

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

11/16/2023

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Parish Town Board held November 16, 2023 at 2938 E. Main Street, Parish, NY in the Village Gym. The meeting was called to order by Supervisor Bernys at 6:30 pm.

PRESENT:

Gary Wood, Councilor
Doug Houghton, Councilor
G. Richard Horning, Councilor
Jim Bernys, Supervisor
Kelly Reader-Petit, Town Clerk

ABSENT/EXCUSED: Robin Eaton-Novak-Councilor

ALSO PRESENT: L.J. Harvey, Fire Chief; Paul Baxter, Tug Hill Rep.; Denise Trudell, Assessor; Will Hamacher, CEO/ZEO; Bob Genant, Town Attorney; Nate Metcalf, Deputy Hwy Sup't; and Jack Rucynski.

MEETING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC:

No Comments.

MEETING CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC.

SUPERVISOR'S COMMENTS:

No comments.

COUNCILOR'S COMMENTS:

No comments.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Regular Meeting Minutes: 10/19/2023

Motion: A motion was made by Councilor Wood, seconded by Councilor Houghton to approve the Regular October Meeting Minutes held 10/19/2023 as received. Roll taken...All in favor...Motion carried. Aye-(4) Nay-(0).

Public Hearing Meeting Minutes: 10/26/2023

Motion: A motion was made by Councilor Horning, seconded by Councilor Houghton to approve the Public Hearing Meeting Minutes held 10/26/2023 as received. Roll taken...All in favor...Motion carried. Aye-(4) Nay-(0).

Special Meeting Minutes: 10/26/2023

Motion: A motion was made by Councilor Houghton, seconded by Councilor Wood to approve the Minutes of the Special Meeting held 10/26/2023 as received. Roll taken...All in favor...Motion carried. Aye-(4) Nay-(0).

DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

Assessor's Report: Assessor Trudell spoke in regards to the government changing the wording in the Senior Citizen Exemption to not deduct Taxable IRA Distributions for Low Income Seniors from their gross income.

Assessor Trudell suggested to the Board to be fair to all Seniors to adopt a Resolution to include IRA Income when calculating exemption amounts in determining low income amounts for Seniors.

CEO/ZEO Report: CEO/ZEO Hamacher read the CEO/ZEO Report.

DCO Report: DCO Cronk was excused.

Fire Chief's Report: Fire Chief Harvey gave the Fire Chief's Report for October, 2023. Fire Chief Harvey commented that they are ahead of last years calls.

Highway Report: Deputy Hwy Sup't Metcalf reported that they had plowed snow on November 1st, 2023. They are ready for the snow season. Supervisor Bernys commented that he is looking forward to working with the new hwy Sup't.

Tug Hill Report:

Tug Hill Rep. Paul Baxter gave the following report:

There is nothing new to report about the status of wildlife management area payment legislation.

There is nothing new to report on salmon restoration for the Little Salmon River.

The date and location of the 2024 Tug Hill Local Government Conference has been set. The conference will be held on Thursday, May 2, 2024 at Turning Stone Conference Center with a special afternoon session and an evening reception on Wednesday, May 1. More details to come later.

Paul attended the October 24 meeting on the future use of the former bank building and provided Zoom support to the meeting.

Paul also commented that there was a problem when posting the notice for the 2024 Preliminary Budget. The clerk had sent it, however he missed it and it didn't get posted. Paul commented that he made a mistake and it was the first time in 20 years that he did not get something posted. Paul apologized for the error. Supervisor Bernys thanked Paul for all his help and commented that things happened.

OLD BUSINESS:

Merrill Park Basketball Backboards/Rims/Councilor Houghton-reported that currently they are being stored in his barn. The Oswego County Highway Department is assisting the town by making brackets to install the backboards and rims. Once the mounting brackets are completed, Councilor Houghton will assemble them. Installing the new basketball backboards/rims may be a spring project depending on the weather.

Merrill Park Playground Equipment: Councilor Wood/Supervisor Bernys:

Installers came to install the playground equipment, however it was too wet for installation. There is still a lot of water in the area where the playground equipment will be installed. The project may have to wait until spring as there is no other option at this time.

Merrill Park Park Containers: (Bernys): Supervisor Bernys commented that for security purposes the playground equipment is being stored in a locked container. The cost of the container is \$145.00 per month. Supervisor Bernys asked how the Board would like to proceed until the playground equipment can be installed? It was the consensus of the Board to continue renting the container.

Motion: Merrill Park Park Container: A motion was made by Supervisor Bernys, seconded by Councilor Wood to continue to rent the container at \$145.00 per month until the playground equipment can be installed. Roll taken...All in favor...Motion carried. Aye-(4) Nay-(0).

Merrill Park Security Cameras (Wood/Eaton-Novak): Councilor Eaton-Novak has purchased the cameras and she is charging them. Councilor Eaton-Novak will have them next month. Currently, the electric cost for the new LED lighting at the park runs between \$80-\$100 per month.

