Phillips: Nay, motion carried

Regular Town Board Meeting Minutes: A motion was made by Councilor Jordan, seconded by Councilor Dunham to approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting Minutes held February 21st as received. Roll taken...carried.

FINANCIAL REPORTS:

Supervisor's Financial Report: The Supervisor's Report was presented to Board through the end of January.

February and March's Financial Reports will be available at the April Meeting.

Revenue Reports: Supervisor Phillips stated that the Justice Revenue Report has been reported incorrectly in the past. The Town does not keep all the revenue brought in by the Justice Court. The state receives most of the revenue.

REPORTS:

Hwy Report: Hwy Sup't Petit

Hwy Sup't Petit presented the 284 Agreement for approval. The 284 Agreement is an agreement for the expenditures of Highway Moneys Section 284 of the Highway Law. The agreement is between the Town Superintendent of Highways of the Town of Parish, of Oswego County and the members of the Town Board for the fiscal year of 2019. This is the amount the Town is expected to receive in State Aid through the Consolidated Highway Improvement Program and any other State Aid Programs.

Hwy Sup't Petit stated that he had attended an Advocacy Day in Albany to support keeping the road programs that fund road projects in local municipalities. He is pretty sure that the CHIPS Program will stay the same or be reduced, however it will be determined by the State Budget. Some of the other road programs may be cut such as the Emergency Recovery Program, but will be determined by the budget.

The Town Board signed the 284 Agreement for 2019.

Assessor's Report: Assessor Lopitz

CEO Report: CEO Bernys

Justice Report: Justice Dayger

Supervisor Phillips stated that she has done the Justice Report differently to show how the Justice Funds are distributed.

Clerk's Report: Clerk Reader

DCO Report: DCO Spriggs

DCO Spriggs stated that he was planning on conducting an Enumeration in early summer, probably beginning in June.

Tax Collector Report: Tax Collector Dwyer

Tax Collector Dwyer asked the Board if they would consider implementing a \$10.00 charge for a tax search.

Discussion was held on the request.

A motion was made by Councilor Dunham, seconded by Councilor J. Horning to allow the Tax Collector to charge a \$10.00 fee for conducting tax searches. Roll taken...

Supervisor Phillips-Nay, motion carried,

Tug Hill Report: Paul Baxter, Tug Hill Rep.

CORRESPONDENCE, COMMUNICATIONS, & PETITIONS:

Mcfee Ambulance Invitation-2/27/19-Councilor Dunham stated that he attended the meeting and the Ambulance Contract may go up for 2020. The State is considering cutting funding to the ambulance services. Mcfee is sharpening their pencils as their funding depends on the State Budget.

Oswego County Emergency Management Plan: Correspondence regarding reviewing and updating the entire Comprehensive Emergency Plan. Councilor Dunham stated that he is reviewing the plan for revisions and there are many changes to be made to bring it up to date.

Gov Cuomo's Mobile Mammography Van (MMV) Program. This program allows residents in communities to receive breast screenings.

Bill No. A06302, An act to amend the Real Property Tax Law in relation to certain state lands in the County of Oswego which shall be subject to taxation. (Property that is located in the Town of Parish in Happy Valley).

Assemblyman Will Barclay: Cuomo's So-Called Restoration of AIM Grants is a Falsity.

Notice of Tentative Railroad Ceiling Reduction of Assessment.

OLD BUSINESS:

Language for State/County Approved Bid Lists: Councilor Dunham will provide the website address to the Supervisor.

Review Credit Card Policy: Supervisor Phillips stated that the draft policy was given to the Board Members sometime ago for review. Supervisor Phillips expressed that providing access to a Town Credit Card would allow someone to attend training opportunities without putting their money out and waiting for reimbursement. It also would prevent someone from being discouraged to attend training if they did not have the funds to attend. The Credit Card would be kept in the Supervisor's Office under lock and key. The card would be signed in and out only with the Supervisor. The Credit Card would have a \$1,000.00 limit. Employees/Officials would only be allowed to use the card up to \$500.00 at a time. All receipts and paperwork would be provided when signing the card back in.

Councilor Jordan stated that he did not think a card was needed at this time.

A motion was made by Supervisor Phillips to pass the Credit Card Policy for a Credit Card for the Town of Parish.

No second, motion did not pass.

Review Service Record Policy W/Meeting Record Form: Discussion was held regarding paying Members of Boards only if they attend the meeting. The Service Record Form would be turned in after each meeting to verify those in attendance. This would be for appointed positions/not elected.

Councilor Jordan stated at the Organizational Meeting the salary was set for \$1,000 per year per Planning Board Member. It did not indicate provided that all meetings were attended. Councilor Jordan stated that he didn't think it was right to change it this far into the year. He suggested that the policy be considered next year.

Supervisor Phillips expressed that she didn't feel it was right if someone missed a meeting that they would get paid for a job they didn't do.

A motion was made by Supervisor Phillips, seconded by Councilor G.R. Horning to approve the Service Record Policy W/Meeting Record Form. Roll taken...

Councilor Dunham: Nay Councilor G.R. Horning: Aye Supervisor Phillips: Aye
Councilor Jordan: Nay Councilor J. Horning: Nay

motion did not carry.

Approve Rebeka Prosachik Law Firm:

Rebeka Prosachak stated that she is involved with 3 Water Projects right now. Rebeka would be helping to provide information and guidance through the legal aspects of the project to submit the WIIA Grant Application on file.

Attorney Prosachik urged the Town to move quickly, as "the pot gets smaller the longer you wait". She explained that the costs are already factored into the overall project costs. Attorney Prosachik stated that you won't find a district entirely funded by grant money". Also, she stated that the Town is very lucky with the amount that they would receive if the grant is awarded.

