The public meeting, for the Town of Constable was held on October 12, 2023 and called to order at 6:30 pm and the following members present were Councilwoman Lemire, Councilmen MacDonald, Leahy and Wilson, Highway Supt. Martin, Supervisor Onufer, Town Clerk Prue, Code Officer Halley and Dalton Patterson, IT.

The following guests were present Brittany Ensign, Jacob Maclin, Nicole Foote, Chris Bouissey, Mario Lemire, Tammy Trombley, Tina Recore, Luke Kompan, Jordan Hession, Bruce Johnson, Susan Dufrane, Estel Terrance, Dan Terrance, Iris Shova, James Gavin, Jason Trombley, B. Hunter, Barbara Gordon, Joe Tyson, Heather Hammond, Darrel Rockhill, Darrin Fefee, David Phippen, Dan (?), Amber Phippen, Tom Shova, Mike Shea, Helen Shonyo, Jim Lester, Peggy Lester, George Dufrane, Denise Lefebvre, Deny Lefebvre, Mason Foote, Heidi Boschek, Julie Bruso, Leland Bruso, Brenda Humiston, Rebeca Marlowe Recore, Devin Recore, Dick Sprague, Ron Clark, Chad Patterson.

Supervisor Onufer explained the purpose of the public meeting and reviewed the 2024 Budget and he informed everyone present that this is the first time the budget has gone over 1 million dollars. At the end of reviewing the budget, Supervisor Onufer opened the floor for questions.

Peggy Lester requested the $600.00 for the Food Pantry, be raised to $1,000.00.

Bruce Johnson asked about the Line Items for the Town Hall, Central Store Room, Central Communications and Equipment. Supervisor Onufer explained what expenses are charged to each account. Bruce also questioned if we should raise anything and asked if there could be a vote to raise the tax cap. Supervisor Onufer explained that there has already been a resolution passed to raise the tax cap, if necessary.

Mike Shea stated he felt we, as a Town Board, should work together with other towns and Legislators to get the 2% tax cap eliminated.

Devin Recore questioned how much we are paying for Salt and do we use State Contract, Highway Superintendent Martin explained the salt price, on state contract is $82.74/ton. Devin then questioned if the price of salt would be cheaper not using the state contract. Highway Superintendent Martin explained that it is not.

Jason Trombley stated that he contacted the Bangor and Westville Fire Departments and they are paid as follows:

Bangor - $100,000.00

Westville - $95,000.00

Jim Gavin stated how long he has been associated with the Fire Dept and that .

he feels the Town Board should give the fire dept. everything they are asking for because of all the hard work they do.

Supervisor Onufer made his first attempt to adjourn the meeting at 8:05 pm.

Discussion continued.

Denise and Deny Lefebvre gave a testimonial on behalf of the fire dept.

Tom and Helen Shonyo gave a testimonial on behalf of the fire dept.

David and Amber Phippen gave a testimonial on behalf of the fire dept.

Dan Terrance gave a testimonial on behalf of the fire dept.

Supervisor Onufer made his second attempt to adjourn the meeting at 7:25 pm

Discussion continued.

At 8:05 pm Supervisor Onufer stated discussions were over and he closed the public meeting.

The regular meeting for the Town of Constable was called to order by Supervisor Onufer at 8:10 pm.

A motion was made by Councilman Wilson and seconded by Councilwoman Lemire to accept the minutes from the September meeting, motion carried.

**CODE OFFICER**

Gordie gave his report from 08/21/2023 – 10/09/2023.

Code Officer Halley explained that some progress has been made but there is still more garbage to clean up. A motion was made by Councilwoman Lemire and seconded

by Councilman Leahy to leave the dumpster where it is for the time being, to enable Ms. Sternisha more time to clean up her property, motion carried.

Supervisor Onufer to call Social Services to check on what specifications have to be met in order to have the house declared inhabitable.

Supervisor Onufer reported that all bills, for the Sternisha expenses incurred by the Town, have to be turned in, no later than December 1, 2023 in order to be included in her January 2024 tax bill.

Supervisor Onufer turned over the paperwork to Gordie, RE: Repair or demolish a certain property in Constable.

Gordie turned in $600.00 for August and September.

Supervisor Onufer informed Gordie if there is anything he would like included in the January 2024 tax bill mailing to have it ready for the November meeting.

A motion was made by Councilman MacDonald and seconded by Councilwoman Lemire to accept Gordie’s report, motion carried.

**WEB/TECH**

Dalton gave his report for September.

Dalton needs to switch ownership of our domain with Squarespace to the town so the Town bill will come in the Town’s name, updated.

A motion was made by Councilman Leahy and seconded by Councilman MacDonald to accept Dalton’s report, motion carried.

**FIRE DEPT.**

The cell tower – Fire Dept. reported they received word that there is no obverse effect with putting the Cell Tower down by the pit.

Local Law regarding tax break for fire dept. – tabled.

A motion for Resolution #17-2023 was made by Councilman Wilson and seconded by Councilwoman Lemire to approve Ryan Recore joining the Fire Dept, motion carried.

Supervisor Onufer forwarded an email to Chris Dufrane on interest calculation.

Fire Dept. rejected the town’s latest contract and proposal with 2% increase and suggestion of investing their funds in the manor the town uses.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Lemier and seconded by Councilman MacDonald to accept the fire dept. report, motion carried.

