

REGULAR MEETING

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Parish Town Board held December 19th, 2019 at 2938 E. Main in the Village Gym, Parish, NY. The Regular Board Meeting was called to order at 6:30 pm by Supervisor Phillips.

Present:

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

Also Present: Gary Wood, Councilor-Elect; Kevin Dwyer, Fire Company President; Craig Petit, Hwy Sup't; Carl Dayger, Town Justice; Sheila Dayger, Court Clerk; Joe Lesnau, Assessor; L.J. Harvey, Parish Fire Chief; Jim Bernys, CEO; Paul Gage, PL Brd Member; Karen Gage, Bob Genant, Town Attorney; Bernie Horning, Deputy Supervisor; Erin Barger, and Addison Barger.

The Supervisor opened with a statement that if anyone from the public would like to speak on any subject listed on the agenda to wait until recognized by the Supervisor. Residents will be given an opportunity to state their concerns to the Board within reason. Speakers are instructed to refrain from personal attacks and insults directed at any individual or group. Attendees are requested to show respect for all speakers, including Councilors showing the same respect.

MEETING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC:

Kevin Dwyer asked why there were pages missing in the Supervisor's Report presented to the Board.

Trial Balance Pages and Balance Sheet Pages are not included. A detailed T&A Sheet is not included as well.

Supervisor Phillips thought they were included and she will speak to the Bookkeeper.

Gary Wood- Councilor Elect spoke in regards the BAR issue as his wife received a letter stating that she was no longer on the BAR. Mr. Wood agreed that the section of the Real Property Law 523 1 (b) does state that a majority of Town Officials/Employees can not serve as the majority of the BAR. However, it is not necessary to remove all 3. One employee can serve on the BAR as long as there is not a majority.

Mr. Wood explained that BAR Members are supposed to have some knowledge and experience regarding assessments.

It was also his understanding that a couple of the Board Members were not aware that a letter was sent out removing the BAR Members.

Supervisor Phillips was surprised to hear that because it was discussed. Councilor Jordan thought that the Town Attorney was going to check into the law before a decision was made.

Supervisor Phillips wanted the BAR Members to be informed prior to the public and it will be voted on tonight.

Fire Chief Harvey, Fire Chief mentioned that the Fire Contract was not on the agenda.

Supervisor Phillips intended on discussing the Fire Contract in Executive Session. Discussion was held regarding the question if the contract should be discussed in Executive Session. Supervisor Phillips responded that there were items regarding the contract that the Board was not aware of and she needed to discuss with them the Board prior to approving the contract.

APPROVAL OF BILLS:

Budget Transfers/Modifications: A motion was made by Councilor J. Horning, seconded by Councilor G.R. Horning to approve the Budget Transfers/Modifications as presented to the Board. Roll taken...All in favor...motion carried.

Inter Fund Transfers: A motion was made by Councilor J. Horning, seconded by Councilor G.R. Horning to approve the Inter Fund Transfers:

From B Fund: Debit: B391 Due From Other Funds (Receivable)-\$50,000
Credit: B201 Savings Account: \$50,000.00

To: DB Fund

Debit: DB201 Savings Account-\$50,000.00
Credit: DB630 Due to Other Funds (Liability)-\$50,000.00
Roll taken...All in favor...motion carried.

General Fund A: A motion was made by Councilor J. Horning, seconded by Councilor G.R. Horning to approve the claims to General Fund A, those being claims #275-#277, #279-290, #292-296, for a total warrant of \$39,257.78. Roll taken...All in favor...motion carried.

General Fund B: A motion was made by Councilor J. Horning, seconded by Councilor G.R. Horning to approve the claims to General Fund B, those being claims #277, #278, #291 for a total warrant of \$200.21. Roll taken...All in favor...motion carried.

Highway Fund DB: A motion was made by Councilor Jordan, seconded by Councilor J. Horning to approve the claims to the Highway Fund DB, those being claims #212-#232 for a total warrant of \$36,463.10. Roll taken...All in favor...motion carried.

Discussion was held regarding the Hwy Department borrowing \$50,000 through the end of 2019.

Discussion was held regarding paying the ERS twice in one year when money was tight. Supervisor Phillips discussed that it was a savings of around \$400.00.

