

Minutes of the Town of Sennett Town Board Meeting Held on Thursday, June 15, 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
Jeff Lowe, Assessor
Kathleen Salisbury, Town Clerk
Ed Magdziak, William Feocco, residents
Mike, Wendy and Paul Vitale, Nicholas & Haley Vitale
Remotely:
Jon Hinman and Emilio Moran (MRB), Rich Andino (Atty)

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 May 18, 2023 are reviewed and approved by the Board, motion made by Councilman Edmunds and seconded by Councilman Wellauer; 5 Ayes 0 Absent 0 Nays. Carried.

PUBLIC HEARING(S) - No Scheduled Public Hearing

SCHEDULED SPEAKERS

- MRB Group (WD #s 1 & 3) - Jon Hinman of MRB advised their report was in the Board's packet. He went over the water project. Morsch has completed installation of pipe along Mutton Hill and County House. An additional crew will work on railroad crossing as well. Healy Road is 60% completed, then on to Depot Road. All things are going well. With regard to the Hospitality Lodging Overlay District, he has been working with Skaneateles and also received hydrologic data and will work on the numbers and submit a report.

Supervisor Blair thanks Mr. Hinman for his work and the way he has handled the Town's business and wish him well on his new job. Emilio Moran and Greg Hotaling will be taking over.

- Rich Andino, Esq. - Attorney Andino advised that for the Vitale Owasco/Wegman Street request for water and sewer that an Out of District Agreement would be necessary. If there were to be multiple homes requesting water and sewer, then the Town of Owasco would need to form a district and enter into an Intermunicipal Agreement.

- Jeff Lowe - Assessor Lowe went over the updated equalization rates assessed by NYS. He advised the equalization rate assessed to the Town is 72%, effective 6/01/2023. The percentages is the sales in the Town compared to assessed values. Supervisor Blair and Assessor Lowe are working on the certiorari litigation with Auburn Plaza. Cayuga County has adopted the Cold War Exemption and he will work on getting notice out to the residents.

- Kari Terwilliger - Was unable to attend, however, Supervisor Blair advised he spoke with Kari and she requested a work session meeting be held before the next Ad Hoc Committee meeting. A discussion was held and a work session meeting will be held at 5:30 p.m. on June 27 2023, one hour before the Ad Hoc meeting. A notice will be published and posted on the website and front board.

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

Mike Vitale, Paul Vitale, Nicholas Vitale - Mike Vitale advised the Board that his grandson, Nicholas Vitale has purchased property at the end of Wegman Street that is located in Town of Owasco. Mr. Vitale is requesting the Town to extend water and sewer service from the end of Wegman Street to his grandson's new single-family home located on his 13 acres of land located in the Town of Owasco. No other homes are anticipated being built on the parcel. Water and Sewer Superintendent LaPointe advised that Mr. Vitale is requesting a 1-inch water service from the existing service on Wegman Street with a meter pit at the edge of the right-of-way at the end of Wegman Street. The sewer service can be easily extended as well. A discussion is held by the Board. Supervisor Blair advises the Board approves the extension and an Out of District User Agreement for one property will need to be entered into. A discussion was held with Attorney Andino earlier in the meeting. Mr. Vitale agrees to hold the Town harmless from any reasonable attorney's fees associated with this matter.

After discussion, a motion is made by Councilman Wellauer, seconded by Councilman Edmunds to refer this matter to Attorney Andino to prepare a draft Out of District User Agreement for water and sewer services between the Town and Vitale that can be presented to Mr. Vitale for an out of district extension. All in favor. 5 Ayes 0 Nays 0 absent, carried.

Supervisor Blair advises that once the agreement is agreed to by all parties, then the Board will vote on the agreement at the July Board meeting.

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

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

- a. **Bookkeeper** - Bookkeeper Major advised the first quarter sales tax has been received in the amount of \$418,310.98. The bond money has been received in the amount of \$2,250,000 and four bills have been paid out of same (\$264,000). The NYClass transfer is in the process of getting set up. A transfer will be made from checking account to money market at Lyons. Supervisor Blair and Cheri will meet regarding same. The money has been received by the insurance company for the forensic matter.
- b. **Planning Board** - Councilman Rizzo advised, on behalf of Chairman Leamy, that the PB has a lot line adjustment for 6763 County Line on the agenda for July. Auburn Auto Group will be looking to do more upgrades in the Fall. One Member is still needed for the Planning Board.
- c. **Codes/Zoning Enforcement Officer** - Code Enforcement Officer Gilfus advised his report was in the Board's packet. Issued 16 permits. 20 inquiries. He has been following up on previously issued permits. Has done 30 site visit inspections, 5 fire/safety inspections. Issued 3 complaints/violation notices. Councilman Wellauer read the report of Zoning Officer Vevone who advised Mr. Vevone has been busy working on a proposed subdivision, answering zoning questions, communicating with G. Perry regarding mining permit, lot line adjustment review, working with Owens-Brockway on variance, attending the Ad Hoc Committee meeting, lighting issue on Grant Ave, various calls, attending zoning board meeting, working with Planning Board on new forms. Lot Line Adjustment Local Law is not present and discussion is held on putting one together. Harold will look into finding a similar one for review.
- d. **Fire Department** - Supervisor Blair read the report provided by Fire Chief Holmes. The Department responded to 41 alarms in the month of May, with total alarms of 180 year to date.
- e. **Highway Dept.** - Highway Superintendent Kristopher L. LaPointe advised his report was in the Board's packet. Superintendent LaPointe provided the Board with an estimate from Withey Sealing to seal and stripe the parking lot in the amount of \$2,900. Superintendent LaPointe advises he has grindings from road paved that he would like to sell on Auction International. After discussion, the Board advises to proceed. If they do not sell, he has another town interested in same. He would like to attend the Highway Conference in September. The salt barn claim has been provided to the Town's carrier. The Highway Department has been helping out other towns with paving and mowing, in return for their help to our Town. Superintendent LaPointe advises that the flooding issues brought to the attention of the Board by Mr. Vivenzio is not property maintained

by the Town. That is property maintained by the homeowners. He went and took pictures of the area and it shows a lot of foliage overgrowth that needs to be tended to by the homeowners.