Merrill Park Signage: (Wood): Councilor Wood stated that he had a request from a resident on posting Merrill Park stating that there is NO HUNTING OR FISHING ON MERRILL PARK PROPERTY. A resident that lives near the park has safety concerns. Discussion was held on how many signs should be posted and on the legality of the posting of the signs. It was the consensus of the Board to purchase 3 signs and confirmation will be obtained for posting legality.

OLD BUSINESS OFF THE FLOOR: None.

NEW BUSINESS:

Assessor's discussion to deduct taxable income:

RESOLUTION: A motion was made by Councilor Wood , seconded by Councilor Houghton to pass a Resolution to not deduct Taxable IRA distributions for Low Income Seniors from the gross income. Roll taken...All in favor...Motion carried. Aye-(4) Nay-(0).

Hwy Employees Requested Refund:

Motion: A motion was made by Councilor Wood, seconded by Councilor Houghton to pay \$443.82 to a Highway Employee to correct a W2 problem created by the town. Roll taken...All in favor...Motion carried. Aye-(4) Nay-(0).

Highway First Aid Cabinet:

Discussion was held regarding what items should be dispensed in the Highway First Aid Cabinet at the Highway Garage. The sales rep. has been stocking some items that have been deemed not necessary. Deputy Highway Metcalf discussed with the Board what items he felt were necessary and what items he did not feel were necessary.

Motion: A motion was made by Councilor Houghton, seconded by Councilor Horning to include Ibuprofen, antacids, Ivex, Sunx, and Bugx in the first aide cabinet at the Highway Garage. Roll taken...All in favor...Motion carried. Aye-(4) Nay-(0).

Discussion on IT/security of Town's computers/Internet:

The fee is \$550.00 per month through Advanced Business System. This could be shared with the village. More Discussion will be held at the Joint Meeting. This would provide security from hacking.

NEW BUSINESS OFF THE FLOOR:

Opportunity to purchase a 2006 Volvo Cat Grader from Milton Cat for the amount of \$68,000 with 4,000.00 hours on the machine.

Deputy Hwy Sup't Mectalf explained that the current grader that the Hwy Dept. has, is a 1969 and it is difficult to find parts. Upgrading would allow the Highway Department a piece of equipment that would help with ditching especially in Happy Valley. Madison County has the Grader and will be receiving a new one. Deputy Highway Sup't Metcalf commented that if they wait, it may not be there and he would like a letter of intent to secure it.

Motion: A motion was made by Councilor Wood, seconded by Councilor Horning to agree to provide a Letter of Intent to purchase a 2006 Volvo Grader for the amount of \$68,000 with 4,000 hours from Milton Cat. Roll taken...

Councilor Wood-Aye Councilor Horning-Aye Supervisor Bernys-Aye

Councilor Houghton-Aye Supervisor Bernys-Aye

All in favor...Motion carried. Aye-(4) Nay-(0).

SUPERVISOR'S FINANCIAL REPORT:

The October Supervisor's Report was presented to the Board for review and filed with the clerk.

BUDGET TRANSFERS:

Motion: A motion was made by Councilor Wood, seconded by Councilor Horning to approve the following transfers as presented:

FROM: DA5142.1 Snow Removal P.S.
TO: DA1910.4 Unallocated Insurance CE (Liability)
Amount-\$290.50

FROM: A1990.4 Contingency
TO: A1355.4 Assessor Contractual
Amount-\$1,000.00

Re: Non-budgeted yearly Licensing Fee

FROM: A1990.4 Contingency
TO: A5989.4 Transportation Other.
Amount-\$443.82

Re: Highway Employee Reimbursement W-2 Error

FROM: A1990.4 Contingency
TO: A1330.4 Tax Collector Contractual
Amount-\$388.14

Re: Postal Charges Overage

FROM: A1410.2 Town Clerk Equipment
TO: A1410.12 Deputy Town Clerk P.S.
Amount-\$100.00

FROM: A1410.4 Town Clerk Contractual
TO: A1410.12 Deputy Town Clerk P.S.
Amount-\$200.

Roll taken...All in favor...Motion carried. Aye-(4) Nay-(0)

APPROVAL OF BILLS:

General Fund A-Account:

Motion: A motion was made by Councilor Wood, seconded by Councilor Houghton to approve the claims to the General Fund A Account, those being claims #207-#228 for a total warrant of \$26,342.29. Roll taken...All in favor...Motion carried. Aye- (4) Nay-(0).

Highway Fund DA-Account:

Motion: A motion was made by Councilor Horning, seconded by Councilor Houghton to approve the claims to the Highway Fund DA Account, those being claims #132-#147 for a total warrant of \$42,812.96. Roll taken...All in favor...Motion carried. Aye-(4) Nay-(0).

Highway Fund DB-Account:

Motion: A motion was by Councilor Houghton, seconded by Councilor Wood to approve the claims to Highway Fund DB Account those being claims #148-#152 for a total warrant of \$18,582.92. Roll taken...All in favor...Motion carried. Aye-(4) Nay-(0).

A motion was made by Councilor Horning, seconded by Councilor Houghton to adjourn at 7:37 pm. Roll taken...All in favor...Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Kelly Reader-Petit
Parish Town Clerk