

January 4, 2021

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: County Legislator Keith Schiebel.

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 December 28, 2020 meeting. There being none, a motion to accept the minutes as written was made by Thurston, seconded by Bennati. No discussion. Ayes 5. Nays 0. Motion carried.

PUBLIC CONCERNS:

None

REPORTS:

The following reports were presented: Town Clerk, Planning Board, Codes Enforcement, Supervisors and Intergovernmental Relations: Adamkowski asked Supervisor Watson if he replied to email from Brandon Lovett at the City of Sherrill in regards to sharing services if needed for plowing due to covid. Watson stated that he replied letting them know that we would be happy to help if needed and all they need to do is call us. Highway Superintendent, County Legislator Schiebel submitted a written report including 1) adoption of Oneida County Budget 2) Third quarter payments from Oneida County 3) Capitol projects being removed or suspended.

There were no reports from, Education and Libraries, Zoning Board of Appeals, Assessors, SWOCO, Economic Development, Operations, and Historian.

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

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

BUSINESS:

A motion was made by Thurston, seconded by Peters to authorize Supervisor to pay all utilities, bank indebtedness and invest funds wisely without prior approval of the Board. No discussion. Ayes 5. Nays 0. Motion carried.

A motion to appoint Rome Sentinel as the official newspaper for the Town of Vernon was made by Thurston, seconded by Peters. No discussion. Ayes 5. Nays 0. Motion carried.

A motion to designate Community Bank to be used as depository for all Town funds was made by Bennati, seconded by Adamkowski. No discussion. Ayes 5. Nays 0. Motion carried.

A motion to allow Supervisor or Deputy Supervisor to attend SWOCO meetings as Town representative was made by Thurston, seconded by Peters. No discussion. Ayes 5. Nays 0. Motion carried.

A motion to authorize the Highway Superintendent to purchase tools, equipment and implements in an amount not to exceed \$2,000 per purchase in 2021 without prior approval of the Town Board was made by Peters, seconded by Bennati. No discussion. Ayes 5. Nays 0. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Peters, seconded by Bennati to set the salary for members of the Planning Board and members of the Zoning Board of Appeals at \$110 per meeting attended with Board Chairman of each board to receive \$225 per meeting chaired; secretary of the Planning Board and Zoning Board of Appeals to receive \$110 per meeting; pay for members of the Board of Assessment Review will be set at \$175 per day with Chairman receiving \$225. No discussion. Ayes 5. Nays 0. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Thurston, seconded by Adamkowski to accept the following Highway rates of pay for 2021:
Working Foreman, \$23.75/hr; Heavy Equipment Operator (2), \$23.40/hr; Motor Equipment Operator (3), \$23.10/hr; Mechanic (1) \$23.10/hr; Laborer, minimum wage to \$16.20/hr; Part time laborer, minimum wage to \$16.00/hr. One (1) week vacation after completion of one (1) year's work, two (2) week vacation after completion of two (2) years' work, three (3) week vacation after completion of five (5) years' work, four (4) week vacation after completion of fifteen (15) years' work. Six (6) personal days – non-cumulative. All vacation/personal days to be paid at standard pay rate. Holidays: New Year's Day, Good Friday (1/2 day), Memorial Day, Labor Day, Columbus Day, Veterans' Day, Thanksgiving Day plus following Friday and Christmas. Health Insurance: 50% during first six months of work. Town pays other 50% if employee signs during first year of employment. Second six months and thereafter the employee will pay 15% of the premium per month. The Town will pay \$20 per month toward dental and vision insurance. The Town will pay one-half of single-person health insurance for retiree with 30 years of service. Noncontributory retirement and disability for Tiers 1 and 2; employees pay 3% for Tiers 3 and 4. Tier 5 and 6 employees pay minimum of 3% for entire career. Five days sick leave (per year) accumulative to sixty (60) days. No discussion. Ayes 5. Nays 0. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Peters, seconded by Bennati to accept the following appointments:

Deputy Supervisor – Gene Bennati
Historian - Janice Buneo
Deputy Town Clerk – Julie McElroy
Bookkeeper to the Supervisor - Wendy Coston
Bookkeeper to the Highway Superintendent - Wendy Coston
Personnel Director - Wendy Coston
Deputy Hwy Supt/Working Foreman – George Vencek
Clerk to Town Justice - Vacant
Prospect St Water Dist Collector - Wendy Coston
Prospect St Water Dist Biller - Jennifer Champney
Prospect St Water Dist Meter Reader and Repairman - Kevin Champney
Registrar of Vital Statistics – Jennifer Champney
Deputy Registrar of Vital Statistics – Julie McElroy
Records Management Officer – Jennifer Champney
Budget Director - J. Randall Watson
Chairman, Zoning Board of Appeals - Brian Dam
Chairman, Planning Board - Vacant
Chairman, Board of Assessors – Duane Munger
Assessors' Clerk – Jennifer Tyczinski
Attorney for the Town - Vincent Rossi, Jr.
Codes Enforcement Officer - Jody Thieme
Building Inspector – Reay Walker
Codes' Clerk – Heather Mair
Potash Hill Cemetery Custodian - Elizabeth Eastman
Marble Hill Rd Indian Cemetery Custodian - Melvin Phillips
Pre-retirement Seminar Coordinator - Wendy Coston
Dog Control Officer – Clayton Conover
Filey Road Plowing - Kevin Mumford
Town Engineer - Delta Engineering
Supervisor Committee Appointments:
Education and Libraries - Gene Bennati
Intergovernmental Relations - Steve Adamkowski

Economic Development - John Peters

Operations – Myron Thurston

No discussion. Ayes 5. Nays 0. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Peters, seconded by Bennati to approve the salaries budgeted but not to exceed the following:

Supervisor - J. Randall Watson - \$19,000

Deputy Supervisor – Gene Bennati - \$2,292

Budget Director - J. Randall Watson - \$2,580

Bookkeeper to Supr. - Wendy Coston - \$30,820

Bookkeeper to Hwy. Supt. - Wendy Coston - \$3,336

Personnel - Wendy Coston - \$2,040

Justice - Robert Suttmeier - \$18,000

Councilperson - Gene Bennati - \$6,300

Councilperson – Myron Thurston - \$6,300

Councilperson - Steve Adamkowski - \$6,300

Councilperson - John Peters - \$6,300

Town Clerk – Jennifer Champney - \$28,434

Tax Collector – Jennifer Champney - \$6,267

Registrar of Vital Statistics – Jennifer Champney - \$3,150

Records Mgmt Officer – Jennifer Champney - \$1,665

Deputy Town Clerk – Julie McElroy - \$16.25/hr

Assessor, Chairman - Duane Munger - \$19,550

Assessor - Timothy Wagner - \$18,350

Assessor - Frank Laguzza - \$18,350

Assessors' Clerk – Jennifer Tyczinski - \$14.00/hr

Supt. of Highways – Timothy Murphy- \$59,270

Prospect St. Water District Collector - Wendy Coston - \$525/per qtr

Prospect St. Water Biller - Jennifer Champney - \$525/per qtr

Prospect St. Water Meter Reader - Kevin Champney - \$525/per qtr

Code Enforcement Officer - Jody Thieme - \$27.00/hr

Building Inspector – Reay Walker - \$22.00/hr

Codes' Clerk – Heather Mair - \$15.00/hr

Historian - Janice Buneo - \$750.00/yr

Town Engineer - Delta Engineering - \$700/yr

Dog Control Officer – Clayton Conover - \$8,400/yr

Filey Road Plowing - Kevin Mumford - \$395/yr

General Office Help (part time depending

on experience) – minimum wage to \$17.00/hr

Election Workers - to be paid by Oneida County Board of Elections

Potash Hill Cemetery Custodian - Elizabeth Eastman - \$650/yr

Marble Hill Rd. Indian Cemetery Custodian - Melvin Phillips - \$750/yr

It was noted that the Judge reduced his pay by \$3000.00 in his budget. Ayes 5. Nays 0. Motion carried.

A motion to audit Town books on February 8, 2021 at 6:30p.m. was made by Thurston, seconded by Peters. No discussion. Ayes 5. Nays 0. Motion carried.

A motion to accept Resolution for Youngs Road petition to be sent to NYS Department of Transportation was denied. Peters noted that the speed limit request on the original petition had been changed from 45mph to 40mph at some point while it was being signed by community members. Peters also stated that he previously spoke with NYS Department of Transportation and they advised they would not entertain a speed limit under 45mph. Peters will contact Doug Lockwood on this petition discrepancy. Ayes 0. Nays 5. Motion denied.

GOOD OF THE ORDER:

None

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

A motion to enter into Executive Session to discuss personnel at 7:44p.m. was made by Thurston, seconded by Adamkowski. No discussion. Ayes 5. Nays 0. Motion carried.

Board members returned from Executive Session at 8:00p.m.

A motion for Town Clerk to approach Court Clerk, Sandy Schell and Codes Clerk, Heather Mair to see if they are available to help out with some of the extra work in the Town Clerk's office during tax season was made by Adamkowski, seconded by Peters. Adamkowski volunteered to come into the office and help with any filing that needs to be done. Ayes 5. Nays 0. Motion carried.

There being no further business, a motion to adjourn at 8:02 p.m. was made by Bennati, seconded by Thurston. 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