

November 1, 2021

A special meeting of the Town Board of Vernon was held at 7:00 p.m. on the above date at the Town Office Building for the purpose of a public hearing to consider the advisability of entering into contracts for providing fire protection services with the following fire companies with respect to the following fire protection districts:

- Oneida Castle Fire Department
 - District #1 \$28,609.00
 - District #2 \$43,717.00
- Sherrill-Kenwood Volunteer Fire Company \$40,853.00
- Volunteer Fire Company of Vernon \$87,955.00
- Vernon Center Volunteer Fire Company \$88,314.00

Council members present: Randy Watson, Supervisor; Gene Bennati, Myron Thurston, Steve Adamkowski and John Peters. Also present: Keith Schiebel; County Legislator and 1 community member. The meeting was called to order by Supervisor Watson at 7:00 p.m.

Councilman Thurston asked what the difference was from last year. Watson advised that it is an increase of \$4000 per fire department.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:15 p.m.

A special meeting of the Town Board of Vernon was held at 7:15 p.m. on the above date at the Town Office Building for the purpose of a Preliminary Budget Hearing. Council members present: Randy Watson, Supervisor; Gene Bennati, Myron Thurston, Steve Adamkowski and John Peters. Also present: Keith Schiebel; County Legislator and 1 community member. The meeting was called to order by Supervisor Watson at 7:15 p.m.

The proposed salaries of the following Town offices are hereby specified as follows:

	Supervisor	\$20,000.00
	Deputy Supervisor	\$3,000.00
4	Council Person(each)	\$7,000.00
	Town Clerk/Tax Collector	\$41,316.00
1	Justice	\$21,660.00
	Assessor-Certified Chairman	\$20,550.00
1	Assessor-Certified	\$19,300.00
1	Assessor-Certified	\$19,300.00
	Highway Superintendent	\$64,000.00

The meeting was adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

The regular meeting of the Town Board of Vernon was held at 7:30 p.m. on the above date at the Town Office Building. Council members present: Randy Watson, Supervisor; Gene Bennati, Myron Thurston, Steve Adamkowski and John Peters. Also present: Tim Murphy, Highway Superintendent; Keith Schiebel, County Legislator and 2 residents.

Following the Pledge of Allegiance, there was a moment of silence. The meeting was called to order by Supervisor Watson at 7:30 p.m.

Supervisor Watson asked the council members if there were any additions or corrections to the minutes from the October 4, 2021 meeting. There being none, a motion to approve the minutes as written was made by Peters, seconded by Thurston. Ayes 5. Nays 0. Motion carried.

PUBLIC CONCERNS:

None

REPORTS:

The following reports were presented: Town Clerk, Supervisor's, Planning Board/Zoning Board of Appeals and Codes Enforcement, Highway Superintendent, County Legislator; Schiebel noted that there is a Public Hearing on the County Budget, Tuesday, November 9, 2021 at 6:00p.m. He encouraged the Board Members to attend.

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

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 the bills was made by Adamkowski, seconded by Peters. No discussion. Ayes 5. Nays 0. Motion carried.

BUSINESS:

A motion to approve the 2022 Fire Contracts was made by Adamkowski, seconded Thurston. No Discussion. Ayes 5. Nays 0. Motion carried.

A motion to approve the 2022 Budget was made by Peters, seconded by Thurston. No discussion. Ayes 5. Nays 0. Motion carried.

Arthur Wood was present on behalf of Mr. Gural from Vernon Downs to discuss some future plans they are currently working on. Vernon Downs has some intentions of using some of their farm lands for twenty, one-acre greenhouses. This will be a partnership with Netherlands Co. These will be used to grow vegetables and cannabis. Mr. Gural would like to know how the Board feels about this. This is a way to help make Vernon Downs viable forever. Thurston asked if there was enough water to do this? Wood stated that water will be collected from the top of the greenhouses. Horse manure will be used by biomass to heat the greenhouses which will eliminate a current issue of disposing manure. Adamkowski advised they look into burning natural gas to generate electricity. With the lighting that will be used they may be able to supply lighting for their facility and possibly even putting electricity back into the grid.

A motion to approve transferring \$78.46 from A1990.4 Contingency to A1430.4 Personnel was made by Peters, seconded by Thurston. No discussion. Ayes 5. Nays 0. Motion carried.

A motion to approve transferring \$128.30 from A1990.4 Contingency to A5010.4 Highway Bookkeeper was made by Peters, seconded by Adamkowski. No discussion. Ayes 5. Nays 0. Motion carried.

Board Members discussed quote of \$7500-\$8500 from Website Designer, McGrogan Design. Town Clerk Champney mentioned that this designer was recommended by IT Company, Technical Solutions. Adamkowski asked if there were any other quotes from other designers. Champney said there are no others at this time. The Town of Vernon has previously looked into other companies and they have all been on the expensive side. Thurston asked how much would need to be done on a yearly basis to the website once it is up and running. Champney stated that each department handles their own pages and the designer does not normally need to make any changes on their end. Champney advised Board Members that we are open to suggestions for Designers if the Board Members can come up with any. Watson stated that he would be open to a new designer once the emails are switched over by the new IT company after the first of the new year. Board Members would like to table this discussion at this time.

A motion to approve renewal of Cemetery Contracts in the amount of \$750 annually each was made by Thurston, seconded by Peters. No discussion. Ayes 5. Nays 0. Motion carried.

A motion to approve annual renewal of Humane Society Contract was made by Bennati, seconded by Thurston. No discussion. Ayes 5. Nays 0. Motion carried.

A motion to approve request made by VVS Little League to spend up to \$5000 buying dirt for the Vernon Baseball Field was made by Thurston, seconded by Peters. Peters asked why they were spending all of the money in the budget and not saving some of it in case there were other requests for supplies such as uniforms. Town Clerk, Champney advised that the \$5000 is what is remaining in the budget from 2021. Bennati stated that the Village of Vernon is willing to go in half of what it costs for the Washington Ball mix. Thurston stated that the Town has not been asked for money from the Little League in at least two years. Adamkowski said they needed to top dress and rebuild the current field. Ayes 5. Nays 0. Motion carried.

A motion to approve to purchase 8 new chairs for the breakroom of up to \$300 per chair was made by Thurston, seconded by Bennati. No discussion. Ayes 5. Nays 0. Motion carried.

A check was received from Empire Livestock for the sale of two trucks in the amount of \$11,250.00

Town of Vernon will hold Veterans Memorial Service on 11/11/21 at 11:00a.m.

Highway Superintendent Murphy asked if the Board was okay with the Highway Department closing the bathrooms in the pavilion for the winter. The board members agreed to winterizing and closing bathrooms for the winter. Murphy asked if a Port-A-John was going to be placed out back of the office building as requested by a community member. Adamkowski stated that they had agreed that they would put one outback but then after looking into it, decided it was not a good idea due to the risk of the high winds blowing it over, keeping a walkway cleared for use and it not being in the way of plowing. Board members have agreed the bathrooms inside the office are open during business hours for use and they will not be getting a Port-A-John.

GOOD OF THE ORDER:

Adamkowski thanked the Highway Department for their help planting the memorial trees along the walkway behind the Town Office Building

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

None

A motion to adjourn at 8:10 p.m. was made by Peters, 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