

REGULAR MEETING, TOWN BOARD, TOWN OF LITTLE FALLS, MARCH 12, 2024

A Regular meeting of the Town Board, Town of Little Falls was held on March 12, 2024 at the town hall commencing at 7:05 p.m. with the following members present:

Present: Councilman Anthony Viscomi
Councilman Kirk Schwasnick
Councilman Kevin Sullivan
Councilman Mitch Soules

Absent: Supervisor Dan Casler

Others Present: Town Clerk, Sandra Regan; Highway Superintendent, Donald Cotton; Town Attorney, Nicholas Macri; Phil Green, Codes Enforcer; William Van Gorder, NBT Insurance Agency Representative.

-Councilman Sullivan 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 #28

Minute Approval

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

Ayes-Councilmen Sullivan, Viscomi, Schwasnick, Soules

Noes-0

RESOLVED that the minutes of the February meeting, as submitted by the clerk, hereby be approved.

NBT Insurance Representative, William Van Gorder, reviewed the town's liability insurance renewal policy stating there's a \$1,585.91 increase from last year's rate of \$24,684.08 to this year's rate of \$26,269.99 and explained the reasons for the increase. Mr. Van Gorder explained that there's an option to increase the town's current damage replacement coverage of half million dollars to one million dollars for \$1,077.27; that this option as well as a cyber security option can be added at any time and that he will provide Supervisor Casler with a quote for the cyber coverage at a later date.

Mr. Van Gorder stated that they are currently watching the issue the town is involved in and can offer a Crisis Risk Team which is a contracted consulting firm that's available to the town at no cost if needed.

After review the board approved the insurance renewal for \$27,247.26 which includes the additional \$1,077.27 coverage option.

RESOLUTION #29

Approval of the Town's Liability Insurance Coverage Renewal Policy

On motion of Councilman Soules, seconded by Councilman Viscomi, the following resolution was ADOPTED by roll call vote:

Councilman Sullivan	Aye
Councilman Viscomi	Aye
Councilman Schwasnick	Aye
Councilman Soules	Aye

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(Resolution #29-cont.)

RESOLVED that the Town Board hereby approves the renewal of the town's liability insurance with NBT at a cost of \$27,347.26, which includes an Ordinance or Law option at a cost of \$1,077.27.

-The board thanked Mr. Van Gorder for attending the meeting.

-Supervisor Monthly report. Supervisor Casler was absent from the meeting, but had emailed the board the following:

-That he recommends renewing the town's liability insurance policy if the numbers for such are received. This matter was addressed and the board approved the renewal.

-That he had forwarded a contract with the City of Little Falls for Engineering services for the board's review, which he thinks should be considered; that it will be used on an as needed basis and the rates are about half of what Barton & Loguidice charges. This matter was discussed and the contract approved.

-That he has met with the City of Little Mayor, Debra Kaufman, to discuss the City's DRI and its impacts on the Town and City and has asked her to attend April's Town Board Meeting; that he has a meeting scheduled for March 20th with Mayor Kaufman, the city engineer, John Sullivan and Superintendent Cotton to discuss water line accessibility for the town, placements of fire hydrants for fire protection, and housing growth. The board tabled discussion on these matters.

-That he thinks the town needs to keep moving forward on discussing comprehensive planning to make this a reality. This matter was tabled.

-That he intends to make a principal payment on the loader which will reduce the interest amount significantly. This matter was discussed and the payment approved.

-That with all the work the Planning Board Chairperson and Secretary do, and with the work that will be involved in future projects, he's asking that the board consider making a flat rate payment of \$500 a year to the Planning Board's Chairperson and Secretary, in addition to the monthly meeting's pay, which is \$75.00 for the Chairperson and \$50.00 for the Secretary per meeting.

Clerk Regan stated that this matter can be tabled; that as the secretary, she's only paid \$5.00 more than a member, which isn't much for the work that's involved; that she'd most likely resign as secretary from that board since she's not interested in doing the work involved with a comprehensive plan, but she is in favor of increasing the pay for the planning members.

