

Minutes of the Town of Sennett Town Board Meeting Held on Thursday, March 16, 2023, at 6:30 PM at the Sennett Town Office Building.

Members Present: Thomas Blair, Supervisor
Richard Gagliardi, Councilman
Michael Wellauer, Councilman
Edward Rizzo, Councilman
Robert Edmunds, Councilman

Also Present: Kristopher LaPointe, Highway Superintendent
Kristopher LaPointe, Water & Sewer Superintendent
Cheri Major, Bookkeeper
Harold Gilfus, Code Enforcement Officer
Kathleen Salisbury, Town Clerk
Ed Magdziak, Aileen McNabb Coleman, William Feocco, Jim Jeffers, residents
Remotely:
Paul Chatfield, Jerry Vevone, Chris Catt, Tom (Guest)

CALL TO ORDER - The meeting is called to Order at 6:30 pm.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE - The meeting is opened with the pledge to the flag and a prayer by Supervisor Blair.

ROLL CALL - Town Clerk Salisbury opens the meeting with a Roll Call, Councilman Gagliardi, Councilman Wellauer, Councilman Rizzo, Councilman Edmunds, and Supervisor Blair are present.

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES - Meeting Minutes for February 16, 2023 are reviewed and approved by the Board, motion made by Councilman Rizzo and seconded by Councilman Gagliardi; 5 Ayes 0 Absent 0 Nays. Carried.

PUBLIC HEARING(S) - N/A

SCHEDULED SPEAKERS

- MRB Group (WD #s 1 & 3) - Paul Chatfield advised that the contractor has signed the contract, USDA Rural Development is in need of a few additional document and things are moving forward. Mr. Chatfield also advised the Board that the submission to Congressman regarding a Route 20 Water extending funding request was completed. Supervisor Blair advised he had met with local congress reps and Town of Skaneateles and we have received letters of support regarding possible future water development.

A motion is made by Councilman Wellauer to authorize the payment for the expense in an amount not to exceed \$5,000 in soft costs for MRB for the preparation of the Route 20 Water Extension Funding Application, seconded by Councilman Edmunds. With no further discussion, a roll call vote is taken.

Roll call vote:

Councilman Gagliardi	Yes
Councilman Wellauer	Yes
Councilman Rizzo	Yes
Supervisor Blair	Yes
Councilman Edmunds	Yes

Motion carried 5 Ayes 0 Nays 0 Absent

- Chris Catt of Siemens Industry, Inc. – Mr. Catt advised Siemens responded to an RFQ the Town published for an energy consultant. As Siemens was the only response, the appointment will go to them. Mr. Catt will provide a resolution regarding same.

A motion is made by Councilman Gagliardi to award Siemens Industry, Inc. as the energy consultant to the Town of Sennett pending the drafting and signing of a Resolution, seconded by Councilman Rizzo. All in favor. 5 Ayes 0 Absent 0 Nays

PUBLIC BE HEARD – Motion is made by Councilman Wellauer to open the Public Be Heard Period, seconded by Councilman Edmunds. All in favor. 5 ayes 0 nays 0 absent, carried.

Ed Magdziak provided the Board with the Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) contact list and information regarding same.

A motion is made by Supervisor Blair to reappoint Ed Magdziak as the Local Emergency Planning Committee representative for the Town of Sennett for 2023, seconded by Councilman Wellauer. All in favor. 5 Ayes 0 Nays 0 Absent, carried.

Mr. Magdziak will follow up to see what training is necessary and who will need to take it.

Aileen McNabb Coleman – County Legislative Representative and a Town resident who lives on Carrie Court. She advised the Board that residents have said there are water issues in that area, including Mandy Rue and Swamp Road.

A motion to close Public Be Heard is made by Councilman Edmunds and seconded by Councilman Rizzo. All in favor. 5 Ayes 0 Nays 0 Absent, carried.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

- a. **Attorney** – Supervisor Blair advised Mr. Andino has been working with the Zoning Board, MRB regarding the WD 1&3 project, the with the Zoning Board on an interpretation.
- b. **Bookkeeper** – Bookkeeper Major advised the auditors are coming next week. There is \$280,000 left in ARPA funds. The SAM grant has been registered for another year. Within the next month, a transfer of all reserve money will be made to the reserves. Supervisor Blair advises there is a \$3,000 cost for Moody’s to continue to rate the Town for Bond purposes, which would be needed for continued water, sewer and special district work.

Councilman Rizzo advises he met with NY Class Bank at recent the AOT conference and they may be another bank option. Supervisor Blair asked Ed to have a representative available for April meeting.

