

December 12, 2016

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, Mick McDonough, Steve Adamkowski and John Peters. Also present: Village of Vernon Mayor Gerald Seymour, County Legislator Keith Shiebel and 6 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 November 3, 2016 meeting. There being none, a motion to approve the minutes as written was made by Peters, seconded by Bennati. No discussion. Ayes 5. Nays 0. Motion carried.

PUBLIC CONCERNS:

Lori Bartch from the Vernon Public Library presented a live pine tree to the Board in appreciation of the funding they receive from the Town.

REPORTS:

The following reports were presented: Town Clerk, Zoning Board of Appeals, Codes Enforcement, Supervisor's, Historian and Intergovernmental Relations: Adamkowski gave an update on FEMA buyouts involving the Burkle and Buell properties being ready for their closings, and the other 3 property owners are not sure if they are going to continue with the buyout. Also, he is passing Vernon Downs litigation requirements onto the School Board. Operations: McDonough mentioned that the new snowplow route is working out well.

There were no reports from Planning Board, Assessors, Education and Libraries, Economic Development, Operations, SWOCO and Highway Superintendent.

County Legislator Schiebel reported that the County Executive Picente's proposed new sales tax redistribution may not happen. They have formed a committee and have had 3 meetings regarding this, but it doesn't look like they'll have the majority vote to support it. The proposal would increase the sales tax revenue of Cities of Rome and Utica and 3 of the biggest townships (financially), decrease the rest of the townships, and decrease all the villages within 3 or 5 years to zero. There is a great deal of concern about this. Also, there is a Citizens Empowerment Tax Credit Program to encourage municipalities to merge. If two municipalities merge programs together, they would each receive a 15% increase in funding. The only catch is that it has to be voted on every year, so it's not dependable.

A motion to accept the above reports was made by Bennati, seconded by Adamkowski. No discussion. Ayes 5. Nays 0. Motion carried.

A motion to pay the bills was made by McDonough, seconded by Adamkowski. No discussion. Ayes 5. Nays 0. Motion carried.

BUSINESS:

Request was received from Lori Bartch for the Town Board to send a letter to reduce the speed limit on a section of State Route 5 where the village ends to State Route 26 because people don't stop for the school bus. The process was explained to her by Supervisor Watson. A motion to send a letter, with her petition, to the County and to the State was made by Bennati, seconded by Peters. No discussion. Ayes 5. Nays 0. Motion carried.

Request was received from Solar City for a permit to solicit town residents door-to-door. The Board decided that solicitors are a nuisance to our residents. A motion to deny Solar City's request for a permit to solicit door-to-door was made by McDonough, seconded by Bennati. No discussion. Ayes 5. Nays 0. Motion carried.

A motion to transfer \$13,400 (\$6300 for FEMA buyout and \$3000 ONX) from A1990.4 Contingency to A1355.4 Assessors and \$4100 to A1440.1 Engineers was made by McDonough, seconded by Adamkowski. No discussion. Ayes 5. Nays 0. Motion carried.

A motion to continue the Land Into Trust Litigation was made by McDonough, seconded by Adamkowski. No discussion. Ayes 5. Nays 0. Motion carried.

A motion to schedule 2017 Board meeting dates as follows: January 9, February 13, March 6, April 10, May 8, June 12, July 10, August 14, September 11, October 16, November 6, December 4 and December 18 was made by Adamkowski, seconded by Peters. No discussion. Ayes 5. Nays 0. Motion carried.

Time Warner Cable franchise check was received in the amount of \$9121.20.

Third quarter sales tax check was received from Oneida County in the amount of \$267,569.11.

Happy Holidays card was received from the Sherrill Kenwood Library with a thank you note in appreciation of the Town's support.

GOOD OF THE ORDER:

Adamkowski mentioned that the Town employees' Christmas luncheon was very nice.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

A motion to enter into Executive Session at 8:17 p.m. to discuss Personnel was made by Adamkowski, seconded by Peters. No discussion. Ayes 5. Nays 0. Motion carried.

Supervisor Watson announced that no further business would be conducted.

Council returned from Executive Session at 8:45 p.m. A motion to adjourn at 8:47 p.m. was made by Peters, seconded by McDonough. No discussion. Ayes 5. Nays 0. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

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

Julie A. McElroy
Town Clerk

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

COMMUNICATIONS:

NYMIR booklet