Attorney Macri stated that this is generally farmed out to a firm with legal backup.

This matter was tabled.

RESOLUTION #30

Approval of an Engineering Services Contract with The City of Little Falls

On motion of Councilman Soules, seconded by Councilman Sullivan, the following resolution was ADOPTED by roll call vote:

Councilman Sullivan	Aye
Councilman Viscomi	Aye
Councilman Schwasnick	Aye
Councilman Soules	Aye

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(Resolution #30-cont.)

WHEREAS the Town Board of the Town of Little Falls hereby approves the Inter-Municipal Sharing Agreement for Engineering Services between the Town of Little Falls and the City of Little Falls,

BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board hereby authorizes Supervisor Casler to sign said agreement as presented.

RESOLUTION #31

Supervisor Approval to Make \$40,000 Principal Payment on New 2022 Caterpillar Loader

On motion of Councilman Sullivan, seconded by Councilman Schwasnick, the following resolution was ADOPTED by roll call vote:

Councilman Sullivan	Aye
Councilman Viscomi	Aye
Councilman Schwasnick	Aye
Councilman Soules	Aye

RESOLVED that the Town Board hereby approves that a \$40,000 principal payment be made on the new 2022 Caterpillar Loader and that the Town Supervisor hereby be authorized to make said payment.

-Town Attorney Report:

Attorney Macri reported that he had received the first bill from Wladis Law Firm and that he has advised the firm to forward all future bills to the Town Supervisor and or Town Clerk.

-Codes Enforcer Report:

Codes Enforcer Green reported that he's issued his first building permit and that he will be attending school next month.

-Assessor Report: None

-Town Justice Report: None

-Planning Board Report:

Clerk Regan reported:

-That the Planning Board met and that Chairwoman Cobb reported that 12 miles of Eatonville Road is in the Town of Herkimer and that she is working with the Town of Herkimer's Supervisor, Dominic Frank, on writing a letter to the state requesting that a study be done to find out if a turnoff or anything is needed at the intersection of State Route 5 and Eatonville Road due to an increase in traffic associated with the ARC Herkimer's event center.

-That the board is working on establishing some appropriate fees for project applications.

-That letters had been mailed to the neighbors of ARC Herkimer's event center project and one complaint had been received via email.

-That the board reviewed ARC Herkimer's site plan check list and approved such and that Chairwoman Cobb and Vice Chairman Schlag were authorized to submit a 239 review to the Herkimer-Oneida County Comprehensive Planning Board, which is required because the event center is within 500' of another municipality.

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-Dog Control Officer Report: None

-Health Officer Report: None

-Highway Superintendent Report: Nothing at this time.

-Town Clerk Report:

Clerk Regan reported:

-That she has received notification that John Allen has applied for a liquor license for the Mohawk Valley Country Club's Tin Cup Restaurant. There were no board comments on this.

-That per Legislator Campione, the County has approved and is moving forward with the Landbank.

-Meeting recessed at 7:55 p.m. to audit the bills.

-Meeting resumed at 8:09 p.m.

RESOLUTION #32

Payment of General Bills

On motion of Councilman Sullivan, seconded by Councilman Viscomi, the following resolution was ADOPTED-vote:

Ayes-Councilmen Sullivan, Viscomi, Schwasnick, Soules

Noes-0

RESOLVED that the General Bills #24-37 in the amount of \$7,142.79 hereby be paid.

RESOLUTION #33

Payment of Highway Bills

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

Ayes-Councilmen Sullivan, Viscomi, Schwasnick, Soules

Noes-0

RESOLVED that the Highway Bills #34-46, in the amount of \$26,890.02 hereby be paid.

-The next regular meeting will be held on April 9, 2024 at the town hall at 7:00 p.m.

-Meeting adjourned at 8:09 p.m.-Councilmen Soules, Schwasnick

Respectfully submitted,
Sandra Regan, Town Clerk