

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
12/21/2023

Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of the Parish Town Board held December 21, 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:

Doug Houghton, Councilor
Robin Eaton-Novak, Councilor
G. Richard Horning, Councilor
Jim Bernys, Supervisor
Kelly Reader-Petit, Town Clerk

ABSENT/EXCUSED: Gary Wood, Councilor

ALSO PRESENT: Paul Baxter, Tug Hill Rep. L. J. Harvey, Fire Chief; Will Hamacher, CEO/ZEO; Bob Genant, Town Attorney; George Horning, Hwy Sup't; Steve Cronk, DCO; Karen Gage, Paul Gage, Pl BrdMember; Tanya Allen, John Horning, Sue Horning, Barb Horning, Carl Dayger, Town Justice.

Resolution of Appreciation:

Supervisor Bernys presented a plaque to George Richard Horning for his service to the town and presented a Resolution of Appreciation.

Motion: A motion was made by Councilor Houghton, seconded by Councilor Eaton-Novak to pass a Resolution of Appreciation for G. Richard Horning, seconded by Councilor Eaton-Novak. Roll taken...All in favor...Motion carried. Aye-(4) Nay-(0).

Resolution of Appreciation for Honorable Carl Dayger.

Supervisor Bernys presented a plaque to Justice Carl Dayger for his years of serve to the town as Town Justice.

Motion: A motion was made by Councilor Eaton-Novak, seconded by Councilor Houghton to pass a Resolution of Appreciation for Honorable Carl Dayger...All in favor...Motion carried. Aye-(0).

MEETING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC:

No Comments.

MEETING CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC,

COUNCILOR'S COMMENTS:

Councilor Horning expressed concerns regarding people not taking care of their animals. Currently, there are no ordinances or laws that can step in to prevent neglect of the animals. The Town of Parish only has Dog Control. They do not have an animal control officer.

Councilor Horning would like to see something implemented in the Town of Parish that would hold people accountable when animals are being abused. Further discussions will be held on this issue.

SUPERVISOR'S COMMENTS:

Supervisor Bernys commented that he attended a Micron Meeting in Oswego with other local governments and Micron partners. These types of meetings will continue to take place in the future as our county prepares for the influx of workers and employees that will enter our region. There are many issues to be resolved as we continue to plan for the growth due to Micron. Supervisor Bernys wanted to thank Richard and Carl again for

their commitment to the Town. Finally, Supervisor Bernys wanted to wish all of the town's employees and Parish residents a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Motion: A motion was made by Councilor Horning, seconded by Councilor Eaton-Novak to approve the Minutes of the November 16th, 2023 Meeting as received. Roll taken...All in favor...Motion carried. Aye-(4) Nay-(0).

DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

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

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

DCO Report: DCO Cronk reported on a dog issue on Co Rte 11 and issue with a llama on Stone Hill Road.

Fire Chief's Report: Fire Chief Harvey gave the Fire Chief's Report for November 2023 calls for 454.

Highway Report: Hwy Sup't Horning was present and gave the Highway Report. There is also an upcoming class for highway superintendents and Nate has signed up for it.

Tug Hill Circuit Rider's Report:

On Wednesday, December 6th, 2023, there was a newly elected officials training session sponsored by the Tug Hill Commission, the Association of Towns of the State NY, and the Councils of Gov't in the Tug Hill region. The session is now available for viewing on the Tug Hill YouTube channel, or you can find it at this link: <https://tughill.org/services/training/>.

There is also an upcoming workshop on highway department operations, which Paul has referred to the supervisor to forward to the incumbent highway superintendent of highways. The Tug Hill Commission has met Monday, Dec 11, and established its 2024 Meeting Schedule. The commission meets nine times a year and moves its meetings through the region to make its meetings more accessible to the local officials and residents of the Tug Hill Region.

They conduct meetings within each Councilor of Governments area and rotate that location every year. The commission has scheduled the 2024 meeting in the Salmon Rivers Councilor of Governments area at its newest member, the village of Pulaski, on Monday, March 18th at 10:00 am. As we get closer to March, Paul will mention it again. These meetings are open to local officials and interested area citizens.

In response to input from the town and village attorneys, the Tug Hill Commission has prepared an updated Memo of Understanding (MOU) regarding the former Key Bank, which has subsequently been circulated with the town, the village, and historical society. There is nothing new to report on salmon restoration for the Little Salmon River. Paul has presented the bill for the annual dues for NorCOG membership for calendar year 2023. Paul wished everyone Happy holidays, and best wishes for a productive 2024 !

OLD BUSINESS:

Merrill Park Basketball Backboards/Rims: Houghton:

Councilor Houghton commented that the project will be completed in the spring.

