

December 5,2022

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; Myron Thurston, Steve Adamkowski and John Peters. Also present: Tim Murphy, Highway Superintendent; Reay Walker, Codes Officer; Brian Dam, Planning/Zoning Chairman; Keith Schiebel, County Legislator; and 2 residents. Absent: Gene Bennati

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 November 7, 2022 meeting. There being none, a motion to approve the minutes as written was made by Thurston, seconded by Peters. Ayes 4. Nays 0. Motion carried.

PUBLIC CONCERNS:

None

REPORTS:

The following reports were presented: Town Clerk, Planning Board/Zoning Board of Appeals, and Codes Enforcement, Operations, Thurston asked Highway Superintendent Murphy to explain what inflation is doing to equipment. Murphy explained the cost of a new plow truck that was \$260,000 in 2021 is not available for purchase in 2023. If you are looking for one it would need to be ordered for 2024 at the cost of \$338,000.00. Tires are hard to come by and the damaged plow truck from March of 2022 is still in the shop for repairs as there are issues getting the parts needed. Supervisor's, County Legislator, Schiebel gave a written report and highlighted that the Board of Legislators approved the 2023 operating and capital budgets at \$494.7 million, Main Street improvement program, Farmland protection and mortgage tax payments for municipalities.

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

A motion to accept the above reports was made by Peters, seconded by Adamkowski. No discussion. Ayes4. Nays 0. Motion carried.

A motion to pay the bills was made by Thurston, seconded by Adamkowski. No discussion. Ayes 4. Nays 0. Motion carried.

BUSINESS:

A motion to approve the following 2023 Town Board Meeting dates; January 9, February 13, March 13, April 10, May 8, June 12, July 10, August 14, September 11, October 10, November 6, December 4 & December 18 was made by Peters, seconded Thurston. No Discussion. Ayes 4. Nays 0. Motion carried.

A motion to approve Audit of the Town Books for February 13, 2023 was made by Thurston, seconded by Peters. No discussion. Ayes 4. Nays 0. Motion carried.

A motion to approve 2023 Prospect Street Water Maintenance Agreement in the amount of \$9,930 was made by Thurston, seconded by Peters. No discussion. Ayes 4. Nays 0. Motion carried.

A motion to approve renewal of Codes Office Contract with Village of Vernon and Village of Oneida Castle at the rate of \$36.00 per hour was made by Thurston, seconded by Adamkowski. No discussion. Ayes 4. Nays 0. Motion carried.

Third quarter sales tax check was received from Oneida County in the amount of \$364,589.05.

A motion to schedule a Public Hearing on December 26, 2022 at 6:30pm for Codes Zoning change from commercial, to commercial manufacturing on 5661 State Route 5 was made by Peters, seconded by Thurston. Custom Amish sheds will be built at this location. Ayes 4. Nays 0. Motion carried.

A motion to schedule a Public Hearing on December 26, 2022 at 6:45pm for Local Law Street Parking in the Town of Vernon during snowplow season was made by Peters, seconded by Thurston. No discussion. Ayes 4. Nays 0. Motion carried.

A motion to transfer \$20,000 from A1620.4 Buildings Contractual to A1440.1 Engineering for Engineering fees associated with the Vernon Center Water Project was made by Thurston, seconded by Peters. Thurston asked for an update on the water project. Peters advised that the project is moving along. Engineers were digging test spots and going to directionally bore to check for dirt and rocks. The project is preparing to be put out for bid. Ayes 4. Nays 0. Motion carried.

Received Franchise fee check from Charter Communications in the amount of \$9,552.36.

GOOD OF THE ORDER:

Town employee Christmas Party will be held on Monday, December 12, 2022 at noon.

Brian Dam mentioned that there will be a zoning/planning board meeting Thursday December 8th at 7:00pm for a small business request on College Hill Rd.

There was a discussion on a community cemetery on Arquint Rd for the Amish community. Peters mentioned that Town Attorney Rossi had advised that there are no laws in New York State that say you can not bury a deceased family member on your own property. Chapter 47 of the town code book covers private burial plots and the funding for future care of a cemetery. Adamkowski stated that, per Vince Rossi's email, it does not say anything about future funding for care of cemeteries. Codes Officer Reay Walker advised that the state law is in place to cover the state but that it does allow for Local Laws to be put in place also. Town Board members will need further guidance from Attorney Rossi to establish laws on public/community burials on private land.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

None

A motion to adjourn at 7:35 p.m. was made by Peters, seconded by Adamkowski. No discussion. Ayes 4. 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