

TOWN OF WESTFORD
TOWN BOARD MEETING
SEPTEMBER 9, 2019

At 7:23 p.m. the town board reviewed and signed the following bills for payment:

General Fund #99- #109- 4,337.78
Highway Fund #75- #84- \$11,103.28

Supervisor Larrabee called the regular meeting of the Westford Town Board to order at 7:10 p.m.

The Flag Salute was recited

Present: Town Supervisor Bryan Larrabee, Highway Superintendent Jason Ritton, Councilman Phillips Strong, Robert Huntington, Jim Feil and Ralph Ritton.

Other Town Officials Present: Town Clerk Eileen Ten Eyck, Town Assessor Pamela Dyn-Gohde, Town Justice Michael Fay

Absent:

Special Guests: Community Bank representatives - Janet Briggs/Schenevus branch and Naomi Duncan/Cooperstown branch

Guest: Sign-in sheet on file at the Town Clerks Office.

Minutes of the August 5, 2019 Town Board meeting were read. There was a correction in Unfinished/Old Business #2-A the dollar figure was corrected to reflect the accurate amount of \$20,110.10.

Unfinished/Old Business:

1. Otsego Electric-Supervisor Larrabee has not been notified about a community relations meeting to date.
2. Request for fuel bids- Supervisor Larrabee explained how the bid would be worded in order to lock in the price. Winter fuel price would be specified.

Supervisor Larrabee motioned to put fuel out for bid (with a return in October)- the amount to be specified by the Highway Superintendent. Seconded by Councilman Huntington. Unanimous ayes.

3. Oil and Paving- Highway will finish sealing roads on Wednesday 09/11/19.

4: Roof leaks- there have been no estimates for the repair of the flat roof as of 09/09/19. David Lorrette looked at the roof and is expected to submit an estimate.

New Business:

Presentation:

1. Vice President, District Manager Janet Briggs and Naomi Duncan, Vice President, Branch Manager of Community Bank in Schenevus and Cooperstown branches respectively, presented on the current money market and CD rates currently offered. The money market account offered 6 withdrawals per month and unlimited deposits without penalties. The CD rates saw increases in the percentage rates at 30, 60, 90 and 360 days on accounts of \$100,000 or more. Penalties apply if CD broken before term. Bank of Cooperstown did not want to give a rate until they knew what Community Bank was going to offer.

Councilman Huntington motioned to have money transferred from Bank of Cooperstown to Community Bank for a money market account. Seconded by Councilman Feil. Unanimous ayes.

2. The “letters” for Town Hall have been located by Ralph Ritton. He is assessing for usage.

3. Roofs- repairs to the roofs on the pavilion, transfer station, Henry Snyder garage and shed have been received. Cost sharing between Town and Fire Department are being explored.

4. New York State is offered a workshop on 09/27/19 exploring the potential of consolidation of town resources.

Steering Committee: Town Supervisor Larrabee/ Councilman Huntington/Highway Superintendent Jason Ritton/Councilman Jim Feil/ Town Clerk Eileen Ten Eyck

Committee:

1. Fire- Turkey Dinner on Saturday 09/14/19.

2. Playground- Board members met and the swing set sight was chosen.

3. The board passed a verbal resolution for JCap funds for Justice Fey on 08/05/19. The written resolution was signed at 09/09/19 meeting.

4. Checks have been deposited. Discussion about how to clear up the surplus from Justice Fay’s accounts. Consensus was that a check from 2008/2009 that could not be tracked down, but still outstanding in his account, would best be resolved by having

Justice Fay write his check for his surplus amount, bringing him to his desired 0 balance. Justice Fay will determine what his surplus is and agreed to rewrite a check to the town with the caveat that the amount would be noted in the board minutes .

Councilman Ritton motioned to have Justice Fay write out a check to the Town Supervisor of his surplus amount and zero out the Justice's books. Seconded by Councilman Huntington. Unanimous ayes.

5. Transfer station phone is working again.
6. Tabor Road was ditched and crusher run applied- job completed by the Highway Department.
7. There have been no requests for the Town Supervisor position thus far. The search continues.
8. The Highway continues to work on the coverall.

New Business:

1. Lyle Morrison resigned as Planning Board Commissioner via letter. Psalm Wycoff was contacted by Supervisor Larrabee, she is willing to take over that position. The Planning Board currently consists of Psalm Wycoff, Donny Burton and Steve Zergby.
2. The Bookmobile is requesting usage of the Town's internet service to sign up new card members. Consensus was that the Bookmobile was a benefit to the community and a value added service. Town Clerk contacted Noelle Holmes and provide her with the wifi password.

Supervisor Larrabee made a motion to all the Bookmobile access to the Town's internet. Seconded by Councilman Huntington. Unanimous ayes.

3. Patricia Ryan sent in a request to change a road on her property on Thomas Road. Marv Parshall Esq. has been contacted regarding this request and informed Supervisor Larrabee that this would take Board approval, the Board would have to get the road survey, a public hearing would need to be held and transactions made at the County level. If the costs were nominal Patricia Ryan said she would cover. She will appear at the next meeting to further explain her request to the Board.
4. Supervisor Larrabee and the Board expressed their thanks to outgoing Town Clerk Lynda May for her hard work and dedication as she filled the position.
5. A thank you to the Highway Department was received from residence on Draper Hill for the great work they did up there.

Highway:

1. Highway Superintendent Jason Ritton received permission to surplus the “Orange” truck as well as the “Red” Middlefield truck. The “Blue” ’96 will be used as a spare. Last year permission was received to surplus the Middlefield truck, Jason asked to switch out differential locks off the old trucks to use on current trucks that don’t have them.

Supervisor Larrabee made a motion allowing Jason Ritton to surplus the equipment. Seconded by Councilman Feil.

2. Salt Shed- the shed is being erected at the Highway Department. There was a request from the adjacent property owner asking that the Town make sure that the shed is on the appropriate land. He has concerns that the shed is on his property (he provided a survey copy). This will be looked into.

Budget:

Worksheet filled in with available estimated figures.

Since there is no further business to come before this meeting, motion by Councilman Feil to adjourn. Seconded by Councilman Huntington. All in favor. Meeting adjourned at 9:08 p.m.

Eileen Ten Eyck
Town Clerk