

These are the Town Board Meeting Minutes held on August 3, 2022 at the Blenheim Town Hall.

Meeting commenced at 6:30 pm with the salute to the flag.

Present: Supervisor Don Airey Councilwoman Renee Grabowski
Councilman Chester Keyser Councilwoman Anne Mattice-Strauch
Highway Superintendent Dave Mattice

Absent: Councilman Joseph Ward

Motion made to approve July 6, 2022 board meeting minutes by Councilman Keyser; 2nd by Councilwoman Grabowski; so moved

Supervisor's Report - Supervisor Airey

- Letter received from resident regarding the current status of losing senior exemption with an income of more than \$10,000. It is too low and is requesting that Town consider raising it so that seniors can continue to receive. Supervisor Airey to research and speak with County.
- Met with Chris Tague and Ted Warner regarding documents on the Gilboa-Blenheim Pump Storage being expanded to Breakabeen and in which Mr. Warner had presented to the BOS. Regulation Operations Manager has confirmed that this is NOT true. The information that Mr. Warner has is from a 1970 report. Supervisor Airey did suggest that Mr. Warner contact Dam Concerned Citizens and be ready to advocate against it, if/when the time comes.
- Flood Committee/Gilboa Dam Update- met with DEP in July and will meet again in September to continue the cooperative efforts with NYPA/DEP
- FEMA/Dept of Homeland Security – Cole Hollow Appeal project; received a letter requesting that the town return \$79,000. Supervisor Airey and Steve Dyer had submitted an appeal, and will continue to pursue.
- NYS Div of Finance and Taxation Lawsuit- to be heard at end of September
- Richardson Property – no update
- Short Term Rental Law – Board has received a copy of a law in Jefferson. Purpose is to make sure Air BnB's follow safety protocols, pay occupancy taxes, apply for building permits (for easier tracking), etc. More research to be done before moving forward – discussion tabled until September meeting
- NYPA EV Charging- conference call with EV Dept on 8/4. There are (2) stations at Morabito in Richmondville, (2) stations at NYPA warehouse sight and (3-4) stations at Visitor's Center
- Kyle's contract has been renewed until 12/31/2023
- Budget Workshop- scheduled for 8/31 at 4pm. Town Clerk to contact bookkeeper for reports and to advertise for (2) weeks in local paper
- Tire Day – no update
- Sub-Division Law – discussion needs to continue especially for setting standards
- ARPA Funds- it has been suggested that the town uses the funds to install air conditioning
- Supervisor Airey has received propane quotes from Grantier's and Sunrise. He will follow-up with both companies
- Thank you, Dave and the Highway crew for all the work you did to repair Burnt Hill after National Grid placed power poles! Superintendent Mattice also stated that he and his crew will do the shoulder work as well.
- Verizon – residents continue to have issues on West Kill Road. Supervisor Airey has contacted them and a permit application has been submitted for underground placement at the County.
- Supervisor Airey also stated that he has been asked to be lead for the Streambank Project

Highway Report - Superintendent Mattice

- 2019 truck is at Tracey Road Equipment for repair due to a computer issue. A&M towed it to Railroad Ave in Albany
- Paving- Peckham is scheduled for 8/11/22, should be done in a day
- Parking Lot Sealing- quotes have been received for Hitchcock Building and BMC (please note there was no notice put in the local paper for soliciting quotes therefore must refer to the Town's Procurement Policy and considered it a Public Works Project)
 - Laraway's \$14,200
 - Brand's \$13,391.67

Motion made to accept Brand's Paving quote by Councilman Keyser; 2nd by Councilwoman Mattice-Strauch; Supervisor Airey recused himself; all others agreed; motion carried.

- Flag has been fixed at the Bridge site (Thank you, Dave for doing that!)

Code Enforcement Officer Report – Brian Caron

- Report has been received and can be viewed during normal Town Clerk business hours

Assessor's Report - Robert Mann, Sr.

- Nothing to report

Judge's Report – Ralph Arrandale

- Nothing to report

Blenheim Long Term Recovery Committee - Gail Shaffer

- Nothing to report

Other:

- Gail Shaffer thanked the Highway Department again for their work on Burnt Hill
- Gail Shaffer stated that the Hitchcock painting is now with Rebecca Littlejohn and will continue the efforts to have it hung in the Post Office.
- Standard Workday Resolution needs to be completed again this year – Town Clerk's responsibility
- CHIPS – first payment submission will be done by next week

Correspondence (not read at meeting but available during Town Clerk's business hours):

- Schoharie County Historical Review – Spring/Summer 2022
- Sunrise Heating Fuels – quotes for 2021-2022 heating season
- Letter from NYS Division of Budget informing the town that the second ARPA funds will be sent (\$18,820.45)
- Assoc of Towns letter informing that town's membership will cost \$500.00; invoice to be sent
- The Gathering Place newsletter
- Schoharie County Conservation Assoc newsletter
- CDPHP group information packet
- Solicitation letter from Iroquois Museum
- Schoharie County 4-H newsletter

Motion made to pay bills \$ 4,663.83 General; \$9,950.37 Highway by Councilman Keyser; 2nd by Councilwoman Mattice-Strauch; so moved

8:00 pm Motion to adjourn made by Councilwoman Mattice-Strauch; 2nd by Councilman Keyser; so moved

Minutes respectfully submitted by Robin Alley, Town Clerk



*Do Anny - Town Supervisor
Renee Stravotto, Town Councilwoman
Chet Keyser*