

March 14, 2022

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: Brian Dam, Zoning Board Chairman; County Legislator, Keith Schiebel; Jessica McLaughlin, Oneida County Soil and Water and 7 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 February 7, 2022 meeting. There being none, a motion to accept the minutes as written was made by Thurston, seconded by Peters. No discussion. Ayes 5. Nays 0. Motion carried.

PUBLIC CONCERNS:

John Nortz asked about the minutes from the January 10, 2022 meeting and was advised that they were available in the Town Clerks Office.

Douglas Lockwood asked about the NYS DOT denying the request to lower speed limit on Youngs Road as it was on the agenda for this meeting. Supervisor Watson stated that it was denied by NYS DOT between Route 5 and Peterboro Road. Lockwood is concerned about the Amish community that frequently travel that road. Brian Dam added that the Amish have added lights to their equipment which helps. County Legislator, Keith Schiebel mentioned that about 3 years ago he attended a meeting in which there was discussion on safety for the horse and buggies traveling on roadways and it was a belief to their religion that if something were to happen, it was in God's hands.

Jessica McLaughlin spoke from Oneida County Soil and Water and advised the Board Members that she had applied for a grant through FLOWPA to replace the culvert on privately owned Carrick Road and received \$35,000. There are further studies to be done on the design standpoint including a hydrology study. There is no match needed financially with this grant like others often do. Brian Dam questioned if the Government was providing funding for private property. McLaughlin said this grant was to help the private sector. Kazlauskas asked if there were certain requirements as to who could do the excavation work for the culvert. McLaughlin advised that they could hire anyone they wanted for the job. Nortz submitted an additional 33 signatures requesting the Town of Vernon to retake ownership of Carrick Road. He also asked he was going to be the point person for their project. Supervisor Watson said the Town cannot as it is private property. Jessica McLaughlin stated that she is the point person.

Mike Janowski thanked the Highway Department for their help with the ditches near his house.

REPORTS:

The following reports were presented: Town Clerk, Zoning/Planning Board: Brian Dam stated that the bond and decommissioning plan has been approved for solar on the parcel located on the corner of Williams Street and Sholtz Road. Codes Enforcement, Supervisors and Intergovernmental Relations: Adamkowski advised the newsletter has been completed. Highway Superintendent, County Legislator; Schiebel submitted a written report highlighting maintaining and enhancing county assets and infrastructure, Sherriff's Office recruitment boost, battling opioid overdoses, radio system updates, animal protection, better DSS client service, keeping schools safe, agreement with MVCC bargaining unit, Oneida County farming and preserving natural resources. There was discussion about having EDGE come speak on things happening in Oneida County before next months meeting. Peters will set it up and confirm with Town Clerk, Champney. Highway Superintendent Murphy asked if the County was planning on doing

any work to their roads in the Town of Vernon. Schiebel asked that he and Supervisor Watson compile a list of county roads that they believe need work and to send it to him.

There were no reports from Education and Libraries, Operations, Assessors, SWOCO and Economic Development.

A motion to accept above reports was made by Bennati, seconded by Adamkowski. 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 to pass a resolution for the Town of Vernon to accept Central Paving Inc., 4247 Acme Road, Frankfort NY's low bid of \$103,650.00 for Town Parking Lot/Walking Trail paving and enter into a contract with Central Paving Inc. was made by Thurston, seconded by Adamkowski. No discussion. Ayes 5. Nays 0. Motion carried. The bids received are as follows:

- Central Paving \$103,650.00
- Costello Blacktop Paving \$133,633.45
- Lan-Co Companies \$138,555.00
- Paul F. Vitule Inc. \$139,576.00
- Ruston Paving \$166,437.00
- Salt Springs Paving \$154,693.10
- Thompson Brothers \$163,624.00
- Yanuk Excavating \$250,944.90

A motion to appoint Brian Schorer to Board of Assessment Review was made by Bennati, seconded by Adamkowski. No discussion. Ayes 5. Nays 0. Motion carried.

A motion to approve request made by Vernon Historical Society to use Town Office Building for 2022 meetings to be held the last Tuesday of the month as follows- 3/29, 4/26, 5/31, 6/28, 7/26, 8/30, 9/27, 10/25 and 11/29 was made by Peters, seconded by Thurston. No discussion. Ayes 5. Nays 0. Motion carried. Meetings will begin at 7:00pm and door will need to be opened at 6:30pm.

A motion to accept quote to replace flooring in Town Office building from Smith's Flooring \$9,348.49 and quote from Tug Cleaning to strip wax from floor before new installation of \$1,865.00 was made by Bennati, seconded by Thurston. No discussion. Ayes 5. Nays 0. Motion carried.

Received liquor license application for Richard & Patricia Shultes, Utica Rome Speedway, 6591 Route 5, Vernon.

NYS DOT denied request to lower speed limit on Youngs Road between Route 5 and Peterboro Road.

Oneida County Board of Elections sent a letter advising the Town of Vernon that the 2022 Primary Election will be held on June 28th from 6:00am – 9:00pm and the 2022 General Election will be on November 8th from 6:00am – 9:00pm.

PILOT Agreement has been received for Quiet Meadows Solar Farm 2, LLC.

4th Quarter sales tax has been received in the amount of \$286,400.65; increase of \$38,973.38.

1st installment of the Oneida County Snowplowing Contract was received in the amount of \$78,430.00.

4th Quarter Franchise fee has been received from Charter Communications in the amount of \$9,656.82.

There was a discussion on the Vernon Center Water District status. Watson advised that the \$3million grant Claudia Tenney had helped them with has passed the Senate vote and is awaiting the Presidents signature.

GOOD OF THE ORDER:

None

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

A motion to enter into Executive Session to discuss personnel at 7:48p.m. was made by Peters, seconded by Thurston. No discussion. Ayes 5. Nays 0. Motion carried.

Board members returned from Executive Session at 8:20 p.m.

There being no further business, a motion to adjourn at 8:21 p.m. was made by Peters, seconded by Adamkowski. 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