

These are the Town Board Meeting Minutes held on January 5, 2022 at the Blenheim Town Hall.

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

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

Motion made to approve December 1st and December 28th board meeting minutes by Councilman Keyser; 2nd by Councilwoman Grabowski; so moved

Supervisor's Report – Supervisor Airey

- Account Fund Balance- Thank you Board for the help in putting the town in a better financial status
- General County Update- discussions during executive session at the BOS to pursue legally the unfair taxation by the state regarding renewables
- FEMA Update – Town has received a decision from FEMA regarding the \$127,000 appeal and they have made the determination of \$97,000. The town can decide to appeal this decision within 60 days. Board decided to accept determination.

Motion made to accept FEMA's determination of \$97,000 by Councilwoman Mattice-Strauch; 2nd by Councilwoman Grabowski; so moved. Letter will be sent to Senator Delgado thanking him for his support.

- Kyle's Waste Management – First day on site did a really great job!!! Since receiving Kyle's bid however, tipping fees have increased. Board may want to support the difference. Discussion regarding Kyle's maintaining the dumpster at the Blenheim Municipal Complex too. Supervisor Airey to contact them to discuss.
- Flood Committee/Gilboa Dam –Supervisor Airey has been asked by Flood Committee to write County Resolution addressing Gilboa Reservoir / Dam safety and flood mitigation. Resolution to be presented at next Flood Committee meeting.
- Municipal Building Complex – lettering for the buildings has been ordered and should receive within the month
- North Road/Creamery Bridge Road – no update to report
- Town Printer – town is in need of a new printer/scanner. Board approved purchase.
- County Mask Resolution – BOS decision was to NOT enforce the mask mandate. Lengthy discussion regarding the mandate.
- Town Website Update- a decision needs to be made if the town wants their own website, or use the County as we have done in the past. Councilwoman Grabowski to discuss with outside vendors the cost of operating and maintaining our own before decision can be made.
- Schoolhouse Furnace Update – Lengthy discussion regarding the cost of a new furnace for a space that is not used very often. Letter in support of a new furnace has been received by Town Historian specifically the importance of the historical documents that are maintained/stored at that location. Board decided to table for next month, so that all information can be reviewed.

Highway Report – Superintendent Mattice:

- There has been "nuisance" snow, but nothing too significant
- Having issues finding parts that are in stock, including tires (which are on back order!)

Code Enforcement Officer Report – Brian Caron

December report has been received and can be viewed during Town Clerk's business hours

Judge's Report – Ralph Arrandale

- After hours arraignment begins in February. Judge Arrandale has signed up. Supervisor Airey asked who is paying compensation for judges. Judge Arrandale is not clear how that will work. Supervisor Airey suggested that this may be a topic of discussion for the Board of Supervisors.

Oaths of Office for 2022 ceremony conducted by Judge Ralph Arrandale

Resolutions: (complete Resolutions are included in the permanent minutes record book)

- Motion made to adopt **Resolution #1**, Appointment of Highway Superintendent as Dave Mattice by Supervisor Airey; 2nd by Councilwoman Mattice-Strauch; so moved
- Motion made to adopt **Resolution #2**, Designating the Town Assessor as Robert Mann Sr by Supervisor Airey; 2nd by Councilwoman Mattice-Strauch; so moved
- Motion made to adopt **Resolution #3**, Designating the Building Inspector/Code Enforcement Officer as Brian Caron ~~3/31/20~~ by Supervisor Airey; 2nd by Councilwoman Mattice-Strauch; so moved
- Motion made to adopt **Resolution #5**, Designating the Town Historian as Elizabeth Arrandale by Supervisor Airey; 2nd by Councilwoman Mattice-Strauch; so moved
- Motion made to adopt **Resolution #6**, Designating the Tax Collector as Robin Alley by Supervisor Airey; 2nd by Councilwoman Mattice-Strauch; so moved
- Motion made to adopt **Resolution #7**, Designating the Registrar of Vital Statistics as Robin Alley by Supervisor Airey; 2nd by Councilwoman Mattice-Strauch; so moved

- Motion made to adopt **Resolution #7-A**, Designating the Deputy Registrar of Vital Statistics and Deputy Tax Collector as Renee Grabowski by Supervisor Airey; 2nd by Councilwoman Mattice-Strauch; Councilwoman Grabowski recused from vote; so moved
- Motion made to adopt **Resolution #8**, Designating the Town Dog control Officer as Joseph DeMa by Supervisor Airey; 2nd by Councilwoman Mattice-Strauch; so moved
- Motion made to adopt **Resolution #9**, Code of Ethics by Councilwoman Mattice-Strauch; 2nd by Councilwoman Grabowski; so moved
- Motion made to adopt **Resolution #10**, Designating the Town Attorney as Michael West by Supervisor Airey; 2nd by Councilman Keyser; so moved
- Motion made to adopt **Resolution #11**, Designating the Town Insurance Agent as Rose & Kiernan, Inc. by Supervisor Airey; 2nd by Councilman Keyser; so moved
- Motion made to adopt **Resolution #15**, Designating the Town Banks as NBT and Bank of Richmondville by Supervisor Airey; 2nd by Councilman Keyser; Supervisor Airey recused from vote; so moved
- Motion made to adopt **Resolution #16**, Investment Policy by Supervisor Airey; 2nd by Councilman Keyser; so moved
- Motion made to adopt **Resolution #17**, Refund of Taxes by Town Clerk/Tax Collector by Supervisor Airey; 2nd by Councilman Keyser; so moved
- Motion made to adopt **Resolution #18**, Designating the Mileage Reimbursement Rate by Supervisor Airey; 2nd by Councilman Keyser; so moved
- Motion made to adopt **Resolution #19**, Designating the Officials Newspapers as Times Journal by Supervisor Airey; 2nd by Councilwoman Grabowski; so moved

A decision was made to table the following resolutions for further discussion:

- **Resolution #4**, Designating the Town Deputy Supervisor

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

- Check has been received by County for \$3500.00. This check finalizes the Blenheim Municipal Complex project!!!
- Catskill Tri-County Historical Views – Fall 2021
- Notice from NYS Department of State that Local 1-2021 has been filed on December 13, 2021
- Letter from Times Journal requesting that they be our town's official newspaper
- Email from Treasury.gov regarding Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds – NEU Portal Open. Town Clerk to submit any information that is requested
- Schoharie County Historical Review – Fall/Winter 2021
- The Gathering Place monthly newsletters – December and January
- CDPHP benefits report
- Schoharie County Conservation Association monthly newsletter
- Letter requesting support from Schoharie County Historical Society
- Letter from Laberge Group offering grant services for 2022
- Community Loan Fund of the Capital Region calendar and grant information

Other:

- Discussion of short-term rentals and how they affect our tax base. Supervisor Airey to get more information
- Thank you to Al and Joyce Hodder for placing Christmas wreaths at the town's memorial and at the bridge

Motion made to pay bills \$10,277.56 General; \$5,047.24 Highway by Councilwoman Mattice-Strauch; 2nd by Councilman Keyser; so moved.

7:50 pm Motion made to adjourn by Councilman Keyser; 2nd by Councilwoman Mattice-Strauch; so moved

Minutes respectively submitted by Robin Alley, Town Clerk

Renee Grabowski, Town Councilwoman
Out Key
Anne Mattice