

These are the Town Board Meeting Minutes held on November 2, 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

Motion made to approve October 5th, 2022 board meeting minutes by Councilman Keyser; 2nd by Councilwoman Grabowski; so moved

Motion made to open the hearing of the 2023 Town Budget by Councilwoman Grabowski; 2nd by Councilman Keyser; so moved

Supervisor's Report - Supervisor Airey

- Streambank Project – County has received “draft” DEC permits- because it is in draft form, nothing can be done. Please note that this streambank project is the single most threat/cost for Schoharie County
- Flood Committee/Gilboa Dam Update-
 - Town Supervisors to attend tour on 11/30/22 along with DEP Commissioner
- NYPA County Funding (\$200,000 total) Report – Approximately 27 applications have been received to date for grants. All will be reviewed to determine grant amounts – up to \$50,000; decision to be made by 11/29/22
- Operation Greenlight Resolution – in support of green lights honoring veterans, for porches, etc
- NYS Div of Finance and Taxation Lawsuit – still pending
- ARPA Funds- still trying to determine the best use of these funds, town has until 2024 to spend
- Short Term Rental Law – lengthy discussion is how to proceed
- Insurance – Town has received the NYMIR renewal application. There is an 8% increase

Motion to approve renewal of NYMIR insurance by Councilman Keyser; 2nd by Councilwoman Mattice-Strauch; so moved

- Building Permits – Supervisor Airey reviewed the current building permit application and has added a penalty section for failure to apply for permit for board's review. He will also contact Mike West, Town Attorney, to ensure that this can be done by Resolution and not make it a Law.

Motion to adopt Building Permit Addendum as written by Councilwoman Mattice-Strauch; 2nd by Councilwoman Grabowski; so moved

- Carolee Russell has been appointed to fill the recently vacated board member position.

Motion made to approve appointment by Councilwoman Grabowski; 2nd by Councilwoman Mattice-Strauch; so moved
Carolee Russell has been sworn in by Judge Arrandale

Highway Report - Superintendent Mattice

- Shoulders are complete with assistance from Town of Gilboa
- Brush hog work has been completed
- Drawing in stone under CHIPS program
- Excavator work done on Welch and Cornell
- Trucks are being serviced and suited up for the winter weather
- Roads are being reviewed to determine CHIPS work next year
- Superintendent Mattice would like to order a new truck like the 2019. It takes about 18 months to 2 years to and will start putting together cost
- Next year to again rent a brush hog/ditching equipment since it worked out well doing that this year
- Diesel fuel bid specifications to be written and distributed to local suppliers

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

Carolee C. Russell
Don Airey
Joan Espinosa
Anne Mattice Sr.
Renee Grabowski
Sworn Councilwoman

Other:

- Hitchcock Building:
 - Still waiting for a quote to clean the outside of the building
 - A new well will probably need to be drilled
- CHIPS reimbursement forms to be submitted by Highway Superintendent and Town Clerk- due by 11/22/22

Motion made to close public hearing on the 2023 Town Budget by Councilwoman Mattice-Strauch; 2nd by Councilman Keyser; so moved

Motion made to adopt 2023 Town of Blenheim Budget by Councilwoman Mattice-Strauch; 2nd by Councilman Keyser; so moved

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

- Letter from the State Comptroller requesting updates for justice appointments and contact information
- Assoc of Towns 2023 Training School and Annual Meeting – NYC
- Solicitation letter from Bank of Greene County
- Post-Storm Response and Recovery Permits Training for Schoharie County announcement
- Invitation for Veterans Day Assembly at Gilboa-Conesville School
- Letter from Schoharie County Treasurer notifying the town of any assessment corrections/adjustments
- The Gathering Place Newsletter
- Schoharie County Conservation Association Newsletter

Motion made to pay bills \$ 8,335.62 General; \$15,372.20 Highway by Councilman Keyser; 2nd by Councilwoman Russell; so moved

7:30 pm Motion to adjourn made by Councilman Keyser; 2nd by Councilwoman Russell; so moved

Minutes respectfully submitted by Robin Alley, Town Clerk