

July 8, 2024

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, Myron Thurston, Council members; Keith Scheibel, County Legislator; Kevin Sayles, City of Sherrill Commissioner. Also present: 10 community members.

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 June 10, 2024, meeting. There being none, a motion to accept the minutes as written was made by Peters, seconded by Thurston. No discussion. Ayes 5. Nays 0. Motion carried.

PUBLIC CONCERNS:

David & Lisa Jensen mentioned that Wood Road is not a pleasant neighborhood since the approval for the ATV Club to use Wood Rd. They feel that it is a public nuisance. They have witnessed ATVs going over the speed limit of 25mph and are concerned about the use of light bars blinding traffic on the road. David Jensen asked who was policing the trails as the side by sides he saw going down the road exceeded an 800lb. weight limit that the Nation has on their property. He believed the Nation was going to be policing the trails and why the vehicles that were being given permits were allowed when they are over the weight limit. Councilman Peters asked club representative Jon Woodcock to address the concerns. Woodcock stated that the club does allow ATV's that exceed that weight and he does not know of any weight limit on the Nation's property. The ATV club is a private club with a contract to use Nation property for the trails. The Nation does not police the entire trail system. Woodcock stated that the state speed limit on Wood Rd. is 55mph and the Town of Vernon requested that the ATV club speed limit be set at 25mph which is how that was set. He is concerned after discussion with troopers that the 25mph speed limit for ATVs is impeding the flow of traffic and could create more of a danger. Woodcock was going to give contact information to Jensen to further discuss this and will also look into addressing the light bar and speed issues on Wood Road. Tina Bechtel lives on Wood Rd and advised she is concerned of the danger with ATV use on the curve. Bechtel also advised that she is willing to allow the use of her property to keep the ATV's off the road.

Wood road residents also mentioned the increased activity of tractor trailers using the road they live on. Board members will look into signage to restrict this from continuing.

Nate Richter asked for an update on the money that was approved for the CAC in Sherrill. Commissioner Kevin Sayles presented the Town Board members with a Memorandum of Understanding Draft. Town Board members suggested some changes and will review it with the Town Attorney before signing. The board members questioned the need for a written agreement as it was approved and recorded in the minutes from a meeting earlier in the year. The Town of Vernon has asked for an invoice for equipment or repairs done at the CAC up to \$15,000 to ensure the money is being spent directly on the CAC.

REPORTS:

The following reports were presented: Town Clerk, Codes Enforcement, Zoning/Planning Board Supervisor, Education and Libraries; Bennati advised that he received an up-to-date financial statement from the Vernon Library. Bennati also invited all to join his family at the Sherrill Library for the Rosamond & Sarah Bennati Mural Dedication and Open House on Sunday July 28th 2-4pm. Intergovernmental Relations; Adamkowski requested a quote from Decker Lawn Care to spray weeds and put mulch around the memorial trees, Operations; Thurston mentioned that the Highway employees have painted and made some improvements to the garage and it looks very nice, SWOCO; Watson mentioned that the yearly cookout is Thursday evening and all board members are invited. County Legislator Scheibel submitted a written report and highlighted that Legislators designated June as Dairy Month, new contract for road patrol and dispatchers, OIN money and the July 15th opening of the WYNN Hospital parking garage.

There were no reports from: Assessors, Economic Development or Highway Superintendent.

A motion to accept the 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 Peters, seconded by Adamkowski. No discussion. Ayes 5. Nays 0. Motion carried.

BUSINESS:

A motion to approve Codes Department request to transfer \$300 from B8010.4 Contractual to B9010.2 Equipment to cover a new monitor and webcam for Reay's computer was made by Peters, seconded by Thurston. Ayes 5. Nays 0. No Discussion. Motion carried.

Received fully executed signed agreement from Oneida County for the OIN monies of \$225,000.

Received NYS DOT permit requesting signature for waterline running along Churton Road for Vernon Center Water District.

Received New York State VLT check in the amount of \$231,788.00.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

None

GOOD OF THE ORDER:

Town Clerk Jennifer Champney announced to Board members that she was elected as Oneida County Town Clerk Association Vice President. Board members congratulated Champney.

There being no further business, a motion to adjourn at 8:05 p.m. was made by Thurston, 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