

September 17, 2020

Regular Town Board Meeting

Present: Supervisor Edward Bender, Councilman Paul Aubertine, Councilman Marty Mason, Councilman Dan Wiley, Councilman Alan Wood, Keith Brass, Highway Superintendent Bill Pond and 3 visitors.

Supervisor Bender opened the meeting at 6:30pm with the pledge of allegiance.
No one wished to speak for Privilege of the Floor.

Supervisor Bender called upon Matt Cooper from Barton and Lodguidce regarding an update on water district #7. Matt said that they have done a post vote analysis and went over the entire voter list and compared it to the 2013 voter list. The reason they did this is to try to determine what areas voted it down. Matt said that the 2013 survey that was done had an overwhelming amount of support for the district. He discussed with the board the possibility of doing a new survey and a letter stating the facts regarding the costs. The board discussed this with him and decided it will be a good idea to do the survey.

Matt also discussed with the board the interest survey for the sewer district. He said that they have a survey ready, but just a few items needed to be re-worked, and then it will be mailed. He told the board that the proposed sewer district will run along 12E to the prison. He said that the district will be done in phases so that it won't be too big for funding. The first phase will end at Millen's Bay.

Councilman Wiley made a motion to accept the Aug. 20, 2020 minutes, seconded by Councilman Aubertine. All members voted AYE.

Reports:

Recreation Park- Keith Brass reported that they have had the usual meetings and the sewing club is still using the room. He said there was a blood drive there also.

Water – Keith reported that they have been painting hydrants and that the Board of Health has done an inspection of the water tower. He is waiting on the written results.

Keith said that he has an opportunity to continue working with DANC on the regional water line outside of Cape Vincent and he asked the board if they would want him to continue. The board asked him how he felt about this and Keith said that he wouldn't mind doing it. The board gave their blessing.

Keith said that they did two more new water installs, and they are having a hard time getting parts such as meter pits. He said they will be installing Greg Knapp's meter pit next week.

Highway – Bill Pond reported that RMS has finished crushing the sand and that the barn is full. He said the Branch Road culvert project is done and the last tree was taken down and removed. Bill said that they have been mowing, working on the shoulders and helping with the East End Park project. He said that the transfer site back hoe is down and will need some repairs.

Bill told the board that Supervisor Bender and the Town Clerk looked at the door the highway crew was working on for the Library. He said that this door has a window and shelves on both sides. He said that Supervisor Bender gave him the ok to order three of them for the office. Bill said they will be ready in three weeks.

Bill reported that he had to secure the doors to the buildings at Tibbetts Point. He said that they were broken into, but no damage was done.

Bill also spoke about the Branche Road project stating the County gave him a resolution that he thought the board had to pass, but when he talked to Rick Snow from Jefferson County he told Bill it was just for his records.

Bill said that they are getting ready to pave a section of Hell Street and the Wilson Road. He also said that he is expecting the CHIPS reimbursement on Sept. 30.

Councilman Wood said that County Rt 4 is getting worse and will they be working on that road. Bill told him that he spoke with Jim Lawrence and he told Bill to count on only doing a third of the culvert replacements on that road.

Councilman Wiley asked Bill who mows along the road by Dollar General. He said it looks bad and would like to see it mowed, the bushes removed and the electric panel gone. Keith Brass told him that the electric panel is for the water, that the master meter is located there, so it can't be removed. Keith said he will remove the bushes around it and paint the wood for the meter box.

Supervisor's Financial Report – Councilman Wiley made a motion to accept the Supervisor's Financial Report, seconded by Councilman Mason. All members voted AYE.

LWRP - Councilman Wiley said that they are ready to send out the RFP for Club Street. He said he would like the board's approval.

LDC – Councilman Wiley said that they are still working on the walking path to Tibbetts Point. He said they will not be following the water line, but the path will be on the ridge above it.

