

The regular meeting for the Town Board of Constable was held on March 14, 2024 at 7:00 PM in the Town Office. Members present were Councilwoman Lemire, Councilmen MacDonald and Wilson, Supervisor Onufer, Town Clerk Prue, Councilman Leahy was present via phone conference call and Code Officer Halley was also absent.

Guests present were F.W.M.A. Kip Cassavaw, Constable Residents Mario Lemire, Helen Shonyo, Constable Firemen James Gavin, Devin Recore, Chris Bouissey, Jason Trombley, Iris Shova, Lukas Kompan, Matt Kompan, Bruce Johnson and Greg Pickering.

Councilman Wilson audited the Supervisor's books.

On a motion by Councilman MacDonald and seconded by Councilman Wilson to accept the minutes from the February 8, 2024 regular meeting, motion carried.

Kip Casava, Representative for the F.C.S.W.M.A., explained what has been accomplished at the landfill and what they expect to accomplish in the future. He explained that the odor issue is being investigated, testing is being done but this may be a result of the weather.

Renovations are being completed at the Lake Clear transfer station.

The Town Board thanked him for his report.

CODE OFFICER

Supervisor Onufer reported that Gordie informed him that he is getting done as the Code Officer, effective 12/31/2024.

SOLAR

Citrine - Nothing new to report.

Closed Landfill Solar - Nothing new to report.

FIRE DEPARTMENT

Supervisor Onufer informed the Fire Dept. that he had the flyers for their upcoming fund raisers posted at the Town Hall and they are posted to our website.

The Fire Department reported that the Town's Foil Request is being worked on.

Cell Tower – Nothing new to report.

Tax Break for the members of the Fire Department – Nothing new to report.

The Town Board went over the Fire Dept. 2022-990 Budget vs 2022 actual expenses reported to the Town Board. The Board let them know everything looks good and Councilwoman Lemire made a few suggestions to them.

Jim Gavin reported that their expenses for:

January – \$6,800.00

February - \$8,800.00

March - \$7,800.00 & \$18, 281.00 for Insurance.

April 1, 2024 their truck payment in the amount of \$15,400.00 is due.

Chris Bouissey asked if we would do a 75% payment for the 1st half of the year and then 25% for the second half of this year and then next year the 50% in February and the second half in July.

It was restated to the department that the Town Board had made provisions in the contract to allow for an advance payment against the July 2024 payment if proof was provided to the town board. The department left the meeting to have a private discussion. Upon return, the department proposed the following:

Fire Department Contract Amount \$82,435.00 – 2 payments of \$41,217.50.

One in February and one in July with a slight modification in the wording for request for advance payment.

The department also requested that the wording “This contract has a non-binding effect – and is not open to arbitration.” be removed from the proposed contract.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Lemire and seconded by Councilman Wilson to pay the Fire Dept. a one-time additional payment of \$15,400.00 for their truck payment, motion carried. This amount will be deducted from their July payment.

The Town Board requested a copy of their truck payment bill.

Jim Gavin stated that they are going to try and have their truck payment moved to later in the year. He thinks that they will have to pay between \$600.00 - \$800.00 to have this done.

Supervisor Onufer asked if they have given any more thought to forming an advisory board. Town Board Representatives would be Councilwoman Lemire and Councilman Wilson. Jim Gavin reported that they are open to this but not with who the town wants from the Town Board.

Jim Gavin asked if the board would be interested in having a public hearing to sign the contract. The Town Board informed the Fire Dept. that in order to have public hearing it needs to be advertised 10 days prior to the meeting. A motion was made by Councilwoman Lemire and seconded by Councilman MacDonald to have the public

hearing on March 28, 2024 at 6:30 PM, motion carried.

Supervisor Onufer read a compilation of what Councilman Wilson and Councilwoman Lemire came to after reading the "Pinsky Fire Service Law Management Manual" that the Fire Dept. attorney recommended.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Lemire and seconded by Councilman Wilson for a Moratorium on consideration and/or approval of any new applicants until the issues with the current membership were resolved, motion carried.

The Town Board informed the Fire Dept. that all current Fire Dept. volunteers are covered by Workman's Comp. Law.

