

Minutes of the Sennett Town Board meeting held on Thursday May 21, 2020 via Zoom.us.

Roll Call of Members: Thomas Gray, Supervisor - here  
Edward Rizzo, Councilman - here  
James Jeffers, Councilman - here  
Richard Gagliardi, Councilman - here  
Jerrold Eades, Councilman - absent

Also present Kristopher LaPointe, Highway Superintendent  
Attorney Richard Andino - via phone connection

The meeting is opened with the pledge to the flag.

Minutes of the April meetings are approved on a motion made by Councilman Rizzo, seconded by Councilman Gagliardi, 4 ayes, 0 nays, 1 absent, carried.

Old Business: changes to the budget are discussed, The Highway budget is discussed with the Highway Superintendent Kris LaPointe about proposed cuts and where changes need to be made. Gas/Oil moved back to \$30,000.00. Machinery Contractual moved back to \$30,000.00. Councilman Rizzo explains the outside assessor line item and the assessor legal line item, and the need or not of them. Supervisor Gray explains the printer line item and what it is used for. It is used for the monthly charge for the number of copies on the Xerox copier. Supervisor Gray recommends \$1,000.00 to remain in the line item. There also was a lengthy discussion on the runners used in the town building and the need to eliminate them or perhaps buy our own. Also, line items that are overspent could have the option to transfer from other line items that do have funds. After much more healthy discussion, the board will meet on June 4, 2020 with the bookkeeper to finalize budget changes and new monthly updates to monitor. Councilman Gagliardi brings up the funding for the Senior's program, why do we need it if 75% of the attendees do not live in Sennett? There is a discussion on this, concerns about the cost and who benefits from the program. Councilman Gagliardi wants to go on the record that he wants to do away with the program totally. Councilman Rizzo states that he is in favor of the program and feels that if the board went to one of their meetings they would see the benefits. Councilman Jeffers has concerns about the money not being paid out by bills, etc. through the town directly. Question to Attorney Andino if the money comes out of the senior account does that make the operator an independent employee? She is now paid by the town would that change. Some do not agree with the disbanding. The operator would get paid with the surplus in the account, (\$11,000.00 ±) not from the A6772.130 fund . There is much discussion still on going on this subject. Councilman Gagliardi moves to pay the operator out of the surplus account, seconded by Councilman Jeffers.

Roll Call vote: Councilman Eades absent, Councilman Gagliardi yes, Councilman Rizzo no, Councilman Jeffers yes, Supervisor Gray abstains, failed. Attorney Andino is questioned as to why it failed. He explains that with a five-member board there has to be three yes votes to have a motion/resolution to pass. There will be a meeting on June 4<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 PM. To further discuss this item.

Supervisor Gray updates the board on the status of the park Grant. It is still held up due to the shutdown because of the Covid-19 pandemic.

Supervisor Gray states that Engineer Paul Chatfield has put information in their mailboxes regarding the WD#1 and WD#3 Project. Attorney Andino states that there was a phone conversation with the Bond Counsel, the Fiscal Advisors, Kathy Dear from Labella, Engineer Chatfield, and Scott Madison from the MRB Group, Supervisor Gray, and himself. Mostly on the timing on the project. Approvals on the design, the pipe, and the water tank. He believed all plans have been submitted, we are just waiting for all the approvals. We are still working on easements for the waterpipe and also the water tank. WE have the abstract for the Panna easement, working on a title search which should be finished in the next few weeks. Covid-19 has delayed everything. Possibly it will be ready to go to bid by late summer. They do not want to bid until everything is ready to avoid adjustments they may have to be done if some items come in higher than planned.

Weedsport Water Contract, which was going to begin after the election, with a new mayor, but because the election has been delayed until the fall, it is felt that due to budgets they should start sooner. The board will start thinking of rates/percentages and reviewing the contract now and then meet with Weedsport after that. Supervisor Gray will contact Mayor Saroodis.

New Business: Supervisor Gray states that he listened to a meeting of the Cayuga County Watershed Management Council via the internet. He states that it was very interesting, and they are doing a great job at it. They start at Groton and goes north. The area of Sennett that is in the watershed is on the end of Townhall Road. They would like the town to become involved. Supervisor Gray will continue to attend their meetings and possibly the town would consider joining the Council later in the year.

