

REGULAR MEETING, TOWN BOARD, TOWN OF LITTLE FALLS, MARCH 14, 2023

A Regular meeting of the Town Board, Town of Little Falls was held on March 14, 2023 at the town hall commencing at 7:15 p.m. with the following members present:

Present: Supervisor Dan Casler  
Councilman Kirk Schwasnick  
Councilman Mitch Soules

Absent: Councilman Anthony Viscomi  
Councilman Kevin Sullivan

Others Present: Town Clerk, Sandra Regan; Highway Superintendent, Donald Cotton; Town Attorney, Nicholas Macri; Codes Enforcer, Phil Green; NBT Insurance Agent, Bill VanGorder.

-Supervisor Casler called the meeting to order directing the Clerk to call the roll.

-Privilege of the floor was granted to those present. There were no comments.

RESOLUTION #21

Minute Approval

On motion of Councilman Soules, seconded by Supervisor Casler, the following resolution was ADOPTED-vote:

Ayes-Supervisor Casler; Councilmen Schwasnick, Soules

Noes-0

RESOLVED that the minutes of the previous month's meetings, as submitted by the clerk, hereby be approved.

-NBT Insurance Agent, Bill VanGorder, reviewed the Town's Liability Insurance Renewal Policy, stating that the cost for this year's coverage will be \$24,713.94, which is up from last year's cost of \$22,441.14.

Mr. VanGorder stated that a new Caterpillar loader and a Hyundai were added, that the Hyundai was taken off the policy. The board informed Mr. VanGorder that the Hyundai was an excavator that was rented for two weeks and that it should have been taken off after the rental period. Mr. VanGorder stated he would look into this.

Mr. VanGorder stated that the renewal is due April 1<sup>st</sup> and that he recommends running a cost estimate in the future. The board approved the renewal later in the meeting.

-Supervisor Monthly Report:

Supervisor Casler reported:

-That a letter was received from the Salisbury Ridgerunners Snowmobile Club requesting support for their grant application to purchase a new/used groomer. The board authorized Supervisor Casler to forward a letter of support to the club.

-That a copy of Herkimer County Soil and Water Conservation District's annual report was received.

-That notification was received from Excellus Blue Cross that there will be a 10.5% increase in health insurance coverage. Supervisor Casler stated that the board will most likely re-negotiate health insurance coverage with the highway employees when renewing their contract which expires at the end of this year. Supervisor Casler stated that contract negotiations should start this summer so we know where we're at budget time.

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-That notice was received from the Board of Elections that primary day will be June 27<sup>th</sup> and the General Election on November 7<sup>th</sup>.

-That the town will be hosting a safety training by Comp Alliance on April 4<sup>th</sup>.

-That he doesn't have a financial monthly report for tonight.

-That he is still working on updating the Hazardous Mitigation Plan and will look into obtaining a generator.

RESOLUTION #22

Supervisor Authorization to Send Ridgerunners Snowmobile Club a Letter of Support For Their Grant Application For a New/Used Groomer.

On motion of Councilman Soules, seconded by Councilman Scwashnick, the following resolution was ADOPTED-vote:

Ayes-Supervisor Casler; Councilmen Schwasnick, Soules

Noes-0

RESOLVED that the Town Supervisor hereby be authorized to forward a letter of support to the Salisbury Ridgerunners Snowmobile Club for their grant application for a new/used groomer.

-Assessor Report: None

-Codes Enforcer Report:

Codes Enforcer Green reported that four building permits have been issued so far, that he had to have some garbage picked up from a property, and that there will be a teleconference on Flood Plain Management.

-Town Attorney Report:

Attorney Macri reported:

-That he's submitted a local law on setting fees for solar projects for the board's review.

-That he's reviewed RIC's Newville Road Solar Project's decommissioning figures and they are what they are; that he recommends, going forward, that all new proposed solar projects be subject to review by town engaged professional consultants.

Discussion was held on this with the town board agreeing that this should be done.

-Planning Board Report:

Clerk Regan reported that the planning board met and reviewed parts of the SEQR for RIC's Newville Road solar project and that this project is very close to being approved; that communications have been sent and received back from county and state agencies and that there have been no objections to said project.

Attorney Macri asked for board permission to send the planning board a letter requesting that he, as town attorney, be involved in the initial stages of all new solar projects. When Attorney Macri asked if this was okay, there were no objections and Supervisor Casler stated it was.

-Health Officer Report: None

-Dog Control Report: None

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-Highway Superintendent Report: Nothing at this time.

-Town Justice Report: None

-Town Clerk Report:

Clerk Regan reported:

-That she had emailed copies of Danube's fee schedule for solar projects and RIC's solar project's decommissioning agreement to the board for their review.

-That she has been trying to get the website updated without much success and that she has another person that could take this over which she recommends.

-That according to Dog Control Officer Ortleib, a number of dogs have been taken from the McCoy property by the Herkimer Humane Society and that the town may have some forthcoming expenses related to this.

-Supervisor Casler stated that Oneida Electric came and looked at the heating cable on the roof and says the heating unit is good but the cable is junk and that they recommended calling Pulver Roofing to fix it, which would take care of the problem. Superintendent Cotton stated this should be done as well as the insulation because we're losing too much heat.

Supervisor Casler reported that he had contacted six spray foam companies. That two don't do commercial buildings, Standard Installation and Upstate haven't replied, Collis submitted a quote for \$39,000 and A&S Spray Foam submitted a quote for \$49,095.25.

Discussion was held on this with the board deciding to table this matter to allow time for more quotes to come in and until a full board was present. This matter was tabled.

RESOLUTION #23

Supervisor Authorization to Renew Town's Liability Insurance through NBT Insurance Agency

On motion of Supervisor Casler, seconded by Councilman Soules, the following resolution was ADOPTED-vote:

Ayes-Supervisor Casler; Councilmen Schwasnick, Soules

Noes-0

RESOLVED that the Town Board hereby approves the renewal of the town's liability insurance for 4/01/2023-24 through NBT Insurance Agency at a cost of \$24,713.94 and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Town Supervisor hereby be authorized to execute said renewal.

-Meeting recessed at 8:15 p.m. to audit the bills.

-Meeting resumed at 8:30 p.m.

RESOLUTION #24

Payment of General Bills

On motion of Councilman Schwasnick, seconded by Councilman Soules, the following resolution was ADOPTED-vote:

Ayes- Supervisor Casler; Councilmen, Schwasnick, Soules

Noes-0

RESOLVED that the General Bills #34-45 in the amount of \$12,088.00 hereby be paid.

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RESOLUTION #25

Payment of Highway Bills

On motion of Supervisor Casler, seconded by Councilman Schwasnick, the following resolution was ADOPTED-vote:

Ayes-Supervisor Casler; Councilmen, Schwasnick, Soules

Noes-0

RESOLVED that the Highway Bills #37-55, in the amount of \$35,228.69 hereby be paid.

-The next regular meeting will be held on April 11, 2023 at the town hall at 7:00 p.m.

-Meeting adjourned at 8:32 p.m.-Councilmen Soules, Schwasnick

Respectfully submitted,  
Sandra Regan, Town Clerk