The regular meeting, for the Town of Constable was held on November 8, 2023 and called to order at 7:00 pm and the following members present were Councilwoman Lemire, Councilmen MacDonald, Leahy and Wilson, Supervisor Onufer, Town Clerk Prue, Code Officer Halley and Dalton Patterson, IT. Highway Supt. Martin was absent.

The following guests were present to discuss the Fire Dept. Jacob Maclin, Tammy Trombley, Lukas Kompan, Matus Kompan, Iris Shova, Jason Trombley, David Phippen, Amber Phippen, Deny Lefebvre. Kenneth and Dorothy Buntz were in attendance to discuss a problem they are having with the house being built next door to them and get some help from the Code Officer.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Lemire and seconded by Councilman MacDonald to accept the minutes from the October 12, 2023 meeting, motion carried.

A motion was made by Councilman MacDonald and seconded by Councilwoman Lemire to accept the minutes from the October 25, 2023 meeting, motion carried.

Councilman Wilson audited the Supervisor’s books prior to the start of the meeting.

**CODE OFFICER**

Gordie gave his report from 09/14/2023 – 11/06/2023.

Mr. & Mrs. Buntz explained that when the contractors put in the new septic system

at the neighbor’s house, the leach field is within 50’ from his well and he is worried about his well becoming contaminated. Mr. Buntz stated that he felt Gordie did not act fast enough to prevent this from happening. He requested Gordie talk to the homeowner to see if this is in fact a new leach field and get this problem rectified.

Gordie turned in $145.20 for October.

Gordie turned in his insert to be included in the January 2024 tax bill mailing.

Gordie turned in his signed 2024 contract.

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

**WEB/TECH**

Dalton gave his report for October.

Councilwoman Lemire questioned Dalton if he has posted the budget on our website, and the answer was yes.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Lemire and seconded by Councilman Wilson to

Accept Dalton’s report, motion carried.

**FIRE DEPT.**

The cell tower – nothing new to report.

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

Supervisor Onufer explained that the 2024 Budget for the Town of Constable has been finalized and approved by the board and as of yet we do not have a signed contract from the Fire Dept.

Supervisor Onufer reported that the video recording has been completed and the audio recordings are being worked on. Video recording was only for the last meeting as the video records over itself every 30 days.

Councilman Wilson asked what the fire dept. didn’t like about our proposal. Supervisor Onufer reported that they had presented a new contract from their lawyer but board members have yet to look at it and discuss it.

Supervisor Onufer read a letter from the Town’s Attorney re: open meeting laws.

**REC PARK**

Verizon phone line has been terminated.

Youth Bureau annual report has been received and turned over to Councilwoman Lemire to complete for our summer program.

Trunk or Treat at the park was a huge success.

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

Update on bench for new pavilion – tabled till spring.

Jacob Maclin asked if he could resurrect the walking trail that had been built by the Tyson boys as an Eagle Scout Project. No decision was made.

Heidi asked if they could hold a Food Bingo in the Court Room for the benefit of the park.

Brooks Washburn, Architect, wants to send out specifications for the work to be done at the park in January 2024 for construction to start when the park closes for the summer next year.

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

**CAPITAL PROJECTS**

Nothing to report.

**HUD**

Monthly status report presented to board members.

2 projects completed and 2 being worked on.

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

**SOLAR**

Community Solar – nothing new to report.

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

Citrine Solar Project – as per Donna Kissane, Franklin County Planner, Franklin County has agreed to the PILOT and project moving forward.

**TOWN JUSTICE**

September funds collected were $160.00 a voucher has been received and the town’s share is $110.00

October funds collected were $318.00 and no voucher has been received.

**TOWN CLERK**

Town Clerk turned funds in the amount of $269.00 for the month of October.

On a motion by Councilman MacDonald and seconded by Councilman Leahy to accept the Town Clerk’s report, motion carried.

**ASSESSOR**

Discussion on tax break for seniors – tabled

Supervisor Onufer sent an email to Bob to see is he had anything he wanted to insert in the January tax bill.

 **BUDGET**

A motion was made by Councilwoman Lemire and seconded by Councilman Wilson to approve the 7% increase for the Fire Dept. and raising the Food Pantry donation to $1,000.00, motion carried.

A motion was made by Councilman MacDonald and seconded by Councilman Wilson to rescind the resolution to override the 2% tax cap, Motion carried.

**HIGHWAY**

Highway Superintendent Martin was absent. Supervisor Onufer gave a modified report and a motion was made by Councilman MacDonald and seconded by Councilman Wilson to accept this modified report, motion carried.

A motion was made by Councilman Wilson and seconded by Councilwoman Lemire for Resolution #18-2023 which reads as follows: The Snow & Ice Contract from Franklin County was received and reads as follows:

2023-2024 – 10.6 miles - $63,200.06

2024-2025 – 10.6 miles - $65,096.06

2025-2026 - 10.6 miles - $67,048.95

2026-2027 - 10.6 miles - $69,064.41

Motion carried.

The paperwork was received from Franklin County for mowing of County Roads in Constable. This was signed and returned and check in the amount of $3,816.00 for this past summer was received.

Supervisor Onufer reported receipt of $2,350.00 for the sale of the old grader, these funds were put into the Highway Dept. – Capital Projects Fund.

Highway Dept. employees are back on a 5-day work week.

Discussion on getting a solar powered speed monitoring sign – tabled.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Lemire and seconded by Councilman MacDonald for Highway Dept. Budget Amendment #5-2023, motion carried.

$808.80 from Acct. #DA 5110.1 General Repairs

$808.80 to Acct.#54130.1 Machinery Personal Serv.

Highway Dept. bills were audited and approved. #133 - #141.

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

**General3**

Supervisor Onufer reported he received $26,640.75 from F.C.S.W.M.A.

Update on broadband – nothing new to report

Employees handbook – being worked on.

Supervisor Onufer reported that we earned $1,352.00 in interest for last month and year-to-date is $16,606.00 interest earned.

Trial Balance and Savings Statement for October 2023 were presented to the board members for their review.

A motion was made by Councilman MacDonald and seconded by Councilwoman Lemire General Fund Budget Amendment #3-2023, motion carried.

$1,240.00 from Acct. #A1990.4 Contingency

$1,240.00 to Acct. #A1420.4 Attorney

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

General Bills were audited and approved. #201 - #224

A motion to adjourn was made by Councilman Wilson seconded by Councilman Leahy, motion carried. Meeting was adjourned at 8:55 pm.

Susan Prue, Constable Town Clerk