- f. **Water Dept.** - Water Superintendent Kristopher L. LaPointe's report was in the Board's meeting packet for their review. Replaced meter heads, there was a water main break on Healy & Grant Ave, distributed blue stakes and mailed out letters to the new customers, checking in with Morsch regularly, painted fire hydrants. The background check has been completed. The pump has been replaced at Pizza Hut pump station. Old pump will be rebuilt. The Annual Water Quality report has been completed, submitted and approved.
- g. **Town Clerk** - Town Clerk Salisbury advised that the May 2023 monthly report was in the Board's meeting packet for their review. Fees of \$1,556.60 received, \$1,499.16 were disbursed to the Supervisor, \$28.34 to NYS DEC for Decals and \$29.00 to NYS Animal Population Control.
- h. **Dog Control Officer** - Councilman Edmunds read the report of the FLDPA that a dog had been dropped off on the side of the road, was seized, impounded and transferred to Helping Hounds for adoption. Still looking for a replacement.
- i. **Committees** -
 - Parks & Rec* - Supervisor Blair authorized \$500 for mylar plans for the master plan architect. The Committee hired architects Freeman & Associates.

Veteran Affairs - The committee will meet on June 24th. Supervisor Blair would like to thank Navy Veteran Tim Major for volunteering his time and for his hard work in clearing out and planting the flowers in the Memorial Garden area. Adam Jenks has accepted the position for Veteran Service Officer.

OLD BUSINESS

- E-Code 360 codification project status - 1st installment paid - Received a letter from E-Code 360 to get project moving.
- Local Law re: Solar Energy Moratorium and Updated Law - Supervisor Blair advised that the Solar Moratorium expires in November and he is working on an amended Solar Law.
- Veteran Affairs/Historian Office project - covered earlier in meeting
- Highway Superintendent local law - Public referendum during General Election in November
- Water & Sewer Rate studies - tabled
- Animal Control - Looking for replacement - covered earlier in meeting
- Salt Barn insurance settlement and possible new work - covered earlier in meeting
- Town Hall capital needs - Supervisor Blair and Councilman Rizzo will review and update as needed
- Town branding & marketing project - will do a contest for public input in next newsletter for new motto.
- Town Employee Handbook review - revisions submitted to HROne, waiting for response

- Planning and Zoning Board alternates - will advertise in newsletter. Supervisor Blair advises he spoke with ZBA Chairman Sikora who approved to have Edward Magdziak appointed as an alternate to the ZBA. Mr. Magdziak accepts the ZBA alternate position. Motion is made by Councilman Wellauer, seconded by Councilman Rizzo to appoint Edward Magdziak as a ZBA Alternate through 12/31/2023. All in favor. 5 Ayes 0 Nays 0 Absent. Motion carried.
- Vehicle and Traffic Safety Signs status - they are on order
- Video Conference Meetings Local Law status - submitted to DOS for filing
- Cemetery mowing - **Sennett Rural Cemetery** - A discussion was held and the decision was to fund the cemetery with a total of \$3,500 for the mowing season. \$700 was already approved, so an additional \$2,800 will be provided to the cemetery.

A motion is made by Councilman Edmunds and seconded by Councilman Rizzo to pay \$2,800.00 to Sennett Rural Cemetery for the remaining 2023 mowing season. With no further discussion, a roll call vote is taken.

Roll call vote:

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

Motion carried 5 Ayes 0 Nays 0 Absent

Councilman Edmunds will advise the cemetery accordingly.

NEW BUSINESS

- Sennett Swims - potential session July 12 - August 26. Will post on website and Facebook that the Town will offer swim lessons to see if parties are interested.
- Mr. Tauro Water complaint - Mr. Tauro will not be attending a Town Board meeting. Supervisor Blair and Water & Sewer Superintendent LaPointe will schedule a meeting.
- Water and Sewer extension into Owasco - covered earlier in meeting.

SUPERVISOR CORRESPONDENCE/REPORT - The Vergara traffic accident at the intersection of County Line and Route 20 has been put into suit against the Town. Counsel has been assigned to represent the Town's interests.

EXECUTIVE SESSION - A motion is made by Councilman Rizzo, seconded by Councilman Wellauer to enter into executive session at 8:22 p.m. A motion is made by Councilman Edmunds, seconded by Councilman Wellauer to return from executive session at 8:35 p.m. No action was taken in executive session.

PAYMENT OF MONTHLY BILLS -Vouchers - Motion by Councilman Wellauer, 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
Councilman Edmunds Yes
Supervisor Blair Yes
Motion carried 5 Ayes 0 Nays 0 Absent

MOTION TO ADJOURN MEETING - Motion to adjourn was made by Councilman Edmunds, seconded by Councilman Gagliardi. 8:37 p.m.

Next meeting is July 20, 2023.

Respectfully submitted,
Kathleen Salisbury, Town Clerk
Town of Sennett