Councilor Jordan was concerned about paying bills early and cutting the Hwy Dept. short. Councilor Jordan expressed that if we have extra money then it's OK to pay bills early, but if we don't have it should not be done.

Supervisor Phillips explained that the Town had the money, however it was in a different account and had to be transferred.

SUPERVISOR'S REPORTS:

The Supervisor's Financial Report, Revenue & Expenditure Reports for all accounts were presented to the Board through Nov, 30th 2019

REPORTS:

Highway Report: Hwy Sup't Petit reported that all 3 plow trucks are running and being used for the Winter Season. Town Roads have been posted regarding No Parking. Seasonal Roads have been posted.

Hwy Sup't Petit has been working with Tug Hill Commission on grant applications for the Hwy Garage's Roof replacement, replacement of I-Beams, floor drains, updating the boiler., and equipment purchases. RFP's have been sent out and advertised.

Assessor's Report: Assessor Lesnau has sent all renewal applications out for exemptions. The Assessor will be reaching out to those that have not returned them after the 1st of the year.

CEO Bernys: CEO Bernys submitted a written report.

Justice Report: Judge Dayger has submitted his financial report. Also, he spoke in regards to some upcoming changes in the Judicial System.

Judge Dayger provided a copy of Minutes dated January, 27, 2000 stating that any employee can purchase insurance through the Town if they chose to and he wanted to purchase insurance through the Town with no expense to the Town. He needs it in the Minutes and all he needs is a yes or no..

Supervisor Phillips responded that she planned on bringing the issue up in Executive Session.

Supervisor Phillips responded that if they come out of Executive Session and it's voted on then it would be recorded in the Minutes.

Town Clerk's Report: Clerk Reader submitted a written Town Clerk's Report.

DCO Report: DCO Spriggs submitted a written report

Tug Hill Circuit Rider's Report:

An Executive Summary of the Tug Hill 2019 Residents and Landowners Survey is now available.

The Tug Hill Local Government Conference is coming up, Thursday, March 26, 2020 will be held at JCC in Watertown. The program and registration materials are scheduled to go out around the turn of the year.

The 2020 Federal Census is up and coming.

The Tug Hill Commission has adopted its 2020 meeting scheduled and the first meeting of the year will be in Amboy on Monday, January 27th, 2020.

OLD BUSINESS:

Committee on Open Gov't Public Officer Law, Article 7, 103 (d) 1. : The law addressed the Open Meetings Law and Executive Sessions.

(d) Any meeting of the public body that is open to the public shall be open to being photographed, broadcast, webcast, or transmitted by audio or video means-as used in herein the term "broadcast" shall include the transmission by signals or cable.

Discussion was held on the video on the Town's Website. Some members of the public like sharing of the video but didn't agree that it should be posted on a private Facebook Website that isn't open to everyone. Discussion was held that derogatory remarks are made on the private Facebook Page and that the video should not be used for that purpose. It was agreed that the video should be used to get information out to the public to inform the public for those that cannot attend meetings.

Discussion was held regarding posting the information on the Town's Website for informational purposes.

The questions was asked if it was subject to the Foil Law.

Attorney Genant wanted to look into the matter further before the Town made a decision.

New Elected Officials Training: Supervisor Phillips, Councilor G.R. Horning, Hwy Sup't Petit and, Gary Wood, Councilor-Elect attended the training in Lorraine-December 5th, 2019. Topics that were covered were Conflicts of Interest, Code of Ethics, Board of Ethics, Financial Disclosure Requirements, Typical Town Offices and their roles, Oath of Office, and preparing for your first meeting.

Issues that the Town Board would like to address: Supervisor Phillips wanted the Board to think about the issues they would like to address for 2020. Water and a new Town Building were discussed. Councilor Jordan responded that the Town doesn't have any money. Councilor G.R. Horning responded that Hwy Sup't Petit is working some grants that would hopefully be part of it.

Committees: CARPP, Highway, Bank Statements, Negotiations, Ethics Committee Policy, Water Committee, and McFee Ambulance Board Rep for their Board of Directors.

NEW BUSINESS:

Water: Consideration of hiring a Project Manager to provide a proposal for Technical Services for a Water Project:

A motion was made by Councilor J. Horning, seconded by Councilor Jordan to authorize Supervisor Phillips to request Carrie Tuttle to provide a proposal for consideration of hiring a Project Manager for technical support to move forward with a Water Project with no fee. Roll taken...All in favor...motion carried.

