

December 16, 2021

Regular Town Board Meeting

Present: Supervisor Edward Bender, Councilman Paul Aubertine, Councilman Marty Mason, Councilman Dan Wiley, Councilman Alan Wood, Highway Superintendent Bill Pond, Keith Brass and approximately 8 visitors.

Supervisor Bender opened the meeting at 6:30pm with the pledge of allegiance.

Councilman Wood made a motion to go into executive session at 6:31pm to interview candidates for the Zoning Board, seconded by Councilman Mason. All members voted AYE.

Councilman Wood made a motion to come out of executive session and resume the regular meeting at 6:57pm, seconded by Councilman Aubertine. All members present voted AYE.

The minutes of the Nov. 18, 2021 meeting were accepted by Councilman Mason, seconded by Councilman Wood. All members voted AYE.

#### Reports

Recreation Park – Keith Brass said that there have been the usual clubs and meetings using the building. He said that the tennis nets are now down for the season.

Keith thanked the town board for allowing the Mussot family to use the Recreation Park Building, without paying the fee, for the celebration of life for Don Mussot. This was done because Mr. Mussot was a town employee for many years.

Keith told the board that he was notified that there will be an increase in the cost of the bleacher for the ball fields. He told the board that he would like to order the second set now before the increase.

Councilman Aubertine made a motion to authorize the purchase of the second set of bleachers, with a price not to exceed \$3,200.00 for the ballfield, seconded by Councilman Wiley. All members voted AYE.

Water – Keith Brass reported that they have done a couple of installs. He said that the new generator for the pump station will be in sometime in May of 2022. Keith said that they have replaced tires on both trucks, his and Johns. He also said that there was a leak in the DANC line in the town of Lyme and he and John helped to find and fix the leak.

Highway – Bill Pond said that the wind has been blowing sense the end of November, keeping them very busy with tree removal and debris. Bill told the board that the oil and water separator was cleaned. He said that the crew has been plowing and working on County Rte. 4.

Bill told the board that he met with the NYMIR insurance adjuster regarding the claim that a woman fell and was hurt at Tibbetts Point. Bill gave a little background on the property, and said that the concrete that the woman tripped on has been there since 1854, and he will remove it.

Councilman Wiley said that he should wait as the town has been told by the historical society that nothing can be removed until they approve it. He said Bill should not remove without their permission.

Bill reported that the new backhoe for the transfer site will be delivered on Friday, and they will pay for it in the 2022 budget year.

Bill reported that Marvin Votra and David Christiana are both out with Covid. He said that he would like guidance with Covid procedures.

Bill said that he still does not have an answer as to when he can order the pickup trucks. He said that no one has new inventory coming in. Bill said that he is still hoping to start County Rt 6 for the County. He said that County has had a piece of equipment in for repairs for some time now. He said that when they do get started, he has help lined up from other towns. He said that he is also hoping to borrow a chipper to help with the tree clean up from the wind storm.

Supervisor's Financial Report – Supervisor Bender reviewed the account balances.

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

LWRP – Councilman Wiley said that the report is completed and was submitted to the Dept. of State. He said that they were told that some of the wording needed to be changed, and they have done that.

LDC – Councilman Wiley said that they had a meeting to finalize the 501C-3 application and they are looking for people to serve on the committee. He also said that the town was awarded \$4000.00 through a CFA grant for the Tibbetts Point shoreline restoration. He said that this is a matching funds grant and that in-kind services will be needed.

Ambulance – Councilman Wiley said that the contract with the ambulance for service was signed. The board reviewed a resolution that the attorney provided to take steps in the creation of the ambulance district. After review and discussion, the board felt that there were some steps that needed to be completed before holding the public hearing on the creation of the district.

Councilman Aubertine said that he wondered why the village had to sign off on the creation.

Councilman Wiley said that he would reach out to the attorney.

The organizational meeting will be held on Jan. 4, 2022 at 9am in the Recreation Park Building.

The board discussed the vacancies that still exist on the Board of Assessment Review and the Planning Board noting that they need to find someone to fill the positions.

Councilman Aubertine asked Councilman Wiley to lay out for everyone what the town is looking to do with the CFA grant funds.

Councilman Wiley said that it will be used to shore up the shoreline around the point at Tibbetts Point. Councilman Aubertine asked if the funds will be accessible to the town and can the town say when the work will be done. He also wanted to know if the town can use the funds for some of the other repairs that need to be done there. Councilman Wiley said that the grant funds were strictly awarded for shoreline repair.

