

These are the Town Board Meeting Minutes held on June 7, 2023 at the Blenheim Town Hall.

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

**Present:** Supervisor Don Airey  
Councilman Chester Keyser  
Highway Superintendent Dave Mattice

Councilwoman Renee Grabowski  
Councilwoman Carolee Russell

**Excused:** Councilwoman Anne Mattice-Strauch

**Motion made to approve May 3, 2023 board meeting minutes by Councilman Keyser; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilwoman Russell; so moved**

Supervisor Airey announced that the public hearing on the Short-Term Rental Law will remain open and future comments can be sent to Town Clerk's email (blenheimclerk@midtel.net)

**Supervisor's Report - Supervisor Airey**

- NYCDEP- Representatives will be giving a presentation at the June BOS meeting (both the Commissioner and the Deputy Commissioner have been invited).
- Miller Road- Town is in receipt of the request to abandon the lower portion of Miller Road. Certificate for the process has been drafted by Supervisor Airey; both letter and certificate will be sent to Town Attorney, Mike West, for review and confirmation if a Public Hearing may be needed
- GOSR – close out letter has finally been received for the Blenheim Municipal Building(s)
- County Animal Control Law- Joe Durma spoke regarding the most recent dog incident and has submitted a report. Supervisor Airey stated that there will be an Animal Control Law written and reviewed by Ag & Markets before presenting to the BOS. He further stated that he has full support from County Sheriff's Department as well.
  - Shelter has received a \$500K grant for a full medical suite and will be requesting \$45k from the County.
- Comp Alliance wants to negotiate a three-year contract for our worker's comp policy. Short discussion regarding the benefits of doing so and it was concluded that the Town will continue with yearly review of our policy as there has been slight increases per year.
- Homeless Shelter Committee- GPI has been hired to inspect the structural integrity of the building. Report should be completed by July (concept only!!!) and sent to the committee for review first, then to County.
- Blenheim Fossil Rocks- Blenheim has their very own!!! Two have been donated by Lyndon and Marie Cornell and placed in front of the BMC building
- NYPA Funds Letter- NYPA request a letter every year regarding how the funds will be used in the town and the County. Supervisor Airey will submit a letter as requested; funds should be received this month.
- Richardson Property – Councilwoman Grabowski state that Delaware County, last known to be handling the Richardson affairs, has been contacted but they will not confirm if there is any estate documents filed at Court, to date. She also stated that there are at least two more years before any tax sale on the property. Supervisor Airey stated that he still may seek counsel in regards to the clean-up of the property. Thank you, Councilwoman Grabowski for the research!
- Congratulations, Andrew Graves for winning first in the Pro-Stock Division at Utica-Rome Raceway!!!

**Highway Report - Superintendent Mattice**

- Road Updates:
  - Dugas Road – road has been widened and stoned
  - Eminence – road has been widened and ditched; finally received DEC permit to cut trees
  - Rossman Hill – ditching has been complete and road needs to be stoned
- Monday (June 12<sup>th</sup>) brush cutting will begin; we have a 30-day rental
- Gary English will be assisting Town of Gilboa with paving
- No response, to date, on calls made regarding the price of sealing roads
- No response, to date, on cost for a new truck
- CHIPS award letter has been received! Town will be able to submit for reimbursement up to \$209,425.32
- Thank you, Dave for new sign at dump site and for all the work done moving the water pump up at the Schoolhouse!!!

*Carolee Russell*

*Renee Grabowski*

*Ann Mattice*

*Don Airey*  
TOWN OF BLENHEIM SUPERVISOR

**Code Enforcement Officer Report – Brian Caron**

- May 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**

- All went well with the BAR and grievance day on May 23rd

**BLTCRC Report – Gail Shaffer**

- Thank you, Dave for mowing at the BCC!
- No date has been set by the contractor for painting and the glazing of the windows

**Other:**

- Chris Kenyon of Mine State Park
  - Announced that the pool will be opened June 24<sup>th</sup>. They have hired more life guards and are fully staffed.
  - July 22 marks the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Park and a SummerFest Celebration will be held on that date.
  - They have received NYPA funding for the kiddie pool and the boat launch. Projects will begin in 2024
- Concerns regarding the recent air quality in Schoharie County from the Canada fires. Supervisor Airey stated that the County has not issued any statements, nor recommendations
- Thank you, Ellen Adam, for the flowers at the Veteran's Memorial- it looks great!!!

**PUBLIC HEARING COMMENTS:** No comments made at this meeting regarding the Short-Term Rental Law. Public hearing will remain open.

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

- Award Letter from NYS regarding CHIPS
- County is sponsoring Passport Day on June 10<sup>th</sup> from 9 am to 12 pm
- Comp Alliance Safe Workplace Award for 2021 – check received for \$1,640
- NYS Ag & Markets Dog Control Officer Inspection Report – 4/24/23 – Satisfactory
- Schoharie County Resolutions:
  - #54 – approving 1<sup>st</sup> semi-annual mortgage tax report of 2023
  - #55 – Apportionment of sales tax revenue sharing for 1<sup>st</sup> quarter 2023
  - #64 – Opposition of the Transportation of Foreign Migrants to Schoharie County
- Letter from Town of Huntington regarding Voter's Identification Resolution
- Gilboa-Conesville Central School Budget Newsletter
- Announcement from MEVAC for the 16<sup>th</sup> Annual Installation Dinner and Board of Director's meeting
- Schoharie County Conservation Association Newsletter
- Letter from Concerned Citizen regarding "Appraisals of Solar and Wind Farms for Municipal Taxation"
- Association Certificate received from the Association of Towns 2023

**Motion made to pay bills \$ 9,085.90 General; \$12,949.39 Highway by Councilman Keyser; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilwoman Russell; so moved**

**7:25 pm Motion made to enter into Executive Session to discuss personnel issue by Councilman Keyser; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilwoman Russell; so moved**

**7:40 pm Motion made to exit Executive Session by Councilman Keyser; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilwoman Russell; so moved**

**7:45 pm Motion to adjourn made by Councilman Keyser; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilwoman Russell; so moved**

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