Supervisor Bender said that he met with John Mosher and Butch Cullen, and they walked the Tibbetts Point property. He said that there is a lot that needs to be done, and the Historical Society gave him a report of the areas that need addressing. Supervisor Bender said that he told John and Butch that he will present it to the board and see what the board wants to do with it.

Councilman Wood asked what will happen with the Clinic. He said that he has had citizens call him and they want to know when it will open. He said that he has also had citizens call him to say that Samaritan said they will not open. Supervisor Bender said that he cannot get anyone from Samaritan to call him. Councilman Aubertine said that the town is paying to have it open, and if it is not going to open, they need to get a tenant in there.

Councilman Mason said the town should meet with someone from the Urgent Care facilities, to see if they are interested in using the building.

Supervisor Bender said he would like to meet with Samaritan before they look for a new tenant.

Councilman Aubertine asked Bill Pond if he would take a look at the corner of Favret and Mason Roads. He said there isn't a Stop sign there and there is a lot of traffic on those roads. He said that he has witnessed some close calls. Bill said he will call the County engineers to look it over to see what can be done.

Councilman Mason asked Bill Pond about the fuel system at the highway garage. He said the school has expressed interest in sharing the pumps. Bill said there is no way right now with the current system that they could bring the busses in. He said he is calling every 10 days for fuel, and if the busses were there it would bring on an even higher demand. He said the entire system would need to be upgraded. Bill said that he has talked with the school superintendent, Mike Bashaw, and told him they couldn't accommodate with their current system.

Councilman Aubertine said that he thought the board had entertained the thoughts of an upgrade and Bill said they talked about the oil/water separator.

Councilman Mason said that he thought Michael Docteur told them that the system was outdated, and Bill said that Michael Docteur told him that the monitoring system was outdated and they have since done that upgrade. Bill said that the tanks aren't bad; it's the capacity that is the issue. Bill talked about the trouble the school is having with the diesel busses.

The board asked Bill if he would get a couple of quotes and they would discuss it at the next meeting.

Councilman Mason said that the pavilion is still moving along. He said that Pam Youngs is looking into artificial stone.

Councilman Mason said that the village needs to replace the generator at the water plant. He said that the cost to replace it would have to be shared by the town and village and he said that the towns share would be \$30,000.00. He said that the village has a debt of \$36,000.00 to the town, and the village would like to use \$30,000.00 of that debt as the town's portion of the generator.

Councilman Wiley asked if this was in an agreement somewhere and Councilman Mason said it was.

Councilman Mason also said that the auditors told the village they are losing money on the water, and they needed to take equipment depreciation. He said that this cost will be put back onto the users.

Councilman Aubertine asked him why the village does not have any reserve accounts set up.

Councilman Wood made a motion that the town will pay 60% or the \$30,000.00 of the lowest accepted bid to replace the generator at the village water plant, seconded by Councilman Aubertine.

Supervisor Bender, Councilmen Aubertine, Wiley and Wood voting AYE. Councilman Mason abstained.

Resolution #41

Resolution #41 was moved by Councilman Aubertine, seconded by Councilman Wood. Resolution #41 is to authorize the Supervisor to transfer \$200.00 from B599 to B9050 and transfer \$10,500 from DA599 to DA 9050.8 for unemployment budget amendments.

There was no discussion. All members voted AYE.

Councilman Wood made a motion to have the town planner release the Club Street RFP on behalf of the town, seconded by Councilman Mason. All members voted AYE.

The board asked the Town Clerk to advertise the BAR vacancy.

The board agreed to delete the zoom meetings.

Bills: General Fund, \$17,818.15; WD #1, \$984.71; WD #3, \$276.45; WD #4, \$1,134.14; WD #5, \$468.90; WD #6, \$454.82; Club Street Project, \$750.00; Capital Water project WD #7, \$1,500.00; Highway, \$48,357.56

Councilman Aubertine made a motion of approve of the payment of the vouchers, seconded by Councilman Wood. All members voted AYE.

Councilman Aubertine made a motion to adjourn at 7:35pm.

Michelle Bouchard, RMC – Town Clerk