

REGULAR MEETING
6/20/2024

Regular Meeting Minutes of the Parish Town Board held June 20, 2024 at 2938 E. Main Street, Parish, NY in the Village Gym. Supervisor Bernys called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm.

Present:

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

Absent/Excused: Gary Wood, Councilor

Also Present: L.J. Harvey, Fire Chief; Paul Baxter, Tug Hill; Kevin Dwyer, Tax Collector; Nate Metcalf; Hwy Sup't, and Matt Johnson, Tug Hill Planning Director.

MEETING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC:

L.J. Harvey, Fire Chief wanted to bring to the Board's attention that town roads in Happy Valley are extremely rough and are in need of repair. Due to the fact the roads are rough, emergency vehicles have a hard time getting to calls. This adds to longer response times getting to calls. Discussion was held regarding needed future repairs to be completed on the roads in Happy Valley within the Town of Parish.

MEETING CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC.

SUPERVISOR COMMENTS:

Supervisor Bernys commented that since the last meeting, that he and Mayor Murphy met with Ahmed Mustafa, President and CEO of Biospherix. During the meeting they discussed many ways that we can start to help each other move in a positive direction. Supervisor Bernys believes that this meeting has started a bond between us and he looks forward to meetings like this in the future.

During the past month, the annual clean-up day occurred. It was a great success and he believes it was the most debris and electronics we have ever had. Supervisor Bernys wanted to thank those that volunteered their time for the community that day. They were councilors, Houghton and Eaton-Novak, Planning Brd Member, John Dunham, Confidential Clerk, Jack Rucynski, Hwy Sup't Metcalf, Village Mayor, Jackie Murphy, Village Clerk, Rosemary Eldred, and employee, Brian Haywood operated the loader for us.

A lot of work has been completed at Merrill Park during the last month. The new basketball backboards and hoops were installed. Thanks go out to Councilors Houghton and Wood who were assisted by Craig Petit and Greg Porter as well as the Oswego County Highway Department. This was not an easy task as each backboard had to be reworked and welded and the heavy backboards had to be raised with a lift. Also, at Merrill Park, the new playground equipment was installed. It took longer than we hoped, but the ground was extremely saturated and it made for a difficult installation. After it was installed, Craig Petit and his son Jake from J.P. Enterprises, Inc. volunteered their time and equipment and installed safety stone around the playground equipment. Supervisor Bernys hoped all of our families enjoy the new updates to Merrill Park. Supervisor Bernys, once again would like to say thank you to all who volunteered their time and energy for the betterment of Parish.

COUNCILOR'S COMMENTS:

Discussion was held regarding the stone that was placed around the playground equipment. Supervisor Bernys commented that stone was what was there in the past and they stayed with stone as there were criticism that too much money was being spent at the park. Also, drainage solutions and permits was discussed regarding the ball fields as there are issues with water not draining on the fields.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Motion: A motion was made by Councilor Eaton-Novak, seconded by Councilor Horning to approve the Minutes of the 5/16/2024 Regular Meeting as received. Roll taken...All in favor...Motion carried. Aye-(4) Nay-(0).

PRESENTATION: Updated Comprehensive Plan by Matt Johnson:

Matt Johnson provided copies of the latest Comprehensive Plan draft that covers the village and the town. Matt Johnson reviewed the adoption process. The town and village need to look it over to see if they recommend any changes, then submit it to the county for review, and finally hold a joint public hearing prior to adoption. Passing a local law is needed to amend the current one on file with each

municipality. A SEQR form can be filled out prior to adoption. Matt can assist us with that. If anyone has any questions, they can contact Matt Johnson and he can help with the steps.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

Assessor: No Report.

CEO/ZEO Report: CEO/ZEO Hamacher submitted a CEO/ZEO Report read by Supervisor Bernys.

DCO Report: Tabled.

Fire Chief's Report: Fire Chief Harvey gave the Fire Chief's Report for May 2024.

Highway/Park Report: Hwy Sup't Metcalf gave the Highway and Park Report.

The paving is complete and the 284 is complete. 4 miles of road has been completed.

There are still funds left in PAVE NY and he will be using the funds to pave small dead end roads.

The playground looks great. The signs and cameras are up. Supervisor Bernys commented that he had received a complaint regarding the grass growing up through the parking lot. Highway Sup't Metcalf commented that he would take care of it.

Tax Collector's Report: Tax Collector's Report as of 5/31/2024.

The final payment for the 2024 tax collection season was submitted to the Supervisor for a total payment of \$4,448.32.

Tug Hill Report: Paul Baxter, Tug Hill Rep. Reported that he scheduled Matt Johnson, Tug Hill Planning Director at tonight's meeting regarding the status of the revision of the town and village Comprehensive Plan and the next steps toward adoption.

No date has been set up yet for the next meeting of the Salmon Rivers Council of Government (SRCG).

The Tug Hill Commission Meeting scheduled for Monday, June 17th, in the Town of Denmark has been rescheduled to Monday, July 15th.

Paul has additional copies of the next edition of the Tug Hill Recreational Guide. As required by the state, Paul has posted a copy of the tentative 2024 assessment roll to the town website.

There is nothing new to report about the status of Wildlife Management Area payment legislation.

There is nothing new to report about Salmon restoration to the Little Salmon River.

