

TOWN BOARD MEETING – 8/9/2016

On a motion by Martin Fitzgerald and a second by Mike Cherubini, the meeting was opened at 5:55 pm to audit the bills.

Supervisor Edna Frasier and Board Members Marty Fitzgerald, Ginger Kuenzel, Michael Cherubini and Steve Ramant were all present.

After the Pledge of Allegiance, a moment of silence was held for Doris Disbrow, Sally Marshall, Bill Van Alstyne, Ethel Fitzgerald Baillargeon and Faye Thibeault.

Supervisor Frasier read a letter from the Warren County Board of Supervisors, signed by Board Chairman Kevin Geraghty, expressing gratitude to former Town Councilman Rudy Meola for his 20 plus years of serving on the Warren County Youth Bureau. He praised his hard work and dedication. Councilman Ramant then read a letter from Congressman Elise Stefanik who also expressed gratitude for Meola's service citing all that he had done including military service, a career in education, and his civic engagement.

Welcome Guests/Privilege of the floor:

Barbara Smith asked Supervisor Frasier who enforces an ordinance in the Town (ZEO Cathy Clark), the name of the Town Attorney (Dominick Viscardi) and who checks blueprints to see if they are being followed during building (the ZEO).

Regular Committee Reports:

Assessor & Justice (Cherubini/Kuenzel) – Everything is ok.

Buildings & Grounds/Community Center/Enhancement (Fitzgerald/Frasier) - Supervisor Frasier noted that All Pro was called to check an odor near the community center and found a dead fisher.

Finance & Insurance (Ramant/Cherubini) – Everything is all set

Highway (Fitzgerald/Ramant) – Highway Superintendent Don Smith noted that they have been working on the dirt roads. They are also working with Warren County Soil and Water Conservation District (WCSWCD) on the problem on the Sabbath Day Point Road across from Mitten Rock cottage where the road is settling into the Lake. They are worried that a truck or other vehicle could go into Lake. Engineers have looked at it and Jim Lieberum from WCSWCD is researching possible grants available. In any case in order to apply for grants the Town will need to have an official engineer report.

Museum & Historian (Kuenzel/Ramant) – The Historical Society will host Steve Englehardt of AARCh on August 23rd at 7 pm for a presentation on the Great Camps.

Personnel (Cherubini/Kuenzel) – No report.

Planning/Zoning/Stormwater (Fitzgerald/Ramant) – No report.

Recreation & Promotion & Youth (Ramant/Cherubini) – Councilman Ramant reported that he and Supervisor Frasier met with the owner of the HITS Triathlon and conferred with local tourist

businesses about promotion of the area. HITS has announced they will be back in Hague on June 24-25, 2017. The Hague Open Water Swim will take place on August 27th. He thanked the LGA for the Floating Classroom that was here. Cycle Adirondacks will be here on August - 21st. They need to have people at the water station at the beach. Councilman Cherubini noted his family will do it if no others want to.

Sewer Districts #1 & # 2 (Frasier/Kuenzel) – There was been a break in the main on Dodd Hill which was attended to. There had been a similar problem previously which was related to crushed rock not properly laid under the pipes. Supervisor Frasier noted it was too late to hold the contractor accountable.

Town Park & Beautification (Kuenzel/Ramant/Cherubini) – Councilwoman Kuenzel reported that it was the last day for the head lifeguard, who “was great.” To fill in she has been able to get someone from Brant Lake, Terrie Davies from Hague and someone from Ti. Although they may be short-handed at times, having one lifeguard is legal. The DOH gave a clean bill of health in the latest inspection.

The Oktoberfest Committee has made a request to have a firepit for the Friday night (September 16, 2016) event as an added attraction. It would be a metal container and people could stand around it to talk. Councilman Fitzgerald requested that the insurance be checked as well as the distance to the hay bales.

Councilwoman Kuenzel reported that there is an ongoing problem with bees in the sand-box. They also had to replace the well pump at the park because of the low water pressure.

Councilman Kuenzel also brought to the Board’s attention a problem with the HVFD Fireboat, which has been parked further back than it should be, encroaching on the public parking area. She requested that it be moved forward so that it is in the designated area and if more space is needed, then the area should be marked as “NO DOCKING” rather than 2-HR DOCKING.

Councilman Cherubini noted that the Fire Department wanted to put in a pipe for a dry hydrant, which would not impact the launch area.

Unfinished Business

1. Community forum. Supervisor Frasier reported that the agenda for the August 18th town forum with the LA Group has been put in each Board member’s mailbox.

2. Solar Project. Supervisor Frasier reported that she had received a letter from Mike Dowd, formerly of Solar Project Solutions. He has left the company and

George Badcock will be the point of contact. She stated that the Town Attorney can write a letter to get the Town out of the contract. All Board members concurred that they should begin the process to get out of it.

New Business

1. Amend Highway Budget. A motion was made by Councilman Ramant and seconded by Councilman Cherubini to pass a resolution to amend the 2016 Highway Fund Budget. AYES: Frasier, Fitzgerald, Kuenzel, Cherubini and Ramant . NAYS: none. Motion passed.

This money will be used for projects on Battle Hill Road, Pudding Island Road, Silver Bay Road and at the highway garage in conjunction with WCSWCD. It will be repaid from funding WCSWCD had received from NYS DEC Lake Champlain Basin Storm Water Improvement Grant.

2. Authorize Supervisor to Sign Intermunicipal Agreement. A motion was made by Councilman Fitzgerald and seconded by Councilman Ramant to authorize the Supervisor to execute an Agreement on behalf of the Town with the County of Warren for the use of a vacuum excavator. AYES: Frasier, Fitzgerald, Kuenzel, Cherubini and Ramant . NAYS: none. Motion passed.

This motion was passed so that if the Town needed to use this piece of County equipment in the future, the agreement would be in place.

3. Authorization to extend cable. A motion was made by Councilman Ramant and seconded by Councilman Cherubini to approve cable extensions and to authorize change to franchise fee payments. AYES: Frasier, Fitzgerald, Kuenzel, Cherubini and Ramant . NAYS: none. Motion passed.

This motion thanked Councilman Ramant for his diligence in obtaining necessary cable line extensions. The Town has a credit of \$84,000 in franchise fees to pay for the extensions which will cost about \$60,000. The service will be extended to areas on Decker Hill Road, Battle Hill Road, Fitzgerald Road and Dodd Hill Road.

Councilman Ramant reported on the invasive species Japanese Knotweed. He said that it has been a serious problem in the Town of Bolton and they have been trying to combat it. They had a group working around the Town but the DEC informed them that it must be done by registered, trained personnel. Ramant had someone from Bolton come to Hague to look at the problem around here where there is a "pretty substantial amount present." He noted most of it comes out of the Hague Brook especially along West Hague Road.

Councilman Ramant said he wanted to bring the problem to the Board's attention. (He related that the problem is so bad in England that people who want to buy properties with knotweed are unable to get mortgages.) Much of the problem is along the roadsides but some is on private property so if the Town hired someone to take care of it, they would need property owners permission. It is a labor intensive process as each stem has to be sprayed.

Adjournment

A motion was for adjournment by Supervisor Frasier and seconded by Councilman Ramant. Motion carried 5 - 0.