A motion was made by Councilor Dunham, seconded by Councilor J. Horning to approve Rebeka Prosachik as Special Counsel for the Town of Parish Water Project. Roll taken... All in favor...motion carried.

Approve Resolution for Bond/BAN to cover work/reports required for the WIIA Grant that has been filed: Tabled.

Discussion was held regarding the items that need to be completed that are required for the WIIA Grant Application.

The WIIA Grant needs to have 5 items completed before it can be submitted for final Review.

Some residents questioned the quoted \$287,000.00- \$300.000 to complete the studies needed. Some information had been received from other engineering firms that the requirements could be completed for \$50,000.00 or less.

Miller Engineering was present and stated that the project is currently accepted in the Queue, but the steps required must be completed receive the funds. The Town Board stated that they were going to take another look at the cost factors for final submission of the WIIA Grant.

Bruce Cranston Email: Councilor Dunham stated that he checked into the phone package. He also put a call into Mr. Cranston and he did not call Councilor Dunham back. Councilor Dunham stated that he looked in the email and the gentlemen is selling a phone package/with fancy phone equipment. What we have now with New Visions has cut the cost of the phone bills, we are not charged for two fax lines, and includes the internet. Councilor Dunham does not recommend to change at this time.

NEW BUSINESS:

APPROVAL OF APPOINTMENT OF BOOKKEEPER: A motion was made by Councilor J. Horning, seconded by Supervisor Phillips to appoint Samantha Spataro as the Town of Parish, Bookkeeper. Roll taken...motion carried.

Councilor Dunham asked what the salary was going to be? Supervisor Phillips stated that \$12,000 was in budget for 2019. A little less because of training costs.

Councilor Dunham stated \$1,000.00 per month for the remainder of 2019.

Planning Board Vacancy and Alternate Vacancy: A motion was made by Councilor Dunham, seconded by Councilor Jordan to advertise for a the vacancy on the Parish Joint Planning Board and for an Alternate to the Planning Board. Roll taken...motion carried.

MEETING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC:

Jack Rucynski state that the bill regarding the Happy Valley Land needs community support. The community needs to send Senator Ritchie and Assemblyman Barclay letters of support or it could die in the Assembly.

Supervisor Phillips responded that Senator Ritchie and Assemblyman Barclay have been contacted regarding the bill. Mr. Rucynski stated also the community should send letters Debra Groom stated that you can look up the bill numbers on line.

Paul Baxter stated that the bill numbers are in the Tug Hill Times March 15th.

The Senate Bill is S03949 and the Assembly Bill is A06302.

Mike Butcavge stated that we are in the Queue and it will expire on June 30, 2019. If the Town does not have the required reports by that date, there will not be another Water Project until 2022. Once the WIIA Grant is ready to go, the State will pay the bills. The only money that the Town needs is for the two reports.

Karen Gage spoke in regards to the Service Policy as it astounds her that the Board will not approve a Credit Card for the Town with a \$1,000.00 limit but is willing to pay people for a job that they are not fulfilling. She also stated that the Town needs to look at the bigger picture that you must perform the service before you get paid for it.

MEETING CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

A motion was made by Councilor Jordan, seconded by Councilor J. Horning to discuss matters leading to the employment, dismissal or removal of a particular person or corporation. Roll taken...motion carried.

A motion was made by Councilor Dunham, seconded by Councilor Jordan to adjourn from Executive Session at 9:27 p.m. Roll taken...motion carried.

APPROVAL OF BILLS:

General Fund: A motion was made by Councilor J. Horning, seconded by Councilor G.R. Horning to approve the claims to the General Fund, those being claims #59-#77 for a total warrant of \$14,322.87.

Discussion: Councilor Jordan stated that he had questions on #74 & #75 submitted by Supervisor Phillips. Councilor Jordan stated that it appears that it was submitted under Supervisor's Phillip's personal business account. Supervisor Phillips stated that she changed the vouchers to her name personally and there was sales tax charged that she paid.

Supervisor Phillips stated that she did not request for reimbursement of sales tax. Discussion was held that items purchased for the Town have to be purchased separately on a separate receipt and should not be run through a private business account. Roll taken...motion carried.

Highway Fund: A motion was made by Councilor G.R. Horning, seconded by Councilor Jordan to approve the claims to the Highway Fund, those being claims #47-#62 for a total warrant of \$220,609.56. Roll taken...motion carried.

A motion was made by Councilor J. Horning, seconded by Councilor Dunham to grant permission to allow Supervisor Phillips to change budget account codes on vouchers to be compatible with the 2019 Budget. Roll taken...motion carried.

OTHER:

Discussion was held regarding having two signatures on all checks as recommended by the Comptroller's Office.

Supervisor Phillips expressed that it could be inconvenient as sometimes schedules conflict.

Special Meeting: A motion was made by Councilor Jordan, seconded by Councilor J. Horning to schedule a Special Meeting on April 1st, 2019 beginning at 6:30 pm at 2938 E. Main Street, Parish NY in the Village. The purpose of the Special Meeting was to approve a Resolution for a Bond/BAN to obtain funds to perform studies and requirements to complete the WIIA Grant Application on file. Also, to consider approving a Resolution for a contract that specifies requirements needed for the WIIA Grant Application. Roll taken...motion carried.

Councilor Jordan asked Supervisor Phillips if the Annual Report for 2018 had been filed with the Comptroller's Office.

Supervisor Phillips responded that she had requested an extension.

Councilor J. Horning stated that he would not be seeking re-election.

A motion was made by Councilor Dunham, seconded by Councilor J. Horning to adjourn at 9:33 p.m. Roll taken...motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Kelly Reader
Parish Town Clerk