

November 6, 2023

A special meeting of the Town Board of Vernon was held at 6:30 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 \$28,481.00
  - District #2 \$49,917.00
- Sherrill-Kenwood Volunteer Fire Company \$46,053.00
- Volunteer Fire Company of Vernon \$95,255.00
- Vernon Center Volunteer Fire Company \$95,614.00

Council members present: Randy Watson, Supervisor; Gene Bennati, Myron Thurston, Steve Adamkowski and John Peters. Also present: 6 community members. The meeting was called to order by Supervisor Watson at 6:30 p.m.

Oneida Castle, Vernon Center, and Sherrill have been increased by \$6,000.00 and Vernon \$7,000.00. Each department will be receiving money up front then reimbursement of funds up to a specific dollar amount for fire insurance and grant applications and/or trainings. These amounts are as follows:

- Vernon \$92,130 up front; \$3,125 fire ins; \$5,227 grant applications
- Vernon Center \$92,489 up front; \$3,125 fire ins; \$4,227 grant applications
- Oneida Castle \$76,148 up front; \$2,250 fire ins; \$3,486 grant applications
- Sherrill \$41,303 up front; \$4,750 fire ins; \$2,810 grant applications

The meeting was adjourned at 6:45 p.m.

A special meeting of the Town Board of Vernon was held at 6:45 p.m. on the above date at the Town Office Building for the purpose of a 2024 Preliminary Budget Hearing. Council members present: Randy Watson, Supervisor; Gene Bennati, Myron Thurston, Steve Adamkowski and John Peters. Also present: 9 community members. The meeting was called to order by Supervisor Watson at 6:45 p.m.

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

	Supervisor	\$24,000.00
	Deputy Supervisor	\$4,200.00
4	Council Person(each)	\$8,200.00
	Town Clerk/Tax Collector	\$44,616.00
1	Justice	\$21,660.00
	Assessor-Certified Chairman	\$22,000.00
1	Assessor-Certified	\$21,300.00
1	Assessor-Certified	\$21,300.00
	Highway Superintendent	\$71,200.00

Wendy Coston explained that only tax dollar funds can be used in the special lighting districts. There was an increase of \$2,000 to that line to cover National Grid increases. The proposed budget does not drive a tax increase to the residents.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:00 p.m.

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, Myron Thurston, Steve Adamkowski and John Peters. Also present: 9 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 October 10, 2023 meeting. There being none, a motion to approve the minutes as written was made by Thurston, seconded by Peters. Ayes 5. Nays 0. Motion carried.

#### PUBLIC CONCERNS:

Rose Lockwood asked the Board Members if the wetlands application was completed. Peters advised that he had not heard back on that. John Peters has talked to approximately 17 out of 30 residents that have trees planted in the right-away that may need to be removed.

#### REPORTS:

The following reports were presented: Town Clerk, Planning Board/Zoning Board of Appeals, Codes Enforcement, Supervisor, Education and Libraries; Bennati is happy with the documentation that is being supplied by the Vernon Library. He mentioned that they have won back the trust of the Town Board. A contract will be provided to the library for the 2023 fiscal year. Once that is complete the board has approved funding of \$1500 for 2023. Intergovernmental Relations: Adamkowski mentioned that they have completed the planting of trees for this year. Next year they will be expanding the varieties available.

There were no reports from Assessors, Operations, SWOCO, Economic Development, Highway Superintendent or County Legislator.

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

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

#### BUSINESS:

A motion to approve the 2024 Fire Contracts was made by Peters, seconded Thurston. No Discussion. Ayes 5. Nays 0. Motion carried.

A motion to approve the 2024 Budget was made by Peters, seconded by Bennati. No discussion. Ayes 5. Nays 0. Motion carried.

A motion to approve scheduling a special meeting for Vernon Center SEQR Resolution Negative Declaration on November 20<sup>th</sup> at 7:00pm was made by Peters, seconded by Adamkowski. No discussion. Ayes 5. Nays 0. Motion carried.

A motion to approve transfer of \$10,000 from A1990.4 Contingency to A5132.4 Highway Garage to cover repairs was made by Thurston, seconded by Peters. No discussion. Ayes 5. Nays 0. Motion carried.

A check was received from NYMIR Insurance for repairs to damaged highway building in the amount of \$40,600.68.

A motion to approve the transfer of \$10,000 from DB5130.2 Machinery Equipment to DB5130.4 Machinery Contractual was made by Bennati, seconded by Peters. No discussion. Motion carried.

Town of Vernon will hold Veterans Memorial Service on 11/11/23 at 11:00 am.

A motion to approve Mumford Electric quote to re-wire light fixtures from T-8 fluorescent lamps to LED, approximately 65 fixtures for a total of \$4,030 was made by Thurston, seconded by Peters. No discussion. Ayes 5. Nays 0. Motion carried.

GOOD OF THE ORDER:

None

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

A motion to enter executive session to discuss Ethics Board at 7:27 p.m. was made by Peters, seconded by Bennati. No discussion. Ayes 5. Nays 0. Motion carried

Board members returned from Executive Session at 8:25 p.m.

There being no further business, a motion to adjourn at 8:30 p.m. was made by Adamkowski, seconded by Peters. No discussion. Ayes 5. Nays 0. Motion carried.

Additions to minutes on file  
in Town Clerk's Office.

Respectfully submitted,

Jennifer Champney  
Town Clerk

This meeting was digitally recorded and is on file in the Town Clerk's office.

COMMUNICATIONS:

None