

These are the Town Board Meeting Minutes held on December 6, 2023 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 Carolee Russell
Councilwoman Anne Mattice-Strauch Highway Superintendent, David Mattice

Motion made to approve November 1, 2023 board meeting minutes by Councilman Keyser; 2nd by Councilwoman Russell; so moved

Supervisor's Report - Supervisor Airey

- Congratulations to the newly elected officials:
 - Diane Ericson, Town Clerk/Tax Collector
 - Carolee Russel, Town Council
 - Chet Keyser, Town Council
 - Don Airey, Town Supervisor
- Short-Term Rental Law- Public hearing will remain open
- Town Refuse Collection Issues – reported tonnage is down since new signs have been posted reminding everyone for “Blenheim Tax Payers Only”. Guidelines will be established limiting the number of bags per household and may use new permits
- Digital speed signs- signs will be place on Route 30 at both ends of town. Specifications have been received, reviewed and permit has been submitted to DOT for approval of installation. Cost is approximately \$6K to \$7K
- Homeless Shelter Committee- project will be further developed later this month. Unoccupied county jail building would be demolished and flood plain mitigation/compliance would take place. State funded facility would be used as shelter for homeless and low-income families and other support services.
- Dog Control Law – public hearing to be scheduled for January
- MEVAC – contract is signed
- Landbank Projects- no update
- Hitchcock Building – LED lighting has been installed throughout the whole building
- Association of Town Training – training to be held in Albany, January 17 – 19. Diane Ericson and Renee Grabowski would like to attend.

Motion made to attend scheduled training in Albany, reimbursement of hotel stay and gas, for Diane Ericson and Renee Grabowski made by Councilwoman Russell; 2nd by Councilman Keyser; so moved

- Lewis-Greer Attorneys- Firm was retained for assistance in the writing of our dog control law and has also been retained by the County for the NYS DTF issue. We have been informed that they have joined with Whiteman, Osterman & Hanna, LLP. Supervisor Airey is requesting approval to transfer our current contract with Lewis-Greer to Whiteman, Osterman & Hanna LLP.

Motion made to approve transfer of contract to Whiteman, Osterman & Hanna by Councilman Keyser; 2nd by Councilwoman Russell; so moved

Highway Report – Dave Mattice

- Equipment is ready and running great. Very thankful for our building for the guys to do repairs in!!!

Code Enforcement Officer Report – Brian Caron

- No report received

Judge's Report – Ralph Arrandale

- Thank you for the great work on dog laws!
- Already a busy deer season

Dog Control Officer – Joe Durma

- Report submitted and can be reviewed during Town Clerk normal business hours
- Mr. Durma stated that he feels like some things have been accomplished

BLTCRC Report – Gail Shaffer

- BCC is closed for the season
- No meeting has been scheduled

Assessor's Report – Robert Mann

- Supervisor Airey presented Resolution #25 “In Honor and Recognition of Robert Mann for over 50 Years of Dedicated Service to The Town of Blenheim and the County of Schoharie, NY” (standing ovation)

Other:

- Presentation to Robin Alley, retiring Town Clerk
- Congratulations to all the Blenheim students at Gilboa-Conesville making honor roll!!

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

- Schoharie County Conservation Association
- Solicitation letter from Schoharie County Historical Society
- Schoharie County Resolution No. 101 – Apportionment of Sales Tax Revenue Sharing
- Grant information letter from Laberge Group
- Assoc of US Postal Lessors annual conference information
- The Gathering Place newsletter

Motion made to pay bills \$27,458.77 General; \$23,381.54 Highway by Councilwoman Russell; 2nd by Councilman Keyser; so moved

7:05 pm Motion to adjourn made by Councilman Keyser; 2nd by Councilwoman Russell; so moved

ALL INVITED TO CELEBRATE MR. MANN!!!!

Minutes respectfully submitted by Robin Alley, Town Clerk