

## SPECIAL MEETING

Minutes of the Special Meeting of the Town of Parish Town Board held September 24<sup>th</sup>, 2020 at 2938 E. Main Street, Parish, NY in the Village Gym and by Zoom. Supervisor Phillips called the Special Meeting to order by Zoom at 6:30 pm.

**PRESENT:**

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

**Absent/Excused:** Gary Wood, Councilor

**Also Present:** Robin Eaton-Novak, Deputy Supervisor; Jim Bernys, CEO; and Jeff Dickinson.

**Zoning Law Amendment Public Hearing:** Discussion was held regarding specific requirements that need to be completed prior to the Public Hearing on October 15<sup>th</sup>, 2020 at 6:00 pm. Paul Baxter had spoken to Matt Johnson regarding this issue and there may not be enough time to complete all requirements prior to the Public Hearing. Matt Johnson is willing to review the final revisions for the proposed Town of Parish Zoning Law Amendment with the Board prior to the next scheduled Public Hearing.

Discussion was held regarding when to schedule the next Public Hearing due to the fact that the next Thursdays are scheduled for 2021 Budget Workshops. The consensus was to see how far the Board gets on the progress of the 2021 Budget and then select a date and time.

**Bookkeeper Resignation:** Supervisor Phillips read a letter of resignation submitted to her by Samantha Sparto, Bookkeeper that she had received as of September 18, 2020. The bookkeeper reviewed her job responsibilities and her accomplishments during her time serving as bookkeeper.

Supervisor Phillips read a statement regarding Bookkeeper Sparto's qualifications, achievements and accomplishments. Supervisor Phillips reminded the Board that Bookkeeper Spataro had a four year accounting degree. Supervisor Phillips expressed that the motion made by the some of the Councilors ruined the Bookkeeper's reputation. Supervisor Phillips expressed that those Councilors should apologize to the Bookkeeper and the public should contact them and demand that they do so. Supervisor Phillips expressed that the bookkeeper took it as a sign of the Councilor's lack of faith in her abilities as bookkeeper.

The Town Board's contact information is on the Town of Parish's website.

Councilor Horning didn't feel it was justified to get rid of the bookkeeper without consulting with her. Currently Paul Baxter is aiding the Supervisor with the 2021 Tentative Budget.

Councilor Jordan expressed that it was the bookkeeper's decision to resign without notice. No one fired her. The Councilors wanted to look into the possibility of hiring a comptroller and to obtain information.

Councilor Jordan asked if the Supervisor would like a motion to advertise to fill the Bookkeeper's position. Councilor Horning seconded the motion.

There was no response from the Supervisor. No roll call was taken.

Supervisor Phillips responded that the Meeting was over abruptly.

A motion was made by Supervisor Phillips, seconded by Councilor Horning to adjourn at 6:55 pm. There were no additional votes to adjourn due to the fact that Councilor Horning and Supervisor Phillips attended by Zoom. The Councilors did not have an opportunity to agree or vote on the adjournment while Meeting was in session with a quorum.

Respectfully submitted,

Kelly Reader  
Parish Town Clerk