Merrill Park Playground Equipment: Wood/Bernys:

Supervisor Bernys commented that the project will be completed in the spring. Installation was attempted, however it was delayed as it had been too wet and rainy.

Merrill Park Security Cameras: Wood/Eaton-Novak:

The cameras have been purchased and the Board needs to decide where to place them.

Merrill Park Signs (Wood/Metcalf):

Nate Metcalf ordered them. A family member has COVID so the signs have not been installed.

OLD BUSINESS OFF THE Floor: None.

NEW BUSINESS:

Fire Department Contract:

Supervisor Bernys has received the Fire Contract and he wanted the town attorney to review it and then he will sign it prior to the end of the year.

Highway Seasonal MEO's & Wing Person:

1. Seasonal MEO-Current Contract-40 hrs.

1. Seasonal Wing Person-2nd Shift-40 hrs.

As many seasonal on call wing people as needed.

Shift 3pm-11pm

Motion: A motion was made by Supervisor Bernys, seconded by Councilor Horning to allow the Highway Sup't to hire one Seasonal MEO and one Seasonal Wing person for 2nd shift from now on. Roll taken...All in favor...Motion carried. Aye-(4) Nay-(0).

Highway Purchase Cap Amount:

Motion: A motion was made by Supervisor Bernys, seconded by Councilor Houghton to increase the Highway Superintendent spending cap from \$2,000-\$4,000 to allow the Highway Sup't to spend up to \$4,000.00 without permission. Roll taken...All in favor...Motion carried. Aye-(4) Nay-(0).

Historical Society MOU:

Supervisor Bernys commented that he signed the MOU as agreed upon by the Board.

The town is working with the Historical Society to get them moved into the bank.

It was discussed that the building will provide office space for the historian and the town will pay \$2,500.00 per year. The money would be given to the village for rent..

Motion: A motion was made by Supervisor Bernys, seconded by Councilor Horning to pay the village \$2,500.00 per year for rent for office space to the Historian's office. Roll taken...All in favor...Motion carried. Aye-(4) Nay-(0).

Judicial Audit of 2023:

Motion: A motion was made by Councilor Horning, seconded by Councilor Eaton-Novak to pass a Resolution to accept Justice Dayger's Financial Records Audit for 2023 performed on December 21, 2023. Roll taken...Motion carried...All in favor. Aye-(4) Nay-(0).

Travel Meals:

Justice Korthas approached Supervisor Bernys regarding allowance for meals when traveling.

Supervisor Bernys suggested that they table the decision as a new policy needs to be created.

Motion: A motion was made by Councilor Houghton, seconded by Councilor Eaton-Novak to table the decision until a new meal policy can be created. Roll taken...All in favor...Motion carried. Aye-(4) Nay-(0).

Court Case Information:

Public Information: Mary Ann Phillips has filed a Notice of Appeal. Mary Ann Phillips has six months to get information together to present to the court for an appeal.

Hwy Negotiations:

Supervisor Bernys commented that they are currently in contract negotiations.

NEW BUSINESS OFF THE FLOOR: None.

SUPERVISOR'S REPORTS: Supervisor Bernys presented the November 2023 Supervisor's Report for the Board's review.

APPROVAL OF THE BILLS:

Transfers:

FROM: A1990.4 Contingency

TO: Tax Collector Contractual (Mileage) \$76.57

FROM: A1990.4 Contingency

TO: Assessor Additional Contractual (Additional Training) \$629.00

FROM: A1990.4 Contingency

TO: A19010.4 Unallocated Insurance Contractual (Liability)
\$719.00

FROM: DB5140.4 Brush and Weeds \$5,290.35

DB5112.4 Permanent Improvements
(Shortage after Smokey Hollow Repairs)

FROM: DA5142.4 Snow Removal Contractual \$430.24

DA9089.81 Employee Benefit Work Clothes
(Extra Employee Clothes Not Budgeted for)

Motion: A motion was by Councilor Horning, seconded Councilor Houghton to approve the transfers listed above. 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 Eaton-Novack, seconded by Councilor Horning to approve the claims to the General Fund A Account, those being claims #229-#259 for a total warrant of \$22,329.45. 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 Eaton-Novak to approve the claims to the Highway Fund DA Account, those being claims #153-#170 & #174 for a total warrant of \$23,493.39. Roll taken...All in favor...Motion carried. Aye-(4) Nay-(0).

Highway Fund DB Account:

Motion: A motion was made by Councilor Horning, seconded by Councilor Eaton-Novak to approve the claims to the Highway Fund DB Account, those being claims #171-#173 for a total warrant of \$3,349.54. Roll taken...All in favor...Motion carried.

A motion was made by Councilor Houghton, seconded by Councilor Eaton-Novak to adjourn at 7:33 pm. Roll taken...All in favor...Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Kelly Reader-Petit
Parish Town Clerk

