

**TOWN OF WESTFORD
TOWN BOARD MEETING
July 6, 2020**

At 7:00 p.m. the July 6, 2020 Town Board Meeting was called to order.

Present: Town Supervisor Walter Heinrich, Councilman Feil, Councilman Huntington, and Councilman Ritton. Absent: Councilman Zerby

Other Town Officials: Highway Superintendent Jason Ritton, Town Assessor Pamela Dyn-Gohde, Town Justice Michael Fay, Town Clerk Eileen Ten Eyck.

The sign-in sheet is on file with the Town Clerk.

Corrections to June 1, 2020, minutes:

Under NEW BUSINESS: in the motion spelling change from residence to residents

CORRESPONDENCE:

- 1). Management services- money has been received from the Town of Westford- liability has been submitted to the county.

- 2). Department of Labor- Dave Reynolds (Highway Department) was approved for unemployment benefits and is now back to work.

- 3). Cemetery- Mowing of the town cemetery will occur two times a year at \$269.00/per mow. Matt is suggesting a clean up day for all the cemeteries. Westville Cemetery needs new stairs and there is a tree that needs to come down. Highway Superintendent Ritton will assess and report back to the board.

- 4.) Fiber optics- OEC connect – the high speed internet and Hot spot are in and the old system will be discontinued. There was discussion about the cost of the phones for the clerk and judge’s phone. There will be a \$20 cost savings per month by bundling the service. Councilman Feil will address some of the issues regarding the computer in the Clerk’s Office.

Motion by Supervisor Heinrich to the board to proceed with the OEC connect telephone contract, seconded by Councilman Ritton. Unanimous ayes. Absent- Councilman Zerby.

IRS- a bill was received from 2019 with penalties upwards of \$500. Supervisor Heinrich is following up with the bookkeeper to get this straightened out.

Thomas Road- Jay Mould contacted Supervisor Heinrich about the state not receiving paperwork regarding the town abandoning the road. However, Highway

Superintendent Ritton believes any changes from the state will occur after October 2020.

Zoning- the Spano family is requesting some clarification on zoning for a wedding venue. Town Assessor Dyn-Gohde has been in contact with the family and informed that they need to go through the Planning Board.

Mandatory Worker's Compensation Insurance paperwork has been filed with Otsego County. Quarterly Unified Employees Assessment was also filed with Otsego County- gross payroll – April 1 – June 30, 2020 -\$53,849.00.

Proof of Claim- letter was received for a Purdue Bankruptcy and the Town of Westford received regarding a legal action for the Opiate Crisis. Supervisor Heinrich will reply that the Town has no known claims.

OLD BUSINESS:

1). Salt Contract- two checks were received from the County total amount of \$28,711.00.

2). CHIPS Money- funds will be released, but still no concrete numbers. There is speculation that 80% of the funds will be received this year.

3). Dust Oil- \$1,500 feet sold. Highway Superintendent Ritton is in contact with the company to see if they will complete the job with the amount sold.

GUEST SPEAKER: Jonah Meiser completed his Eagle Scout project and spoke about the trials and tribulations of getting this done. He is planning a dedication and working on the details given the current circumstances with COVID-19. A tentative date of July 31, 2020 at 6:00 p.m. was set.

COMMITTEES:

Fire: Trucks and pumps have been serviced and are all in working order.

Cemetery: 27 monuments have been repaired as per the grant. The association will be applying for a new grant.

Highway: the Highway Department has starting paving projects this week and anticipates completion next week. There is a wash-out on Middlefield Road that has been repaired. There are repairs needed on the '06 truck. Superintendent Ritton said that Town needs to put out a sand bid. This will be placed in the Daily Star as soon as possible. Marty Peeters helped out the Highway Department due to other departments being off for the holiday week. He will be paid out of the contingency account.

Merger Study: Information regarding the Worcester/Schenevus merger can be found at MSCSW.org. The site will contain the minutes from the latest meetings.

GALLERY:

Michael Fay wanted to recognize Town Supervisor Heinrich for his hard work and diligence with all Town business matters.

BUDGET MEETING:

General Fund: #212 - #223 total - \$4,234.49

Highway Fund: #188 - #193 total - \$35,821.81

Motion by Councilman Feil to adjourn, seconded by Councilman Ritton.

Meeting adjourned – 8:10 p.m.

Eileen Ten Eyck
Town Clerk