

REGULAR TOWN BOARD MEETING
JANUARY 17, 2022

PRESENT: Supervisor Chad Rivers
Councilmen Howard Goodrow, Nicholas Lansing
Cynthia Durant, James Brockway

TOWNSPEOPLE PRESENT: Lawrence Cheney, Richard Mondoux and Cory Haynes.

Motion to open meeting at 6:30 pm was made by Nicholas Lansing and seconded by Cynthia Durant. All in favor were Howard Goodrow, James Brockway and Chad Rivers.

Pledge Said.

Supervisor's Report:

- Chad said that the bills aren't all ready yet because January and February meetings are so early in the month, so he asked the board members to come in next week and sign them.
- Chad said that they are still working on the AUD and they hope to have it done by the time the board members sign the bills. If so Chad will have a copy for them.
- Chad asked if anyone had any changes that needed to be done for the December meeting and the Organizational meeting. There are none.

Motion to approve the minutes from the December 20th meeting as written was made by Nicholas Lansing and seconded by Howard Goodrow. All in favor were Cynthia Durant, James Brockway and Chad Rivers.

Motion to approve the minutes from the Organizational meeting as written was made by Cynthia Durant and seconded by James Brockway. All in favor were Howard Goodrow and Nicholas Lansing.

- Chad explained that at the next board meeting he should have the monthly budget/payments written out for the board members to go over, and hopes to continue that each month.
- December Trash Report: Chad explained that he talked to Cory and Tracy

regarding the trash report. We are in the hole more than we have ever been before. He spoke to Casella's and they can't do anything different for us. There was much discussion regarding this and everyone feels that since COVID started more and more people are opting to have their trash picked up at their home rather than go out in the public. Chad explained that this year we had 7 negatives. Through the discussion, everyone feels that it isn't fair to the tax payers to have to pay someone to pick up their garbage plus pick up the deficit for the town. Also the people that are using our system are paying for a punch card plus picking up the deficit for the town. So with heavy hearts everyone feels that it is time to close our dump site. We will stay open until March 26th in order to give everyone time to use up their tickets that they have purchased, plus find someone else to pick up their trash. If some of the people, like the ones at Lake Ozonia, still have tickets after March 26th, we will have to reimburse them.

Motion to close our dump site on March 26th at 2:00 pm was made by Nicholas Lansing and seconded by Cynthia Durant. All in favor were Howard Goodrow, James Brockway and Chad Rivers.

- River Road Lots: Chad explained that Ryan Jacques had to renege on his bid for Lot 181 so Chad would like to put that back out for bids. The Board agrees. Cory stated that we have to add the new taxes in with the last minimum bid and will get those figures to Deb so she can put it in the Free Trader and on Facebook.

Motion to relist Lot 3181 with the new minimum bid was made by Nicholas Lansing and seconded by Cynthia Durant. All in favor were Howard Goodrow, James Brockway and Chad Rivers.

- Lot 23: Chad went over the lease for this lot and explained why we cannot charge Dennis the full amount as we thought. We can only charge him for half a lot which will be \$125. We had passed a previous motion to charge \$250, so we will have to do another motion to change it to \$125.

Motion to change Lot 23 from \$250 down to \$125 was made by Nicholas Lansing and seconded by Howard Goodrow. All in favor were Cynthia Durant, James Brockway and Chad Rivers.

- Animal Control: Chad explained that James McHugh wants the job and said that we can use the Potsdam Animal Shelter. Therefore Chad will get a

contract ready for the Animal Shelter and Jim. He wants to come up and meet everyone. So maybe we can get him here for the next board meeting.

Motion to hire James McHugh as the new dog warden and to use Potsdam Animal Shelter was made by Cynthia Durant and seconded by Howard Goodrow. All in favor were Nicholas Lansing, James Brockway and Chad Rivers.

Highway Contract Negotiations: Negotiations are due this year and Chad said that he wants no part of this process. He would like to hire someone to come in and work on the contract. He said the Ernie Witkowski would be a great person to hire if he would do it. Cindy agrees with that. Jim won't be able to vote on the contract as he is part of it but he can work on it and would be willing to do so as a board member.

Water/Sewer: Chad explained that we had to pay a fine this year because we weren't in compliance. The disinfectant report wasn't done. Chad went over the schedule for both Chris and Jeff. DEC wants them there 2 hours every day, when Chris was only doing 1 hour. Water and 1 hour sewer. Chris as the overseer has to be there 30 hours per quarter. He also doesn't log in his time like he's supposed to. Chad said that we are doing everything that DEC has asked us to do. Chad said that we have a hiccup when it gets really cold out. It produces a lot of foam on top of the clarifiers. It isn't anything that we have to worry about.

Highway Update: Jack has hired Todd Clark as a seasonal employee. He will work the same schedule as the highway men. They worked him in as a seasonal employee to see how things work out before they hire him full time. Chad explained that John health insurance will cost us the same thing until he turns 65. He is 62 now. So next year we will have to budget in for John and Todd if Todd is hired full time. Jack tried to make the best decision for the whole group.

Cindy asked Chad about the ice rink and Chad told her that it is all done and they have had a couple of people down there skating already. Chad said that he put a liner down first this year to see if it helps keep the ice better.

Nick asked about the gas pump. Chad explained that the pump that the town uses to pump unleaded gas wouldn't work. They called Midstate and they had one but we had to put it in ourselves. The cost was \$698.

Chad said that there was an issue with the heat in the Fire Station so someone had to come and reset it.

Bus Garage: There is an electrical problem in the pit. There is old wiring in there and it has become dangerous. Therefore Jared Campbell is going to come and rewire the pit. Chad said that we will see a bill on that. Then he is going up to the basement of the Library and replace some wiring that isn't any good.

Public Comments: Richard Mondoux explained that on the back of his taxes there is a section that says if you are 65 or older you qualify for a Senior Citizen reduction. Chad read it and told him that they will take a look at it. Richard said that he spoke to David Burl and he gave him a number to call someone in Malone and she told Richard that the Town of Waverly is one of the few towns that don't do this. So Chad said that this is certainly worth looking into. He also told Richard that we are in the process of doing a re-val for our town. Cory said he thinks it is if you make \$13,000 or less.

Lawrence asked if the town has considered who they will have negotiate. He explained that 2 board members can meet with the town to negotiate. Lawrence asked Jim why he couldn't negotiate and Chad explained that he can negotiate, he just can't vote on it. Lawrence thinks he can so chad said he will check on that. Jim said he is interested in negotiating.

Lawrence asked if there is a timeline on the water line project. Chad said that we are waiting to see if we qualify for a grant.

Lawrence said if Todd is going to follow the highway employee's hours, then how can he be a part-time seasonal employee. He thought it was going to be a 32 hour position. If he is working 40 hours per week then he is a full time employee. If the Union wants to, they can fight this and we will lose. Lawrence asked about the hiring process and said that everyone should have the same chance that Todd had. There are certain guidelines that you have to follow for civil service.

Motion to close meeting at 7:48 was made by Nicholas Lansing and seconded by Howard Goodrow. All in favor were Cynthia Durant, James Brockway and Chad Rivers.

Respectfully submitted:
Deborah Fraser
Town Clerk
Town of Waverly