**REC PARK**

Heidi informed the board that she is planning a trunk or treat day for October 28 from 5:00 pm -7:00 pm in the park.

Youth Bureau funds received.

Building renovations at the park – the bids will go out in November for completion in June 2024 and the new UV system for the drinking water has been purchased.

Paperwork for expenses that we are planning on for the new building have been sent in.

Update on Community Bank request for funds - nothing new to report.

Update on bench for new pavilion – nothing new to report.

On a motion by Councilwoman Lemier and seconded by Councilman Wilson to accept the rec park report, motion carried.

**CAPITAL PROJECTS**

A motion was made by Councilman MacDonald and seconded by Councilman Wilson for Capital Projects Budget Amendment #2-2023, motion carried.

$17,285.00 from Account #DA909 - Capital Project Fund Balance

$17,285.00 to Account DA7110.4 - Rec Park

Bills were audited and approved #9.

Supervisor Onufer presented the Capital Project Fund Monthly Statement for September 2023 for all board members to review. A motion was made by Councilman Leahy and seconded by Councilwoman Lemire to accept the Capital Project Monthly Statement, motion carried.

**HUD**

Monthly report presented to board members.

Received project extension email and forwarded to F.O.T.N.C.

2 projects completed and 2 being worked on.

On a motion by Councilman Leahy and seconded by Councilman MacDonald to accept the HUD report, motion carried.

**SOLAR**

Community Solar – nothing new to report.

Solar Project at Old Town Landfill – nothing new to report.

Update on PILOT agreement with Citrine – on 09/21 received approval from NYSEG.

Work to start in November, slight increase in power. On 9/29 received new PILOT agreement and let Citrine know they have the wrong address for the Town, received

corrected agreement. A motion was made by Councilman Wilson and seconded by Councilman MacDonald to accept the PILOT Agreement, motion carried.

**TOWN JUSTICE**

August funds collected were $20.00 a voucher has been received and the town’s share is $10.00

September funds collected were $160.00 and no voucher has been received.

**TOWN CLERK**

Town Clerk - $195.00 was turned in for September.

A motion was made by Councilman Wilson and seconded by Councilman MacDonald to change the number of Local Law #2 to Local Law #1, Local Law #1 was never passed, motion carried.

On a motion by Councilwoman Lemire and seconded by Councilman Wilson to accept the Town Clerk’s report, motion carried.

**ASSESSOR**

Senior Citizens tax break – tabled

Supervisor Onufer informed the board that the property formerly known as the “Servants of Jesus and Mary” is no longer being used by a non-profit organization is still tax exempt.

 **BUDGET**

Proposed wording of Fire Dept. contract sent to the Town Attorney and all board members to review.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Lemire and seconded by Councilman Leahy to have another budget workshop meeting, motion carried. Meeting to be held on October 25, 2023 at 7:00 pm in the Town Hall. Notice of meeting to be published in the Telegram, posted on Town Website and on the Town Bulletin Board advertising the budget workshop meeting.

**HIGHWAY**

Update on Tatro situation – appropriate amount of time has passed and this is dropped.

Received final CHIPS funds for the year.

Old grader sold on Auctions International for $2,350.00. A motion was made by Councilwoman Lemire and seconded by Councilman MacDonald that upon receipt of the funds they are to be placed in the Highway Capital Projects savings account, motion carried.

Larry gave his fuel report for September 2023. A motion was made by Councilwoman Lemire and seconded by Councilman MacDonald to accept the Supervisor’s report, motion carried.

Supervisor Onufer reported he received notice from the Association of Towns that the temporary restraining order for the 50 miles radius rule on prevailing wage for aggregate construction material delivery has been rescinded.

Supervisor Onufer reported receipt of the NYSDOT shared services agreement.

Highway Dept. bills were audited and approved. #120 - #132.

Supervisor Onufer presented the Highway Fund Monthly Statement for September 2023 for all board members to review. A motion was made by Councilman Leahy and seconded by Councilwoman Lemire to accept the General Fund Monthly Statement, motion carried.

**General**

Supervisor Onufer reported he received information from the County on grants and he forwarded to the Fire Dept.

Supervisor Onufer reported he received and e-mail on 3 additional areas that the ARPA funds can be used.

Supervisor Onufer reported he received the Fiscal Stress Monitoring report for 2022 from the Comptroller’s Office. 2020 – 6.7%, 2021 – 3.3%, 2022 – 5.0%.

Supervisor Onufer reported he received a copy of the closed landfill testing from Life Science Lab and everything is ok.

Supervisor Onufer reported he received $11,821.00 in AIM Funding.

Update on NYPA work and use of the closed landfill for their helicopter, nothing new to report.

Discussion on tax break for seniors – tabled

Update on broadband – nothing new to report

Employees handbook – being worked on.

Savings Statements for September 2023 was presented for all board members to review.

Trial Balance and Savings Statement were presented to the board members for their review.

Supervisor Onufer presented the General Fund Monthly Statement for September 2023 for all board members to review. A motion was made by Councilman MacDonald and seconded by Councilwoman Lemire to accept the General Fund Monthly Statement, motion carried.

General Bills were audited and approved. #178 - #199

A motion to adjourn was made by Councilman MacDonald seconded by Councilwoman Lemire, motion carried. Meeting was adjourned at 10:30 pm.

Susan Prue, Constable Town Clerk