

July 10, 2017

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: Randy Watson, Supervisor; Gene Bennati, Mick McDonough, Steve Adamkowski and John Peters. Highway Superintendent Art Freemire was on vacation. Also present: Oneida County Legislator Keith Schiebel, Village of Vernon Mayor Gerald Seymour 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 June 12, 2017 meeting. There being none, a motion to approve the minutes as written was made by Bennati, seconded by Adamkowski. No discussion. Ayes 5. Nays 0. Motion carried.

PUBLIC CONCERNS:

Janice Buneo and Matt Lenhart, representing the Historical Society, requested any help they can get from the Town to store their historical records. Doris Piper has offered the Vernon Center Post Office building rent free to them, but she requires liability coverage and Janice said that they don't have the funds right now. After some discussion, Supervisor Watson said that he would look into it.

Village of Vernon Mayor Jerry Seymour thanked the highway department for the work they are doing with the building on the corner that was demolished.

REPORTS:

The following reports were presented: Town Clerk, Codes Enforcement, Supervisor's, Assessors, Education and Libraries: Bennati mentioned that both libraries are running very well, Intergovernmental Relations: Adamkowski reported that he attended a DPW meeting on shared services with County Legislator Keith Schiebel and they talked about the City of Sherrill's salt storage barn collapsing and would we have any extra room for their storage temporarily, they also talked about shared equipment storage and salt purchasing. There could also be savings on lighting districts. Starting next fiscal year any money that we can document that we save through shared services, the State is going to match. Operations: McDonough suggested that we need to do some ditch improvements after he drove around and looked at some of the same areas that keep flooding.

County Legislator Schiebel presented a written report including: 1) flood mitigation funds, 2) 911 calls totalled 1,400 during the flood, 3) new 30 cent per month 911 cell phone surcharge, 4) \$50,000 grant for canine services and 5) countywide shared services.

There were no reports from Planning Board, Zoning Board of Appeals, Economic Development, SWOCO, Highway Superintendent and Historian.

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

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

BUSINESS:

The Town Board expressed their appreciation to the highway department for the exceptional job they did during the flood.

Supervisor Watson announced that SWOCO will hold a picnic during their July meeting at the landfill on July 12, 2017 at 6:30 p.m. and all Board members are invited.

There was a discussion to decide who could complete the 2020 Census for the Town that needs to be done in order to secure funding and grants. The Board concluded that the Assessors would be the most knowledgeable and have the most information to complete this. Supervisor Watson will talk to them about it.

Received check for \$231,788.00 VLT money from New York State.

Purchase Agreements have been signed for the remaining residents, Dale Winn and Virginia Stevens, from Buell Mobile Home Park, that were part of FEMA.

Letter was written and read by Bennati to Governor Cuomo from the Town Board concerning Sherrill Secession.

Letter was received from Vernon Downs advising dates of closure being cancelled as Vernon Downs will stay open due to new agreement with the State.

Request was received from Town Clerk Julie McElroy to increase Deputy Town Clerk Jen Champney's hourly rate by 25 cents an hour due to her passing certification to become a Notary Public. A motion to approve this hourly increase and charge \$3.00 fee for this service was made by Bennati, seconded by Peters. No discussion. Ayes 5. Nays 0. Motion carried.

A motion to give written permission to a Town employee with a pistol permit to carry a pistol to work was made by Peters, seconded by McDonough. No discussion. Ayes 5. Nays 0. Motion carried.

GOOD OF THE ORDER:

Bennati announced that anyone can go to the website, openbookny.com, and research information on municipalities. He has been asked about what the construction is going to be in Sherrill, which is owned by the Nation, and it is going to be a convenience store, gas pumps and a car wash. Also, he gets questions about the taxes in Vernon and if you look at your tax bill, the portion the Town receives is quite small.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

A motion to enter into Executive Session at 8:21 p.m. to discuss Personnel was made by Adamkowski, seconded by Bennati. No discussion. Ayes 5. Nays 0. Motion carried.

Supervisor Watson announced that no further business would be conducted.

Council returned from Executive Session at 8:35 p.m. A motion to adjourn at 8:40 p.m. was made by McDonough, seconded by Adamkowski. 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:

None