- c. **Codes/Zoning Enforcement Officer** - Code Enforcement Officer Gilfus advised his report was in the Board's packet. February was busy and issued 9 permits. He has been following up on previously issued permits and driving around. Chipotle is still progressing. Sennett Meadows has a temporary C of O to install downcast lighting. There is a new Mexican restaurant coming in Auburn Plaza. Councilman Wellauer read the report of Zoning Officer Vevone who advised Mr. Vevone has been busy working on lot line adjustments, calls regarding subdivisions of land, attending zoning review meeting, issued zoning compliance letter.
- d. **Assessor** - Councilman Rizzo read Assessor Lowe's report advising he has been processing exemptions, meeting with owners and following up with phone calls and letters, new building permits were entered into the air PSI, has also been working with Supervisor Blair and Councilman Rizzo regarding the litigation matter of Auburn Associates.
- e. **Fire Department** - No one was present to report. Supervisor Blair advises the Fire Department provided a report advising they have responded to 43 alarms in February. In addition, there is a statewide open burn ban March 16 - May 14.
- f. **Highway Dept.** - Highway Superintendent Kristopher L. LaPointe advised they have been plowing and salting, 27 times since last meeting. Have used more salt due to the icy conditions, cut some trees down. We are first on the list for driveway repairs after springs and weather breaks. Supervisor Blair advises there is a county snowplow committee meeting on April 10th and Mr. LaPointe will join him. The Highway Superintendents went to Albany to request more CHIPS money to use for projects. The windows were installed without issue.
- g. **Water Dept.** - Water Superintendent Kristopher L. LaPointe's report was in the Board's meeting packet for their review. The new employee, Mr. Ward, started on Monday and all is going well. The rate increase notice is on the website and letters will be going to the residents. Replaced 2 meter heads, there was a water break on John Smith and fixed that. Received the meters for the District 3 meter pit. The cost is \$6,298.59. There is money in the equipment and repair reserves to cover this. A rep meeting will be scheduled regarding replacement heads and meters.
- h. **Planning Board** - The PB has been working on a Preliminary Site Plan and SEQRA review for Auburn Auto Group and Preliminary site plan and SEQRA review for Owens-Brockway. Supervisor Blair advises he met with some residents interested in serving on the Planning Board at the request of Chairman Leamy.

A motion is made by Councilman Wellauer to authorize the Planning Board appointments of Chris Peters as a Member for a 7 year term (replacing Sue Foster), Deborah Salato as an Alternate for a 1 year term and Dan O'Hara as an Alternate for a 1 year term, seconded by Councilman Rizzo. All in favor. 5 Ayes 0 Absent 0 Nays

- i. **Town Clerk** - Town Clerk Salisbury advised that the February 2023 monthly report was in the Board's meeting packet for their review. Fees of \$1,047.00

received, \$976.86 were disbursed to the Supervisor, \$66.14 to NYS DEC for Decals and \$4.00 to NYS Animal Population Control.

j. **Dog Control Officer** - Councilman Edmunds advised no report was received from FLDPA for February.

k. **Committees** -

Veteran Affairs - The committee met two weeks ago and discussed a coordinator position. Supervisor Blair advised that there is a part-time job of 5 hours/week for a Veteran Affairs Coordinator that Mr. Jenks, a local resident, is interested and qualified for said position. New flags have been reordered. At the time the parking lot is torn up for repairs, the highway dept. will help grade an area for flag poles.

Parks & Rec - There will be a committee meeting next week. Councilman Rizzo is the Board's liaison to the committee. Supervisor Blair has received requests for pickleball courts and a dog park. He will pass that along to the P&R Committee.

OLD BUSINESS

- E-Code 360 - The proposal has been reviewed by the Board members in the amount of \$15,995 for codification, plus an additional \$1,195 for annual maintenance, \$500 for gender-neutral language.

A motion is made by Councilman Wellauer and seconded by Councilman Rizzo to authorize Supervisor Blair to sign the E-Code 360 contract in an amount not to exceed \$15,995 for initial codification, plus \$1,195 for the annual maintenance subscription and to work out the details for gender neutral language if necessary. With no further discussion, a roll call vote is taken.

Roll call vote:

Councilman Gagliardi	Yes
Councilman Wellauer	Yes
Councilman Rizzo	Yes
Supervisor Blair	Yes
Councilman Edmunds	Yes

Motion carried 5 Ayes 0 Nays 0 Absent

- Local Law re: Solar Energy Law - Time to begin review - Supervisor Blair has recently learned that a municipality can add a zone called a "Floating Solar Overlay" zone. He will follow up with AOT and the County regarding same. Further research will be done and will be discussed.
- Veteran Affairs/Historian Office project - the block for the window has been cut. A 3D model is available from the contractor. Fire rated doors are necessary.
- Water & Sewer Rate Hikes from City of Auburn + Sennett Rates - covered earlier in meeting.
- Water & Sewer Rate studies - MRB still offering, Board will discuss further and discuss next month.
- Town Park committee formation - covered earlier in meeting.
- Energy Consultant award - completed

- Town Hall capital needs - parking lot & interior improvements - We are first on the list after the snow season for parking lot improvements.
- Town branding & marketing project - Will discuss that next month.
- Town Employee Handbook review - Councilman Gagliardi met with Highway Superintendent and discussed requested changes. A work session is suggested for the Board to meet with HROne representative Banuski.

NEW BUSINESS

- Planning Board member + alternates appointments - covered earlier in meeting.
- Search for qualified candidates for Town Highway Superintendent - Highway Superintendent LaPointe will be retiring at the end of 2023. Qualified candidates are tough to find. If the position were to be changed from an elected position to an appointed position to allow for adjoining towns only, that would require a public referendum. Supervisor Blair will speak with Attorney Andino and the Board of Elections.

SUPERVISOR CORRESPONDENCE/REPORT -

- Electronics recycling being held by Cayuga County on April 1st.
- Met with insurance rep re NYMIR renewal. Highway Superintendent LaPointe and Water Superintendent LaPointe advised they sent changes to the insurance rep.

EXECUTIVE SESSION - None

PAYMENT OF MONTHLY BILLS -Vouchers - Motion by Councilman Rizzo, seconded by Councilman Edmunds to pay the monthly vouchers with three or more signatures.

Roll call vote:

Councilman Gagliardi	Yes
Councilman Wellauer	Yes
Councilman Rizzo	Yes
Supervisor Blair	Yes
Councilman Edmunds	Yes
Motion carried 5 Ayes 0 Nays 0 Absent	

MOTION TO ADJOURN MEETING - Motion to adjourn was made by Councilman Gagliardi, seconded by Councilman Rizzo. 8:07 p.m.

Next meeting is April 20, 2023.

Respectfully submitted,
Kathleen Salisbury, Town Clerk
 Town of Sennett