

March 8, 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: Wendy Coston and 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 February 8, 2021 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, Zoning Board, Codes Enforcement, Supervisors and Intergovernmental Relations: Adamkowski stated that the newsletter is almost done and will be printed in the next couple weeks and thanked everyone for all of their help, Highway Superintendent submitted a written report including a request to purchase a used 2009 Road Broom, SWOCO: Watson stated that a bid has been accepted to replace the siding on the building and work is scheduled to be done in the Spring; County Legislator: Schiebel submitted a written report including 1) Cree is advancing and has a Career and Information Day scheduled March 15th 2) Nexus project has stalled 3) Mohawk Valley Health System receiving a large donation.

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

A motion to accept above reports was made by Bennati, seconded by Thurston. 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:

Board members signed a letter to be sent congratulating Congresswoman Claudia Tenney.

A motion to approve request to purchase paid version of Zoom at the amount of \$149 per year was made by Bennati, seconded by Thurston. No discussion. Ayes 5. Nays 0. Motion carried.

The Town of Vernon 2020 Annual report was completed and submitted.

First quarter Time Warner Franchise fee check was received in the amount of \$9,760.99.

The first of two Mortgage Tax checks were received in the amount of \$58,789.99; an increase from last year of \$13,996.23.

The third quarter third installment of sales tax was received in the amount of \$101,962.14.

Two checks were received totaling \$50,418.07 from State of NY Department of Homeland Security for FEMA reimbursement of road repairs made after the 2013 flood.

Coston told Board Members that initially the Town received 75% of the cost of repairs. The State later approved 100% to be paid out. This completes the 100% reimbursement.

A motion to approve Highway Superintendents request to purchase a broom/sweeper for no more than \$17,500 was made by Thurston, seconded by Peters. No discussion. Ayes 5. Nays 0. Motion carried.

A motion to accept Delta Engineering as new engineer for Vernon Center Water District and relieve Barton and Loguidice of their duties was made by Peters, seconded by Thurston. Adamkowski asked where we stand on the WIA grant. Peters advised that nothing has happened and Thurston advised that Delta will move forward with it. Watson added that there is a clause in the contract that if the Town does not get the WIA grant that the project will not continue. Watson added that there is about a \$400,000.00 savings by going with Delta and he believes it will be more of a savings in the long run. Thurston acknowledged that there were some suggestions made by Peters for future expansion that Barton and Loguidice did not want to talk about at all. Peters added that he suggested plastic pipes vs cast iron as cast iron can result in water main breaks. Barton and Loguidice advised him that plastic was too expensive and shot it down. Peters added that the digging and disruption of soil would be extensive with cast iron and by using plastic the technique of directional boring could be done and alleviate the need for the disrupting the ditches and people's lawns as much. By working with Delta Engineering, he stated that it is actually cheaper to directionally bore and the plastic pipes have a 99-year life span. By working with Delta, we have the opportunity to expand the water tank in the future as this was not an option with Barton and Loguidice. Bennati stated that it is a smart idea to always look to the future for these projects. Thurston thanked Peters for asking another engineering firm for advice because this may be the make or break in this project as the savings in the engineering firm and the savings by using directional boring are substantial. Ayes 5. Nays 0. Motion carried.

Lee Ann Wells, City of Oneida Comptroller will be meeting with Randy Watson late March to sign Joint Debt Agreement for Library Construction. Agreement is to pay construction debt taxes directly to City of Oneida who holds debt.

A motion to purchase 4 new benches for the walking trail up to the amount of \$1200 was made by Bennati, seconded by Peters. No discussion. Ayes 5. Nays 0. Motion carried.

GOOD OF THE ORDER:

None

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

None

There being no further business, a motion to adjourn at 7:39 p.m. was made by Adamkowski, 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