

These are the Town Board Meeting Minutes held on January 4, 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 Dave Mattice

**Motion made to approve December 7<sup>th</sup> and December 29<sup>th</sup>, 2022 board meeting minutes by Councilman Keyser; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilwoman Mattice-Strauch; so moved**

Supervisor Airey announced that the public hearing was still open for the Building Permit Fine. Previous suggested fine of \$250 if no permit obtained and project work is in progress. Fine must be paid before any permit for the project will be issued. A lengthy discussion regarding the fine continued with a final board decision.

**Motion made to close the public hearing of the Building Permit Fine by Councilman Keyser; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilwoman Mattice-Strauch; so moved**

**Motion made to accept a permit fine charge of \$500.00 for non-compliance of obtaining a building permit by Councilwoman Mattice-Strauch; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilwoman Grabowski; so moved**

**Supervisor's Report - Supervisor Airey**

- General County Update – At the BOS organizational meeting, on 1/3/23, it was determined that the Schoharie County Health Dept Director would not be re-appointed, based on personnel issues
- MEVAC – contract renewal for 2023 in the amount of \$5,936.70 was signed and paid. Supervisor Airey also noted that MEVAC was awarded a \$10,000 grant from NYPA
- Flood Committee/Gilboa Dam Update-
  - High-water event- DEP was “on top of it” with the syphons opening on Monday in anticipation of Thursday’s heavy rain
- Miller Road- no update
- Short Term Rental Law- discussion including the possibility of keeping the public hearing open for a few months for further comments.

**Motion made to open public hearing for Short Term Rental Law by Councilwoman Mattice-Strauch; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilman Keyser; so moved**

- NYS Div of Finance and Taxation Lawsuit (Commercial wind/solar projects) – Judge ruled for the temporary restraining order to stay in effect while dismissing motions filed by the NYS AG’s Office. However, the Attorney for the AG Office has since left office which effects the Judge’s order to produce a Certified Copy of the Record. It was agreed, by all parties involved, to allow for a 30-day extension.
- The BLTCRC had applied for a TAG grant which would enable an engineer study to be conducted on the BCC building- grant application was denied
- **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; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilwoman Mattice-Strauch; so moved
- Motion made to adopt **Resolution #2**, Designating the Town Assessor as Robert Mann Sr, for 6 months by Supervisor Airey; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilwoman Mattice-Strauch; so moved
- Motion made to adopt **Resolution #3**, Designating the Building Inspector/Code Enforcement Officer as Brian Caron by Supervisor Airey; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilwoman Mattice-Strauch; so moved
- Motion made to adopt **Resolution #4**, Designating the Town Deputy Supervisor as Anne Mattice-Strauch by Supervisor Airey; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilman Keyser; Councilwoman Mattice-Strauch recused from vote; so moved
- Motion made to adopt **Resolution #5**, Designating the Town Historian as Elizabeth Arrandale by Supervisor Airey; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Council Keyser; so moved
- Motion made to adopt **Resolution #6**, Designating the Tax Collector as Robin Alley by Supervisor Airey; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilman Keyser; so moved
- Motion made to adopt **Resolution #7**, Designating the Registrar of Vital Statistics as Robin Alley by Supervisor Airey; 2<sup>nd</sup> 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; 2<sup>nd</sup> 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 Durma by Supervisor Airey; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilwoman Mattice-Strauch; so moved
- Motion made to adopt **Resolution #9**, Code of Ethics by Supervisor Airey; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilwoman Grabowski; so moved
- Motion made to adopt **Resolution #10**, Designating the Town Attorney as Michael West by Supervisor Airey; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilman Keyser; so moved
- Motion made to adopt **Resolution #11**, Designating the Town Insurance Agent as Rose & Kiernan, Inc. by Supervisor Airey; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilman Keyser; so moved
- Motion made to adopt **Resolution #12**, Paid Holiday Policy by Supervisor Airey; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilman Keyser; so moved
- Motion made to adopt **Resolution #13**, Procurement Policy by Supervisor Airey; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilwoman Mattice-Strauch; so moved
- Motion made to adopt **Resolution #14**, Building Permit Fee Schedule by Supervisor Airey; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilman Keyser; so moved
- Motion made to adopt **Resolution #15**, Designating the Town Banks as NBT and Bank of Richmondville by Supervisor Airey; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilman Keyser; so moved
- Motion made to adopt **Resolution #16**, Investment Policy by Supervisor Airey; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilman Keyser; so moved
- Motion made to adopt **Resolution #17**, Refund of Taxes by Town Clerk/Tax Collector by Supervisor Airey; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilman Keyser; so moved
- Motion made to adopt **Resolution #18**, Designating the Mileage Reimbursement Rate by Supervisor Airey; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilman Keyser; so moved
- Motion made to adopt **Resolution #19**, Designating the Officials Newspapers as Times Journal by Supervisor Airey; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilwoman Grabowski; so moved
- Motion made to adopt **Resolution #20**, Employee Health Insurance Cost Allocation by Supervisor Airey; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilwoman Grabowski; so moved

Oath of Office accepted by Judge Ralph Arrandale; administered by Town Clerk, Robin Alley. Oath will be sent to County and 3<sup>rd</sup> Judicial District for filing.

#### **Highway Report - Superintendent Mattice**

- Continue maintenance of vehicles
- Need to purchase Steer Axle Tires for the '09; will be looking for state bid pricing
- Andrew Graves celebrated 6 years with the Town of Blenheim, today!!!!
- Superintendent Mattice to meet with County (Ben Cooper) to discuss specifications for new 10-wheeler truck (both standard and automatic). Supervisor Airey requested that he be kept up to date with the discussion.
- Reviewing rental prices for brush tractor for spring work. So far, Stephentown Equipment has the best pricing.
- Superintendent Mattice stated that he is very happy with the quality of fuel that is being delivered by Mirabito.

#### **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**

Nothing to report.

#### **Assessor's Report – Robert Mann Sr.**

Starting to input the information needed for those to receive exemptions; deadline is 3/31

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

- Association of Towns packet for Training Sessions to be held 2/19-2/22/23 at NY Marriott Marquis
- Schoharie County Historical Review
- The Gathering Place newsletter and solicitation letter
- CDPHP Report
- Times Journal solicitation letter
- Schoharie County Conservation Association newsletter

**Motion made to pay bills \$16,142.46 General; \$4,507.14 Highway by Councilman Keyser; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilwoman Russell; so moved**

**7:40 pm            Motion to adjourn made by Councilman Keyser; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilwoman Mattice-Strauch; so moved**

**Minutes respectfully submitted by Robin Alley, Town Clerk**

*Chet Keyser  
Carol Shatouski; Councilwoman  
Carolee Russell*