

Minutes of the Town of Sennett Town Board Meeting Held on Thursday, March 17, 2022, at 6:30 PM at the Sennett Town Office Building.

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

Also Present: Kathleen Salisbury, Town Clerk
Kristopher LaPointe, Highway Superintendent
Kristopher LaPointe, Water & Sewer Superintendent
Jeremy Bacon, Planning Board Chairman
Jeff Lowe, Assessor
Cheri Major, Bookkeeper
Richard Andino, Town Attorney
Jon Hinman, MRB Group, Town Engineer
Bill Feocco
Ed Magdziak
John Komarisky, Fire Commissioner Chairman
Jen & Carl Collier, FLDPA
Kevin & Charlene Sullivan
Charles Kincaid
William Layton
Jen & Carl Collier
Jerry Sankey
Remotely: Christopher LaTrelle; Jerry VeVone, Jim Jeffers

CALL TO ORDER - The meeting is called to Order by Supervisor Blair at 6:30 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIENCE - 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, Supervisor Blair and Councilman Edmunds are present.

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES - Meeting Minutes for February 17, 2022 are reviewed by the Board. Motion is made by Councilman Edmunds to approve the February 17, 2022 minutes, seconded by Councilman Wellauer. All in favor. 5 ayes 0 nays 0 absent, carried.

PUBLIC HEARING FOR LOCAL LAW 2 OF 2022 - VIDEOCONFERENCING FOR REMOTE ATTENDANCE BY BOARD MEMBERS. Motion to open public hearing made by Councilman Edmunds, seconded by Councilman Gagliardi. All in favor. 5 Ayes 0 nay 0 absent, carried.

Supervisor Blair asks for public input. Ed Magdziak - Is there any specific number of remote conferences to attend? Could a councilman do all meetings remote? Supervisor Blair asks for any further comment from the public. Councilman Wellauer read a March 11, 2022 e-mail statement from town resident, James Jeffers, advising of his concerns for nonactive snowbird members being away for too many meetings.

Supervisor Blair advises that the Board is introducing the local law based upon remote events during Covid, as well as the possibility of a member becoming ill or being away, we still want the member to be able to do their job. Does anyone on the Board have any comments on the cap you can attend remotely. Councilman Edmunds advises there should be a cap, and if there is a snowbird issue, then it should be non-consecutive. Councilman Rizzo stated he is starting his ninth year and does not recall any meetings where there were more than two consecutive months of a member not attending. He does believe three in a row would be sufficient, but no more than that. Councilman Wellauer states three or four times would be the max, but a non-consecutive clause would not be beneficial in the event a member becomes ill. Councilman Gagliardi asks what if COVID hits again. Attorney Andino advises if that arises, you could default back to any emergency powers being exercised by the state or you could amend the local law and it could be done by special meeting. Supervisor Blair believes no more than two meetings would be good, but is open to discussion. Jeremy Bacon, Turnpike Road resident, advises the ZBA has an attendance policy as part of their conduct and could compare to the Town Board and will this law apply to Planning Board and Zoning Board. He believes every member should be in person, but not to abuse it. Supervisor Blair advises the law is for Town Board only.

SCHEDULED SPEAKERS

SENNETT MINE PIT

Jon Hinman from MRB Group discusses the Sennett Mine Pit application that was submitted to DEC to see what the ramifications may be to the Town and residents. The Pit map and application documents are available for review. The Town Board nor Planning Board can stop this action. This is a comment period for the DEC only. This is not a public hearing for the DEC. They are taking into consideration comments by the Town and/or residents. If the Town wishes to provide any comment documents to the DEC, this should be submitted by April 8.

William Layton, resident at 6674 Pine Ridge Road has lived there since October 1979. It has always been a nuisance back and forth. He would like to know about the water levels and what effect will it have on the wells in the area. The dirt removed last year created a lot of dust and mud in the area of Route 20 and Pine Ridge Road and was not properly cleaned up and making it an unsafe area.

