

**TOWN OF WESTFORD
TOWN BOARD MEETING
June 13, 2022**

At 7:01 p.m., the Westford Town Board meeting was called to order.

Town Board members present: Supervisor Walter Heinrich, Councilman James Feil, Councilman Ralph Ritton, Councilman Robert Huntington, Councilman Steve Zerby.

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

Sign-in sheet on file at Town Clerk Office.

Pledge of Alliance was recited.

Corrections (typo's) were made to May 2022 minutes.

Motion by Councilman Huntington to accept minutes as amended, seconded by Councilman Ritton. Unanimous ayes.

CORRESPONDENCE:

- 1). Zoning Board of Appeals- there is an attorney available for 5-G wireless service.
- 2). A Check was received from Otsego County in the amount of \$6,513.57.
- 3). OEConnect- reported that the storm cost them \$100,000.00 in repairs.
- 4). Agri-Smart- has economic development grand funding available.
- 5). Mohawk Valley Economic Development Center- has community impact grants available for building improvements, upgrading heating and lighting, consolidation, clean energy, community education and outreach.

Supervisor Heinrich is going to contact them regarding an upgrade to LED lighting at the Transfer Station and Town Hall.

- 6). Department of State- Letter received indicating that Westford Law #2 is on file in Albany.
- 7). Otsego County Treasurer's Office- contacted Supervisor Heinrich regarding an outstanding check in the amount of \$9,300.00 they had sent to the Town of Westford in 2018. The check was never deposited. The County will be re-issuing a new check in the amount of \$9,320.00.
- 8). Insurance has been paid and we are covered.

9). Request from Melissa VanKeuren to use Town Hall.

10). NYSEG – They are updating their systems and needed an update for critical facilities within the town. Supervisor Heinrich has provided them with updated information.

11). NYSEG – is offering free energy assessments. Supervisor Heinrich offered to do the paperwork to apply to have them conduct their assessments.

12) Troubleshooting will be done by Councilman Ritton to shut down Transfer Station until opened on Sat and Tuesday

NEW BUSINESS:

1) Our contracted mower did not show up so Matt Rifanbark offered to fill in until this matter is settled. He will mow the following cemeteries for the listed amounts (last contract amounts) - Badeau (\$40), Draper Hill (\$40), Maple (\$30), Westville (\$40), Congregational (\$25) and Town Hall (\$40).

2). Grievance Day was held on 05/25/22, but no one came in to grieve their assessments. This brings to a close the issue with OEConnect's request for a reduction.

3). CHIPS – Superintendent Ritton signed paperwork for backhoe purchased for \$108,422.36. Supervisor Heinrich will be putting in a request for \$32,686.99 for reimbursement and a total of \$141,000.00.

4). Profit and Loss statements were provided by Supervisor Heinrich.

5). The one and only bid for a compactor rental for the Transfer Station was received from Home Town Hauling and Recycling. Their bid included \$350/month for compactor rental, \$300/per load and \$95/ton for tipping fees.

BOARD VOTE: Unanimous Ayes

Motion by Councilman Feil to accept the bid from Home Town Hauling and Recycling, seconded by Councilman Feil. Unanimous ayes

COMMITTEES:

Fire Dept: \$47,700 budget amount from the fire district from the bookkeeper will be coming soon.

Cemetery: Compliments from the community have been received regarding how good the cemetery looks.

Highway Dept:

- The first part of paving has been completed.

- Auction
- The offer for \$17,100.00 on the backhoe was approved
- The offer of \$2,550.00 for the '96 truck was rejected
- The offer of \$760.00 for the backhoe bucket was approved
- The offer of \$310.00 for the plow was approved

Superintendent Ritton requested that the ad for the sand bid be put in the paper as soon as possible. It will go in next week.

- Dust Control – options will be presented at the next meeting. Supervisor Heinrich proposed that this goes back to fee for service.

Motion by Supervisor Heinrich that an ad for Dust Control be put in the Home Town Advantage, seconded by Councilman Huntington. Unanimous ayes.

Gallery:

Brian Larrabee (Home Town Hauling) came to the meeting and was informed that his bid for the Transfer Station was accepted. He had some questions about an upgrade to the electric system and this is being looked into.

There were questions about the State offering monetary assistance to help offset rising costs of everything. It doesn't appear that there is any relief in sight at this time.

BUDGET MEETING:

General- #68 - #94 - \$5,701.30

Highway - #51 - #59 - \$ 99,129.24

Motion by Councilman Feil to adjourn, seconded by Councilman Zerby. Unanimous ayes.

Meeting adjourned at 8:27 p.m.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

The Executive Session included the full board, Town Supervisor, Highway Superintendent and Town Clerk

Motion by Councilman Huntington to adjourn the Executive Session, seconded by Councilman Ritton.

Meeting adjourned at 9:13 p.m.