Organizational Meeting:

A motion was made by Councilor Dunham, seconded by Councilor Jordan to schedule the Organizational Meeting for January 2, 2020 at 6:30 pm. Roll taken...All in favor...motion carried.

Board of Assessment Review Replacement per Real Property Tax Law: Section-523 1 (b).

Attorney Genant would like an opportunity to do some more research before a decision is made. Attorney Genant made reference to Section 75 of the Civil Service Law and Section 36 of the Public Officers Law.

Councilor Jordan spoke to Association of Towns and he was told to wait until their terms expire.

Town Attorney Genant was asked if he could get the information to the Board by January 2nd for the Organizational Meeting and he responded that he could.

A motion was made by Councilor Jordan, seconded by Councilor Dunham to table the decision to replace the Board of Assessment of Review Members. Roll taken...All Councilors in favor, Supervisor Phillips opposed...motion carried.

Training for Newly Elected and Continuing Officials in January:

January-8,9,10 in Rochester

January-15,16,17 in Albany.

HeatSmart: CNY Campaign in Parish: Lindsay Speer, Campaign Manager for HeatSmart CNY: She is working on an outreach education program involving GEO Thermal Heat Sources as an alternative source of energy. HeatSmart CNY educates the public regarding grants and incentives for Energy Efficient Heating and Cooling. There was a resolution that was presented regarding this program to the Board for adoption.

It was the consensus of the Board to allow the Town's Legal Counsel to review it before the Board adopts the Resolution.

Other Business:

Supervisor's Voucher: Supervisor Phillips discussed a voucher that she turned in from Staples for the amount of \$100.65 for 75 copies of the Harassment and Discrimination Policy. Councilor Jordan had brought up the voucher to the Supervisor as the Town has copiers in the building. Supervisor Phillips responded that Councilor Jordan was correct, but she wasn't thinking about copying them at the Town Office. Supervisor Phillips also.

informed the Board that she was not allowed in the Clerk's Office and hopes that would change. Supervisor Phillips informed the Board if they would like to pull the voucher for payment, she would accept that. The issue was no longer addressed.

Communication: Supervisor Phillips doesn't feel that there is good communication and feels that it should improve.

CORRESPONDENCE, COMMUNICATION, & PETITIONS:

E-mail from David Turner, ie. 2020 Census Message-Time Warner Franchise Agreement.

E-Mail Steve Loadwick

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS:

Tug Hill Times-11/22/2019

Parish Volunteer Fire Co., Inc. list of Officers & Members.

Public Hearing/Special Meeting Minutes-11/4/2019

Regular MeetingMinutes-11/21/2019

CiTi BOCES "Spotlight"

McFee Contract

2020 Pay Date Schedule

Congress Brindisi's latest happenings.

McFee Ambulance Contract:

A motion was made by Councilor J. Horning, seconded by Councilor Jordan to approve 2020 McFee Ambulance Contract for a total amount of \$26,250. Roll taken...All in favor, Councilor Dunham-Opposed. ..motion carried.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

A motion was made by Councilor J. Horning, seconded by Councilor Jordan to enter into Executive Session at 8:05 pm. to discuss matters leading to the appointment, employment, discipline, dismissal or removal of a particular person or corporation and Contract Negotiations. Roll taken...All in favor...motion carried.

A motion was made by Councilor J. Horning, seconded by Councilor G.R. Horning to adjourn from Executive Session at 8:41 pm. Roll taken...All in favor...motion carried.

Parish Fire Contract:

A motion as made by Councilor Jordan, seconded by Councilor G. R. Horning, to approve the 2020 Parish Fire Contract for the amount of \$211,500.00 to be signed on Monday, December 24th, 2019 with the following changes: Date: 2/24/2020, Amount: \$211,500.00, Remove sentences under number #4 remove sentence: Town agrees to hold Company harmless for Company's failure to provide sufficient manpower at any single incident. Also, under #5 change amount from \$500,000.00 to \$1,000,000.00 for injuries arising out of the operation of emergency vehicles. Roll taken...All in favor...Councilor Dunham...abstained...motion carried.

A motion was made by Councilor J. Horning, seconded by Councilor Dunham to adjourn at 8:45 pm. Roll taken...All in favor...motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Kelly Reader
Parish Town Clerk