

August 9, 2021

The regular meeting of the Town Board of Vernon was held at 7:00 p.m. on the above date at the Town Office Building. Council members present were Randy Watson, Supervisor; Gene Bennati, Myron Thurston and Steve Adamkowski. John Peters was absent. Also present: County Legislator Keith Schiebel; Tim Murphy, Highway Superintendent; Brian Dam, Planning/Zoning Board Chairman and 8 citizens.

Following the Pledge of Allegiance, there was a moment of silence. The meeting was called to order by Supervisor Watson at 7:00 p.m.

Supervisor Watson asked the council members if there were any additions or corrections to the minutes from the July 12, 2021 meeting. There being none, a motion to accept the minutes as written was made by Bennati, seconded by Adamkowski. No discussion. Ayes 4. Nays 0. Motion carried.

PUBLIC CONCERNS:

Leslie Grogan presented the board members with the Gates-Cole Insurance renewal policy. She had previously met with Supervisor Watson and Bookkeeper to discuss the policy. Nothing has changed with building limits, inland marine schedule and auto physical damage limits. It was requested to increase value of the new Western Star. Grogan explained that anything that is not permanently attached to the vehicle affects the value. The buildings automatically increased due to inflation. There was an overall increase of 1.9% to the policy. Thurston added that Gates Cole has been with us over the years and, previously when there has been claims, the Town of Vernon has always been adequately covered.

REPORTS:

The following reports were presented: Town Clerk, Codes Enforcement, Planning/Zoning Board of Appeals; Brian Dam advised the Board that he contacted an engineering firm that will give us the cost and time estimate for a temporary bridge in the case that the current bridge on Elmwood Place in Sherrill were to ever become unusable. Howard Regner added that he would like the Town of Vernon, City of Sherrill and the Vernon Planning/Zoning Chairman to meet to discuss several scenarios that he has come up with that would be opportunities for everyone in the case that the bridge on Elmwood Place in Sherrill were to become unusable. Supervisor's, SWOCO; Watson said there had been no meeting however, there is talk about if it would be possible to put solar up on the landfill as this could save the Towns money. Highway Superintendent and County Legislator Schiebel submitted written reports.

There were no reports from Assessors, Education and Libraries, Intergovernmental Relations, Operations, Economic Development, and Historian.

A motion to accept the above reports was made by Bennati, seconded by Adamkowski. No discussion. Ayes 4. Nays 0. Motion carried.

A motion to pay the bills was made by Adamkowski, seconded by Bennati. No discussion. Ayes 4. Nays 0. Motion carried.

BUSINESS:

A motion to approve NYMIR insurance renewal policy at \$33,563.56, an increase of \$629.43 was made by Bennati, seconded by Thurston. Ayes 4. Nays 0. Motion carried.

A motion to approve City of Oneida Water Department to provide a survey of the Prospect Street Water district to locate leaks for approximately \$1600.00 was made by Thurston, seconded by Bennati. No discussion. Ayes 4. Nays 0. Motion carried.

A motion to approve the first ARPA installment of 2 in the amount of \$181,565.86 to be used for the Vernon Center Water District was made by Thurston, seconded by Bennati. Adamkowsi asked where the money would be going. Watson advised it would be put into General fund and if for some reason it was not used for the water district it would have to be given back. There are specific areas in which this money is allowed to be spent and infrastructure is one of them. Ayes 4. Nays 0. Motion carried.

A motion to accept the Oneida County Highway Snow Plowing Agreement for 2021-2022 in the amount of \$6,200 was made by Thurston, seconded by Bennati. Timothy Murphy added that this is a 1 year agreement, unlike the previous agreements of 3 years. Ayes 4. Nays 0. Motion carried.

1st Quarter Mortgage Tax was received in the amount of \$94,571.78.

Reminder that Association of Towns meeting will be on August 17, 6:00pm, Orchard Hall, Sauquoit, NY. Bennati noted that they have reserved seats for 7 people.

Claudia Tenney's office informed the Town that the \$3 million dollar request for Vernon Center Water District passed through Congress and is awaiting approval in the Senate.

The Town of Vernon has signed Host Community Benefit Agreement with EDF Renewables for Quiet Meadows Solar Farm 2 per Town Attorney Vincent Rossi's approval.

GOOD OF THE ORDER:

Bennati has recently gone to Vernon National Shooting Preserve. He noted that it is an incredible operation and recommends going if you are interested in shooting and doing so in a safe friendly environment.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

A motion to enter executive session to discuss upcoming legislation at 7:50pm was made by Adamkowski, seconded by Bennati. No discussion. Ayes 4. Nays 0. Motion carried.

Council returned from Executive session at 8:17pm.

There being no further business, a motion to adjourn at 8:18 p.m. was made by Adamkowski, seconded by Thurston. No discussion. Ayes 4. Nays 0. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Additions to minutes on file
in Town Clerk's Office.

Jennifer Champney
Town Clerk

This meeting was digitally recorded and is on file in the Town Clerk's office.

COMMUNICATIONS:

None