Fire Dept. members present at this meeting wanted to know what steps needed to be taken to move forward.

Councilwoman Lemire asked the Fire Dept. when they were going to have the bills ready for the board to review and to set a date to go over the bills.

Councilwoman Lemire made a motion to close the fire department section of the meeting. This was seconded by Councilman MacDonald, motion carried.

HIGHWAY

Supervisor Onufer reported that a shared services contract was received from the Town of Duane.

Supervisor Onufer reported he received a notice from Craig Tatro reporting that he got hurt while driving on the Stebbins Road going to his sugar bush.

Supervisor Onufer reported he got a request from the NYS State Snow & Ice Contract division, wanted the highway dept. wage rates.

Supervisor Onufer reported receipt of \$31,600.03 which represents ½ of the 2023/2024 Franklin Co. Snow & Ice Contract.

Highway Superintendent Martin gave his report for February 2024. A motion was made by Councilwoman Lemire and seconded by Councilman Wilson to accept Larry's report, motion carried.

Supervisor Onufer presented the Highway Dept. Fund Monthly Statement for February 2024 for all board members to review. A motion was made by Councilman MacDonald and seconded by Councilman Wilson to accept the Highway Dept. Fund Monthly Statement, motion carried.

Highway Dept. bills were audited and approved #11- #26.

ASSESSOR

Senior Citizens tax break – tabled.

Assessor requested to hire someone to update the property cards. A motion was made by Councilman MacDonald and seconded by Councilwoman Lemire to hire someone at \$20.00/hour plus mileage at \$.65 per mile. Starting at Town Hall and ending at Town Hall. The charges are not to exceed \$5,000.00. This is to be paid from the funds from the sale of the Old Town Hall building.

HUD

Supervisor Onufer gave the monthly report.

3 completed
2 in progress

A motion was made by Councilwoman Lemire and seconded by Councilman MacDonald to accept the HUD report, motion carried.

WEBSITE

Supervisor Onufer sent the information on Banners on the Light Poles to be posted on our Facebook page and no one responded.

Rec Park

Supervisor Onufer to contact the Franklin County Sheriffs Dept. to inquire having finger printing done at the Re Park this summer for the children that come to the park. Nothing new to report on this.

Renovations at the Rec Park are on hold until bids go out in the spring. Nothing new to report.

The Quilters informed the board that the quilt top is finished and is at the longarm quilters. It was decided that the tickets will be \$5.00 each or 3 for \$10.00.

Community Grant Funds from Community Bank – nothing new to report.

Update on pavilion bench, will be worked on when weather permitting.

TOWN JUSTICE

January funds collected were \$1,555.00 and a voucher has been received and the Town's share was \$300.00.

February funds collected were \$499.00 and a voucher has been received and the Town's share was \$55.00.

TOWN CLERK

Town Clerk turned in \$143.75 for February 2024.

A motion was made by Councilman MacDonald and seconded by Councilwoman Lemire to accept the Town Clerk's report, motion carried.

TAX COLLECTOR

All funds due to the Town have been received and any unpaid tax bills have been turned over to the County. \$627.91 was turned over to the Town from late payment fees.

Supervisor Onufer reported receipt of \$6,165.39 from OYA pilot funds.

General

Supervisor Onufer reported that Karen Ritchie, Bookkeeper, will be resigning at the end of December 2024.

Employee handbook being worked on and Councilwoman Lemire to make a copy of the tentative handbook for Highway Superintendent Martin to read and review.

Update on broadband – Being worked on.

Supervisor Onufer reported receipt of \$450.00 from the Franklin County Traffic Diversion Program.

Supervisor Onufer received an email from NYSEG on EV charging station installations – Town Board responded with a no.

Savings Statements and Trial Balance for February 2024 was presented for all board members to review.

Supervisor Onufer presented the General Fund Monthly Statement for February 2024 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. #27 - #44

On a motion to adjourn was made by Councilman Wilson, seconded by, Councilman

MacDonald, motion carried. Meeting was adjourned at 9:45 pm.

Susan Prue, Constable Town Clerk