Mr. Hinman advises that the Mine Pit modified their permit in 2017 and requested permission to operate below the water table and they are currently operating below and are requesting an additional 50 more feet below the water table.

Supervisor Blair advises letters were sent to residents in that area for them to be aware and some advised they were concerned about their wells. He asks if there are any further residents to comment.

Kevin & Charlene Sullivan, residents at 3545 East Genesee Street Rd (corner of Route 20 and Pine Ridge Road), their safety and health concerns for themselves and their two children whose home is ten feet from the road and there has been a lot of issues with dirt flying in the area and windows need to be closed, rocks hitting windows by trucks driving by, always driving on the shoulder of the road, and school bus safety for their children, added dirt to their pool, breathing in more dust and well water concerns.

Charles Kincaid, resident at 6668 Pine Ridge Road, has lived there 33 years and is familiar with the Pit and the history of the mining and issues it has caused. He believes it is an inadequate permit and will let DEC know his concerns. Supervisor Blair advises this is a comment period from 3-01 to 4-01 and this is a public information session for the Board to collect comments and information and evidence to the DEC for consideration. Mr. Kincaid advises he is a professional engineer and he knows a geologist and will provide his services.

Christopher LaTrelle, resident at 6656 Pine Ridge Road, he and his wife and three children have lived there about 9 years. His concerns about property value perspective, water table, noise, dust, disruption. His property abuts the Pit. He is an engineer and would be happy to contribute to any technical opposition.

Supervisor Blair set March 28th as a deadline date for residents input to be sent into the Town to go with the Town's submission to the DEC. Mr. Hinman advises the final date to submit any documentation to DEC is April 8th.

WATER DISTRICTS #1 AND #3. Mr. Hinman advises that this new Board should approve a resolution for authorization to put this project out to bid at the higher price. Mr. Andino advises a voice vote is sufficient and the authorization is contingent upon final approval from Rural Development and the necessary easements and paperwork. The Town is still awaiting the Panna easement. The Board already previously approved this and Supervisor Blair and Attorney Andino have reviewed and revised the Easement. Motion is made by Councilman Rizzo to authorize MRB Group to place water district #1 and #3 water line project/water tower job out for competitive bid, contingent upon the Easement to the water tower being approved by Mr. Panna, seconded by Councilman Gagliardi. Attorney Andino will provide a more detailed resolution for signature. All in favor. 5 Ayes 0 Nays 0 Absent, carried.

PUBLIC BE HEARD - Motion is made by Councilman Wellauer to open the Public Be Heard Period, seconded by Councilman Wellauer. All in favor. 5 ayes 0 nays 0 absent, carried. With nothing from the Public, a Motion to close Public Be Heard was made by Councilman Edmunds, seconded by Councilman Gagliardi.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

- a. Town Clerk - Town Clerk Salisbury advised that the February 2022 monthly report was in the Board's meeting packet for their review.
- b. Bookkeeper - Bookkeeper Major requests adding \$80,000 as a budget adjustment for Highway to buy/sell a loader and this money is coming from NYS CHIPS money. There is no money coming from any of the Town's accounts. Motion is made by Councilman Wellauer, seconded by Councilman Gagliardi to increase the budget in the amount of \$80,000.00 to access money from the CHIPS from within the Highway Department for the purchase of a new loader. Roll call vote, Councilman Rizzo Yes, Councilman Gagliardi Yes, Councilman Wellauer Yes, Councilman Edmunds Yes, Supervisor Blair Yes. All in favor. Audit is next week and will be in the office about three days.
- c. Highway Dept. - Highway Superintendent Kristopher L. LaPointe's report was in the Board's meeting packet for their review. Clarifying the CHIPS money, we already get the money, it's just a line item to spend the \$80,000 on the loader. As soon as we spend it, we get reimbursed. In addition, the department plowed and sanded 27 times since last meeting, spread over 380 tons of salt, bought 300 ton more, the shop was painted by the employees to save money, doing roadwork plug culverts, cleaned the trucks, sand and primed loaded to get more money out of the sale, the floors were waxed for a good price, the furnace was inspected for NYMIR and obtaining estimates for the gutters and parking lots and the siding on the salt shed. Supervisor Blair thanks the highway department for their hard work and also working on the capital improvements at the town. Councilman Rizzo advised he has received painting quotes as well.
- d. Water Dept. - Water Superintendent Kristopher A. LaPointe's report was in the Board's meeting packet for their review. They have replaced 50 out of the 303 water meter heads. There was a water main break on Weedsport-Sennett Road, a boil water advisory followed and the permanent fix will be taken care of in the near future. Helped highway plow snow. With regard to the fire hydrant connections, there are about 10-15 done. They will be reading meters at the end of the month. District 7 water rates are increasing due to inflation and rate increases set by the Town of Skaneateles. A discussion was held with regard to the water rates. The Board will obtain more information and review further and discuss at the next meeting.