Health Insurance Update: Supervisor Gray attending the Consortium's Board meeting last week via the internet. They sympathize with the municipalities. They are campaigning to get more municipalities to join. He said that the Consortium has a surplus and they are looking at different options to assist towns that are in distress. The board discusses the amounts of the employee's contribution. Percentages and the amount are also discussed; 4%, 3%, 3% – 4%.

3%, 2%, 1%. After more discussion they will contact the bookkeeper and then proceed.

Dumpster Days are discussed: Kris LaPointe comments that it is a board decision not his, he does not want to be responsible if they have them and someone gets ill. Councilman Jeffers makes a motion that due to the Covid-19 and the expense that the town does not have Dumpster Days this year. After much discussion. Councilman Jeffers changes his motion to state that due to the Covid-19 pandemic that Spring Dumpster Days are cancelled, and the fate of the Fall Dumpster Days will be determined in fall, seconded by Councilman Rizzo, 4 ayes, 0 nays, 1 absent, carried. It will be discussed in September.

Office Access: Supervisor Gray updates the board on the situation. The town has not been given the okay to reopen. If someone needs something that cannot be handled via the mail they are handled at the door. Codes has also been very busy. If they need to meet with anyone they meet in the meeting room with all precautions being met.

CCWSA North Street/NY 34 waterline: The Supervisor tells the board that he received an email from Doug Selby requesting a letter of support in their quest to obtain a grant for the construction of a waterline on Route 34/North Street beginning at Quarry Road and then connect to an existing pipeline on Potter Road. Then they hope to extend the pipeline along Route 34 to Turnpike Road to connect to the "Vitale Pipeline". Board members have copies and a map of the project for their review. Supervisor Gray states that he talked to Mr. Selby about the fact that the Town did not have a water district in that area. He was told that if residents wanted to hookup they would need to pay the fee to the CCWSA. A motion is made by Councilman Jeffers to authorize the Supervisor to send a letter of support to the CCWSA, seconded by Councilman Rizzo, 4 ayes, 0 nays, 1 absent, carried.

Last item is from the Highway Department, Is Form 284 that needs to be signed by majority of the Town Board before road work can begin. The money is in the budget to do these projects. If the Highway Department paves a road and someone complains, The Highway Superintendent would be in big trouble. Once these are signed, Kris needs to have them signed by the County Highway Superintendent (which he does not know who that will be). The prices will not increase, they are quoted prices that he has gotten from Vitale and Seneca Stone. That is what they bid it out, and that is what they have to deal with. He plans on chipping and sealing three miles of road, which will cost less than \$45,000.00. Also, if one of the roads does not get done, it does not matter. The first roads will be paid for with the CHIPS money. Kris states that he has been told that the town will get the CHIPS money, but he has not received a letter yet. Also when he gets this paperwork signed by all, that he should sent it to the

Syracuse rep, then when the CHIPS money becomes available, they can send the form in immediately. Plus, if they pull the CHIPS money, there is \$284,000.00 in the Highway Reserve that the Town Board could transfer out of that reserve if needed. A motion is made by supervisor Gray to approve the signing of this form, seconded by Councilman Rizzo. Roll Call vote: Councilman Eades absent, Councilman Gagliardi yes, Councilman Rizzo yes, Councilman Jeffers yes, Supervisor Gray yes, carried.

Department Reports are in all members folders for their review. Kris asks one question on the porta johns at the park. When do you want them installed? After discussion it is decided to hold off on the installation until more definite details are made available from the state.

Also, Supervisor Gray states that he received a call from Tessa Plastics that they are taking over Snyder General and they would like to rent the vacant end of the Plaza for their use for testing the 1,000,000 test kits a month that they will make at the former Snyder General location. The Code Department has approved the use as allowable under the Town's Zoning Ordinance. They would have twelve to twenty people working 24-7 and all deliveries would be made by small vehicles, no large tractor trailer traffic. They need to get it up and running in ten weeks.

A motion is made by Councilman Rizzo to enter into Executive Session to discuss personnel, seconded by Councilman Jeffers, 4 ayes, 0 nays, 1 absent, carried.

A motion is made by Councilman Rizzo to come out of Executive Session, seconded by Councilman Jeffers, 4 ayes, 0 nays, 1 absent, carried.

A motion is made by Supervisor Gray to pay the abstract on the amount of \$131,137.37, seconded by Councilman Rizzo. Roll Call vote: Councilman Eades absent, Councilman Gagliardi yes, Councilman Rizzo yes, Councilman Jeffers no, Supervisor Gray yes, carried.