Councilman Mason said that he would like to use Cape Stone for the large rocks if at all possible. Bill Pond said that it would be possible and he will contact Dave from Cape Stone.

Councilman Mason said that he met with Scott Burto to discuss the grants that have been applied for but not yet awarded. He said that Scott told him that the \$100,000.00 for the playground is still out there and he has \$39,000.00 in bills yet to be submitted. Councilman Mason said that he has asked Keith to get the amount of bills he still has to collect for the pickle ball courts, and they will submit them for the final payment reimbursement.

Councilman Mason also reported that the village had received the last payment reimbursement for the pavilion project in the amount of \$48,961.00. He said the village would like to use that money to do whatever studies are needed to get the buildings torn down on the Eveleigh property. He said that the village would like to use the funds to get them to the \$60,000 needed. Councilman Wiley asked if the project was paid for, and Councilman Mason said that they have about \$20,000.00 to \$30,000.00 left in minor stuff left to get. He said that the village will give the remainder of the funds, approximately \$20,000.00 to the LDC.

Councilman Mason said that the village would like to use the entire amount, the \$48,000.00 for the studies. Councilman Wood asked if this amount should be a 60/40 split, and Councilman Mason said no because the town has not been contributing to the project.

Councilman Aubertine said that the village has this in mind, that 60% of the \$48,000.00 technically belongs to the town, and since they claim the town does not contribute and the town does not reimburse the LDC, the village wants to use all the funds. After a brief discussion, Councilman Aubertine said that if the town agrees to have the village use the funds he feels that they shouldn't claim the town does not contribute to the LDC again. Councilman Aubertine said that he does not want to hear that the town does not contribute any longer.

Councilman Mason said that he also met with the Clayton Improvement Association and that they are interested in putting little cottages, similar to the cottages they have on Strawberry Lane in Clayton, on Bay Street. He told the board that the Improvement Association will build them and rent them out. Councilman Mason said that they would like to move forward with this and they have a meeting on the second Wednesday in January. Councilman Mason said that he would like the town to approve of this project as some area they are looking at is located on town property. He said that they will be seeking grant funding for this with Scott Burto's help. Councilman Aubertine said that he wants to make it clear that Scott will not be paid a commission from the town for this project if any grants are awarded and Councilman Mason said that he wouldn't.

The board discussed COVID protocols. Bill Pond said that he would like some guidance to share with his men. He said that he has two guys out now, and if there is a snow storm, he will have to call for extra help. Bill said that masks are mandatory, but not all of the men agree to wear them. The board discussed various quarantine options for vaccinated and those unvaccinated.

It was decided that those who become ill and are vaccinated will be paid the first 48 hours. If the individual is still ill after the 48 hours, they will have to use their sick time. It was also decided that anyone vaccinated, who test positive for COVID and need to quarantine, will need to bring in a Doctor's note after 3 days if they are not able to return to work.

It was decided that if someone is not vaccinated, and is quarantined and/or ill, they will be paid for two weeks only. The weeks do not have to be consecutive. After the two weeks has been used, and the individual needs more time, they will have to use their own time.

Councilman Aubertine said that he feels the town should purchase the KN-95 masks for employees to wear. He said that he does not want to mandate that masks be worn, he said it should be up to the individual if they want to wear it or not. Councilman Aubertine said he is not in favor of mandating that masks be worn in the trucks as they are adults.

Councilman Wood made a motion to reappoint Bob Martin and Karen Bourcy to their terms on the Planning Board. There was discussion, that their appointments will be done at the organizational meeting.

Privilege of the floor

Jarrold Radley – Jarrold talked about the first time he met Supervisor Bender. He said that he considers Ed a friend. He told Supervisor Bender that he stepped up for the town during a tough time. He told Supervisor Bender that he will be leaving the town a lot better than when he got it.

Councilman Wiley made a motion that each member of the Zoning Board of Appeals, the Planning Board, and the Board of Assessment Review, as well as the Secretary be given \$50.00 for the extra work that they did during the year, seconded by Councilman Aubertine. All members voted AYE.

Bills: General Fund, \$37,365.83; Highway, \$23,243.67; Capitol, WD 7 \$600.00; WD 1, \$34,256.70; WD 2, \$2,038.47; WD 3, \$1,003.57; WD 4, \$1,117.44; WD 5, \$4,383.17; WD 6, \$433.53.

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

Councilman Wiley made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:10pm. The board thanked Supervisor Bender for his years of service.

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Michelle Bouchard, RMC – Town Clerk