Councilman Rizzo asked if Superintendent LaPointe still wanted an increase in pay for Mr. Withey, who does not take advantage of the Town's

insurances and is an operator and can save additional money to outsource repair jobs, and can the hourly rate be increased early. Councilman Gagliardi advised a resident was impressed by the professionalism portrayed by our water department. Motion by Councilman Edmunds, seconded by Councilman Wellauer to increase the hourly rate for Mr. Withey to \$23 per hour effective immediately.

Roll call vote:

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

Motion carried

- e. Town Assessor - Assessor Jeff Lowe gave his report to the Board members and advised that NYS sent information for the Town's equalization rate has decreased from 90% to 77%. All equalization rates in the state are decreasing.
- f. Attorney - Attorney Rich Andino has a resolution supporting Franklin Street Road speed limit reduction for the Board. Motion is made by Councilman Wellauer adopting the resolution as written supporting the speed limit reduction and other safety methods on Franklin Street Road, including the associated documentation and Te9 form, seconded by Councilman Gagliardi. All in favor. 5 Ayes 0 Nays 0 Absent, carried.
- g. Fire District - Fire Commissioner Komarisky provides the report from the Sennett Fire Department who reported to 27 alarms in February.
- h. Planning Board - Chairman Bacon advised that the Planning Board met with Chipotle and final plans, submitted GML 239 and will approve SEQR at the next meeting. Had a preliminary review of the subdivision at the corner of Beech Rd and Route 20 and should be approved at the next meeting. Chairman Bacon is requesting the Board to approve the cost of \$2,200 for the PB and ZBA members for training credits by MRB. Attorney Andino advises he and his firm provide such training as well as \$175/hr. There is discussion regarding training sessions with CCF and the Board. A motion is made by Supervisor Blair, seconded by Councilman Rizzo to authorize training classes at a cost not to exceed \$500 within the next 60 days at the discretion of Chairman Bacon.

Roll call vote:

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

Motion carried

- i. Dog Control Officer – Carl and Jen Collier of FLDPA appeared before the Board for a meet and greet. Ms. Collier advised that they take calls for complaints, lost animals and follow up on same and patrol around the area.
- j. Codes/Zoning Enforcement Officer – Councilman Wellauer provides a status report by Codes Officer Passarello. National Maintenance and Sennett Spirits have been issued their COO, Chipotle is still working with the Planning Board; Fingerlakes Tire is working on a temporary COO and Sennett Meadows has another section up. Zoning Officer/Fire Marshall VeVone advised the fire inspections on liquor store, Fingerlakes Tire and Chipotle to work on variances. Dilaj’s will be inspected this week. Sennett Meadows is moving along and will be done this Fall. The log cabin on Grant Ave by ABC wants to change from commercial to residential and this will need to be reviewed.
- k. Committees – We are still looking for volunteers for the various committees we are looking to fill.