OLD BUSINESS:

Getman Cemetery Accident:

Supervisor Bernys received a check from State Farm Insurance Company for the amount of \$4,945.00. Many times, if there is damage to stones, they are covered under the family of the deceased home owner's policy. In this case the stones are so old, it would be difficult to locate a family member. Prices were obtained from two monument companies to repair the stones. Kellogg Memorial Company submitted a price of \$1,795.00 and Supervisor Bernys commented that was the route to go for repair of these stones. The Hwy Department will repair and or replace the fence.

Merrill Park:

Playground Equipment and Stone: It has been completed.

Once again Supervisor Bernys thanked Craig Petit and Jake Petit for installing the stone, installing the pipe, and touching up the walkway area.

Shed: Councilor Houghton had suggested to purchase a shed to give out refreshments away to the kids when they play ball.

An Amish gentlemen that Councilor Houghton had been in contact with, can provide an 4x8 shed for around \$1,000.00. It was suggested to set it on blocks. Discussion was held about getting a bigger shed. Supervisor Bernys commented that there is approximately \$25,000 left in the park line.

Motion: A motion was made by Supervisor Bernys, seconded by Councilor Eaton-Novak to purchase a 6x10 Amish Shed not to exceed \$2,000.00. Roll taken...All in favor...Motion carried. Aye-(4) Nay-(0).

Request for 2 additional park benches: Supervisor Bernys suggested that they purchase 2 additional benches to match the ones that we have with the same vendor. They are \$779.00 each.

Discussion was held regarding trying to locate a local vendor at a cheaper price. The decision was tabled until the next meeting.

Other Park Updates:

A picnic area near the playground was created. Placing a picnic table at the area was suggested.

An extension of the walkway was discussed and to have it come out by the well. DEC approval is needed.

DOG LICENSE ISSUE:

Motion: A motion was made by Councilor Eaton-Novak, seconded by Councilor Houghton to advertise for a dog enumerator to conduct a door to door dog enumeration with compensation to be negotiated. Roll taken...All in favor...Motion carried. Aye-(4) Nay-(0).

OLD BUSINESS OFF THE FLOOR: None.

NEW BUSINESS:

Tug Hill Land Trust: Individual donates land in the Tug Hill Land Trust.

BIDWELL CEMETERY MOWING:

Supervisor Bernys met with the current Bidwell Cemetery Association and Venita Ackley, Cemetery Coordinator regarding Bidwell Cemetery. It was determined that the town will not be taking over the Bidwell Cemetery at this time.

However, the Bidwell Cemetery is requesting that the town help with mowing the cemetery 3 times a year.

Motion: A motion was made by Councilor Eaton-Novak, seconded by Councilor Horning to allow the Highway Department to mow the Bidwell Cemetery 3 times a year. Roll taken..All in favor...Motion carried. Aye-(4) Nay-(0).

NEW BUSINESS OF THE FLOOR: None.

SUPERVISOR'S FINANCIAL REPORT:

Supervisor Bernys presented the Supervisor's Report for May 2024.

Motion: A motion was made by Councilor Eaton-Novak, seconded by Councilor Houghton to accept the May 2024 Supervisor's Report as presented. Roll taken...All in favor...Motion carried. Aye-(4) Nay-(0).

APPROVAL OF BUDGETARY TRANSFERS:

From-B Fund Balance

To: B8160.4 Dump Day Refuse and Garbage.

Reason: Higher Costs (Higher Fees and More Debris)-\$300.00

From: A7110.2-Park Equipment and Improvements.

To: A7110.4-Park Contractual.

Reason: Averdi storage containers not enough budgeted for and more usage-\$1,000.00

Current Parks Equipment & Improvement Balance-\$25,000.00

Motion: A motion was made by Councilor Eaton-Novak, seconded by Councilor Houghton to approve the transfers listed above. Roll taken...All in favor...Motion carried. Aye-(4) Nay-(0).

APPROVAL OF BILLS:

General A Fund:

Motion: A motion was made by Councilor Eaton-Novak, seconded by Councilor Houghton to approve the claims to the General A Fund, those being claims #114-#138 for a total warrant of \$31,859.02. Roll taken...All in favor...Motion carried. Aye-(4) Nay-(0).

General B Fund:

Motion: A motion was made by Councilor Houghton, seconded by Councilor Horning to approve the claims to the General B Fund, those being claims #01-#03 for a total warrant of \$1,244.03. Roll taken...All in favor...Motion carried. Aye-(4) Nay-(0).

Highway DA Fund:

Motion: A motion was made by Councilor Horning, seconded by Councilor Eaton-Novak to approve the claims to the Highway DA Fund, those being claims #68-#79 for a total warrant of \$16,608.11. Roll taken...All in favor...Motion carried. Aye-(4) Nay-(0).

Highway DB Fund:

Motion: A motion was made by Councilor Eaton-Novak, seconded by Councilor Houghton to approve the claims to the Highway DB Fund, those being claims #5-#12 for a total warrant of \$161,590.01. Roll taken...All in favor...Motion carried. Aye-(4) Nay-(0).

Old Home Day: Councilor Eaton-Novak gave a report and commented that the event is coming along nicely.

Adjourn:

Motion: A motion was made by Councilor Houghton, seconded by Councilor Houghton to adjourn at 7:50 pm. Roll taken...All inf favor...Motion carried. Aye-(4) Nay-(0).

Respectfully submitted,

Kelly Reader-Petit
Parish Town Clerk