

February 12, 2024

The regular meeting of the Town Board of Vernon was held at the Town Office Building on the above date with the following persons present: Randy Watson, Supervisor; Gene Bennati, Steve Adamkowski, John Peters and Myron Thurston, Council members. Also present: 9 residents.

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 January 8 or January 12, 2024 meetings. There being none, a motion to accept the minutes as written was made by Peters, seconded by Thurston. No discussion. Ayes 5. Nays 0. Motion carried.

PUBLIC CONCERNS:

Assistant Superintendent Mark Wixson gave a presentation of VVS Schools Facilities Project for upcoming vote on March 7, 2024. Peters questioned if the school was listening to the taxpayers and what they wanted. Mr. Wixson believed that the group of people that helped the school board make these decisions represented the taxpayers as well. Thurston wanted further clarification as to how much would be spent on each of the projects, the overall total does not give the community enough of a breakdown. Bennati said he wants the public to be happy and he believes we all want what is best for the children.

Doug Lockwood asked for an update on the Vernon Center Water District. Supervisor Watson explained that they are still moving forward and that several of the motions being made during the Business portion of the meeting would be for the Vernon Center Water District.

REPORTS:

The following reports were presented: Town Clerk, Codes Enforcement, Supervisor, Highway Superintendents, Education and Libraries; Bennati asked Lori Klopfer from the Library to speak. Klopfer advised that they are doing well and are working on compiling the information needed to have the Vernon Library Budget added to the VVS School tax role. Intergovernmental Relations: Adamkowski advised he is finishing up getting the submissions for the newsletter and is right on schedule to send for printing the beginning of March.

There were no reports from: Zoning/Planning Board, Education and Libraries, Operations, Assessors, SWOCO, County Legislator, and Economic Development.

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

A motion to pay bills was made by Thurston, seconded by Bennati. No discussion. Ayes 5. Nays 0. Motion carried.

BUSINESS:

A motion to appoint Judge Suzanne Bellinger to Town Justice was made by Peters, seconded by Adamkowski. Ayes 5. Nays 0. No discussion. Motion carried.

A motion to appoint Lori Klopfer as Clerk to Town Justice was made by Peters, seconded by Thurston. Ayes 5. Nays 0. No discussion. Motion carried.

A motion to approve an audit of the Town of Vernon Courts to be performed by Sarah Marshall, CPA after April 15, 2024 and be reviewed by the Town Board was made by Thurston, seconded by Bennati. Ayes 5. Nays 0. No discussion. Motion carried.

A motion to approve audit of the Town of Vernon books conducted on February 12, 2024, was made by Adamkowski, seconded by Peters. Ayes 5. Nays 0. No discussion. Motion carried.

Annual Local Government Conference by Tug Hill Commission will be May 2, 2024, from 7:30am – 4:15pm at Turning Stone. Will need number of attendees. A motion to approve closure of the office building on the day of the conference was made by Peters, seconded by Adamkowski. Ayes 5. Nays 0. No discussion. Motion carried.

A Resolution authorizing Town Supervisor to sign any necessary documents to facilitate the use and occupancy permit with the NYSDOT for the Vernon Center Water District passed with a roll call resulting in Supervisor Watson, Councilman Bennati, Councilman Adamkowski, Councilman Thurston and Councilman Peters all voting Aye.

A motion to approve maintenance agreement with the City of Oneida Water for Vernon Center Water District was made by Peters, seconded by Thurston. No discussion. Motion carried.

A motion to approve an application with Oneida County Dept. of Public Works for access driveway to Vernon Center Water District tank site was made by Peters, seconded by Bennati. No discussion. Motion carried.

A 2024 Ford F250 Pickup was ordered with a plow through state contract in the amount of \$59,194.50.

The 3rd quarter mortgage tax was received in the amount of \$120,813.48.

The 3rd quarter of 2023 OIN Compact payment from Oneida County was received in the amount of \$31,250.00.

The 1st half of 2023/2024 Snow contract was received in the amount of \$84,721.50. Increase of \$713.75 from last year.

Oneida Library proposed 2024-2025 Operating Budget was received in the amount of \$502,395.08. An increase of \$18,499.40.

A motion to approve request from Historical Society to use building for meetings on 3/28, 4/30, 5/28, 6/25 (6/25 is Primary Day, if there is voting at Town Hall, they would like to switch date to 6/18), 7/30, 8/27, 9/24, 10/29, and 11/26 was made by Peters, seconded by Thurston. No discussion. Ayes 5. Nays 0. Motion carried.

GOOD OF THE ORDER:

None

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

A motion to enter executive session to discuss Contracts at 8:05p.m. was made by Adamkowski, seconded by Thurston. No discussion. Ayes 5. Nays 0. Motion carried.

Board members returned from Executive Session at 8:50p.m.

There being no further business, a motion to adjourn at 8:51 p.m. was made by Adamkowski, seconded by Peters. No discussion. Ayes 5. 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