OLD BUSINESS

- WDs 1&3 project – The Resolution and Panna Easement were discussed earlier.
- Town Park & Grant – Supervisor Blair advised that the DASNY Grant has been finalized and we will get in touch with the Teeters for them to provide a landscape quote. Highway Superintendent LaPointe requested that Carla LaPointe and Mrs. Rizzo, who designed the Park, would like to be contacted as well as they have initial knowledge and information.
- Town Hall cleaning – Supervisor Blair advises we are looking into having the restroom floors cleaned and waxed as well.
- Website progress – Supervisor Blair advises the website should be completed late March as well as the newsletter. Councilman Edmunds advises that many forms are on there with links to get to the documents.
- Town Hall security camera project – Councilman Edmunds advises once the weather breaks, the cameras will be installed.
- Town Lighting replacements – Supervisor Blair advises there is nothing new on this.
- Animal Control Officer contract - Councilman Wellauer makes a motion to authorize the Supervisor to sign the contract with FLDPA for the term specified for providing dog control for the Town of Sennett, seconded by Councilman Gagliardi.

Roll call vote:

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

Motion carried

- Town Hall capital needs - Supervisor Blair advises we are still awaiting quotes and will discuss at the next meeting.
- Town signage projects - tabled
- Town Employee Handbook - Councilman Gagliardi advises he and Councilman Rizzo will meet with the Highway Superintendent upon Mr. Rizzo's return.
- Enactment of LL #2 regarding remote attendance at meetings was discussed. The public hearing was held earlier this evening. A motion was made by Councilman Edmunds to enact Local Law #2 of 2022 to be non-consecutive three consecutive meetings. With no second, discussions continued. After further discussion, a motion was made by Councilor Gagliardi to enact Local Law #2 of 2022 for videoconference no more than three times in one calendar year, seconded by Councilman Wellauer. All in favor. 5 Ayes 0 Nays 0 Absent

NEW BUSINESS

- Highway Department 284 Agreement - Highway Superintendent LaPointe advises this will be discussed at next month's meeting.
- Review of Town Zoning Map & Water Mapping - Supervisor Blair and Water Superintendent advise that after meeting with MRB that the water and zoning maps are deficient and need updating. Resident Jim Jeffers questions on where the money will come from and Supervisor Blair advises that this falls under a general town charge as it is relative to our Town records and there is money in the engineering budget this year. The future cost may come from separate sewer and water districts. Supervisor Blair makes a motion that the Town authorize us to make sure that our records and mapping are up to date and accurate and with an initial cost not to exceed \$5,000.00 of engineering costs with MRB to get through the initial needs and a quote for additional work needed and to keep track of time on different district they work for and bill for that accordingly, seconded by Councilman Wellauer.

Roll call vote:

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

Motion carried

- Mining Modification Permit - this was discussed earlier this evening.
- Health Consortium Appointment of Town Representative - Councilman Gagliardi makes a motion to appoint Supervisor Blair as the Health Consortium Town Representative, seconded by Councilman Edmunds. All in favor 5 Ayes 0 Nays 0 Absent

SUPERVISOR CORRESPONDENCE/REPORT - There is an electronics recycling event in Cayuga County on April 5, 2022.

Cannabis Opt Out Law has been recorded with the Dept. of State. It is now law. This board must soon begin the process on following up with information sessions.

Received correspondence from Direct Energy that they can no longer provide our energy. We need a new energy provider, be it NYSEG or find new energy provider.

Verizon would like to begin the Alternative Franchise Extension Agreement procedure which is under NYS law and the current one expires in 2024. Supervisor Blair passed this on to Attorney Andino.

Interest rates are going up and we have debt service in certain water districts and bonds above 5% and we are trying to recast bonds at lower rates.

EXECUTIVE SESSION (IF NECESSARY) - There was no executive session held.

PAYMENT OF MONTHLY BILLS - Vouchers - Motion by Councilman Edmunds, seconded by Councilman Wellauer.

Roll call vote:

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

Next meeting is April 21, 2022

MOTION TO ADJOURN MEETING - Motion to adjourn was made by Councilman Gagliardi, seconded by Councilman Wellauer. All in favor. 5 Ayes 0 Nays 0 Absent

Respectfully submitted,
Kathleen Salisbury, Town Clerk
Town of Sennett